

Potomac ALMANAC

Pastor Robert Lewis, director of Youth and Family Ministry, with wife Jennifer and son Alex at the luncheon celebrating Emmanuel Lutheran Church's 50th anniversary.

Church Celebrates 50th Anniversary

NEWS, PAGE 3

Interfaith Group
Adventures
To Israel

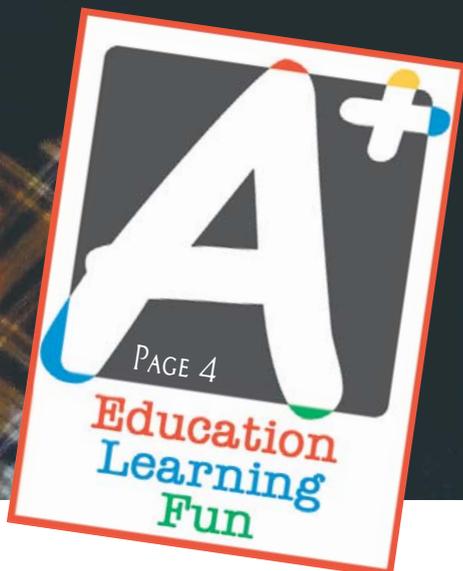
NEWS, PAGE 3

Churchill Girls
Give Gaithersburg
A Scare

SPORTS, PAGE 11

Busy 11th
Hour?

NEWS, PAGE 3



PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MARTINSBURG, WV
PERMIT #86

CIRCULATION
VERIFICATION
COUNCIL

CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 11 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 10s

PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD / THE ALMANAC

DECEMBER 14-20, 2011

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

On his 3rd tour in Iraq in 2008, Spc. Josh Schictl was driving a Humvee which was hit by two IED's. He suffered life-threatening injuries to his face and head. Despite the quick work of medics, Spc. Schictl lost his right eye and nine teeth. Nearly all of the bones in his face were broken but were stabilized before transport to Walter Reed Medical Center. He also suffered a TBI.

Wounded warriors and their families struggle for years to recover physically, emotionally and financially from the sacrifices they make in wartime. Operation Homefront seeks to walk with them on their journey and ease the hardships they face. The DC Metro Chapter assisted Josh and Emily with transitional housing, household furnishings, holiday gifts and grocery gift cards during these difficult times.

There are many ways you can work with the DC Metro Chapter to assist local military families like Josh and Emily.

People ask us everyday how they can show their appreciation and gratitude for the sacrifices made by military families. One way you can do this is to let the DC Metro Chapter fill the gap for military families as they adjust to the 'new normal' after being deployed or wounded in combat. Send your tax deductible donation before Dec. 31st to help us meet next year's needs.

Send your donations to:
Operation Homefront DC Metro
 PO Box 650220
 Sterling, VA 20165
 703-421-9033
 301-722-2440

or visit us online to donate at
www.operationhomefront.net/dcmetro
 or tag your donations with the catchphrase "support our troops"

SAVE *the* DATE

OUTER BANKS WEDDING EXPO 2012 • JAN 6-8
 FEATURING DAVID TUTERA - HOST OF WE-TV'S MY FAIR WEDDING WITH DAVID TUTERA

Outer Banks WEDDING ASSOCIATION

The Outer Banks continues to grow as one of America's top wedding destinations! There is a setting here for every bride that decides she wants something a little untraditional and yet as personal, quaint and charming as the Outer Banks itself. North Carolina offers one of the most beautiful places to plan a perfect beach wedding.

www.obxwa.com
 email@outerbanksweddingassoc.org • PO Box 1067 • Kill Devil Hills, NC • 27948

LET'S TALK Real Estate

by
Michael Matese

Virtual Tours – You're on TV!

Virtual tours are a great tool for today's homeowner to use, especially in a competitive market. Photos are good, but to allow a buyer to sit in the comfort of their own home and view yours, staged at its best, will give a seller the edge that can be necessary. You can sit down and discuss with your Realtor how you would like to present your home, and the specific things that will make it stand out among the others.

Is your fireplace a special marble? Are your French doors floor-to-ceiling? Can you see local landmarks from the back deck? What about the kitchen? What's unique about it that can make a buyer say "That's it! That's the one I want!" A 360-degree tour of the rooms of your house can bring the buyer to you and is well worth the effort, making your home stand out in the crowd. Show off your house and bring it to the forefront of the luxury home market.

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

MICHAEL MATESE
 Long & Foster Realtors
 301-806-6829
 Mike@michaelmatese.com.

PETS

Partnership for Animal Welfare (PAW) is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit group. To adopt an animal, volunteer or make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.paw-rescue.org, call 301-572-4729 or write to PAW, P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768.

Pickles (Dog)- Male, 1 yr., 45 lbs., neutered, Collie mix- Pickles became a victim of the economy and had some tough times before coming to rescue. He likes to play with other dogs but isn't pushy, gets along well with cats, and is a sweet, quiet boy. Pickles would love a family that would cherish this well-mannered boy.



Molly (Dog)- Female, 1yr., 38 lbs., spayed, Hound mix- Molly became homeless through no fault of her own and ended up at the shelter. She has a great personality, has lived with children, other dogs and cats. Molly would be a great buddy for a run, energetic kids, or your other dogs or cats.



Alfie (Dog)- M, 2 yrs., 9 lbs., neutered, Chihuahua mix — What Alfie is all about is pure puppy love. He loves people, other dogs, play and a good snuggle after all the action. Alfie is one of the sweetest Chihuahuas to ever come to PAW and will do best with an adopter who will love and cherish this spunky little Good Will Ambassador for the breed.



Tripp (Dog)- M, 2 yrs., 9 lbs., neutered, Collie/ACD mix- Tripp is a happy young guy, found as a stray. He could use some leash training but responds very well to food treats and is eager to please. Tripp is a playful boy that will respond well to an active family that is dog savvy and will give him time to blossom.



TOYS UNIQUE

Creative • Fun • Educational
 Toys, Games, Crafts & Hobbies

Located Right in the Village!
 POTOMAC PROMENADE
 9812 Falls Road • Potomac, MD 20854
 301-983-3160

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
 Open 7 Days



PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

From left: Annette Poston, Linda Fackler (wife of the Lutheran Council President) with the co-ordinator of the luncheon, Kit Moss. Standing is Jan Phillips. All are active members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Church Celebrates 50th Year Year-long commemoration observes “Great Tradition, Great Faith, Great Future.”

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

In 1961, when Emmanuel Lutheran Church bought three acres at the corner of Seven Locks Road and Bradley Boulevard, the area was known locally as the “grubby thicket.” It was overgrown with weeds and used as a dumping ground. Every Saturday, the men and women of the newly-founded church met to clear debris with rakes and shovels from the plot where their chapel would be built.

The church had 49 charter members — many gathered through Pastor Frederick E.

Reissig’s determination. He made door-to-door house calls in his new church area. However, the early records of the church note that it took 50 calls to get one household to “sign up.”

The little-known facts about the church were unearthed by Emmanuel member Jane Rosenquist who undertook an exploration of a large purple plastic tub which held the achieved records. The tub was housed in the church in “Mary’s Closet” — and most likely had not been delved into for years. In doing so, Rosenquist unearthed the history — but also many warm memories and

SEE ANNIVERSARY, PAGE 7

Busy 11th Hour?

Lawsuit scheduled this week while advocacy continues.

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

Nick Maravell’s lease to operate an organic farm on Brickyard Road is scheduled to expire New Year’s Day.

Maravell’s lawsuit against the local Board of Education is scheduled to begin this Thursday morning, Dec. 15 in Montgomery County Circuit Court.

Meanwhile, approximately a dozen people testified at last week’s school board work session in Rockville on Dec. 6.

Advocates urged board members to create an agricultural education center and a place for hands-on-learning about food and agriculture that can benefit the entire area.

The board should ask for the land back, said Peggy Dennis, president of the Montgomery County Civic Federation.

“[We have] been getting kids and adults out onto the field and into the dirt, planting seeds and vegetables, and opening their eyes,” said Ilene Freedman, an environmental educator and farmer from Adamstown, who has worked with Poolesville High School’s Global Ecology Program. “Save the farm and watch it become a hub for inclusive health-eating environmental education for all your students — they will connect to their food sources, community and the land.”

“This farm is a gem that has been under-



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE ALMANAC

Sylvia Diss of Potomac shows her support for Nick’s Organic Farm while attending a protest on Nov. 15 in Rockville.

estimated,” said Rebeca Rodriguez, student at Montgomery College and president of the college’s Green Club.

“You have the power to keep this resource alive. Please use it thoughtfully,” said Sara Shor, campaign organizer for Save Nick’s Organic Farm.

MARA VELL LEASED the 20-acre property from the School Board for

the last 31 years, growing organic, heirloom corn and soybean seed that is free from genetically modified organisms and chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack appointed Maravell to a five-year term as one of four farmers on the 15-member National Organic Standard Board, which rec

SEE LAWSUIT, PAGE 7

To Get Involved

- ❖ Nick’s Organic Farm, www.nicksorganicfarm.com
- ❖ Montgomery Countryside Alliance, www.mcoalliance.org
- ❖ Montgomery Soccer Inc., www.msissoccer.org

Potomac Interfaith Group Adventures to Israel

Sharing Christian and Jewish perspectives.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

For 13 years, members of two Potomac houses of worship — Har Shalom Congregation and the Emmanuel Lutheran Church — have studied and gathered insight into the similarities and differences between their two faiths. The discussion is lively, filled with theological questions, sometime differences of opinion — and meaningful dialogue.

Led by Rabbi Emeritus Leonard Cahan from Har Shalom and Pastor Jan P. Lookingbill from Emanuel Lutheran Church, 25 members of the study group recently

returned from a 16-day journey to Israel. They spent the first week in Jerusalem and the second week touring the countryside and the many historical and religious sights of Israel, ending in the city of Tel Aviv. Their tour guide told them she had never before been hired to guide an interfaith group led by a rabbi and a pastor. Previously she had led groups consisting of only Christians or Jews — but never a mixed group.

What did they find fascinating about the trip?

Lookingbill said, “The archeology that continues to unveil the history of Israel is full of surprises, like the Roman Theatre and harbor at Caesarea Martina. The Dead Sea Scrolls found in caves in Qumran and viewed today at the Israel Museum reveal new insight into religious practices and con

SEE TO ISRAEL, PAGE 10



PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

From left: Elaine Jones, Bob Jones, Rabbi Cahan, Pastor Jan Lookingbill, Larry Ries, Lynn Ries, Lois Jones and Douglas Hackett.

Getting into the 'Right Fit' Private School

Experts explain how to navigate admissions process for area's most elite schools.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Each year, parents who opt out of their neighborhood public school in favor of an independent school must sift through the long list of the Washington area's independent schools to find one that meets the needs of their child.

They must then navigate the lengthy application required by most schools, and hope that their efforts are deft enough to gain acceptance in a competitive environment. Some schools report receiving as many as nine applications for each available slot.

Even for prospective pre-kindergarten students, the independent school admissions process often includes a written application, admissions tests, parent statements, student interviews, parent interviews, playdates, school visits, transcripts and teacher recommendations.

"What we're trying to do is get a whole picture of a child and look at information from a variety of different sources," said Christina Tait, director of admission and financial aid at The Langley School in McLean, Va.

THE APPLICATION PACKETS provide insight for both the school and the applicants. "We have a fairly detailed process so that we get to know the girls and they get to know us," said Pilar Cabeza de Vaca, head of the Madeira School in McLean, Va. "Our goal is to find girls who are the right fit for our school and for whom our school is the right fit."

The role of each component of the application varies depending on the age of the applicant. "The admission [process] for young children is especially complex and difficult because we have to use both explicit and intuitive measures because we have less data," said Diane Dunning, director of admission and financial aid at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, Va. "If you were looking at a ninth grade [admissions] folder, you would have eight years of report cards and maybe four years of standardized testing. You are also able to interview [older applicants] in a different way than when you are interacting with the young children."

Why is so much probing necessary?

"Schools are looking for consistency in grades, attitude, testing and recommendations," said Lindsay White, educational consultant with the School Counseling Group in Washington, D.C. "[For example] If there is a huge difference between a [teacher] recommendation and what they are seeing on the grades, that is going to be a red flag."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Admissions officials at the Heights School in Potomac use school visits to find boys who are "adventurous, spirited but also capable of hard work," said Richard Moss, director of admission.

Most schools want prospective applicants to spend time on campus. "The [school] visit is important to us. It gives the boy and his family a chance to experience the Heights first hand," said Richard Moss, director of admission at the Heights School in Potomac. "On the flip side, it gives us a chance to really get to know the boy. How is he interacting with his peers? Is he friendly? Is he courteous? Does he have a good, firm handshake? Does he look the teachers in the eye when he greets them in the morning?"

Most applications ask parents to answer questions describing their children. Here are two questions from the Langley School's application: What do you believe is your role as a parent in your child's education? What qualities do you consider to be most important for your child's education?

Consultants say schools look at the way parents answer questions. "There are a lot of parents who regurgitate the school's mission statement and all the language that is used on the school's website. Schools can see right through that," said educational consultant Clare Anderson, of Chevy Chase. "They want to know that the family is in line with how [the school] works with students and [their] approach to education."

Schools also pay attention to a parent's evaluation of their child. "Red flags go up when everything is just perfect and they've never encountered a setback or difficulty," said Anderson. "[Schools] are looking for



St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School students Isabella Norton, Leah Joseph, and Ulises Giacomani with Upper School Science Teacher Julie Krane.

honest, candid responses. Obviously parents are going to frame it in a positive light, as they should."

Most schools require admissions tests. Depending on the age and grade of the child, these tests include the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI-III), Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC) and the Secondary School Admission Test for (SSAT).

"Testing often creates the most anxiety," said Dunning, of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes.

THE TESTS are used differently depending on the age of the applicant. "Tests for [young children] are used as standardized tools to give an overall picture of a child's learning profile. These are not predictors for academic success. They give broad overviews of how a child learns," said Anderson. Tests given to middle and high school applicants are more meaningful. "Those tests measure how well your child has done with the information he or she has learned in school. If they see an eighth grader who has only average grades, but remarkable SSATs, they are going to ask, 'Is this an under-achiever? Why is this child not excelling in the classroom?'"

— Clare Anderson, educational consultant

Should children prepare for tests? When it comes to young children, most consultants say no. "It is unethical and makes your test scores invalid," said Anderson. "You are going to shoot yourself in the foot [if you prep your young child]. Your child will be the first to announce it either in the tester's office or at the school on the playdate. Then the scores are invalid."

The scenario is different for those applying for slots in middle and upper school. "I've had students who've taken [admissions

tests] without prep, and then I worked with them and their scores [went] up considerably," said Christa Abbott, an Arlington-based independent test prep tutor.

Anderson agrees. "Just like you preheat your oven, you've got to get your child ready for the test. Just knowing the format of the test can really help," said Anderson. "But I caution parents about [taking expensive test prep classes]. There has to be a primary concern that something is going to get in the way of your child being able to show what he or she knows."

Some parents hire educational consultants like White or Anderson, hoping to get a competitive advantage. Consultants say their role is to guide families through the process. "The number one mistake that I think parents make is thinking that hiring an educational consultant is going to give them an advantage at a very competitive school," said Mark Sklarow, executive director of the Independent Educational Consultants Association in Fairfax, Va. "That is just not the way the system works. Consultants don't have a secret handshake that they can use with an admissions director to help get a student in. The reason you hire an educational consultant is to find a good fit between a student's needs and a school's strengths. A consultant's role is to [identify] a school where a child is going to thrive."

So what can parents do to make sure their child's application shines in a pool overflowing with many attractive applicants?

"It is always nice to think about what is special about your child," said White. "What is the one special strength or talent your child might have, whether it be academics or an extracurricular interest? What is the potential for your child to contribute to the school?"

Anderson says she encourages parents to view admissions procedures as multi-pronged. "My hope is to help parents understand the process and see that there really is a method and [schools] are looking to get the best from your child."

Old Angler's Inn Hosts Benefit for Fisher House

Holiday shopping luncheon raises funds for military families.

By SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Five years ago, Sara and Mark Reges, owners of Old Angler's Inn in Potomac, launched a Holiday and a Spring Shopping Luncheon to benefit the Children's National Medical Center, because their son had been a patient there after a horrific accident. He is fully recovered, but the Reges' have continued their tradition of giving back. They selected The Fisher House as the recipient for donations and the proceeds of this year's luncheon.

Sara Reges is a nurse, employed by the National Rehabilitation Hospital to set up regional brain injury crisis centers. "This year we chose the Fisher House not only because it is a wonderful charity, but I have been touched by the number of brain injured troops who have expressed how much

they appreciate the Fisher House," she said.

The Fisher House Foundation provides a "home away from home" on or near our military bases where families can be together to support their injured mother, father, sister or brother. According to its website www.fisherhouse.org, there are 54 Fisher Houses located in the U.S. and Germany. They are built to house families in suites with a common kitchen, laundry facility, living and dining room. There is no charge for a family to stay at a Fisher House. Annually, the Fisher House program serves more than 12,000 families annually and has made available over three million days of lodging since the program began in 1990.

But even though the facility is free, families must provide their own meals and basic living costs. Members must often take leave from their employment in order to



Susie Friedman and mom Shirley Freeman enjoy lunch and shopping — all for a good cause.

relocate for months or years and struggle to afford necessities such as food, dish washer and laundry detergent, zip-lock bags, aluminum foil, toilet paper, napkins and paper towels.

Each guest arrived at the luncheon with a bag brimming with requested items for the Fisher House and vendors located on the first floor of the historical inn, contributed a portion of their proceeds.



Sara Cato, Maria Passero and Donna Driscoll, all from Potomac, enjoy the luncheon for a cause.

The vendors — Barbie B, Private Quarters and Nighties.com — displayed gift items including jewelry, clothing, pillows, bedroom slippers, purses, nighties and more. The guests oogled and shopped, then moved upstairs for a luncheon in the holiday-bedecked restaurant.



Private Quarters consultant Christina Porter with shopper Laleh Hancock.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/
THE ALMANAC



Kenneth Scales and Jake Emerson, both from Eagle Bank enjoy shopping and mingling.



Reina Pratt and Cindy Han of Potomac Pilates.



Barb Brody and mom Joyce Sachs of Barbie B.

No Power? No Problem. Gas Logs on Sale for Immediate Installation Call for Free In-Home Professional Estimate!

Enjoy your fireplace without all the work!

- No carrying wood
- No tending
- No lighting
- No clean-up!
- No damper worries
- Easy flame control by remote
- Beautiful efficient Heat

Evening Fyre Gas Logs are 99.9% efficient and you never lose heat through your chimney.

#1 In Safety

Come to the Fireplace Experts!!

Sales • Warranty Service • Installation
Family Owned and Operated Since 1957
We put safety first



EFVG18 Vent Free Gas Logs By R. H. Peterson

Save 10%*

On Anything in Our Showroom!

*Must present ad to redeem. Limit one per household. In-stock items only. Cannot be combined with any other offer or previous purchase. Offer expires 12/24/11 PA



#1 in Safety and Efficiency

301.990.6195
WWW.WASHINGTONFIREPLACE.COM

Serving the Washington Metropolitan Area Since 1957

16165 Shady Grove Road • Shady Grove Plaza • Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Sold in October,
\$650,000 ~
\$799,000

IN OCTOBER 2011, 30 POTOMAC HOMES
SOLD BETWEEN \$3,650,000-\$515,000.



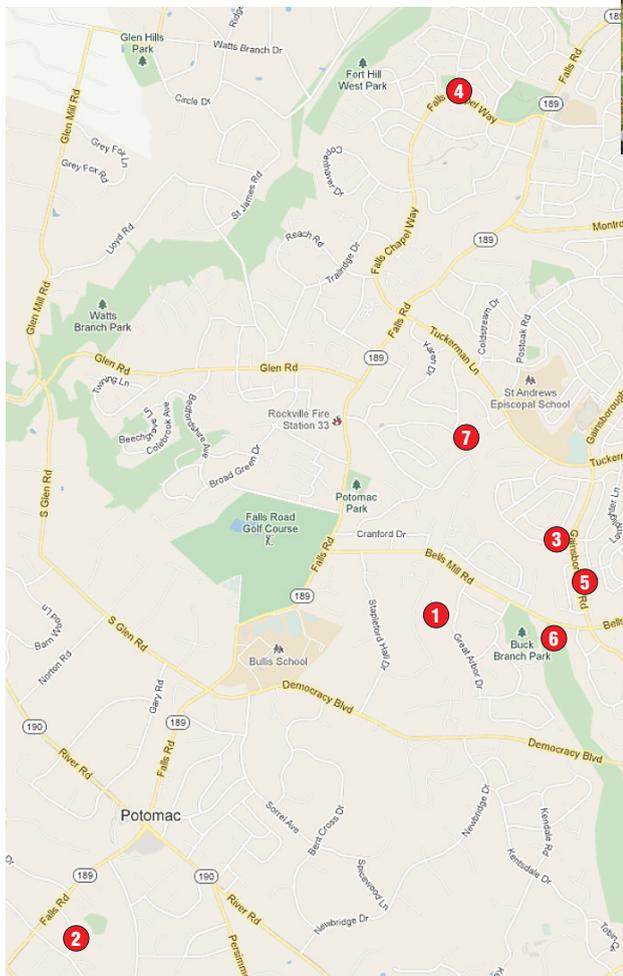
5 8532 Bells Ridge Terrace,
Potomac — \$715,000



1 10703 Great Arbor Drive,
Potomac — \$775,000



3 10900 Candlelight Lane,
Potomac — \$739,000



6 10431 Windsor View Drive,
Potomac — \$670,000



4 12712 Lincolnshire Drive, Potomac —
\$725,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	...	Sold Price	...	Type	...	Lot AC	...	Postal Code	...	Subdivision	...	Date Sold
1 10703 GREAT ARBOR DR	4	.3	.1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$775,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.27	.....	20854	.....	RED COAT WOODS	.....	10/13/11
2 9421 HOLBROOK LN	4	.2	.1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$755,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.47	.....	20854	...	WILLIAMSBURG GARDENS	..	10/07/11
3 10900 CANDLELIGHT LN	4	.3	.1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$739,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.27	.....	20854	.....	FOX HILLS	.....	10/20/11
4 12712 LINCOLNSHIRE DR	4	.2	.1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$725,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.24	.....	20854	.....	POTOMAC COMMONS	.....	10/14/11
5 8532 BELLS RIDGE TER	4	.3	.1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$715,000	.....	Townhouse	..	0.06	.....	20854	.....	BELLS MILL ESTATES	.....	10/26/11
6 10431 WINDSOR VIEW DR	5	.3	.0	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$670,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.69	.....	20854	.....	WINDSOR HILLS	.....	10/21/11
7 11400 DURVEA DR	4	.2	.1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$650,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.69	.....	20854	.....	OLDFIELD	.....	10/28/11

SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT WWW.MRIS.COM

Church Celebrates 50th Anniversary

FROM PAGE 3

favorite stories from the past 50 years.

Emmanuel Lutheran was founded because the Augustana Lutheran Church of D.C. wanted to expand beyond the newly constructed Washington Beltway. Other churches, synagogues and private schools were also being established in and around Potomac during these years. St. Francis Episcopal Church, Connelly School of the Holy Child, and Har Shalom are just a few that were built in the burgeoning communities of Potomac and Bethesda from 1961-1965.

There have only been three pastors in the history of the church.

Reissing was the first pastor and remained until 1965. "The first year would be remembered for both its frustrations and its joys ... we are now convinced that our name 'Emmanuel' is proving to be true in our church life — 'God with us,'" Reissing said.

Pastor William Schaeffer was the second, and the current pastor, Jan Lookingbill, has served since 1979.

Chairman of the 50th Celebration is long-standing member, Douglas Murtland. "For our year-long celebration, we decided on goals for the year: Celebrate Through Worship, Celebrate Through Service, Celebrate Through Art and Music and Celebrate by being Generous People. The anniversary theme,

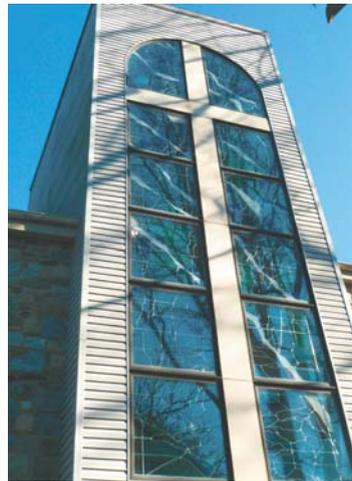


PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

The cross tower at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

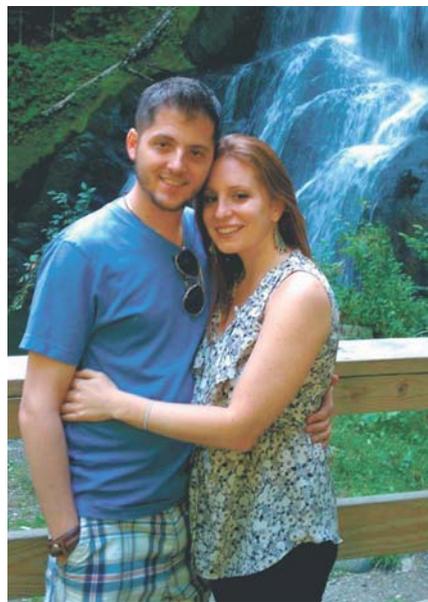
'Great Tradition, Great Faith, Great Future' reflects our plans to recognize past achievement and provide opportunities for the future. We hope that in another 50 years, members will look back and say 'Look at what had been done for us,'" he said.

The celebratory service on Dec. 11 included special music commissioned by Music Director Dingwall Fleary — "What Gifts I Bring" written by David Tiller. The hymn was presented with the voices of the adult and youth choirs, accompanied by hand bells, chimes, organ and trumpets. The service was followed by a celebration luncheon at Bethesda Country Club.

Lookingbill concluded, "In the

Hebrew language, there is no word for 'history.' The word that is used in place of the concept of 'history' is 'memory.' It isn't that the Jews don't have an ancient story to share, it's that they have memories to call to mind of who they are and where they have come from.

"In the same way, Emmanuel is celebrating its 50th anniversary with memories to share. Together we have learned, worked, sung, cared, sometimes cried, worshipped and celebrated the gifts that God has given us. May our lord continue to fill our lives at Emmanuel with the memories that remind us of who we are and from where we have come."



Stefani Ann Benson and Andrew David Briker

Benson, Briker Engaged

Diane and Howard Benson of Potomac are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Stefani Ann Benson, to Andrew David Briker, son of Nancy and Alan Briker of Harrington Park, N.J. The couple became engaged on Nov. 11, 2011 in New Orleans.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Winston Churchill High School and the University of Michigan, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in communications. She is currently employed at re:fuel, formerly a division of Alloy Media + Marketing.

The groom-to-be graduated from Syracuse University with a bachelor of arts degree in political science and public policy, and received a juris doctor degree from New York Law School. He is currently an attorney with the firm of Rosenblum & Bianco, LLP. A spring 2013 wedding is planned.

Lawsuit

FROM PAGE 3

ommends standards for the definition of "certified organic."

The Montgomery County Board of Education voted 5-2 on March 8, 2011 to turn the Brickyard Road farm to the county for soccer fields. The 20 acres belonged to the Montgomery County Board of Education for a possible future middle school site.

Maravell learned on March 3 from the schools facilities office that his year-to-year lease would not be renewed.

There is a shortage of soccer fields to the 25,000 youth and 10,000 adults playing soccer, according to Patrick Lacefield, director of the office of public information for the county.

The county points to the Potomac Master Plan as a recommendation for ball fields to be an appropriate use of the property if it is not used as a school. Potomac activists and members of West Montgomery who helped draft the Potomac Master Plan say that this is a misrepresentation.

THIS WEEK'S TRIAL will determine if the School Board violated the Open Meetings Act and violated state law.

The Circuit Court rejected the School Board's motion to have the case dismissed.

Last week, the court denied the School Board's motion to quash subpoenas for seven school board members to be witnesses at the trial. The county plans to solicit "request for proposals" for operating the land in the spring, according to its website.

Season Greetings
from
ROBERT BERNARD JEWELERS
Your Neighborhood Jewlers
1079 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
Potomac Woods Plaza
301.838.9696

OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS
Will Return after the Holidays

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call 703-821-5050

Give Your Child The Gift Of Confidence...
Because With Confidence, Anything Is Possible!

KICKSKARATE
Your Family Martial Arts Center

OUR PROGRAMS:
LITTLE NINJAS ages 3-6
CHILDREN'S KARATE ages 7-12
TEEN & ADULT ages 13 & up
KICKBOXING ages 13 & up

BETHESDA • 301-571-6767
10400 Old Georgetown Road

GLEN ECHO • 301-320-3334
4701 Sangamore Road Suite M3

POTOMAC • 301-519-2200
12944 Travilah Road

Kicks Karate - 9 locations serving Frederick and Montgomery county.

REPORT CARD
Discipline A+
Focus A+
Attitude A+
Confidence A+
Fitness A+

FREE MONTH!
CLASSES NOW FORMING!
New Students Only - exp. 12/31/11
www.kickskarate.com



Make Us Part of Your
Holiday Tradition

Open Christmas Eve, Christmas Day
& New Year's Eve

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S
SEAFOOD RESTAURANTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.
K STREET
(202) 861-2233

WASHINGTON, D.C.
F STREET
(202) 639-9330

CRYSTAL CITY/
ARLINGTON
(703) 413-6400

RESTON
TOWN CENTER
(703) 481-6600

TYSONS CORNER/
MCLEAN
(703) 848-8000

NATIONAL
HARBOR
(301) 567-6224

www.McCormickandSchmicks.com

Potomac Village Deli Catering

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner Catering

301-299-5770

www.potomacvillagedeli.com



Home of Your
**Corporate & Residential
Catering Headquarters**

Serving the
Community
for over
35 Years



ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THROUGH JAN. 1

Festival of Lights. This spectacular light display will illuminate the grounds of the temple and Visitors' Center in Kensington from dusk until 10 p.m. A life-size nativity scene will be a major attraction. The Visitors' Center will feature: An International Crèche exhibit with 130 nativity scenes; 16 large Christmas trees; and concerts in its 544 seat theater every evening. Concerts are at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. All events are free and open to the public. At the Washington D.C. Temple Visitors' Center, 9900 Stonybrook Dr., Kensington. Visit www.dctemplelights.lids.org or call 301-587-0144.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 18

"Puss in Boots." Tickets are \$20/adults; \$12/children under 12. Evening performances Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 7 p.m.; matinees Saturday, Dec. 10 and 17; Sundays, Dec. 11, 18 at 2 p.m. At Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell St., Kensington. Visit www.britishplayers.org or call 301-875-8544.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 14

Holiday Open House and Tree Lighting. 6:30 to 9 p.m. At Rockville Town Square.

THURSDAY/DEC. 15

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

Musician Dan Tepfer. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Part of Celebrating American Composers at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Visit www.strathmore.org or call 301-581-5100.

DEC. 15 AND 16

Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker. 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$27.50. More than 60 local youth have been selected to perform alongside the Russian professionals. CityDance Center at Strathmore, under the direction of Lorraine Spiegler, is the host studio for Moscow Ballet's Student Program. At the Music Center at Strathmore. To purchase tickets go to <http://www.nutcracker.com/> or <http://www.ticketmaster.com>

SATURDAY/DEC. 17

An Evening with Austin H. Kiplinger. 5 p.m. Cost is \$25. At The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Contact 301-654-8664 or visit www.writer.org

English Language Conversation Club. 3 p.m. Join in practicing and improving your spoken English with the help of volunteers leading discussions. 2 hours. Drop-in. No registration required. Meets at the Potomac Library.

Seasonal EcoArt. Woodend Sanctuary Headquarters, 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, 10-11:30 a.m. Creating natural themed gifts for family and friends. Crafts include animal track paperweights, recycled candles, pomanders and more. Include a \$10 materials fee for each child. Registration required. Class limited to 12 children. Call 301-652-9188 or see www.audubonnaturalist.org.

Holiday Concert. 8 p.m. Presented by The National Philharmonic Singers and Washington Symphonic Brass Quintet, under the direction of conductors Stan Engebretson, Victoria Gau and Phil Snedecor. At Christ Episcopal Church, 107 South Washington St., Rockville. Visit christchurchrockville.org or call 301-762-2191, ext. 3.

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

Alternative Gift Market. Open 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.; and 12:15 to 1 p.m. Will offer opportunities to give to 18 worthy projects through nonprofit organizations around the world. At River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Fellowship Hall, 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Call 301-229-0400.

Peak Oil. 10:25 a.m. With Richard Smith, Ph.D., retired scientist, National Institute for Standards and Technology. At River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Call 301-229-0400 or visit www.rruuc.org.

Vivaldi's "Gloria." 9:15 a.m. and 11:14 a.m. Free. At the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Also, Rev. Maureen Killoran will present the homily titled, "Angels Among Us." At 6301 River Road (at Whittier) in Bethesda. Call 301-229-0400 or visit www.rruuc.org.

Dog Adoption Event. Noon to 2 p.m. Lucky Dog Animal Rescue is having an adoption event. At White Flint Plaza PetSmart, 5154 Nicholson Lane, Kensington. Call 301-770-1343. Visit www.luckydoganimalrescue.org to see the dogs who are waiting for their "forever" home and family.



DEC. 22

Holiday Concert. 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$35; kids ages 7-17 are free. Performed by the Washington Symphonic Brass, which rings in the holidays with arrangements of holiday favorites, including Greensleeves, Twelve Days of Christmas, selections from Bach's Christmas Oratorio and a Hanukkah Medley. At the Music Center at Strathmore. Visit www.nationalphilharmonic.org or call 301-581-5100.

Waltz Dance. 3:30 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$10. With the band, Waltz du Jour. Introductory waltz workshop from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. At the Bumper Car Pavilion 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 or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org.

Bohemian Caverns Jazz Orchestra. A Bohemian Christmas. 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Part of Celebrating American Composers at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Visit www.strathmore.org or call 301-581-5100.

Choir and Bells Concert. 7 p.m. At Geneva Presbyterian Church, 11931 Seven Locks Road, Potomac.

Hands-On Chanukah. Noon to 4 p.m. Free. Families with young children are invited to the Shops at Wisconsin Place, 5300 Western Avenue, Chevy Chase, for an afternoon of Chanukah fun! The many activities include a sing-along, story time, dreidel-making, live entertainment, art projects, and lots of holiday sweets. Sponsored by the Jewish Outreach Institute and hosted by B'nai Tzedek.

MONDAY/DEC. 19

Beth Sholom Book Club. 8:15 p.m. Plans to discuss "The Glass Room" by Simon Mawar. At Beth Sholom Congregation, 11825 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. All are welcome. Contact Tanya Lampert alamp9608@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY/DEC. 20

All Ages Winter Solstice Celebration. 7 p.m. The celebration will feature stories, music and simple ritual, followed by snacks. At River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Visit www.rruuc.org or call 301-229-0400.



SUNDAY/DEC. 18

Emma's Revolution Performs. 7:30 p.m. A Hanukkah concert for human rights. At Am Kolel Jewish Renewal Community of Greater Washington at Temple Shalom, 8401 Grubb Road, Chevy Chase. Tickets are \$20/\$18/\$10. For all ages. Call 301-349-2799 and online at <https://www.am-kolel.org/121811tickets.php>.

THURSDAY/DEC. 22

B'nai Tzedek Festival of Lights. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Join B'nai Tzedek, Rabbi Weinblatt and Cantor Kapell in the courtyard next to Starbucks for a festive, community Menorah Lighting and Chanukah celebration. Enjoy a lively holiday sing-along with the B'nai Tzedek Youth Choir, dreidle-playing, hot cider, Chanukah sweets and treats. Free and open to the community. For information contact: 301-299-0225 or jabramson@bnaitzedek.org. At Potomac Village Shopping Center, 10116 River Road, Potomac.

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

FRIDAY/DEC. 23

Chanukah Shabbat. 6:30 p.m. Celebrate Chanukah with your family and friends at this festive sing-along service featuring Cantor Kapell and the Youth Choir. Followed by a Chanukah sweet oneg. Free and open to the community. Contact 301-299-0225, jabramson@bnaitzedek.org or www.bnaitzedek.org. At Congregation B'nai Tzedek, 10621 South Glen Rd., Potomac.

Darlene Love. 8 p.m. "Love for the Holidays." Tickets are \$44/\$42. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Call 240-567-5301 or visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC.

OPINION

More on Giving Locally

Local organizations need your help right now to help needy families.

Organizations that help needy families and individuals in Montgomery County have seen a dramatic increase in requests for assistance since the recession hit in 2008, and right now those organizations need your help to meet the need.

In Montgomery County, thousands are unemployed and many more are underemployed. Among the homeless, many are working poor, families with at least one wage-earner who doesn't make enough to pay for housing for the family. About half of the homeless are children.

Here are some suggestions about how to help, but there are dozens of other opportunities.

Where to Give

❖ **Manna Food Center**, www.mannafood.org
"Manna Food Center strives to eliminate hunger in Montgomery County through food distribution, education, and advocacy. Manna Food Center is the main food bank in Montgomery County. Manna has distributed more than 33 million pounds of food to more than 2.1 million individuals in our community. ... Manna feeds about 3,300 families each month at

14 locations throughout the county. Manna also provides food through an agency distribution program at no charge to 37 Montgomery County soup kitchens, food pantries, group homes and emergency shelters."

❖ **Mercy Health Clinic**, www.mercyhealthclinic.org
"Mercy Health Clinic is a free, community-based volunteer organization providing quality healthcare to uninsured, low-income residents of Montgomery County. ... The clinic, located in Gaithersburg, depends on the expertise of volunteers, healthcare professionals and support from community partners to provide quality care to those in need. The Clinic is staffed with medical professionals including family practice physicians, cardiologists, endocrinologists, nurse practitioners, nurse assistants, translators and behavioral health counselors."

❖ **Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless**, www.mcch.net
"The Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless, a community-based nonprofit organization, is a leading provider of permanent and transitional housing, emergency shelter and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness. The Coalition is also an umbrella membership organization serving the provider network in Montgomery County through advocacy efforts, program coordination and educational activities. The Coalition spearheads a collaborative effort to implement a 10-year plan to end homelessness."

❖ **Shepherd's Table**, www.shepherdstable.org
For 27 years, Shepherd's Table has served a dinner meal seven nights a week in Silver Spring. Since

1983, they have served over 1,076,000 meals to hungry people.

❖ **SOME (So Others Might Eat)**, www.some.org
SOME has been serving the homeless and poor for 40 years, providing daily meals and programs that break the cycle of homelessness.

❖ **WUMCO HELP** (Western Upper Montgomery County Help) WUMCO HELP is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to providing quick and friendly emergency assistance to needy residents, serving the area of Poolesville, Barnesville, Beallsville, Boyds and Dickerson.

❖ **Fisher House**, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, www.fisherhouse.org
"The Fisher House program supports America's military in time of need. Because members of the military and their families must often travel great distances for specialized medical care, Fisher House Foundation donates 'comfort homes,' built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times."

❖ **Friends in Action**, www.iworksmc.org/p-familyservices.html
"Founded by Interfaith Works (formerly Community Ministry of Montgomery County) in 1986, Friends In Action recruits and trains a network of people from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. Volunteer mentoring teams are linked for one year in a supportive relationship to a needy family in their community. The goal of the program is to help the family identify their strengths and develop attainable and manageable goals that guide them toward financial independence and personal well being."

'Tis the Season To Be Green

BY NAT WILLIAMS
MARYLAND/D.C. DIRECTOR FOR THE NATURE
CONSERVANCY

Which is better for the environment — a live or artificial Christmas tree? That's just one of the perennial holiday questions we hear at The Nature Conservancy.

For the record, our experts say your best choice is a fresh-cut tree from a local farm. Not only will you support rural traditions and open space, but also avoid the carbon emissions and recycling quandary that result from the manufacture and eventual disposal of vinyl trees.

Real trees also provide gifts all year — not just a place to put them around the holidays. They clean the air and water and help store carbon. And don't worry; a tree farmer typically re-plants up to three seedlings for each tree cut, keeping the cycle going and supporting the local economy.

Dozens of local farms in Maryland and Northern Virginia offer opportunities to choose your own tree. It's a great family outing, and you'll enjoy the memory of your experience, along with the enticing smell of a fresh-cut tree, throughout the holiday season.

Beyond the tree, your family faces a host of other holiday-season challenges to green living. Can holiday meals be healthy and sustain-

able, as well as festive? What about gifts that won't fade with the latest fad, or require reams of wrapping paper? And can we usher in 2012 with changes for the better?

I'd like to offer a few suggestions that can make your holiday season greener and merrier.

Green Your Traditions

Visit your local farmers market and make in-season foods the star of your holiday dinner table. You'll connect with nature while you reunite with family and friends.

Power off the electronics and get outdoors with family and friends. Go for a hike along the Potomac at Great Falls Park, or scramble up Bear Island's Billy Goat Trail, which we manage in partnership with the National Park Service.

Green Your Giving

The average American spends \$700 on holiday gifts, and between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, the U.S. generates more than 5 million extra tons of trash destined for landfills.

You can set an example of responsible giving by choosing local, hand-made presents, or creating your own. A card, photo album, or music mix that you make especially for that special someone will remain meaningful long after many gadgets are broken and discarded.

You can also give an experience. Treat your favorite foodie to a cooking class, for example. Or provide a getaway to one of Maryland or Virginia's beautiful state parks: Take your outdoors person camping at Sky Meadows, say, or reserve a cozy cottage on the Chesapeake Bay at Point Lookout.

You can also skip the wrappings and trap-

pings altogether and give the gift of nature. The Conservancy and other like-minded organizations offer gift memberships and ways to support specific conservation projects in honor of your nature-loving friend or family member.

Green Your Resolutions

To improve ourselves and our planet, what New Year's resolutions can we actually keep this year? Here in Maryland/D.C., the Conservancy encourages a healthy planet and a healthy you by inviting runners to join Team Nature.

Team Nature offers a support system for local runners who, in turn, are supporting restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. We share tips on how to be a green runner, and you'll look great sporting our distinctive green shirts at D.C.-area races.

Exploring our region's natural areas on your own is another wonderful way to exercise mind and body. For inspiration, check out our online series Passport to Nature at www.nature.org/marylanddc. We hope to see you outside in 2012.

Write

The Potomac Almanac welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
Potomac Almanac
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.

By e-mail:
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

POTOMAC ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

Newspaper of Potomac
A Connection Newspaper

An independent, locally owned weekly
newspaper
delivered to homes and businesses.

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to
your email box
Email name, mailing &
email address to
goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com.

PUBLISHER

Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

EDITORIAL

PHONE: 703-821-5050
E-MAIL:
almanac@connectionnewspapers.com

EDITOR

Steven Mauren, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Jon Roetman,
703-224-3015
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Steve Hibbard, 703-778-9412
shibbard@connectionnewspapers.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Cissy Finley Grant, Carole Dell,
Kenny Lourie, Ken Moore,
Susan Belford, Colleen Healy

Contributing Photographers

Harvey Levine, Deborah Stevens

Art/Design:

Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,
John Heinly, John Smith
Production Manager:
Jean Card

ADVERTISING

Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Display Advertising:
Kenny Lourie 703-778-9425
klourie@connectionnewspapers.com

Employment:

Barbara Parkinson
703-778-9413
bparkinson@connectionnewspapers.com
Andrea Smith 703-778-9411
Classified Advertising
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Mary Kimm

Publisher/Chief Operating Officer
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon

Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse

Controllor

Debbie Funk

National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann

Special Assistant to the Publisher
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Five Time First Place Award-Winner Public Service

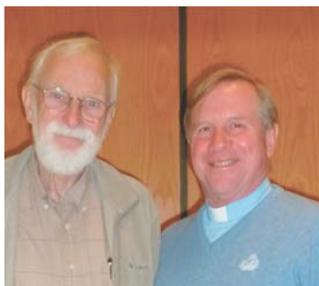
MDDC Press Association

Four Time Newspaper of the Year

An Award-winning Newspaper
in Writing, Photography, Editing,
Graphics and Design

CORRECTION

Last week's "Bazaars Abound" cover incorrectly identified the location. Brenda Holt was at the Sisterhood Boutique.



Rabbi Leonard Cahan and Pastor Jan Lookingbill

To Israel

FROM PAGE 3

licts in the first century.” Elaine Jones found that the walls surrounding Jerusalem were extremely high and thick, “The way the slaves built these walls and the fact that they are still standing is amazing.”

The group was surprised that they found no bagels — and no Starbucks either.

Douglas Hackett commented that they discovered a “bomb disposal” out in the countryside and were told very matter-of-factly what it was — as if everyone has bomb disposals in broad view.

Bob Jones discussed the tensions within the country. “When we went into Bethlehem, the Palestinians were not allowed to enter without a permit which is very difficult to get. If a Palestinian works in Bethlehem, he must be escorted by an armed guard,” he said. “However, we loved the geography and the people of Israel — and we felt very safe while we were there. We enjoyed the food, especially the Shabbat we attended.”

A member of Har Shalom, who had volunteered at Hazor archeological site for several years, led the group on a special tour of the site in the Galilee, including meeting in a Bedouin tent for traditional coffee and tea. Although the day was rainy, the Bedouin tent, constructed of black goat hair was dry and hospitable.

Members of the group expressed the thrill of visiting the places they have learned about in the Bible and the Torah. “We gained a real connection with the history of this little piece of land,” said Douglas Hackett.

Even though he had been to Israel many times, this was Cahan’s first visit to the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. “There are always new sights to see and think about in this country. Pastor Lookingbill would comment on what we saw and discuss the historical significance in Christian tradition and I would explain the Jewish perspective. Our guide would also present her perspective, based on the experiences she has had. Every day was a fascinating adventure — our explorations led us to thinking about the world in new ways, and understanding the age-old conflicts that Israel continues to face.”

Lookingbill concluded, “This has been a unique opportunity to visit a country that has both historical and present day fascinations and frustrations. The history of Jews, Palestinians, Christians and Moslems is all gathered in this one land.”

The study group meets monthly — and is hoping to plan a journey to another country.

CLASSIFIED

ZONE 5: POTOMAC
AD DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON • 301-983-1900

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks. Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790. Email:theschefer@cox.net

The biggest things are always the easiest to do because there is no competition. -William Van Horne

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Add a touch of green to a white Christmas!

Advertise through Virginia Press Services' Statewide Display Ad Network.

Place your business card-size ad in more than 65 newspapers and your message will reach more than 800,000 Virginians!

CONTACT THIS NEWSPAPER or Adriane Long, Virginia Press Services, 804-521-7585 or adriane@vpa.net



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Donate A Boat or Car Today!

BoatAngel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"
1-800-CAR-ANGEL
www.boatangel.com



HOME & GARDEN

POTOMACALMANAC.COM CONTRACTORS.COM
ZONE 5: POTOMAC
AD DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON • 301-983-1900

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Mixed Seasoned Hardwood
\$130 half cord
\$220 full cord
Call Joe at
301-856-4436
301-602-9528 Cell

GUTTER

LAWN MOWING
LAWN MOWING, TRIMMING, EDGING, SODDING, MULCHING, LEAVES, GUTTER CLEANING, YARD CLEANUP
PINNACLE SERVICES
"Friendly services for a friendly price!"
703-802-0483
Lic. Free Est. email: jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web:lawnsandgutters.com

LANDSCAPING

LANDSCAPING

GARDENER

Energetic gardener, Speaks French & English. Fall Cleanup, weeding, planting, edging, mulching, maintenance. Excellent Potomac references. 301-980-8258

POTOMAC ALMANAC CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden: 703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

EMPLOYMENT

ZONE 5: POTOMAC
AD DEADLINE: TUESDAY 11 A.M. • 301-983-1900

EDUCATION TRAINING

Pharmacy Technician Trainees Needed Now!

Pharmacies now hiring. No experience? Job Training & Placement Assistance Avail. 1-877-240-4524 CTO SCHEV

DENTAL ASSISTANT TRAINEES NEEDED NOW!

Dental Offices now hiring. No experience? Job Training & Placement Assistance Avail. 1-800-381-1734 CTO SCHEV

MED BILL & CODING Trainees NEEDED NOW

Medical Offices now hiring. No experience? Job Training & Placement Assistance Avail. 1-800-385-2615 CTO SCHEV

Educational Internships

Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of the newspaper business. Internships available in reporting, photography, research, graphics. Opportunities for students, and for adults considering change of career. Unpaid. E-mail internship@connectionnewspapers.com



Employers:
Are your recruiting ads not working in other papers?

Try a better way to fill your employment openings



- Target your best job candidates where they live.
- Reach readers in addition to those who are currently looking for a job.
- Proven readership.
- Proven results.



703-917-6464

classified@connectionnewspapers.com
Great Papers • Great Readers • Great Results!

Abstract or Intact



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

How does one not become consumed with something that is all-consuming? Moreover, how does that same one take certain information in stride that potentially is anything but stride-worthy? And if one were not to be all-consumed by the information that, disturbing as it was, was in fact taken in stride, how does that one not feel guilty and/or responsible about neglecting to act — if there was even anything to be done about the unsettling news that may have spawned this initial paragraph?

I don't. I can't. I won't. Somehow. Not that I received any news of late that was particularly jarring or life-abbreviating but, as a terminal patient, so far as I know (and how far do I really know, since I've never been a terminal patient before), information that is not positive is negative (almost by definition) and the fine line of life upon which I straddle every minute of every day becomes that much more difficult to sustain, especially if the negative begins to overtake the positive. I have equated the sensation to taking the first few curious steps across a newly frozen pond — in winter, each step more precarious than the last, waiting for the cracking — or not, and the associated fear. You want to go forward, but not at your own peril. Yet going backward seems equally ill-advised. I mean, you've been there and done that. Backwards represents the past. Forward represents the future. Personally, I don't want to live in the past. I want to live in the present/future. Receiving results which prevent you from going forward — which may stop you in your tracks, are not so much safe as they are insecure. For me, it's all about momentum. I don't want to lose what progress I've gained, nor do I want to retrace my steps. However, survival may be about knowing when to redirect those energies/treatment, to rest and/or retreat (to fight another day) and to work with your body, not against it.

But who knows? For a terminal patient, changes in anything are disproportionately significant. It could mean anything. It could mean nothing. Objectivity disappears the day your oncologist tells you have an incurable disease. Accordingly, it's extremely difficult to shrug off any abnormal medical findings. How do I not think that the beginning of the end starts at the end of the beginning? The point at which my body begins to weaken and reveal indicators that reflect a body in distress and one whose underlying diagnosis is starting to assert itself and break down all the barriers that have been constructed (metaphorically speaking) over the previous 34 months?

In summary, how do I interpret change? For the better? The worse? Meaningful? Meaningless? As a cancer patient who has now outlived his original prognosis ("13 months to two years") by a rather significant amount of time, how do I remain objective about lab work, urine specimens, diagnostic scans, etc.? I can't. However, worrying about any or all of it likely produces no real tangible benefit either, whereas not worrying about it, not stressing about it might, anecdotally speaking, anyway. Unfortunately, worrying and stressing are not simply emotions I can switch off, especially when you're consumed by a terminal disease, whether figuratively or worse, literally.

Diagnosis to date, my cancer-related problems have been figurative, mostly. Nevertheless, it's difficult to not react negatively when results are changing right before your eyes, literally. Yet somehow, I have to. If I don't, I'll likely make matters worse. And given my underlying stage IV lung-cancer diagnosis, I probably don't need to go out of my way to cause any more trouble. It's already found me.

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

SPORTS

“The emotion [we’re feeling right now] is we cannot wait to play [Gaithersburg] again.”

— Churchill girls basketball coach Kate McMahon



Churchill senior Sarafina Arthur-Williams scored 22 points and grabbed 20 rebounds against Gaithersburg on Dec. 12.



Junior guard Katie Jenkins and the Churchill girls basketball team nearly knocked off defending state champion Gaithersburg on Dec. 12, losing 44-36.



Churchill senior Jill Beaugard drives against Gaithersburg's Jackie Jackson on Dec. 12.

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Churchill Girls Give Gaithersburg a Scare

Bulldogs can't hold late lead against defending state champ.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

Junior guard Katie Jenkins called the loss “tough.” Senior post Sarafina Arthur-Williams said the Bulldogs showed potential. Head coach Kate McMahon was eager for another chance.

The Churchill girls basketball team experienced mixed emotions after its 44-36 loss to defending state champion Gaithersburg on Dec. 12 at CHS. On the positive side, the Bulldogs nearly knocked off the Trojans with a strong defensive effort. Churchill held Gaithersburg to its lowest offensive output since the Trojans scored 40 points during a loss to Arundel in the 2010 state champion-

ship game. However, the Bulldogs had to be disappointed knowing they held a fourth-quarter lead and likely would have won the game if they made a few more plays.

“I’m frustrated that we came so close and didn’t get it done, but I’m also happy because we [play] five hard teams at the beginning of the season and it’s good to get your kinks out and know that you’re that good,” Arthur-Williams said. “... To show that we have that much potential and attitude and poise and respect to do that, I think is wonderful.”

Arthur-Williams, a 6-foot-1 post committed to UNC-Greensboro, scored 22 points, grabbed 20 rebounds and carried a Churchill team that struggled all night with perimeter shooting. She scored nine of the Bulldogs’ 15 second-half points, including all seven in the fourth quarter. Thirty of Churchill’s 36 points came near the paint or at the foul line.

“[Arthur-Williams] definitely dominated the post,” McMahon said. “If we had had a

couple outside shots fall, it would have been a different game.”

Gaithersburg (3-0) extended its winning streak to 28 games over two seasons, including an undefeated run to the 2011 state title. Monday’s eight-point margin of victory was the Trojans’ slimmest during the streak.

Churchill (1-2) entered the fourth quarter with a one-point advantage and a basket by Arthur-Williams gave the Bulldogs a 31-30 lead with 6:10 remaining. After free throws by both teams tied the score at 32-32 with 5:12 to play, Gaithersburg closed the contest on a 12-4 run, including eight points from Colleen Marshall. The senior guard finished with a game-high 30 points, including five 3-pointers, and was one of only three Trojans to score. Jackie Jackson totaled nine points for Gaithersburg and Octavia Scott added five.

Churchill trailed early but used a 10-0 run in the second quarter to take a 21-17 lead. The Bulldogs entered halftime with a 21-20 advantage after holding Gaithersburg

scoreless during a 4-minute, 52-second stretch and without a field goal for a 5-minute, 15-second span.

“I’m not surprised,” McMahon said, “that we were up at halftime.”

The Bulldogs showed signs of coming alive from the perimeter in the third quarter as Jenkins and senior Jill Beaugard each knocked down a 3-pointer. Beaugard’s 3 gave Churchill a 29-26 lead.

Jenkins finished with five points, Kim Deausen tallied four, Beaugard scored three and Shira Racoosin added two.

“Next time we play them,” McMahon said, “[our shots will] fall.”

Churchill will travel to play Springbrook at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 16. The Bulldogs and Trojans are not scheduled to meet again in the regular season, but McMahon said Churchill and Gaithersburg are the two best teams in Montgomery County and will likely meet in the postseason. “The emotion [we’re feeling right now],” McMahon said, “is we cannot wait to play them again.”

SPORTS BRIEFS

Churchill Swim and Dive Beats WJ

The Churchill swim and dive teams defeated Walter Johnson on Dec. 10. The boys won by a score of 103-68, and the girls pulled out a 90-81 victory for a combined win of 193-149.

Churchill individual boys winners were Todd Erickson (200 IM, 100 back), Odin Soevik (50 free), Timothy Faerber (1-

meter diving), Eric Eig (100 fly) and Mark Richardson (100 breast). The Bulldogs’ 200 medley relay (Erickson, Collin Stanhope, Kevin Gu, Soevik) and 400 free relay (Soevik, William Spivack, Eig, Colin Asbury) also won.

Individual girls winners were Michelle Illig (50 free, 100 free) and Taylor Fisher (500 free). The girls 400 free relay team (Cosette Melcher, Grace Pereles, Rachel Caplan, Illig) also won.

Churchill Boys Dominate Second Half

The Churchill boys basketball team outscored Gaithersburg 36-3 in the second half en route to a 66-33 victory on Dec. 12 at GHS. The Bulldogs improved their record to 2-1, including 2-0 on the road. Sam Edens

led Churchill with 18 points and Quan Gill added 14.

Churchill opened the season with a 70-49 win at Damascus on Dec. 6 and lost to Sherwood in overtime, 59-56, at home on Dec. 9.

The Bulldogs will host Springbrook at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 16.

POTOMAC PIZZA LUNCH COMBOS

\$9.99 PIZZA COMBO

- ANY TWO SLICES OF PIZZA WITH UP TO 3 TOPPINGS EACH
- CHOICE OF ONE:
 - SMALL TOSSED SALAD
 - CUP OF SOUP
 - SMALL FRIES
- SMALL FOUNTAIN DRINK

\$9.99 SUB COMBO

- ANY SUB, SANDWICH OR WRAP*
- CHOICE OF ONE:
 - SMALL TOSSED SALAD
 - CUP OF SOUP
 - SMALL FRIES
- SMALL FOUNTAIN DRINK

*For veal parmigiana or tuna steak add one dollar.

Combos available Monday thru Friday, 11am–4pm.
Additional charge for priced condiments.
Good for dine-in and carryout only.
Not valid with other offers.

POTOMAC PIZZA

www.potomacpizza.com

Dine-in, Carry-out, Delivery & Catering

Serving Our Communities Since 1978

IT'S TIME
FOR LUNCH!



CHEVY CHASE CENTER
301 951 1127

POTOMAC PROMENADE
301 299 7700

TRAVILLE VILLAGE CENTER
301 279 2234

KENTLANDS MARKET SQUARE
301 977 9777