



PHOTOS BY COLLEEN HEALY/THE ALMANAC



'Within Reach: My Everest Story'

The 7th grade language arts class at St. Raphael School talked via Skype with author Jack Galvin about "Within Reach: My Everest Story" by Mark Pftetzer and Jack Galvin. The book recounts a 16-year-old boy's attempt to climb Mt. Everest. The class discussed the themes of the book, what happens after the story ended and how the author took the book from idea to publication. The story was inspiring for the students to learn about a teen having to plan and finance his expedition. Galvin encouraged the students to read for enjoyment and hone their writing skills.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

SATURDAY/FEB. 16

Addiction Family Support.

Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Second Chance Addiction Care, 9800 Falls Road, Suite 7, Potomac. Second Chance Addiction Care, a boutique substance abuse facility, offers free support for anyone with a loved one suffering from addiction. Contact Robert Roth at roth@secondchancecare.com or 301-983-5130. Visit

www.secondchancecare.com for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 19

1-1 Business Coaching Sessions.

Empowered Women International will hold 1-1 Business Coaching Sessions each Tuesday, until the end of February in their Maryland Office, for Montgomery County residents. Spots are limited. Visit ewint.org for more.

Budget Input Sought. 7-8:30 p.m. At the Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe St., Cafeteria, Terrace Level, Rockville. The Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget (OMB) invites you to participate in an interactive budget forum using

"Balancing Act" – a new, online tool designed to increase public engagement during the FY20 budget process. Register for this free event at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/omb/interactive-budget-development-forum.html.

FRIDAY/FEB. 22

Art Contest Entry Deadline.

4 p.m. The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is accepting entries for the 2019 edition of its annual "Storm Drain Art Contest" that uses creative art to emphasize the connection between storm drains, streams and the Chesapeake Bay. In April, the art work of five contest winners will be

painted on storm drains in Germantown in honor of Earth Day. Visit mygreenmontgomery.org/art for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

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The Woods Academy CyberPatriot 8th Grade Team (from left) Owen Basso, Alice Harper, Sophia Alves, Martin Gaszner, and Will Lankenau.

Woods Academy CyberPatriot Team Advances

Both CyberPatriot Teams at The Woods Academy have competed at the regional and state level this school year. The 8th Grade Team has advanced to Semifinal Round and is ranked in the top third in the nation in the Middle School Division. The 7th Grade Team was just eight points shy of advancing to the Semifinal Round.

The Woods Academy is one of only 15

schools in Maryland that sponsors a CyberPatriot Team in the Middle School Division.

These teams prepare for the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition during which the students are tasked with finding cybersecurity vulnerabilities and strengthening the systems while maintaining service in the given virtual networks.

An Eye on Development

FROM PAGE 3

in the Piney Branch Special Protection Area next to the Glen Hills Park ... [contained] errors that, if not reversed, will have profound, adverse environmental impacts not just at this site, but throughout the County, particularly in the statutorily established and protected Special Protection Areas. The four most glaring errors are:

❖ Failure to cite, let alone address, the County's Environmental Guidelines that govern all such developments;

❖ Blatantly erroneous calculation of the required stream buffer resulting in housing construction on steep slopes adjacent to the stream;

❖ Failure to delineate and provide for wetland buffers required by State law; and,

❖ Failure to ensure the establishment of stream buffers required by the Piney Branch Sewer Agreement Covenant."

"It was a good discussion of the arguments," said Susanne Lee, WMCCA member and former president.

"We wanted to know which standards the Planning Board were following. It's important because [the reason] you have protection is for water quality."

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