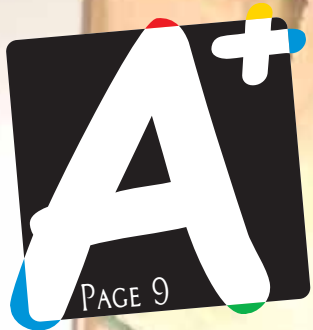


Potomac ALMANAC



Fireworks In February?

NEWS, PAGE 3

Art Show Benefits Upakar

NEWS, PAGE 3

Artist Nimi Trehan
hosted an art show in
her Potomac home to
raise funds for
Upakar Scholarships.

Tweet This

NEWS, PAGE 4

Churchill Boys' Basketball Bounces Back

SPORT, PAGE 11

REAL ESTATE, PAGE 6 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 7 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 11

PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

DECEMBER 19-25, 2012

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

99¢ LARGE CHEESE PIZZA TUESDAYS TRY TOPPING THIS DEAL!

Buy any Large Pizza and Get
a Second Large for Only 99¢*

EVERY TUESDAY
ALL DAY!

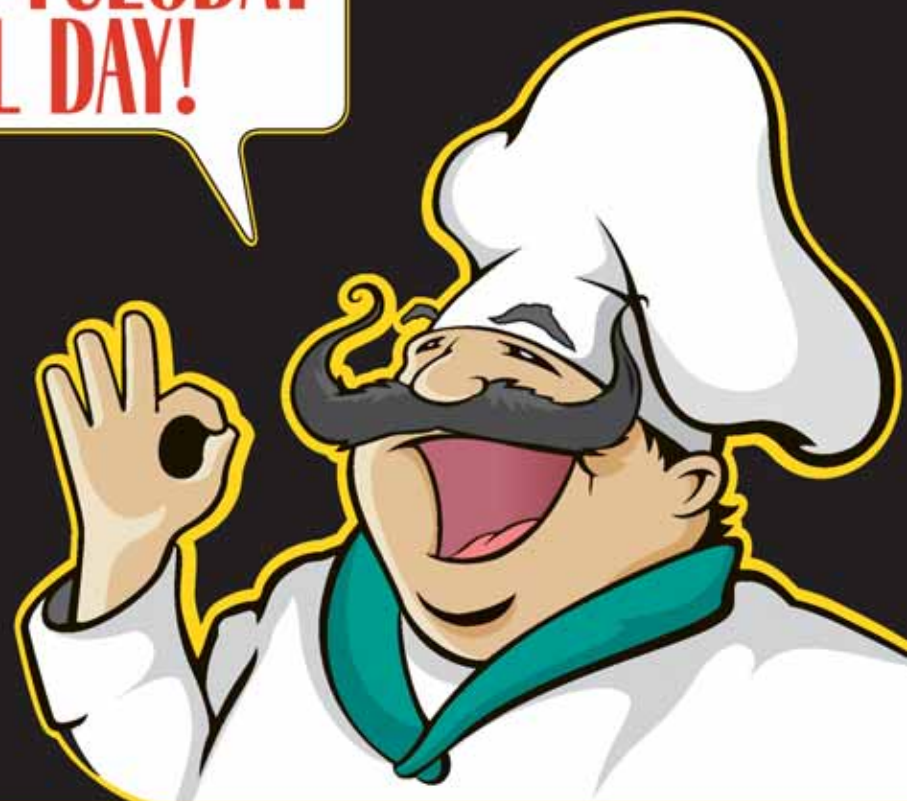
POTOMAC PIZZA.

www.potomacpizza.com

Dine-in, Carry-out, Delivery & Catering
Serving Our Communities Since 1978



*Not valid with other offers • Toppings extra • Tuesdays
Dine-in and carry-out only • No coupon necessary



CHEVY CHASE CENTER

301 951 1127

19 Wisconsin Circle
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

POTOMAC PROMENADE

301 299 7700

9812 Falls Road
Potomac, MD 20854

TRAVILLE VILLAGE CENTER

301 279 2234

9709 Traville Gateway Drive
Rockville, MD 20850

KENTLANDS MARKET SQUARE

301 977 9777

625 Center Point Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Art Show Raises Funds for Upakar

Proceeds from event benefit Indian American scholarship fund.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

South Asian artists came together to display and sell their artwork on Dec. 8-9 with a purpose in mind. Their mission was to raise money for Upakar Scholarships. Upakar, the largest Indian-American scholarship fund, provides financial aid to high-achieving, low-income Indian Americans to help them attend college.

The show was held in the home of artist Nimi Trehan in Potomac and featured a variety of paintings, photography, ceramics and jewelry from both local Potomac artisans and others from nearby communities. Each artist donated 25 percent of her proceeds to Upakar.

This is the seventh time these artists have presented their art as a group. "We have a goal in mind as we present our artwork to the public. At first we struggled to find three artists and now we have nine. We are pleased that we can support such an important cause," Trehan said.

Shanthi Chandrasekar has been painting and drawing since early childhood. This multidisciplinary artist, who resides in North Potomac, has won numerous awards and grants. Her works are vibrant and often influenced by her Indian heritage, although, as she said, "my true inspiration comes from the mystery and majesty of the world around me." She uses a variety of media, including oils, acrylics, colored pencils, pen and ink, wood, clay, soapstone, and alabaster. She has recently learned sculpting and Tanjore painting.

Trehan has exhibited her expressive acrylics and digital photography at the Yellow Barn in Glen Echo, the Art League in Alexandria and the Epi-Center in Gurgaon, India. She is inspired by nature, the urban scene, poetry and philosophy. "I am often intrigued by the colors, patterns and textures found in nature," she said.

Her Aurora Series was inspired by the Northern Lights of Alaska. Another series, "Changing course, Evolution and Divergence" are abstract paintings of nature which are analogous to the changing course of life, growth and evolution. She analyzes her work: "With color and rhythm as primary tools, my paintings carry a hidden meaning, an added level of information, or mystical symbolism."

SEE ART SHOW, PAGE 4



Moving real-life photography by Suzheila "Shelia" Reyes-Bunnag.



Wood fired ceramics by Winfred Chao.

PHOTOS BY
SUSAN BELFORD/
THE ALMANAC



Artist Nimi Trehan with her acrylic painting.

Fireworks In February?

Court of Special Appeals rejects county on Brickyard; legality of school board lease to be argued early next year.

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

Chief Judge Peter B. Krauser and the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland on Dec. 7, 2012 rejected Montgomery County's motion that would have allowed moving forward with development of soccer fields on Brickyard Road.

A Montgomery County Circuit Court judge is scheduled to hear arguments on Feb. 8, 2013 to determine whether the school board lease of the land to the county is legal.

An August Montgomery County Circuit Court ruling suspended county plans to force organic farmer Nick Maravell off 20 acres on Brickyard Road. Maravell has leased the property from Montgomery County Public Schools for more than 30 years.

"By this motion, the county attempts to have this Court determine the merits of the Petition for Judicial Review before it is heard by the Circuit Court," according to Brian E. Barkley, attorney for Brickyard Coalition, which challenged the legality of the Board of Education's lease of the land to the county to develop soccer fields.

"The fact that a final decision may only be a little over two months away should be sufficient reason to allow the stay to remain in place," Barkley wrote.

Citing a significant need for ballfields in the downcounty, County Executive Ike Leggett executed plans to turn the Brickyard Road farm site to the county so it could lease the land to MSI for development into soccer fields.

Attorneys for the county called the stay imposed last August an injunction and asked the appeals court to overrule it.

"The trial court's order does not merely stay State Board's decision under review, it forbids the County from taking action under its lease with the Local Board. Compounding the error, the trial court issued the injunction based upon a ground that could not be before it (a claim under the Open Meetings Act)," according to County Attorney Marc P. Hansen.

MARAVELL PRODUCES heirloom GMO-free corn and soybean seed on the farm. More recently, his daughter, Sophia

SEE FIREWORKS, PAGE 4

Tweet This

Good Earth hosts Toys for Tots drive.

BY CAROLE FUNGER
THE ALMANAC

Deep in the green house of Potomac's Good Earth nursery there lives a friendly cockatiel named Scooter. You'll find his cage nestled among poinsettias and other bright green foliage. From his perch, the bird holds forth on the daily comings and goings at the shop. Referred to by staff as a "Good Earth tradition," Scooter is an integral part of the team.

Sporting a thick coat of bright yellow feathers and a jaunty grey crest, Scooter was the perfect fit from the moment he arrived more than 12 years ago. Landscape designer Michael Lavin, one of the starting members of the store, brought him to the greenhouse sanctuary upon the death of Scooter's owner, a member of Lavin's extended family. Lavin thought the leafy space would be good for the little bird and time has proven that to be true. Scooter will soon defy his species' odds and celebrate his 30th year in April.

Scooter resides in a cheerful home complete with multi-colored rope swing, a bright green feed box, wooden perches, toys and a set of tiny metal bells. The bird thrives on conversation and delights in answering when called. He spends most of his busy days singing although occasionally screams when the managers get on the phone. "He hears the conversation and wants to get in on the action," said Lavin. Six years ago Scooter's partner Canela died, a hardship for the usually paired cockatiel. By some accounts Scooter was in deep mourning for months, refusing all conversation. Since then, however, he seems to like it just fine on his own.

Assistant Manager Kelly Grimes is his daily caregiver, making sure he has plenty of food and water and is well stocked with treats and toys. Scooter thrives on people and loves it when customers pay him an up-close visit. During the coldest winter months Scooter retreats to the warmth



Scooter

of a tabletop by the window at Lavin's home, returning refreshed in the spring to resume his post at the nursery.

Possibly at the urging of its vocal feathered friend, Good Earth carries a broad selection of bird merchandise, including tall feeders for outdoor birds, wooden bluebird houses, and seed wreaths such as the "Classic Pecan Wreath" and "Mr. Bird's All Season Bell." They also carry large-sized glass bird-bath bowls in reds and golds that can serve as holiday serving pieces before being installed in the garden.

On Wednesday, Good Earth will be doing a Toys for Tots drive in conjunction with WMZQ. They'll be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Those who bring a toy to donate will receive a small poinsettia as a gift. The nursery is also currently running a "12 Days of Christmas Sale." A list at the store's entrance details each day a new item for sale up and until Christmas day.

Established in Potomac in 1998, the nursery carries all the Christmas holiday traditions: fresh Christmas trees, and wreaths plus giftware and other ornaments. Handmade holiday decorating items, plus an array of poinsettias in hard-to-find colors are also available. There are supplies of fragrant paper whites and amaryllis bulbs as well as a selection of dried indoor wreaths, scented candles and potpourri. "All the warm cozy things of the season," said Grimes.

Good Earth is located at 11650 Falls Road, Potomac. For store hours call 301-765-0224 or visit www.gegardenmarket.com/about.php

Oh, and don't forget to stop by and say hi to Scooter.

Art Show Benefits Upakar

FROM PAGE 3

Each painting should be contemplated over time. I'm hoping that the observer will look beyond the surface to connect with a fragment that resonates on an emotional level."

Suzheila "Shelia" Reyes-Bunnag has displayed her dramatic and moving photography at many events in the U.S. and around the world. She is an avid travel photographer who features people and cultures — and "captures that definitive moment."

"I like to photograph normal people and present them with a different perspective," she said.

Ceramicist Winfred Chao displayed her wood-fired functional stoneware and white porcelain. Her pieces are "rough and earthy" while her electric fired porcelain is "pure and whimsical."

Chao, of McLean, Va., has won many awards for her pottery. She rents a wood kiln in Thurmont, Md. "It is a very primitive kiln and the result is produced by the ash, flame, heat and time. Each piece is completely unique."

Other artists displaying their work were Mercy Metherate, Girija Rudra, Vijaya Ravella and Stuti Gupta. Rudra's art features shapes and hues of color, while Ravella's paintings are "my interpretations of the mantras that I recite and have known since I was a child. Painting lets me get away to a world full of color with no rules for expression." Metherate's artwork reflects her connections to India and her bi-cultural life experience. Gupta's creative style is reflected in her unusual fusion jewelry that combines majestic old



Wood fired ceramic by Winfred Chao.

PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

with artsy new. Her jewelry is created with precious and semi-precious stones.

Each individual artist can be seen on their website. Visit www.upakarfoundation.org.

Fireworks in February?

FROM PAGE 3

Maravell, has run the Brickyard Educational Farm on the site as well, teaching local school children about farming.

In March 2011, Maravell, neighbors and civic organizations in Potomac learned that Leggett had decided to take control of the 20-acres to turn it over to a private organization for development into soccer fields.

The Board of Education voted with only a few days notice to lease the property to the county for that purpose.

Local food advocates, neighbors and civic associations have expressed outrage that there was no public process for the decision. They have asked to turn back the decision and begin a transparent process with public input and discussion.

County council members have also called on the county executive and school board to reconsider plans to turn the farm into soccer fields.

"The violations of the Open Meetings Act resulted in a lack of transparency about the decision-making process. It is the public policy of the State of Maryland to have open meetings since an open government is essential to the maintenance of an open society," according to Barkley, representing the Brickyard Coalition.

But according to the county, the organic farmer has planted the bad seeds during this ongoing controversy.

The county extended Maravell's lease during the legal challenges, county attorneys said.

"It is apparent ... that the Appellees have acted in bad faith. There is no substantial justification for their conduct or for their claims against the county. The county acted in good faith by entering into a License Agreement and a settlement agreement with Appellees Maravell and Cowles and adhering to both. ... It is fair to assume that Appellees never had any intention of abiding by the agreements. Courts should not abide such conduct," according to County Attorney Marc P. Hansen.

PEOPLE

She Leads Model Organization of American States

Holy Child's Andrea Manchester elected assembly's president.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Andrea Manchester has extensive experience in diplomatic relations, debating, creating solutions and setting public policy — and she is only a junior in high school. In 7th grade, she took part in the Model United Nations in New York City. She was the first Holy Child freshman involved with the Model Organization of American States — and this December, she was elected to the position of president of MOAS at the Model Assembly held at the Organization of American States headquarters in Washington DC. Manchester ran against other students from the U.S., Puerto Rico and numerous Latin American countries. To run, she had to collect endorsement signatures from five countries; each country could only support one candidate.

She was also required to deliver a speech about the qualities that make her a good leader. "I was surprised and very pleased to have been chosen," she said.

Manchester explained: "As president, I will be the chairperson for the General Committee, moderator of the discussion and debates, serve as a liaison between the student representatives and the people who run the MOAS, help set guidelines and serve as a diplomatic role model for the many students who attend the Model Assembly."

SHE HAS SET HER GOALS for the following year: "I hope to improve the overall experience for students who participate in the Model, and to help students better understand how it works. I want to make it a realistic and meaningful experience for each student who attends."

She also hopes to improve the efficacy of the process and plans to expand and promote the on-line platform along with communications between MOAS and the OAS.

Twelve students from Holy Child made up the delegation to the Assembly which represented the country of Brazil. They met after-school and on Saturday mornings to discuss Brazil and what their research had uncovered. They studied its politics, leadership position on human rights, security, democracy, economic development and more. Once they arrived at the Assembly, the team participated in role-playing, representing diplomats and political officials of the member states of the OAS. They debated and approved resolutions dealing



Andrea Manchester

with current issues on the Inter-American agenda. Through negotiation, team-work and problem solving, the students developed leadership skills and learned the processes of the OAS.

The OAS was established to achieve "an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration and to defend their sovereignty, their terri-

torial integrity and their independence." Today, the OAS brings together all 35 independent states of the Americas and constitutes the main political, juridical, and social governmental forum in the Hemisphere. In addition, it has granted permanent observer status to 67 states, as well as to the European Union.

Manchester speaks fluent Spanish and has a high level of French fluency. She has developed a strong interest in Latin American issues since she has family in Venezuela and has vacationed there. Her career interests are varied: "I actually think I want to be a forensic anthropologist and work for the FBI. I also have an interest in political science but I like the idea of international relations and diplomacy. I love studying current events."

She is looking forward to her leadership position with MOAS and will attend training in the fall before she leads the Model Assembly next December.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 19

Bereavement Workshop. 6:30-8 p.m. "Winter Blues: Balancing Sorrow and Celebration while grieving." For anyone grieving the death of a loved one. Free and open to any Montgomery County residents. Montgomery Hospice, 1355

Piccard Drive, Rockville. Registration required by calling 301-921-4400.

FRIDAY/JAN. 4

Open House. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Beverly Farms Elementary School, 8501 Postoak Road. For those who can't attend the open house, call 301-469-1050 to make a reservation for a guided tour during school hours.



OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Msgr. William J. English, Pastor

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, December 22

9:30 am-5:00 pm—an all-day opportunity

CHRISTMAS EVE • MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

Prelude music begins one half-hour before each Mass

4:00 pm.....Cherub Choir/Cantor/Flute (Church)

4:00 pm...Piano/Cantor/Trumpet (McAuley Hall)

6:00 pm.....Cantor/Hand Bells

8:00 pm.....Choir/Strings/Trumpet

10:00 pm.....Schola/Strings/Trumpet

CHRISTMAS DAY • TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Prelude music begins fifteen minutes before Mass

8:30 am.....Choir/Flute

10:45 am.....Schola/Strings

12:30 pm.....Vocal Quartet

3:00 pm.....Korean Mass

NEW YEAR'S EVE • 5:00 PM VIGIL MASS

NEW YEAR'S DAY • MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

The Mass schedule for Sunday, January 1, 2013 will be
9:00 am and 11:00 am.

9200 Kentsdale Drive ~ Potomac, Maryland 20854
Phone: 301-365-1415 Web site: www.olom.org

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

Enjoy your fireplace without
all the work!

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

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

#1 In Safety

Come to the Fireplace Experts!!

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



Save 10%*

On Anything in Our Showroom!

*Must present ad to redeem. Limit one per household. In-stock items only. Cannot be combined with any other offer or previous purchase. Offer expires 12/29/12. PA



#1 in
Safety and
Efficiency

EVERYTHING FOR THE FIREPLACE AND BARBECUE

301.990.6195

WWW.WASHINGTONFIREPLACE.COM

Serving the
Washington
Metropolitan Area
Since 1957

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

Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

IN SEPTEMBER 2012, 34 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$4,700,000-\$282,000.

September 2012 Sales \$420,100~\$570,000



2 9105 Falls Chapel Way, Rockville — \$570,000



1 6 Woodsend Place, Rockville — \$570,000



3 12264 Greenleaf Avenue, Rockville — \$525,000



5 12861 Travilah Road, Potomac — \$462,000



4 10821 Deborah Drive, Potomac — \$480,000



© Google Map data



6 10621 Muirfield Drive, Rockville — \$420,100

Address	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City ..	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC.	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 6 WOODSEND PL	4	..	2	.	1	ROCKVILLE	\$570,000	Detached ..	0.39	20854	SADDLEBROOK	09/25/12
2 9105 FALLS CHAPEL WAY	3	..	2	.	1	ROCKVILLE	\$570,000	Detached ..	0.25	20854	POTOMAC COMMONS	09/17/12
3 12264 GREENLEAF AVE	4	..	3	.	1	ROCKVILLE	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.05	20854	WATKINS GLEN	09/28/12
4 10821 DEBORAH DR	3	..	2	.	2	POTOMAC	\$480,000	Townhouse	0.05	20854	INVERNESS FOREST TH	09/27/12
5 12861 TRAVILAH RD	3	..	2	.	1	POTOMAC	\$462,000	Detached ..	0.82	20854	DARNESTOWN OUTSIDE	09/24/12
6 10621 MUIRFIELD DR	3	..	3	.	1	ROCKVILLE	\$420,100	Townhouse	0.05	20854	INVERNESS NORTH	09/12/12

COPYRIGHT 2012 REAL ESTATE BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE. SOURCE: MRIS AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2012.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Email community entertainment events to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos and artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Mommy & Me (& Daddy, Too).

Third Tuesday each month. 10 a.m. at Rockville Town Square. Meet for a morning out with active learning and creative play with lunch specials, story time, arts and crafts, sing-alongs, prizes and more. <http://rockvilletownsquare.com/events/mommy-and-me>. Dec. 18 in The Library, First Floor.

Holiday Art Show and Sale.

Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 6, 2013, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Browse and buy fine artworks at Glen Echo Park's annual Holiday Art Show and Sale, presented by the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture. The exhibition will feature works by resident artists, instructors and invited artists and will include glass, ceramics, jewelry, photography, painting, crafts and more. In Glen Echo's Popcorn Gallery at 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Call 301-634-2222 or visit glenechopark.org.

The Puppet Co. at Glen Echo Park has announced its 2012-2013 season.

There are favorite fairytale princesses, an annual holiday tradition, and a special guest artist with a bilingual twist. 301-634-5380 or www.thepuppetco.org. **The Nutcracker**, through Dec. 30, Thursdays and Fridays at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.; **Toyland**, Jan. 18-Feb. 10, 2013, Fridays at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 19

18th Street Singers Christmas Concert.

7:30 p.m. Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Tickets: \$15. Concert brings more than 50 members of this D.C.-based choral group together to sing festive favorites of the season. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

THURSDAY/DEC. 20

Charm City Klezmer Band. 7:30

p.m. Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Tickets: \$15. The family band Michael S. Raitzyk and Charm City Klezmer celebrate the Festival of Lights with a jazzy twist in a Hanukkah program featuring a variety of Yiddish theatre, klezmer and Jewish-themed music. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

Blues Dance. 8:15-11:30 p.m. Capital Blues presents weekly Thursday night blues dances. A beginner workshop 8:15-9 p.m. offers partnering basics for new dancers. The class is included with admission; no partner necessary. Dancing runs 9-11:30 p.m. to blues music from every corner of the genre. At Ballroom Annex at 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Admission is \$8. Email info@capitalblues.org.

THROUGH DEC. 21

Art Exhibition: "An Abstract

Approach." Paintings by Lesley Clarke, June Plotkin, and Edith Sievers; ceramics by Karin Abromaitis, and mixed media by Jessica Beels. Opening reception is Sunday, Nov. 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free and open to the public. Call 301-299-7087. At Gallery Har Shalom, located at Congregation Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road.

DEC. 21, 22 & 23

The Nutcracker. Suitable for all ages. 7 p.m. on Dec. 14 and 21; 1 and 5 p.m. on Dec. 15, 16, 22, 23. At Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee St. \$23-28 in advance; \$28-33 at the door. Call 240-567-5301 or visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC.



PHOTO BY C. STANLEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Rehearsals have begun for "Seussical, Jr." A boy imagines he is a lion tamer, taming three lions and in the back are two tight rope walkers.

Students Take Over

On Jan. 5 and 6, 2013, the Imagination Stage Student Ensemble will perform "Seussical, Jr." on the same set—designed by Tom Donahue—and stage as the professional production running this winter. "Seussical, Jr." runs in Imagination Stage's Annette M. and Theodore N. Lerner Family Theatre, 4908 Auburn Avenue, Bethesda, Jan. 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased online at www.imaginationstage.org, at the Imagination Stage box office, or via phone at 301-280-1660.

'Brother Bear'

Starting Jan. 3, Imagination Stage brings back its popular show for the very young: "Wake Up, Brother Bear!" This 45-minute show invites children to enter the world of a young brother bear and his sister as they venture through the seasons of the year.

"Wake Up, Brother Bear!" runs in Imagination Stage's Christopher and Dana Reeve Studio Theatre, 4908 Auburn Avenue, Bethesda, shows are Tuesdays-Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m., Jan. 3-Feb. 3. Appropriate for ages 1-5, tickets are \$10-12, with a \$5 lap seat for children under 12 months. Tickets may be purchased online at www.imaginationstage.org, at the Imagination Stage box office, or via phone at 301-280-1660. Visit www.imaginationstage.org.



PHOTO BY BLAKE ECHOLS/IMAGINATION STAGE

Megan Dominy as Sister Bear, Jacob Yeh as Brother Bear, and Katie Chambers (cello).

Visit www.visartsatrockville.org for more.

THROUGH DEC. 29

Grayscale. Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature. Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 30

Waltz Dance. 2:45-6 p.m. Join for a Waltz Dance in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The 45-minute dance lesson begins at 2:45 p.m. with a half-hour introductory Waltz workshop. Social dancing follows until 6 p.m. Admission is \$10. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or visit www.WaltzTimeDances.org, or email info@WaltzTimeDances.org.

THROUGH DEC. 31

A Little House Christmas. Adventure Theatre MTC at Glen Echo Park presents A Little House Christmas. Celebrate the holidays with this heartwarming adventure that shows that the simple things make living worthwhile as Mary and Laura learn the true meaning of Christmas. Saturdays, 11 a.m., 2 and 4:30 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Winter Break (Dec. 26-31) performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Some Tuesday and Friday at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$19. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Call 301-634-2270 or visit adventuretheatre-mtc.org.

Season Greetings

from

= ROBERT BERNARD =

JEWELERS

Your Neighborhood Jewelers

1079 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
Potomac Woods Plaza
301.838.9696

TOYS UNIQUE

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

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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Open 7 Days

NORMANDIE FARM

The Holiday Gift...

A Normandie Farm Gift Card!

Any Denomination!

Lunch, Brunch, Dinner & Afternoon Tea!

Where Traditions meet Modern Expectations!

301-983-8838 www.popovers.com

Reminder: Shop Locally, Give Locally

Supporting the community.

With less than a week before Christmas, many people have not completed their shopping, and so we remind you of the importance of spending a significant portion of your shopping budget locally. At this point in the season, the high cost of expedited shipping might also serve as an incentive to shop in locally owned stores.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambience available by shopping in the heart of a

EDITORIAL

town that is decked out for the season.

Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can. Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, continue to face tough challenges. Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally-owned retailers.

With less than two weeks to go before the end of the charitable giving year, we also remind you of the critical local needs that are filled by a variety of local nonprofit organiza-

Manna has distributed more than 43 million pounds of food to more than 2.7 million individuals. Manna provided food to 5 percent of Montgomery County residents this past year.

Mercy Health Clinic, www.mercyhealthclinic.org, 7 Metropolitan Court, Suite 1, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Mercy Health Clinic is a free, community-based volunteer organization providing quality healthcare to uninsured, low-income residents of Montgomery County. The clinic, located in Gaithersburg, depends on the expertise of volunteers, healthcare professionals and support from community partners to provide quality care to those in need. The Clinic is staffed with medical professionals including family practice physicians, cardiologists, endocrinologists, nurse practitioners, nurse assistants, translators and behavioral health counselors.

Interfaith Works, www.iworksmc.org, 114 West Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850,
Interfaith Works provides shelter, food, and clothing to low-income and homeless neighbors. Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless, www.mcch.net, 600-B East Gude Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 301-217-0314

Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH), a community-based nonprofit organization, is a leading provider of permanent housing, intermediate housing, emergency shelter, and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness. MCCH programs serve 1,600 men, women and children each year.

Shepherd's Table, www.shepherdstable.org, 8210

tions. With suggestions from readers, we have updated our lists. We welcome suggestions as we continuously update our local lists of community organizations. You can find a complete at www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Last News Issue Of 2012

This is the last regular edition of the Almanac for 2012, and it includes the last of our 2012 series on immigration. Next week, delivered shortly after Christmas, is the Children's Connection, devoted to the artwork and writing of area students.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Dixon Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301-585-646
Shepherd's Table is a nonprofit organization in downtown Silver Spring, supported by volunteers, religious organizations, government, businesses, foundations, and individual donors. Shepherd's Table provides help to people who are homeless or in need by providing basic services, including meals, social services, medical support, clothing, and other assistance.

Fisher House, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, www.fisherhouse.org, 111 Rockville Pike, Suite 420, Rockville, Maryland 20850 | (888) 294-8560
The Fisher House program supports members of the military and their families when they travel great distances for specialized medical care. Fisher House Foundation donates 'comfort homes,' built on the grounds of major military and Veterans medical centers, including Walter Reed in Bethesda. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times.

Friends in Action, www.iworksmc.org/friends-in-action, 114 West Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, 301-762-8682
Founded by Interfaith Works (formerly Community Ministry of Montgomery County) in 1986, Friends In Action recruits and trains a network of people from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. Volunteer mentoring teams are linked for one year in a supportive relationship to a needy family in their community. The goal of the program is to help the family identify their strengths and develop attainable and manageable goals that guide them toward financial independence and personal well being.

Potomac: Where To Give Locally

Potomac Community Resources, Inc. www.pcr-inc.org 9200 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, MD 20854, 301-365-0561

Potomac Community Resources is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the inclusion of persons with developmental differences into the life of our community. Founded in 1994 by a small group of families at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Parish, Potomac Community Resources today serves hundreds of individuals and families.

McPaw, www.mcpaw.org, 9613 Eldwick Way, Potomac, MD 20854
The new Montgomery County Animal Shelter is a 49,160 square-foot facility currently under construction containing public adoption areas, private animal holding and treatment areas, classroom, conference room and office space. The Shelter, at the northwest corner of the intersection of Muncaster Mill Road and Airpark Drive, will be owned by and operated primarily by the Montgomery County Police Department Animal Services Division. The county has turned to McPaw to help raise funds to build the facility.

Manna Food Center, 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, 301-424-1130 www.mannafood.org
Manna Food Center, the main food bank in Montgomery County, strives to eliminate hunger through food distribution, education, and advocacy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Make Difference On Gun Control

To the Editor:

As our new voice in Congress, Rep.-elect John Delaney is finding his way around the halls of the Capitol and determining what course his Congressional career will take. I hope he will choose as his signature issue to be a leader on gun control.

Sensible gun laws might not stop every madman, but our families will be safer if we reinstate the assault-weapons ban that Congress and the Bush Administration allowed to expire in 2004. That's just a common-sense first step.

My daughter, like all county schoolchildren, has participated in school "lock-down" drills since kindergarten, just as her grandparents practiced how to shelter from a nuclear bomb. Rep.-elect Delaney should do everything in his power to ensure that our kids are the last generation to practice how to respond to a mass shooting. Fear not an NRA backlash; if he leads the way, Montgomery County parents will have his back.

Allen Mattison
Potomac

A Community Center For Everyone To Use

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Recreation Director Gabriel Albornoz.

I live just behind the Potomac Community Center tennis courts and have lived here for the past 21 years. I have never heard any noise or any other thing that my family ever found objectionable from the tennis courts, baseball games, or hockey rink, etc

I am totally in favor of using the rink at the PCC for the disabled, whether they be children, veterans and any other disabled person with any handicap.

I do not think there are many facilities in Montgomery County that would be as good as this location for the disabled or children.

I think that is the use that Montgomery County had in mind when the community centers were established: A center for everyone.

Bobby Fogel

Move Ahead On Improving Rink

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Recreation Director Gabriel Albornoz.

I am writing in regard to the proposed rink that would be located at the Potomac Community Center. It is very important to maintain a focus on the needs of the handicapped. All children should be blessed with a life experience that includes safe participation in physical sports and the team opportunity for camaraderie and self-worth.

Senior citizens in the area, who may be coping with macular degeneration or may be recovering from the effects of a stroke, would also benefit in having an outdoor area in which they could walk safely and exercise to improve and maintain their health. With proximity to NIH, this may also be a destination for our wounded military personnel who need a place to practice the physical rehabilitation exercises so necessary for recovery.

I implore you to move forward with this project what will benefit some of our most deserving citizens.

Penny Heltzer

POTOMAC ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

Newspaper of **Potomac**
A Connection Newspaper

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

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

PUBLISHER

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

EDITORIAL

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

EDITOR

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

SPORTS EDITOR

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

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

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

Contributing Photographers

Harvey Levine, Deborah Stevens

Art/Design:

Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager
Jean Card
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher

Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

ADVERTISING

For advertising information e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

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

Andrea Smith 703-778-9411

Classified Advertising
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk

National Sales & real Estate
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon

Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Potomac Almanac is published by Local Media Connection LLC

Five Time First Place Award-Winner Public Service

MDDC Press Association

Four Time Newspaper of the Year

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

More than 200 Norwood School students, parents, teachers, and staff walked the school's Potomac campus to raise money for K-8 schools devastated by Hurricane Sandy in New York City.

Norwood School Raises Money for Those Affected

Participants raise more than \$4,000 to help purchase books, rugs, easels and bookcases.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

More than 200 Norwood School students, parents, teachers and staff members walked the grounds of the school's Potomac campus earlier this month to raise money for schools devastated by Hurricane Sandy in New York City.

"The Norwood community raised and will donate \$4,000 to help Literacy Lifeboats purchase books, rugs, easels and bookcases to reconstruct literacy-rich classrooms," said Leanne Gill, spokeswoman for the Norwood School.

Norwood Walks 2012 was part of the Literacy Lifeboats Initiative, which was started by Columbia University's Teachers College Reading and Writing Project to help New York City's K-8 schools after Hurricane Sandy.

"The walkathon gave us a chance to have some fun together as families and as a community, but also to dedicate that to a worthy purpose. It was a small thing to do, but we believe these little deeds accumulate in the minds and hearts of our kids and help them learn how to be caring, giving people as they get older, which is right at the heart of our mission at Norwood," said Leslie Wallace, president of the Norwood Parents Association and lead organizer of Norwood Walks 2012.

Michele Claeys, (associate head and middle school principal said, "This was a way that our students could participate in coming to the

aid of people far away. Plus, there is something really nice about students and teachers coming together to help other students and teachers."

Gill said that each time participants completed a lap, they stomped pieces of poster board and signed their names. "At the end of the event, we had six large pieces of poster board covered with little feet," she said.

Students took pride in helping those in need. "I participated because I wanted to help people affected by the storm and because we would have liked it if another school did this for us," said sixth grade student Stephanie Hong.

Norwood officials want the walk to become a school tradition. "Norwood Walks 2012 was so successful, we are hoping this becomes an annual event," said Gill.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Platinum Service - Platinum Return

You're ready to market your house—your beautiful, custom-designed multi-million dollar home. How do you do it? What guidelines are you going to use to choose a REALTOR®, one you can relate to and who can do the best job for you?

• **Knowledge** is one of the most important factors for finding the perfect REALTOR® to meet your needs. Your ideal REALTOR® should be intimately knowledgeable in the luxury home market for your area, possess top-notch marketing skills and should have a strong working relationship with other REALTOR®s of the same caliber.

• **Communication** between you and your REALTOR® is essential. What are the goals you both have? Are your goals compatible? You and your REALTOR® need to be able to talk about all aspects of the house selling process, from the initial listing process to virtual tours to how you want an open house conducted.

• **Ask for a marketing plan.** An in depth, point by point process of what the REALTOR® will do to get your house sold in the least amount of time possible with the least amount of fuss should be a deciding factor when engaging services. Your ideal REALTOR® will have a list of what you need to do as a seller to prepare your house for market. Co-operation between seller and agent is necessary for success, so choose your REALTOR® wisely for the platinum service you deserve.

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

MICHAEL MATESE
Long & Foster Realtors

301-806-6829

Mike@michaelmatese.com

YOGA CLASSES IN POTOMAC

For Daytime Classes

Kula Yoga

St. James Episcopal Church
11815 Seven Locks Road
Monday - Friday
9:30am



For Weekend & Evening Classes

Hamsa Yoga

St. Andrews Episcopal School
8804 Postoak Road
Mon & Wed 6:30 & 8:00pm
Thurs 6:30pm
Sat 9:00am

For more information please contact:

Nancy Steinberg
240-994-5092
nancy@kulayogaclass.com
www.kulayogaclass.com

Shanthi Subramanian
301-320-9334
shanthi@hamsa-yoga.com
www.hamsa-yoga.com

KICKSKARATE
Your Family Martial Arts Center

Our 48lb. Powerhouse!

www.kickskarate.com

Report Card

Discipline.....	A+
Focus.....	A+
Attitude.....	A+
Confidence.....	A+
Fitness.....	A+

FREE MONTH
Classes Forming! New Students Only!
expires: 12/31/12

PROGRAMS:

Tiny Tigers ages 3&4	Little Ninjas ages 5-7	Children's Karate ages 8-12
Teen & Adult Karate ages 13 & up		Kickboxing ages 13 & up

LOCATIONS:

Bethesda - 301.571.6767	Glen Echo - 301.320.3334	Potomac - 301.519.2200
Galthersburg - 301.869.1400	North Potomac - 301.947.4700	Rockville - 301.869.4300
Germantown - 301.916.8000	Poolesville - 301.916.3663	Urbana - 301.874.4740

Potomac Village Deli Catering

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner Catering

301-299-5770

www.potomacvillagedeli.com

Home of Your Corporate & Residential Catering Headquarters

Serving the Community for over 35 Years

ZONE 5:
• POTOMAC

CLASSIFIED

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

HOME & GARDEN

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

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

Experience a Real Virginia-Grown Tree!

A Real Tree Experience grown and sold by the Virginia Christmas Tree Growers Association makes Christmas come alive!

A Real Virginia Christmas Tree connects grown-ups with cherished traditions of Christmas past and creates joy for children that lives on into Christmas future.

Use the website to find your tree!



www.VirginiaChristmasTrees.org

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

AIRLINE CAREERS BEGIN HERE



Become an Aviation Maintenance Tech. FAA approved training. Financial aid if qualified – Housing available. Job placement assistance. SCHEV certified. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance **888-245-9553**

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

71% of Americans have used a newspaper, a newspaper website and/or a newspaper mobile source in the past 30 days. (Scarborough Research 2012)



Make sure they're reading about you!

Virginia Press Services will run this business card size display ad across Virginia for one low price! For more details, contact Adriane at 804-521-7585.



21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

MEDICAL CAREERS BEGIN HERE

Train ONLINE for Allied Health and Medical Management. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV authorized.

Call 888-354-9917
www.CenturaOnline.com

Centura COLLEGE

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

Help for people with
Macular Degeneration

Find out if special glasses can help you see better.

Call for a FREE phone consultation with Dr. Armstrong, Optometrist

Offices in: Roanoke, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Wytheville

(866) 321-2030
Dr. David L. Armstrong **VirginiaLowVision.com**



26 Antiques

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

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

Try a better way to fill your employment openings



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

THE CONNECTION
to your community

703-917-6464

classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Great Papers • Great Readers
Great Results!

EMPLOYMENT

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

Valpak Advertising Sales

Full time outside sales in NoVA, minimum 1 year experience in sales environment required. Print & digital products, salary based on experience + commission + bonus & benefits.

Send resume & cover letter to:
djanis@valpakva.com

When spider webs unite,
they can tie up a lion.
-Ethiopian Proverb

FIREWOOD

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

Do what
you can, with
what you have,
where you are.
-Theodore
Roosevelt

GUTTER

GUTTER

GUTTER CLEANING
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

PINNACLE SERVICES
lic/ins **703-802-0483** free est.
email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
web: lawnsandgutters.com
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!



IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS

"Let us help you Re-imagine your Home"
703.373.7278

"The Best Homes are Built by US"

Design/Build

Large Additions, Second Story Additions,
Whole House Remodeling & Custom Homes.

www.ushc.info

 **US Home Construction**

320-B Maple Ave. East, Vienna, VA 22180

LANDSCAPING

LANDSCAPING

GARDENER

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

TREE SERVICE

TREE SERVICE

Charles Jenkins
TREE SERVICE

Seasoned Firewood
Topping, trimming, Stump Grinding

Lic. & Ins!
540-829-9917 or 540-422-9721

Touching For Sure, But Not Always



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Usually, but not always, when I show for my scheduled post-chemotherapy/post-scan appointment with my oncologist, I am physically examined (touching, feeling). Recently, due to some enhanced computer and facility upgrades, I was shown the actual scans, digitized. However, on more than one occasion over the last 18 months or so, after we discussed the results of my most recent CT Scan – and lab work, no physical exam was performed. Apparently, as I later learned, the good results from my scan sort of trumps any need to feel for physical manifestations. Meaning, that if the scan shows no tumor growth or movement, it stands to reason – medically speaking, that corollary-type symptoms/indications/abnormalities would not occur/be present. To simplify even more, there's no need for a "pre-operative grope," to quote Dr. Hawkeye Pierce from an episode of M*A*S*H, if the diagnostic test shows there's nothing to "grobe."

On balance then, the doctor's not examining me is good news, generally, presumably; at least that's how he explained it to me. It's a professional version of "Why bother?" There's nothing to see so he doesn't have to take a look. I can live with that. Still, I remember the first appointment I had with my oncologist when he didn't examine me (he always asks questions though); before I sort of realized that I hadn't been examined, I was already in my car driving home. I said aloud to my wife, Dina: "He didn't even examine me!" I felt cheated somehow, as if I didn't get my co-pay's worth. I called my nurse the next day to complain and express my curiosity/anxiety about why it was that my oncologist had not touched/ tested me for any physical reactions/signs as he had on all previous appointments.

My doctor did not call back if I recall, but I believe my nurse did, with some tepid reassurance. However, on my next appointment with my oncologist, we discussed the reason why I hadn't been examined during the previous appointment. He said there is a debate within the medical profession about this very subject. If the scans are encouraging and show no appreciable tumor growth and/or movement, the patient's body will likely not exhibit any signs to the contrary. Ergo, physically examining the patient is sort of redundant. However, my concern that something wasn't done to me (physically examined by my doctor) is not uncommon, my doctor said, and causes patients to have a not-unexpected reaction: skepticism. The perception by us patients is that the doctors are not in fact doing everything they're supposed to be doing, "Hippocratically" speaking. The doctors might know better, and know the facts, but when dealing with us patients, there are feelings to consider. And if the patient's feelings are not considered during this fairly intimate doctor-patient relationship, then the facts, clear as they may be, may fall on deaf ears. This is the quandary – as it was explained to me; examine a patient who you know (from their most recent diagnostic scan) is not experiencing any negative reactions (to their disease) or, don't examine the patient and cause a negative emotional reaction by not physically examining them. And as any of us terminal patients will attest, there's a fine line to be straddled between positive and negative thoughts and interpretations and how they affect the patient. Maybe, reassuring the patient might be more important than following protocol?

As much as I want to be a patient patient, the longer I survive, the more impatient and paranoid I'm becoming. I want to enjoy the good news, really I do, but sometimes I can't. Damn cancer.

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

SPORTS

Churchill Boys' Basketball Bounces Back

Young Bulldogs show resiliency in 66-36 win over Gaithersburg.

After suffering a loss to Sherwood on Dec. 8, the Churchill boys' basketball team responded by bursting out to a 16-5 first quarter lead en route to a 66-36 win over Montgomery County 4A West opponent Gaithersburg on Dec. 11 at Churchill High School. With the victory, the Bulldogs improved to 2-1 on the season.

Overcoming their own sloppy play at times, the Bulldogs used strong defense to force 36 turnovers and hold the Trojans to under 20 percent shooting on the evening.

"I thought for the most part our team defense was pretty good tonight," Bulldogs head coach Matt Miller said fol-

lowing the game. "We weren't very cohesive on offense but our defense gave us some room for error and the turnovers we forced helped us to generate some offense."

Junior guard Allen Njumbe led the Bulldogs with 20 points on the evening, but it was senior forward Bryant Wheatley who sparked Churchill in the first half with eight points and 13 rebounds, leading to an all-around performance of 12 points, 15 rebounds, three assists, four steals and three blocks. Miller was pleased with Wheatley's effort: "We know he can do some things for us on both ends of the floor in addition to bringing energy each night. He has really grown as a player over the past year and is just beginning to show what he can do."

Senior guard Dominique Williams (nine points, eight rebounds) and sophomore forward Jesse Locke (11 points) also provided key contributions for the Bulldogs, who controlled the glass with a 43-36 margin on the evening.

After taking a 30-13 lead into the locker room, the Bulldogs opened the second half with a sloppy stretch marred by poor shooting and a few turnovers of their own. The Trojans cut the lead to 38-28 before Churchill went on a 28-8 run over the remainder of the game to earn the victory.

"I wouldn't call tonight a pretty win by any stretch despite the final score," Miller said. "But with a young team like ours, you are always looking to see how we handle adversity, especially early in the season. Our guys felt like we didn't do everything that we needed to do on Saturday night (in a 48-41 loss to 2012 MPSSAA state semifinalist Sherwood in the waning minutes) and they wanted to make amends. It was far from perfect but we showed some resiliency tonight."

Churchill faced Springbrook on Monday, which was after The Almanac's deadline.

In junior varsity action on Dec. 11, the Bulldogs ran their record to 3-0 on the new season with a 72-60 victory.

St. Andrew's Beats Landon for First Time

The St. Andrew's Episcopal School boys' basketball team defeated Landon for the first time in school history on Dec. 10, winning 58-53 at Landon School.

SAES led by two points late when senior guard Arman Izadpanah buried a 3-pointer for insurance.

"Any time you can beat an established program like Landon," second-year head coach Kevin Jones said, "it's just good for you to know your kids can compete and their hard work is paying off."

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, sophomore guard Marcus Adkison led the Lions with 19 points against Landon and junior guard Cedric McFadden scored 12. Senior forward Patrick Collins scored nine points and Izadpanah added eight.

Jones said McFadden, a transfer from Wilson High School in Washington, D.C., and Adkison, a transfer from Paul VI in Fairfax, Va., have been standouts this season, and Izadpanah has "stepped up."

Jones, a former Churchill assistant, said the Lions are hoping to compete in the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference.

"Obviously, being a first-year [head coach last year], we were very much invested in changing the culture — the level that things need to be done," Jones said. "This year around, certainly we have some new editions to our team, but the culture that we have now is a good one. The kids are working hard and expecting more out of their teammates."

SAES (5-3) will travel to face St. James at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 18.

SCHOOL NOTES



The Green Machine: Front row (from left) are Molly O'Connor, Catherine Heming, Corina Capuano, Ryon Sarkarzadeh; back row are Briana Lantuh, Antos Wellisz, Gabe Schneider, Nicholas Mori and Coach Eric Smith.

OwlBots: Front row (from left) are Winston Grenier, Darius Kuddo, Anthony Mahshagian, J.D. McLean; back row are Jack Wenger, Jonah Barron, Noah Montemarano and Chris McCormick. Not pictured: Sarah Bash

Victory for The Woods Academy Robotics Teams

The Woods Academy Robotics teams, the OwlBots and the Green Machine, participated at the FIRST Lego League Qualifier held at the Glen Elg Country School on Dec. 15. Twenty-three teams competed. The OwlBots and the Green Machine were two of only six teams to survive that

Qualifier and advance to the FLL Maryland State Championship, which will be held on Saturday, Jan. 17 at UMBC in Catonsville.

The OwlBots won the Judges Award, which is given to a team that scores consistently high across all judging categories — robot design, research project, core values, and robot games. Jeff Oosterhout was

awarded the Outstanding Coach/ Mentor Award. This is his fourth year coaching the OwlBots.

The 2012 Senior Solutions Challenge compelled teams to explore ways to improve the quality of life for seniors. They researched and presented their own innovative solutions to help seniors continue to

be independent, engaged, and connected in their communities.

The OwlBots developed a Face Scan App designed to aid Alzheimer's patients in recognizing loved ones. The Green Machine conceived of an Activity Cube that presents Alzheimer's patients with stimulating hand-on activities.



Our holiday house is now open!

*We are very excited to announce that we
have reopened our retail store at
9906 River Road in the heart of
Potomac, Md.*

Come in and see our fabulous inventory. In addition to our up-scale home decor, we now carry Juliska, Michael Aram, Stonewall Kitchen, Saxon Chocolates, Spartina Jewelry, Mark Roberts Fairies, Tea Forte, Caspari, Thymes Candles.

Hours: Mon-Sat: 10 – 6
Sunday 11 – 5

301-299-0485

Visit us on facebook (JT Interiors at Potomac House) for sneak peek photos!!