

Potomac ALMANAC



Fueling Shoppers

NEWS, PAGE 4

From left: Elena Yeutter, Cristy Yeutter, Diane Boragno and Jenifer Luck dish up turkey chili at the Connelly School holiday bazaar café for hungry shoppers.

Chamber Presents Annual Awards

NEWS, PAGE 14

Baskets for The Needy

NEWS, PAGE 3

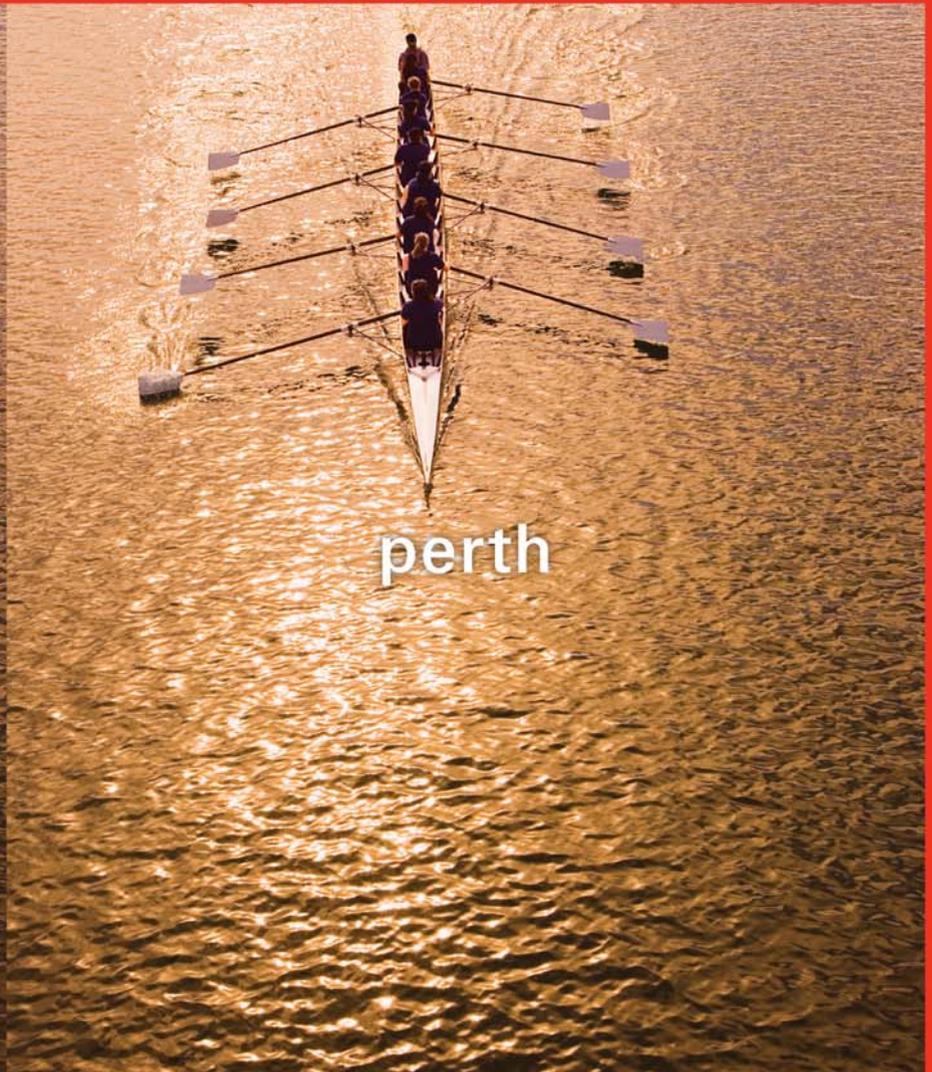
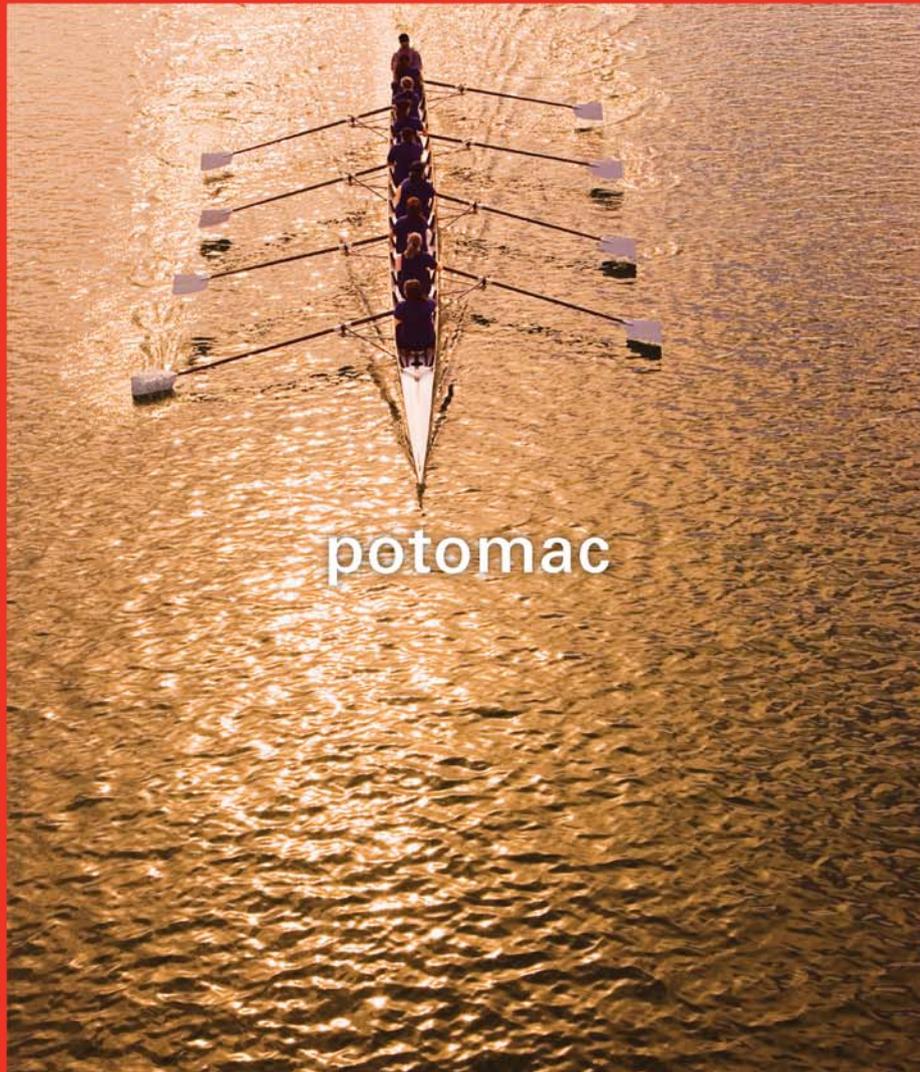
Churchill To Feature Balanced Offense

SPORTS, PAGE 12

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CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 11 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 13



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Bullis Students Prepare Thanksgiving Baskets

They're serving 75 Montgomery County families.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Organized chaos is 70 upper school students gathered in the Bullis cafeteria at 8:45 on a Saturday morning to bake 180 pies from scratch. Teenagers are slicing and peeling apples, stirring the sliced apples into the filling ingredients, rolling out pie crusts and lattice — and finally assembling and baking the pies.

These students have dedicated their time and effort to create a special Thanksgiving for less fortunate Montgomery County families. These pies will supplement 75 bountiful baskets that Bullis students, parents, faculty and staff have prepared. The extra homemade pies will complement holiday meals for additional families.



Bullis students Colleen Cronin, Alex Joo, Caroline Abushakra and Mary-Clare Stucky dig into the apple pie filling.

The baskets contain everything for Thanksgiving dinner for a family of six or more. Traditional Thanksgiving fare such as sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, cornbread

mix, cranberry sauce, corn, green beans, a supermarket gift card for the turkey — even an aluminum turkey pan, holiday candles, Thanksgiving table decorations and a disposable camera were collected to com-

pletely fill a large laundry basket. “We make sure that every item in the basket is useful, down to the basket itself — a laundry bas

SEE SERVING, PAGE 4



Co-chairs Debbie Friedlander and Patricia Cohen with the Thanksgiving baskets

Preschoolers Learn about Native American Customs

As they celebrate the first Thanksgiving.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Potomac Nursery School students donned their feather headbands, chose Native American names, gathered around a campfire and held their first Pow-wow. They even had an American Indian visit their classroom and teach them the “Friendship Dance.” Hunting Buffalo, Leaping Deer, Blooming Flower, Strong Hunter, Little Star, Jumping Fish, Painted Flower, Little Knife and Flying Eagle — some of the names the children selected for their new Native American identities — danced around the campfire pretending to hunt, sew moccasins and paddle their canoes.

For several weeks, teachers at Potomac Nursery School have been instructing their preschoolers in

the customs and traditions of our country’s first inhabitants. Songs such as “Playing Indian is Such Fun”, “Great Spirit Send the Rain”, “Ki Yi Yi” and “Henna Maya” familiarized them with the language of the Native American while giving them insight into the trials and joys of tribal lives. The children have been learning about kayaks, canoes, bucks, maidens, chiefs, rituals, and dances. They also created a Native American costume, including clay bead necklaces and paper vests, which they decorated with Native American symbols. John Wigle, a parent, came to speak to the children about Native American Indian life. He is a member of the Tuscarora Nation of New York State. Dressed in his native costume, he shared stories of the many customs of his tribe and told them that his Native American name is “He that is Right Minded.”

Native American life is paired with the study of Thanksgiving each year. The first Thanksgiving is discussed and the children learn that the Pilgrims

SEE LEARNING, PAGE 4



Luke Bryan, Christian Kim, Katie Pease, Jack Evans and Tessa Merretta enjoy the campfire at Potomac Nursery School

Traditional and Not So Traditional Potomac Thanksgivings

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Thanksgiving is the holiday that seems to be most focused on food, glorious food. Should we try new dishes? Should we create grandma’s homemade cranberry sauce? Shall we have two kinds of potatoes, corn soufflé, stuffing, gravy — ooh — all those calories and carbs. Who should come for Thanksgiving dinner — and who should bring what?

But Thanksgiving is more than just about

the food. It is a time for families and friends to join together to be thankful for all that we have. Here are some Thanksgiving customs and foods from around Potomac.

Valerie Gordon, Potomac: “I’ve passed the gauntlet to my daughter who absolutely loves Thanksgiving. She has widened the circle to include friends, friends of friends, neighbors and anyone who has no place to go. Everyone brings something and we all love it.”

Liz Appelbaum, Chevy Chase: “On Thanksgiving, the first two turkeys out of the oven are carved and put into bags which include the trimmings. We then take them to the streets and parks in D.C. and give them to the homeless who are unable to get to a shelter. I’ve been doing this since I was a little girl, and my whole family is involved. We feed about 250 people every Thanksgiving.”

Melissa Phillips, Potomac: “Since we have no family here in Maryland, our chil-

dren get very involved in Thanksgiving. They all share in making the meal. Lars bakes the pies, Annabelle makes the stuffing and Franny prepares the smashed potatoes. They also have free range to decorate our Thanksgiving table anyway they want!”

Linda Clinch, Potomac: “Every year, my son Tommy and his uncle smoke a turkey, a ham, and either salmon or trout. I prepare

SEE THANKSGIVING, PAGE 10



St. Louis-based designer Anjali Kamra displays her colorful clothing line called Rungolee. All the clothing is handmade in India and many pieces have beading and embellishments.



Debbie Whyte of Whyte House Monograms displays her work at the annual holiday bazaar which was held last weekend at Connelly School of the Holy Child.



PHOTOS BY COLLEEN HEALY/THE ALMANAC

Jamie Matthews, left, and Ryan Whyte have been best friends since they were 10 years old. This past summer they started their own clothing company, Matthews Whyte East Coast Apparel.

Connelly School Holds 6th Annual Holiday Bazaar

BY COLLEEN HEALY
THE ALMANAC

Last weekend, busy shoppers attended the holiday bazaar at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac. Now in its sixth year, the bazaar included 75 vendors from as far away as Maine selling monogrammed clothing, jewelry, ceramic pieces, men's and

women's clothing, accessories, stationery, original art, hand-painted items, furniture, handbags and more. A white elephant sale, a "Shabby Chic Boutique," a luncheon café and bake sale could also be found in room after room of vendors selling their wares.

According to the headmistress of the school, Maureen Appel, the annual bazaar is "traditionally held the weekend before Thanksgiving. It is a wonderful community

builder; the spirit is contagious. It is a great activity for the Potomac community as well as our alumnae. It is great to see our former students come back with their families."

Alumnae and parent Colleen Christmas Gardella credits the "army of volunteers" that makes the event such a success. It is also a school fundraiser; each vendor gives

back 25 percent of their sales to the school.

Jennifer Kress feels that "one of the nice things about the event is that you can get all of your holiday shopping done, get your things monogrammed here and leave with it. We are very good to our vendors and provide them a boxed lunch each day. The event is very organized."

Learning about Thanksgiving

FROM PAGE 3

and Native American Indians had much to be thankful for. When asked to tell what they were grateful for, each child replied with a different answer, such as: "the turkey, the mashed potatoes, my big sister, cranberry juice, butterflies, the sun, my big brother and my family."



PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

Music teacher Mary Hamilton has been playing the piano at Potomac Nursery School for over 30 years.

Potomac Nursery School at 12300 Falls Road has been serving Potomac families for over 30 years. Owned by Rebecca Mancuso, the school provides a comprehensive nursery school program and after-care for children age two to five.

"The focus of the school has changed over the years," said Director Joan Mancuso. "We are now making certain that the children are 'kindergarten ready' with reading and writing skills. We have added an internationally-recognized program called 'Handwriting Without Tears.' This program simplifies the structure of handwriting — all the letters are created with four shapes. We have also incorporated science and math into our curriculum while emphasizing the development of a well-rounded child."

Director Joan Mancuso, teacher Barbara Haas, Esther Stello and music teacher Mary Hamilton have taught at Potomac Nursery School since it first opened. Hamilton, now retired, returns several times a week to accompany the children's singing on the piano and to teach the children new songs. The staff consists of 11 teachers.

"We are planning to expand the programs we offer the community. Since we are located at the Montgomery Square Copenhaver Swim Club, we are in negotiations to use part of their space for a summer camp," said Rebecca Mancuso who started working at Potomac Nursery School as a camp counselor while in high school. She holds degrees in early childhood education from the University of Maryland.

Serving 75 Families

FROM PAGE 3

ket, not a decorative basket," said Debbie Friedlander, Bullis Parent Association Community Service co-chair. "And every member of our community gets involved to help as many families as we can."

Bullis School is paired with local families through Interfaith Works and Montgomery Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC). For 14 years, Bullis has provided baskets and supported these agencies in their county-wide effort to provide holiday meals to hundreds of families throughout Montgomery County. Stephanie Semones of HOC is grateful for the Bullis School's assistance. "We now have 10,000 low-income families in Montgomery County — over 1,000 more than in previous years, due to the economy. Homelessness has increased dramatically. Tent cities have sprung up all over our county. These baskets are truly appreciated by the families who are able to have a wonderful and meaningful Thanksgiving due to the efforts of the Bullis community."

"The students are taking this community service to the next level — we try to give them a 360-degree view of what the baskets mean to these families and just how blessed all of us are. We want the students to learn that if each person pitches in, wonderful things happen. Look at all these baskets. The younger students cut out turkeys and wrote 'Be-



PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

Elise Widerlite displays a finished apple pie.

lieve' on them — and then added what they believe in, such as 'pride, honesty, peace, fairness, forgiveness and friendship,'" said Friedlander.

Co-chair Patricia Cohen is also pleased with the results. "We have been working hard for weeks, collecting everything for the baskets. It's truly a school-wide community service project. It's a great feeling to know that others will be able to enjoy Thanksgiving because of our efforts."

The baskets and freshly baked pies are scheduled to be distributed to HOC client families on Tuesday, Nov. 23.

GETTING AROUND

Gov. Martin O'Malley (left) and Oscar-winning actor Jeff Bridges shared the head table at the National Press Club's sold-out event where O'Malley was honored for being the first U.S. governor to jump on board of the "Share Our Strength" to eliminate child hunger.

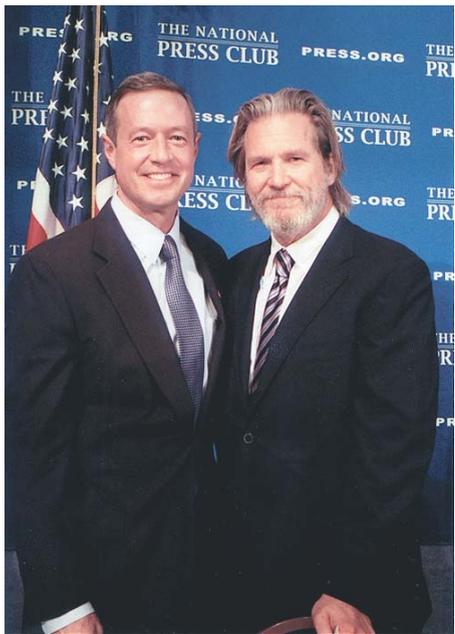


PHOTO BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT / THE ALMANAC

O'Malley Praised for Hunger Campaign

BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT
THE ALMANAC

Gov. Martin O'Malley was the first Governor to jump on board of the "Share Our Strength" campaign, an organization committed to ending childhood hunger.

At a recent nationally televised, sell-out crowd event at the National Press Club, Oscar-winning actor ("Crazy Heart") Jeff Bridges praised the Maryland governor for his initiative, generating such a response from the audience, the Governor was forced to indicate, quiet please, by a swipe with his hand.

In a distributed printout, O'Malley stated, "Step one, in the how to manual for ending childhood hunger: Partner with 'Share Our Strength' and the 'No Kid Hungry' campaigns." Bridges founded the "End Hungry Network" in 1983, a project he is passionate about, so much so, he teared up when the question was asked, "What is the greatest challenge you have faced as a famous person?" Naturally, the answer was childhood hunger, but it took him several seconds and spontaneous applause from his audience to get it out.

Bridges became the national spokesman on Nov. 10 for the "Share Our Strength" program founded by Boston's Bill Shore, also seated at the head table. The combined programs aim to end childhood hunger by 2015. "There are 17 million hungry children, nearly one in four, in the United States," Bridges stated.

Thanks to O'Malley's enthusiasm and interest in the hunger project, "Share Our Strength" made an initial investment of \$20,000 to the "Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland." It helped generate a 17.4 percent increase in the number of children receiving meals. Furthermore, between 2009-10, the Maryland "Share Our Strength" program helped feed 35,000 children who otherwise would have gone without much needed nutrition.

There are a number of ways to get involved with this program including visiting the website www.strength.org or nokidhungry.org or, the old fashioned way, 202-393-2925.

MAYFIELD MARKET

To market, to market, to buy something big; home again, home again, jiggety-jig.

This old nursery rhyme described a huge event this weekend, at The Connelly School of The Holy Child.

"It was big," exclaimed Anne Dolen, the school's director of annual giving. She was referring to the school's annual Mayfield Market. By "big" she touted 75 vendors who filled the gym and classrooms, where an array of holiday gifts, home accessories, clothes, jewelry and a cornucopia of stocking stuffers will boggle the imagination. "It took over a hundred volunteers to put it all together," she said.

Nearly 50 years ago the school on Bradley Boulevard in Potomac opened its doors. The first class of

SEE TO MARKET. PAGE 7

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OPINION

'Pink Out'

To the Editor:

I can look to my right and left and count on both hands, relatives and close friends that have battled breast cancer. I run in races in honor of the memory of my husband's mother, a woman I only know through his memories, I donate every day at the local grocery store for the month of October in honor of my friends that have battled breast cancer and won and my Aunt who lost.

Most recently on Oct. 29, I stood in the stands with parents and students at my son's local high school football game, that night we all wore pink. Our school had implemented its first ever "Pink Out Day," to honor those we know who have battled the disease and those we don't. The t-shirt were designed by a senior student, and worn by those who were lucky enough to purchase them before they sold out, a week prior to the "Pink Out Day." The varsity football game that night was against an arch rival, an inter-conference game. My son and his teammates had an air of intensity all week, preparing for what would be one of the most physically and mentally challenging games of their season. As our team took to the field under the hypnotic Friday night lights, what was most striking was not the obvious excitement and hype of our players but the pink they wore. From athletic tape, to helmet stickers, to football gloves and right down to their shoelaces, every teammate, every son, wore pink. It was one of the greatest moments I could remember as a parent.

The next day became one of my proudest. I was talking on the phone to my closest friend, whose son is a friend and teammate of my son. I learned from her that both our boys had written her initials on their faces before the football game. My friend is a breast cancer survivor. I was speechless and thought about the dozens of things they could have written in light of this highly competitive game. But in the end they put a friend, a mom, someone else ahead of themselves. Her son experienced the uncertainty of a mother battling breast cancer, my son experienced my own non-cancerous but life-threatening illness. Two friends, bound by something bigger than both of them, but that night they rose above it all.

Breast cancer awareness month culminated in a sharp and insightful way for me on the next evening, Oct. 30, 2010. We attended an important local hospital gala to support and honor that same friend. As I listened to her welcome speech, followed by moving speeches from survivors, I felt so lucky to be part not only of her life but those around me. Sitting at my table, I looked to my right and to my left, seeing in each of our faces the pain and sorrow we each have endured. We all are bound by life's uncertainties but like the local school that brings awareness to the core of its community by implementing a school wide "Pink Out," to the two friends on the football field that night, together, we will rise above it all.

Debbie Berkelhammer
Potomac

Write

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Ike's Misstep

To the Editor:

Question A – to charge ambulance fees in Montgomery County, failed when put to the voters on election day, a rejection by County residents. Some might think this was a victory for the volunteer firefighters of Montgomery County and others might think it was a loss for the paid firefighters of the same county. And others might agree it was a big loss for the County Executive that put not only government money but government employees to promote the initiative. Obviously, Mr. Leggett felt strong about his solution for solving some of the budget woes. The people felt otherwise. He felt the fees were the best approach. Could he have done better in solving the problem, with less collateral damage — the tremendous bad feelings that have been left in the firefighters' workplace.

During these challenging economic times, one would hope our leadership would seek to maximize the benefits available from synergies within their respective organizations rather than placing the two on opposite sides of the playing field. Little is said about the fire that has ignited as a result of pitting the two segments of the County fire rescue services against each other.

The tensions between paid and volunteer firefighters are not without precedent. They have been there since the creation of the combination system that is the Montgomery County Fire Rescue Services over 20 years ago. While volunteer firefighters fight for their right to volunteer their time protecting their community and the residents, the paid firefighters fight for their job and power, with a growing abhorrence for their brethren, the volunteers.

Even though these men and women — volunteers and paid firefighters — are trained in the same academy, hold the same certifications and credentials, and adhere to the same standards — they are not considered equals. They risk their lives equally to save those they serve. Yet, the volunteer service has been left to feel expendable — fighting for their existence and the career service has been left to feel that volunteers are a threat to their career, not a complement. Weekends, holidays and nights are frequently covered by the volunteer service, representing not only a savings to the county, but more comfortable working hours for the paid firefighters. The bottom line is, the county is a safer place with the combination system. Meanwhile the war to abolish volunteers continues to escalate now with the kindling of the ambulance fee initiative.

Historically, tough economic times lead to higher volunteerism. This would seem to be a good thing, being that less money needs to be spent in places where those volunteers exist. Yet, today we see the opposite scenario. The cause? A war between brothers and sisters, and in this case, fueled by County leadership.

The recent mid-term elections became what appears to be the front line for latest raging battle between paid and volunteer firefighters in Montgomery County. How did that happen?

Question A was the last question on the ballot in Montgomery County in this year's election. The question was placed on the ballot after County volunteers were able to obtain over 30,000 signatures from residents against ambulance billing. The bill was passed into law by the County Council earlier this year after numerous prior defeats.

Ike Leggett's misstep began when he crafted a lose-lose strategy, which pitted the already tensioned paid firefighters against the volunteer firefighters. He called upon the fire department leadership, and gave them an ultimatum. If ambulance billing were overturned, the county executive would cut the jobs of paid firefighters to make up for the "lost" revenue as a result. Richie Bowers (the Chief of Montgomery County Fire Rescue Services) was faced with a difficult decision. Place his subordinates in the line of fire, making them campaign for Question A, or face possible layoffs of his employees.

This was the resulting scene: Driving northbound on 355 in Rockville you would get a sign hung on a fire truck that said "Vote No on Question A", yet if you drove southbound on 355 at the same address, at the same time, you would see a sign that said "Vote Yes on Question A". This was the sight at the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department the day before the mid-term elections. A public sign of the serious divide drawn between the firefighting brother and sisterhood, citizens who risk their lives to protect county residents, a fight brought on by their government leadership.

Instead of bringing together the two components of the combination department, to feed off of the strengths and weaknesses, to maximize efficient use of resources, creating savings through synergies, Ike created a war between firefighting siblings.

The county predicted about \$14 million in expected revenues from the ambulance fees had it passed. So what are the options? Regardless of one's stance on the issue, for the approximately 1 million county residents, this means that a mere \$14 per resident per year could make up for the "lost" revenues that has created such irreparable damage between paid and volunteer firefighters. And just maybe, if given the opportunity, the two services could evaluate the operations and make recommendations that would result in safe cost-saving changes. Who knows more about their services than those in service?

For career firefighters, the rejected initiative means uncertainty for the future and their employment. Firefighting is the job that supports their families. Volunteer firefighters are now left facing the intense anger and extreme hostility from these firefighters for lobbying against the bill. At the same time, one side is still fighting for their right and opportunity to volunteer in their community, the other for their job.

It is important to note, the firefighters paid and volunteer will continue to go out and fight fires side by side. Fighting fires is serious business, firefighting saves lives but it also risks the lives of those who fight the fire together. Their lives are in each other's hands, in the midst of this battle. But unlike a war game gone awry, they have no leader to unite them after the battle — yet every day they continue to run into the fire together.

Ike's misstep was creating a war between firefighters — to win a new source of income. Regardless of the outcome election day, the damage has been done. Our heroes that volunteer and get paid to protect the citizens of Montgomery County are left to pay the price of a misguided political gamble.

Joel Rogozinski
Member of the Rockville
Volunteer Fire Department

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GETTING AROUND

To Market, To Market

FROM PAGE 5

seniors graduated in 1965. "The Mayfield Market was a wonderful homecoming for alumnae, their families and the community in general," Dolen said. The event's name is derived from a town in Mayfield, England, where the school's founder lived.

In its seventh year, Mayfield Market was at capacity with a waiting list for vendors. From poinsettias to potpourri there was no shortage of variety. Members of the father's club were there to help tote bountiful purchases when necessary. There was also be a café for dining for the more than 1,000 shoppers.

Co-chairs Jennifer Kress and Rachel MacDonald and director of development Suzi Montes de Oca were on hand to witness the success of their many months of labor.

Can you believe it was almost 50 years ago when Holy Child opened at 9029 Bradley Boulevard? That's scary!

TURKEY TROT

Here is your chance to work off those Thanksgiving Day extra calories.

The Potomac Bridle and Hiking Trails enthusiasts have planned a day- after- turkey-day, ride and hike, and a chance to explore some of the new Seneca Creek State Park trails.

"There will be two groups of rid-

ers," Trails association president, Rex Reed said. This will accommodate the "slows" and the "fasts." All are welcome.

Naomi Manders, a decades-long trails member, explained via telephone, en route home from Florida ("While my husband is driving," she emphasized); that the trails association approached Maryland state officials about the state-owned property on the west side of Seneca Creek a couple of years ago. "We wanted to make a multiple use trail from Montevideo Road to Route 28," she said. That would run next to Poole's Store and also give riders access to the store where they often stop for Billie Poole's fabulous barbecue sandwiches and roasted hotdogs.

Behind the store, Potomac Bridal Trails members also were granted permission by the state to have trails from the store to a state-owned "parking lot" allowing off-road access for riders.

"It's a narrow road and cars often zip by," she said.

Reed was quick to explain that hikers are also welcome at the 10:30 a.m., Nov. 26 meet.

He hopes to be among the riders. However, a two-month old baby in the household tends to make it a bit difficult to make plans. Rex and his wife, Denise, welcomed the arrival of 9lb. 2oz. Katherine Clare, on Sept. 21 at Shady Grove Hospital. "I haven't had much time to do a lot of riding lately," he lamented.



PHOTO BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT / THE ALMANAC

Snapshot

This majestic old man came a-callin' in a back yard on Rock Run Drive, Potomac. Leisurely chewing on azalea bushes, he stopped long enough to have his picture taken prior to meandering over to freshly blooming chrysanthemums.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by **Michael Matese**

Empty Nest Boom

Adults born between 1946 and 1964 are redefining the way that people think of retirement these days. Gone are the days when you reached 65 and stopped being active. Today's population is working past 65 and enjoying more active, more leisure-filled time.

Instead of the cliché of retiring to the front porch or the easy chair, they're using the freedom of becoming empty-nesters to look into a variety of opportunities, including buying a different type of house, one that's on a golf course, or a luxury condominium, or even a loft with a home gym. Now that the kids are grown and off to college or out of college and on their own, they're marketing their homes and looking for something that will reflect their new, different lifestyle and finding it in many places.

With more than 78 million baby boomers living in the United States, there's a large percentage of them looking forward to changing or maintaining their active lifestyle during the next phase of their lives. If you're planning to sell your home in the near future, definitely take this lively group of potential buyers into consideration.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying and selling real estate, call:

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Every year between Christmas and New Year's, The Potomac Almanac turns its pages over to the contributions of local students. We are seeking artwork, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories and reflections. We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled.

E-mail to: almanac@connectionnewspapers.com, or mail (.jpg and text files on disc only) by Dec. 1, to 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Please be sure to include the student's name, age, grade, school and town of residence along with each submission. For information, call 703-778-9410.

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NOW THROUGH NOV. 28

"The Mikado." The Potomac Theater Co. presents Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" with a live orchestra. Performances are Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 and 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. In the Blair Family Center for the Arts, Bullis School, 10601 Falls Road, Potomac. Call 299-8571. See www.potomactheatreco.org.

TUESDAY/NOV. 23

Folk Singer Chuck Brodsky. 8 p.m. Brodsky is a down-to-earth musical storyteller. Tickets are \$18/door; \$15/advance. At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville. Visit www.FocusMusic.org.

The Magnificent Mazowsze. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30-\$65. At the Music Center at Strathmore, Concert Hall. 2Luck Concepts presents a thrilling display of dazzling movement, vibrant color and stunning beauty. Ninety dancers, musicians and singers are arrayed in a seemingly never-ending series of handmade traditional costumes - more than 1,000 in total, one more dramatic and colorful than the next. Call 301-581-5108.

NOV. 24 TO JAN. 9

"Junie B. in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!" Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 and 4 p.m. Some Saturday 11 a.m. performances. Single ticket prices range from \$10-\$22, with group rates available. It's holiday time in Room One and that means drama! Tattletale May keeps picking on Junie B., and things get even worse when Junie B. draws May's name for Secret Santa. She hatches a plan to give May a lump of coal, while getting an awesome Squeeze-A-Burp for herself. Will Junie B. have a last-minute change of heart and show her true holiday spirit? Just like its heroine, the show has laughs, verve and energy to spare! At Imagination Stage 4908 Auburn Avenue, Bethesda, MD. Imagination Stage offers discount ticket packages with benefits that emphasize the flexibility that parents and grandparents value, as well as significant savings. Details are on the website, www.imaginationstage.org.

NOV. 26 THROUGH JAN. 9

Holiday Art Show and Sale. Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The exhibition will feature works by resident artists, instructors and invited artists and will include glass, ceramics, jewelry, photography, painting, and more. In the Popcorn Gallery of Glen Echo Park. Call 301-634-2222 or visit glenechopark.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 26

Contra Dance. 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$9. The Friday Night Dancers presents Contra dancing as well as some square dances and waltzes. There is a Contra dance lesson from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. followed by the called dance from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom of Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Email: fndcontra@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/NOV. 27

Swing Dance. 8 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. Beginner swing



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTSPOWER

Max Glick (Justin) and Lauren Stanford star in "Amber Brown is Not a Crayon."

SATURDAY/DEC. 4

"Amber Brown is Not a Crayon." 11 a.m. This musical is about a feisty little girl who wonders what to do when her best friend is about to move away. Tickets are \$7/regular; \$6/seniors/students. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville. Call 240-567-5301. To order tickets online, visit Web site at www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC

lesson at 8 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. With the Tom Cunningham Orchestra. At the Spanish Ballroom of Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Email: tomcunningham.com.

O Come Let Us Adore Him: Mormon Orchestra & Chorus of Washington, D.C.

2 and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$21 and \$25 (Stars \$18.90 and \$22.50). At the Music Center at Strathmore. The Mormon Orchestra & Chorus of Washington, D.C. perform their new holiday concert "O Come Let Us Adore Him." The program includes arrangements of traditional carols "The First Noel," "O Holy Night," "See Amid the Winter's Snow" and more. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 28

Contra and Square Dance. 7 to 10:30 p.m. Admission is \$12/nonmembers; \$9/FSGW members. The Folklore Society of Greater Washington presents traditional American contra dancing. The evening can include square dances, mixers, waltzes and other couple dances. All Contras and Square dances are taught, no partner is necessary. There is a lesson is at 7 p.m., followed by dances with live music by Hammer and String from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. In the Spanish Ballroom of Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Contact: fsgw.org.

Services of Songs. 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Musician Dr. Ysaye Barnwell will lead two services of songs. At River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Call 301-229-0400. Or visit www.ruuuc.org.

Ballroom Tea Dance. 3 to 6 p.m. Admission is \$12. Join the Hot Society Orchestra of Washington for an afternoon of dancing, featuring music and dances from the 20s, 30s and 40s. Dancers will enjoy foxtrot, two-step, waltz, cha-cha, rumba, swing and more in the Spanish Ballroom. A basic dance lesson at 3 p.m. for all levels is followed by dancing to live music from 3:30 - 6 p.m. In the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Email: Dave@hotsociety.com.

MONDAY/NOV. 29

Stories from the Attic. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuition is \$75 for three sessions (Stars \$67.50). At the Mansion at Strathmore, Shapiro Music Room. Lynn Stearns of the Writer's Center helps participants put priceless

family stories on paper, teaching major elements of writing such as voice, point of view, language, dialogue, setting, structure, plot, pacing and resolution. Each participant will write in class and have opportunities to have work critiqued. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

Beth Sholom Book Club. 8 p.m. Will review The Search Committee: A Novel by Rabbi Marc Angel. The book is an engaging debate drawing upon the current conflicts between ultra and modern Orthodox Jews. It focuses on how the search committee examines the qualifications and ideology of two rabbis for the position of rosh yeshiva. As the committee interviews 10 people from both positions, an ideological battle ensues. All are welcome. Email alamp9608@yahoo.com. At Beth Sholom Congregation, 11825 Seven Locks Rd. Potomac.

TUESDAY/NOV. 30

Specialty Tea: Hanukkah tea. 1 p.m. \$26 reservation required. At the Mansion at Strathmore. Enjoy traditional music and food for the first Hanukkah tea. Call 301-581-5194.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 1

Food Glorious Food Art Show. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Art on Display from Dec. 1 through Feb. 6. Presented by Zenith Community Arts Foundation to benefit the Capital Area Food Bank. At a calendar launch celebration and silent auction on the Terrace Level at Embassy Suites Hotel, Chevy Chase Pavilion, 5335 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Chevy Chase. To purchase tickets, call 202-783-8005.

DEC. 2 AND DEC. 3

Greens Sale and Holiday Boutique. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. A huge selection of specially designed quality greens to decorate inside and outside your home will be available. Holiday Boutique offers gifts for everyone on your list. Boutique items include: children's gifts, clothing, jewelry, specialty foods as well as home & garden accessories. There will be a Bake Sale & Café on the premises. At Landon School, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda.

THURSDAY/DEC. 2

Brandeis National Committee Talk. 10:30 a.m. Paula Matuskey, Interim Sr. Vice-President for Academic and Student Services, will discuss Abraham Lincoln's challenges as well as the results of the newest mid-term

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 8

elections. Cost is \$12. At Temple Beth Ami, 14330 Travila Road, Rockville. Call 301-598-6952 or contact weismar@aol.com.

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. Slow blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. With DJ Mike Marcotte and guests. At the Back Room of Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or go to info@CapitalBlues.org or www.CapitalBlues.org.

The 2010 Kenny G Holiday Show. 8 p.m. Tickets \$38-\$125 (Stars price \$34.20-\$112.50). Grammy winner Kenny G brings a mellow holiday concert featuring favorites from his best-selling albums, including "The Greatest Holiday Classics" and "Miracles," which, in addition to being Kenny's first album to hit number one on the Billboard Top 200 chart, became the best-selling holiday album of all time. Co-presented with AM Productions. At the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Visit www.strathmore.org or call 301-581-5100.

FRIDAY/DEC. 3

Blues and Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. Swing lesson from 8-9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. With the band Meschya Lake from New Orleans, and with instructors Donna Barker and Mike Marcotte. At the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Go to www.CapitalBlues.org or call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231.

SATURDAY/DEC. 4

Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$18. Swing dance lesson from 8 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m.

DEC. 11-12

"Handel's Messiah." Performed by the National Philharmonic Chorale. Saturday, Dec. 11 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. The concert will feature the National Philharmonic's nearly 200 voice all-volunteer Chorale, as well as soloists Audrey Elizabeth Luna (soprano); Yvette Smith (mezzo-soprano); Don Bernardini (tenor); and Christophren Nomura (baritone). At the Music Center at Strathmore. Visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call the box office at 301-581-5100. Tickets are \$32-\$79; kids 7-17 are free.



Conductor Stan Engebretson

to midnight. This event is part of the BamBLOOZled Blues Exchange Weekend of music and dancing, including all-day dance workshops on Saturday and Sunday. With instructors Donna Barker and Mike Marcotte and with the band Shemekia Copeland. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Go to www.CapitalBlues.org or call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231.

DEC. 4 THROUGH 12.

"The Nutcracker." Presented annually since 1974 by the Rockville Civic Ballet, under the direction of Claudia Mangan, the show is a community favorite. Performances are Saturdays, Dec. 4 and 11 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, Dec. 5 and 12 at 2 p.m. At the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Tickets are \$16/adults; \$12/children (12 years and younger), and \$12/seniors. Group rates available. For tickets call the box office at 240-314-8690 between 2 and 7 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/arts.

SATURDAY/DEC. 4

Pianist Michael Adcock. 8 p.m. Free. Concert by pianist Michael Adcock who performs works by composers including Schubert, Ravel, Scriabin, and Granados, and pieces including "The Alcotts" from the Concord, Mass. 1840-1860 Sonata of Charles Ives and Listz's Sonetto 104 del Petrarca from Années de Pèlerinage, Italie. At Westmoreland Congregational UCC Church, One Westmoreland Circle, at Massachusetts and Western Avenues, the boundary of D.C. and Bethesda.

German Christmas Bazaar. 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Enjoy coffee and homemade cake, as well as traditional German Food. German wooden Christmas ornaments from the Erzgebirge, a variety of European Christmas decorations, and Christmas gifts. German meat products and Swiss-baked goods. Many activities for your children. Come and enjoy a European afternoon with delicious food and Christmas gifts. At the German School, 8617 Chateau Drive, Potomac.

THEATER

NOV. 24 THROUGH JAN. 9

"Junie B. in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!" Based on the book series by Barbara Park. Tickets are \$10-22 and group rates are available. Performances are Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 and 4 p.m., with extra 11 a.m. performances on Dec. 18 and Jan. 8 and Holiday Weekday performances over Thanksgiving and Christmas weeks. Visit website, www.imaginationstage.org, or call 301-280-1660. At Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda.



NOW THROUGH JAN. 2

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Performances on Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Additional performances are listed at adventuretheatre.org. Tickets \$15, general admission. Call 301-634-2270 or visit: adventuretheatre.org. At Adventure Theatre, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo.

NOW THROUGH NOV. 28

"The Happy Elf." Based on the song by Harry Connick Jr. and book by Lauren Gunderson and Andrew Fishman. Tony Award winner Michael Rupert (Legally Blonde, Ragtime, Sweet Charity) will join the cast of The Happy Elf as Norbert, the tightly-wound head of the Naughty and Nice Department. Tickets are \$20/adults, \$15 for students and children. Student matinee tickets are \$10. Tickets can be purchased by calling 240-567-5301 or online at www.montgomerycollege.edu/pac. At Montgomery College's Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville. Visit www.adventuretheatre.org or call Amanda Russell at 301-634-2267.

NOV. 26 THROUGH DEC. 31

"The Nutcracker." Presented by the Puppet Co. Playhouse. Show times are Thursdays and Fridays at 10 and 11:30 a.m.; Saturdays and

Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Exceptions: Nov. 26 and Dec. 26 - 31, at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. No performances Dec. 24 and 25. Tickets are \$10 Adults and Children. Group rates available. For reservations: 301-634-5380 or visit www.thepuppetco.org.

NOV. 26 THROUGH DEC. 29

"Nutcracker Fantasy." 10 a.m. Presented by The Puppet Co. Playhouse. "Tiny Tots @ 10" is designed for young children ages 0-4. Show dates: Friday, Nov. 26 at 10 a.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 1, 15 and 29; Saturday, Nov. 27 and Dec. 4, 11 and 18; Sunday, Dec. 19 and 26. Dec. 15 performances at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Ticket: \$5 adults and children. Visit www.thepuppetco.org. Call 301-634-5380.

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Reflections on Being Thankful

JANETTE GILMAN

Hoover Middle School PTA President

What will you give thanks for this Thanksgiving?

I am thankful for family and friends, and for health, happiness, and laughter. I am thankful that my children are able to benefit from the outstanding public schools we have in Potomac. And, I am thankful for the support and efforts of parents, teachers, staff, and administrators at Hoover Middle School who make it a great place to learn and who support the efforts of Hoover PTA.

What are you thankful for living and/or working in Potomac?

I am thankful to be part of a community that cares about education, that understands that parent involvement makes a difference for every child, and that recognizes how blessed we in Potomac are and that it is our responsibility to share those blessings with others and to inspire our children to do the same.

What advice would you give to someone looking for more special things to be thankful for in Potomac?

I would encourage parents to become involved in and join their school's PTA, PTSA, or PTO in Potomac. No matter what a parent's interest, talent, or available free time, their participation will reap rewards for their child, their school, and themselves. I also would encourage empty-nesters to look to our public schools and PTA/PTSA for volunteer opportunities. In these tough budget times, adult volunteers are needed even more in our schools.

LOUIS TENENBAUM

What will you give thanks for this Thanksgiving?

My children's health and happiness, the sun every morning and the beauty around me, my friends and family

What are you thankful for living and/or working in Potomac?

The beauty and proximity of the river, the canal and other natural beauty as well as the culture and beauty of Washington and environs.

What advice would you give to someone looking for more special things to be thankful for in Potomac?

This is a village. Meeting and greeting people who smile. Substantial shopping and business you can ride your bike to Giant, Safeway, the Coop, River Falls Seafood, the Post Office, the banks, Starbucks and the court yard, the drug stores pretty much all you need on a daily basis and close



I am thankful for the good friends that I have in the Potomac Village Garden Club. They all know how to give back to the community. This is a picture of our president, Julie Perlman receiving the Golden Trowel Award from Montgomery County for almost 10 years of landscaping work at the Potomac Village Library. From left: Dianne Gregg, Margaret Vogel, Myra Wormald, Julie Perlman, Estelle Woodcock and Carol Embry.

— LINDA RIEGER

enough (but far enough) to everything else from DC- K street, the mall, Bethesda, Tysons.

JANE MARTENS

What advice would you give to someone looking for more special things to be thankful for in Potomac?

Slow down and look around you. The natural beauty that surrounds us is astonishing. No matter how bad our day was or what challenges we face, we come home to a place that speaks to the natural rhythm of life and nurtures our souls if we pause long enough to listen. This is an incredible gift that we all-too-often take for granted.

GRACE JANELLE SHERFY STRASZHEIM

What are you thankful for living and/or working in Potomac?

My favorite part of the community of Potomac — for which I am thankful on Thanksgiving and every day — is the unbelievable access to nature. Our community has a staggering abundance of hik-

ing and riding trails that network throughout the area. In particular, we have the C&O Canal and Great Falls Park in our own backyards!

We also have three very significant stream watersheds that traverse our community in broad swaths on their way to the Potomac River — Cabin John, Watts Branch and Muddy Branch. All are laced with easily accessible hiking trails in the midst of wonderful woods. These place are "the great places" of Potomac — our community's most elegant "mansions" — all with their doors wide open to use by all of us.

Also, through the efforts of two local trail organizations, the Potomac Bridle & Hiking Trail Association and EPIC (Equine Partners in Conservation), our community has a significant, additional "public easement trails" through our neighborhoods which affords further hiker and equine further access to our abundant woods and streams. (FYI — these organizations provide trail map information on their websites — www.phbta.org and www.EPIC.org.)

Thanksgiving Traditions

FROM PAGE 3

turnips and rutabagas, creamed spinach and brussel sprouts. For each Thanksgiving, I try to make a new kind of stuffing. The worst part of Thanksgiving — right after the very last dish is washed, the counters are scrubbed and we finally sit down — my sons decide it is time to have a turkey sandwich with trimmings. So all the food comes out again!"

Lee Sargent, Potomac: "My daughter is the queen of mashed potatoes! She makes pounds of them. We always have sweet potatoes with marshmallows, and I make a cornbread, apple, cranberry and sausage stuffing. As a kid, my mom owned a florist shop, so my brothers and sisters and I all worked every holiday making flower arrangements and delivering them. Now we make our own arrangements. We also had to polish the silver the entire week before Thanksgiving! I love to make roasted brussel sprouts in balsamic vinegar. They are just like eating candy. I also love to make the desserts, including apple pie, pecan pie, and a pumpkin spice caramel cake!"

Fiona Carson, Bethesda (originally from Great Britain): "We celebrate Thanksgiving by having family and neighbors in for a traditional dinner. The one non-American menu item I have added to our dinner is bread sauce. It is made with milk, bread crumbs, garlic, onions, cloves and cream. Everyone in England eats it. We love it with our turkey — would not think of eating turkey without bread sauce!"

John McDaniel, Head Pro, Potomac Tennis Club: "I'm spending Thanksgiving relaxing! I work seven days a week, so I'll enjoy having the day off to rest and eat turkey!"

Julie Alter, Potomac: My family wants all the same dishes that we have had for the past 30 years! I have adopted my mother-in-law's recipes, such as broccoli and cheese casserole, corn soufflé, and her Italian stuffing — its' a ground beef stuffing with turkey and garlic. Every time I try a new recipe, the whole family freaks."

Ted Pogorelc Head Golf Pro, Bethesda Country Club: "We went to London one Thanksgiving to visit family. We wanted to make a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, so we finally found a turkey hanging from a noose at a specialty meat store. It was expensive — but most importantly, it still had the feathers! We had to figure out how to pluck it before we roasted it."

LETTERS ON GIVING THANKS

The Graceful Potomac

BY ERIN DONOHOE

OUR LADY OF MERCY SCHOOL

I am a third-grader at Our Lady of Mercy in Potomac. Since Thanksgiving is coming up I would like to share some things I am thankful for.

As a third grade class, we had the opportunity to learn about the Master Plan. It is written to protect all the plants, animals and scenery in Potomac. It tries not to allow too many highways or houses. It tells people they need to protect the Potomac River, C & O Canal and the Chesapeake Bay. It keeps our environment special.



The Potomac Community is special. There are private and public schools in Potomac. The schools in Potomac help our community. At our school we learn how to keep our environment clean and have our Walk for the Homeless. I am also thankful for our great teachers and friends that teach us new things every-

day.

There are many things to do in Potomac. I am thankful for all the stores and restaurants that allow kids and adults to try different foods. I play on sports teams and do other activities here. I am thankful for all the friends I have met doing these fun things. I'm thankful for Potomac being so special.

What I Am Grateful For

BY ANDY STRAUSS-REIS

I am thankful for all my teachers who have taught me so much cool stuff.

Thank you to:
Mrs. Li for teaching me Chinese and Math.
Mrs. Pasquill who taught me to enjoy reading.

Mrs. Prokos who showed me how to do a personal narrative.

Mrs. Cetlin who helped me understand American symbols.

Mrs. Wang who taught me to about graphs and measuring.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

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11800 FORUM HILL CT	5	5	1	POTOMAC	\$1,775,000	Detached	2.00	PALATINE
10609 STAPLEFORD HALL DR	8	9	2	POTOMAC	\$1,600,000	Detached	2.19	KENTSDALE ESTATES
11428 PALATINE DR	6	4	1	POTOMAC	....	\$1,600,000	Detached	2.00	PALATINE
11505 FRONT FIELD LN	6	4	2	POTOMAC	....	\$1,550,000	Detached	2.00	PINEY SPRING
10001 FLOWER GATE TER	4	4	1	POTOMAC	....	\$1,400,000	Detached	0.46	AVENEL
10403 GREY FOX RD	6	5	1	POTOMAC	....	\$1,360,000	Detached	0.45	GLEN MEADOWS
13101 BRUSHWOOD WAY	5	4	2	POTOMAC	....	\$1,335,000	Detached	2.01	TRAVILAH MEADOWS
12557 ANSIN CIRCLE DR	4	4	1	POTOMAC	....	\$1,260,000	Townhouse	0.05	WHEEL OF FORTUNE
14021 GORKY DR	4	4	1	POTOMAC	....	\$1,225,000	Detached	2.19	ESWORTHY PARK
9702 BEMAN WOODS WAY	5	4	1	POTOMAC	....	\$1,200,000	Detached	0.18	AVENEL
9804 TIBRON CT	5	4	2	POTOMAC	....	\$1,195,000	Detached	0.51	MASS AVE HIGHLANDS
9909 BLUEGRASS RD	5	4	2	POTOMAC	....	\$1,150,000	Detached	0.49	POTOMAC VILLAGE
10627 BEECHKNOLL LN	5	5	1	POTOMAC	....	\$1,051,500	Detached	0.20	PINEY GLEN VILLAGE
8216 COACH ST	6	6	0	POTOMAC	....	\$900,000	Detached	0.35	RIVER FALLS
9117 COPENHAVER DR	5	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$880,000	Detached	0.49	COPENHAVER
11716 KAREN DR	5	4	0	POTOMAC	....	\$875,000	Detached	0.34	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
12443 ANSIN CIRCLE DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$850,000	Townhouse	0.05	WHEEL OF FORTUNE
10225 GAINSBOROUGH RD	4	2	2	POTOMAC	....	\$815,000	Semi-Detached	0.10	EAST GATE OF POTOMAC
11152 POWDER HORN DR	4	2	2	POTOMAC	....	\$790,000	Detached	0.41	WILLOWBROOK
7811 IVYMOUNT TER	4	2	1	POTOMAC	....	\$785,000	Detached	0.22	WILLERBURN ACRES
9329 COPENHAVER DR	5	3	0	POTOMAC	....	\$750,000	Detached	0.26	COPENHAVER
12500 PARK POTOMAC AVE #202N	2	2	1	POTOMAC	....	\$745,900	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	.....	PARK POTOMAC PLACE
10406 FLOWERFIELD WAY	4	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$729,000	Townhouse	0.05	POTOMAC GLEN
11403 DURYEY DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$714,000	Detached	0.47	OLDFIELD
9 COLD SPRING CT	5	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$680,000	Detached	0.36	COPENHAVER
8808 STONEHAVEN CT	4	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$650,000	Detached	0.18	HIGHLAND STONE
11915 DEVILWOOD DR	4	2	1	POTOMAC	....	\$640,000	Detached	0.24	REGENT PARK
9 RICHVIEW CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC	....	\$600,000	Detached	0.27	HORIZON HILL
1378 CANTERBURY WAY	4	2	1	POTOMAC	....	\$599,000	Detached	0.23	POTOMAC WOODS
1996 LANCASHIRE DR	6	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$555,000	Detached	0.21	POTOMAC WOODS
8010 INVERNESS RIDGE RD	3	2	2	POTOMAC	....	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.08	INVERNESS FOREST TH
7859 MUIRFIELD CT	3	2	2	POTOMAC	....	\$434,000	Townhouse	0.05	INVERNESS NORTH
10606 MUIRFIELD DR	3	3	1	POTOMAC	....	\$427,000	Townhouse	0.03	INVERNESS NORTH
7844 HEATHERTON LN #40	3	2	1	POTOMAC	....	\$379,900	Townhouse	.....	INVERNESS KNOLLS
12069 GATEWATER DR	3	1	1	POTOMAC	....	\$375,000	Townhouse	0.03	FALLSBERRY
7810 CODDLE HARBOR LN #31	2	1	0	POTOMAC	\$277,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	INVERNESS KNOLLS

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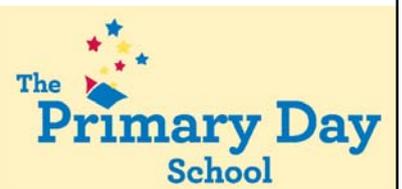
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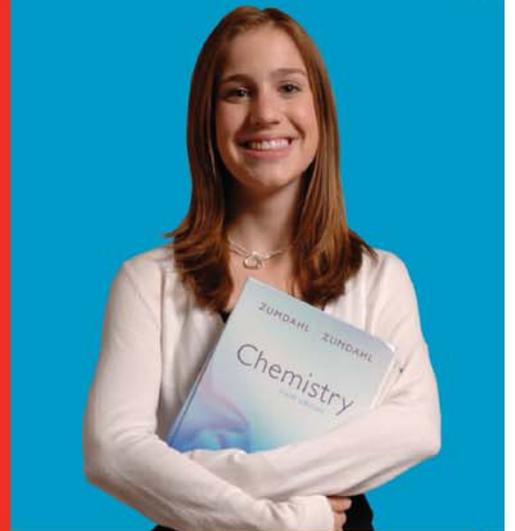
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Experienced Churchill to Feature Balanced Offense

Bulldogs have nine returning athletes but no dominant scorer.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

During his first two seasons as Churchill head boys basketball coach, Matt Miller had at least one primary scorer he could rely on to produce.

Two seasons ago, it was Chase Hicks averaging 21 points and Elijah Gore 15. Last year, senior transfer Jake Eskin scored 18 points per contest. Each season ended with a double-digit win total and Churchill advancing to the regional quarterfinals.

This year, it appears no Bulldog is head and shoulders above the rest at the offensive end. Churchill figures to have a more balanced scoring output, from a team with nine returning athletes. Whether spreading the wealth will translate to at least 10 wins or playoff success is yet to be seen.

"It's early, but things have been looking positive," Miller said. "I've got a lot of re-



The Churchill boys basketball team prepares for the 2010-2011 season with "Midnight Madness" on Nov. 19.

PHOTO BY SARA LEWIS

turners. Guys are grasping on to what we're doing earlier than last year. I'd say it took a good month for the guys to get comfortable playing varsity basketball last year. They're basketball IQ has grown over the

course of the time we've had them."

Churchill will rely on a trio of scorers to get the job done. Senior guards Will Lewis (6 feet 1) and Jordan Bass (5-11) and senior forward Jesse Simon (6-2) will be looked upon to pro-

duce points for the Bulldogs. Lewis is receiving Division III looks, according to Miller, and is one of the team's best shooters.

"Will's got a good overall game," Miller said. "He's probably our best passing guard and one of our best ball handlers. His biggest attribute is he can shoot the ball."

Junior Christian Bonaparte (6-1) was groomed as the point guard of the future last season and will be part of a ball-handling committee to start the season. Miller said junior Sam Edens (6-3) can play any position on the floor. Six-foot-6 junior Thomas Geenen was the team's leading rebounder last season.

"My expectations this year are we get out and defend every possession and rebound and see what happens," Miller said. "We have the ability to be competitive with anyone. I don't know what that will translate to" in terms of wins and losses.

Juniors Paapa Nyanin (6-5), Kyle Edwards (6-5), Louis Rothstein (6-5) and Quan Gill (6-4) add size to the Churchill roster. Junior guard Cameron Moshyedi (5-8), junior forward George Nichols (6-1) and sophomore guard Dominique Williams (6-0) complete the roster.

Churchill opens the season at home against Kennedy on Dec. 7.

Inexperienced Wootton in Search of Confidence

Patriots looking to fill scoring, rebounding voids.

During a scrimmage at Landon School on Saturday, the Wootton boys basketball team struggled with the full-court pressure applied by out-of-state opponent T.C. Williams. One Patriot had a 3-point attempt swatted away and another received a lecture from head coach Chris Bohlen for not chasing down a loose ball headed out of bounds.

Wootton is an inexperienced team headed

into the 2010-11 season. The Patriots have nine first-year varsity athletes — eight juniors and one sophomore — on the roster who will need to help fill the scoring and rebounding void left with the graduation of Jack Weiss and Freddy Vance. How quickly the newcomers adapt to the pace of the game will likely determine Wootton's level of success, Bohlen said. On this day, the coach said the Patriots were too uptight.

"We seemed a little tentative today, a little afraid to make a mistake," he said. "We've got to completely try to cut that out of our heads. You want kids out there — not making mistakes — but you want them to feel confident that they're going to learn from their mistakes and they're going to keep playing."

Wootton returns two starters: 6-foot-4 seniors Connor Tendall and James

Wallerstedt. The duo, along with 6-foot-2 senior Kyle Welty, will be the team's primary scorers.

Taariq Elliott, John Gillick, Eddie Tsao, Chad Rudden, Willis Ibeh, Nicolas Texier, Benjy Sokobin, Denell Hammond, Kyle Weissenberger, Brad Sternberg, Jeremy Schlafstein and Andrew Craig complete the roster.

Wootton will open its season at home against Paint Branch on Dec. 7.

— JON ROETMAN

SPORTS BRIEFS

Whitman Girls Cross Country Wins States

The Whitman girls cross country team captured the 4A state championship on Nov. 13 at Hereford High School. The Vikings scored 70 points, 14 better than second-place Northwest.

Whitman junior Anna Ryba won the individual state championship with a time of 19 minutes, 16 seconds — 17 seconds faster than her nearest competitor. Whitman junior Alexandra Phillips placed fifth (19:53), junior Caroline Guiot finished eighth (20:11), sophomore Caroline Elmendorf was 21st (21:03) and senior Cara Bennett

finished 42nd (21:37).

Wootton finished sixth at the meet, led by junior Karen Cohen's 18th-place finish (20:52).

Churchill Boys Cross Country Take Second at States

The Churchill boys cross country team placed second at the 4A state meet on Nov. 13 at Hereford High School. The Bulldogs finished with 86 points, 12 behind state champion Walter Johnson.

Churchill junior Will Conway finished fourth with a time of 16 minutes, 36 seconds. Junior Zach Weinstein was seventh (16:44) and senior Justin

Rheingold finished 13th (17:08). Senior Alex Kim was 34th (17:38) and junior Sushen Thiyagarajan finished 37th (17:39).

Whitman Basketball

The Whitman boys basketball team will open its season at Watkins Mills at 7 p.m. on Dec. 7. The girls basketball will host Watkins Mill at 7 p.m.

Wootton Girls Basketball

The Wootton girls basketball team will open its season on the road against Clarksburg at 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 29. The Patriots' first home game is Dec. 10

against Urbana.

Bullis Basketball

The Bullis basketball team will host a scrimmage against Wootton at 1 p.m. on Nov. 24. The Bulldogs will open their season on the road against Flint Hill at 6 p.m. on Nov. 30.

The girls basketball will travel to Paint Branch for a scrimmage on Nov. 27. Bullis will open its season at home against St. Andrew's at 6 p.m. on Nov. 30.

Whitman Wrestling

The Whitman wrestling team will open its season at home against Kennedy on Dec. 8.

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Got My "Wish"

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Who says you can never go home again? Somebody does. Well, in spite of the well-worn admonition, I did in fact go home again. In mid October, I received an invite/offer from my best friend, Cary, that I absolutely couldn't refuse: fly up to Boston for a visit and to attend the NBA's opening night, marquis match up, between the Boston Celtics and the new-look Miami Heat; eighth row, top of the key. It didn't take me long to say "Yes." Actually, it took me about a day. I needed to be certain the tentative Sunday afternoon departure, Wednesday morning return itinerary I was considering, didn't adversely affect/impact what routine I maintain here in Maryland: chemotherapy/pre-chemotherapy lab work every three weeks, Connection Newspaper deadlines, spouse and/or family obligations and any previously scheduled miscellaneous appointments/commitments, medical or otherwise. Obviously I wanted to go north, but I wanted to be able to go with minimal hassle, all parties and issues concerned. Once satisfied that all was indeed manageable, on-line I went and the airline reservations were made.

The trip was pretty much about me, for me, to accommodate me; as it was intended to be, per Cary's insistence: tickets for the Celtic's game (duh!), Italian food in the North End – of Boston; a visit – and Chinese food with – my most important cousins, Ronnie, Gil and their daughter, Jayne (a semi-tradition); Boston pizza from Cary's favorite local place, fresh cut-up fruit from Whole Foods for a healthy breakfast for me every morning (my diet); chocolate from Cary's candy store/warehouse; access to a computer to facilitate any work-related issues that might arise while I was out of town; and experiencing the kind of warmth, compassion, hospitality, kindness, generosity, love and understanding provided by my oldest friend (and his wife, Mindy and their three boys) and by my dearest cousins, at a time in my life when I needed it most. I don't think I can string together enough superlatives to accurately describe all the feelings that I felt. Special – beyond words, is as simple as I can say it.

That being said, there was a feeling gnawing at me throughout my three-day stay. The feeling that, though I was indeed home again, was this trip, in fact, given my diagnosis/prognosis, the last time I would be home, see my best friend, visit with my closest cousins, eat my favorite foods, go to all the familiar places, etc? After all, I may not be getting any healthier. Was this visit, all about me as it was – and planned to be so by Cary, Mindy and the Lipmans, sort of a final-type wish come true for me, à la The Make-A-Wish Foundation, coincidentally the very charitable organization to which Cary's parents made contributions in my parent's memory when each of them died (Cary's father and my mother knew each other as children and grew up in the same Dorchester, Mass. neighborhood 75 years ago)? The feeling didn't exactly keep me from sleeping at night but I couldn't stop thinking about it when I was awake – doing anything/everything that I wanted to do but, being in Maryland, am unable to do.

I wouldn't say the feeling ever passed, but three days sure passed quickly. Now that I'm home, and remembering and writing about it, perhaps getting my "Make-A-Wish"-type emotions/thoughts down on paper will get it out of my head and out of my mind as well. I hope so. I don't want to ever forget the weekend, though; I would like to forget part of what made it so special – for me: my cancer diagnosis.

As Cary was dropping me off at Logan Airport, the last thing he said was, "Let's do this again next year!" "That would be great," I said, as I hugged him back.

I can live with that, and look forward to it, too.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

People of The Year

Chamber honors Citizen, Business Person and Youth of the year at annual awards dinner.

The four people honored by the Potomac Chamber of Commerce on Thursday evening, Nov. 19, were different in many, many ways. But, in addition to being Potomac residents, they all had one thing in common: They all attended Winston Churchill High School.

About 80 people attended the awards dinner last Thursday, Nov. 18, at Normandie Farm restaurant.



Dr. Naveed Naz, Citizen of the Year, and Fred Goldman, who chaired the chamber's awards committee. Naz, a Potomac native and Churchill graduate, serves as a surgeon in the U.S. Army, and was deployed in Iraq where he treated hundreds of injured soldiers. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Combat Medical Badge.

LETTERS ON GIVING THANKS

FROM PAGE 10

Dr. Fagen and Ms. Borra who taught me how to make friends.

Mr. Pinto and Mrs. Landau for teaching me Hebrew and Judaic Studies.

My many teachers at Escuela Argentina and tutors for teaching me Spanish.

Mrs. Firestone for helping me speak Chinese.

Mom, Dad, and my brothers Eli and Parker for teaching me about what a family means.

Why I'm Grateful

BY ELI STRAUSS-REIS

My name is Eli Strauss-Reis and I am in 5th grade in the Chinese Immersion Program at Potomac Elementary School. I am grateful for the special learning opportunities around Potomac and especially thank-

NEWS



Jennifer Matheson, chamber secretary, and Benjamin Kramer, Youth of the Year. Ben aspires to be the nation's first Jewish president, although he would also like to serve in the U.S. Senate, Matheson said, in giving him the award.



Randy Schools from the Children's Inn at NIH, with Adam Greenberg, chamber president and Jennifer Matheson. The Children's Charities of NIH were beneficiaries of this year's Potomac Day fundraising.



Andy Alderdice of the chamber Board of Directors and Danielle Collins, Youth of the Year. Danielle co-founded Peer-to-Peer tutors at Churchill. She has also volunteered in many community service activities in Potomac, and is student columnist for the Almanac.

Jennifer Matheson, chamber secretary, presents the Business Person of the Year award to Guy Semmes. Semmes was honored for many contributions to the community, including serving as president of the Potomac Rotary Club, supporting Habitat for Humanity, Saint Francis Church, the Bethesda Big Train, and more. His remodeling and building company, Hopkins and Porter, has won many awards, including the top design award from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.



One of two students honored with the Youth of the Year award, Churchill senior and Almanac columnist Danielle Collins is with her mother, Stacy, and Randi Cherner.

ful for all the schools that teach foreign languages.

On Saturdays I go to Escuela Argentina. It is special because it is involved with the government of Argentina and uses the same books Argentinean kids use. Also, with so many Spanish-speakers around, it is fun to surprise them when we can talk.

I just started Hebrew, but I can tell you that it's fun to learn and easy to read once you get the hang of the letters and vowels.

I attend Chinese school on Sunday. We use books that teach Chinese writing and reading. The kids talk in a conversation without hesitation. I also am lucky to attend Chinese Immersion at my public school, which teaches math and science in Chinese, as well as Chinese reading, writing, and conversation. Our class will go to China this Spring Break! I'm so excited! Wouldn't you be?

I don't know if you can get opportunities like this everywhere, but since we live in a

place with all these language schools and excellent teachers, take advantage of them!

The Master Plan

BY RACHEL ILLIG
OUR LADY OF MERCY
SCHOOL



I am grateful for Potomac's Master Plan. This plan will save a lot of animals, trees, bushes and habitats. I'm glad this master plan is a part of Potomac. I feel like we can make a difference. I hope the community will keep this Master Plan for a long, long time. I love the trees and nature found in Potomac, for example the Potomac River. I can't believe how beautiful all the scenery is in Potomac and that is why I am grateful for the Master Plan.

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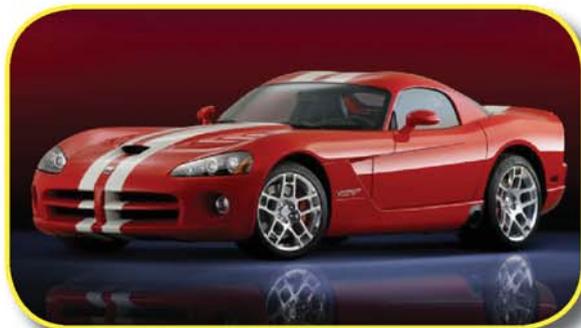
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