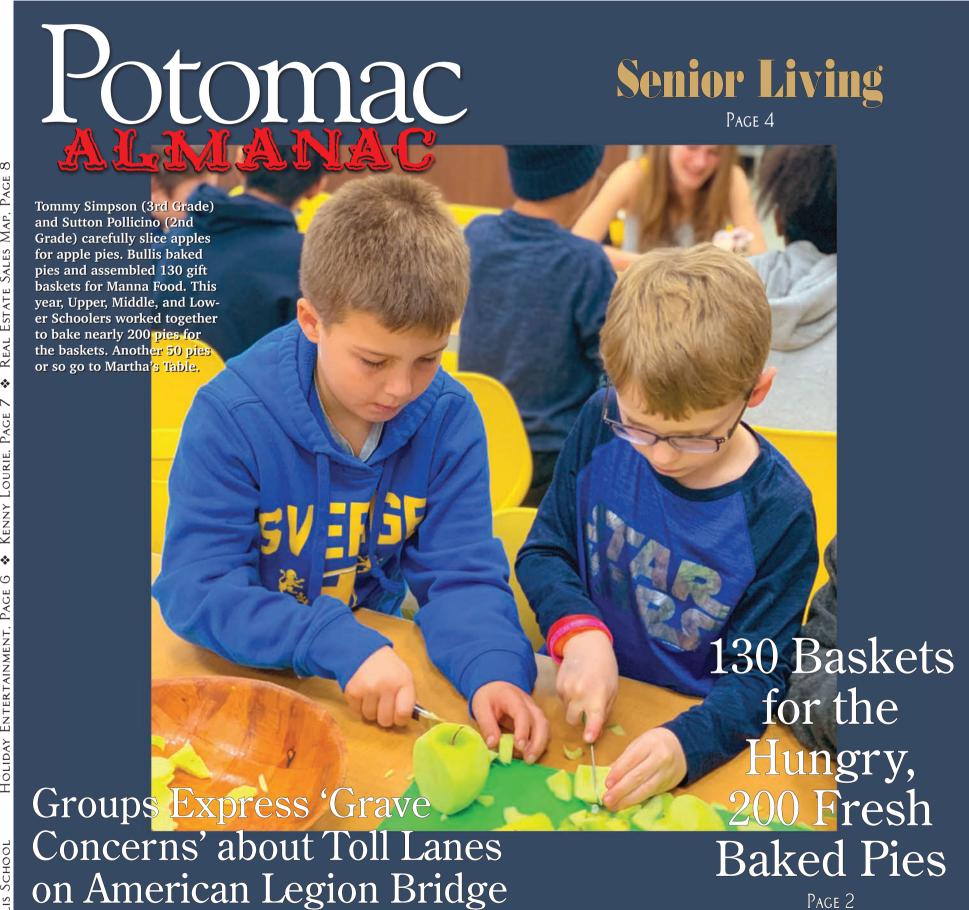
Page 2







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Potomac Chamber Honors People of the Year Page 3

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"In the era of climate crisis, making 'Grave Concerns' room for more greenhouse gas emitting vehicles on our roadways is irresponsible."

> By Ken Moore The Almanac

otomac environmentalists were swift to express "grave concerns" over the proposal by governors Larry Hogan (R-Md.) and Ralph Northam (D-Va.) to widen the American Legion Bridge and add privatized toll lanes on the Beltway.

They didn't mince their words, suggesting a battle inside or outside the courtroom.

"It is unlawful to proceed in securing implementation partnerships and contracts without completion and consideration of Environmental Impact Studies and related mitigation," said Audubon Naturalist Society Executive Director Lisa Alexander, Potomac Conservancy President Hedrick Belin, and Rock Creek Conservancy Executive Director Jeanne Braha.

They called Hogan and Northam's pitch and plan announced at the annual Capital Region Transportation Forum on Nov. 12, 2019 "a flawed process."

"We encourage you to refrain from rushing the process until the appropriate procedures are followed, the environmental impacts studied and alternatives to vehicular transit are seriously considered," they wrote in a joint letter to the governors on Nov. 15, 2019. "We ask you to fulfill your legal obligations and give full consideration to these important environmental and quality of life concerns. We would welcome the chance to be part of finding a solution that is consistent with our shared desire to protect our water and lands."

#### **CONSTRUCTION COULD BEGIN** as early as 2021, said Hogan and Northam.

"Without these improvements, our horrendous congestion will only get worse," said Pete Rahn, Maryland Secretary of



The Beltway in Virginia where the Express Toll lanes end and merge into the regular lanes in McLean approaching the American Legion Bridge. Long backups have developed on the Beltway and down the George Washington Parkway here.

Transportation.

The project would replace the existing lanes in each direction across the Potomac River and add two new Express Lanes in each direction for approximately three miles between the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Virginia to the vicinity of River Road in Maryland, according to Hogan and Northam.

"The American Legion Bridge has been operating beyond its capacity for nearly four decades. Daily traffic has grown 390 percent since the bridge opened in 1962, with 235,000 vehicles using it daily. More than 40 percent of the region's population trav-

els this segment of the Capital Beltway, and the region expects to grow by another 1.2 million people by 2040," they said.

SEVEN COMMISSIONERS of the The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) reaffirmed its stance last Wednesday, Nov. 20 "not to con-State Highway with the Administration's plan.

In June, the commission voted against the plan and process "based on the lack of information needed to evaluate the selected alternatives retained for detailed study (ARDS)" and the state highway

#### **Get Involved**

Comment online at the MDOT SHA I-495 and I-Managed Lanes Study website (www.495-270-P3.com), by email at 495-270-P3@sha.state.md.us, by phone at 833-858-5960. Hard copy comments can also be mailed to the I-495 and I-270 P3 Project Office at the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration, 707 North Calvert Street, Mail Stop P-601, Baltimore, MD 21202.

administration's "failure to address the reasons why M-NCPPC did not concur with the ARDS at the outset."

In addition to commenting on the public value of parkland, stormwater management and water quality, The Planning Commission said "meaningful, local serving transit and transportation demand management must be integral components of the project for any of the alternatives to be studied."

Environmental damage with 10 years of construction would be massive.

"Adding impervious surface of the magnitude of these projects will irreparably degrade water quality in our precious local streams including Rock Creek, in the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers and ultimately in the Chesapeake Bay," said Alexander, Belin and Braha.

"Residents will lose hundreds of acres of irreplaceable wildlife habitat, river and streamside recreational spaces, and carbonsequestering parkland in our region's most densely developed areas."

They also called the governors' plan "poor regional planning."

"In the era of climate crisis, making room for more greenhouse gas emitting vehicles on our roadways is irresponsible 20th-century planning to address a 21st-century problem.

We need to implement solutions that move people around our region with net zero climate impacts," they said.

## Bullis Bakes Pies, Fills 130 Baskets for Manna

very November, the Bullis community gathers to peel, core, prepare, and bake over apple pies for local families at Thanksgiving.

Students and staff provided items to fill 130 baskets distributed by Manna Food Center to Montgomery County families in need. National Honor Society and Community Service Club students take the lead on collection.

The works—cranberry sauce, potato flakes, gravy packets, canned vegetables and fruits, holiday table items, even gift certificates for turkeys-are collected, and the baskets are neatly wrapped by members of the Parents Association.

Fresh apple pies are the finishing touch. Students chop apples, roll out pie crusts, and assemble and bake pies during an annual event. This year, Upper, Middle, and Lower Schoolers worked together to bake nearly 200 pies for the baskets. Another 50 or so go to Martha's Table.



Gabrielle Hausfeld (3rd Grade) and Jacob Lang (5th SEE BULLIS, PAGE 5 Grade) scoop pie filling.



Ashton Allen and Jabril El Amin are Seniors

#### News



Youth of the Year Bullis senior Caleb Robinson with Sen. Brian Feldman.



Business of the Year for 2019 is Falls Road Veterinary Hospital, represented by Sue-Anne Slonin, manager, pictured here with Sen. Brian Feldman.



The Grand Marshall of the Potomac Day Parade was long-time Potomac resident Ellen Cromwell, founder of Georgetown Hill Early School, pictured with Adam Greenberg, president of the Potomac Chamber of Commerce and owner of Potomac Pizza.



Business of the Year for 2019 is Falls Road Veterinary Hospital, represented by Sue-Anne Slonin, manager, pictured here with Chamber board member Jill Phillips, who made the nomination.

## Potomac Chamber Honors People of the Year

n Tuesday, Nov. 21, the Potomac Chamber of Commerce held its annual awards dinner at Normandie Farm to honor the Citizens of the Year, Business of the Year, Youth of the Year and Grand Marshal of the Potomac Day Parade.

Selected as Business of the Year for 2019 is Falls Road Veterinary Hospital, represented by Sue-Anne Slonin, manager.

Jill Phillips, co-owner of Squeals on Wheels and member of the chamber board said: "I have observed Sue-Anne in her position as manager and she is consistently kind, helpful and professional. [She] is the person behind the scenes, making sure everything is running smoothly and at the highest level of quality."

Phillips also pointed out all Slonin does for the Potomac community.

"Sue-Anne reaches out to the residents of Potomac by delivering the Chamber of Commerce's Welcome Baskets to new residents and with speaking with new residents about both the Chamber of Commerce and Falls Road Veterinary Clinic."

Falls Road Veterinary Clinic sponsors puppies being raised for Guiding Eyes for the Blind and the Guide Dog Foundation. They also provide vet services for PetConnect, a Potomac-based pet rescue organization.

Sue-Anne and her family have raised five dogs for Guiding Eyes for the blind and she assists members of Potomac Community Village as a volunteer driver.

Citizens of the Year: the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter.

Ginny Barnes nominated this group whose current president is Edie Wyngate, who accepted the award on behalf of the group.

"This organization serves the community in so many invaluable ways," Barnes wrote. "In addition to promoting the many Potomac Library activities and offerings ... they keep books alive and circulating through the community via their monthly [used] book sales."

Potomac Friends of the Library works year-round to provide special programs at the library.

Among other activities, the Friends hold an author series, programs for children and adults, classes for those interested in learning to knit, visits from kangaroos, and more.



Potomac Chamber of Commerce 2019 CITIZENS OF THE YEAR: Friends of the Library-Potomac Chapter board members and supporters. From left, Neil Currie, Geraldine Bernard, Margaret Vogel, Jacqueline Etelson, Denise Pierson, Karin Currie (FOL-Potomac vice president and founder), Judy Davis, Lysette House (Friends of the Library-Montgomery County), Edythe Wingate (FOL-Potomac board president), Carol Westrick (seated, holding inscribed plate), Ralph Buglass, Ginny Barnes (nominator, holding Maryland Proclamation), Adrienne Miles Holderbaum (Potomac Library Manager), Sheila Graves, Selby McPhee, Doris Valis.

The Friends also facilitate Great Decisions, a national program of the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association. The group meets, usually with a guest speaker, eight times a year. A copy of the Briefing Book, providing analysis on the wide range of topics selected for discussion, will be available beginning in early January at the library's Information Desk.

This year at Potomac Day, Peter Rabbit appeared as a costumed character and as a member of Friends of the Library Potomac. They also celebrated the new Peter Rabbit herb garden, recently planted at the library.

See https://www.folmc.org/chapters/potomac-chapter for more.

Bullis School senior Caleb Robinson was honored as Youth of the Year. Caleb, 17, is a senior and co-president, with Hannah Baltimore, of the school's student body. He is also a member of the Bullis football team and an exemplary student, according to Lynn Kittel, Director of College Counseling

at Bullis. "Seeing this confident young man lead the Bullis School as Student Body Co-President, I am thrilled to say he has embraced his gifts, understands the influence he can have on others and eagerly works to make our community more caring and inclusive," according to Kittel. Among Caleb's activities at Bullis, Kittel lists: "Bullis School Ambassador (leading campus tours), Editor of LOGOS (Bullis Literary Magazine), Bullis Debate Club, and Bullis Coexist Club (an organization developed to increase appreciation of diverse cultures)."

Caleb excels academically, and also has a talent for spoken word poetry. "I really enjoy poetry; I love writing in general. I love being able to craft something – the ability to say what I want to say," he said. The main topics for his poetry are how he views the world, growing up as a black man and discovering his passions.

The Grand Marshal of the Potomac Day Parade was long-time Potomac resident Ellen Cromwell, founder of Georgetown Hill Early School.

Early School. Cromwell started her school in 1980 "with the mission of providing the best early childhood programs possible for families in Maryland," according to Kristen Raymond, a member of Georgetown Hill Early School staff, who nominated her. "Ellen set out as a pioneer in her field to create the thennew concept of a full-day preschool with quality programming. Ellen taught and directed preschool programs where children thrived in play-based, age appropriate, and nurturing environments. Ellen's vision for creating exceptional preschools lives on today with the opening of [Georgetown Hill's] newest school right here in the heart of Potomac Village. Her commitment to creating an exemplary early childhood program now results in 11 campuses, over 300 teachers and over 1,400 students. Ellen is now retired and has just completed writing her 4th children's book."





### SENIOR LIVING



Photo courtesy of the Arlington Turkey Trot

Mimi and Rob Mortimer will be among thousands of runners at the 14th annual Arlington Turkey Trot.

## Ready to Trot Seniors among those joining turkey trots on Thanksgiving.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL The Connection

s part of a world-wind trip, Mimi and Rob Mortimer flew from Ethiopia to Paris last week before heading back to Arlington. They wanted to spend Thanksgiving at home with family. Their holiday tradition however, involves more than turkey and dressing. At the crack of dawn, long before the feast, Mimi, 81, and Rob, 82, will lace up their running shoes and join thousands of other runners at the 14th annual Arlington Turkey Trot.

"We first began running in our early 30s," said Mimi. "We started doing 10k races years ago but now do only the Arlington Turkey Trot with our family, children and grandchildren."

The Mortimers are proving that age doesn't limit their ability to pound the pavement on Thanksgiving morning to raise money for charity. In fact, the number of older runners has increased over recent years, says Arlington Turkey Trot race director, Mark Riley, as have donations with runners raising more than \$120,000 for Arlington nonprofits that provide food and clothing for those in need.

"We see people who range in age from babies in

strollers to 90 people who are in the 90s," he said. "This is a well-regarded festival and there are people who've been doing it for years."

Alexandra Danza, who is 72, ran in the Bethesda Turkey Chase last year, but will be in Florida this year for the Seniors First Turkey Trot. "I love doing turkey trots and this one will be fun because people will be dressed in costumes or hats with a Thanksgiving theme," she said.

"There's even an award for the oldest runner." Marsha Edgell is also hoping to do a turkey trot. Two years ago she was out of shape and overweight. Her fitness program entails cycling, hiking and yoga.

"I did a hike in Scotland," she said. "I never could have done that two years ago."

"20-30 years ago I'd run the occasional 5k charity race for fun," continued Edgell. "I got in shape because I want to be capable and able to [run in a turkey trot] if I feel like it."

Riley says that older runners are motivated by different factors.

"For some it's become a family holiday tradition,"

"Running each year preserves that tradition."

"We're motivated by the love of the sport," said Mimi. "Will continue as long as we can."



#### News

#### Bullis Bakes Pies, Fills 130 Baskets for Manna

From Page 2

Parents Association Members assemble baskets Students and staff provided items to fill 130 baskets distributed by Manna Food Center to Montgomery County families in need..



#### Happy Thanksgiving!

from your friends and neighbors at Potomac Community Village...

As we all give thanks for what we have, consider volunteering - right here in our Potomac community. PCV volunteers choose how, where and how often they want to serve.

For all your questions call 240-221-1370 www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org



Aarifah Ullah, Teresa Lee (11th Grade), Nica Mathes, Debbie Asare.



Laila Anderson (10th Grade) Brianna Maxwell (8th) Bullis Parents Charlene Maxwell and Tim Evans, and Stella Xu (9th) peel bushels of apples.

Lucas Lang
(3rd Grade)
and Julia
Hausfeld (3rd
Grade) measure pie
filling. The
baking began
for 200 fresh
apple pies
shortly after 9
am Saturday
morning.



# Memory Support COME SEE THE DIFFERENCE

Move in before December 31 and save up to \$22,000! Call for more details.



Ingleside at King Farm now offers an innovative, person-directed approach to Memory Support programming to create an extraordinary service for family members and their loved ones with neurocognitive impairments, including Alzheimer's and other dementias.

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Ingleside at King Farm is a not-for-profit, CARF-accredited, SAGECare-certified, life plan community.



## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

#### **Holidays Entertainment**

#### NOW THRU DEC. 31

Garden of Lights. At Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton. Nov. 22 & 23: 5:30-10 p.m.; Nov. 24: 5:30-9 p.m.; Sunday - Thursday: 5:30-9 p.m.; Friday - Saturday: 5:30-10 p.m.; Closed November 25-28 & December 24-25. Step into a magical winter wonderland illuminated with more than one million dazzling colorful lights shaped into hand-crafted, original art forms of flowers, animals and other natural elements. Stroll from garden to garden enjoying twinkling tree forms, sparkling fountains, and whimsical winter scenes. To avoid long lines, consider visiting on a weeknight, when Garden of Lights is less crowded. Admission: \$25-\$30 per car/van.

#### SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Holiday Market. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. At Silver Spring Civic Center, 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring. The 7th Holiday Market sponsored by Empowered Women International will return to the Silver Spring Civic Center to offer shoppers the opportunity to buy from local, womenowned small businesses. The market will include over 40 local women artisans and food vendors who offer a distinct and diverse selection of beautiful crafts, jewelry, candles, food gifts, fine art, and more.

PRJC Holiday Welcome. 1:30-4:30 p.m. At Knights of Columbus Rosensteel Hall, 9707 Rosensteel Ave., Silver Spring. The Potomac River Jazz Club welcomes member guests for free, members and others to a holiday celebration featuring the Keating Jazz Orchestra. The young band plays hot jazz from the '20s and '30s as well as New Orleans and Big Band-era jazz. Cost: Students and guests are free, PRJC-\$20, others \$25.

"A Winter Concert." 4 p.m. At Cedar Lane
Unitarian Universalist Church, 9601 Cedar Lane,
Bethesda. The National Institutes of Health
(NIH) Community Orchestra and Chorus will
present "A Winter Concert." This one-time only
performance will feature timeless orchestral and
choral classics. The Orchestra will perform
Rossini's La Gazza Ladra, Beethoven's Symphony
#1, and Liszt's Les preludes. The Chorus will
join with the Orchestra in performing local DC
composer William Grant Still's Christmas in the
Western World. The concert is free of charge and
parking is free as well. Free will donations are
welcome to benefit the NIH charities. A
reception will immediately follow the concert.
Visit this website: http://www.nihco.org

#### DEC. 15-16

"The Nutcracker." Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Monday at 8 p.m. At The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Presented by the Virginia National Ballet. Treat yourself to Virginia National Ballet's full-length, traditional production of The Nutcracker. Featuring gorgeous scenery, costumes, and choreography, enjoy world-class professional, international dancers accompanied by the students of Virginia National Ballet School. VNB is led by Artistic Director Rafik Hegab, 2019 Winner of the Seefeldt Award for Outstanding Individual Artist. Tickets: \$37 adults, \$25 children (ages 17 and under). Visit www.virginianationalballet.org.

#### DEC. 20-26

"The Nutcracker." At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville. Presented by the Maryland Youth Ballet, this year's production will be new staging and choreography by Artistic Director Olivier Muñoz, newly appointed in 2019. Show times are Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. Dec. 21 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Dec. 22 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Dec. 23 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Dec. 24 at 11 a.m. Dec. 26 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Advance tickets Online - \$27 Children/Seniors (12 & under or 65+), \$34 Adults, \$27 Groups 10+. At-the-Door tickets - \$32 Children/Seniors (12 & under or 65+), \$38 Adults. Visit www.marylandyouthballet.org.

#### Events in Alexandria

#### FRIDAY/NOV. 29

Black Friday Alexandria. Held in Old Town Alexandria and Del Ray. Alexandria's alternative Black Friday experience features more than 40 independent boutiques kicking off the holiday shopping season with one-of-a-kind deals on designer and coveted merchandise, including home décor, chic fashions, gourmet food, classic toys and gifts for dogs. Store offers vary, with special discounts throughout the day and more than 10 boutiques opening by 7 a.m., including fibre space, Pacers, The Shoe Hive, Red Barn Mercantile and Bloomers. Visit the website: visitalexandriva.com/blackfriday or visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/holidays.

#### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 6-7

#### The Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend. At

various Old Town Alexandria locations. The Campagna Center presents the 49th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend and Parade. The parade is Dec. 7 at 11 a.m. and begins at St. Asaph and Wolfe Streets and concludes at Market Square with a massed band concert. Admission: Free for parade and Heather and Greens Sales; \$180-\$290 for Taste of Scotland; \$40 for Holiday Home Tours. In 1749, the City of Alexandria was officially established by three Scottish merchants and named after its original founder, John Alexander, also of Scottish descent. Through your support of the events of The Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend, you provide vital support to Campagna Center programs that serve more than 2,000 children, teens, and adults throughout the year. Visit the website: https://www.campagnacenter.org/ scottishwalkweekend

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Boat Parade of Lights. Parade begins at 5:30 p.m.; Dockside festivities 2 to 8 p.m. At Waterfront Park, 1 King Street, Alexandria. Parade viewing areas: Founders Park (351 N. Union St.), Alexandria City Marina (0 Cameron St.), Waterfront Park (1 King St. and 1A Prince St.), Point Lumley Park (1 Duke St.), Shipyard/Harborside Park (1 Wilkes St.), Windmill Hill Park (501 S. Union St.) and Ford's Landing Park (99 Franklin St.). Admission: Free; \$ for food/drink and some activities.

Schedule in Old Town (2 to 8 p.m.)

- ♦ Holiday music and giveaways from 97.1 WASH-
- ❖ Letters to Santa postcard station from Penny Post
   ❖ Holiday ornament activity from AR Workshop
- Holiday ornament activity from AR Workshop Alexandria (2 to 4 p.m.)
   Bookmark making station from Old Town Books
- (4:30 to 8 p.m.)
  ❖ Torpedo Factory Art Center Holiday Festival
- Santa arrives by fireboat at the Alexandria City Marina (3:30 p.m.)
- Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights begins (5:30 p.m.)

#### TUESDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. At venues throughout Old Town Alexandria. This 25th Anniversary Celebration is the largest New Year's Eve party in the D.C. region that is safe and fun for the entire family and culminates with a fantastic fireworks finale over the Potomac River at midnight. Kids Karnivals: 6 to 9 p.m. at four warm indoor venues in Old Town. Del Ray and the West End. Live Entertainment: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at warm indoor venues throughout Old Town Alexandria. Rockin' on the River: 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 King St., Alexandria. Midnight fireworks: Potomac River at the foot of King St. Alexandria. All Access Admission: \$25 through November 30, 2019; \$30 December 1-30, 2019; \$35 December 31, 2019; Kids Karnival is \$5 for children ages 2-12 and free for parents and infants. Call 703-963-3755 or visit firstnightalexandria.org.

#### Event in Great Falls

#### SUNDAY/DEC. 1

**2019 Celebration of Lights.** 3:45-6:30 p.m. At the Village Field in Great Falls (behind the Post Office). Celebrate the beginning of the season with the 29th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Enjoy hot cocoa and cookies next to the fire as



The starting line to a previous Turkey Chase Run.

#### 37th Annual Turkey Chase is Thanksgiving Day

#### THURSDAY/NOV. 28

**37th Annual Turkey Chase**. At YMCA, 9401 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. The YMCA Bethesda-Chevy Chase and the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club have teamed up to host this year's 37th Annual Turkey Chase. This year's Grand Marshals are Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich and the Mayor of the Town of Somerset, Jeffrey Slavin. In addition to the 10K, there is a 2 Mile Fun Run/Walk, a 1K Run Challenge; and a 50-Meter Tot Trot (for kids 8 and under as of Nov. 28, 2019). On Thanksgiving Day, the 10K leads off at 8:30 a.m. in front of the YMCA (9401 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Md.) followed by the 2 Mile Fun Run/Walk at 9 a.m.; the Tot Trot begins at 9:40 a.m. and the 1 Mile Challenge Run gets underway at 9:55 a.m. Registration may be made online at www.turkeychase.com.

you listen to local children's choral groups sing seasonal music. The petting zoo and pony rides will keep your kids busy until Mr. and Mrs. Claus arrive by antique fire truck to light the tree. The timeline is as follows:

3:45 p.m. - Great Falls United Methodist Preschool

4:00 p.m. - Village Green Day School Pony Rides and Petting Zoo begin

4:15 p.m. - King's Kids Preschool

4:30 p.m. - Siena Academy

4:45 p.m. - St Francis Creche Preschool

5:00 p.m. - Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive to light the

tree 5:15 p.m. - Forestville ES Ensembles

5:30 p.m. - Great Falls ES

5:45 p.m. - Colvin Run ES Singalong

6:00 p.m. - Live Nativity (pony rides and petting zoo close)

Volunteers are needed between 4-6 p.m. Contact info@celebrategreatfalls.org if you are available. After Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive in an antique fire truck to light the Great Falls Tree, they will meet all children who wish to share their holiday wishes.

#### **Event in Reston**

#### FRIDAY/NOV. 29

Reston Holiday Parade. 10 a.m. At Reston Town Center, Reston. The 29th annual Reston Holiday Parade – one of USA Today's 10 Best – plus tree lighting, sing-along, horse-drawn carriage rides, and more all day. Rain or shine. Schedule: 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Visits and photos with Santa & Mrs. Claus;

11 a.m. – 6 p.m.: Mini-train rides on Market Street; 5 p.m.: Dance Performance at Fountain Square; 6– 6:30 p.m.: Tree Lighting & Sing Along; 6:30– 10 p.m.: Horse-drawn Carriage Rides. Visit www.restontowncenter.com/holidays.

#### **Events in Tysons Corner**

#### NOW THRU DEC. 24

HGTV's Santa HQ. At Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Kids can explore the wonder of Santa in the digital age with HGTV's Santa HQ at Tysons Corner Center! This holiday, check out the interactive Elf Academy at Santa HQ. You can try on the latest elf looks with Santa's Magic Mirror, create your very own Elf-ID Card and scan yourself on the Naughty or Nice O'Meter. Plus, new this year,

spend less time in line and more time on holiday fun with a Fast Pass. Prices and times vary. Visit the website: www.tysonscornercenter.com/ SantaHO

#### Potomac Calendar

#### THURSDAY/NOV. 28

37th Annual Turkey Chase. At YMCA, 9401 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. The YMCA Bethesda-Chevy Chase and the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club have teamed up to host this year's 37th Annual Turkey Chase. This year's Grand Marshals are Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich and the Mayor of the Town of Somerset, Jeffrey Slavin. In addition to the 10K, there is a 2 Mile Fun Run/Walk, a 1K Run Challenge; and a 50-Meter Tot Trot (for kids 8 and under as of Nov. 28, 2019). On Thanksgiving Day, the 10K leads off at 8:30 a.m. in front of the YMCA (9401 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Md.) followed by the 2 Mile Fun Run/Walk at 9 a.m.; the Tot Trot begins at 9:40 a.m. and the 1 Mile Challenge Run gets underway at 9:55 a.m. Registration may be made online at www.turkeychase.com.

Olive's Thanksgiving Buffet. 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. At Hilton Washington, DC/Rockville Hotel, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville. Enjoy a festive Thanksgiving buffet at Olive's, which is located inside the Hilton Rockville Hotel. The special holiday menu will include: Cranberry walnut salad; Herb roasted turkey breast platter; Corn bread stuffing; Garlic mashed potatoes; Oven roasted sweet potatoes; Green beans; Brussel sprouts; Pecan pie, sweet potato pie and pumpkin pie. Cost is \$30 per person/ kids 12 years and under \$18 each. Reservations strongly recommended. Call 240-880-6200 or Online at Opentable.com.

#### NOW THRU JAN. 5, 2020

#### Glen Echo Park Holiday Art Show and Sale.

Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Glen Echo Park, Popcorn Gallery and Stone Tower Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Browse and buy fine artworks for everyone on your holiday shopping list, including glass, ceramics, photography, painting, jewelry, holiday ornaments and more. The Shop Arts will be held Saturday Nov. 30 from 12-5 p.m. The Winter's Eve will be held Dec. 14 from 4-7 p.m. Visit the website: glenechopark.org.

#### HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

#### **NOW THRU DEC. 24**

Photos with Santa. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. At Westfield Montgomery Mall, 7101 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Bring the kids to meet with jolly old St. Nick at Westfield Montgomery Mall. Santa heads back to the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

#### NOW THRU DEC. 7

The Allure of Color. At Waverly Street Gallery 4600 East West Highway, Bethesda. Featuring recent work by Grace E. Peterson. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 12-6 p.m. Ample parking in the county lot next door; park free on the weekends. The Bethesda Metro takes you almost to the door. Call 301-951-9441.

#### SATURDAY/NOV. 30

Potomac Conversation Club. 11 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Practice English conversation in a friendly and relaxed setting. New members are always welcome. No registration. Join any time. Call 240-777-0690.

#### SUNDAY/DEC. 1

Waltz Dance. 3:30-6 p.m. At Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Join in a Waltz Dance in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park featuring the ensemble Jacquelopes. This versatile band will provide a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. The 45-minute dance lesson begins at 2:45 p.m. with a half-hour introductory Waltz workshop and a more advanced move presented the last 15 minutes. Social dancing follows until 6 pm. Admission is \$13. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org. The Glen Echo National Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo,

#### **DEC. 7 TO DEC. 24**

Santa Fire Engine Toy Drive. Every December, the Cabin John VFD Fire Station decorates its Reserve Engine, loads Santa and a few additional volunteers, and heads out into the community to collect unwrapped holiday gifts for children up to the age of 14. Unopened presents can be brought out to Santa as he passes by, or dropped off at either Cabin John Park VFD Fire Station, 9404 Falls Road, Potomac. The toy drive supports the National Center for Children and Families in Bethesda and the Scotland Drive Community Association in conjunction with Montgomery County Police. The week before Christmas, volunteers begin wrapping and labeling all of the gifts and on Christmas Eve they are delivered to children who otherwise may not have a joyous Holiday. The 2019 Cabin John Park VFD Santa Runs are scheduled by neighborhood.

#### Schedule

Friday, Dec. 7

Fox Meadow, River Oaks Farm, Potomac Farm Estates, Potomac Hills, Potomac Manors, Great Falls Estates and Potomac Falls Estates

Saturday, Dec. 8

Mountain Gate, Eagle Rock, Natelli Woods, Potomac Ranch, River Falls and Fawsett Farms

Sunday, Dec. 9

Cabin John, Cabin John Park, Evergreen and Congressional Country Club Estates

Tuesday, Dec. 11 (first makeup night)

Arrowood and Bradley Hills Grove Wednesday, Dec. 12

Seven Locks Hills, Burning Tree Estates, Rose Hill Estates, Stonehurst Center, Smithfield and Riverhill

Thursday, Dec. 13

Congressional Manor, Carderock Springs, Clewerwall, Glengarry, Carderock and The Palisades

Friday, Dec. 14

Avenel, River Road Estates, Williamsburg Estates, The Village, Williamsburg Gardens and Concord

Saturday, Dec. 15

Congressional Country Club Estates, West Bethesda Park, Cohasset, Bradley Park, Burning Tree Valley and Frenchmen's Creek

Sunday, Dec. 16 (makeup night) Locust Ridge, Oakwood Knolls

Monday, Dec. 17

Alvermar Woods, Potomac Hunt Acres, Merry-Go-Round Farms, Beallmount

Lake Potomac, Stoney Creek Farms and Saddle Ridge Tuesday, Dec. 18

Potomac Village, Camotop, Falconhurst, Bradley Farms, McAuley Park, Kentdale Estates, Bradley Blvd. Estates, Congressional Forest Estates

**Wednesday, Dec. 19**Bannockburn, Bannockburn Estates, Al Marah and Wilson Knolls (first due only)

Makeup nights: Dec. 20-23. Toy delivery: Monday, Dec. 24.

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Author Visit. 12:30-1:30 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Author and photographer KK Ottesen will discuss her new book Activist: Portraits of Courage.

Winter Wonderland. 1-4 p.m. At Veterans Park, corner of Norfolk and Woodmont Avenues, Bethesda. Celebrate the holiday season at Veterans Park in downtown Bethesda with a variety of performances. live ice sculpting, a visit from Santa Claus and more. The radio station 97.1 WASH-FM is sponsoring Bethesda's Winter Wonderland. If you can't make it to the festival, you can still listen to the music live.

John O'Conor, Pianist. 8 p.m. At Westmoreland Church, One Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. The Conservatory Concert Series presents Irish pianist and world-renowned Beethoven expert, John O'Conor in an evening of Beethoven masterpieces Pathetique, Moonlight, and Appassionata Sonatas. Free with \$20 suggested donation. He has performed with many of the world's leading orchestras including the London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, Czech Philharmonic, Vienna Symphony, l'Orchestre National de France, the NHK Orchestra in Japan and the Atlanta, Cleveland, San Francisco, Dallas, Montreal and Detroit Symphonies in North America. Guests are invited to attend Wine & Words after the concert for complimentary beverages and an informal Q & A with the performer.

#### SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Clara Barton Holiday Craft Show. 1-5 p.m. At Clara Barton Community Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. Admission and parking free. The Holiday Craft Show is presented by the Friends of Clara Barton Community Center www.friendscbcc.org. For more information about the show, contact the CBCC office at 240-777-4910 or Leslie Barden, the Craft Show chairman, at cbcc.craftshow@verizon.net or 301-365-1311.

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 14

**Wreath-Making Class.** 3:30-5 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Come make a beautiful wreath for your door or home. Program presented by Meredith Seed of Art Box, sponsored by Friends of the Library Potomac Chapter. Registration is required.

#### SUNDAY/DEC. 15

JGSGW December Meeting. 1-3:30 p.m. At Bender JCC, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW) will host the program, Finding Relatives in Russian Empire Records for Non-Russian Speakers presented by Lara Diamond. More and more Russian Empire records are becoming accessible online, but few are indexed. But for those who don't speak Russian, browsing through the records in old-style Russian handwriting can be daunting. This talk will focus on how to identify, within various types of Russian Empire records, records relating to a researcher's family, in spite of not having any Russian language background. The talk will also cover various sources for online Russian Empire documents and discuss how to leverage these for one's own research. Cost is \$5 for non-members. Visit the website: https://jgsgw.org/ **Waltz Dance.** 3:30-6 p.m. At Spanish Ballroom at Glen

Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Join in a Waltz Dance in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park featuring the ensemble Honeysuckle Rose. This versatile band will provide a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. The 45-minute dance lesson begins at 2:45 p.m. with a half-hour introductory Waltz workshop and a more advanced move presented the last 15 minutes. Social dancing follows until 6 pm. Admission is \$13. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org. The Glen Echo National Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, MD 20812.

#### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 18

Beaded Snowflakes. 4-5 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Brr! it's snowflake season! learn to make your own beaded snowflakes. All supplies provided, children under 8 years old must be accompanied by adult. Free.

#### Lost in the Shuffle



#### By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As difficult as the last few weeks have been, with Chino's at-home hospice-type care and ultimate passing, and the "Catch-22 A" realities of "reverse-mortgaging" my house "perplexed" by the "derelict" stable/shed on my property, my upcoming quarterly CT scan hasn't even "blipped" the radar. Though it will have occurred already by the time this column prints, it's quite possible, due to the Thanksgiving holiday, its results won't be known for much longer, 12 days in fact, than has been customary. And so far, between my wife, Dina and I, none of this has even been discussed. Yet, as I sit and write on Sunday, the scan is on Wednesday, three days away. Close enough to where it should have been front and center instead of where it's been: back and off to the side.

But so what, really? My attitude is, and has always been, to quote John, a close friend: " It is what it is, and it will be what it will be." By the time I slide forth and back under the CT scan's arch, or earlier I imagine, the damage to my body such as it is - or isn't, will have been done. Either the cancer has grown/spread or it hasn't. Certainly hearing and/or reading results from the oncologist will confirm facts at present not in evidence but there is, without being particularly negative about my circumstances, an inevitability to it. One day, my amazing nearly 11-year run is going to come to a walk and eventually to a lie-down. And I will deal with it when the time/results come. In the interim however, this next scan is merely another stop on the less-than Merry Go 'Round.

I don't mean to make light of an extremely heavy burden that we cancer patients have to carry: the prospect of death. As Lee J. Cobb said in "The Exorcist:" "I only mention it in passing." Cancer causes enough internal problems (physically), one doesn't need, if possible - and so far for me, it has been possible, to cause external (emotional) problems as well. Maybe it's a kind of resignation or some kind of accommodation or acceptance of reality that has enabled this one to have lived so long beyond my original "13 month to two-year" prognosis (offered up on Feb. 27, 2009), an accomplishment I am proud to say occasionally has led to my oncologist showing me off to his medical students; his prize cow I call myself.

Honestly, what's the point, really? I'm only in control of so much. Focusing on things I can't control seems a waste of time and energy. Life is precious. Why dwell on things beyond my reach? Grasping at straws, if you can even find one, is likewise counter-productive. And setting oneself up for failure or disappointment is counter-intuitive almost. Why do that? The cancer is already causing enough havoc in your body. Don't let it affect your mind too. "Piling on," as the NFL referees used to call this major infraction. Now I believe its called "Unnecessary Roughness." For cancer patients, doing anything, physically or emotionally to hasten your demise/adversely affect your quality of life is most definitely unnecessary roughness and should be penalized.

Learning to live with what ails you seems a more prudent plan than "woeing" is me or bemoaning the process. Sure we'd all love to be on the President's plan where you're examined in the morning, scanned in the afternoon and operated on in the evening. But none of us are on the plan and wishing we were, to quote Jean Luc Picard from "Star Trek: Next Generation," is not going to "Make it so." But I can live with that. I have lived with that - for almost 11 years now, and counting. I'll learn the results from my scan soon enough. Good or bad, life goes on. To auote my friend John's daughter, Melanie: "Whatever."

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

#### **POTOMAC** ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

Newspaper of **Potomac** A Connection Newspaper

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

#### 1606 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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Potomac Almanac is published by Local Media Connection LLC

> **Five Time First Place Award-Winner Public Service** MDDC Press Association

#### **Four Time** Newspaper of the Year

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

10406 Flowerfield Way

\$748,000

## September, 2019 Sales, \$562,500~\$748,000

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\$652,500



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