

# Potomac ALMANAC

# Fire Engine Gives Santa A Lift

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PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER / THE ALMANAC

Santa visits various Potomac area neighborhoods on Sunday night, Dec. 18, while riding with the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department. The fire department is in the middle of its annual Santa Ride, held each year to receive donated toys from the public for Toys for Tots.



## Churchill Wrestling Beats Sherwood, Whitman

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DECEMBER 21-27, 2011



ONLINE AT [POTOMACALMANAC.COM](http://POTOMACALMANAC.COM)

## NEWS

# 'EBeauty.com munity' Provides Wigs for Cancer Patients

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

**B**reast cancer survivor Carolyn Callahan Keller knows what it's like to receive the devastating diagnoses of breast cancer, go through mastectomy surgery and chemotherapy — and lose her hair. She had her first bout in 2004 and again two years later. Then her sister-in-law was diagnosed — and

then another sister-in-law. She had already given her own wigs to a friend but her sister-in-law passed her wig to the other sister-in-law. That's when Keller came up with the idea of "passing wigs forward" and forming a non-profit to make it all happen.

Keller's EBeauty.com munity is only 4 months old — and already making a differ-

ence in the lives of women with cancer. The non-profit has created an exchange program in which wigs are donated to www.EBeauty.com and then offered free of charge to women undergoing chemotherapy. Keller and her friend Donna Greenfield who supported her through her cancer treatments and in starting up EBeauty.com realize that self-esteem is one of the factors of staying positive during cancer treatment — and the wigs that

cover the bare head during chemotherapy are as important as the treatment. They also know that the community of breast cancer survivors, friends, family and neighbors is incredibly important while one is going through cancer treatment — thus, the "munity" was added to EBeauty.com munity.

"We act as a team and combine our efforts," said Greenfield. "We have a huge

SEE WIGS, PAGE 10

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cover the bare head during chemotherapy are as important as the treatment. They also know that the community of breast cancer survivors, friends, family and neighbors is incredibly important while one is going through cancer treatment — thus, the "munity" was added to EBeauty.com munity.

"We act as a team and combine our efforts," said Greenfield. "We have a huge

## LET'S TALK Real Estate



by  
**Michael Matese**

### Your Closet and You

Let's talk closet space. Your house is on the market and it's perfect in every way, except for the closets. In today's market, closets are almost as important as the kitchen, with functionality, walk in, and built ins being key words. Organize your closet to show it off at its best by hiring a professional to come in and show you the most efficient way to showcase a space often neglected. A professional will work with a client to maximize, making it a one of a kind, gorgeous and functional space. They can showcase it, choosing from multiple materials, using everything from hard woods to tile and everything in between.

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# NEWS

## Bubble Won't Be Deflated

**Neighbors have 30 days to appeal Oaklyn tennis bubble to next court.**

By KEN MOORE  
THE ALMANAC

No long legal rally will be held on the courts of Montgomery County. Last week, Circuit Court Judge Michael J. Algeo denied a motion by neighbors challenging the special exception that permits a tennis bubble on Oaklyn Drive.

Potomac Swim and Recreation Association has spent \$700,000 to construct its new tennis bubble that was installed last month. The bubble will be taken down each spring by mid April.

"We feel vindicated," said Michele Rosenfeld, attorney for the Potomac Swim and Recreation Club. "The evidence was such that the judge didn't even hold a hearing."

West Montgomery County Citizens Association and neighbors opposing the bubble have 30 days to file an appeal to the Court of Special Appeals.

"My clients are disappointed. We would not have tried the case if we didn't think it was winnable," said attorney David W. Brown.

"I don't think this judge would have ruled the way he did if he had seen photos," he said.

In early 2009 the swim club's attorney Rosenfeld sought permission to add an ad

SEE COURT, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE ALMANAC

### Through the Neighborhoods

**Santa visits residents of the Avenel area on Sunday night, Dec. 18, while riding with the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department. Many residents came out to donate toys for the fire departments toy drive for the Toys for Tots program.**

## Muslim Foundation Aids Needy Food, clothes and toys given to families.

By SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

Two hundred needy families in Montgomery County will be enjoying the holidays this year because of the generosity of the Montgomery County Muslim Foundation.

The families arrived at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center on Saturday, Dec. 17 to find bags overflowing with fresh vegetables, chicken, stuffing and all the trimmings for a bountiful holiday

dinner. Then the recipients chose bicycles, toys, dolls and games for their children. They each received a new, warm blanket distributed in a cheerful holiday bag — and could also select a winter coat or jacket. All the families left with words of gratitude for making the holidays happen for their families.

One man said, "I worked for the Army for several years — and almost two years ago, I was laid off. I haven't been able to find work — and I have children to feed and clothe. It's so hard. I want to work — and cannot find a job. Without organizations like this, there would be no Christmas for my children. We are so grateful."

Guled Kassim, president of MCMF, said, "Our organization is pleased to provide food for families, toys for the children, warm blankets and coats — but the real value of our service is the 'intangible' message that they are important to us. We want the families to know that they matter — that we truly care about them and their welfare."

Irma Hafeez is the lead coordinator for MCMF Thanksgiving and Holiday Gift Projects. She purchased the food, organized the contents of the bag for each family and the distribution process. "The last few days, we were really busy unloading the deliveries, organizing and packing the gift bags for distribution," she said. "I could not have done it without the MCMF Board Members who worked tirelessly. Most of the Board Members brought their children with them today. They love coming to help — and they are learning the valuable benefits of how good it feels to give back. We have already delivered 30 or more gift baskets to people

## 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Extension

**County still plans to proceed with ballfields on Brickyard Road farm.**

By KEN MOORE  
THE ALMANAC

*One in an ongoing series of articles.*

Nick Maravell's lease to operate an organic farm on Brickyard Road has been extended to Aug. 15, 2012. But "the County's intent remains the same," said Patrick Lacefield, director of Montgomery County Office of Public Information.

The county still plans to build soccer fields on the 20-acre Brickyard Road site.

"Since our current plans do not envision construction starting before Aug. 15 anyway, we were fine to extend, but, obviously, couldn't do that while we were being sued," said Lacefield.

Maravell dropped his lawsuit against the Board of Education, which was scheduled for trial in Montgomery County Circuit Court last Thursday, Dec. 15.

Montgomery County and Maravell reached the settlement Wednesday afternoon before the Circuit Court hearing.

Meanwhile, the Brickyard Coalition and others appealed the decision by the Board of Education to lease the property to the county for soccer fields to the State Board of Education. That appeal, based on violations of open meeting laws, is scheduled to be considered at the next State Board of Education meeting on Jan. 24-25.

**THE COUNTY PLANS** to issue its Request for Proposals this spring, although Lacefield said that request could go out this week.

The request for proposal will call for a private soccer organization to build soccer fields, parking and related amenities on the 20-acre farm. In return, the soccer organization would have use of the fields for its members.

There is a shortage of soccer fields to the 25,000 youth and 10,000 adults playing soccer, said Lacefield, and 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 residents who participated in writing the 2002 Master Plan say the county is twisting the plan's language, which says that if the site were declared surplus, unneeded, by the schools, then it could be considered for a local park which could include ballfields (see Timeline).

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 5



**Angelic Voices**  
Washington Episcopal School students sing "Angels We Have Heard on High" during the Christmas program last week.

## NEWS

# Reliving Memories

Weatherby releases second Christmas book.

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

Lynn Weatherby's children's books are her legacy of love. Her first book, "Lynn Marie's Christmas" was written to record the treasured Christmas traditions from her Wisconsin childhood. She wanted her adult children, Amy and Peter, to understand the origin of the Christmas customs they had enjoyed every year since they were born. Many were handed down from her parents who made each Christmas special even though there was serious illness and not a lot of money. She surprised her children and husband with copies of the book two years ago on Christmas morning.

Now the River Falls resident has published her second book, "Merry Memory Making." The story is about their Christmases spent in a ski condo in Snowshoe, W.Va. She chose two mice to recount the yearly events that surrounded Christmas with her husband David, their children, Grandma Weatherby and David's sister, Julie. The book describes their fun-filled traditions of locating and cutting down the Christmas tree that the family had marked with a long red ribbon at Thanksgiving, creating all the decorations for the tree by hand, and the Christmas Eve baking of povitica, a traditional Croatian pastry made with yeast dough, butter, sugar, cinnamon and nuts. This was always served for breakfast on Christmas morning.

In "Merry Memory Making," the little mice, Snowball and Grayson live with their mouse family in the ski condo at 6 Pine Cone Court — the one the Weatherby family stayed in every Thanksgiving and Christmas. The mice love it when the family comes, because there is cheese fondue served on Christmas Eve, pieces of popcorn from the garlands the children made for the tree, and of course the pumpkin pie and Christmas cookies. The mice, particularly chubby Grayson, relish the food and the activity of the visitors.

Throughout the book, Weatherby shares the warmth of their family traditions, the importance of spending meaningful time together and, as Snowball says, "Memories come in all sorts of ways."

"Reliving the memories was the most fun of writing the book," said Weatherby. "I wanted my kids to realize the reasons our Christmases were so special was because of my parents and who they were. We took the old traditions and added new ones to make our holiday a little different — but it still felt the same as my Christmases long ago. Christmas was a magical time, filled with anticipation and love."

The cover for "Lynn Marie's Christmas" was drawn and painted by artist Jacquelyn Jouvenal of Potomac. Jouvenal was able to capture the nostalgia of Weatherby's childhood Christmas. She painted their living



**The cover of "Merry Memory Making" by artist Sandy Klingenberg and author Lynn Weatherby.**

room and the Christmas tree exactly as Weatherby remembered it using black and white photos inherited from her parents. The completed cover painting now hangs above Weatherby's fireplace. Illustrations were done by Sarah Minikes, also of Potomac.

Local artist Sandy Klingenberg drew the cover and illustrations for "Merry Memory Making." The cover for the small book depicts the two mice sitting beside the Christmas tree in the ski condo in West Virginia — also drawn from photos and from Weatherby's memory. Klingenberg has taught art for Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery College and painted hundreds of paintings and murals for homes in Potomac. All of the artists are personal friends of the author.

The books are for sale on [www.blurb.com](http://www.blurb.com).

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE ALMANAC

**D**uring the holiday season, Rachelle Ferneau hands an apron to each of her four children. One of the family's kitchen customs: frying doughnuts.

"The tradition for Hanukkah is to focus on fried food to celebrate the miracle of the oil," said Ferneau, pastry chef and owner of Eden Cake in Potomac. "We [make] churros, which are Mexican doughnuts that are piped through a pastry bag and are seasoned with cinnamon sugar."

While school is out for winter break, many parents find themselves looking for creative ways to keep children busy. Local culinary experts say rounding up bickering and bored youngsters and heading to the kitchen is a merry, festive way to have peace on Earth — or at least in one's home.

"The kitchen is a great [place] to bring in mathematics and measuring, especially if you're multiplying a recipe. That will help get the kids' intellectual side involved. And they love to eat what they make," said

# Unpacking Holiday Stress

## Some suggestions on coping.

BY MONTIE MARTIN  
THE ALMANAC

**T**he scramble to shop, cook, clean and meet family expectations all contributes to the pressures of the holiday season. Add biology to the mix and that's a recipe for stress-induced breakdowns.

According to Potomac resident Dr. Deborah Mulhern, a family therapist in the field of interpersonal neuro-biology, the human brain is wired to pick up on danger signals that communicate to others unconsciously.

"The hardest thing families deal with is conflict," said Mulhern. "Families want to just have fun over the holidays, and push aside feelings of conflict, but our biology works against that."

Body language and tonal expression are the biggest tells. A half smile, seeing averted eyes, or pulling away sends a signal to another person that danger is lurking. These subconscious cues trigger the fight or flight response developed over the course of human evolution.

"The brain is always looking to find what is dangerous, it's wired to over perceive threats," said Mulhern.

### More

To learn more about Dr. Deborah Mulhern and the unconscious signals the brain receives, as well as simple ways to reduce stress, visit: <http://drdeborahmulhern.com/>



COURTESY PHOTO

**Dr. Deborah Mulhern**

"The more your brain picks up on cues, the more it is on heightened alert."

Throughout the holidays people are often going faster than usual, making important gift-giving decisions while shopping, all in addition to the standard stress associated with the normal workday.

"A lot of shoppers are having holiday stress," said Trevor McGraw, owner of the Feather Essence boutique at the Westfield Montgomery Mall. "From the retailer side, I'm getting grey hairs because of the long hours, my friends and family see I'm tired all the time."

When family members come together and are on edge, the stress passes on to others and can be overwhelming. Untreated stress can lead to blowups and breakdowns.

The solution to holiday stress can be as simple as giving a hug. Oxytocin, the brains' neurotransmitter responsible for feelings of love, is released when people hug and produces an immediate soothing effect.

According to Mulhern, during periods of high stress hugging someone eight to 10 times a day is a good average.

Other ways around stress can be to keep things in perspective and focus on the most important parts of the holidays.

"Challenge the necessity of staying busy," said Mulhern. "Think about what you want for the holidays, and consider what you can do less of instead of just doing the next thing on the list."

# Holiday Cooking with Children

## Bringing families together in the kitchen.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE ALMANAC

Ferneau.

For Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey, an Alexandria, Va. mother of two, the kitchen is a bastion of holiday tradition. Creating a plate for Santa is one of the family's Yuletide practices. Armed with tubes of sugary icing, they pipe out messages to Saint Nick and leave him a glittering array of cookies before heading to bed on Christmas Eve.

"We design the plate for Santa and make it a special piece of art. I let the kids write a note with the icing around the perimeter of the plate, and we decorate it with sugar [and candied snowflakes] on top of the icing," said Cavin-Winfrey who is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America.

In lieu of cookies, Annie Marshall, a local organic caterer and owner of Veggie Annie, suggests dainty truffles, a confection she once created with her now-adult daughter.

"These yummy treats [will] be a terrific, messy project," she said.

While cranberry sauce is an iconic holiday staple, Cavin-Winfrey developed a sweet alternative that even the youngest of chefs can tackle.



**Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey and her daughter Grace prepare Christmas desserts. Culinary experts say cooking is a creative way to keep children busy this holiday season.**

"[My children and I] make a frozen cranberry salad. It is a pink concoction that is the equivalent of ice cream," she said. "It has whipped cream, mashed bananas and a can of cranberries. [My daughter] mashes the bananas and whips the cream. Then we pour it into a mold and freeze it."

# NEWS

## Court Won't Deflate Bubble

FROM PAGE 3

ditional tennis court, club hours and the tennis bubble, among other things.

That same year, Montgomery County hearing examiner wrote an 87-page review denying the tennis bubble but granting other parts of the club's request.

In July 2009 the Board of Appeals denied permission to add the bubble.

Rosenfeld appealed this decision for the swim club in the Circuit Court of Montgomery County in July 2010, and the court ruled that the club must be allowed to install the bubble.

"The record contains NO evidence to support a finding of harm or disturbance created by the proposed special exception modification. In the absence of such evidence [the bubble] must be approved," the judge wrote.

No one appeared at the court hearing in opposition. Opponents of the bubble say they were not notified about the appeal and didn't have the opportunity to have their say in court.

Neighbors and West Montgomery officials say they thought the matter was settled when the bubble was denied in 2009. Then neighbors started to see signs of construction this summer.

Court documents detail that Rosenfeld and



FILE PHOTO

**This bubble rose over tennis courts at Potomac Swim Club on Oaklyn Drive last month. A court ruling last week will allow the bubble to remain in place despite an appeal by neighbors.**

pool members believe the Board of Appeals followed its regular practice of contacting opponents to let them know about the Circuit Court retrial. Rosenfeld also says in court documents that she sent certified letters to neighbors.

Opponents say they received no such notice.

"They said they did, but nobody got it," said George Barnes, of West Montgomery County Citizens Association, of the notification. "We're facing an uphill battle, the bubble is up."

**NEIGHBORS REGISTERED** an official complaint against the swim club claiming the pool and recreation club has already violated conditions of its new special exception. The Department of Permitting Services investigated the complaint, and the Board of Appeals is currently scheduled to discuss the report at a worksession in January.

## County Focused on Ballfields

FROM PAGE 3

genetically modified organisms and chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack appointed Maravell to the 15-member National Organic Standard Board, which recommends 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 site over 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, 2011 from the schools facilities office that his year-to-year lease would not be renewed.

The trial scheduled for last week would have determined if the School Board violated the Open Meetings Act and violated state law.

Circuit Court Judge Richard E. Jordan rejected the School Board's motion to have the case dismissed.

Before the settlement, the court also denied the School Board's motion to quash subpoenas for seven school board members to be witnesses at the trial.

For three decades, Maravell won the lease every three to five years during the competitive bidding process, Maravell said.

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# 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 Stoneybrook Dr., Kensington. Visit [www.dctemplelights.lds.org](http://www.dctemplelights.lds.org) or call 301-587-0144.

## 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](http://www.rruuc.org) or call 301-229-0400.

## 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](mailto:jabramson@bnaitzedek.org). At Potomac Village Shopping Center, 10116 River Road, Potomac.

**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](http://www.nationalphilharmonic.org) or call 301-581-5100 and mention promotion code NPWSB for a 15% discount on tickets.

**Slow Blues and Swing Dance.** 9 p.m.



## SATURDAY/JAN. 7

**Celloist Zuill Bailey.** 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Will perform Bach's Unaccompanied Cello Suites at 3:30 p.m. At 8 p.m., Bailey will perform Haydn's Cello Concerto with the National Philharmonic, conducted by Piotr Gajewski. The 8 p.m. program will also include Beethoven's Grosse Fuge, Op. 133 and Mozart's Symphony No. 41 in C Major ("Jupiter"). A free lecture will be offered at 6:45 p.m. on Jan. 7 in the Concert Hall. At the Music Center at Strathmore. Visit [nationalphilharmonic.org](http://www.nationalphilharmonic.org) or call the Strathmore ticket office at 301-581-5100.

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](mailto:info@CapitalBlues.org) or [www.CapitalBlues.org](http://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](mailto:jabramson@bnaitzedek.org) or [www.bnaitzedek.org](http://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](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 24

**Song of the Stars Children's Drama.** At Geneva Presbyterian Church, 11931 Seven Locks Road, Potomac.

**Lessons and Carols Service.** 7 p.m. At Geneva Presbyterian Church, 11931 Seven Locks Road, Potomac.

**Communion Service by candlelight.** 11 p.m. At Geneva Presbyterian Church, 11931 Seven Locks Road, Potomac.

## DEC. 24 AND 25

**Christmas Services.** On Saturday, Dec. 24, River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation will hold two Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services. The 5 p.m. service will be a Family Christmas Eve Candle Lighting. This will feature familiar carols and RRUUC's traditional Christmas Eve pageant. The second Christmas Eve Service will begin at 8:15 p.m. This service is titled, "Joy to the World." On Sunday, Dec. 25, RRUUC will have one service at 10 a.m., titled, "Holiday Memories and Joys." The Rev. Dr. Maureen Killoran will conduct this service for all-ages featuring a holiday story about a wooden bell.

River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation is at 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Call 301-229-0400 or visit [www.rruuc.org](http://www.rruuc.org).

## CHRISTMAS 24-25

**Village Yoga.** Yes, We're Open! 10 a.m. classes on both Dec. 24 and 25. \$10 first week unlimited. Come visit us for some 'yoga calm' amongst the holiday rush. Normal business hours: M, W, F 6 a.m.-7:45 p.m.; T-Th 8:30 a.m.-8:45 p.m.; Sat-Sun: 8:30-5:45 p.m. At 10154 River Road, Suite 150, Potomac. Call 301-299-1948 or visit [www.villageyogayogi.com](http://www.villageyogayogi.com).

## SUNDAY/DEC. 25

**Celebrate Chanukah.** 3 p.m. Family & friends are invited to a fun-filled, festive Chanukah celebration. Watch the movie, "The Princess Bride" and a football game on TV; enjoy a delicious dinner from David Chu's China Bistro, and a latke toppings bar. Chanukah songs and games for the



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**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](http://www.nationalphilharmonic.org) or call 301-581-5100.

## MONDAY/JAN. 9

**Cell Towers.** 7:45 to 10 p.m. How do they affect you and your community and how can you participate in the review process? The next monthly meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation will focus on those kinds of questions due to growing controversy over how to handle the need for more telecommunication facilities. At the County Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville. Visit [www.montgomerycivic.org](http://www.montgomerycivic.org).

## TUESDAY/JAN. 10

**Musicians BettySoo and Doug Cox.** 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18/door; \$15/advance. At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville. Visit [www.focusmusic.org](http://www.focusmusic.org) or contact David Spitzer at [focusrockville@earthlink.net](mailto:focusrockville@earthlink.net) or 301-275-7459.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 12

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

## JAN. 12 TO 15

**"Hairspray."** Presented by Musical Theater Center. Schedule: Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 14 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 16 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20/adults; \$18/students, seniors and children. Available at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre by calling 240-314-8690. At F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Visit [www.musicaltheatercenter.org](http://www.musicaltheatercenter.org).

## SUNDAY/JAN. 15

**Living Through Shocks and Discontinuities.** 10:25 a.m. Free. National Security Challenges and Opportunities Facing the Obama Administration. Peter Wilson of the Rand Corporation will talk about the startling major regime changes around the world during 2011 and discuss the regimes now teetering on the edge of change. At River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, Md., 20817. Call 301-229-0400 or [www.rruuc.org](http://www.rruuc.org).

# FINE ARTS

**NOW THROUGH JAN. 5**

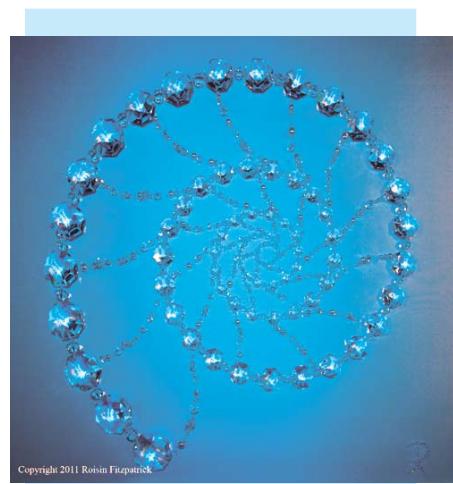
**Tough Guys and Cool Girls.** True Selves or Codes of Conduct? Paintings, Prints and Drawings by Halcy Bohm. At Landon Gallery at the Landon School, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda. Exhibit open weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and weekends by appointment 301-346-4405.

**NOW THROUGH JAN. 3**

**Rockville Art League.** Sculpture, painting, mixed media artwork on display at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr., Rockville. Visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/events](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/events). Visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/arts](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/arts) or contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or [jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov).

**NOW THROUGH DEC. 30**

**From Forge to Form: Modern Ironwork and the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature.** Simultaneous exhibitions feature 700 pieces of art. From Forge to Form will illustrate the evolution of blacksmithing from a utilitarian trade to a growing artistic medium, featuring 32 pieces of ironwork, totaling 3,500 pounds, by Virginia-based artists Frederic Crist and Nol Putnam. The juried Fine Art in Miniature exhibition features 667 meticulously painted, sculpted, carved and crafted micro-works from 252 artists. At the Mansion at Strathmore. Call 301-581-5100 or visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).



**NOW THROUGH JAN. 12**

**Lights Up!** VisArts presents the work of artists utilizing light as a medium. At the VisArts Kaplan Gallery, second floor. Opening reception is Wednesday, Dec. 21 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Visit the VisArts website [www.visartscenter.org](http://www.visartscenter.org) for additional events.

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**Pack-o-Pups by Stephen Hansen**

**NOW THROUGH FEB. 25**

**Year's End/New Beginnings.** At Zenith Gallery and throughout Chevy Chase Pavilion. At Chevy Chase Pavilion, 5335 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Visit [www.zenithgallery.com](http://www.zenithgallery.com) or call 202-783-2963.

**NOW THROUGH DEC. 26**

**Abstract and Real, or Not.** Free. Abstract wall art by Felisa Federman, Amy Kincaid and Julia Latein-Kimmig; knitted silver necklaces by Nancy Pollack; metal shoes and hats by Joyce Zipperer. At Gallery Har Shalom, Har Shalom Congregation, 11510 Falls Road, Potomac. Call 301-299-7087.

**NOW THROUGH DEC. 31**

**Artistic Flair.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Paintings, decorative tables, jewelry. Come to Glen Echo Park for an exhibition of large semi-abstract paintings, watercolors and art inspired pieces by local artists, Jan Rowland and Mariana Kastrinakis. Contact [mkastrin@gmail.com](mailto:mkastrin@gmail.com) or [jan\\_rowland@yahoo.com](mailto:jan_rowland@yahoo.com), the Yellow Barn Gallery at 1-301-371-5593 or the National Park Service, Glen Echo at 1-301-492-6229.

**NOW THROUGH DEC. 31**

**Holiday Show.** All-member multi-media show. Jewelry, pottery and wearable art; paintings, prints and photos; sculpture and mobiles - all will be presented by Waverly Street Gallery members in their holiday show. At Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Street Highway, Bethesda. Visit [www.waverlystreetgallery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com).

Highway, Bethesda. Visit [www.waverlystreetgallery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com).

**JAN. 3 TO FEB. 4**

**Memories.** Ceramics and Mixed Media by Karin Abromaitis and New Work by Gallery Artists. Reception is Friday, Jan. 13, from 6-9 p.m. Meet the Artist reception is Saturday afternoons Jan. 14 and 21, from 12-2 p.m. At Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Call 301-951-9441 or [www.waverlystreetgallery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com).

**JAN. 3 TO FEB. 4**

**Faces.** Paintings by Shari Hookman Berger and New Work by Gallery Artists. Artist's reception is Friday, Jan. 13 from 6 to 9 p.m. At Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Visit [www.waverlystreetgallery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com).

**JAN. 11 TO FEB. 5**

**January Group Show.** Four featured artists are Frank Capello, Emily Lane, Donna McGee and Andy Unger. Gallery hours Wednesday-Saturday from 12-6 p.m. There will be an opening reception Friday, Jan. 13, in conjunction with the Bethesda Art Walk, from 6-9 p.m. At Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Call 301-215-6660 or Event website: [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).



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# OPINION

## Share Your New Year's Resolutions

**What were top events, accomplishments of 2011 in your opinion?**

This is the last regular edition of the Almanac for 2011. Between Christmas and New Year's, we'll deliver the Children's Almanac, an annual tradition, with pages filled with the artwork and writing of local students.

Meanwhile, we are preparing for the first issue of 2012, sharing views of what were the most important happenings of 2011 and what to look for in 2012. We'll also share a variety of New Year's resolutions. We invite our read-

ers to help in this endeavor.

For advocates of families of the fallen, like the Tragedy Assistance Program (TAPS), the end of 2011 brings the end of the Iraq war and the complex emotional and practical issues that come with that. For non-profits and charitable organizations, 2011

**EDITORIALS** brought greatly increasing numbers of people in need. For your family, the top events of 2011 might have included the birth of a child or a graduation or the completion of a marathon.

Share your joys and milestones with us, not only from the year that's past, but also your expectations of 2012.

Answer one or all of these questions:

1) What were the (one, two or three) most

significant happenings of 2011 for you in your community? Why?

2) What do you think our readers should know to watch for in the coming year (up to three issues)? Or what do you think the top (one, two or three) happenings of 2012 will be locally? Why?

3) What is your New Year's Resolution? (Feel free to share more than one)

Please include your home address with your responses, we'll only print your town name. And we'd also love to have a photo of you, your family and/or events or places in your community that you reflect upon in your answer.

Email to Steven Mauren, [smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com).

## Free, Safe Ride Home from Holiday Celebrations

Once again, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will provide a safety net for those who might celebrate the holiday season with alcohol and unexpectedly need a safe ride home. WRAP's 2011 Holiday SoberRide program will operate each night from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. The program began Friday, Dec. 16, and will continue

until Jan. 1, 2012.

To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294 (TAXI). You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service. All requests for SoberRide service must be called to and dispatched from 1-800-200-8294. Callers will be responsible for any amount over \$30.

WRAP's SoberRide has helped to ensure lo-

cal residents have a safe way home on high-risk holidays, keeping likely impaired drivers off the roads. Since 1993, WRAP has provided nearly 53,000 safe rides home. SoberRide operates during the December/January holiday season, St. Patrick's Day, Independence Day and Halloween.

For details, see <http://wrap.org/soberride>

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Steady Progress At Animal Shelter

To the Editor:

We are always glad to hear about organizations around the county that help advance the cause of animal welfare ("Humane Group Earmarks Funds To Help Animals," Dec. 8). I'd like to point out, however, that in the decades since our founding in 1958, the Montgomery County Humane Society has steadily improved its performance in releasing or transferring animals out of the shelter.

While only about half of the animals currently brought to shelters nationwide make it out alive, many more that come to MCHS today get a second chance. Out of the thousands of animals received live each year, for example, MCHS has consistently moved out about three-quarters or more.

Our staff members and volunteers have worked hard to match thousands of humans and companion animals through adoptions, foster care,

a high lost-and-found return rate, and animals transferred to other nonprofit rescues. In recent years we've seen several trends: while we have received slightly fewer animals, adoptions have increased and euthanasia has decreased.

We attribute our success to ongoing efforts with community outreach, education, off-site adoption events, support from the news media, and many donors without whose generosity over the years this steady progress would not have happened. Please visit our website, [www.mchumane.org](http://www.mchumane.org), to stay up-to-date with our programs and services and to help the community continue to improve the odds for the homeless animals in our care.

**Jo Ann Hoffman**

Jo Ann Hoffman is Chair of the Montgomery County Humane Society.



#### Benefiting the Needy

**What began as a fund-raiser for the Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington in 2006 has evolved into a tradition that brightens the holiday season for several of Montgomery County's less fortunate families. That year, Potomac's Behnke's Nurseries donated five Christmas trees that Girl Scouts decorated for display at Behnke's Potomac shop. Each tree was raffled off at the end of the holiday with the proceeds going to the Prevention of Blindness Society and the Girl Scouts.**

**During this year's event, the trees will no longer help the Prevention of Blindness Society and the Girl Scouts raise funds. Instead, they will be donated to families in need through Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Organizations decorating trees this year include:**

- ❖ Delta Gamma Fraternity, Beta Rho Chapter, George Washington University
- ❖ Girl Scouts Troop 272 from Potomac Elementary School
- ❖ Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Gamma Fraternity
- ❖ The Junior League of Washington.

### Write Us

The 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, The Connection  
1606 King St. ♦ Alexandria VA 22314 ♦ Call: 703-778-9410.  
By e-mail: [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com)

## POTOMAC ALMANAC

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# PEOPLE

Emma Glass,  
Chloe Hand,  
Katie Mark and  
Kelly Seegers  
are members of  
Troop 3288,  
based in  
Potomac.



## Four Local Girl Scouts Earn Gold Award

**F**our local Ambassador Girl Scouts from Troop 3288 have earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, symbolizing outstanding accomplishments in leadership, community service and advocacy. The Gold Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn, and is awarded to only about 5 percent of eligible Girl Scouts nationwide. It requires successfully completing several prerequisites, then submitting a proposal which includes ties to community outreach and sustainability. Each girl commits hard work and a minimum of 80 hours to complete her project.

♦ **Katie Mark**, 17, partnered with a dozen individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities and community volunteers to create a four-panel, three-dimensional mural in a program facility operated by The Arc Montgomery County. Titled "Take Another Look," the mural incorporates three-dimensional objects like papier mâché mountains, a real wood knot-hole and fabric leaves and flowers, so people with limited vision could enjoy it. "I wanted to brighten every day for the program

participants and I wanted people to stop and 'take another look' at the individuals who created this beautiful art," said Mark. A senior at Holton-Arms School, Mark lives in Bethesda and has been a Girl Scout since kindergarten, a total of 13 years.

♦ **Kelly Seegers**, 17, created a Youth Board to govern and rejuvenate the church youth group at Our Lady of Mercy in Potomac. She created a website for members to keep in touch and up-to-date on youth group gatherings, then cleaned and renovated the youth group room, making it a welcome haven for teens. Titled "Fun in Faith," Seegers' project resulted in significant growth of the youth group over the past year. Seegers is a senior at Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart and lives in Potomac. She has been a Girl Scout for 11 years.

♦ **Emma Glass**, 17, developed a comprehensive website for the Fox Hills Civic Association, providing the community with a polished and professional online presence. The project was titled "Voices of Fox Hills" and the website includes historical information, current events, calendar, list-serve, a social media group, neighborhood information and opportunities for civic engagement at local, county, state and national levels. Highlights include images from the Montgomery County Historical Society's archives and survey maps showing the

neighborhood's development from farmland to a cosmopolitan suburb. A senior at Winston Churchill High School, Glass lives in Potomac and has been a Girl Scout for 11 years.

♦ **Chloe Hand**, 17, developed her project, "Nature Scavenger Hunt," for children ages 3-8 to encourage them to get outdoors and discover the wonderful facilities at Locust Grove Nature Center in Bethesda. The scavenger hunt is designed for children to complete with an adult. Following a path marked by yellow butterflies, the scavenger hunt teaches about woodland creatures, tree growth and habitats, fire scars, nurse logs, dangers in the forest, creek erosion and man-made structures like bird and bat houses. Instructions and an accompanying map are permanently housed at Locust Grove Nature Center. Hand is a senior at Winston Churchill High School and lives in Potomac. She has been a Girl Scout for 10 years.

All four of these Girl Scouts are members of Troop 3288, based in Potomac. In addition to their community service contributions to their communities, the girls have traveled internationally with their troop to two Girl Scout/Girl Guide world centers, in Switzerland and England, and visited the Girl Scout Birthplace in Savannah, Ga. Troop 3288 has been an Honor Troop since inception, providing and promoting a wide range of Girl Scout activities.

## Holiday Giving by Muslim Foundation

FROM PAGE 3  
who were unable to leave their homes — and we expect another 175 families today."

Others helped make this Holiday Gift Project a success. Fawad Khan of Sun Charity donated more than 100 new blankets and Tufail Ahmed, founder of MCMF, contributed money to purchase new winter coats and jackets. Craig

Rosenfeld of Remax Realty gathered more than 20 jackets from agents in his office. Hafeez was assisted by Sohail Malik, Zeshaan Rasheed and Sara Noor. Saba Rashid, Sara Noor and Tufail Ahmed conducted the "MCMF Share the Warmth Drive" from Dec. 8 – 15 to collect the coats and blankets which were given to the families.

Although Tufail Ahmed was un-

able to attend the distribution, his mission as the founder of MCMF is to motivate American Muslims to perform community service in Montgomery County. He said, "We should take care of our neighbors here in the county first while we are helping those that are in need outside of our area. This is the noblest of all of the work with which we should do with great humility."



Zabrain Hafeez and Sara Noor pack holiday bags.

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

## Living Proof

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Or just plain dumb luck (which I don't take personally), or inherited genes (for which I am fortunate) that have so far fended off the cancer due to their DNA profile – or whatever, or the cumulative effect of the diet and lifestyle choices I've made, or the ingenuity of the design of the chemotherapy initially and then the anti-angiogenesis maintenance treatment I've been infused with – going on nearly three years, or everything together or some other things I've done separately, or a higher power simply blessing me for reasons I couldn't begin to understand. Why ever, how ever, I am grateful life goes on; thank God!

Woe is not me so I have never wondered why it has been me so seriously and unexpectedly afflicted. Certainly I've been curious and at the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist, questions were asked but answers were not really provided. My oncologist was more interested in treating the disease going forward rather than determining a cause for this effect reviewing backwards. It was of no interest to him, so by association – or influence, it likewise became less so to me. And so was born – and has evolved, my attitude toward being diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer at age 54 and one half. It's my problem, but I can't really worry about it – sort of, somehow.

On the one hand, whatever will be will be and attempting to control the uncontrollable (cells in my body) will likely mentally-anguish even a patient patient like me. On the other, giving up and/or giving in to this terminal disease doesn't make much sense either. I didn't (don't) want to be a victim of my own circumstance. Nor do I want to be an answer to anybody's prayers, except my own. Everybody has their own problems. Cancer has become mine and it's a problem I have assimilated into my life. I wouldn't say I've embraced it but I have accepted it and moved on, you might say.

Writing these columns and sharing with all of you has likely contributed as well to that acceptance as much as anything has. Not taking my diagnosis/prognosis lying down (in fact, I was sitting at the time), might have started the proactive peace with which I presently exist – and formerly as well, ever since that first this-is-what-you-have/this-is-what-we-should-do-about-it meeting occurred with my oncologist. He set the forward-thinking tone at that meeting and I have, to the best of my ability – despite some valleys along the way, remained vigilant, trying to appreciate the present while constantly thinking about the future. A future once filled with hope, but now one filled with anxiety and uncertainty.

Managing that anxiety has been, and continues to be, my greatest challenge, a challenge I never anticipated given that my parents' ages when they died were 87 and 86 and their health history had not included any cancer. And though it doesn't appear as if I've inherited their long-living genes, I have most definitely inherited their senses of humor and positive attitude. Maybe that's why I've outlived my prognosis. I think I thought: why not me? And then joked about it. (I remember asking my oncologist if it were OK for me to buy in bulk, among other similar kinds of queries.)

At the end of the day, the whole thing has probably been out of my hands. But accepting that wouldn't have been any fun.

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

## NEWS



**Donna Greenfield (left) and EBeauty Founder Carolyn Callahan Keller**

## Providing Wigs

FROM PAGE 2

team running the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure — our team is called the "Fighting Koalas." We all shared ideas about what we could do to support other women going through cancer treatment — and then Carolyn came up with the idea. It's so important for a woman's self-esteem to feel beautiful and good about herself — and there is no other organization that facilitates the exchange of wigs. It's such a wonderful concept." Greenfield serves on the Board of Directors.

A wig is \$700 - \$5000 — and many women cannot afford the cost of the treatment as well as that of a wig. Insurance policies often refuse to cover wigs as a part of the cancer treatment. Women who have finished their treatment may not want to keep their wigs, but the cost of cleaning and refurbishing is quite high — and there has previously been no vehicle for donating them. EBeauty.com makes it easy to donate — and also provides a charitable donation tax receipt creating a "win-win" situation for everyone involved.

"Having undergone these treatments myself, I understand the need to feel empowered and to control the things I can control. Chemo is a necessary evil and the loss of your hair is a sign it is working and we believe that is a 'Beautiful Thing.' EBeauty represents 'beauty without boundaries,' Keller said.

The non-profit's vision is to provide access to all women, regardless of their financial status or remote location, to obtain the help they need to restore their self-image and confidence during cancer treatment. The organization works with the Wheaton wig shop Amy's of Denmark, Eivind and Hans Salon and Spa of Georgetown and Salon Jean in Bethesda to refurbish and restyle the wigs for a perfect fit. Both provide drop-off locations as does Sibley Hospital Breast Center and Dr. Frederick P. Smith Oncology. Edge-Fund Advisors and Glazer-Winston provided financial support to help the non-profit get started.

The EBeauty Community provides a forum to support each other through sharing, advice and gifts of love. To donate or wig — or to request a wig, go to the website, www.E-Beauty.com and sign up. The organization will be featured at the NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo on Jan. 14 and 15 at the Washington D.C. Convention Center.

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# SPORTS



PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC



**Churchill co-captain Victor Carvajal, top, pinned his opponent in the 152-pound match to give the Bulldogs a 37-33 victory against Whitman on Dec. 17.**

**Churchill 138-pounder Ryan Plummer, top, won his match via pin as the Bulldogs defeated Whitman 37-33 on Dec. 17.**

## Churchill Wrestling Beats Sherwood, Whitman

The Churchill wrestling team improved to 3-1 with wins against Sherwood and Whitman at a home tri-meet on Dec. 17.

Churchill defeated Sherwood 54-22, receiving pins from freshman Hunter Daniels (106 pounds), senior Peter Heilbron (132), junior Ryan Plummer (138), freshman Julian Groce (160), junior Matthew Schleckser (182) and senior Collins Kenlak (195). The Bulldogs received wins via points from sophomore Adam Vinner (126) and senior Victor Carvajal (152), and got forfeit victories from sophomore Hunter Sutton (145) and freshman Panos Nicolaou (170).

Churchill defeated Whitman 37-33 thanks to a pin from co-captain Carvajal in the final match. Vinner, Plummer and Sutton also recorded pins. Daniels, Heilbron and senior Mike Kelley (220) won via points.

Churchill wrestled against Seneca Valley on Dec. 20. Results were not available prior to the Almanac's deadline. The Bulldogs will take on Bethesda-Chevy Chase on Dec. 22.

### Churchill Crew Completes Successful Fall Season

Churchill Crew, a community team composed of Winston Churchill High School students, capped off a successful fall season by competing in two area regattas as well as a novice scrimmage. The year-old team made strides in races against many of the region's high school powerhouses.

On Nov. 6, Churchill Crew's varsity rowers entered the Head of the Occoquan in Fairfax Station, Va. Two men's eight boats, one women's eight boat, a men's four and women's four boat competed the three-mile race against dozens of high school, college and masters-level crews.

Coaches Cindy Cole and Brad Smith were

very pleased with the team's performance overall.

"All the crews looked great," Cole said in an email. "Everyone should be very proud of how far Churchill has come in one year."

In the Head of the Anacostia on Oct. 8, Churchill Crew rowers swept all juniors-category events they entered in the 2.5-mile race. In men's racing, Churchill Crew's eight boat came in first place with a time of 17:16, beating Bishop Ireton in the juniors category as well as masters teams. Its men's four boat finished with a time of 18:19, outperforming university-level rowers (open category) in their race. In women's racing, Churchill Crew's 8-plus boat came in first place with a time of 19:20, beating Bishop Ireton's juniors and several masters and open teams.

Churchill Crew's novice rowers competed in a scrimmage on Nov. 5 in Bladensburg against Blair, Wootton, Walter Johnson and DeMatha. Churchill Crew's men's eight came in first in its category.

In late November, Churchill Crew began a winter conditioning program in preparation for the spring season, when the team will return to practice on the Anacostia River in Bladensburg and enter additional regattas.

Though crew is not a sanctioned Montgomery County Public School sport, a num-

ber of high schools in the county have self-supported crew teams whose members often go on to row in college. These schools include Whitman, B-CC, Walter Johnson and Blair. Churchill crew is an entirely self-supported community team founded in 2010 by Churchill students Julianna Hsing and Alisa Dan. The team had 60 members in Fall 2011.

### Churchill Girls Defeat Springbrook

The Churchill girls basketball team beat Springbrook 43-40 on Dec. 16 to improve its record to 2-2. The two teams met in last year's 4A West Region quarterfinals, with the Bulldogs knocking off the Blue Devils.

Churchill traveled to face Northwest on Dec. 19. Results were not available prior to the Almanac's deadline. The Bulldogs will travel to take on Bethesda-Chevy Chase at 5:15 p.m. on Dec. 21.

### Churchill Alum Banks To Speak to Crew Team

David Banks, a former Olympian and

2001 Churchill graduate, will speak to the Churchill Crew team during practice at the Rockville JCC from 3-5 p.m. on Dec. 22. Banks, a member of the U.S. rowing team, rowed for Stanford University and for the U.S. Olympic rowing team at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Banks is based out of San Diego.

### Churchill Boys Fall to Springbrook

The Churchill boys basketball team dropped to 2-2 after losing to Springbrook 62-51 on Dec. 16.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Christian Bonaparte led the Bulldogs with 18 points and Sam Edens and Dominique Williams each finished with 11.

Churchill hosted Northwest on Dec. 19. Results of the game were not available prior to the Almanac's deadline. The Bulldogs will travel to face Bethesda-Chevy Chase at 7 p.m. on Dec. 21.

### Whitman Girls Start Season 4-1

The Whitman girls basketball team opened the year with wins over Poolesville (57-46), Wheaton (78-11), Quince Orchard (64-50) and Magruder (58-44) before falling to Paint Branch (58-49) on Dec. 16.

The Vikings will host Walter Johnson at 7 p.m. on Dec. 21.

### Whitman Boys Lose to Paint Branch

The Whitman boys basketball team lost to Paint Branch 67-53 on Dec. 16, dropping its record to 1-4. The Vikings' win came against Wheaton on Dec. 9.

Whitman will travel to face Walter Johnson at 7 p.m. on Dec. 21.



**Churchill 220-pounder Mike Kelley, top, won his match via points, helping the Bulldogs to a victory against Whitman on Dec. 17.**

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