

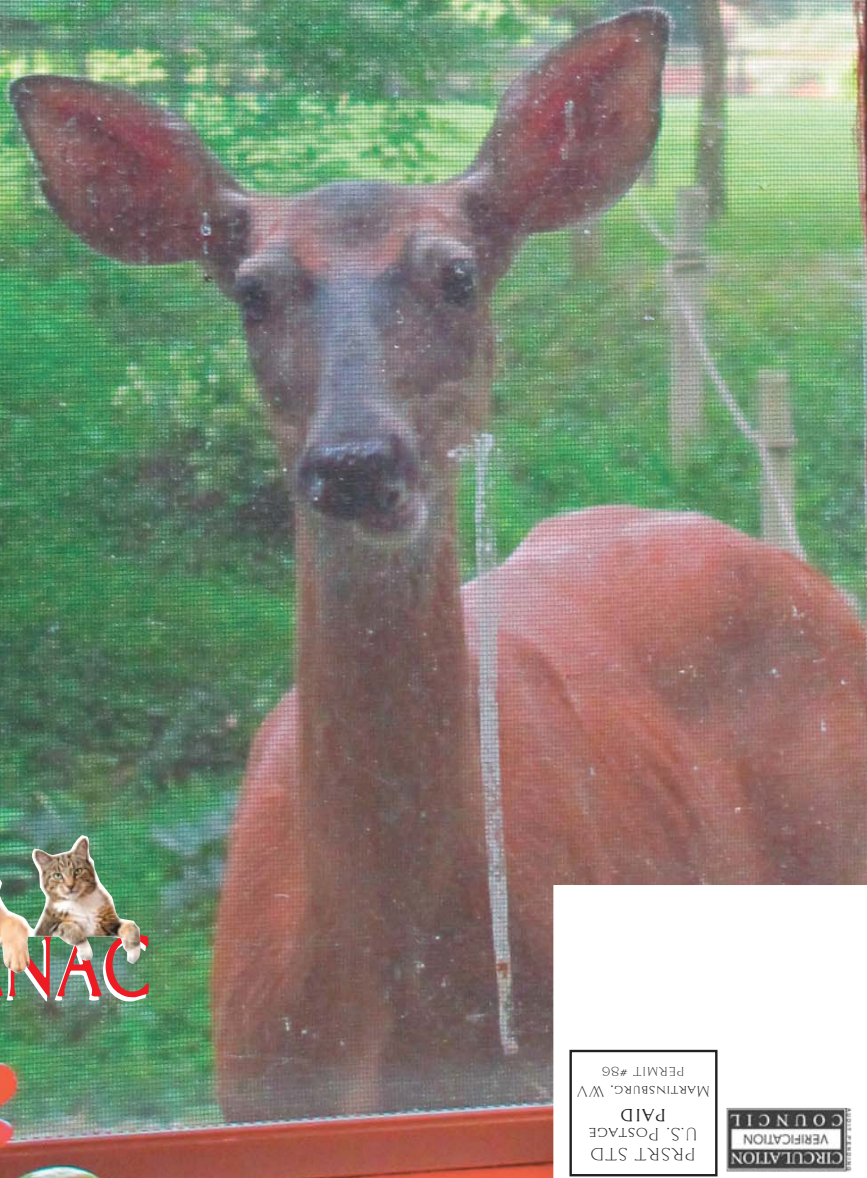
# Potomac ALMANAC



## Pet Snapshots

PET ALMANAC, PAGE 6

Jane Doe appears interested in joining a group of Potomac residents indoors for breakfast.



PET ALMANAC



REAL ESTATE, PAGE 10 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 14 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12

PHOTO BY MARY KIMM / THE ALMANAC

### Fire House Tension

NEWS, PAGE 3

### 'Take Life to The Next Level'

NEWS, PAGE 3

### Churchill Boys Basketball Team Secures No. 2 Playoff Seed

SPORTS, PAGE 12

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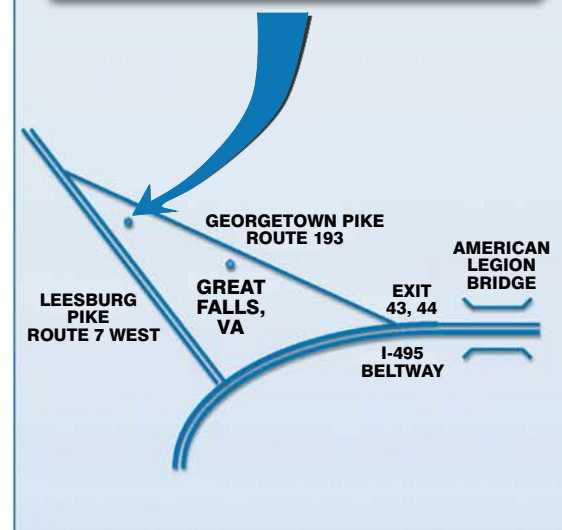
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## Old Tensions Delay Fire House Expansion

**County declines to fund its share of project.**

By KEN MOORE  
THE ALMANAC

County Executive Isiah Leggett removed the \$7 million renovation and addition project to Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department Station No. 30 on Falls Road from his current proposed Capital Improvement Program. What was originally supposed to be a joint project between the county and the Cabin John volunteers is now on hold because of a disagreement over ownership.

The County Council's Public Safety Committee met Feb. 16 to review Leggett's proposed CIP and FY13 Capital Budget for the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service.

### History

Charles E. Benson and 10 other founding members organized Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department on March 19, 1930. The first fire apparatus bought by the department was a Ford Model T pickup truck equipped with a 100-gallon portable pump that was stored in a shed at the corner of MacArthur Boulevard and 77th Street.

The fire department responded to growth of the Potomac area in the 1960s by placing a fire engine in a garage where the present Potomac Veterinarian Hospital now sits. Station No. 30 on Falls Road opened at its present site in 1970.

The volunteer fire department opened its River Road headquarters in 1984, after occupying the corner of MacArthur and Seven Locks since 1932.

Station No. 30 sits on 1.47 acres at 9404 Falls Road, and the building and land are owned by the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, not the county. The station is one of the smallest in Montgomery County.

The planned project would have modernized the living and support areas of the Falls Road station including facilities for female personnel, replaced building systems and increased gear and equipment storage for rescue boats and other water rescue equipment.

Personnel from Station No. 30, both county career and volunteer fire and rescue workers, respond to the Potomac River and Potomac Village as its first due area.

"We have a functional fire and EMS station facility that delivers daily service to the community," according to County Council documents. "However, the physical plan does present certain routine space and living arrangement challenges for the personnel assigned to this station."

Tensions between traditional volunteer fire service and the career fire and rescue system run by county government are longstanding. But in this case, the conflict appears to be shifting the costs of needed facilities from county government to the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department.

In January, Chief James Seavey of Cabin John explained some of the challenges facing the new board of directors.

"This board faces many complex major issues before them in the two-year term ahead," Seavey

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 15



**Built in 1970, Station No. 30 on Falls Road responds to the Potomac River and Potomac Village and is one of the smallest fire stations in the county. The Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, which owns the station, paid for construction of two extra apparatus bays, but the additional upgrades to the station have been put on hold.**



**Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department's River Road station 10 opened in 1984 and serves as Cabin John's headquarters. The volunteer fire department was organized on March 19, 1930.**

## Learning To 'Take Life To the Next Level'

**Life Coach Susan Samakow inspires.**

By SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

Dealing with transitions in life can often be confusing, difficult and emotional. Moving, retiring, divorce, becoming an empty nester, switching careers — change is often complicated and challenging. Susan Samakow, a certified business and life coach, helps clients deal with transitional situations and more — by working with them to develop positive self-talk, informed decision-making and leadership skills. Samakow is also a trainer, facilitator and speaker.



**Samakow**

for WNBC-TV and WUSA Channel 9, teaches leadership to both the private sector and government and writes a regular column for the WCBS TV website. Samakow served as president of the International Coach Federation's D.C. Chapter and is also certified by the Coaches Training Institute.

The Potomac resident wears a variety of hats in her profession. Besides individual coaching, she provides workshops to corporations, facilitates trainings with NIH and NASA, serves on wellness panels

"People always believe the negative is going to happen," said Samakow. "I call that negative talk their internal board of directors — that constant yakking that keeps people from taking the next step. Most people resist change and I help them gain and sustain confidence so they can take their lives to the next level — or feel good about taking next steps. Resiliency and bouncing back are huge factors in success. Working together, we choose challenges and break them down into baby steps."

"Positive self-talk — our internal dialogue and thoughts — shape our lives," she continued. "In order to make a change, we must think we can and then act on our positive thoughts. That's where I come in. I work with my client to brainstorm and strategize options for change — and then I support

them through the journey."

Samakow also provides the "Peoplemap" assessment tool to help businesses identify each employee's positives and build stronger work teams. This innovative system focuses on the "people side" of professional performance by helping employees develop stronger interpersonal skills and communication strategies. Samakow believes "Peoplemap" is the perfect tool for "building better customer relations and greater customer satisfaction, increasing sales performance and productivity, enhancing team effectiveness and communication skills, increasing employee retention and developing team cooperation."

Samakow has many stories to tell from her years as a professional life coach. "I

SEE NEXT LEVEL, PAGE 15

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## NEWS

# Washington Episcopal Earns First Place in Robotics Competition

**W**ashington Episcopal School's robotics team, the "Dragonbots," won first place in the presentation category for a creative, imaginative, well-documented, and demonstrated research project at the International First LEGO League state-wide competition at UMBC Retriever Activities Center in Catonsville, Md. on Jan. 28. Seventy-four teams competed. The FLL organized the competition, which hosts around 20,000 teams in over 60 countries.

Each year, competition is based on an annually determined theme. This year's theme called "The Food Factor Challenge" related to food safety. Participating teams are evaluated on their ability to design and program robotics to complete tasks, the quality and ingenuity of their theme-based research project, and their ability to work together in unity. The "Dragonbots" earned a spot at this competition because

they won second place overall at the Woods Academy qualifier in December. This is the team's fifth trophy for robotics.

The "Dragonbots," named after the school's reptilian mascot "Wesley," is comprised of 10 students in grades 6-8: David Butturini (Grade 6), Georgia Currie (Grade 6), Anders Groeschel (Grade 6), Oliver Johnson (Grade 6), Samantha Liggins (Grade 6), Jaymin Ortega (Grade 6), Laurence Ruberl (Grade 8), Athena Skoufias (Grade 6), Tayyaba Tareq (Grade 6), John Young (Grade 7), and student advisor Matthew Jackson (Grade 7). It is coached by Jason Platt, technology coordinator at WES, along with four parent advisors: David and Gail Jackson, Gina Mirigliano, and Brenda Ortega, all having backgrounds in science and technology.

For more information about the FLL, see <http://www.firstlegoleague.org/mission/support>.



Washington Episcopal School's robotics team at First LEGO League competition, winning first place in competition (front row, left to right) Oliver Johnson, Jaymin Ortega, Georgia Currie (back row, from left) David Butturini, Laurence Ruberl, Anders Groeschel, John Young, Samantha Liggins, Athena Skoufias and Tayyaba Tareq.

PHOTO BY JASON PLATT



## February?

PHOTO BY MARY KIMM/THE ALMANAC

Unseasonably warm temperatures around Potomac have resulted in early spring flowers, like these daffodils. Snow drops and hellebores are also in bloom here in mid-February.

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**Jane Doe:** Many deer pass through our yard every day. One doe has successfully raised triplets many years, with twins other times.  
— Mary Kimm



**Trail riding on a sunny winter day.**



**Emma Dixon of Potomac and Stella** compete at the Maryland Horse Trials at Loch Moy in November. Stella is a Percheron/Thoroughbred cross.



**Blake, a 16-year resident of Potomac,** is only allowed outside with continuous supervision because he has a tendency to try to chase the deer who occasionally chase him in return.

**PETS OF THE WEEK**

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](http://www.paw-rescue.org), call 301-572-4729 or write to PAW, P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768.



**Tripp** - Male, 2 years, 52 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.



**Mandy** - F, 1 1/2 years, spayed DSH Tuxedo cat — Mandy is a very petite, friendly girl that weighs less than 10 lbs. She is curious, affectionate and gets along with friendly dogs. Mandy loves kids and play and would be a happy addition to a cat lover's home.



**Alfie** - Male, 2 years, 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.



**Molly** - Female, 1year, 38 lbs., spayed, Ib 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 children, or other dogs or cats.

# SCHOOLS

## Former NBA Player To Visit Fourth School

Former NBA player and current ESPN college basketball analyst Adrian Branch will lead two weeks of basketball camps at the Fourth Presbyterian School's 2012 Fourth Summer Programs. In the last two weeks of June, Branch, assisted by coaches from the surrounding community, will lead Monday through Friday all day camps for 3rd through 8th grade boys and girls.

Branch was raised in the D.C. area and played basketball at the University of Maryland where he was the third all-time leading scorer and led the team to the Sweet 16 in 1984

and 1985 as well as the ACC championship in 1984. He averaged 16.4 points and 74.8 percent on free throws through four seasons with the Terps. In his senior season of 1984-85, he had career highs of 671 points and 45 steals in 37 games. He was a two-time All-America honorable mention and in 2004, he was named an ACC Legend.

Branch played high school basketball at the same time as Michael Jordan, and the two played together in the McDonald's All-American game, for which Branch received the MVP

award. After being drafted in the 2nd round of the NBA draft, he went on to win an NBA Championship with the Los Angeles Lakers in 1987.

Branch joined ESPN in 2007 as a college basketball analyst. He devotes much of his time to speaking with students, youth groups, and collegiate and professional sports teams. The Fourth Presbyterian School is a Christ-centered school for children from Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade, adding preschool for 3 year olds in fall 2012.

# POTOMAC ALMANAC

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# 'Fresh Flowers and Furry Friends' at Gallery Har Shalom

Opening reception planned for Sunday, March 4.

Gallery Har Shalom is launching the exhibit, "Fresh Flowers and Furry Friends," featuring the work of five artists: Barbara F. Bell, Rockville; Merry Lynn, Potomac; Bert GF Shankman, Olney; Shirley Hendel, Potomac. and Leigh Partington, Washington Grove.

The exhibit, free and open to the public, runs Friday, March 2, to Monday, April 30. Gallery Har Shalom is located at Congregation Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road, Potomac.

An opening reception will be held Sunday, March 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

♦ **Barbara F. Bell** uses her own photographs as a major resource for her watercolor paintings. She focuses in this exhibit on regeneration and renewal in the natural world, her palette reflecting the early light and gentle colors of May along the riverbanks, and in the forests and fields of England and America. She began her formal training in art while on academic leave from university teaching. She worked in studio arts at Montgomery College in the 1980s. Retirement from teaching in Montgomery County Public Schools 20 years later afforded her the time to resume her artwork. See [www.bellslessons.com](http://www.bellslessons.com).

♦ **Merry Lynn** began taking formal collage classes in October 2008. In 2009, she was juried into her first art show, and since then she has been juried into several others. She divides her work into five subject areas: landscape, still life, people, Judaica, and wildcard. For this show, the pieces are exclusively flowers for which she created special Jewish flowers including a Shin Flower, a Vase with Shin Flowers, a Shofar Flower, and a Lily from the Song of Songs. See [www.artlynn.com](http://www.artlynn.com).

♦ **Bert GF Shankman** presents his Flemish series of flowers in this show. He first saw this technique of painting



**Bell Rogues**

when he minored in art history for his AB at Case Western Reserve University. He practiced this style, called Chiaroscuro, when he studied at the Corcoran College of Art and Design. These pictures use light and dark to model the shapes and forms of the flowers and vases. They are done digitally starting out with photographs of flowers, which he grows in his garden. Though decidedly different, they give a feeling of 16th century Flemish art. Visit [www.cameraflora.com](http://www.cameraflora.com) for more details.

♦ **Shirley Hendel** was an award-winning decorative painter for many years. Several years ago she was introduced to fused glass and became fascinated with the possibilities for expression that glass materials and techniques offer. She now works exclusively in that medium while trying to maintain the perspective that decorative painting provides. She specializes in pet portraits, especially dogs, but also other creatures both real and whimsical. Her fused glass portraits are not based on actual dogs and cats as much as they are

reminiscent of everyday lovable mutts and house cats. Just like these mixed-breed pets, these portraits come in assorted shapes and colors; no two exactly the same.

♦ **Leigh Partington** has been doing ceramic art for over 30 years. Her work has evolved to include a combination of whimsical wheel-thrown and hand-built pieces that emphasize her love of and appreciation for animals, birds and nature in general. As a feline fancier — cats have always been a part of her life — she portrays them as functional pieces and decorative objects. She combines different clays for a marbled effect in some of her pieces. All pieces are bisque-fired. Then she adds detailed illustrations painted on with Speedball underglazes and dips the pieces in a transparent glaze. She uses a combination of overglazes sponged on the exterior for mottled color effects. The pieces, including ceramic pitchers, garlic keepers, egg separators, ocarinas, and platters, are then oxidation fired in an electric kiln.



**Soul In Motion (West African)**

## Dance Bethesda Concert To Showcase 6 Eclectic Companies

The eighth annual Dance Bethesda, a weekend celebrating dance, will feature a formal dance concert showcasing area companies at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 3. The event, produced by Bethesda Urban Partnership and the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District, will take place at Round House Theatre, located at 4545 East-West Highway in downtown Bethesda.

The six professional performers and choreographers selected for the concert include: Alexandra May Ballance/Joy of Motion Dance Center's Youth Dance Ensemble (youth/modern), Culture Shock DC (hip-hop), Erica Rebollar/Rebollar Dance (contemporary), Furia Flamenca (flamenco), Soul In Motion (West African) and Tzveta Kassabova (contemporary).

Tickets are available at [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) for \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under. Remaining tickets will also be available at the door.

Dance companies were selected through an adjudicated audition process. Nearly 40 dance companies from Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., submitted performance pieces for Dance Bethesda auditions. Featured dance companies were selected by Amy Fitterer, Executive Director of Dance/USA; Karen Bradley, head of the Master of Fine Arts dance program and Director of Graduate Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park; and Meg Booth, Director of Dance Programming for The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

Dance Bethesda kicks off the weekend with free lessons and parties at downtown Bethesda dance studios from 7-10:30 p.m., Friday, March 2. Participants can learn steps and see demonstrations. Studios hosting open houses include: Dance Bethesda Dance Studio offering salsa, rumba, social dancing, ballroom and Latin; Dansez! Dansez! teaching hip-hop, jazz, folkore and Latin; Du-Shor Dance Studio demonstrating salsa, swing and tango; and Joy of Motion Dance Center offering ballroom, jazz and hip-hop.

## FINE ARTS

### MONTH OF FEBRUARY

#### The Montgomery County Plein

**Air Artists** will exhibit their works at River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation (RRUUC), Bethesda, during the month of February 2012. The term "en Plein air" originated with Monet and refers to the fact that the art works were painted outdoors. The MCPAA began in 2004 and its artists use varied mediums, including oil, watercolor, acrylics and pastels. The art show, titled "Preserving Our Sense of Place and Time," will exhibit works that are available for purchase. The exhibit is free and open to the

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

#### FEB. 25 TO 26

**Works by Margarita Brovkina.** Noon to 5 p.m. Margarita is a 17-year-old artist and student at Walter Johnson High School. At the Yellow Barn Studio Gallery, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. An artist reception will be held on , Feb. 25 from 5-7 p.m.

#### NOW THROUGH FEB. 27

**Mirror To The World: Documentary Photography 2012.** Free.

Photoworks presents its annual tribute to documentary photography, featuring images that span the globe — all from a local group of not-yet-famous photographers. Photoworks Gallery open on Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. and Sundays, 1-8 p.m. Exhibit appointments available, 301-634-2274. At Photoworks Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.

#### NOW THROUGH MARCH 3

**23 + 23.** Waverly Street Gallery's 4th Annual Invitational Show. For the fourth year, the 23 member artists of Waverly Street Gallery invite 23 other artists to exhibit their work alongside the Gallery artists. At Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway,

Bethesda. Call 301-951-9441 or visit [www.waverlystreetgallery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com).

#### NOW THROUGH MARCH 3

**Gallery B Exhibition.** Gallery B is pleased to present its February 2012 exhibition featuring local artists Shelva Gallman, Kevin Gonzalez, Richard Levine and Sandra Jensen-Taubman. The exhibit will feature landscape painting and photography, will be on display from Feb. 8 - March 3 at Gallery B, located at 7700 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite E, Bethesda. Gallery hours are Wednesday - Saturday, 12-6 p.m. Visit <http://www.bethesda.org/> or call 301-215-6660.

#### MARCH 3 AND 4

**Paintings by Ally Burguieres.** Oil and

acrylics on canvas. At the Yellow Barn Gallery at Glen Echo. Call 301-371-5593 or the artist at [ally@galleryburguieres.com](mailto:ally@galleryburguieres.com).

#### MARCH 3 - 25

**Glen Echo Park Faculty Invitational.** Noon to 6 p.m. The Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo Park presents a Faculty Invitational Art Show. This exhibition will feature work by selected Glen Echo Park students, chosen by resident artists and faculty, in a variety of media from painting and drawing, to glass, sculpture, ceramics, silver and more. An Artists' Reception will be held on Sunday, March 11 from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Visit [www.glenechopark.org](http://www.glenechopark.org).



# ENTERTAINMENT

## NOW THROUGH MARCH 2

**The Last Jews of Yemen Photography Exhibit & Lecture Series.** Free. Photos depicting Jewish life in Yemen. Lecture series on their history, society and prospects for their future. Photos: Feb. 8 – March 2. Lecture Series, Tuesdays, Feb. 14, 21 and 28 at 7:30 p.m. RSVP to [rsvp@bnaitzedek.org](mailto:rsvp@bnaitzedek.org). At Congregation B'nai Tzedek, 10621 South Glen Rd., Potomac. Call 301-299-0225 [www.bnaitzedek.org](http://www.bnaitzedek.org).

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 22

**Ellen Cherry.** 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12. The performances will feature songs from her album (New) Years, as well as tracks from her upcoming spring 2012 release, Please Don't Sell the Piano, featuring the debut of her upcoming Strathmore-commissioned work, "Pickett's Charge." At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100 or visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).

## THURSDAY/FEB. 23

**Seniors Organized for Change.** 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Dr. Murray Feshbach presents an Update on Russia. Lectures free, then lunch, \$5 reservations required. At Ring House, 1801 E. Jefferson St., Rockville. Call Debbie Sokobin at 301-348-3760.

**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 of 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).

**Design Seminar.** 6 to 8 p.m. How to Fall In Love With Your House Again. All seminars include either lunch or supper. You will learn the basics on how to successfully remodel, an enterprise which can appear to be both nerve-rattling and mind-boggling. Bring your questions and plans for your own house, and share a meal on us where the experts will personally address your particular design concerns. At the Offices of Hopkins & Porter Inc., 12944-C Travilah Rd., Suite 204, Potomac. Call Debbie Ciardo at 301-840-9121, #27.

**Preschool Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs



## MONDAY/MARCH 5

**The Hot Seats.** 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$16/advance; \$19/door. At St. Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Visit [www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org).

and rhymes for children ages 3 to 6 and their caregivers. At Potomac Library in Potomac.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 24

**Junkyard Saints Mardi Gras Party.** 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10/advance; \$12/door. The seven-piece band Junkyard Saints commingles New Orleans-style party music with funk, swing, Latin, R&B, jump blues, ska and a splash of zydeco. Part of Strathmore's Friday Night Eclectic. At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100 or visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).

## FEB. 24 TO MARCH 4

**"Die Fledermaus."** The Victorian Lyric Opera Company continues its run with the light-hearted and comic "Die Fledermaus." Shows are scheduled for Fridays and Saturdays, Feb. 24 and 25, and March 2 and 3, at 8 p.m. and Sundays, Feb. 26 and March 4, at 2 p.m. At the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at the Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. For tickets, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre) or by phone 240-

314-8690.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 25

**Violinist Nurit Bar-Josef.** 8 p.m. Will perform with the National Philharmonic, under the direction of Conductor Piotr Gajewski. A free pre-concert lecture will be offered at 6:45 p.m. At the Music Center at Strathmore. To purchase tickets to the All Bach concerts, visit [www.nationalphilharmonic.org](http://www.nationalphilharmonic.org) or call the Strathmore box office at 301-581-5100. Tickets are \$28-\$81.

**Poetry Event: "Lyrical Rhythms: The Sounds of Freedom."** 3 to 4 p.m. At the Josiah Henson Special Park, 11420 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda. Visit [www.JosiahHensonSite.org](http://www.JosiahHensonSite.org).

**Swing Dancing.** 9 p.m. til midnight. Admission is \$15. One-hour lesson from 8 to 9 p.m. With the Tom Cunningham Orchestra. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Visit [www.tomcunningham.com/calendar](http://www.tomcunningham.com/calendar).

## MONDAY/FEB. 27

**Women of St. Francis Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend the Women of St. Francis meeting celebrating Women's Heart Month. At the St. Francis Hall. Cardiologist Dr. Richard Rubin will give a lecture and answer questions relating to women's heart issues. Dr. Rubin is a cardiologist at Suburban Hospital.

## FEB. 29 TO MARCH 3

**"Curtains."** 8 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday, Feb. 29 to March 3 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 4 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10/regular; \$8/seniors and students. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Call the Box Office at 240-567-5301.

## FEB. 29

**Black History Month Author Event.** 7 p.m.

Free. Joe Torres, co-author of "News for All the People: The Epic Story of Race and the American Media," will be the guest speaker at a special event presented by Montgomery County Public Libraries in observance of Black History Month. At Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library)

## THURSDAY, MARCH 1

**Max Raabe und das Palast Orchester.** 8 p.m. Tickets are \$28 to \$58. Guests are encouraged to dress in their Prohibition-era best. At the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. For additional information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org) or call 301-581-5100.

**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. 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).

## SATURDAY/MARCH 3

**How To Train Your Dog When You Don't Have Time.** 1:30-3:30 p.m. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 6030 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda. Every time you and your dog are together, one of you is training the other! That means that training is going on all day, whether or not you're aware of it. Why not make your daily routine an opportunity to teach your dog the behavior you want? You can train manners and improve behavior without taking extra time out of your day. Laura Luck, CPDT-DA, will show you just how easy it can be. Workshop sponsored by Your Dog's Friend. To register, go to [www.yourdogsfriend.info](http://www.yourdogsfriend.info) or call 301-983-5913.

**West Shore Piano Trio.** 7 p.m. Free. At Our Lady of Mercy Parish, 9200 Kentsdale Dr., Potomac. Visit [www.olom.org](http://www.olom.org)

**BSO Classical Concert.** 8 p.m. Voices of Light — The Passion of Joan of Arc. With Marin Alsop, conductor, and the Baltimore Choral Arts Society. Tickets are \$28 to \$88. At the Music Center at Strathmore. Call 410-783-8000 or [BSOmusic.org](http://BSOmusic.org).

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# Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

IN DECEMBER 2011, 37 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,150,000-\$349,990.

## Sales in \$700s, December 2011



**1** 11905 Greenleaf Avenue, Potomac — \$782,000



**2** 9400 Reach Road, Potomac — \$780,000



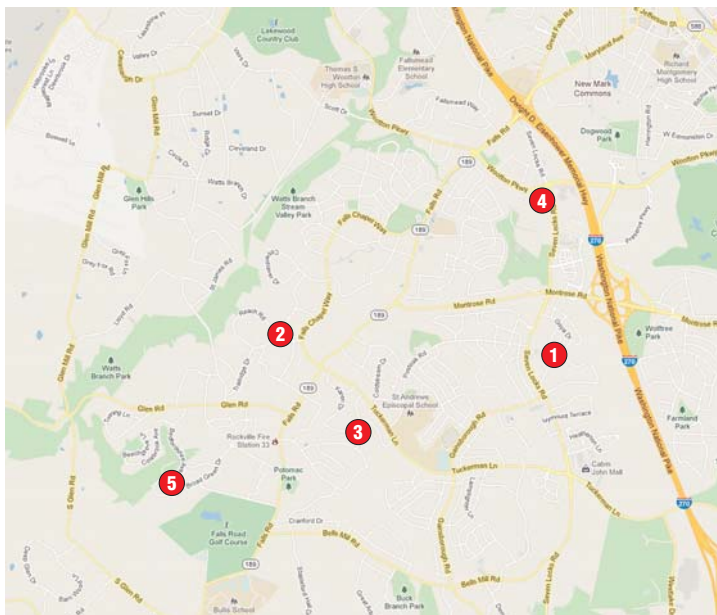
**3** 9001 Shad Lane, Potomac — \$740,000



**4** 1119 Halesworth Drive, Potomac — \$732,000



**5** 11204 Blackhorse Court, Potomac — \$710,000



© Google Map data

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 11905 GREENLEAF AVE	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$782,000	Detached	0.23	20854	WILLERBURN ACRES	12/01/11
2 9400 REACH RD	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$780,000	Detached	0.30	20854	FALLSREACH	12/16/11
3 9001 SHAD LN	5	3	1	POTOMAC		\$740,000	Detached	0.35	20854	LAKE NORMANDY EST/OLDFIELD	12/16/11
4 1119 HALESWORTH DR	5	3	1	POTOMAC		\$732,000	Detached	0.25	20854	ORCHARD RIDGE	12/02/11
5 11204 BLACKHORSE CT	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$710,000	Detached	0.33	20854	BEDFORDSHIRE	12/08/11

SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT [WWW.MRIS.COM](http://WWW.MRIS.COM)

# HOME SALES

In January 2012, 17 Potomac homes sold between \$1,725,000-\$425,000.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
9727 AVENEL FARM DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	\$1,725,000	Detached	2.00	20854	AVENEL
9001 BRICKYARD RD	4	5	1	POTOMAC	\$1,575,000	Detached	2.09	20854	GREAT FALLS ESTATES
11123 POTOMAC CREST DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	\$1,100,000	Townhouse	0.10	20854	POTOMAC CREST
8228 WINDSOR VIEW TER	5	3	2	POTOMAC	\$1,050,000	Detached	0.58	20854	WINDSOR HILLS
12601 MAIDENS BOWER DR	6	4	1	POTOMAC	\$982,500	Detached	2.54	20854	ESWORTHY PARK
12809 MAIDENS BOWER DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	\$980,000	Detached	2.12	20854	ESWORTHY PARK
9401 REACH RD	5	4	1	POTOMAC	\$878,500	Detached	0.31	20854	FALLSREACH
13700 CANAL VISTA CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC	\$870,000	Detached	2.20	20854	RIVERS EDGE
9816 KORMAN CT	4	3	1	POTOMAC	\$856,000	Detached	0.27	20854	BEDFORDSHIRE
1424 FALLSMEAD WAY	4	3	1	POTOMAC	\$768,000	Detached	0.30	20854	FALLSMEAD
10228 DEMOCRACY LN	3	3	1	POTOMAC	\$750,000	Townhouse	0.10	20854	EAST GATE OF POTOMAC
2001 STRATTON DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	\$705,000	Detached	0.31	20854	POTOMAC WOODS
12500 PARK POTOMAC AVE #803N	2	2	1	POTOMAC	\$670,000	Multi-Family		20854	PARK POTOMAC
11760 GLEN MILL RD	5	3	0	POTOMAC	\$665,000	Detached	2.00	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE
13512 HAYWORTH DR	3	2	1	POTOMAC	\$535,000	Townhouse	0.04	20854	PINEY GLEN VILLAGE
13 OLD CREEK CT	4	2	1	ROCKVILLE	\$515,000	Detached	0.30	20854	FALLSMEAD
7848 HEATHERTON LN	3	2	1	POTOMAC	\$425,000	Townhouse		20854	INVERNESS KNOLLS

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## SCHOOL NOTES

To have an item listed mail to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Call 703-778-9412.

The following students have been named to Randolph-Macon Academy's honor rolls for the first quarter of the 2011-12 school year:

♦ **Birahim Thiam**, the son of Oumou and Idrissa Thiam of North Potomac, was named to the President's List. Birahim is a senior at Randolph-Macon.

♦ **David Lee**, the son of Chunqing Lei of Potomac, was named to the President's List. David is a sophomore at Randolph-Macon.

**Potomac resident Alexandra Burris** was named to the dean's list for the 2011 fall semester at Messiah College. Burris is a sophomore majoring in psychology.

**Bucknell University** has released the dean's list for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2011-12 academic year.

♦ **Jennifer N. Ainsworth**, Potomac, daughter of Donald and Laurie Ainsworth of Potomac, and a 2011 graduate of Thomas Sprigg Wootton H S, Rockville.

♦ **Arielle G. Barnett**, Potomac, daughter of Jay and Debra Barnett of Potomac, and a 2010 graduate of Winston Churchill H S, Potomac.

♦ **Katherine A. Brown**, Potomac, daughter of Russell and Barbara Brown of Potomac, and a 2008 graduate of Winston Churchill H S, Potomac.

♦ **Hannah L. Davis**, Potomac, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Davis of Potomac, and a 2008 graduate of Saint Andrews Episcopal School, Potomac.

♦ **Stuart M. Dezenhall**, Bethesda, son of Eric and Donna Dezenhall of Bethesda, and a 2008 graduate of Winston Churchill H S, Potomac.

♦ **Sara B. Gilgore**, Bethesda, daughter of Lance and Deborah Gilgore of Bethesda, and a 2008 graduate of Winston Churchill H S, Potomac.

♦ **Cynthia A. Iselin**, Potomac, daughter of Richard and Amy Iselin of Potomac, and a 2008 graduate of Winston Churchill H S, Potomac.

♦ **Suzanne E. Polan**, Potomac, daughter of Stephen and Grace Polan of Potomac, and a 2008 graduate of Winston Churchill H S, Potomac.

**Erik Mulchandani of Potomac** has earned the distinction of Dean's List at The Georgia Institute of Technology for fall semester 2011.

Notre Dame of Maryland University has named the following local students to the Fall 2011 Dean's list:

♦ **Reine-Ines Djama**, a resident of Potomac.

The following local residents were among over 1800 students from Wake

Forest University who made the Fall Dean's List:

♦ **Kaitlin Varga**, a resident of Potomac;

♦ **Maelys Amat**, a resident of Potomac;

♦ **Sabrina Chanock**, a resident of Potomac;

♦ **William Johnson**, a resident of Potomac;

♦ **Jenna Eisenberger**, a resident of Potomac;

♦ **Emma Anderson**, a resident of Potomac;

♦ **Allison Ward**, a resident of Potomac;

♦ **Alexa Pace**, a resident of North Potomac;

♦ **Michael Castelli**, a resident of North Potomac;

The following area students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2011 semester at the University of Vermont:

♦ **Jason M. Fish of Potomac**, a junior majoring in Business Administration in the School of Business Administration.

♦ **Meraz S. Mostafa of Potomac**, a first-year student majoring in Undeclared in the College of Arts & Sciences.

♦ **Matthew P. Ray of Potomac**, a junior majoring in Zoology in the College of Arts & Sciences.

♦ **Laura E. Seeman of North Potomac**, a junior majoring in Psychology in the College of Arts & Sciences.

The following local student has achieved Dean's Honors for the 2011 fall semester at Connecticut College.

♦ **Morgane Amat**, class of 2014 at Connecticut College and a resident of Potomac.

**Hana Slevin of Potomac** was invited to join Phi Beta Kappa at the Indiana University.

The following Marymount University students from Potomac are recognized in the 2012 Edition Of Who's Who:

♦ **Kathleen Brown**, a Nursing (Accelerated BSN) major from Potomac;

♦ **Susan Gleason**, a Nursing major from Potomac;

♦ **Amit Singal**, a fourth-year student from Potomac, has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at St. Bonaventure University. Singal is majoring in Biology.

Several local students have been named to the University of Delaware's Dean's List for Fall 2011. Those students include:

♦ **Richard Brown**, a Freshman Arts and Sciences major from Potomac.

♦ **Jenna Jach**, a Freshman University Studies major from Potomac.

♦ **Victoria Nadel**, a Sophomore University Studies major from Potomac.

♦ **Margaret Lefelar**, a Junior Health Sciences major from North Potomac.

♦ **Margaret Lefelar**, a Junior Health Sciences major from North Potomac.

♦ **Dana Lipowsky**, a Senior Education & Human Development major from North Potomac.

Mount St. Mary's University is pleased to announce students who achieved the honor of Dean's List for the fall 2011 semester at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md. They include:

♦ **Bernadette Corso**, a sophomore from Potomac, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Corso;

♦ **Mary Corso**, a sophomore from Potomac, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Corso;

♦ **Karolina Gajdeczka**, a junior from Potomac, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Przemyslaw Gajdeczka;

♦ **Cristina Gonzalez**, a freshman from Potomac, and the daughter of Ms. Marta Fuentes;

♦ **Joseph O'Connell**, a freshman from Potomac, and the son of Mr. & Mrs. James O'Connell.

The University of Hartford is pleased to announce the following local students have been named to the Dean's List for Fall 2011.

♦ **Rebecca Bader of Potomac**;

♦ **Matthew McElroy of Potomac**;

The following students from the Colgate University Class of 2014 have been inducted into the Colgate chapter of Phi Eta Sigma, the national scholastic honorary society that recognizes the outstanding academic achievement of first-year students.

♦ Currently a sophomore at Colgate, **Caitlin Elizabeth Zolet**, is the daughter of David W. Zolet and Theresa I. Zolet of Potomac. Caitlin is a graduate of Thomas Sprigg Wootton High School.

The following local residents were named to the Fall 2011 Dean's List at Saint Michael's College, a liberal arts, residential Catholic college located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the top 10 college towns in America:

♦ **Dillon White**, son of Eugenia and Joseph White of Potomac, a Senior Business Administration major, who graduated from Georgetown Preparatory School before coming to Saint Michael's.

**Veronika Stare of Potomac** was named to the Dean's Honor List at Gettysburg College for outstanding academic achievement in the Fall of 2011.

**Frederic Koehler**, a senior at Montgomery Blair High School, was named a finalist in the 2012 Intel Science Talent Search on Wednesday, Jan. 25, and will compete for the top prize of \$100,000. Koehler is one of just 40 final

SEE SCHOOL NOTES, PAGE 13

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## Bethesda (20817)

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6811 Rannoch Rd.....\$1,399,900.....Sun 1-4.....Margie Heath.....Weichert..301-502-3754

8703 Irvington Ave.....\$1,649,000..Sat/Sun 1-4..Autumn Ambrose..Potomac Heritage..240-687-1104

## North Potomac (20878)

11221 Joshua Tree Pl.....\$535,000.....Sun 1-4.....Michelle Yu.....Long & Foster..240-888-5076

## Potomac (20854)

11406 Falls Rd.....\$1,149,000.....Sun 1-4.....Leslie Friedson.....Long & Foster..301-455-4506

11432 Potomac Crest Dr.....\$849,900.....Sun 1-4.....Leslie Friedson.....Long & Foster..301-455-4506

12208 Falls Rd.....\$995,000.....Sun 1-4.....Amal Lafhal.....Fairfax..301-881-9800

4 Beman Woods Ct.....\$1,675,000.....Sun 1-4.....Joseph Zorc.....Coldwell Banker..301-351-5274

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## Rockville (20850, 20852)

1309 Valley Dr.....\$839,900.....Sun 12-6..Thomas Hennerty.....NetRealtyNow..703-581-8605

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For an Open House Listing Form, call Deb Funk at 703-778-9444 or e-mail [debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.

# Churchill Secures No. 2 Playoff Seed

**W**ith a 76-52 victory against Northwood on Feb. 14, the Churchill boys' basketball team secured the No. 2 seed and a first-round bye in the 4A West Region playoff bracket.

The Bulldogs on Tuesday, Feb. 28 will host the winner of No. 7 Bethesda-Chevy Chase and No. 10 Whitman, which face off Feb. 24. Churchill won both regular-season matchups with B-CC, but split its two meetings with Whitman.

Magruder earned the No. 1 seed and Clarksburg is the No. 3 seed.

Churchill defeated Watkins Mill 59-52 on Feb. 17 in its regular-season home finale, giving the Bulldogs 17 victories this season. Sam Edens scored a team-high 21 points and grabbed seven rebounds. Quan Gill totaled 11 points and 13 rebounds.

Edens scored 19 points and grabbed nine rebounds against Northwood on Feb. 14. Allen Njumbe scored 14 points and Gill added 10 points and nine rebounds.

Last season, Churchill entered the postseason as the No. 3 seed and received a first-round bye. After beating Walter Johnson in the quarterfinals, the Bulldogs lost to eventual region champion Magruder in the semifinals.



**Kyle Edwards and the Churchill boys' basketball team will enter the postseason as the No. 2 seed in the 4A West Region tournament.**

## Churchill Girls Will Host QO

Despite a body of work that included a 13-game win streak and a spot in the Washington Post's top 20, the Churchill girls' basketball team did not earn a top-three seed — and an accompanying first-round bye — in the 4A West Region playoff bracket. The Bulldogs, led by senior post Sarafina Arthur-Williams, are seeded No. 5 and will host No. 12 Quince Orchard on Friday, Feb. 24. If Churchill gets past QO, the Bulldogs will face the winner of No. 4 Blair and No. 13 Bethesda-Chevy Chase.

Churchill won 13 straight games to improve to 14-2 before losing to Walter Johnson on Feb. 1. After winning their next three, the Bulldogs were upset at home by 3A Watkins Mill, 46-45, on Feb. 17.

Last year, Churchill entered the postseason as a No. 11 seed. The Bulldogs defeated Paint Branch and No. 3 Springbrook before losing to eventual region runner-up Northwest in the semifinals.

## Whitman Boys Face Uphill Climb

The Whitman boys' basketball team will travel to face Bethesda-Chevy Chase in the opening round of the 4A West Region tournament. Whitman, seeded

No. 10, lost both regular-season meetings against No. 7 B-CC.

The winner would face No. 2 Churchill in the quarterfinals.

Whitman dropped nine of 10 before beating Blair 57-51 on Feb. 14. The Vikings lost to Blake 68-27 on Feb. 17.

Whitman defeated Richard Montgomery in the opening round of last year's region tournament before losing to eventual runner-up Springbrook.

## Whitman Girls Would Face Champs with Win

The Whitman girls' basketball team received the No. 9 seed and will travel to face No. 8 Magruder on Friday, Feb. 24 in the opening round of the 4A West Region tournament.

The Vikings will face a Colonels team which entered its regular season finale with a 3-18 record. If Whitman can beat Magruder — Whitman won the lone regular-season matchup — the Vikings would travel to face top seed and defending state champion Gaithersburg on Feb. 27. Gaithersburg entered its regular-season finale ranked No. 3 in the Post's top 20 and having not lost a game since coming up



**Churchill senior Sarafina Arthur-Williams jumps over the back of Wootton's Ellie Kobylski during a game on Jan. 27.**



**Linn Bumpers and the Whitman girls' basketball team will face Magruder in the opening round of the regional tournament.**

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 13

## SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 12

short the 2010 state final. After beating Springbrook on Feb. 3, Whitman lost to Gaithersburg (69-39 on Feb. 10) and Blair (55-54 on Feb. 14), but bounced back to beat Blake 38-37 on Feb. 17.

Whitman defeated Magruder in the opening round of last year's region tournament and beat Wootton in the quarterfinals before losing to Gaithersburg in the semifinals.

### Wootton Boys Will Host WJ

The Wootton boys' basketball team will host Walter Johnson on Feb. 24 in the opening round of the 4A West Region tournament. The Patriots received the No. 4 seed and the Wildcats No. 13. The teams split their two regular-season meetings, with the home team winning each game.

The winner of Wootton and Walter Johnson will face the winner of No. 5 Blair and No. 12 Richard Montgomery.

After a 9-3 start this season, Wootton dropped six of seven. However, the Patriots won their final three games of the regular season and enter the playoffs with a 13-9 record.



**Willis Ibeh and the Wootton boys' basketball team will host Walter Johnson during the opening round of the regional tournament.**

### Wootton Girls Will Host Rockets

The Wootton girls' basketball team received the No. 7 seed in the 4A West Region playoff bracket and will host No. 10 Richard Montgomery on Friday, Feb. 24.

The Patriots finished the regular season with a record of 7-15, but closed their schedule by splitting their final 10 games after a 2-10 start. Wootton won two of its final three games, beating Kennedy and Northwood while losing to Northwest.

Wootton split its two regular-season meetings with Richard Montgomery (45-35 loss on Dec. 21 and a

43-38 win on Jan. 20), with the road team winning each time.

The Patriots start three freshmen (Cece Kobylski, Ellie Kobylski, Sheri Addison) and two juniors Sophie Ellis, Sarah Wallerstedt). Through 21 games, Ellis led Wootton in scoring at 10 points per game and Addison led the team with 8.4 rebounds per contest.

### Bullis Boys Win IAC Championship

The Bullis boys' basketball team defeated Georgetown Prep 66-62 on Feb. 18 to win the IAC title. The Bulldogs improved to 24-3 with the victory.

## SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 11

ists nationally and is the only finalist from the state of Maryland. His project is titled Quick and Efficient: Fast Algorithms for Completion Time and Batch Minimization on Multiple Machines.

The following local residents have been named to the President's List at Clemson University for the fall 2011 semester:

❖ **Julie Michelle Foecking of North Potomac**, who is majoring in Industrial Engineering.

❖ **Madeline Rose Kelly of North Potomac**, who is majoring in Biological Sciences.

❖ **Edward Louis Sullivan of North Potomac**, who is majoring in Computer Engineering.

The following local residents have been appointed new members of the

University of Evansville Parents Council:  
❖ **Marta Menendez-Voss of North Potomac.**  
❖ **Jerry Voss of North Potomac.**

McDaniel College recently announced its fall 2011 Dean's List in recognition of students' academic excellence.

❖ **Jonathan K. Gore-Langton of Potomac** received Honors.

The following local students were awarded Dean's List honors for the fall 2011 semester at St. Mary's College of Maryland:

❖ **Jared Borns** of Potomac;  
❖ **Erin O'Connor** of Potomac;  
❖ **Michele Paterson** of Potomac;  
❖ **Alexander Roca** of Potomac;  
❖ **Anna Agarunova** of North Potomac;

❖ **Lindsay Hollingsworth** of North Potomac;

❖ **Lawrence Rose** of North

Potomac;

**Sammer Eghtesadi of Potomac** has been named to the fall semester Dean's List at Radford University. Eghtesadi, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mohsen Eghtesadi of 10305 Windsor View Dr., is a senior interdisciplinary studies major.

**Andrew Peng of N. Potomac** was named to the Dean's List at Tufts University for the Fall 2011 semester.

**John Cossio of Potomac** is a member of Illinois Wesleyan's Collegiate Choir, making 10 appearances on its 2012 tour from March 3-20. The choir's itinerary will include performances in Indiana, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio and Illinois. Cossio, a freshman undecided and major at Illinois Wesleyan, is a graduate from Winston Churchill High School.

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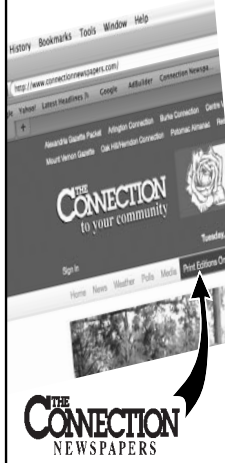
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# Marking Time



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As much as I don't want to be ever-mindful of today's date – relative to when I first learned of my diagnosis, that Thursday three years ago this very week, when my Internal Medicine doctor called me with the results of the biopsy (confirming the malignancy); and of course all that had preceded it and all that has happened since: the miscellaneous tests, scans, doctor's appointments, the first Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist, my first chemotherapy infusion, my one-year anniversary, two-year anniversary, (surviving the "13-month to two-year" prognosis I was originally given), and now, reaching my three-year anniversary (and in so doing, outliving my initial prognosis by a significant amount of time), I am powerless not to do so. I won't admit to it depressing me; I mean, I am alive and reasonably well, but it does occupy my mind. And as much as one might want to forget and/or compartmentalize the fact that you have a terminal disease (stage IV lung cancer), your subconscious has other ideas. I don't know which is more difficult: trying to forget or always remembering.

And yet, as life goes on, it is impossible – for me, to not consider that whatever I've done (changes in lifestyle, diet, treatment, etc.) has likely contributed to my survival. That said; if I want/hope to continue to live, don't I sort of have to pay attention to what's presumably extended my life this long? I can't take any of it for granted. I can't stop doing, thinking, planning, worrying – about any of it. That's not to say that my entire existence, conversation, thought-process has to be about cancer – and surviving, but how can I view any other subject in as serious a context? When your life depends on it (maybe?), how do you "back-burner" the topic? You don't. Front and center. Top of mind. First things first. Everything else is secondary. Morning, noon and night.

However, immersing myself in this cancer culture can't be my only option, can it? Given the demands – both physically and mentally on a cancer patient, especially one who has been characterized as terminal, how can it not? But somehow, life has to be lived, and not just in the cancer club. Nevertheless, living outside the constraints of a cancer-affected philosophy is much easier said than done. I don't want to use cancer as an excuse, but you have to admit: it's a heck of an excuse. Nor do I want to be beholden to it – good or bad, but sometimes, that dog has to be fed. It's somewhere between supply and demand, and the law of the jungle; thinking it, wanting it, hoping for it – doesn't make it so.

So three years into this battle royal, life goes on. And how fortunate I am. Still it's difficult to consider my status as quo. Is it because of something I'm doing (or not doing anymore) or is it in spite of something I am doing which I've never done before? Am I just lucky or am I good? I'd love to leave well enough alone, but how can I be sure if I am well enough to be left alone. Ergo the problem, the dilemma: is it real or is it my imagination? Granted, I'm alive, but why? (I don't want to look a gift horse in the mouth, but it never seems to be enough.)

Thirty-six months later – almost to the exact day when I received that life-changing call from my doctor, the answers for my continuing survival are still unclear. I'd love some confirmation that what I'm doing is actually working; or alternatively, some sign to direct me down a future path of less resistance that will work better. But I'm afraid I know the answer to that query: there is none. Certainly all that I've done and persevered doing has gotten me this far. But how much further will it get me? I wish I knew. If I wasn't so preoccupied with this cancer business, perhaps I could focus on something else. However, anniversaries such as the one I'm acknowledging this week, often turn that focus – and the "focuser," inside out.

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



**Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, not the county, owns Station 30 on Falls Road. The current CIP will delete any county funding for improvements to the station, which lacks facilities for female firefighters, and CJPVFD will begin fundraising for the multi-million dollar expansion and renovation.**



**This is Station 10, the main Cabin John station.**



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE ALMANAC

# County Declines To Fund Its Share of Project

FROM PAGE 3

said. “The need to raise substantial funds for the rebuilding of the Potomac substation will require the full time and attention of the board over the next 24 months.

“They will have to squeeze in the time to monitor the continued attempts by County Government and the County Executive to render volunteer fire rescue service providers extinct in a county rich in volunteer fire tradition and dedication.”

**RENOVATING** the Falls Road Station was included in past plans more than six years ago, and was part of the FY11-16 budget.

The project was initially proposed in the FY05-10 CIP as a public-private partnership in which the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department would contribute half the cost and manage the project and the County would contribute half the cost, according to county documents.

It was expected that the CJPVFD would build a two-bay addition to the station, and the County would renovate the living space. Cabin John completed its share of the project.

“Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department had completed its commitment to this project by completing the apparatus bays,”

using its own funds, according to Council documents. “But the question of station ownership was not addressed.” New county regulations require that the County jointly own the station after the project was completed, according to 2010 Council documents.

At a Feb. 24, 2010 review, the County Council Public Safety Committee balked at funding any part of the renovation because “issues have not been resolved regarding ownership of the station after the project is complete.”

Executive staff explained that station ownership and other related matters will be addressed through the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County and the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, according to council documents from two years ago.

Now, two years later, Cabin John is preparing a fundraising effort to fund the renovations, and the County Executive has removed all funding for the project from the six year Capital Improvement Plan.

The volunteer fire department completed construction of two extra apparatus bays but the additional upgrades to the station have been put on hold.

The current physical size and layout of

the station creates lack of facilities for female fire fighters and rescue personnel. Leggett has recommended \$500,000 in FY15 to address these issues on an interim basis, according to County Council staff.

“Given that the most pressing facility issue can be addressed in FY15, Council staff concurs with the Executive’s recommenda-

tion to remove funding from the six-year period and defer the project,” according to Council documents. “This approach will also allow time for the Executive and the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department to continue to work through the outstanding scope and funding issues and return the project to the CIP when it is better defined.”

## ‘Take Life to the Next Level’

FROM PAGE 3

worked with a group of women who all had six-figure incomes — but all had lost their positions. Often, when the job is gone, people feel totally lost — as if they don’t have an identity and do not fit anywhere. We worked together to distinguish who these women were from what they did professionally. You are not your job — you are you. Those skills that you learn in your job can carry over into a new workplace, a new career and a different life. I always say, ‘Get up excited and go to bed fulfilled.’ These women had to learn what made them happy, what their values were, decide what they want — and develop an action plan. The

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Samakow loves her work and defines her goals, “I want to give my clients support and help them look through different lenses at the way they see the world.”

Samakow can be reached at [www.selftalkcoach.net](http://www.selftalkcoach.net) or at 301-706-7226. She has offices in both Potomac and Tyson’s Corner.

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