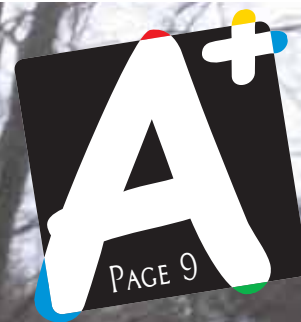


Potomac ALMANAC

Faced with being locked out from the Brickyard farm site, Sophia Maravell covers kale and carrots. "I'm just doing some winter cover up in case I can't get in here for a while," she said.



Locked Out

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PHOTO BY CARISSA DOLL LOVELACE

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PEOPLE

New Manager at Potomac Library

Nancy Savas has librarian roots reaching back to her childhood.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Nancy Savas, the new Potomac Library manager comes to her new position with a wealth of experience, enthusiasm and knowledge. As a second grade student, Nancy Savas loved to read; her favorite place was the school library where she helped the librarian by stamping books as they were checked out.

Throughout her school years, she volunteered and worked part-time in the library in her hometowns of Brooklyn and Long Island, N.Y. The library did not possess a typewriter and labels did not exist. Her handwriting was so exacting and exceptionally legible that she was chosen to hand write the card-catalog note cards and to use a stylus to transfer check-out information onto the spines of the books. Savas spent many happy childhood hours in these libraries — and thus chose to follow her passion to become a librarian.

She never suspected that her degree in library science would take her from New York to Iowa to Maryland — and would offer her chances to travel, meet people from all over the world — and make use of all of her talents, interests and skills.

Savas arrived at the Potomac Library two weeks



Potomac Library Manager Nancy Savas

ago — and is looking forward to becoming a part of the Potomac community. Her professional career began in New York City's Public Library System where, as a young librarian, she was intrigued by technology — and excited by the brand-new "Internet" and "World Wide Web."

After she gained expertise in this new field, she was offered a position with a computer company to establish and design their new corporate library. However, this meant a move away from family and friends to the Tri-State area of Iowa. With her 16-year-old daughter cheering her on, they relocated to Sioux City, Iowa where she worked for six years. When the company went into bankruptcy, she moved back to New York and decided to re-enter public li

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE 4

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Locked Out

Board of Education tells organic farmer to leave Brickyard site before court ruling, without notice.

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

While coffee brewed in the Maravell's kitchen, school board security officers prepared to lock the gates to Nick Maravell's Organic Farm and his daughter's Brickyard Education Farm on Brickyard Road.

"As you may be aware, Mr. Maravell has no right to be on the property. On Aug. 17 he was sent a letter saying he could access the property only to harvest existing crops. On Sept. 21, he was told that he and all of his equipment needed to be off the property as of the end of December," said Dana Tofig, public information officer for Montgomery County Public Schools.

At the Almanac's press time, officials were prepared to take Maravell's gate down at the Brickyard Road entrance to the farm, said Carissa Lovelace, an advocate of saving the organic farm. But Maravell told them, "It's very hard to put that gate back up." He suggested they gain access to the farm through his backyard.

"Security and maintenance personnel arrived today [Feb. 19] to inspect the property, which belongs to the Board of Education and is not leased to anyone at this point. The staff was not able to access the property because locks had been placed on the gates by Mr. Maravell. Our staff removed the locks, inspected the property and put

Special Session Called

The Board of Education announced a special meeting regarding the Brickyard school site for 6 p.m., Feb. 19, occurring after the Almanac's deadline. The agenda for the meeting stated it will begin with a closed session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice regarding the Brickyard lease. The board will then have an open session at 6:30 p.m. for discussion and possible action upon the Brickyard lease.

on our own locks," Tofig said.

While Nick Maravell took his tractor and other equipment off the property, his daughter Sophia Maravell covered some of the crops.

"I'm just doing some winter cover up in case I can't get in here for a while," said Sophia Maravell, while farming in a cold February rain. "We still have carrots, kale, garlic, fennel, bok choy and parsnips that are still being harvested."

Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge Robert A. Greenberg is expected to rule this

"This was a complete surprise because the judge has not issued his ruling."

— Carissa Lovelace, advocate for saving the organic farm

week on the legality of the school board's lease of the 20-acre property to the county for sublease to Montgomery Soccer Inc. for soccer fields.

"This was a complete surprise because the judge has not issued his ruling," Lovelace said, inside the Maravell's house.

"Other school systems in the county would kill for this property," she said. "For some reason, Montgomery County Public Schools is killing it."

A hawk rested on the branches of the tree at the entrance to the farm, while school officials went back for additional materials to lock the gates.

Inside, Maravell talked with his attorney. "I don't really have any reaction to it," said Nick Maravell. "I'm just farming."

Nearly two years ago in March 2011, Nick



PHOTO BY CARISSA DOLL LOVELACE

On Tuesday, Feb. 19, school security officials directed farmer Nick Maravell to move his tractor and other equipment off the Brickyard Road site.

Maravell, neighbors and civic organizations in Potomac learned that County Executive Isiah Leggett had already decided to take control of the 20-acre school property on Brickyard Road to turn it over to a private organization for development into soccer fields, which county officials say were desperately needed. The Board of Education voted with a few days notice to lease the property to the county for that purpose.

Nick Maravell had leased the 20-acre site from the Montgomery County School Board for more than 30 years, running an organic farm, which produces heirloom GMO-free corn, and soybean seed. More recently, his daughter, Sophia Maravell has run the

Brickyard Educational Farm on the site as well, bringing in local school children to learn about farming.

Montgomery County Council held a town meeting in November at the Potomac Community Center, and advocated that the County Executive and Board of Education reconsider.

"The way this matter has unfolded has been ugly and costly to everyone involved," five councilmembers wrote in a letter to Leggett and Board of Education President Shirley Brandman. "We do not think this result is necessary or inevitable."

George Leventhal (D-at large) wrote a letter of his own. "This turmoil has not only tainted our constituents' opinion of representative government, but it has also completely shut down communication," he said.

Councilmembers suggested that the current stay in the Montgomery County Circuit Court offered a "time out" in order "to consider fresh approaches and a transparent process to meeting each of the legitimate needs of our community that has been raised by this divisive debate."

But officials in the County Executive's office weren't persuaded.

"There is no change in the county's position that public land should be used for public purposes, as called for in the Potomac Master Plan unanimously approved by the County Council. This lawsuit is mainly just a rehash of previous suits and contains assertions not supported by fact," said Patrick Lacefield, spokesman for the county, in November 2012.

Most of Montgomery County's delegation to the Maryland General Assembly signed letters dated Feb. 8, 2013 to Montgomery County Public School superintendent and Board of Educational asking for a public process that would include consideration of the Brickyard Educational Farm.

Council Takes Steps To Protect Trees

New rules would protect individual trees and trees on small lots during redevelopment.

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

Next Monday, Feb. 25, the County Council's subcommittee on Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment is scheduled to address two bills that focus on the protection of trees.

Councilmembers Roger Berliner and Marc Elrich sponsored the Montgomery County Streets and Roadside Tree Protection Bill, Bill 41-12, which would require county permits for any work done in the county right-of-way that affects roadside trees. The bill

would require that the Department of Permitting Services to work with the Chief of Tree Maintenance in the county's Department of Transportation to determine if a tree can be saved, or if the applicant would contribute to a tree fund to ensure its replacement. The bill would also authorize a tree replacement fund to pay for needed roadside trees and would direct the County Executive to adopt regulations that further develop standards for roadside tree work, according to Council documents.

"The sponsors of this Bill crafted it to closely mirror state law," and the bill would authorize the county to supplement state

regulation and protection of roadside trees, according to Michael Faden and Amanda Mihill, legislative attorneys for the council.

"The state law is not working. The Department of Natural Resources does not have staff to enforce it," testified Arlene Bruhn, of Conservation Montgomery, at a public hearing on the bill last month. She said the county has several inspectors who can investigate and enforce right of way permits quickly.

"The trees along county roads are significant county assets. They are the backbone of our green infrastructure. They are essential to our quality of life," said Bruhn.

S. Robert Kaufman, with the Maryland-National Building Industry Association, said "the argument that the county should have



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE ALMANAC

Protecting trees also protects water quality, say advocates for two bills before County Council. Builders say the bills add too much bureaucracy. Above, the Potomac River near Old Anglers Inn.

SEE TREES, PAGE 5

Library Welcomes Nancy Savas as New Manager

FROM PAGE 2

brary service. But, in 2002, library jobs beyond entry-level positions were difficult to find. Finally, she located one in Waldorf, Md. at P.D. Brown Memorial Library. Her sister had lived in Waldorf at one time, so she was familiar with the region. She remained there for 22 months — but then a job with

Montgomery County Public Libraries in Aspen Hill opened up. She moved to Olney, remained at the Aspen Hill Library for almost four years, then on to Germantown — and now she will manage the Potomac Library.

She is thrilled with her new position: “I look forward to participating in the Potomac Garden Club as I did with the Aspen Hill Gar-

den Club. I also envision developing a Discovery Center for small children. I want to fill it with educational books and toys to support early literacy. It would be a place for parents or caretakers to spend quality time with their children and to introduce them to the world of reading.”

“Since I have only been here for two weeks, I won’t be making any

major changes. The library runs well, thanks to former manager Lindsey Hundt (now at the Rockville Library) and the terrific staff.”

Times have changed — and libraries have transitioned from primarily lending books and providing research information in the form of hard copies to collections which include everything from

books and periodicals to CDs, videotapes, DVDs, e-books, audio books, databases, microform, manuscripts and more.

Technology has changed the operations of the library, as well as the duties of the librarian. According to Savas, “Libraries will evolve with the changes in the world. They will always be an important and relevant part of our lives. Reading is essential — whether you read a newspaper, a book, an iPad or a computer screen.”

“Potomac is a busy library, and I’m pleased that so many residents take advantage of the many opportunities here.” She cited many of the upcoming activities at the Potomac Library. “We have monthly author talks, story times for children, ‘Great Decisions’ discussions, monthly book sales, and special events such as the upcoming Chinese New Year Festival. In the future, I would like to offer a class to explain the best use of electronic tablets — and a class in knitting, since I am an enthusiastic knitter.”

Savas is a prolific reader who loves a good mystery and a well-written romantic novel. She also likes adventure stories and novels about the sea.

LET’S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Hot Trends: The Luxury Bathroom

Simple upgrades are hot commodities, adding to your home’s value over time, indulging you as you enjoy them. Even the most modest home can take it up to the next level, incorporating luxury into often overlooked rooms. To create your own luxury, start with the bathroom. It’s a room that’s often overlooked, due to its functionality—but more and more homeowners are focusing on the bathroom as a room of therapeutic relaxation and comfort, incorporating luxurious flourishes to their bathrooms to create the sensation of a spa retreat. These upgrades range from simple upgrades to state-of-the-art unique fixtures, each of which add to your home’s overall value and take it to the next level when it comes time to put it on the market. Here’s a sampling of some of the ways you can upgrade to a luxury bathroom, and maximize the potential of a room that every home has to work with!

Standing Spas

• In today’s luxury bathroom, the incorporation of multiple showerheads, water diverters and automated temperature control systems create the ambiance of a spa in the vertical setting of the shower. These upgrades can be as simple or as elaborate as the homeowner desires and add a touch of elegance and indulgence to any master bathroom.

Heated Tile Flooring

• In keeping with the modern trend to create home-spas in the bathroom suites of luxury homes, the addition of heated tiles is again, a trend that is on the rise in popularity with luxury homeowners who choose to upgrade and maximize the comfort and value of their home. Radiant heating from this type of tiling add coziness and is inviting even during summer months. For homeowners who are considering new flooring in either a prospective home or a current home, or for luxury homes already on the market, heated tile flooring is easy to install and can be a great selling point for any luxury home.

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WEDNESDAY/FEB. 20

Volunteer Session. The Literacy Council of Montgomery County will hold information sessions for volunteers interested in helping adults with learning to read, write or speak English at 7:30 p.m. at Rockville Library. Visit www.literacycouncilmcmd.org or 301-610-0030.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Design and Remodeling Seminar. 6-8p.m. at Hopkins & Porter, 12944-C Travilah Road, #204. Free. Many subjects will be discussed, including how to let light in. Discuss your project with professional staff and more. Reservations required, 301-840-9121 #17.

THROUGH FEB. 22

Donate Used Books. Drop off books at Congregation Beth Shalom, 11825 Seven Locks Road, to benefit the new library. 301-279-7010.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Mini-Conference. Montgomery County Master Gardeners is holding its conference at Agricultural History Farm Park, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood. Enjoy a day-long event with workshops, door prizes, networking and more. Registration ends Feb. 15. \$50 or \$90/two people. E-mail mgminiconference@gmail.com.

Taking Steps To Protect Trees

FROM PAGE 3

the right to regulate its trees compelling,” but he objected to layering of bureaucracy and fees.

“If the bill only moved the permit from the state to the county; no problem,” he said. “However, in addition to adding a new permit process since they cannot eliminate the state permit, this bill adds an application fee, a tree removal fee, a tree replacement fee and protection for tree canopy on private property.”

The Tree Canopy Conservation Bill, 35-12, would:

- ❖ save, maintain and establish tree canopy;
- ❖ maximize tree canopy retention and establishment;

- ❖ establish procedures, standards and requirements to minimize the loss and disturbance of tree canopy as a result of development;

- ❖ provide for mitigation when tree canopy is lost or disturbed;

- ❖ establish a fund for tree canopy conservation projects;

- ❖ generally revise County law regarding tree canopy conservation, according to the bill.

“Currently, the Forest Conservation Law does not apply to most disturbances to individual trees outside of forests during development. Also, it does not apply to development activity on lots less than approximately one acre,” according to Council documents.

“When the [county’s] Forest Conservation Law was adopted, the majority of development in the county was occurring on large, previously undeveloped parcels, much of which was forested,” Councilmember Roger Berliner wrote to County Executive Isiah Leggett last October. “As the amount of undeveloped land in the county has diminished, the majority of development is now occurring on smaller, previously undeveloped ‘in-fill’ properties or as the result of redevelopment of previously built-out sites. While these parcels contain few forests, they often contain sig-



ALMANAC FILE PHOTO

Workers trim trees around power lines on Falls Road in Potomac during the summer.

nificant tree canopy.”

The bill discourages the common practice of clearing trees from small lots during redevelopment, said Ginny Barnes, of West Montgomery County Citizens Association.

“This bill is the product of many years of discussions with a variety of stakeholders,” said Robert G. Hoyt, director of the Department of Environmental Protection, in testimony at the public hearing last month. “Trees contribute significantly to the quality of life in our county, particularly in our residential neighborhoods. It is critical that we establish a regulatory framework to protect and enhance this valuable resource for future generations.”

“Both of these pieces of legislation are overdue,” said Barnes. “Trees are invaluable to air and water quality. They stabilize temperatures, reduce energy costs, contribute to physical and mental health, increase property values, and act as an economic stimulus to recreation and tourism.”

The council’s subcommittee is holding its second work session on these bills on Feb. 25. The full Council is scheduled to meet later this year.

County Urges Congress to Avoid Sequester

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett urged Congress to avoid the sequester, deep automatic budget cuts, that could be implemented March 1 if Congress fails to act.

Leggett testified Feb. 19 with Prince George’s County Executive Rushern L. Baker III and Howard County Executive Ken Ulman.

“The impact on Montgomery County from the sequestration could undo the economic gains we’ve made as the county and our country have begun to emerge from the financial crisis,” said Leggett. “The loss to our county of millions of dollars of revenue could plunge us back into a severe slowdown causing budget shortfalls and a stagnant economy. We can’t let that happen.”

Leggett testified that Montgomery County has

47,000 federal workers and thousands of businesses that contract with the federal government, “all of whom will be directly affected if Congress does not act,” Leggett said.

As well as damaging impact on local economy, a sequester would impact social services, health and safety, medical research, law enforcement, education and many other day-to-day life of residents, according to county officials.

“Maryland has 130,000 federal workers who salaries could be cut 20 percent due to furloughs. In fiscal year 2012, Montgomery County alone had \$5 billion in prime federal contract awards that would be adversely affected,” according to County officials

“Sequestration would feel like a cold to most of the nation,” said Prince George’s County Executive Baker, but to the rest of the Washington Metropolitan area, “it would feel like a bad case of pneumonia.”

Maryland has 852,000 students who would be impacted. Maryland receives \$196 million from federal government to provide support for low-income students, \$200 million to support the needs of students with disabilities and \$90 million for Head Start. The sequestration could result in a five percent cut in this funding that would affected 11,728 low-income students at schools across the state, lead to 198 layoffs of school employees, layoffs of 100 special education teachers, and services cut for 550 Head Start kids.

— KEN MOORE

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Club Friday Open House

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“This is a chance for all to experience the fun and excitement Club Friday members enjoy every Friday night from October through March,” said Linda Barlock, acting director of the Potomac Community Center.

Club Friday will feature a moon bounce, obstacle course, DJ music, bingo, raffle, art project, snack bar and games.

The Potomac Community Center is located at 11315 Falls Road. Call 240-777-6960.

Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

IN DECEMBER 2012, 33 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,675,000-\$258,000.



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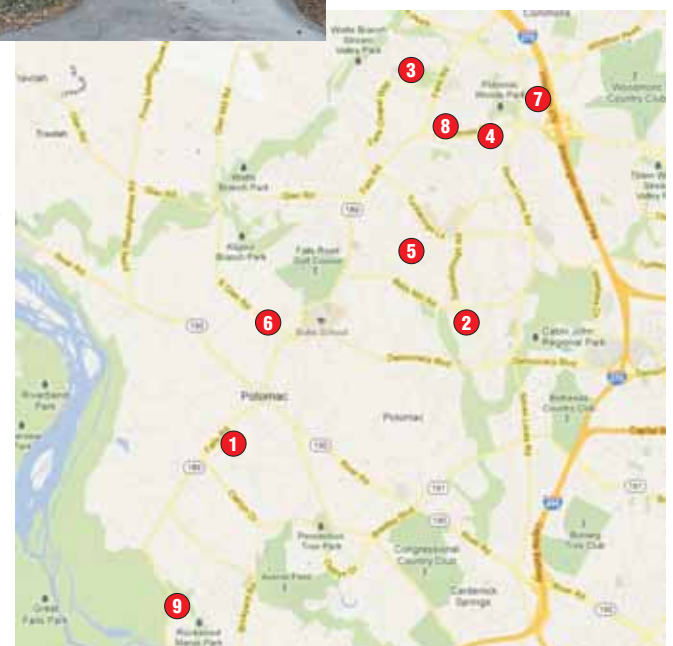


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PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



A steel drum was one of the instruments on display during a multicultural festival at Wayside Elementary School in Potomac. The event was part of the school's Black History Month observance.

Learning From the Past

What some area schools are doing to celebrate Black History Month.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

The sound of steel drums vibrates through the air of a crowded auditorium in Potomac. In McLean, Va., elementary school girls share their understanding of the struggles of Rosa Parks. A group of second graders from Alexandria, Va., treks to downtown Washington to see the massive memorial statue of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Area schools are celebrating Black History Month with activities like these. They range from student-led faculty meetings to music and food-filled festivals. In fact, some school officials say acquiring knowledge of the history of the African-American community is a significant part of a well-rounded education.

"I think acknowledging and celebrating Black History Month is important because we're not yet in a place where we can say that we're paying attention to the contributions, perspectives and experiences of African-Americans in this country on a consistent basis," said Rodney Glasgow, head of the Middle School at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac.

A group of eighth-grade boys at St. Andrew's led a faculty meeting and told teachers and staff what it's like to be African-American teenagers. "The boys helped our faculty understand a little bit more about where they come from and some of their unique perspectives and challenges," said Glasgow. "It is different way to celebrate Black History Month, but we're hoping to do something meaningful and really address the state of African-Americans in our culture."

Also in Potomac, the multicultural festival at Wayside Elementary School earlier this month gave the school's families an opportunity to share their diverse histories. "We had food, activities, cultural dancing and background on specific countries," said Courtney Jones, Wayside's assistant principal. "It was in our gym and each country had a table set up with information. There were countries like Italy, Korea, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, several African coun-

tries, Haiti and even the United States. Families within our community showed photos and artifacts and dressed in traditional clothing. People were able to circulate and learn about each country."

Ann Richardson Miller, director of admission for The Madeira School, in McLean, Va., said students there shared a school tradition: "We had an all-school meeting in which a team of eight Madeira students who had attended the Student Diversity Leadership Conference [in Texas] ... discussed their experiences. Madeira has sent a team of students to that conference for the past 10 years."

Kindergarten through third grade students at the Potomac School in McLean, Va., researched, wrote and read essays about famous African-Americans. "Each homeroom teacher selects one black American each week whose achievements have had a positive impact on our nation," said David Grant, the school's director of diversity and inclusion. "The students write a report about that person. Three or four students from each class will do a short presentation during a school assembly on each Friday during February. Students will have learned about 12 important African-Americans by the time the assembly is over."

In Alexandria, Va., Linda Stratton, director of communications for St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School said that the school's second grade students wrote letters to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and read them aloud during the school's annual "Letters to MLK" program, which included songs, poetry and photo presentations. They also visited the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial.

"In the lower school, our multicultural director meets with students in grades 3-5 regularly at lunchtime to watch short films and discuss various topics," said Stratton. "This month, they watched the film, 'The Children of Birmingham,' an animation that describes the powerful role young people had in changing the laws of segregation in Birmingham, Alabama. Then they discussed what they can do as children to contribute to our world today."

Stratton added, "In the middle school, a weekly chapel service focused on Black History Month. Students shared their own perspectives. Themes focused on honoring the unique value of each person, accepting and valuing yourself, and being courageous. The upper school is planning a student forum at lunchtime focused on topics related to Black History Month."

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Churchill Beats Watkins Mill for Win No. 17



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Allen Njumbe, seen earlier this season, scored a career-high 34 points against Watkins Mill on Feb. 15.

Since taking the job five seasons ago, Churchill head coach Matt Miller's teams have been known for tough defense and opportunistic offense. However, if the last two games are any indication of things to come, the Bulldogs may soon become known for something else — high octane offense.

Fresh off a 79-point performance on Feb. 12 against Northwood, the Bulldogs decided to go five points better in an 84-64 victory over Watkins Mill, Friday evening at Watkins Mill. The 84-point outburst was the highest total produced by the Bulldogs (17-4) during Miller's tenure.

SPORTS BRIEFS

"When you are able to put up 79 or 84 points in game, it takes a little pressure off of our defense," Miller said. "Guys are starting to feel a little more comfortable in the offense and we are getting contributions from a lot of different guys on different nights. On the flip side, we need to keep working on our defense because we can't count on scoring 80 points or so every game as we get into the playoffs."

Churchill burst out of the gates against the Wolverines with an 18-8 first quarter and then extended the lead to 17 points (40-23) at the half. Sophomore Jesse Locke and junior Allen Njumbe keyed the Churchill attack in the first half with 15 and 12 points, respectively.

However, the Bulldogs had a significant defensive lapse in the third quarter and suddenly Watkins Mill was back in the game, trailing by just nine points as the fourth quarter began. The Wolverines eventually narrowed the lead to just three points before Njumbe took over the game, drawing numerous fouls while attacking the basket, en route to a 14-for-18 shooting performance at the line to help Churchill regain a comfortable margin late in the fourth quarter as they outscored Watkins Mill 27-16 for the quarter.

"We've been waiting for Allen to do something like

this all season," Miller said. "He has the ability to be very good for us most nights and you could see his confidence growing all evening."

For the game, Churchill had a balanced attack led by Njumbe who finished with a career-high 34 points, Locke, who recorded his first career double-double with 20 points and 10 rebounds, and senior Dominique Williams who added 18 points. As a team, the Bulldogs shot 54 percent from the field and made 34 of their 43 attempts from the line (79 percent).

Churchill also out-rebounded Watkins Mill 36-20 for the game and forced 20 turnovers. Senior Bryant Wheatley was solid defensively for the Bulldogs in the paint and grabbed seven rebounds.

— CHURCHILL BOYS' BASKETBALL PROGRAM

Churchill Boys' Basketball Earns No. 2 Seed

The Churchill boys' basketball team earned the No. 2 seed and a first-round bye in the 4A West regional playoffs. The Bulldogs will face the winner of No. 7 Wootton and No. 10 Clarksburg in the quarterfinals. Wootton and Clarksburg will play at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 26. Whitman is the No. 11 seed and will travel to face No. 6 Walter Johnson in the opening round on Tuesday, Feb. 26.

Whitman Girls' Basketball Earns First-Round Bye

The Whitman girls' basketball team will be the No. 2 seed in the 4A West regional playoffs and receive a first-round bye. The Vikings will face the winner of No. 7 Richard Montgomery and No. 10 Blair.

Wootton is the No. 8 seed and will host No. 9 Magruder. Churchill is the No. 13 seed and will travel to face No. 4 Northwest.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Mitchell Bradley Eisenberger graduated with a bachelor of science degree in packaging science from Clemson University.

Alexandra Burris was named to the dean's list for the 2012 fall semester at Messiah College.

Nicole Bonan, Richard Brown, Jenna Jach, Taylor Kelly, Perri Miller, Victoria Nadel and **Laura Sperling** have been named to the University of Delaware's dean's list.

Dylan T. Thayer, son of Jody and Bradley Thayer, has been named to the dean's list at Hamilton College for the 2012 fall semester. Thayer, a senior majoring in classical languages and religious studies, is a graduate of Saint Andrew's Episcopal School.

Emily Beth Kowal, majoring in general engineering; **Helene Emily Katz**, majoring in graphic communications; and **Megan Ann Scanlan**, majoring in psychology have been named to the Dean's List at Clemson University for the fall 2012 semester.

Laura Ardila, Lucas Chang and

Daniel Tsoy have been named to the Cornell University College of Arts and Sciences' dean's list for fall semester.

Jared Borns, Elaine Bucknam, Emily Buetow, James Kelly, Michelle Livshin, Erin O'Connor, Lydia Roca and **Michael Shilling** were named to the dean's list at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Mariel Rezende has earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Nathaniel Hoffman was named to the dean's list at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College.

Diana Bender-Bier, a student at Charles E Smith Jewish Day School, and **Matthew Digan**, a student at Walt Whitman High School, will represent Maryland as National Youth Delegates to the 2013 Washington Youth Summit on the Environment at George Mason University.

Lauren Markham was named to the St. Olaf College dean's list for the fall 2012 semester. Markham is a music major. She is the daughter of David and Karen Markham.

Samuel Margolis was named to the dean's list at Washington College in

Chestertown, Md. Samuel is a class of 2014 sociology major.

Olga Matthews received a master of education degree in school counseling from Bowie State University on Dec. 21. Matthews was one of 415 students to graduate during the Winter 2012 Commencement.

The following students from Colgate University were recipients of the dean's award for academic excellence during the 2012 fall term:

A member of the Colgate class of 2013, **Rebecca Friedland** is a graduate of Charles E. Smith Jewish Day HS. A member of the Colgate class of 2014, **Rebecca Murphy** is a graduate of Winston Churchill High School.

A member of the Colgate class of 2015, **Juliane Wiese** is a graduate of The Academy of the Holy Cross.

A member of the Colgate class of 2014, **Avery Albert** is a graduate of Winston Churchill High School.

Timothy Fisher, a member of the class of 2015 at Washington and Lee University, was named to the dean's list at the university.

The following Mount St. Mary's University students were named to the dean's list: **Bernadette Corso** a junior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Corso; **Mary Corso** a junior and

the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Corso; **Karolina Gajdeczka** a senior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Przemyslaw Gajdeczka; **Cristina Gonzalez** a sophomore and the daughter of Ms. Marta Fuentes; and **Tim Nardi** a freshman and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Nardi.

Rebecca Bader was named to the dean's list at The University of Hartford.

William Dorfman has been named to the University of Delaware's dean's list.

Georgia Anas, a member of the class of 2013 at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., has received faculty honors for the 2012 fall semester.

The following James Madison University students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2012 semester: **Michelle Healey** is a sophomore whose major is media arts and design. **Daniel Kator** is a senior whose major is public policy and administration.

The following students were named to the dean's list at Tufts University: **Emma Levitt** class of 2015 and **Andrew Linder** class of 2016.

The following local residents from Wake Forest University made the fall 2012 dean's list: **Emma Anderson**,

Abigail Blair, Sabrina Chanock, Allison Durham, Jenna Eisenberger, William Johnson, Daniel Wadler, Allison Ward and **Rachel Yang**

Patrick Sullivan has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2012 semester at Salve Regina University. Sullivan is a senior majoring in accounting.

John Jankosky, Colleen Krizan and **Neffetara Morris** have been named to the dean's list at Frostburg State University.

Nicholas S. O'Brien has been named to second honors on the Clark University dean's list.

Hannah Goldstein, Sarah Krame, Gabrielle Siegel and **Hal Zeitlin** were named to the dean's list at Emory College.

Jonathon Jalen Bulick, a sophomore environmental studies major at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2012 semester.

A graduate of Winston Churchill High School, he is the son of John and Yolanda Bulick.

Sarah Krame received a bachelor of arts degree from Emory College of Arts and Sciences at Emory University.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Choosing a Summer Camp

Region offers programs for children with interests ranging from sports to drama to science.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

While most of Washington is braving the winter weather, April Toman has been planning for summer. At the top of her list: choosing a camp for her two children, Claire, who is in fifth grade, and Will, who is a second grader.

"I start thinking about it in January," said Toman, who lives in Alexandria, Va. "I talk to my kids about what they are interested in taking. There are so many options and the popular camps fill up quickly."

Education experts say summer camp is an important part of a childhood experience, and parents should start considering options well before the end of the school year.

"I think summer camps are wonderful for kids," said Tammy Davis, a doctor of education and a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington, Va. "Sometimes kids lose ground over the summer, especially with regard to their mental activity. Summer camp can continue brain development, especially with regard to creativity, mental activity, physical activity and social activity."

Davis, who is a former camp counselor, elementary school teacher and school counselor, said children who are not exposed to new social activities could become isolated during the summer months. "If your kids are only playing video games or going to the pool every day, they run the risk of cocooning themselves," she said. "Choose a camp that expands your child's horizons, that will be stimulating and engaging and where they will develop new friendships without the pressure of an academic environment."

Toman, whose children will attend summer camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, Va., says that from traditional day camps to specialty camps, the options for children are plentiful. "My children have done junior veterinarian camp in the past, and this year we might try an eco-adventures camp."

FROM SPORTS TO SCIENCE, the Washington region is filled with camps that will suit almost every child. For example, Annie Moyer, director of the Sun & Moon Yoga Studio in Arlington and Fairfax, Va., says yoga camps are options even for children who have never practiced yoga. "No yoga experience is necessary," she said. "We do yoga games and poses, breathing, artistic expression and, weather permitting, outdoor playground time."

For youngsters with a passion for all things artistic, Jeanne Loveland, education director for the Greater Reston Arts Center, suggests art camp. "Our camps are based on the GRACE mission, which is contemporary art" she said. "There are some discussions and there are art projects. There is one camp of messy art projects that your mom would never let you do at home. The camps are educational, but also fun. We will bring in local artists."

Loveland added that during one session, students will learn about public art, and "will create a public art work that will be displayed publicly after the



Students attending the Norwood School summer camp enjoy sailing.

camp."

Jim Supple, director of summer programs at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, encourages parents to consider specialty camps as well as traditional day camps. "Specialty camps are great ways to try new things, to expand horizons, and to challenge yourself," he said. "Children are naturally curious and specialty camps provide a way for children to learn more about their interests. If a child is not the most athletic and would rather learn about fashion or photography, acting or magic, specialty camps provide that outlet. They allow children to find things that they are good at and lets them be proud in that activity."

While the thought of academic camps might cause some children to cringe, Mollianne Logerwell, Ph.D., director of science education at George Mason University's Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement, says that does not have to be the case. George Mason hosts science camps, and "students frequently tell us that camp was not only fun, but also increased their interest in science," she said. "Additionally, classroom teachers have told us that students who attended a VISTA camp ask higher-level questions and are more engaged in science lessons than students who did not attend camp."

Logerwell said VISTA camps are geared toward low-income students. "It's also a great way to expose families with limited knowledge to the possibility of attending and affording college."

WITH SO MANY OPTIONS for summer camps, choosing the best camp for your child can be overwhelming. "When parents are looking for a camp, they should try to find a camp where they're comfortable with the facility, the programming, and counselors and staff," said Kevin Rechen, camp director for the Norwood School in Bethesda.

Gabrielle Summers, who is planning to send her children to summer camp at the Norwood School, says that she considers safety first. "Second, [I consider] the qualifications of counselors and leadership and their love of the children. [Then] I look at cost, early bird discounts, payment due dates and cancellation policies."

For those who may not be able to afford the cost of summer camp, Rechen suggests that parents do a little research. "Many summer camps offer financial aid," he said. "There are also foundations that give grants for camps." No matter which camp a child attends, however, Davis has one caution: "Be careful about over-scheduling camps, doing back-to-back camps and not giving children down time," she said. "Some people use camp as day care and that is not always a good thing."

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

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Definition of "Slippery Slope"

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Figuratively speaking, of course. That definition being: a late stage cancer patient/survivor previously characterized as "terminal" awaiting the results of their most recent diagnostic scan. A scan that will indicate whether the tumors have grown, moved or God forbid, appeared somewhere new. If your life hung in the balance before the scan, waiting for results of this however-many-months-interval-scan will most assuredly loosen your figurative grip on your equilibrium and your most literal grip on your sanity. This is a domain, unlike the one referred to in one of the more infamous Seinfeld episodes, that one cannot master. To invoke and slightly rework Dan Patrick's "catch" phrase: You can't stop it, you can only hope to contain it.

Unfortunately, for many of us cancer patients, cancer is the big dog, and if it wants to get off the porch, it will. Our staying put on the porch, however, won't likely protect those of us inflicted with this most insidious disease. In fact, standing pat – on or off the porch, isn't likely to have much effect, either. In many cases (make that individuals) cancer is in control. In the medical profession, as much as it has researched and studied, and as many dollars as it has committed in the pursuit of eradicating cancer, the reality is there is much work yet to be done. Though many improvements in diagnosis and treatment have occurred, thereby lengthening life expectancies (I'm living proof of that); still, in many (make that most, let's be honest) instances, "cancer" is the last word anyone wants to hear associated with whatever symptoms manifested themselves that led to their seeking a medical evaluation in the first place.

I wouldn't say that a terminal patient's day-to-day existence is chaotic, but neither would I characterize it as the most predictable set of circumstances. I imagine it's a bit like living in the wild, where you have to live by your wits and trust your instincts. Moreover, I don't know of any Living with Cancer for Dummies-type book full of wit and wisdom that exists for the newly diagnosed cancer patient. Being there – diagnosed and treated for cancer previously – and currently, and having already done that (lived/evolved with a terminal prognosis), certainly helps moving forward, but it's hardly a desirable location and certainly not a cure-all (I wouldn't mind if it were a cure-this-one, though). However, given the choices, I'd rather have the experience (meaning I've survived) than not (the definition of DUH). Avoiding it altogether is the goal. However, as this lifelong non-smoker with no immediate family history of cancer can attest: that is much easier written than realized.

But as you regular readers know, I don't complain. It's a miracle/amazing/extremely fortunate/inexplicable almost, that I am still sitting here – upright and fairly productive, four years into a "13-month to two-year prognosis." I wouldn't describe my diagnosis-to-date, Kenny-with-cancer life as having been a walk in the park; more like a series of mini challenges, akin to crossing a stream dotted with stepping stones. Still, it is life, and I am living it, and I'm certainly not going to let a few stones – figuratively or literally, get in my way. Cancer be damned.

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

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

The Puppet Co. at Glen Echo Park has announced its 2012-2013 season. There are favorite fairytale princesses, and a special guest artist with a bilingual twist. 301-634-5380 or www.thepuppetco.org. **Alice in Wonderland**, Feb. 14-March 10, Thursdays and Fridays at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.; **Jack and the Beanstalk**, March. 14-Apr. 21, Thursdays and Fridays at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Theater. Through March 10, Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda, showcases "Anime Momotaro," a Japanese folktale that teaches about inner strength and the ability to stand up against bullying. Tickets range \$12-\$25 and available online at www.imaginationstage.org or 301-280-1660.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 20

Apps, Apps and More Apps. Join Joan Green, the founder of Innovative Speech and author of "The Ultimate Guide to Assistive Technology in Special Education," as she explores the world of apps. Call 301-468-9343.

Tiny Tots. 10 a.m. at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Children up to age 4 can enjoy a short 30-min show. Lights stay on, doors open and everyone has a good time. \$5/person including babies-in-arms. Pre-purchase or no-obligation reservations recommended. Visit www.thepuppetco.org or 301-634-5380.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Blues Dance. 8:15-11:30 p.m. at Ballroom Annex at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Capital Blues presents a beginner workshop at 8:15 p.m. with dancing starting at 9 p.m. to blues music from every corner of the genre. \$8. E-mail info@capitalblues.org for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 22

Bingo Night. 7-9 p.m. at Clara Barton Community Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. \$5/bingo card. Prizes can be chosen from an adult or children's table, with all children receiving a prize at the end of the night. Refreshments will be available for purchase with proceeds benefitting the center. Visit www.friendsofclara bartoncommunitycenter.org or 240-777-4910.

Contra and Square Dance. Lessons at 7:30 p.m. with dancing at 8:30 p.m. to the music of Nor'easter at Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. \$12/nonmember; \$9/FSGW member. Visit www.fsgw.org for more.

Donate Used Books. Drop off books at Congregation Beth Shalom, 11825 Seven Locks Road, to benefit the new library. 301-279-7010.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Children's Talk and Tour. 10:15 at Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Children ages 5 and up with adult can take part in this free event. Tickets required. Visit www.strathmore.org or 301-581-5100.

Art Talk for Adults. 1 p.m. at Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Free. Visit www.strathmore.org or 301-581-5100.

Tiny Tots. 10 a.m. at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Children up to age 4 can enjoy a short 30-min



"Three by the Sea" by Elizabeth Steuart.

show. Lights stay on, doors open and everyone has a good time. \$5/person including babies-in-arms. Pre-purchase or no-obligation reservations recommended. Visit www.thepuppetco.org or 301-634-5380.

Swing Dance. Beginner lesson at 8 p.m. with dancing from 9 p.m.-midnight in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Hear music from Tom Cunningham Orchestra. \$15. E-mail info@dclx.com for more.

Art Showcase. Noon-5 p.m. at Glen Echo Park's Yellow Barn Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Christophe Imbrie displays his voice through colorful abstract art. Free. Visit www.christopherimbrie.com.

SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Performance. 7 p.m. at Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. See pianist Simone Dinnerstein perform Bach and more. Tickets \$28-85. Visit www.wpas.org or 202-785-9727.

Tiny Tots. 10 a.m. at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Children up to age 4 can enjoy a short 30-min show. Lights stay on, doors open and everyone has a good time. \$5/person including babies-in-arms. Pre-purchase or no-obligation reservations recommended. Visit www.thepuppetco.org or 301-634-5380.

Ballroom Tea Dance. 3-6 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The Hot Society Orchestra of Washington will play music from the 20s, 30s and 40s. \$14 includes the lesson at 3 p.m. E-mail dave@hotsociety.net for more.

Argentine Tango. 6:30-11 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Dancers can enjoy hour-long beginner lessons at 6:30 p.m. or intermediate lessons at 7:30 p.m. DJ Rene Davila will provide a mix of traditional and nuevo tango music. \$15 includes the lesson; \$10 dance only. E-mail ciardo8130@yahoo.com for more.

Contra and Square Dance. Lessons

at 7 p.m. with dancing at 7:30 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. \$12/nonmember; \$9/FSGW member. Visit www.fsgw.org for band information.

Reception. 5-7 p.m. at Glen Echo Park's Yellow Barn Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Christophe Imbrie displays his voice through colorful abstract art. Free. Visit www.christopherimbrie.com for more.

Book Club. 3-5 p.m. at Beth Shalom Congregation, 11825 Seven Locks Road. Read "The Lost Wife" by Alyson Richman. The author plans to join. Free. E-mail Tanya Lampert at alamp9608@yahoo.com for more.

Book Sale and Purim Carnival. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom, 11825 Seven Locks Road. Enjoy games, rides, silent auction and lunch. Tickets will be available for purchase. E-mail Tanya Lampert at library@bethsholom.org or 301-279-7010. Proceeds benefit the new library.

THROUGH FEB. 24

Theater. See "Winnie the Pooh" at Adventure Theatre MTC at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Performances: Saturdays, 11 a.m., 2 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. Tickets \$19. More information: 301-634-2270 or adventuretheatre-mtc.org.

THROUGH FEB. 25

Art Exhibit. See local artists' work in the exhibit "Taking it Outside" at Gallery Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road. Features paintings, photography and ceramics. Free. 703-299-7087.

TUESDAY/FEB. 26

Carnival Day. 4-6 p.m. at Potomac's Shoe Train in the Cabin John Shopping Mall. Enjoy carnival games, face painting, tattoos and more.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

Music Performance. Artist in Residence Wytold will perform on

the electric cello at 7:30 p.m. at Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. \$15/person. Visit www.strathmore.org for more.

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

Blues Dance. 8:15-11:30 p.m. at Ballroom Annex at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Capital Blues presents a beginner workshop at 8:15 p.m. with dancing starting at 9 p.m. to blues music from every corner of the genre. \$8. E-mail info@capitalblues.org for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 1

Family Fun Night. 7-10 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Learn about Club Friday with moon bounce, obstacle course, raffle and more. For families with elementary and middle school aged children. Free. 240-777-6960.

SATURDAY/MARCH 2

Free Workshop. 1:30-3:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 6030 Grosvenor Lane. Learn how dogs communicate in play settings and more. Free. To register, go to www.yourdogsfriend.info or call 301-983-5913.

Tango Performance and Artist Talk. 3-7 p.m. at Exhibit9 Gallery, 10116 Lloyd Road. \$10/advance; \$15/door. Proceeds benefit the S. Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. Space is limited. Artists will talk on a variety of mediums. 202-276-9419.

THROUGH MARCH 2

Art Exhibit. Gallery B presents its February exhibition, featuring photographers Howard Clark, Martin Evans, Stephen Hoff and Dave Montgomery. The exhibit will be on display at Gallery B, located at 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Gallery hours are Wednesday - Saturday, noon-6 p.m.

SUNDAY/MARCH 3

Strathmore Show: Pianist Alain LeFèvre. 4 p.m. The Canadian pianist will perform the Washington



"Turn Back" by Elizabeth Steuart.

Signs of Life

Photoworks Gallery and Photography School presents Signs of Life - A Photography Exhibition by Elizabeth Steuart, through March 18, 2013. There is more than meets the eye in the evocative landscape scenes in Elizabeth Steuart's black and white silver prints. Poised at the edge of nature, her images, though unpopulated, suggest an unseen human presence. Natural and man-made elements are woven together in compositions reminiscent of a stage set, as if the camera shutter were the curtain for an act just completed, or not yet begun. Gallery hours are Saturdays 1-4 p.m. and Sundays 1-8 p.m. Free, open to the public. Photoworks Gallery and Photography School at Glen Echo Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Boulevard. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

premiere of Francois Dompierre's "24 Preludes," written for and dedicated to the pianist by the composer. The Mansion at Strathmore 10701 Rockville Pike. Visit www.strathmore.org.

Fused Glass Seder Plate Workshop. 2-6 p.m. at at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Anyone age 12 and up can learn the basics of working with colorful sheet glass, including selecting, cutting and combining to build a complete piece. \$175. To register, visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

Waltz. 2:45 p.m. lesson; 3:30 p.m. dance to the music of Contratopia in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. \$10. No partner required. Visit www.waltztimedances.org or 301-634-2222.

THROUGH MARCH 3

Art Exhibit. Six local printmakers will share their creative journeys using traditional and other techniques with mixed media. In the Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Open Saturdays and Sundays noon-6 p.m. Visit www.glenechopark.org or 301-634-2222.

MONDAY/MARCH 4

Benefit Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Winston Churchill High School Auditorium. Hear music by the Churchill Wind Ensemble and the Capital Wind Symphony. Proceeds support the middle and high school music programs within the Wootton-Churchill cluster. \$10/adult; \$5/child; band and orchestra players within the cluster are free. Tickets must be purchased online at www.capitalwindsymphony.org.

MARCH 6 THROUGH APRIL 14

Children's Theater. Imagination Stage and Natasha Holmes, cofounder of Tell Tale Hearts Children's Touring Theatre Company presents "From Here to There." Visit www.imaginationstage.org.

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