

Potomac ALMANAC

'Say Goodbye To All That'

NEWS, PAGE 3

'Jelly and the Donuts' Leads To Healthy Eating

NEWS, PAGE 3

Big Changes Coming

OPINION, PAGE 6

At the Poole family general store there was always something for everyone. Harness and horse feed, winter boots, baby chicks, chili dogs, hand tools, toys, hay, straw and sandwiches, garden supplies, seed and sawdust. An auction will be held Saturday, Jan. 8 at 10 a.m.

Churchill Boys Win Bulldog Classic

SPORTS, PAGE 12

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'Say Goodbye to All That'

Poole's General Store to auction a lifetime of goods.

BY CAROLE DELL
THE ALMANAC

On Saturday, Jan. 8, the Poole family will auction much of their 46-year accumulation of inventory, bringing to an end one of the longest running general stores in the county. Buddy Flint, auctioneer, will begin the bidding at 10 a.m., said JoAnn (Poole) Clements, the store's manager, and the auction will continue until most of the items have been sold.

According to Clements, there will be antique farm tools for those who treasure such things, a forklift and an old wooden wagon, not to mention household wares and items from the store that date back to the '50s. "We're digging stuff out from everywhere," said Clements.

She and her brothers and sisters have been gathering up gardening tools, gate latches, electric fence supplies and a two-man saw for the auction. They also have a 1950s bread rack, and another one that used to display those ubiquitous "Wonder Bread" loaves for years, its logo mostly recognizable to those of a certain age. There are also several old lanterns and a Kerosene lamp or two in the sale. But, the serious collector should take a longer look. Behind the store, the old deer-weighing scale sits idle now, a keeper for the bidder who gets there first. Other treasures, ones the Pooles have not yet uncovered, will appear at auction time.

In keeping with the long-running Poole hospitality, Clements also said that their famous food would be available during the auction, including barbecue, chili, hot dogs



An auction will be held at Poole's General Store on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 10 a.m.

PHOTO BY
CAROLE DELL/
THE ALMANAC

Details

To attend the auction, Saturday, Jan. 8, 10 a.m. and pay a last visit to Poole's General Store, the address is 16315 Old River Road, Poolesville, MD 20837

and spicy dogs. "It is going to be cold outside," she said.

On another note, the news of the departure of Billie and Ray Poole that shocked the community in December now has a brighter side, according to the family. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) reversed its order requesting that the family vacate by the end of the year. "John Nissel visited us on the 23rd. and gave us extra time," said Clements.

Also, in a letter in response to written

requests for consideration for both the Poole family and the needs of the local farming community, Mary R. Bradford, director of Parks, stated that M-NCPPC would: "begin immediately to continue to provide an uninterrupted feed supply source for the customers who relied upon the store for their requirements."

Then, on Monday, Calvin Day and his son, Mickey, owners of Farm and Home Service, Inc. a Southern States store, responded to Nissel's offer to continue with a store on the site and the Days signed a contract that will allow them to provide feed and farm supplies to the community out of one of the non-historic buildings. The contract, which will last until June 30, was delivered to the parks department. Calvin and Mickey Day are now waiting for M-NCPPC to sign and

For Updates

Contact John Nissel, Division Chief, Facilities Management Division at 301-670-8009 or Parks Department Deputy Director Gene Giddens at 301-495-2514 or Gene.Giddens@MontgomeryParks.org for updates or to register support for the continuation of an agricultural feed store at the Poole's site.

return the document, which the parks department stated would be around Jan. 5. "We have a contract and do think it is going to happen," said Mickey Day.

M-NCPPC also promised in the same letter that: "An alarm system will be installed and monitored by our Park Police." This alleviates the concern of many in the community who said that the historic buildings could be vandalized if left vacant and unmonitored.

'Jelly and the Donuts' Leads to Healthy Eating Habits

Author's grandchildren help write and promote book.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

What could be more fun than helping your grandmother write a children's book about donuts? Or performing live and singing in a video? Or feeling the satisfaction of knowing you held a crucial role in producing the published manuscript?

Potomac's own Jake, Taylor and Jordan Kline have such an author-grandma who decided to write a children's book. "Grandma Elyse" Schneiderman saw the

epidemic rise in childhood obesity — and wanted to get the message out to children and their parents. Thus, she consulted her grandchildren about healthy eating and other problems that youngsters face. The result — a children's book entitled, "Jelly and the Donuts" — a story about a donut that is shunned by the other donuts until he begins to eat healthy, lose weight and exercise more. His story is the sad tale of



Elyse Schneiderman

childhood games where children are often excluded because of weight, athletic ability and popularity. But Jelly improves his eating habits as well as his self-esteem, and the rest of the story ends happily.

The paperback children's book includes lessons for healthier eating and imparts wisdom about self-image in a story that children ages 3-8 can easily comprehend.

Jake, Taylor and Jordan Kline, students at Seven Locks Elementary, Potomac Elementary and Hoover Middle respectively, loved discussing the story line as well as the characters and their names.

"We decided the story needed a dog — so I named him Cream," said 10-year-old Taylor.

Thirteen-year-old Jordan added, "We also

added the game, Duck, Duck, Donut! It was really fun helping our grandma create the story — and we enjoyed designing worksheets for the workbook that will go along with "Jelly and the Donuts."

Five-year-old Jake enjoyed singing in the video. The parents of Jake, Taylor and Jordan are Lauren and Ken Kline.

Schneiderman now lives in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. Previously a Potomac resident, Schneiderman has enjoyed a multitude of careers including psychotherapist, real estate agent, college professor, marketer, bead artist, and author. In addition to her many vocations, she and husband Chuck, a physician, raised four children. They left Potomac for the warmer climate

SEE BOOK'S YOUTHFUL, PAGE 4

AAUW Chapter Pursues Advocacy, Advancement

Group focuses on gender equity issues.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Passionate women with a goal. That's the women of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) — women who for 129 years have taken a stand and acted on it.

The mission of this organization is “to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.” Since 1881, they have funded scholarships for college, campaigned for child labor laws, advocated for compulsory education and fought for pay equity for women. They have served on U.S. policy boards, supported the women's right to vote and most recently, actively promoted movements against sexual trafficking, abuse and harassment.

AAUW was founded by 17 women who met in 1881 to start the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. They dared to rebel against society's principals by attending



AAUW President Pat Stocker greets members at the holiday luncheon at Normandie Farms Restaurant.

college and earning degrees. They established the organization to support other women who wanted to attend college and establish their own careers — quite the renegade activity for women at that time to even consider. National AAUW now has

more than 100,000 members, 1,000 branches and 500 university/college partners.

On Dec. 16, AAUW held its holiday luncheon at Normandie Farms Restaurant in Potomac. In the spirit of the season, the speaker was Dr. Linda Freeman, professor at the University of Maryland and an expert on Victorian literature, particularly on Charles Dickens. The topic was Dickens' “A Christmas Carol.” She shared information on the language of the novel as well as biographical information about Dickens. Freeman also shared books from her collection on Dickens — some that featured original annotations by Dickens himself.

The Bethesda/Chevy Chase chapter of AAUW works to continue the mission of its parent organization. Its 53 members raise funds for college scholarships. They also sponsor a day at Montgomery College for Montgomery County 8th grade teachers of math and science to learn new techniques for encouraging underachieving girls to enter these fields. Another scholarship the group provides is for a talented young woman to attend the Duke Ellington School of Performing Arts in Washington D.C. This chapter meets one Saturday a month at the Fox Hill Retirement Condominium, located

at 9800 Burdette Drive in Bethesda at 10 a.m. The meeting features a speaker on current women's issues, including leadership, public policy and education.

The next meeting will be Jan. 15 and will present Maria Burton, speaking on “Fitness for Life.” Future speakers will cover the topics of “Manners and Respect” in February, “Increasing Participation/Interest in Science and Math for Girls and Women,” in March, and the Hon. Nancy Floreen will discuss “Hot Topics in Montgomery County” in April. All women and men who have graduated from a two or four-year college or university are eligible to join.

Member Renita Johnson said, “I truly appreciate AAUW because it is composed of interesting, dynamic women who want to make a difference. In addition to our regular group, which meets once a month, we have smaller interest groups including a Book Club, Gourmet Group, Current Events Group, Philanthropic Group and an Interbranch Group, which works with 8th grade teachers and their students. We even have a group called, ‘Knitting with Purpose.’”

To learn more about the American Association of University Women, see www.aauw.org.

Book's Youthful Collaborators

FROM PAGE 3

of Florida in 1994.

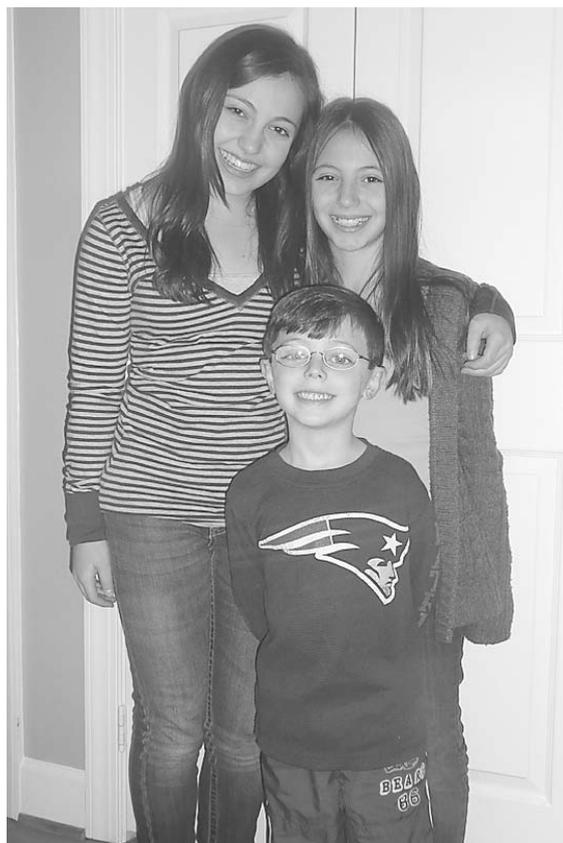
The book was the result of seeing so many overweight children. After research revealed that one out of every five children in the U.S. from ages 6–19 is overweight, she decided to write her book.

In the Palm Jupiter Newspaper, Schneiderman said, “Obesity affects children's lives, both psychologically and physiologically. Overweight kids grow up to be overweight adults.” She turned to her grandchildren to discuss healthy eating and gather their opinions on what to include in her story. “As a grandmother, it is really disconcerting to know that this issue is an epidemic and the numbers have tripled in the last 20 years. The amazing fact is that most countries in Europe have the same problem.”

After creating the book, she found illustrator Mike Swaim through the help of her son-in-law, Jonathon Schneider, a market researcher. He also advised her on the publishing and distribution process. Then, she decided that a song and video would nicely supplement her book. She wrote the song and produced the “Healthy Jelly” video.

Jordan, Jake and Taylor will continue to advise Grandma Elyse as she plans her next book. “Jelly and the Donuts” is Part 1 of the series; she is currently planning two more books, which will tackle other problems faced by children. Her grandchildren brainstormed and decided some of the most important problems include feeling left out or different and experiencing bullying and mean-spirited teasing by their peers.

Schneiderman's message is inherent in her video and song: “If you want to be healthy and want to be trim. You need to look at what you take in. Cut out the sugar and cut out the fat, Start jumping rope and use a gym mat. Jelly Donut, Jelly Donut eats



The Kline children: Jake, front, Jordan and Taylor.

fruits, veggies, and beans, Jelly Donut, Jelly Donut, the family acts as a team.”

“Jelly and the Donuts” is available online from Amazon and Barnes and Noble for \$12.95. The video can be seen on YouTube by searching: “If You Want to Be Healthy-Jelly and the Donuts.”



Author Visits Washington Episcopal School

Washington Episcopal School welcomed Donna Jo Napoli author of both novels and picture books to the school's book fair on Dec. 9. Napoli presented to all students in the school and signed copies of her books. Her award-winning titles include Golden Kite Award and the Sydney Taylor Book Award winner, “Stones in Water,” which the seventh-graders read in class; Zel, which was named a Best Book by Publishers Weekly and School Library Journal; “Sirena,” an ALA Best Book; Beast, a School Library Journal Best Book; and, recently, “The Great God of Pan.”

PEOPLE

A Way To Dance Off Those Holiday Pounds

Next class?
Next week.

BY CAROLE OTTESEN
FOR THE ALMANAC

After age 60, it becomes harder and harder to keep off the pounds. So, with winter just around the corner, last September I looked for a class that would provide regular indoor exercise. Online, I found one that sounded perfect: "Dance Just Dance."

THINGS To Do

Although my last dance experience — in grade school — had not been a resounding success, I signed up and showed up at the appointed time. Happily, I was not the only senior citizen to do so.

Our teacher, Elena Indrokova Jones, a statuesque, classically-trained Russian dancer, teaches adult and children's dance and ballet and is the choreographer of the Four Seasons Dancers, a group that performs regularly. With Jones' qualifications (she graduated from a premier academic bal-



Teacher Elena Indrokova Jones, blonde hair with bangs, and the Four Seasons Dancers, a group of her students who perform.

let school in Russia and has 20 years of professional on-stage experience), we might easily have been intimidated. But she immediately put us at ease.

A gifted teacher, she put us through the motions with infinite patience and good humor. By the end of six classes, we had actually mastered the choreography of a snappy samba routine.

Not only did the classes provide excellent workouts, each one passed far too quickly. How often do you have so much fun at exercise that when you look at the clock, it's because you don't want the class to end? How often do you walk away from the last session feeling triumphant and clamoring for more?

Fortunately, Jones has agreed to teach another series of "Dance Just Dance." The first class, free to those who wish to try it, will be held at the Potomac Methodist Church Parish Hall on Thursday, Jan. 13 from 4:30 to 5:30. The series of six classes is just \$80, payable at the first class.

For more information on Four Seasons Dancers, visit: www.fourseasonsancers.com

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OPINION

Beware: Big Changes Coming

BY GINNY BARNES
WMCCA PRESIDENT

Montgomery County is facing an unprecedented budget crisis that has caused cuts in County services we've always taken for granted. Like our libraries. It is in large part because of reduced hours that we've been forced to change not only our meeting place but meeting time as well. We couldn't book the library for all our scheduled meetings, and in order to be consistent month-to-month, we've moved to the Community Center on Falls Road for General Meetings. We will be starting our meetings earlier too — at 7:15 p.m. and ending at 9 p.m. With a \$300 million budget gap facing Montgomery County, there are more hardships to come, as a newly elected County Council will soon wrestle with reducing future salary increases, more reductions in the size of the government workforce, raising employee sharing of health benefits, restructuring retirement benefits, reducing debt service, and raising revenues through increased fees and taxes.

Meanwhile, our County government is dedicated to accommodating growth, and this past year approved the White Flint Sector Plan and the Gaithersburg West (now called Great Seneca Science Corridor) Master Plan. Both will bring increased density, traffic, and demand for services.

Gaithersburg West alone is the size of four Pentagons and located on the very edge of land uses we have proudly dedicated to conservation — the Agricultural Reserve and our residential "green wedges." Do we believe this won't increase pressures to break the zoning that protects these areas? Further indications that such land use decisions will change our long established planning patterns come with the Planning Board rewrite of the entire Zoning Code being undertaken with input from a 23-member Zoning Advisory Panel (ZAP). The most recent version, called the "second discussion draft," has just been released. There are troubling aspects for every resident in propos-

als to consolidate our current 29 residential zones into eight and in the failure to give Master Plans the credence we've always counted on and defended. For Civic organizations, Master Plans are the foundations on which we depend to shape growth in our local communities.

Our roadside landscape bears painful evidence of the changes PEPCO has wrought with aggressive tree trimming and removal. In the two months since we had PEPCO representatives speak at our October meeting, PEPCO has been using questions about their reliability as reason to engage in extreme cutting measures that leave whole sections of roadsides with rows of stumps and mutilated trees weakened and in danger of falling in future storms. Yet their reliability failure was based only in part on tree interference with power lines. In addition, the County's Department of Transportation (DOT) street tree-planting budget was eliminated last year, so trees lost are not being replaced.

Closer to home, in Potomac Village we see our local retail shops replaced by businesses that can be found nearly everywhere else. What is left that is unique to Potomac? Or that brings people here for that gift found nowhere else? The Surrey was such a special shop for many years. Other commercial areas within the County have recognized the need for a balanced mixture of local business and established chains, while Potomac seems to be dominated primarily by banks and real estate offices. In both Rockville Town Center and downtown Silver Spring there has been active investment in creating community spaces where neighbors can meet, relax, talk and play. Public space features like fountains, courtyards, shaded seating areas, and gardens can serve as attractive gathering spots. And, why is there no place to meet a friend or colleague for breakfast? Or a book store with poetry readings and guest authors? Are such ventures too financially risky? The Village should and could be a lively and charming center of community life. Is it the economy? Or are we just becoming an affluent bedroom community in suburbia? I certainly hope not.

WMCCA Meeting

The next West Montgomery County Citizens Association meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 12, 7:15 p.m. at the Potomac Community Center.

The speaker will be Callum Murray, community planning team lead for area 3 for the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). Having served as the team leader for the Potomac Subregion Master Plan revision process completed in 2002, Murray has returned to WMCCA from time to time to update the community as the Master Plan intentions are realized. MNCPPC once had seven Community Planning Teams, but Planning Department re-organization and budget cuts have reduced the teams to only three. This meeting will cover the implications of this consolidation, an update on the Potomac Master Plan, news about the ongoing Zoning Ordinance rewrite, and some discussion of retail vacancies in Potomac Village.

As always, the public is welcome to attend. If schools are closed because of inclement weather, the meeting will be cancelled.

Development Updates:

PNC Bank has withdrawn the application to replace its ATM kiosk with a "drive thru" teller island in the parking lot of the southeast quadrant of River Road and Falls Road (where Safeway and Strosniders Hardware are located).

Potomac Place Shopping Center (the southeast quadrant of River Road and Falls Road) managed by Zuckerman Gravely is planning a 550-square-foot expansion that will take up part of the outdoor courtyard area near River Falls Seafood Market. The new space is to be integrated with the former M&T Bank space to accommodate a tavern to be known as River Falls Tavern. The applicant held a Site Plan pre-filing meeting on Dec. 3, 2010. The WMCCA Board plans to meet with the applicant.

ADVANCED NOTICE of February WMCCA Meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011, 7:15 to 9 p.m., Potomac Community Center.

A discussion of the latest draft of the ongoing Zoning Rewrite Project and how it might affect the Potomac Subregion, with speakers Rollin Stanley, MNCPPC Planning Director, and Pamela Dunn, MNCPPC Project Manager for the Zoning Code Rewrite.

See website: WMCCA.org

Wishes and Hopes for 2011 for Potomac

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Issues abound in Montgomery County — many will impact Potomac residents. One huge change, due to the budget shortfalls, is the reassignment of Montgomery County Planning teams.

The reduction is from seven teams to three. Potomac is now within Area 3, which consists of 375 square miles. This will surely reduce how effective each team can be in planning for the future for each city, town and village — a requirement

as each community's population, diversity and needs change.

Here are some planning issues that must be addressed to maintain and improve our wonderful Potomac environment. If we do not improve our community, Potomac residents will continue to drive right past Potomac to shop, eat and seek entertainment in Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Tyson's Corner and Rockville. Residents should be lobbying for action for our community.

POTOMAC VILLAGE

The Montgomery County Planning Commission developed a

Master Plan for Potomac Village in 2002. The planning document states that a "pedestrian-friendly mix-use village center should be provided consisting primarily of retail uses, but also include offices, houses and entertainment/recreational activities at a compact village scale." Therefore, a new Potomac Village Towne Center should be created offering space to gather for Potomac residents, for the hoards of bikers who come through Potomac on the weekends, and for families who desire entertainment and shopping venues. More retail establishments, a variety of stores, restaurants, cof-

fee shops — a redevelopment of the unattractive, mish-mash of Potomac's current shopping centers is needed. Another great addition would be for pedestrian only areas in the Village, like the areas created in Rockville and Bethesda.

PROMOTING THE HISTORY OF POTOMAC

The Village Towne Center should be designed in the historical style created by early residents of Potomac. Perry's store and the Edgar House are included on the

SEE WISHES, PAGE 13

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LETTER

'Tis the Season For Mailbox Destruction

To the Editor:

'Tis the season to be jolly ... fa-la-la-la-la, most of us hear that familiar tune many times during the holidays. Christmas caroling, drinking excessive amounts of eggnog and standing in long lines at the mall to return a sweater or scarf are all predictable activities at this time of the year. Yet there are other, unwelcome occurrences happening in some neighborhoods of Potomac.

I am referring to those disaffected, suburban youths who traffic in midnight mailbox vandalism. Yes, they are home from their respective institutions of higher learning and ready to put a different, twisted spin on spreading a little holiday cheer. Beware! If you think you heard Santa and his team re-grouping at the end of your driveway you may be in for a nasty, Scrooge-inspired surprise in the morning.

These industrious elves come well-equipped with a childhood baseball bat they have wrested from the back of a cluttered, downstairs closet and reassigned to more sinister purposes. They rendezvous in a designated garage, rev up the engine of Dad's loaner SUV and begin their cowardly mission around midnight when all are presumably nestled snug in their beds. Fortified with Peppermint Schnapps, trusty bats at the ready, they hang out of rolled-down



Victim of midnight battering.

windows and whack away at random neighbors' mailboxes until they knock 'em all down. Their destructive careening through the darkened side streets does not conclude until they have met their inane quota for the night.

This kind of Home For The Holidays Hijinks may mean more than a lump or two of coal in the 'ole stocking. According to the Montgomery County Court Commissioner this type of property destruction is punishable by 60 days in jail, a maximum fine of \$500 or any combination of both. So before heading back to the North Pole ... better think twice ... because he knows who's been naughty or nice.

Stacey Izadi

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ENTERTAINMENT

To have community events listed free in *The Potomac Almanac*, send e-mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and art work encouraged. Call 703-778-9412.

NOW 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.

THURSDAY/JAN. 6

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte & Guests. Slow Blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m. At the Back Room, 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.

FRIDAY/JAN. 7

Contra Dance. 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$9. Contra dance lesson from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. followed by the called dance to live music from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Email: fndcontra@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 8

New Year's Ball. 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Eminence Dance Studio. A fun-filled family extravaganza at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center at Montgomery College, 51 Mannake street, Rockville. Tickets can be ordered by calling 202-465-6465 or e-mailing eminencedance@netzero.net.

Potomac Library Used book sale. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Most hardback books and large paperback are \$1 and regular paperback books are \$.50. All books are donated by local residents. At 10101 Glenolden Dr., Potomac.

Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With New York City's George Gee Swing Orchestra. Drop-in beginner swing lesson from 8 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Email: Debra@gottaswing.com

Israeli Film Fest. 7:45 p.m. "A Matter of Size" ("Sipur Gadol"), about the adventures of four overweight friends from the Israeli city of Ramle. Film will be followed by moderated discussion and refreshments. Admission is \$10 for synagogue members, \$12 for the general public. At Congregation Tikvat Israel, 2200 Baltimore Road, Rockville. Call 301-762-7338.

JAN. 8-9

Chee-Yun Plays Vivaldi's "Four Seasons." Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. With conductor Piotr Gajewski. At the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100.

SUNDAY/JAN. 9

"Home" Film. 10 a.m. Presented by the Cinema Art Bethesda. The movie tells of an eccentric family with three kids that live next to a remote and unfinished highway on which the kids play, and ultimately the affects on their lives when the highway is completed. At Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema, 7235 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda. Visit the web site at <http://CinemaArtBethesda.org> or call 301-365-3679.

Cajun and Zydeco Dance. Admission is \$12. With the band, Savoir Faire Cajun Band. Introductory Cajun dance lesson from 3 to 3:30 p.m.; dancing until 6 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Michael Hart at 301-762-6730 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.DancingbytheBayou.com.

Contra and Square Dance. 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Admission is \$12/nonmembers; \$9/FSGW members. There is a lesson at 7 p.m., followed by dances to live music by Toss the Possum from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Visit www.fsgw.org.

MONDAY/JAN. 10

Beth Shalom Book Club Meeting. 8 p.m. The book, "A Pigeon and a Boy" by Meir Shalev is the winner of the 2007 National Jewish Book Award for fiction. At Beth Shalom Congregation, 11825 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Email TanyaLampertalamp9608@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY/JAN. 11

Erica Wheeler and the Harley String Band. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18/door; \$15/advance. At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville, 100 Welsh Park Dr., Rockville. Visit FocusMusic.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 13

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte & Guests. Slow Blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m. At the Back Room, 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.

Open Rehearsals. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Encore Choral for singers 55-plus. Calling all former high school and college choristers, church, synagogue and community choral singers. Be a part of the Encore Chorale conducted by Jeanne Kelly, past conductor of the United States Naval Academy Women's Glee Club, Georgetown University Concert Choir and Senior



SATURDAY/JAN. 8

Alexander Paley Piano Concert. 8 p.m. Free. A Listz 200th Birthday Celebration. At Westmoreland Congregational Church, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Presented by: Washington Conservatory. Visit www.washingtonconservatory.org or call 301-320-2770.

Singers' Chorales of the Levine School of Music. Encore Choral of Washington Conservatory of Music at Glen Echo Park. At the South Arcade, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Bethesda. Call Jeanne Kelly at 301-261-5747 or email Jeanne.kelly@encorecreativity.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 14

Poetry Out Loud Contest. 4 p.m. Free. The Writer's Center will host the Montgomery County contest for the Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest. Students from Gaithersburg, Walt Whitman, Katherine Thomas, and Richard Montgomery High Schools will participate. At The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. Call 301-654-0864 or visit www.writer.org.

SUNDAY/JAN. 16

Waltz Dance. 3:30 to 6 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the band, Night Watch playing a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m.; dancing from 3:30 to 6 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 20

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte & Guests. Slow Blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m. At the Back Room, 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.

SATURDAY/JAN. 22

Pianist Brian Ganz. 8 p.m. The recital, which begins the series "Brian Ganz and the Strathmore Chopin Project," marks the start of his ambitious endeavor to perform the 250 works of Chopin over the next decade. Visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call the Strathmore ticket office at 301-581-5100. Tickets are \$34-\$44; kids 7-17 are free. At the Music Center at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda.

Shir Ami- Song of Our People. At 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$28 (Stars price \$25.20). Explore the rich mid-20th century musical heritage of the Jewish people. From Rimsky-Korsakov to Jewish composers who perished in the holocaust to musicians who emigrated after the holocaust and became cultural leaders, this moving performance recovers and rejuvenates music from this tumultuous period of history. At the Mansion at Strathmore. Call 301-581-5109 or visit www.strathmore.org.

Israeli Film Fest. 7:45 p.m. "Dear Mr. Waldman" ("Michtavim L'America"), a coming-of-age story in 1960s' Tel Aviv written and directed by the son of Holocaust survivors. The latter film is rated R. Film will be followed by moderated discussion and refreshments. Admission is \$10 for synagogue members, \$12 for the general public. At Congregation Tikvat Israel, 2200 Baltimore Road, Rockville. Call 301-762-7338.

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THEATER



PHOTO BY BLAKE ECHOLS

Hyla Matthews Heyniger and Rex Daugherty with "Aquarium" audience members.

JAN. 12 THROUGH FEB. 6

"Aquarium." The actors lead children and caregivers through an underwater world with a giant jellyfish, to a grassy patch where sheep love to graze, and to a garden where lemons create the sun in a pretend sky. Designed for very young audiences: 12 months to 5 years. Show times are Wednesday through Saturday 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.; Sunday, Feb. 6 at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$10/person; \$5/lap seat for children under 12 months. "Aquarium" Magical Moments Workshops will be held on Saturday, Jan. 22 at 1 p.m.; Monday, Jan. 23 at 11 a.m.; Saturday, Jan. 29 at 11:45 a.m. and 1 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 5 at 1 p.m. Tickets: \$7.50 per person. Imagination Stage is at 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Visit www.imaginationstage.org or call 301-280-1660.

JAN. 15 THROUGH FEB. 26

"Tiny Tots @ 10" is designed for young children ages 0-4. Ticket: \$5 adults and children. Email: c.piper@thepuppetco.org or visit www.thepuppetco.org. For reservations, call 301-634-5380.

- ❖ Jan. 15 — "Penguins' Playground" — Saturday, 10 a.m.
- ❖ Jan. 22 — "Snow Show" — Saturday, 10 a.m.
- ❖ Jan. 26 — "Snow Show" — Wednesday, 10 a.m.
- ❖ Jan. 29 — "Panda-Monium" — Saturday, 10 a.m.
- ❖ Feb. 5 — "Old McDonald's Farm"
- ❖ Feb. 16 — "Winter Wonderland"
- ❖ Feb. 19 — "Magic Toyshop"
- ❖ Feb. 23 — "Magic Toyshop"
- ❖ Feb. 26 — "Clowning Around"

NOW 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.

JAN. 14 THROUGH FEB. 13

"The Velveteen Rabbit." Applause Unlimited returns with Margery William's gentle tale of how toys become real. Told with hand puppets, storytelling, and song, solo puppeteer Christopher Hudert takes children through this classic story of friendship, changes, and magic. The popular tale is of particular interest to youngsters learning to read and anyone who has ever had a favorite stuffed toy. Recommended for PreK — Grade 4. Running time is 45 minutes. Performances: Fridays at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. ASL performance, Feb. 6. Tickets \$10, group rates available. Call 301-634-5380 or visit: www.thepuppetco.org.

FEB. 17 TO APRIL 10

"Jack and the Beanstalk." Performances Thursdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. It is recommended for K — Grade 6 and runs 45 minutes. Tickets are \$10, with group rates available. Presented by The Puppet Co. Playhouse at Glen Echo Park. For Information and Reservations: 301-634-5380 or visit www.thepuppetco.org

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by
Michael Matese

The Shower Grows Up

Once upon a time, the shower was the ugly step sister to the bath tub or the Jacuzzi, but those times they are a changin'. Today's showers are oversized and capable of producing that pulsing rhythm of hot water to soothe the world weary traveler. Even if the bathroom doesn't currently have dual shower heads or is just a simple shower, renovation can change that.

Consider these changes: Installing a shower arm extension to raise or lower the shower head. Raising the glass walls of the shower so that it's capable of becoming a steam room. If you're relining the shower stall, why not consider alternatives to the traditional tile like travertine or other stone products. Add a comfy seat against the wall in the same material and you're on the way to your own steam room. The dual shower head system can't be beat for that hurried morning routine or a lovely evening in with a nice bottle of wine. More and more the shower is catching up with the bathtub, with homeowners seeing the potential of changing the plain Jane shower into a great steam room to unwind in after a long day.

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

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Potomac REAL ESTATE

Top Sales

A look at some of the top sales of 2010

More than 150 Potomac homes sold for more than \$1 million in the first 11 months of 2010 according to MRIS. Of those, six sold for \$2 million or more, with the top priced home selling for \$3,750,000 on Bencross Drive in Falconhurst.

Many of the homes that sold for top prices were in Falconhurst, with six of the top 15 or so sales on Bencross Drive.



1 This home at 9800 Bencross Drive sold in March for \$3,750,000. The home is nearly 12,000 square feet according to Montgomery County tax records, has seven bedrooms, ten full bathrooms and sits on just over two acres.



6 This house at 9925 Bencross Drive sold in July for \$2,300,000.



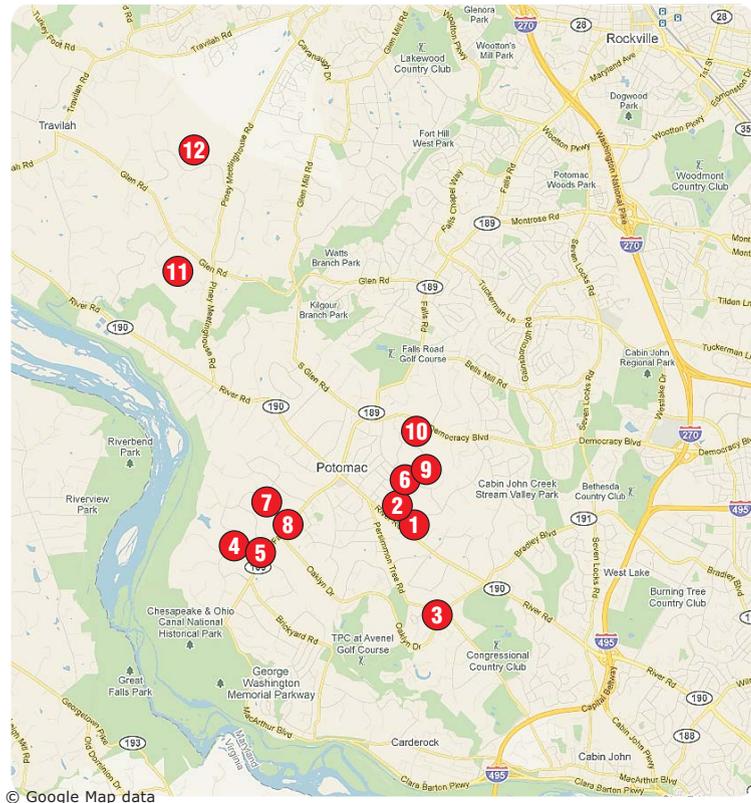
10 This house at 8905 Iron Gate Road, off of Bencross Drive, sold for \$1,875,000 in August.



8 At 9417 Falls Road, this house sold for \$1,950,000 in February.



9 This house at 10004 Bencross Drive sold in September for \$1,895,000.



Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 9800 BENCROSS DR	7	10	3	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$3,750,000	Detached	2.07	FALCONHURST	03/08/10
2 9908 BENCROSS DR	6	7	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$3,500,000	Detached	2.30	FALCONHURST	09/20/10
3 8603 RAPLEY GATE TER	7	7	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$3,400,000	Detached	0.90	AVENEL	01/22/10
4 9119 BELMART RD	6	6	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$2,700,000	Detached	2.00	POTOMAC FALLS	06/02/10
5 10704 ALLOWAY DR	6	7	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$2,375,000	Detached	2.63	POTOMAC FALLS	10/01/10
6 9925 BENCROSS DR	7	7	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$2,300,000	Detached	2.00	FALCONHURST	07/30/10
7 10713 STANMORE DR	6	5	1	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$1,999,999	Detached	2.00	POTOMAC FALLS	11/12/10
8 9417 FALLS RD	6	4	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$1,950,000	Detached	0.62	WILLIAMSBURG GARDENS	02/04/10
9 10004 BENCROSS DR	6	5	1	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$1,895,000	Detached	2.00	FALCONHURST	09/03/10
10 8905 IRON GATE CT	6	4	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$1,875,000	Detached	2.01	CAMOTOP	08/12/10
11 11620 PARTRIDGE RUN LN	5	5	2	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$1,875,000	Detached	2.09	PINEY GLEN	10/22/10
12 11800 FORUM HILL CT	5	5	1	POTOMAC	POTOMAC	\$1,775,000	Detached	2.00	PALATINE	10/27/10

HOME SALES

NOVEMBER 2010
\$1,999,999 ~ \$479,900

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
10713 STANMORE DR	6	5	1		POTOMAC	\$1,999,999	Detached	2.00		POTOMAC FALLS
13801 LONGACRES PRESERVE CT	8	5	3		POTOMAC	\$1,640,000	Detached	2.01		DARNESTOWN OUTSIDE
16 PINEY GLEN CT	6	6	2		POTOMAC	\$1,575,000	Detached	3.32		PINEY GLEN FARMS
11712 WOODTHRUSH LN	6	6	1		POTOMAC	\$1,550,000	Detached	0.50		GREEN BRIAR PRESERVE
10234 DEMOCRACY BLVD	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,475,000	Detached	2.05		CAMOTOP
9509 NEWBRIDGE DR	5	5	1		POTOMAC	\$1,400,000	Detached	2.00		FALCONHURST
9604 CONESTOGA WAY	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,385,000	Detached	0.54		MASS AVE HIGHLANDS
10220 DEMOCRACY BLVD	9	4	3		POTOMAC	\$1,365,000	Detached	2.03		CAMOTOP
13011 BOSWELL CT	4	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,190,000	Detached	1.00		GLEN MILL KNOLLS
11741 SPLIT TREE CIR	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,149,000	Detached	0.39		WINTERSET
11209 TILDENCREST CT	6	4	2		POTOMAC	\$1,100,000	Townhouse	0.10		POTOMAC CREST
14800 PETTIT WAY	6	7	1		POTOMAC	\$1,070,000	Detached	3.34		DARNESTOWN OUTSIDE
9400 TURNBERRY DR	4	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,050,000	Townhouse	0.14		AVENEL
10021 HALL RD	6	4	2		POTOMAC	\$1,025,000	Detached	0.47		POTOMAC VILLAGE
2 BEALL SPRING CT	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,000,000	Detached	2.16		BEALLMOUNT
10125 DARMOID GREEN DR	5	4	2		POTOMAC	\$980,000	Detached	2.17		MAZZA WOODS
12225 SELINE WAY	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$920,000	Detached	0.36		FALLSREACH
8221 BUCKSPARK LN W	6	3	2		POTOMAC	\$910,000	Detached	0.41		EAST GATE OF POTOMAC
11702 GLEN CT	4	4	2		POTOMAC	\$900,000	Detached	2.04		PINEY GLEN FARMS
8921 COPENHAVER DR	5	3	1		POTOMAC	\$900,000	Detached	0.25		COPENHAVER
12409 OVER RIDGE RD	5	3	2		POTOMAC	\$867,500	Detached	0.33		COPENHAVER
11508 LE HAVRE DR	4	3	1		POTOMAC	\$816,000	Detached	0.54		LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
4 WILLOWBROOK CT	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$799,000	Detached	0.42		WILLOWBROOK
11912 GREGERSCROFT RD	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$790,000	Detached	0.35		GLEN OAKS
8912 FALLS CHAPEL WAY	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$737,500	Detached	0.24		POTOMAC COMMONS
10209 LLOYD RD	4	3	0		POTOMAC	\$720,000	Detached	1.17		HOLLINRIDGE
2508 STRATTON DR	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$715,000	Detached	0.21		MONTGOMERY SQUARE
8402 BELLS RIDGE TER	3	3	1		POTOMAC	\$700,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.05		BELLS MILL ESTATES
1907 SUNRISE DR	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$699,000	Detached	0.25		HORIZON HILL
13517 FLOWERFIELD DR	5	3	1		POTOMAC	\$691,000	Townhouse	0.08		POTOMAC GLEN
10316 BELLS MILL TER	5	2	1		POTOMAC	\$675,000	Detached	0.26		BELLS MILL VILLAGE
901 WILLOWLEAF WAY	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$620,000	Detached	0.41		ORCHARD RIDGE
11634 DEBORAH DR	4	2	2		POTOMAC	\$615,000	Detached	0.27		REGENCY ESTATES
11819 KIM PL	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$583,000	Detached	0.53		REGENCY ESTATES
8407 VICTORY LN	5	3	0		POTOMAC	\$530,000	Detached	0.22		REGENCY ESTATES
7920 INVERNESS RIDGE RD	4	2	2		POTOMAC	\$500,000	Townhouse	0.07		INVERNESS FOREST TH
8223 TUCKERMAN LN	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$500,000	Detached	0.21		REGENCY ESTATES
10526 SUNNY BROOK LN	3	2	1		POTOMAC	\$479,900	Townhouse	0.05		POTOMAC GLEN

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Donation to Family Services, Inc.

Marc Infeld (right), a sales associate with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Potomac, recently presented a check for \$2,500 to Family Services, Inc. on behalf of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Cares (CBRB Cares), the company's philanthropic arm. Receiving the check are Thom Harr, executive director of Family Services, and Jennifer Crawford, program director. The funds will support the Betty Ann Krahnke Center, a shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic violence in Montgomery County. Family Services recently took over the shelter contract for the county. Infeld also serves as a board member of Family Services.

BUSINESS NOTES

To have an item listed free in *The Potomac Almanac*, e-mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. Unless otherwise noted, all events are in Potomac. If you have any questions, call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412.

Joan Reilly, branch vice president of Coldwell Banker Residen-

tial Brokerage in Potomac, recently announced the office's Top Agents for July 2010: **Marc Infeld** was the Top Producing Agent; **Homi Irani** was the Top Listing Agent, and **Rokhsan Fallah** and **Frank Holliday** were the Top Sales Team. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is dedicated to creating exceptional real estate services for its customers and communities through the delivery of

truly remarkable service.

George Weissgerber, senior vice president and director of research and development at **Case Design/Remodeling Inc. of Bethesda**, has been named a Master Certified Remodeler (MCR) by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). Weissgerber has been with Case since 1985.

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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Potomac (20854)

10517 Tyler Terrace	\$777,000	Sun 2-4	Diann Gottron	Long & Foster	301-340-2347
12000 Glen Mill Road	\$849,000	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-455-4506
11016 Old Coach Rd	\$869,000	Sun 1-4	Barbara Small	Long & Foster	301-325-7508
7004 Masters Dr	\$899,000	Sun 1-4	Jaclyn Leimback	Long & Foster	301-215-6869
13 Trailridge Ct	\$1,100,000	Sun 1-4	Jan Brito	Long & Foster	301-646-5774

Bethesda (20817)

7400 Lakeview Dr #N404	\$189,900	Sun 2-4	Jim Thomas	Re/Max 2000	301-881-1700
6504 Elgin Ln	\$1,775,000	Sun 1:30-4	Shahab Nasrin	Coldwell Banker	301-814-8093
7109 Heathwood Ct	\$1,779,000	Sun 1-3	Kara Sheehan	Washington Fine Prop.	301-928-8495
9412 Rosehill Dr	\$2,475,000	Sun 1-4	Cecil Jackson	Jackson Premier	301-972-4181

Cabin John (20818)

6424 83rd Pl	\$645,000	Sun 2-4	Holly Smith	WC & AN Miller	301-332-7176
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Rockville (20850, 20852)

796 Princeton Place	\$269,900	Sun 1-4	Elaine Koch & Assoc.	Long & Foster	301-742-8516
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2208	\$338,720	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
4716 Red Fox Rd	\$367,000	Sun 1-4	Denise Szczer	Long & Foster	301-468-0606
1111 Elmcraft Blvd	\$369,900	Sun 1-4	Elaine Koch & Assoc.	Long & Foster	240-751-2216
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2316	\$393,395	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2424	\$395,890	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
11800 Old Georgetown Rd #1227	\$439,780	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
11800 Old Georgetown Rd #1428	\$459,920	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2515	\$519,790	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
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Churchill Boys Win Bulldog Classic

Bulldogs extend winning streak to four with pair of lopsided wins.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

The Churchill boys basketball team ended the 2009 Bobby Miller Bulldog Classic in dramatic and disappointing fashion. A tip-in by Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School at the overtime buzzer of the championship game sent Churchill to a runner-up finish and started a three-game losing streak for the Bulldogs.

One year later, there was no drama for Churchill during its home tournament — and there certainly wasn't any disappointment.

Churchill avenged last year's defeat against JDS with a 65-24 victory over the Lions during the preliminary round on Dec. 29 and cruised to a 69-44 win over Einstein in the title game on Dec. 30. The Bulldogs concluded the two-day event with a tournament title, a four-game winning streak and a 6-2 record headed into 2011.

"It feels great," senior Jesse Simon said after Churchill defeated Einstein. "We have such high expectations for this team. From the first game against JDS, we knew we wanted to come in here and win."

Did last year's loss to the Lions provide motivation?

"Absolutely, especially against JDS. ... I think we sent a message yesterday and it carried over to tonight."

Churchill held a 33-26 halftime lead against Einstein before pulling away in the third quarter. The Bulldogs built a 17-point advantage entering the fourth period and led by as many as 26. Beating the Titans extended Churchill's win streak to four, including victories over Northwest and Bethesda-Chevy Chase.

Senior guard Jordan Bass, one of Churchill's top perimeter threats, finished with a team-high 18 points against Einstein, including 16 in the first half. He knocked down two 3-pointers and buried a

trio of free throws after being fouled during a first-quarter 3-point attempt.

Bass is one of several Bulldogs to step up offensively after the loss of senior Will Lewis — expected to be one of the team's top scorers — to an ankle injury before the season.

"[I] just keep shooting," Bass said. "That's all I've got to do: just have confidence. If I miss one, there's always the next one. I can't get down on myself. [The feeling of making several shots in a row is] indescribable, really. It feels great. I know it's a good night then and I'm just going to keep firing them up and not get down on myself."

Simon scored 16 points and sophomore guard Dominique Williams added 11. Bass, Simon and Williams were named to the all-tournament team, with Williams earning Most Outstanding Player honors.

"We're very happy with our balance," Churchill head coach Matt Miller said. "We tell our guys all the time: 'It's going to take everybody, every play, every day.' ... In previous years it's been a guy like Chase Hicks that's led our scoring run or Elijah Gore — last year it was Jake Eskin — and they had to give us big numbers every

night while the rest of our program might have been young or they played other roles. These guys, they can all contribute on the defensive end, they can all rebound and scorers are going to change on a daily basis. One night, Kyle Edwards has 14. One night, Quan Gill has 14. One night, Dominique has 15. Tonight, Dominique has 11, Jordan has 18, Jesse Simon has 16. ...

"It's kind of fun to coach because everybody gets their opportunity to shine."

Miller said the team has responded well to Lewis' injury.

"At first they were a little in shock because they had been playing summer league with him and he hadn't missed a practice or a day of school in practically four



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE ALMANAC

The Churchill boys basketball team won the 2010 Bobby Miller Bulldog Classic.

years," the coach said. "Two days before the first game to go down with a substantial injury, it's a little devastating to the team. But we have very resilient guys, 1 through 11, here that have been able to respond in their time of need."

Churchill faced Wootton on Tuesday. The result was not available prior to The Almanac's deadline. The Bulldogs will host Walter Johnson at 5:15 p.m. on Jan. 7.

Churchill senior Jesse Simon, seen during a Dec. 20 victory over Northwest, and the Bulldogs extended their winning streak to four with a pair of victories in the Bobby Miller Bulldog Classic.



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE
THE ALMANAC

OPINION

Wishes for 2011

FROM PAGE 6

2002 Master Plan for Historical Preservation. Why is this taking so long? Space should be dedicated for a Potomac Museum and a sign should be installed honoring the original name of the River and Falls Intersection – Offutt's Crossroads.

IMPROVING AND BUILDING NEW BIKE TRAILS

The number of bikers who ride through Potomac substantiates the need for new bike trails (and for bikers to use them) in Potomac. The bike path between Persimmon Tree and River Road must be improved — it is a hazard to every biker (and walker) that uses it. A bike trail from Potomac to Rockville has been proposed. Hopefully, it will be built in a timely manner.

BRINGING NEW RESTAURANTS TO POTOMAC VILLAGE

Restaurants attract people – patrons of restaurants also shop, hang out, drink coffee, eat yogurt and spend money in stores in Potomac Village. The Potomac Deli is sadly missed. Potomac needs restaurants of all kinds to attract people to spend time in our Towne Center and to shop in our stores. Potomac residents have requested everything from reasonably priced restaurants to those with diverse cuisines. They have also asked that a neighborhood pub be a part of the Village restaurants.

ENLARGING POTOMAC'S SAFEWAY AND GIANT – AND A WHOLE FOODS?

The grocery stores are small – and not able to stock the number of gourmet items that residents of Potomac often request. Enlarging these would be of benefit to everyone. Parking is a problem, but if the pedestrian center was built and shopping centers redesigned and better organized and planned, there would be plenty of room for both parking and expanding grocery stores.

RENOVATING SCHOOLS

MCPS should complete Cabin John Middle and Seven Locks Elementary as the community has requested. MCPS designed the school renovations with community input – but then chose to make changes to the design at will. Let's hope Cabin John Middle is completed soon without the 11-foot retaining wall – and let's pray Seven Locks Elementary is designed with the community in mind (and that the community leaders keep a watchful eye!)

POTOMAC COMMUNITY CENTER

It is important that Potomac residents advocate maintaining programs at Potomac Community Center for seniors, for children, for teens – and for all Potomac residents (Due to Montgomery County budget cuts, Potomac Community Center will most likely not be able to provide a comprehensive program for all residents.)

These important issues affect all who reside in Potomac. Make your voice heard by contacting Callum Murray, a member of the Montgomery Area 3 Planning Board. His e-mail is Callum.Murray@mncppc-mc.org.

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Uncertainty, Of That I'm Certain



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm having some difficulty starting this column. The reason being, primarily, that it's presently Dec. 18 and it won't be until Jan. 5, 2011 when it will appear in print. And why that latter date is problematic is, that it occurs a week after my next round of quarterly scans will have been completed and two days before my every-three-month, follow-up appointment with my oncologist — Jan. 7, is scheduled. And it is during that appointment when I will learn the fate of my universe. Because that is when the results from my weeks-previous Bone and CT scans and Brain MRI will be revealed/discussed with my doctor. And whatever it is I think I feel — or don't feel, the scans will confirm it, presumably.

Not that much has changed concerning my health/symptoms. It's more that there are results forthcoming which will change my life — for the worse potentially, or reaffirm how fortunate my present lack-of-circumstances are. Either way, it's one of those moments in time when the world stops — and you can't get off. I can only hope that when my oncologist enters the examining room where my wife, Dina, and I will be waiting anxiously, he'll be smiling when he sees us; and not uncomfortably, but reassuringly, as he has frequently in the past 15 months.

Therefore, to write definitively about anything health-related now, when the tale of the tape will tell it all in three weeks, seems risky somehow. I don't want to presume facts not in evidence nor do I want to anger the gods. And I most assuredly do not want to write about substance/circumstance on which I have fairly limited knowledge and minimal control: my cancer. So this column is about what I don't know, and how long it might be until I do know and why I'm being circumspect — and hesitant, and what it is I hope I will know. And to write anything significant about my cancer, given the Jan. 5/7 time line, other than I'm feeling pretty good though increasingly nervous about this next appointment, seems prudent and certainly precautionary — given my general mental state.

Every day, I begin a sentence with "What if...?" And every day, I try not to complete that question. Every night I go to sleep wondering if the next day I'll learn the answer to that question. And the next day when I will learn the answer to that question will be Jan. 7, 2011. And since Jan. 5, 2011 arrives before that, and I'm writing this column three weeks before both of those dates, anything I'm thinking or feeling now (in mid December), seems incredibly presumptuous and naive almost. I will know soon enough if the road ahead is filled with good intentions or whether it's a road under repair.

As I wrote about in a recent column, the end of my quarterly scan cycle always presents these subconscious/unconscious emotions and anxieties — which are totally beyond my control. What is in my control is writing about them as if I knew anything definite about the "underlying problem" (as I refer to my lung cancer) and I don't. All I do know is, I'm in pretty good shape for the shape I'm in. However, it's exactly the way I felt — basically, when I was first told back in late February 2009 that I had stage IV lung cancer.

Certainly I realize that it is better to feel good than it is to feel lousy. Still, given the minimal symptoms I experienced back in the beginning, it's not as much consolation now as you might think, especially considering that the projected back end of my "13-months-to-two-year life expectancy" anniversary is fast approaching.

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

SPORTS

Churchill Girls Finish Runner-Up at Tourney

Saying the Churchill girls basketball team got off to a slow start in the championship game of the 2010 Bobby Miller Bulldog Classic would be an understatement. Churchill failed to score during the opening quarter against Robinson on Dec. 30 and was shutout until 30 seconds into the second period. But when the Bulldogs came to the bench trailing 7-0 at the end of the first, head coach Kate McMahon focused on the positive.

And it worked.

“What I told them was, ‘Yeah, you didn’t score but they have [seven] points,’” the coach said. “It wasn’t like it was a 20-0 lead.

I told them the same thing before the game: ‘You’ve got to be patient, keep your head up and start driving.’

SPORTS BRIEFS

And that’s when they got aggressive; they got to the free-throw line. I think it’s all their mindset. Once they realized that they could do it, they do execute.”

Churchill outscored Robinson, one of the largest schools in Northern Virginia, 16-11 in the second quarter, briefly taking a 14-12 lead. But the Rams’ defensive pressure proved too much in the second half and Robinson defeated Churchill 48-35 to win the Bulldog Classic.

Churchill was without starting point guard Leeda Jewayni, who was away for family reasons. The Bulldogs had a tough time against Robinson’s trapping defense, but McMahon said Churchill should benefit from the experience.

“They’re definitely a tough team,” the coach said. “We struggled with them last year, did better with them this year. It obviously hurt not having our point guard. ... I would rather they get exposure to that kind of pressure now, struggle, get through it so that later in the season [against] Northwest, Wootton, Whitman, Gaithersburg, they’re ready for it. So that’s the plan. That’s why we always invite a strong team to the tournament.”

Senior Giulia Giannangeli led Churchill with 12 points.

“I don’t think anybody in Montgomery County is going to have that much pressure, guard-wise,” she said. “I think it’s good experience for us.”

The loss dropped Churchill to 4-4. The Bulldogs defeated St. Andrew’s 60-38 on the tournament’s first day.

Churchill faced Wootton on Jan. 4. The result was not available prior to The Almanac’s deadline. The Bulldogs will face Walter Johnson on Jan. 7.

— JON ROTMAN

Churchill Wrestling Has Holiday Success

The Churchill wrestling team headed to Damascus High School on Dec. 28-29 to face off against 16 public and private schools from the region at the Damascus Holiday Tournament. A partial



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Churchill senior Giulia Giannangeli, seen earlier this season, led Churchill with 12 points during the Bulldogs’ loss to Robinson in the championship game of the Bobby Miller Bulldog Classic on Dec. 30.

squad headed into competition on the Dec. 28 and six wrestlers made it through to the top 8 spots and wrestled on the second day for final positions. Seniors Wesley Deaver (112 pounds) with a second-place finish and DJ Gagner at 171 pounds with a third-place finish led the team. Other members of the team placing included Randy Bloch at 119 pounds with a third place, Adama Keita with a fourth place at 140 pounds, Matt Schleckser with an eighth at 189 pounds and Larry Cheung with a seventh at 285 pounds.

The Bulldogs return to action at 6 p.m. on Jan. 5 at home against Wheaton.

SCHOOL NOTES

To have an item listed mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week’s paper. Call 703-778-9412.

The following Randolph-Macon Academy students have been named to the President’s List for the first quarter of the 2010-11 school year for achieving a grade point average of 4.0 or better:

❖ **David Lee**, son of Hong Gang Li and Chun Qing Lei of Potomac, and a freshman at the Academy.

❖ **Birahim Thiam**, son of Oumou and Idrissa Thiam of North Potomac, and a junior at the Academy.

One student from the local area has been named to the Dean’s List at Randolph-Macon Academy for the first academic quarter of the 2010-11 school year: The student named to the Dean’s List for achieving a grade point average between 3.3 and 4.0 was:

❖ **Fily Thiam**, the daughter of Oumou and Idrissa Thiam of North Potomac and a freshman at the Academy

Stephanie Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Evan Jones of Potomac, was named to the Fall Term 2010 Deans’ List at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Conn.



Angelic

Kindergarten students portray angels and sing in the Washington Episcopal School’s Early Childhood Christmas Program held on Dec. 17 at the school.

BULLETIN BOARD

To submit an item for the Civic Calendar, e-mail almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon two weeks prior to the event. For questions, call 703-778-9412.

ONGOING

Are you a tenor or bass, in particular?

Audition for Zemer Chai, Washington’s premier Jewish chorale. Chosen as one of DC’s leading choruses for new concert series at the National Theater. Led by founding conductor Eleanor Epstein, Zemer Chai sings the full range of Jewish choral repertoire, including Jewish folk music from around the world, liturgical and classical pieces, and new works commissioned for the choir. Joint performances have included U.S. Soldiers Chorus, Heritage Signature Chorale, and Coral Cantigas. Clips from its CD and videos at www.ZemerChai.org and on its Facebook page. To schedule an audition: info@ZemerChai.org.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 5

Pepco Public Hearing. 6:30 p.m. To seek residential and commercial customer comments on their experiences with Pepco outages and their overall level of satisfaction with Pepco’s service. Speakers must pre-register by calling 240-777-3764. Each speaker will have a maximum of three minutes for their presentation. At the Stella Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville.

Journaling and Grief Workshop

Miniseries. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. A two-session workshop that will focus on the use of journaling techniques as a way of addressing grief issues. At Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

MONDAY/JAN. 10

Budget Talk. 7:45 to 10 p.m. What has caused Montgomery County’s huge budget deficit and what can be done about it? Karen Orlansky, Director of the Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO), will address that topic at the next monthly meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation. At the County Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville. Visit www.montgomerycivic.org.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 12

Support Group — DBSA.

7:30 p.m. Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance National Capital Area Family Support Group, will hold its January meeting. At the Parish Hall of St. Raphael’s Church at 1513 Dunster Road (Falls Road and Dunster Road) in Rockville. The meeting is for the families and friends of people who have been diagnosed with depression or bipolar illness. Call 301-299-4255 or 301-570-9065. Internet: www.dbsanca-family.org

THURSDAY/JAN. 13

Evening Grief Support Group. 6:30 to 8 p.m. For anyone grieving the death of a loved one, a six-week group led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

MONDAY/JAN. 17

Biofeedback Class. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Sponsored by Pain Connection: “Learning how to lower your pain level using various Biofeedback techniques”. At 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1309, Bethesda. Reservation is required. For anyone with chronic pain, family members and interested community residents. Contact: Michael Sitar, PhD, 301-718-3588 and/or Pain Connection, 301-231-0008, www.painconnection.org.

PEOPLE



Students and teachers in St. James' Children's School's Older Infants through Kindergarten classes display 450 pounds of Thanksgiving bounty collected for Manna Food Center.

Little Hearts Make Big Difference

For several years, the children of St. James' Children's School in Potomac have sponsored a "Food for Friends" collection for Manna Food Center. Head teacher of the Four's class Rebecca Boker of Olney has organized the drive for the past several years. "The struggling economy continues to make it difficult for thousands of Montgomery County residents to put food on the table. With each contribution, our students learn not only about the impact of their gifts to others, but that of gratitude for the gifts of food and family in their own lives; gifts not to be taken for granted," Boker said.

In November, the school collected more than 450 pounds of canned and packaged goods, according to Astrid Crookshank of Rockville, St. James' assistant director. Crookshank delivered the bounty to Manna's

warehouse in Gaithersburg on Nov. 19, witnessing the "weigh-in."

Other community service projects sponsored by the school include a Salvation Army Angel Tree at Christmas; and last January the school raised more than \$1,500 through bake sale proceeds to help earthquake victims in Haiti.

St. James' Children's School, founded in 1993, offers an infant (from six weeks) and preschool program, plus a full-day Kindergarten. The school is located at 11815 Seven Locks Road in Potomac.

Manna Food Center (www.mannafood.org), founded in 1983, is the main food bank in Montgomery County. Manna is located at 9311 Gaither Road in Gaithersburg.

— HOLLY WINZLER



Connecting with Nature

At Har Shalom ECEC, Ella Longman, Ryan Marcus, Sydney Ashin, Asher Oppenheim, and Silas Ramos helped create a nature trail behind the ECEC playground in November.



PHOTO BY PATTIE YU

Superheroes All

More than 700 supporters, including a few in creative costumes, showed up for the Childhood Brain Tumor Foundation Superheroes 5k, held in October in Chevy Chase. The event raised more than \$40,000 for childhood brain tumor research. Brain tumors are the second most common and deadliest of childhood cancers. U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen spoke at the opening ceremony, along with Dr. Roger Packer, of Potomac, who heads The Children National Medical Center's Brain Institute, and Dr. Aziza Shad, also of Potomac, chairman of Georgetown University's Department of Pediatric Oncology.

Chosen for All-State Women's Chorus

The Maryland Music Educators Association has selected Maria Leyva, Class of 2011 at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, from an audition pool of 1,500 to be in the 120-voice All-State Women's Chorus.

Leyva, who lives in Montgomery Village, is a member of Holy Child's select groups — the Vocal Jazz Ensemble and the Connelly Camerata — as well as the Upper School Chorus and the Upper School Instrumental Ensemble, where she also plays violin. She is



Maria Leyva

planning to pursue music as her college major.

Children of survivors light the Yahrzeit candles in memory of the 6 million Jews who perished in the Holocaust. From left: Esther Lakner, Liane Aaron, Dena Hirsh, Carol Urbach Symonds, Ann Birns, Sonia Rickman, and Paul Politzer.



Gathering for Memorial Commemoration

Congregation B'nai Tzedek in Potomac held a community Kristalnacht Memorial Commemoration, attended by more than 200 people in November. An original film-clip of a synagogue burning in Buehl, Germany, and the award-winning documentary Zahor were shown.

Children of survivors participated in the Yahrzeit Candle Lighting. Dr. Alfred Rhode, a survivor, who witnessed the burning of Vienna, Austria, as a child and later was on the Kindertransport to London, gave a personal account of the 2 days of terror in Vienna.

Rabbi Weinblatt read poetry about Kristalnacht by the renowned poet, Herman Taube, while Cantor Kapell sang El Maleh Rachamin. The program ended with Kaddish.

Kristalnacht, or "The Night of Broken Glass," was a Nazi orchestrated reprisal against Jews in Germany and Austria.

Synagogues and Jewish-owned businesses were destroyed; Jews were beaten and murdered; and more than 30,000 Jews were transported to concentration camps.

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