

Potomac ALMANAC

Cyclists ride down the path along
the canal in the Chesapeake & Ohio
Canal National Historical Park.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2017-2018

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PHOTO BY MARY KIMM/THE ALMANAC

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AUGUST 23-29, 2017

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Weaving Threads of a River, a Canal, a Vision and a Plan

BY GINNY BARNES

Ever wonder why you are attracted to Potomac? Why you choose to live here or choose to stay? You may not see it on first arrival but Potomac has a history defined and shaped by water. Part of a long river valley. Its strategic planning over much of the last century has been urged forward by a vital imperative to protect the water we all need to sustain life.

The geographic area we know as the Potomac Subregion is defined and named for the mighty Potomac River, settled by Paleo-Indians some 12,000 years ago. Great Falls marked the fall line; a point in the river where canoes had to leave the water and portage around the powerful falls. It became a gathering place for native peoples; a place to trade goods and exchange information. In the early 1700s, European explorers arrived and settled. They cleared the forests and grew tobacco on large plantations. Tobacco cultivation quickly depleted soil nutrients. Local planters turned to grains. Mills sprung up on streams leading to the Potomac. Our roads still bear their names. Names such as Glen Mill, Dufief Mill and Query Mill. In 1828, President John Quincy Adams broke ground for the C&O Canal near Little Falls. It was envisioned as a major commercial venture. By 1831, there were 20 miles of canal in use from Georgetown to Seneca Here, a distinctive red sandstone was quarried and the canal facilitated movement of it down river.

Many canal lock houses and most of the aqueducts were built of Seneca sandstone. Construction of the Washington Aqueduct in the 1850s insured clean drinking water from above Great Falls. Also by 1850, the C&O Canal had extended to Cumberland, giving access to rich veins of coal. The canal became a primary transportation corridor, supporting a thriving commercial culture of canal boats pulled by mules moving farm produce, building materials, flour, coal



The canal and towpath near widewater in autumn.

and finished goods up and down the 180-mile length.

Despite the Civil War, the C&O Canal continued to operate and by the 1870s it began to make some profit in tolls and tonnage moved. More than 500 boats were plying the canal, carrying mostly coal. But it was not to last. By the 1880s, railroads had taken the lead in transporting goods, and they could carry coal to the deeper harbor in Baltimore. In June of 1889, a devastating flood tore through the Potomac River valley.

The destruction far exceeded any ability of the canal company to borrow for repairs. Canal boats, lockhouses and the vital infrastructure itself had been swept into the river. The canal lay idle all summer and fall of 1889 and didn't operate at all in 1890. Then came a savior in the form of the B&O Railroad which took over and operated the canal into the early 1920s even as profits diminished. Gradually, it declined and only a lower portion was kept watered; just enough to supply water to mills in Georgetown.

It was 1926 when the idea of a Federal highway on the canal right-of-way was first raised but B&O Railway was opposed. The Great Depression changed the conversation because President Franklin Roosevelt had an uncle who was chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. He wanted a project for the Civilian Conservation Corps. B&O owed money and wanted



PHOTOS BY GINNY BARNES

to borrow further so the Federal government was able to purchase the canal for \$2 million in 1938. Work started and the first 20 miles was restored. World War II and a devastating flood in 1942 washed away the restoration. When the war ended, the Army Corps of Engineers unveiled a plan to build a series of 14 dams to control river flooding. One, proposed for just above Great Falls would have flooded the river valley and backed up the Potomac nearly to Harpers Ferry. Along came another proposal for a parkway similar to Skyline Drive.

Meanwhile, Potomac had remained a small village reached by dirt roads, initially known as Offutts Crossroads. After World War II a new breed of settlers began to arrive. They wanted to get out of the city, raise children in the country and were willing to put up with inconveniences like lack of electricity and roads still little more than wagon tracks. The land was exhausted by farming. The area had flirted with gold mining after the Civil War. Land was inexpensive. The forests, once cleared for farming were returning along stream valleys leading to the river. Potomac was green, open and appealing to courageous newcomers.

There were still farms and orchards but during the 1950s and '60s many between Potomac Village and Rockville were developed for housing. The first vicinity plan for Potomac/Travilah was adopted in 1967. It was designed to preserve the rural-residential character with open space and low den-

sity zoning. It recommended creating several stream valley parks. In 1980, a Potomac Subregion Plan was adopted. Most recently revised in 2002, the current plan consistently upholds and expands our environmental framework with an imperative to protect and enhance natural resources.

Our subregion is considered a transition between the urban down county and the agricultural lands to our north. We are known as a "green wedge" Our stream, wetland and forest resources are critical to protecting the public

water supply. The water filtration plant on River Road provides nearly all drinking water to Montgomery County. All 68 square miles of the Potomac Subregion drain to the Potomac River. The Watts Branch empties into the Potomac just upstream of the filtration plant

Today, more than ever before, our lives are bound to the waters of the Potomac. We are fortunate that in 1954, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas penned his famous letter to the Washington Post after they had endorsed the highway plan, inviting them to join him on a walking tour of the towpath; starting the movement to preserve it. Parkway and dam ideas still surfaced but in January 1971, the C&O Canal was designated a National Historical Park. We are fortunate. Geology, history, good planning and some visionary people make it possible for us to experience history. We can walk or bike to Cumberland or Georgetown on the towpath. We can kayak and canoe. We can visit the Great Falls; the remains of a red sandstone quarry at Seneca and ride a canal boat drawn by mules. We have access to endless trails. There is a lifetime of adventures to be found right here at home.

Ginny Barnes is a weaver, environmental activist, and sometime writer. She served on the 2002 Master Plan Advisory Group and is currently Environmental Chair and incoming President of the West Montgomery County Citizens Association (WMCCA) which was founded in 1947.

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Things To Do Here are some recommendations from community members.

BY GIL JACOBSON
THE ALMANAC

The 184.5-mile long C&O Canal runs from Georgetown to Cumberland and there are many resources that can be spotted along the way.

“I lived right next to the C&O Canal. I love the canal,” said Roger Berliner, Montgomery County Council President, District 1

Squeals on Wheels’ Jill Phillips said walking and hiking along the Canal and the Potomac River is her favorite thing to do in Potomac. “It’s an ever-changing scene based on the season. It doesn’t matter when you go there, it’s awesome.”

“Number one on my list would probably be Great Falls just because there’s a million things to do there — hiking, biking, [running], fishing, [kayaking], [canoeing] — anything outdoors over there” said Grant Phillips of Squeals on Wheels.

“I remember when I was growing up, I always used to do the [walk for multiple sclerosis] at Great Falls,” said Kate Brownstein, Squeals on Wheels. “I don’t believe that they do that there anymore, but I just remember having a lot of memories on the towpath and so now it’s me coming back as an adult. So my favorite thing is just to walk around. And every season. It’s nice in the winter time. It’s nice in the fall. It’s not too hot in the summer. It’s just a really pleasant experience and there’s also so many different areas to explore. Each time you go in a different entrance, it feels like a different part.”

Potomac Community Village Vice President of Membership and Programming Joan Kahn enjoys hiking by the Potomac River. “It’s just great and so close by. So I love walking along there,” she said.

❖ Services of the Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, include a 24-hour book drop, a room for meetings and one for quiet study. Available technology includes a charging station for mobile devices, photocopying, printing, public computers and



Potomac’s C&O Canal has multiple overlooks of the falls.



Winston Churchill High School hosts multiple athletic events and performances.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LUCY UNCU

WiFi. Upcoming events include Family Storytime on Aug. 24 as well as a performance from the Alice Gu-Zheng Ensemble and a Potomac Conversation Club meeting on Aug. 26.

“It’s working with the community,” Potomac Library Branch Manager Tina Rawhouser said of the best part about the library. “Getting to know people that come in, seeing the families come in, kids on storytime day and seeing that the community is very engaged with continuing to learn things and have discussions about things. That’s something that’s a little bit different from the other branches that I’ve been in is that level of wanting lifelong learning is important to the area. But the best thing really is being able to meet and work with the people that are here.”

❖ Shops and restaurants in Potomac Village, at the intersection of Falls and River Road includes Hunter’s Bar and Grill, Sprinkles Potomac, PRFC Inc, Chico’s and Potomac Promenade.

“There are some good places to eat and some other interesting shops as you walk through. It’s great being so close to all of them be-

cause I can always walk somewhere new for lunch when I need to”, said Tina Rawhouser, Branch Manager, Potomac Library.



The entrance to the Potomac Library on Glenolden Drive.



The entrance to Normandie Farm restaurant on Falls Road.

❖ Normandie Farm, 10710 Falls Road, includes cathedral beamed ceilings and a French decor. It is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, Sunday brunch and afternoon tea, Tuesday-Sunday.

“Normandy Farm definitely [has] an older inside to the restaurant. You can see that horse culture on the walls, with the hounds and the old decorations,” said Grant Phillips of Squeals on Wheels.

❖ “There’s always a lot going on in the schools, Churchill, and just different sporting events or theater activities,”

said Grant Phillips of Squeals on Wheels. Winston Churchill High School, 11300 Gainsborough Road, encompasses Herbert Hoover

Middle School and part of Cabin John Middle School. See www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/churchills/

❖ Westfield Montgomery, 7101 Democracy Blvd. includes Abercrombie & Fitch, Apple Store, Arlight Cinemas, Chipotle, Godiva Chocolatier, Hallmark, Macy’s, Sears, Teavana and Tesla Motors.

Taegan Myers said the food court is the best part of Westfield Montgomery. “I feel like that’s where all the kids at least from my school went and we could all meet up there and just talk,” she said.



Customers can enjoy ice cream cones at Sprinkles in Potomac Village.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPRINKLES



The Westfield Montgomery food court.

PHOTOS BY GIL JACOBSON

OPINION

About the Almanac, a Connection Newspaper

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Almanac's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we report on the character of your community, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an email. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including

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births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

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We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Council's Clarifying Of Zoning Ordinance

To the Editor:

Last week the Potomac Almanac published a letter by Sara and Mark Regis, owners of Old Anglers Inn, regarding their conditional use application to build a commercial country inn on property along MacArthur Boulevard and behind the restaurant in an otherwise suburban, residential neighborhood. The property is zoned R-200 meaning that it is intended for single-family residential houses on at least 20,000 square foot (about 1D2 acre) lots. The conditional use application requests a special exception to the zoning so that Mr. Regis can build a country inn for hosting private events and banquets.

The proposed building would be 8,700 square feet, 160 feet long by 54 feet wide by 28.5 feet tall, and would include a banquet hall, commercial kitchen, and four guest rooms that can be rented on a nightly basis. This building is several times the size of a typical single-family home.

In addition, the proposed new driveway and parking lot would cover over an acre with asphalt. The proposed building is not an addition or extension to the existing Old Anglers Inn.

Rather, it is a new separate structure to be used for private weddings and banquets and will not be generally open to the public. As illustrated in the Planning Department report this is not a small boutique country inn and certainly not anything like the Inn at Little Washington.

The Zoning Ordinance defines a country inn as "an establishment for dining in a rural area." The Potomac area bounded by MacArthur Boulevard, Brickyard Road, and Falls Road is a

suburban, residential neighborhood with more than 1,000 homes and several thousand residents. Anyone who drives along MacArthur Boulevard during the morning or evening rush hours or on the weekends when the C&O Canal National Historical Park is in heavy use would agree that this area is not rural.

The County Council retains the right to amend or clarify the Zoning Ordinance when it is not properly being interpreted or applied. In June, the County Council introduced Zoning Text Amendment 17-04 that would limit conditional use applications for country inns on R-200 property to rural areas and not suburban, residential neighborhoods. The ZTA will clarify the established historic precedent that country inns in the R-200 zone be adjacent to rural zones.

All existing country inns in the R-200 zone meet the standard required by the proposed ZTA. ZTA 17-04 is sponsored or co-sponsored by all nine councilmembers. Without the ZTA, there are many properties besides Mr. Regis' property that are zoned R-200, are in residential neighborhoods, and may meet the current Zoning Ordinance requirements for a country inn. ZTA 17-04 would also protect these other residential properties throughout Montgomery County.

Mr. Regis is an attorney and he knows that his due process rights are not being abrogated. The Planning Board is scheduled to hold a hearing on ZTA 17-04 on Sept. 7. The County Council will then hold its hearing on Sept. 12. After that hearing, the council's Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee will hold a work session. The council is expected to vote on ZTA 17-04 in the fall. Mr. Regis and his attorney will have an opportunity to testify at these hearings.

Mr. Regis also accuses "rich and powerful people" from opposing his right to build what-

It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

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— MARY KIMM
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ever he wants on this property. This is poppycock. Our coalition represents a diverse group of Montgomery County stakeholders including local residents, hikers, cyclists, and people who enjoy the C&O Canal Park.

The Brickyard Coalition, River Falls Homeowners Association, Civic Association of River Falls, Woodrock Homeowners Association, West Montgomery County Citizens Association, and Montgomery Countryside Alliance and their members have very real, legitimate concerns regarding building a country inn banquet hall in this area. The C&O Canal Association and cycling groups have also expressed their concerns. Mr. Regis is welcome to develop the property for its intended use — single-family residential houses on at least 20,000 square foot lots.

This development of the property would be consistent with the Potomac Master Plan, zoning, and newer residential developments along MacArthur Boulevard. Mr. Regis has chosen not to do this and instead seeks a special exception from the zoning ordinance to build a commercial country inn banquet hall for private events.

We support ZTA 17-04 that would clarify the County Council's intent that country inns be located in rural areas. Please go to <https://brickyardcoalition.org/petition> to sign our petition supporting the ZTA.

Drew Finley, Treasurer, River Falls Homeowners Association; **Ted Duncan**, President, Brickyard Coalition; **Carol Van Dam Falk**, President, West Montgomery County Civic Association; **Caroline Taylor**, Executive Director, Montgomery Countryside Alliance; **Keith Williams**, President, Civic Association of River Falls; and **Mark Moadel**, Board Member, Woodrock Homeowners Association

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Potomac Welcoming to New and Longtime Residents

Neighbors' Club offers variety of activities.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Newcomers to the Potomac community have many opportunities to learn about the area and make new friends as they settle into their new home.

One place to start is with the Potomac Area Neighbors' Club, formerly the Potomac Area Newcomers' Club.

"We changed the name because some

people have been in the group for a long time," co-president Alexa Kempel said.

Kempel herself has been in the group, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, for 12 years.

"I have made amazing friends through this group," she said.

Potomac Neighbors' Club is a women's club though some activities include men like the dining group and the theatre group, she said.

With 130 "or so" members, attending club activities is a good way to meet new people and learn new things all while learning about Potomac's neighborhoods and places of interest.

Among activities offered are book clubs, a walking group, bridge and canasta groups,



Co-Presidents of PANC Kathy Kurgan and Alexa Kempel

a great decisions discussion group and something Kempel calls "pop up activities," one-time offerings.

"One of our members is a trained cook," Kempel said. "She holds classes occasionally, last year we all learned how to make French macarons." And there is also a monthly luncheon meeting.

Kempel is proud that the group is so diverse with members of all ages and ethnic heritage, reflecting the community at large.

"It's a really nice group," she said. You can be as active as you want to be."

The main goal is just to have fun, she said.

For more information visit potomacneighbors.com.

Birders Flock Together

The Montgomery Bird Club is a local group of birders whose members range from new birders to serious bird enthusiasts. It has regular bird walks at local and regional sites and meet every third Wednesday at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road for a talk on birding and related topics.

People of all ages and experience levels are welcome to join the club and its meetings and field trips. Visit its website to find out more information: www.montgomerybirdclub.org/



PHOTO BY MARY KIMM

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POTOMAC ALMANAC GUIDE TO POTOMAC RIVER

Enjoy the Potomac River &

COMPILED BY KEN MOORE AND
MARY KIMM
THE ALMANAC

Potomac is bordered by more than 12 miles of the C&O Canal National Historical Park, including the towpath and the Potomac River. Living in Potomac provides opportunities to enjoy the sights and sounds of the river with outdoor activities ranging from an easy stroll to a challenging hike; a flat bike ride of a few miles to multi-day bike trip; rock climbing; world-class whitewater kayaking or a gentle paddle on flatwater. Wildlife is abundant and birders flock to area. All outdoor areas of the C&O Canal National Historical Park are open daylight hours year round. Visitors pay an entrance fee at the entrance to Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center at Falls Road and MacArthur Boulevard, but access everywhere else is free. Three-day pass for a vehicle is \$10; a person on foot is \$5; annual pass is \$30.

See www.nps.gov/choh

Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center and Olmsted Overlook

11710 MacArthur Blvd.
301-767-3714



PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS

The canal boat at the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park.

If you haven't seen Great Falls, it's time. Enter the C&O Canal National Historical Park here for up close views of Great Falls by walking 0.2 miles over the Olmsted Island Bridges to the overlook at the end. Bridges and boardwalks traverse a rare floodplain terrace environment, ending with an observation deck over the spectacular views of the Falls and the head of Mather Gorge.

You can borrow a bike to ride for free here from the **C&O Canal Bike Loaner Program**, weekends and holidays, weather permitting, 10-4. www.facebook.com/bikeloanerprogram
Accessible for wheelchairs and strollers.
The tavern is open year round, seven days per week from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
<http://www.nps.gov/archive/choh/Visitor/Centers/GreatFalls.html>

ABOUT THE FALLS, from The Geologic Story of Great Falls and the Potomac River Gorge published by the U.S. Geological Survey in 1980:

"In its seaward course, the Potomac River crosses many small rapids and cascades, but these are insignificant in comparison with the foaming fury of Great Falls, where the river drops 12 meters in about 180 meters and is channeled into a narrow rock-walled gorge less than 25 meters wide in places. In the summer the flow may be less than 38,000 liters a second, but during floods the flow commonly reaches 40 million liters a second. The average flow over the falls is 349,000 liters of water every second and in a year, more than 9.5 trillion liters, enough water to flood the entire District of Columbia to a depth of 55 meters, converting the Washington Monument into a tall lighthouse."

Great Falls Mule Drawn Boat Rides: Take a trip back in time to the 1870s Ride along the historic C&O Canal in a boat pulled by mules. Experience rising 8 feet in a lock. Hear park interpreters in period clothing describe what life was like for the families that lived and worked on the canal. \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and \$5 for children 4-15. Children under three

ride free. The boat runs May to October, with a typical schedule on Saturday & Sunday - 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m. Call ahead to confirm. 301-767-3714

INSIDER'S TIP: The Gold Mine Trail can be accessed at the top of the entrance to Great Falls, at the intersection of Falls Road and MacArthur Boulevard, or near the Great Falls Tavern Visitor's center. Trails, which can be used for running with some steep inclines, pass the remains of an old building that was used from 1900-1939 to mine gold.

BILLY GOAT TRAIL

Thousands hike the Billy Goat Trail every year, with access from the Old Angler's site or from the Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center or Carderock. The loop between the C&O Canal and Potomac River is less than five miles long but has steep and rocky sections. Bring water and wear good walking shoes. No flip flops or ballet slippers. Allow plenty of time to stop and enjoy spectacular views of the cliffs, Potomac River passing through the gorge and sensitive vegetation and rare plants. This hike that is marked by light blue trail blazes to keep visitors from trampling on Bear Island's many rare plants and sensitive vegetation. The trail can be rough and rocky with steep climbs. But the trail is one of the most popular hikes in all of the metropolitan area, which can be done by people of all ages.

INSIDER'S TIP: The park service seeks volunteer trail stewards willing to hike parts of the trail, educate visitors at the trailheads, protect the natural resources of Bear Island, ensure visitors are prepared for the strenuous hike, share stories about the sensitive vegetation, and reduce trampling of the Bear Island's



PHOTO BY MARY KIMM

Horse riding along the canal.

C&O Canal National Park

many rare plants. Active trail stewards carry park radios for emergency communication and receive basic first aid training to help with minor injuries. www.chohvip.org/billy_goats/
Carderock Recreation Area
 301-767-3731

Reach this 200-acre part of the park from the Clara Barton Parkway at the Naval Surface Warfare exit. Rock climbers visit Carderock daily for its famous for cliffs. The recreation area includes playing fields, a large picnic pavilion available by reservation and access to the Potomac River and the Billy Goat Trail.

INSIDER'S TIP: Get involved on the river by joining the Bike Patrol, becoming a Billy Goat Trail Steward, or volunteering to help run the Canal Boat, or serving as a docent at the River Center at Lockhouse 8. www.chohvip.org

Old Angler's Inn Access

Across from 10801 MacArthur Blvd. Between Carderock and Great Falls, you can also get across the canal to the towpath and the River across from Old Angler's Inn on MacArthur Boulevard. A popular spot for kayakers and stand-up paddleboarders, and a great spot to find outdoor adventure companies teaching beginning to advanced paddleboarding, kayaking and canoeing. Hiking enthusiasts have quick access to the Billy Goat Trail from here, or those who simply want to take an evening stroll or bike ride along the Berma Road or around Widewater, the area of the canal used for turning large boats around.

Swain's Lock

Swain's Lock Road (off River Road)
 Campsites are available at Swain's Lock, one of the largest of the canal lockhouses. The lockhouse is named for Jess Swain, a lock-keeper in the early 1900s whose father helped in the excavation and construction of the canal. After running a boat rental and refreshment stand at Swain's Lock for almost a century, the family ceased operations in 2006.

Pennyfield Lock

Pennyfield Road (off River Road)
 The three-mile walk from Pennyfield Lock to Violette's Lock takes you through many kinds of bird habitat and around Blockhouse Point. Pennyfield Lock was President Grover Cleveland's favorite destination when he went on fishing excursions, according to the Potomac Master Plan. The Pennyfield Lockhouse, built in 1879 inland from the lock house, was the home of lock-keeper Charles W. Pennyfield.

INSIDER'S TIP: Pennyfield Lock is also home to a lockhouse built in 1830 that you can rent by the night. The Canal

Quarters Interpretive Program invites visitors to stay in a historic lockhouse for a day and night to learn about the living conditions of a lockkeeper's family. www.canalquarters.org/

Blockhouse Point Conservation Park

14750 River Road,
 Darnestown, MD 20854
 (301) 670-8080
www.blockhousepoint.org
 Those who know this 630 acres of land call Blockhouse Point the jewel of Potomac. The natural and cultural resources at Blockhouse Point are amongst the most valuable in the country.

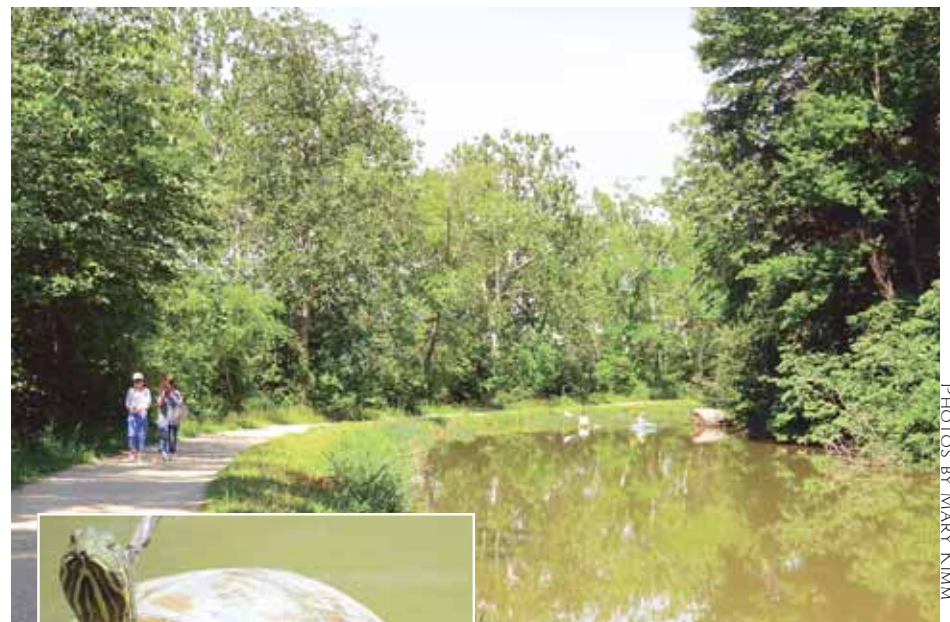
The park contains a variety of exceptional and rare habitat, including mature upland forest, floodplain forest, wetlands, streams and river-rock outcrops. Nine species of threatened, endangered or watchlist species of plants have been identified in the park, along with 25 species of fish, nine species of amphibians, four species of reptiles, 39 species of nesting birds and 10 species of mammals.

During the Civil War, the 19th Regiment Massachusetts Voluntary Infantry built three blockhouses in 1862 to guard Violette's Lock and Pennyfield Lock, taking advantage of panoramic views from Blockhouse Point. Union sentries kept watch for Confederate movements across the river and at area fords.

http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkTrails/trails_MAPS/trailmap_pdfs/blockhouse_trails.pdf

INSIDER'S TIP: Montgomery County developed a brochure so people can walk the footsteps of Union Soldiers. Blockhouse Point, often referred to as the jewel of Potomac, is an area to enjoy peace, solitude, and an example of the natural and cultural resources of Potomac that rival the most valuable in the country.

http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/Cultural_Resources_Stewardship/heritage/documents/blockhouse_broch_web.pdf



PHOTOS BY MARY KIMM



Walkers and kayakers make use of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park.

Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. in May and June, and September and October. Volunteers in period costume guide you through one of the C&O Canal's original lockhouses to explore the life of a lock-keeper.

Call the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center to confirm, 301-767-3714.

INSIDER'S TIP: You can borrow a bike and helmet for free at the Great Falls Tavern, courtesy of the volunteer-run C&O Canal Bike Loaner program. The group reports lending bikes to nearly on a weekend of good weather.

The River Center (Lockhouse 8)

7906 Riverside Drive, Cabin John
potomac.org/river-center
 The River Center at Lockhouse 8, reached from the Clara Barton Parkway between Carderock and Cabin John, is open Saturdays and Sundays from May through October, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., operated by volunteers from Potomac Conservancy. Stop in for a tour, to browse educational exhibits, and meet volunteer guides. Visit the River Center on select Sundays for Voices of the River to learn more about the history, ecology, and diversity of the Potomac River, as told by storytellers, musicians, and scientists. Throughout the season, the Conservancy also hosts a variety of hands-on appreciation and restoration activities at the River Center. Canoes and lifejackets available. All activities are free and open to the public. Housed in an historic lockhouse along the C&O Canal, the River Center at Lock 8 offers visitors a glimpse into the history of the Canal and the future of the Potomac River.

Violette's Lock

Violette's Lock Road (off River Road)
 Violette's Lock offers one of the more beautiful views of the sunset over the Potomac River.

Riley's Lock

Riley's Lock Road (off River Road)
 Riley's Lock features a boat ramp on Seneca Creek, the busiest in Montgomery County, that allows easy access to a quiet and inviting part of the Potomac River for canoes, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards and small motorboats. The Seneca Creek Aqueduct, opened in 1833 and made of red sandstone, allowed thousands of canal boats to move across Seneca Creek from 1833 to 1924, the year of the canal's closing. The aqueduct was protected by Union garrisons during the Civil War. Riley's Lockhouse is open for tours on

New Mobile App to Help Explore Park

A new mobile app, "C&O Canal Explorer," can aid users in exploring the 184.5 miles and 20,000 acres of the C&O Canal National Historical Park. The app is available for download on both Android and Apple devices from their respective app stores.

The mobile app includes over 600 points of interest in the park mapped in a searchable format, allowing users to find at a glance hiking trails, historic sites, trailheads, parking, and more. The app also calculates the distance from a user's location to nearby amenities and points of interest, with the ability to view what lies both upstream and downstream of a current location.

The app was developed by the C&O Canal Trust, the official nonprofit partner of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, which works in partnership with the National Park Service and local communities to raise funds to preserve the park for future generations and to broaden support through programs that highlight the park's historical, natural, and cultural heritage and recreational opportunities.

C&O Canal Explorer is available for \$0.99 a download. The app was developed in partnership with Cermak Technologies, Inc., with funding from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

Future plans include the addition of merchants (hotels, bed and breakfasts, restaurants, and shops) to the map and search features, as well as a downloadable map that will enable the app to work even when the users' device is out of cellular range.

The app can be downloaded from the Google and Apple App Stores and here: www.canaltrust.org/plan/explorer-mobile-app/.

Potomac Almanac Guide to Parks

Potomac is home to a remarkable diversity of parks — national parks, state parkland, county parks, conservation parks, equestrian parks, parks with adaptive playgrounds, parks with trains, dog parks, parks with ice skating rinks, parks that offer access to the Potomac River where the water is flat and inviting and parks that offer access to the Potomac River where the water can be deadly. Here, in an annual tradition, is our guide to much of what Potomac's parks have to offer.

1 Carderock Recreation Area
301-767-3731

Reach this 200-acre part of the park from the Clara Barton Parkway at the Naval Surface Warfare exit.

2 Old Angler's Inn Access
Across from 10801 MacArthur Blvd.

Between Carderock and Great Falls, you can also get across the canal to the towpath and the River across from Old Angler's Inn on MacArthur Boulevard.

3 BILLY GOAT TRAIL
Access from the Old Angler's site or from the Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center or Carderock. The loop between the C&O Canal and Potomac River is less than five miles long but has steep and rocky sections.

4 Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center and Olmsted Overlook
11710 MacArthur Blvd.
301-767-3714

5 Swain's Lock
Swain's Lock Road (off River Road)

6 Pennyfield Lock
Pennyfield Road (off River Road)

7 The River Center (Lockhouse 8)
7906 Riverside Drive, Cabin John
http://potomac.org/river-center
The River Center at Lockhouse 8, reached from the Clara Barton Parkway between Carderock and Cabin John, is open Saturdays and Sundays from May through October, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

8 Blockhouse Point Conservation Park
14750 River Road, Darnestown, MD 20854
(301) 670-8080
www.blockhousepoint.org
http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkTrails/trails_MAPS/trailmap_pdfs/blockhouse_trails.pdf

9 Violette's Lock
Violette's Lock Road (off River Road)

10 Riley's Lock
Riley's Lock Road (off River Road)

11 Adventure Conservation Park
10801 Glen Road, Potomac
This 14-acre neighborhood conservation area established in 1969, includes areas set aside for bird-banding,



Blockhouse Point Conservation Park

12 Falls Road Golf Course
10800 Falls Rd.
301-299-5156
www.montgomerycountygolf.com

Falls Road Golf Course was completed in 1961 on 150 acres of former farmland, and includes an 18-hole course renovated in 2003, plus a clubhouse and driving range. Reserve tee times online.

13 Cabin John Regional Park
7400 Tuckerman Lane
www.montgomeryparks.org/facilities/regional_parks/cabinjohn/

This 528-acre park centrally located offers an Adventure playground, miniature train rides, dog park, picnic areas, campgrounds, nature center, a Tai Chi court, hiking and nature trails.

Shirley Povich Field, one of several ball fields, is home to the Bethesda Big Train team and the Georgetown University baseball team, and seats 750.

Other sports facilities include a lighted baseball field, 5 softball fields (1 lighted), 4 lighted tennis practice walls, 9 lighted tennis courts, a pee-wee soccer field, 4 single wall handball courts and one volleyball court.

14 Locust Grove Nature Center
7777 Democracy Boulevard
301-765-8660
www.montgomeryparks.org/nature_centers/locust/VirtualTour.shtm

Hike the upper meadow of the Locust Grove Nature Center and look for monarch butterflies and caterpillars, listen for wrens and bluebirds, or watch for box turtles crossing the path in the early morning. Wander to the Lower Meadow and watch bats in the late afternoon, sit

18 C.P. Huntington Miniature Train
7410 Tuckerman Lane
301-765-8670 Train Information; call 301-650-2880 Party Room Reservations

under the shade of a 200-year-old sycamore and spot minnows, crayfish, bathing birds or beaver activity in the Cabin John Creek. Locust Grove offers programs featuring local natural and cultural history for children, teens and adults. Currently, naturalists teach tots a class on "Bugs, Slugs and Other Thugs," 12-16 year olds how to become a virtual wildlife rehabilitator and treatment methods for injured and orphaned wildlife.

15 Robert C. McDonell Campground
7701 Tuckerman Lane,
301-495-2525 (for permits)

16 Cabin John Ice Skating Rink
10610 Westlake Drive
301-765-8620

Ice skating in August? Yes indeed. An assortment of programs including lessons and rental times. Sessions are available for the general public, adults only and family time. Rental skates and a snack bar are located within the facility. Call for schedules and fees. http://www.cabinjohnice.org/

17 Pauline Betz Addie Tennis Center
7801 Democracy Boulevard
301-765-8650

Features six indoor tennis courts, a lounge area, and two locker rooms with showers. Professional on-site racquet restringing and regripping is also available. Private and group lessons and seasonal court rentals.

19 Hadley's Playground and Special Park
11001 MacArthur Boulevard, Potomac
301-563-7510
http://www.montgomeryparks.org/event_centers/rockwood.shtm

The miniature train is a replica of an 1863 C.P. Huntington, a locomotive purchased by the Southern Pacific Railroad, with five passenger cars, and carries visitors on a ten-minute, two-mile ride through the park. Aug. 25 - 29, Closed. Aug. 30 & 31, Open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. September, Open Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Dog Park
10900 Westlake Drive

Located near the miniature train, this half-acre dog park is enclosed with a 6-foot chain link fence, allowing dogs to run and exercise off-leash. The facility is open for use sunrise to sunset except on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. for weekly park maintenance. Dog-park users are encouraged to use the Westlake Drive parking lot. Please remember that all dogs should be on a leash before entering and exiting the park.

Tai Chi Court
7400 Tuckerman Lane

The Tai Chi Court at Cabin John Regional Park is the first Tai Chi court in Montgomery County and joins only few of its kind in the nation. Built through a public/private partnership between M-NCPPC, Montgomery Parks and the Wu Wei Tai Chi Club, the Tai Chi court is a 48-foot-diameter circle of flagstone incorporating the shape of a yin/yang symbol and surrounded by benches in a serene natural setting. It is located near the dog park and miniature train at Cabin John Regional Park.

Originally a Chautauqua retreat, then an amusement park, Glen Echo National Park now hosts a variety of arts, environmental and history programs. Classes are offered in pottery, painting, photography, glass art,

allows all kids to play together. In 1986, the park system acquired the 20-acre park, including soccer, baseball and other sports fields. Hadley's Park, and its accessible theme, equipment, design and surface, have been emulated by approximately 250 playgrounds across the country. The park is the brainchild of a Potomac family whose daughter, Hadley, used a wheel chair. The family envisioned an accessible playground after watching her daughter's wheelchair get stuck in playground mulch as she played with her sibling and friends.

20 Potomac Horse Center
14211 Quince Orchard Rd.
301-208-0200
potomachorse.com

County-owned and privately run, this large facility offers lessons at all levels year round, summer camp, birthday parties and special events. Featuring riding classes for "Mini Mites" (5-8 year old children) through adults of all levels. Classical Dressage, Combined Training, and a Hunter/Jumper program are available with riders competing under different trainers. Variety of activities with approximately 12 horse shows a year, as well as clinics featuring many disciplines, and other recreational opportunities such as birthday pony parties, individual pony rides, trail riding classes through wooded parkland, open houses, a summer horse camp program, therapeutic horseback riding, and more.

21 Rockwood Manor Educational Center and Special Park
11001 MacArthur Boulevard, Potomac
301-563-7510
http://www.montgomeryparks.org/event_centers/rockwood.shtm

Built in the 1920s, the Manor was the



C.P. Huntington Miniature Train

silver smithing, textiles and other arts, as well as in dance, writing and music.

The famous 1921 Dentzel Carousel in the center of the park has been giving rides to the public for 90 years. Adventure Theatre (www.adventuretheater.org, 301-634-2270) is one of the area's longest running children's theater companies, and the Puppet Co. Playhouse (www.puppetco.org) offers shows as well as was for children to be involved.

36 McKee Beshers Wildlife Management Area

Located on River Road in Western Montgomery County, McKee-Beshers WMA is a 2,000-acre tract in a mixture of woodlands, fields, wooded bottomland and managed wetland impoundments (green-tree reservoirs). The wildlife management area shares a common boundary with the National Park Service Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to the south and borders Seneca Creek State Park, a 1,200-acre public hunting area, on the east.

McKee-Beshers WMA provides habitat for a great diversity of wildlife species including deer, wild turkey, waterfowl, over 200 species of songbirds, and numerous reptiles and amphibians. Biologists deliberately flood forests during the fall and winter in "greentree reservoirs." These attract colorful wood ducks as well as other waterfowl which migrate through or spend the winter here. Hikers will find trails for miles and miles, meandering through the forests, fields and wetlands. Hunters enjoy the pursuit of white-tailed deer, wild turkey, woodcock, squirrels, waterfowl and many other species.

Roads are maintained and suitable for hiking, nature photography, birding, hunting and other recreational activities. Visitors to the management area should be aware of biting insects, mosquitoes and ticks from April-December. Area is wet most of the year, wear appropriate footwear.

37 Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park North
12860 Piney Meeting House Road

38 Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park South
11825 Glen Road

hundreds of classes through the Montgomery County Recreation Department. The Montgomery County Recreation Dept., along with the Friends of the PCC, Inc. has opened the outside inline rink for children and adults with special needs.

34 Bette Carol Thompson Scotland Community Center
7700 Scotland Drive
301-983-4455

Now named the Bette Carol Thompson Scotland Community Center, the rebuilt facility opened in November 2014. A larger gymnasium and modern interiors are a focal point. Upgrades to the site include improved landscaping and parking, meeting green building and sustainability goals; energy guidelines, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

35 Glen Echo Park
7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo
www.glenchopark.org

Originally a Chautauqua retreat, then an amusement park, Glen Echo National Park now hosts a variety of arts, environmental and history programs. Classes are offered in pottery, painting, photography, glass art,

Neighborhood Parks

Potomac has many small neighborhood that offer hiking trails, basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds and sports fields, picnic areas, paths suitable for tricycles and more.

22 Buck Branch Neighborhood Park
8704 Bells Mill Road

Playground, lighted ballfield, and lighted tennis court.

40 Highland Stone Neighborhood Park
8716 Post Oak

24 Heritage Farm Neighborhood Park
9520 Hall Road

Playground, multi-use field, softball field, two tennis courts, and picnic area.

25 Potomac Community Neighborhood Park
11301 Falls Rd.

Playground, lighted ballfield, and lighted tennis courts.

26 Fox Hills West Neighborhood Park
12710 North Commons Way

Two-acre park includes playground, tennis courts, multi-use field, and picnic shelter.

27 Bedfordshire Neighborhood Park
11416 Bedfordshire Ave.

This 7.8-acre park acquired in 1968 includes a playground and multi-use field.

29 Gregerscroft Neighborhood Park
12021 Gregerscroft Rd.

One-acre park with playground, picnic area, and open space.



Local Parks

Local parks serve a wider area and offer more facilities.

23 Avenel Local Park
10551 Oaklyn Drive

Playground, softball field, multi-use fields, and tennis courts. Paths suitable for bikes or children's tricycles. The 20.7-acre park was established in 1989.

28 Glen Hills Local Park
12511 Circle Drive

This 25.2-acre park, with land acquired in 1966, features a playground, softball field, baseball field and two lighted tennis courts and a picnic area.

30 Tilden Woods Local Park
6800 Tilden Lane

Playground area, ballfield, lighted tennis courts, and picnic area.

31 Seven Locks Local Park
6922 Seven Locks Road, Cabin John

11.6 acres with playground, open shelter, lighted baseball field, and lighted tennis courts.

32 Cabin John Local Park
7401 MacArthur Boulevard, Cabin John

Six-acre park established in 1933 includes playground, multi-use field, lighted tennis court, basketball court, and picnic area.

41 Greenbriar Local Park
12525 Glen Road

Features of the park include a regulation soccer/football field with spectator areas, a single basketball/multi-use court, a single grass volleyball court, a multi-age, interpretive playground, an asphalt loop path and pedestrian connections, entrance features, a picnic shelter, two stone pergolas, a parking area with 70 spaces. The park also preserves large portions of the site adjacent to the stream valley.

42 Beverly Farms Local Park
8505 Post Oak Road, Potomac

Beverly Farms Local Park is on 9.4 acres located behind the Beverly Farms Elementary School. The park features two playgrounds, a softball field, a baseball field, and a multi-use field. There are also two lighted tennis courts and a picnic area,

10 Falls Road Local Park
12600 Falls Road

Including Hadley's Playground See 19



What Are Your Thoughts on Living in Potomac?

Roger Berliner, Montgomery County Council President, District 1

"I lived in Potomac for over 22 years. I lived right next to the C&O Canal. I love the canal. I love the river. I love the neighborhood. I love the schools. Potomac is a lovely place to live."



COURTESY OF ZAC TRUUPP

Taegan Myers Winston Churchill High School Class of 2017

"I like the area. I think it's pretty. I like the people in Potomac. I like that it's close to D.C., and it's close to Bethesda and Rockville. So there are a lot of places to go and a lot of places to shop and there's a lot of good food around."



COURTESY OF TAEKAN MYERS

Joan Kahn, Vice President of Membership for Potomac Community Village.

"Potomac is a great community and I've been really overwhelmed by the support that we've gotten for the Village. I honestly would not have expected it in a community like Potomac where I didn't think as many people were as community-oriented. And especially for these kinds of issues of helping each other out. And we are obviously only seeing one slice of Potomac, of people who really do enjoy helping others. But we've got upwards of 200 members ... and then we get anywhere from 35-70 people at a monthly meeting and these are people who hear about us and they're interested, and I think we do offer something that is appealing. Everybody wants to be able to stay independent. The challenge is how long can they do that? And so it's not for everybody."



Tina Rawhouser, Branch Manager, Potomac Library

"Potomac is a small community with a big heart. That's what I see in the library — people who have a sense of community in the area and they're very supportive of the library, which we appreciate. It's a nice place to be. I didn't know anything about Potomac myself until I started here as the branch manager last year. And it's been lovely getting to know the area and the people in the community. I have found since I've been here that when I say I work in Potomac, people think it's so far away from anything else in Montgomery County. It's really not. We're just a few minutes from Rockville, and Rockville is the heart of the County so getting to Potomac is not as terrible or as far as people perceive it to be. So I think it's probably more convenient than people realize it is. But hopefully they'll take time to find their way out here."



PHOTO BY GIL JACOBSON

Mark Ross, Founder and Chief Farmer Metro Microgreens

"It's a great place to grow up, to live [and] a nice place to raise children. It's a very well-to-do community. Very few complaints. I would say it's close to ideal. People are very friendly and they have disposable income so it's good for small businesses."



Jill Phillips, Squeals on Wheels; Administrative Vice President, Potomac Community Village; Board Member, Potomac Chamber of Commerce; Board Member, West Montgomery County Citizens Association

"I think this area is amazing. I think it's amazing to live in this whole Montgomery County area. Potomac is located very close to some of the most beautiful parts of Montgomery County. So we're close to Great Falls and the C&O Canal and the Agricultural Reserve. The schools are strong, the neighborhoods are lovely, it's a safe place to live and there are so many things to do. It's so close to Washington D.C. — you can get to D.C. in 20 minutes from here. It's a lovely place with a lot of lovely, lovely neighbors. Because the homes are spread out a little bit, you have to intentionally get to know your neighbors. And that is part of the reason I work with Potomac Community Village: to help people get to know their neighbors and to connect with them. And I think Potomac is an amazing place to live and we feel very fortunate."



COURTESY OF GRANT PHILLIPS

Kate Brownstein, Squeals on Wheels

"I actually grew up in Potomac as well. I grew up here when I was younger, and then I went away to school, and Grant [Phillips] and I live in D.C. but obviously we work in Potomac. I think it's a really nice place to live because I think there are a lot of different kinds of opportunities here. My favorite thing would be Great Falls. But I think just going from Great Falls to right before Poolesville to right before Rockville, you can get a lot of different experiences within one small town. Even though it's big, it feels like a very small town with a lot of things to do."

Grant Phillips, Squeals on Wheels

"I think it's a great area. I love its old horse culture that you can see in this area. You can see it in The Surrey, which used to be in the Village, but you still see some old horse signs here and there. People still have some land with some animals on River Road. So you definitely see the old charm that it has, but it also is a place where there are still things to do and a good place to raise kids."

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info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org
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 See our newsletter at the Potomac Library
 or visit our website...
www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Keeping an Eye on Business

Potomac Chamber of Commerce organizes annual Potomac Day.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Members of the Potomac business community make up the Potomac Chamber of Commerce. There they have an opportunity to meet other local business men and women to network and socialize.

The chamber organizes the annual Potomac Day celebration which includes a parade, children's festival, business fair, petting zoo and car show. Potomac Day will be held Oct. 21 this year, celebrating the 35th anniversary of the annual celebration.

Potomac still has the feel of a small town according to Jennifer Matheson, director of operations for the Potomac Chamber.

"There is a solid foundation in Potomac," she said. "It's nice to be able to go into a little town and know it."

Nothing much changes, she said, adding that recently Starbucks expanded and that a new coffee shop is opening soon.

Complaints from residents are few, as are problems other than parking in the shopping centers at



PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Huckle Cat with Marty Johnson and Edie Wingate from Friends of the Library along with 3-year-old Domini Whitney at last year's Potomac Day celebration.

the intersection of River and Falls roads. "Parking is always going to be an issue," she said. "Dead deer are always a problem and I get complaints about the man who panhandles on the corner."

Still it's nice to have a community with so few problems, she said.

"Everything is so fast paced in this world," she said. "You feel good here."

POTOMAC DEMOGRAPHICS

ZIP Code: 20854	6,862
Population: 46,475	Individuals 65 years and over: 5,659
Race: White- (67.3%), Black/African American- (5.0%), American Indian and Alaska Native- (0.1%), Asian- (17.1%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)- (8.3%)	Median household income: \$181,385
Total housing units: 17,132	Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: 34.9%
Owner occupied housing units: (87.1%)	Source: U.S. Census 2010; American Community Survey 2014
Households with individuals under 18 years:	

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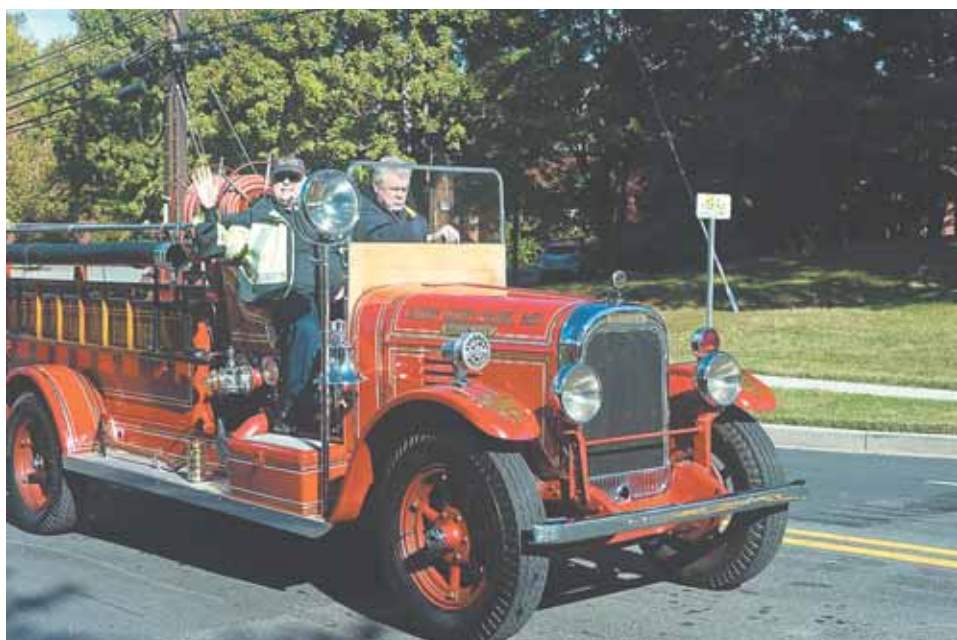
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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Cabin John Volunteer Fire Department at Potomac Day 2016.



FILE PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Squeals on Wheels at Potomac Day 2016.

August 2017

Great Falls Tavern, Mule-Drawn Canal Boat Rides. Friday-Sundays, through Sept. 3, 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center, 11710 MacArthur Blvd. Take a boat ride along the historic C&O Canal. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$5 for children, and children 3 and under ride for free. Visit www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/great-falls-canal-boat-rides.htm.

WEDNESDAYS-SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

Carousel Rides. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Take a ride on the historic 1921 Dentzel Carousel at Glen Echo Park. Tickets are \$1.25 per ride. Visit glenechopark.org/carousel.

DEADLINE AUG. 27

National Parks Pass. A senior lifetime National Parks pass is \$10 through Aug. 28. On Aug. 28, fee goes up to \$80. Age 62 or older to qualify as a senior. Visit store.usgs.gov/senior-pass for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 23

Tom Saputo on Piano. 7-10:30 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Call 301-983-8838, or visit popovers.com

FRIDAY/AUG. 25

Bob Smith and Rob Vetter in Concert. 7-11 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Call 301-983-8838, or visit popovers.com

SUNDAY/AUG. 27

Dixieland Jazz Jam. 6 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Presented by the Potomac River Jazz Club. Bring a instrument and sit in with the Conservatory Classic Jazz Band during the first set. Or just drop in to listen to the great sounds of classic jazz, Dixieland, and swing. \$10. Call 301-762-3323, or visit prjc.org.

THURSDAY/AUG. 31

Potomac Community Village Party. 3:30-5 p.m. in Potomac. An opportunity to meet neighbors. Location of the party will be at a private Potomac home, with location

and directions provided when RSVP by Saturday, Aug. 25. Email info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org, or call 240-221-1370 for more.

Bob Smith and Rob Vetter in Concert. 7-10:30 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Call 301-983-8838, or visit popovers.com

September 2017

FRIDAY-MONDAY/SEPT. 1-4

Labor Day Art Show. Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday-Monday, 12-6 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom – Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Find art of various media. "Cash and carry" jewelry available for the third consecutive year. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 1

Art Walk in the Park. First Fridays through Sept. 6-8 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Enjoy pottery, glass work, photography, and much more. Visit www.glenechopark.org.

SATURDAY-MONDAY/SEPT. 2-4

Annual Yellow Barn Studio and Gallery Drawing Exhibition. 12-5 p.m. at 7300 MacArthur Blvd. In cooperation with the Friends of the Yellow Barn, an exhibition open to all members of the Yellow Barn. A closing reception will be held on Monday, Sept. 7, 5-6:30 p.m. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com.

Labor Day Art Show. 12-6 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom – Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Find art of various media as well as some children's work. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 4

Irish Music and Dance Showcase. 1-5 p.m. at 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Attend a day of Irish music and dance presented by the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture and the Irish Inn at Glen Echo. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 4

Labor Day Parade. 1 p.m. in the streets of Olde Towne Gaithersburg. Celebrate Labor Day with performances, antique cars, marching bands, and more. Free. Visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov/leisure/labor-day-parade.

SEPT. 6-30

The Trawick Prize Exhibition. Wednesday-Saturday, 12-6 p.m. at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. This exhibition features The Trawick Prize finalists for the Bethesda Contemporary Art Awards. The public opening reception will be held Friday, Sept. 8 from 6-8 p.m. Visit www.bethesda.org.

SEPT. 9-OCT. 15

Great Falls Tavern, Mule-Drawn Canal Boat Rides. 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, 11710 MacArthur Blvd. Take a boat ride along the historic C&O Canal. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$5 for children, and children 3 and under ride for free. Visit www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/great-falls-canal-boat-rides.htm.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Potomac Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at 10101 Glenolden Drive. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Monthly. Most hardbacks are \$1 and paperbacks are \$.50. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/potomac.html.

Carnival of Chocolates. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Rockville Town Square. This year's event will include chocolate tastings from local chocolatiers, a children's fun run (100 yard dash), live music, games, and children's story times. Proceeds benefit The Dwelling Place, a non-profit dedicated to homeless families. Free to attend. Visit www.tdp-inc.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 10

Parks Half Marathon. 7-10 a.m. Run from Rockville to Bethesda. Showcases Montgomery County's park system. Sponsored by Montgomery County Road Runners Club. Registration is \$69 until Sept. 5 and \$80 Sept. 6-8. Visit www.mcrrc.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 16

Days End Farm Horse Rescue Fall Festival. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1372 Woodbine Road, Woodbine. The event will include a horse costume contest, children's pony rides, music, and vendors. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children under 18, and free for children under 5. Visit www.defhr.org.

Park After Dark. 6 p.m. at C&O Canal

National Historical Park – Great Falls Tavern, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. Attendees enjoy live music, food, libations, auction items, desserts, a campfire and more. The evening's dress is "Canal Chic." This is the seventh annual Park After Dark and there are no other events like on the C&O Canal National Historic Park grounds. Event tickets are \$200. Visit www.parkafterdark.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

Cabin John Kids Run. 9-10 a.m. at Cabin John Regional Park. Sunday, Sept. 24. A mile run, half-mile young run and quarter mile young run is offered. Registration is race-day only. Free for runners 17 and under. See www.mcrrc.org.

F.E.A.S.T. at VisArts 2017. 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Continuing in the spirit of sustainable creative practices that define, reflect on, and stimulate action in the community, F.E.A.S.T. at VisArts 2017 (Funding Emerging Artists with Sustainable Tactics) features proposals on the theme "Future Framers: Envisioning Rockville in 2040." A picnic of locally-prepared food will be served on the Rooftop at VisArts. Artists and thinkers will present their project proposals to the gathering of ticket holders who will vote for a winning project. An immediate grant from a portion of the ticket price will be awarded to the winner. Tickets are \$30, \$15 for students. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org.

October 2017

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 6-8

SerbFest. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon-6 p.m. Sunday, Saint Luke Serbian Orthodox Church, 10660 River Road, Potomac. Serbian dishes, beverages, dance and music performances, gifts and boutique items and family-friendly activities. Visit www.serbfestdc.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Taste of Bethesda. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. along Norfolk, St. Elmo, Cordell, Del Ray, and Auburn avenues. Local restaurants and entertainment come together for the 26th Annual Taste of Bethesda. Admission to the festival is free, taste tickets are sold in bundles of four for \$5. Visit www.bethesda.org.

Bethesda Rescue Day. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad, 5020 Battery Lane. The

Rescue Squad's most advanced firefighting and rescue equipment, including emergency vehicles, will be on display. Visit www.bccrs.org or call 301-652-0077.

FRIDAY/OCT. 13

Youth Activity Club. 7-9 p.m. at the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, for grades 3 through 6. Meets Friday evenings through March 23, 2018. Activities include sports, arts and crafts, bingo, movies, dj, games, etc. Call the community center, 240-777-6960.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Potomac Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Monthly. Most hardbacks are \$1 and paperbacks are \$.50. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/potomac.html.

Antique and Classic Car Show. 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Find more than 500 antique and classic cars. Free. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov.

SATURDAY/OCT. 21

Taste in Potomac. 6:30-11:30 p.m. at Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Potomac. The Taste in Potomac is a community event that raises funds to help children in foster care find adoptive families. Tickets are \$185. Visit www.adoptionstogether.org.

Potomac Day. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at 9812 Falls Road, Potomac. Arts and entertainment for all ages, ranging from rides for children to a classic car show and business fair. The highlight is the Potomac Day Parade at 10:30 a.m., featuring hundreds of entrants, including bands, horses, classic cars, school groups, scouting organizations, and candidates for elected office. This is the 35th annual Potomac Day. Free. Call the Potomac Chamber of Commerce at 301-299-2170 or visit www.potomacchamber.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 22

All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast Fundraiser. 1-5 p.m. at 5020 Battery Lane. The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad Alumni Association will hold a crab feast fundraiser – all-you-can-eat steamed crabs, fried chicken, potato salad, baked beans, applesauce, and rolls,

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

along with beer and soda. Tickets cost \$45 per person in advance (or \$50 after Sept. 5). Visit www.bccrs.org.
Montgomery County Out of the Darkness Community Walk. 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in Silver Spring (location to be announced). This walk, in conjunction with over 300 communities across the country this fall, benefits the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Visit www.afsp.org.

November 2017

NOV. 2-5

Lessans Family Annual Book Festival. Bender JCC of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. The Festival will kick-off with our opening event featuring the bestselling author, Jennifer Weiner. Call 301-881-0100.

SUNDAY/NOV. 5

Rockville 10K/5K. 8:30 a.m. at King Farm Village Center, King Farm Boulevard and Pleasant Drive, Rockville. Annual race. Visit www.rockville10k5k.com.

THURSDAYS THROUGH NOVEMBER

Potomac Village Farmers Market. 2-6:30 p.m. at Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 S. Glen Road. Visit www.potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net.

SATURDAY/NOV. 18

Dinner of Champions. 7 p.m. at JCC of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. The annual event honors those who have achieved success in the world of sports, and those who have made extraordinary contributions to the community. The dinner benefits the Jewish Community inclusion programs for individuals with special needs. Individual tickets are \$275. Visit www.jccgw.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 23

Turkey Chase. 8:30 a.m. at 9401 Old Georgetown Road at Spruce Street. The Turkey Chase 10K Run benefits the YMCA Bethesda-Chevy Chase, YMCA's Youth and Family Services and the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club Foundation. Includes a two-mile walk/run; wheelchairs welcome. Registration is \$10 for the Kid's Run, \$20 for the 2 mile race, and \$35 for the 10K. See www.turkeychase.com.

NOV. 25-DEC. 31

Winter Lights Festival. Sunday-Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 6-10 p.m. at Seneca Creek Park, 11950 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg. Winter Lights is a 3.5-mile drive through a holiday light show at Seneca Creek Park with more than 360 illuminated displays. Additional events include Wine Under the Lights, Run Under the Lights, Leashes 'n' Lights, and, S'More Lights & Trolley Rides. Visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov/leisure/special-events/winter-lights-festival.

December 2017

Christmas Tree Sale. Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, Station 10, 8001 River Road. Call 301-365-2255 or visit www.cjpvfd.org.

Santa on Fire Engines Toy Collection. A procession of fire engines run by the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, carry Santa on a tour of Potomac neighborhoods over the course of several evenings in December,



Craft Show

Clara Barton Craft Show in December 2016 drew a crowd.

collecting unwrapped new toys for needy children. Call 301-365-2255 or visit www.cjpvfd.org.

Clara Barton Holiday Craft Show. Takes place in early December at the Clara Barton Community Recreation Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. Free admission and parking. Visit www.Friends CBCC.org.

DEC. 1-23

Friends of the Yellow Barn. The Yellow Barn Studio gives annual members show. Visit www.glenechopark.org or www.yellowbarnstudio.com. Call 301-634-2222.

SATURDAY/DEC. 2

Bethesda's Winter Wonderland. This seasonal event takes place in multiple locations, including concerts at Imagination Stage and in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle. The event, so far unconfirmed for 2017, has featured caroling, ice sculpting, storytelling, holiday performances and hands-on craft activities for children. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 10

Jingle Bell Jog. 9-10:30 a.m. at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Registration is free for Montgomery County Road Runners Club, \$10 for non-members and \$5 for non-members under 18. See www.mcrrc.org.

January 2018

The Maryland General Assembly meets in Annapolis each year for 90 days to act on more than 2,500 bills including the state's annual budget. Potomac falls into two districts, District 15 and District 16, each one with one senator and three delegates. Visit www.mlis.state.md.us.

West Montgomery County Citizens Association. Second Wednesday, 7:15-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Attend the general meeting. See www.wmcca.org.

February 2018

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 16-19

Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival. 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville. The festival provides live musical performances, workshops and seminars. See www.midatlanticjazzfestival.org.

West Montgomery County Citizens Association. Second Wednesday, 7:15-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Attend the general meeting. See www.wmcca.org.

March 2018

West Montgomery County Citizens Association. Second Wednesday,

7:15-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Attend the general meeting. See www.wmcca.org.

April 2018

APRIL-AUG.

Mule-Drawn Canal Boat Rides, Great Falls Tavern. Call the C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls visitor center, 301-767-3714 or visit www.nps.gov.

The Bethesda Literary Festival is held annually in April. Features poets, authors, journalists, novelists, poetry slams, essay contests and youth book parties. Literary events take place in downtown Bethesda's bookstores, galleries and retail businesses, as well as the library and elementary school. Visit www.bethesda.org.

Pike's Peek 10K. 7:50 a.m. at the Shady Grove Metro Station. See www.pikespeek10k.org.

LATE APRIL, EARLY MAY

"Blast from the Past." Winston Churchill High School, 11300 Gainsborough Road, Potomac. Attend an annual musical revue featuring student cast members, musicians and stage crew. Call 301-469-1200 or visit www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/churchillhs for dates and more information.

The Annual C&O Canal Pride Days. This is a joint effort between the park and C&O Canal Trust that brings hundreds of volunteers into the park to conduct maintenance projects. Work at C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls (Maryland) and other sites along the Potomac River and C&O Canal towpath. Call the Canal Trust at 301-714-2233, www.canaltrust.org, or see the park website at www.nps.gov/choh

Potomac Watershed Cleanup. This volunteer event is sponsored annually by Alice Ferguson Foundation. Last year, more than 23,898 volunteers picked up 1,203,543 pounds of trash including 1,328 tires, 13,214 cigarette butts, 17,594 plastic bags, and 251,100 beverage containers. Volunteers helped at many sites along the Potomac River in Potomac. See www.fergusonfoundation.org.

West Montgomery County Citizens Association. Second Wednesday, 7:15-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Attend the general meeting. See www.wmcca.org.

May 2018

Potomac Horse Center Annual Spring Open House. See www.PotomacHorse.com.

Run Aware 5K. Race through woods, trails, and, if lucky, mud. Along with the 5K (Cross Country Series) race,

there will be a 1K (Junior Participation Series) race. See www.mcrrc.org.

Potomac Village Farmers Market. Through October (and sometimes into November), Thursdays, 2-6:30 p.m. Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 S. Glen Road at corner of Falls Road and Democracy Boulevard. Visit www.potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net.

Spring Festival. Greek Orthodox Church of St. George, 7701 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. The annual festival includes traditional Greek cuisine, outdoor/indoor dining, Greek dancing, church tours and Greek pastries. Call 301-469-7990 or visit www.stgeorge.org.

The Potomac Hunt Races. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at 14401B Partnership Road, Poolesville. This annual May tradition celebrates the sport of steeplechase racing and benefiting local charities. Race day festivities include steeplechase racing, thoroughbreds and festival tailgate parties, a car show, pony rides and more. See www.potomachuntraces.com.

Strawberry Festival. Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 S. Glen Road, Potomac. This festival dedicated to all things strawberry is traditionally held the weekend before Memorial Day. Berries, a silent auction, bake sale, rummage sale, craft fair, dollar items and games and activities for children. Call the church at 301-299-9383 or visit www.potomac-umc.org.

The Bethesda Big Train begins its season at the Shirley Povich Field in Cabin John Regional Park, 10600 Westlake Drive. The Big Train plays in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League, a wooden-bat collegiate league that has sent athletes to Major League Baseball. See www.bigtrain.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 5-7

The Landon Azalea Garden Festival. Perkins Garden and the Landon campus, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda. The annual festival dates back to the mid-1950s when Landon's founders, Paul and Mary Lee Banfield opened the newly acquired azalea garden to the public. Call 301-320-3200 or visit www.landon.net.

SUNDAY/MAY 7

Mark's Run. 8-10 a.m. at Triplett Field, Bordley Stadium. A 5-K race and one-mile run also takes place during the Landon Azalea Garden festival. Mark's Run is held each year in memory of alumnus Mark Ferris '94, who lost his battle with juvenile diabetes. The run raises more than \$50,000 for the Mark Ferris Scholarship Fund and \$75,000 to the Joslin Diabetes Center. Call 301-320-3200 or visit www.landon.net.

SATURDAY-MONDAY/MAY 27-29

Hometown Holidays is a Memorial Day festival and parade in the City of Rockville with concerts, children's crafts and games. Call 240-314-5022 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov.

MAY-JULY

Bethesda Summer Concert Series. Free. Last year's Thursday concerts took place at Veterans Park, at the corner of Norfolk and Woodmont avenues. See www.bethesda.org.
West Montgomery County Citizens Association, general meeting, second Wednesday, Potomac Community Center, 7:15-9 p.m. Public is welcome. See www.wmcca.org.

June 2018

Imagination Bethesda, annual children's street festival celebrating the arts. The festival features costume characters, face painters, international dance troupes, theater performances, a moon bounce and a variety of hands-on arts activities. Call 301-215-6660 or see www.bethesda.org.

Glen Echo Park's Summer Concert Series begins in June on Thursday evenings. Free. See www.glenechopark.org. 301-634-2222.

Quicken Loans National. This event features 120 PGA Tour professionals at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda who will compete for millions. The event raises funds and awareness for the Tiger Woods Foundation while paying tribute to U.S. armed forces. See www.tigerwoodsfoundation.org.

July 2018

Autism Speaks Annual 5K run and one-mile walk benefits research on autism. Last year's event raised more than \$230,000. See www.autismspeaks.org or email autismspeaks5K@autismspeaks.org.
Montgomery County Fairgrounds 4th of July Fireworks activities include live music, games and food. Call 301-258-6350. See www.gaithersburgmd.gov

Montgomery College Rockville Campus 4th of July Fireworks, Rockville. Activities include live music and food. Call 240-314-5022. See www.rockvillemd.gov.

The Potomac Whitewater Festival in late June or early July is an annual fundraising event that celebrates kayaking in the Potomac River. Offers races for kayakers and clinics and activities for the public. See www.potomacfest.com or anadventures.com.

Bethesda Outdoor Movies. Annual outdoor movie series at corner of Norfolk and Auburn avenues. Contact 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org for movie schedule.

Farm Tour & Harvest Sale. Various times at various locations in Montgomery County. Montgomery County celebrates its agricultural heritage by promoting local farms, and inviting patrons to partake in seasonally fresh food. Admission prices vary based on farm. Visit www.montgomerycountrymd.gov/agsservices/agfarmtour.html for a full schedule.

August 2018

Riley's Rumble Half-Marathon. See www.mcrrc.org.

Montgomery County Agricultural Fair is a favorite destination each August. See www.mcgafair.com.

Volunteers Clean Up Memorial to Accident Victims

BY PEGGY McEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Members of the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department Station 10 on River Road took time this month to clean up the site of a memorial to a Bethesda family killed in an accident in February 2016.

"I've been driving past that scene weekly for a while and it had gotten to the point where you couldn't even see it, so we decided to clean it up," said Greg Bastien, who drives the ambulance for the station's Sunday day crew. Other members of the crew Matthew Kubler, Meghan Leahy and Andreas Lair-Ferrari, all volunteers at the station like Bastien, helped clear trash that collected near the site and pulled weeds growing over the small white crosses decorated with artificial flowers.

The accident at River Road and Braeburn Parkway killed three members of the Buarque DeMarco family who were on their way to a play at Walt Whitman High School where Thomas Buarque De Marco, 18, was a senior. In addition to Thomas, his father Michael, 52, and mother Alessandra, 53, also died when a car traveling west on River Road hit the Buarque De Marco auto as it made a left turn from eastbound River Road.

Helena Buarque De Marco, 15, was also in the car but survived the accident.

Bastien said he was not on duty for the accident call but he felt it was important to clean up the site.

"We notice it," he said.



PHOTOS BY CABIN JOHN PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

After passing by the memorial for the family killed in the fatal crash on Pyle Road of February 2016, Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department's Sunday day crew decided to honor those lost by cleaning up the memorial.

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.

DATES FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

The Montgomery County school year will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017, and the last day of school will be no later than Friday, June 15, 2018.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 23

Community Meeting. 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Richard Montgomery High School, 250 Richard Montgomery Drive, Rockville. Councilmember Craig Rice, who serves as chair of the Council's Education Committee, will host a community meeting with Montgomery County Public Schools

(MCPS) Superintendent Jack Smith to discuss universal pre-kindergarten programs. The purpose of this community meeting is to seek input from the community about what they are looking for in terms of early childhood education both in current programming and possible implementation of universal pre-kindergarten programs. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rice/

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 30

Dementia-Related Behavior. 2-3:30 p.m. at Arden Courts of Potomac, 10718 Potomac Tennis Lane, Potomac. To help caregivers decipher behaviors and determine how best to respond, the Alzheimer's Association offers the Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior program. Visit www.alz.org/nca/in_my_community_64062.asp.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

The following Potomac students were awarded academic honors for the spring 2017 semester at Clemson University (Clemson, S.C.):

- ❖ **Julianna Leslie Klein**, majoring in secondary education
- ❖ **Kaitlyn J. Hillard**, majoring in mechanical engineering
- ❖ **Brittany Renee Testa**, majoring in parks, recreation and tourism management

❖ **Jenna Anne Levenson**, majoring in secondary education

The following Potomac-area residents made the dean's list for the 2017 spring semester at Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, N.Y.):

- ❖ **Christian Vaughan**, who is studying computer science.
- ❖ **Sebastian Serrano-Berthet**, who is studying computer science.
- ❖ **Corry Straathof**, who is studying mechanical engineering.
- ❖ **Samuel Washburn**, who is studying physics.



A Glimpse of the Eclipse

Searching through the clouds for a glimpse of the solar eclipse on Monday, Aug. 21, is Semiti Rashidi, manager of the Rite Aid store in Potomac Village. Waiting for a turn to use the glasses are Rachel Quinn and Susan Harris.



Michael Joseph waits his turn to use the solstice viewing glasses while Christine Koons-Byrne takes in the show. They watched the moon block the sun from just outside the Long and Foster office on River Road.

PHOTOS BY PEGGY McEWAN/THE ALMANAC

NEWCOMERS

High School Sports

Compiled by **Ted Crawley**

CHURCHILL

Mascot: Bulldogs
School Colors: Blue and Green
Athletic Director: Jessie Smith
Football Coach: Willie Williams
Girls' Soccer Coach: Haroot Hakopian
Boys' Soccer Coach: Arnold Tarzy
Girls' Basketball Coach: Kate Blanken
Boys' Basketball Coach: David Blumenthal
Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Mike Schweizer
Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Jeff Fritz
Baseball Coach: Scott Blackwood
Softball Coach: Sharon Morris
Rival Schools: Wootton
What happened last year: The Boys' Lacrosse team made a run for the state championship but were defeated (7-6) in the last seconds of the final game against defending state champion Severna Park. Gwenyth Asbury won the indoor track and field state championship for her performance in the 800 Meter run.

WHITMAN

Mascot: Vikings
School Colors: White and Carolina Blue
Athletic Director: Andrew Wetzell
Football Coach: Dave Fyock
Girls' Soccer Coach: Greg Herbert
Boys' Soccer Coach: Dave Greene
Girls' Basketball Coach: Pete Kenah
Boys' Basketball Coach: Chris Lun
Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Katie Bitonti
Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Tommy Rothert
Baseball Coach: Joe Cassidy
Softball Coach: Annemarie O'Donoghue
Rival Schools: Wootton
What happened last year: The Girls' basketball team secured its position in the Maryland 4A State Championship, hoping to bring home their second state championship after winning the 2015-2016 season. They would fall short of this goal, losing to Catonsville 49-46 in the state finals.

WOOTTON

Mascot: Patriots
School Colors: Red, Navy Blue
Athletic Director: Christopher Thompson
Football Coach: Eddie Tolliver
Girls' Soccer Coach: Liz Seligman
Boys' Soccer Coach: Doug Schuessler
Girls' Basketball Coach: Maggie Dryer
Boys' Basketball Coach: Erick Graves
Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Casey Fletcher
Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Colin Thompson
Baseball Coach: JD Marchand
Softball Coach: Al Lightsley
Rival Schools: Whitman
What happened last year: The tennis team would for the 9th year in a row, bring home the most points of any other team competing at the state championship. Joseph Brailovsky had a textbook win during the tournament, defeating his opponent in two sets.

Support Library

The Friends of the Library Potomac Chapter is an organization that supports the Potomac Community Library by raising funds through its book sales and donations from members. It provides funding for numerous programs for children, and for adult programs like Great Decisions and Author Talks. It gives money for the upkeep and beautification of the library grounds in conjunction with the Potomac Village Garden Club. It funds purchases for upgrades to the interior of the library such as tables and chairs, shelving, lighting and new carpeting.

The Friends of the Library Potomac Chapter has made it possible for the library to purchase additional books and subscriptions for magazines and data bases.

If interested in joining or in finding more information, email potomacfol@gmail.com.

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Alan Amrhine, Communications Director
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Results! Why, man, I have gotten a lot of results. I know several thousand things that won't work.
 -Thomas A. Edison

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Two, Hopefully for Won



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

Being diagnosed with cancer; then having cancer/living with cancer, is like having a second job. A job that unlike many, requires and/or imposes a 'round the clock-type 24/7 adherence to protocol, policy, procedure, presumptions and principle. To live not like you're dying takes more than scoffing at a country music song that twangs an alternative vision. Believing in what routines you're following and any lifestyle changes you've made allows (I didn't say enables) a cancer survivor to thrive under the most difficult and demanding of circumstances.

Unfortunately for those reading this column looking for answers/guarantees, there aren't any other than: if you abuse the privilege of post-cancer-diagnosis survival, the ends will likely justify the means; meaning, you are responsible for your own actions and "inactions." The prognosis one is given at diagnosis is a reasonably thought out prediction. However, as grim as those words sound and seem at that moment, that prediction is not cast in stone. I'm living proof of that. The words you hear are based on the past. Your ensuing treatment is more about the present and future and what you decide to do living forward. Being open and unassuming, and by 'unassuming' I mean: not taking anything for granted, presuming facts not in evidence, considering that which has happened to somebody else – either good or bad, could happen to you and of course, asking as many questions in as many ways as necessary to get the answers you need, will help you co-exist with this terrible burden. Being diagnosed with a heretofore "terminal" disease presents one with innumerable challenges but not the slim pickin's (choices not the actor) of yesteryear.

Integrating/assimilating all of the facts, fiction and philosophy into one's daily cancer conundrum is a task often complicated by one's day job/intention to remain on that job. The thinking being, at least in my mind/experience: living as normal a life as possible and staying as true to one's usual and customary self as well as to one's wishes, desires, hopes, prayers, etc., will enable (not 'allow' this time) you potentially to live longer and prosper more and trek "where no man has gone before." For us cancer survivors/patients, where we hope to 'trek' is beyond the prognosis given to us by our oncologist.

I can boast of such an accomplishment, but I'd rather write it quietly and consistently as encouragement to others similarly diagnosed and "prognosed" than brag about it loudly. However, the changes/choices I've made might not suit another's personality. I regularly receive suggestions about additional anti-cancer pursuits. Some I embrace, some I don't. Some are conventional (Western), some are alternative (Non-Western). Many sound reasonable and "integratable" into my lifestyle. Many others don't. But given that my life is at stake, how can a suggestion's incompatibility with my personality matter? We're talking life versus premature death here; not sit-down Italian versus take-out Chinese. And though food certainly matters, it is of course to no comparison to living versus dying. Still, I don't always say "yes."

This is the yin and yang of my life and probably the lives of many other survivors of serious/terminal-type diseases. I want to feel like I'm winning. But I'm deathly afraid of losing.

Moreover, I want to live my life as normally as possible, but not if it has adverse consequence. And how would I know anyway? Symptoms can be misleading and scans are quarterly. And though I remain positive about my very negative circumstances, occasionally the reality of those circumstances interfere with that normalcy. When that happens, I usually put pen to paper and try to write myself out of it.

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

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