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# Potomac ALMANAC

## SENIOR LIVING PAGE 2

Swains Lockhouse was open to the public for its grand opening last year, and now is open for overnight guests by reservation. Swains Lock is two miles up the towpath from Great Falls Tavern. The restoration won an award last week.



# Swain's Lock Preservation Wins Award

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## 5G: Essential or Essentially Dangerous?

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PHOTO BY DEBBIE STEVENS/POTOMAC ALMANAC ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 6 ♦ KENNY LOURIE, PAGE 7 ♦ REAL ESTATE SALES, PAGE 8

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## SENIOR LIVING

# Tax Season, Tax Scams

The most common tricks and have to avoid them.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
 THE CONNECTION

**T**ax season and tax scams often go hand-in-hand. Scammers will try to steal tax documents, money and even a person's identity and seniors are often their prime target.

"Con artists will target anyone, but older adults are targeted at higher rates because criminals go where the money is, and older adults have the majority of wealth because of their years of hard work and savings," said Amy Nofziger, Director of Fraud Victim Support at the AARP. "Plus, older adults have not grown up with the technology of today, which has grown so fast."

"Older Adults are often targets because they are going through life transitions and scammers can be very convincing," added Rachel Coates, Director of the Arlington County Agency on Aging. "Awareness is critical."

While numerous scams abound, there are some that are currently more prevalent than others. "The complaints we hear...is the IRS phone scam," said Stacy Northrop of the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs. "This is where the caller will state that a warrant of arrest has been issued for the victim."

"The crook will claim that the recipient in trouble for not paying enough in taxes or not filing properly," added Eric Friedman, Director of the Montgomery County Office of Consumer Protection. "Crooks instill a sense of fear and urgency, then they'll trick the consumer into wiring money or paying over the phone with a prepaid gift card. Consumers make quick decisions that they wouldn't make if there wasn't a sense of urgency."

Some of the features commonly thought to be safeguards may not be so, says Friedman. "You cannot trust Caller ID to tell you who's really on the other end of the phone," he said. "Caller ID is of no value because crooks can say anything over the phone. They can have IRS as the name that appears to make it look official."

Telephone calls and emails are two warning signs of a scam.

"This is not how the government actually operates," said Nofziger of AARP. "You would always first receive a letter from the IRS, and they would never threaten you with arrest or use foul language. If you receive this type of call, hang up the phone."

Fraudulent emails and websites can be created to look as though they are from a government agency.

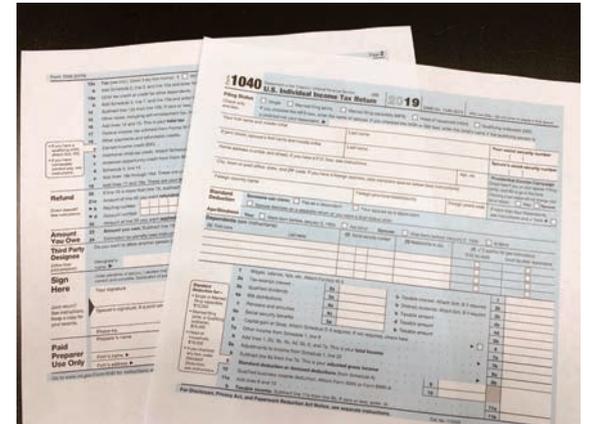


PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

**Know the warning signs to avoid scams this tax season.**

## For Help and More Information

- ❖ AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/FraudWatchNetwork](http://www.aarp.org/FraudWatchNetwork). AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline and our trained fraud specialists can help walk you through it: 877-908-3360.
- ❖ Free Help at Montgomery County Libraries: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/Resources/Files/taxaideflyer.pdf>
- ❖ Tax ID Theft Awareness Week: <https://www.idtheftcenter.org/tax-identity-theft-awareness-week-2020/>
- ❖ Arlington Adult Protective Services 703-228-1700
- ❖ Fairfax County Silver Shield Anti-Scam Campaign <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/older-adults/fairfax-county-silver-shield-anti-scam-campaign>

**"If anyone calls, mails, emails or texts you asking for money, that is a red flag. If they ask you for personal information such as your Medicare number, Social Security number or financial information, it's a huge red flag."**

— Amy Nofziger, Director of Fraud Victim Support at the AARP

**"Crooks instill a sense of fear and urgency. Consumers make quick decisions that they wouldn't make if there wasn't a sense of urgency."**

— Eric Friedman, Montgomery County Office of Consumer Protection

"Many older adults are unaware that criminals are lurking on what we consider innocent websites or apps, like 'Words with Friends,' Instagram or other social media platforms," said Nofziger. "This is why education and warning people about the red flags is crucial."

Identify theft is also prevalent during tax season, says Friedman of Montgomery County. "Crooks will steal someone's social security number and file [taxes] really early, like in January or February, before the consumer files their return," he said. "When the consumer really does file, the IRS rejects it. When the problem is reported, the IRS will

have to investigate which takes months to resolve, which is not good if you're getting a refund."

Scammers seek to obtain money from a victim often in the form of wire transfers or cash, says Nofziger. "It's important to know the red flags of

scams," she said. "Even though the scam tactics might vary, the criminals' demands never change. They want money or personal information. So if anyone calls, mails, emails or texts you asking for money, that is a red flag. If they ask you for personal information such as your Medicare number, Social Security number or financial information, it's a huge red flag."

# NEWS



Swains Lockhouse was open to the public for its grand opening last year, and now is open for overnight guests by reservation. Swains Lock is two miles up the towpath from Great Falls Tavern. The restoration won an award last week.



The restored dining room in Swains Lock House.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE STEVENS/POTOMAC ALMANAC

## Awards for C&O Canal Association and C&O Canal Trust

**C**&O Canal Association was honored at the 2020 Maryland Preservation Awards Thursday night at the Miller Senate Office Building in Annapolis. The Association shared in the award the restoration of Swains Lockhouse.

C&O Canal Trust led the restoration effort and was recognized for Project Excellence in Preservation Partnerships. The Association, the Friends of Historic Great Falls Tavern, and the C&O Canal National Historical Park shared in the award. The ceremony included a short video about the project, <https://youtu.be/6kMYw1T56-Y>.

**AWARD: C&O Canal Trust, Inc. for Swains Lockhouse** (Montgomery County) – Swains Lockhouse was occupied continuously by the Swain family for more than 100 years. Restoration of the Lockhouse brings this legacy to life and serves an important role in interpreting the story of the C & O Canal as a critical artery of commerce early in the 19th century as the nation expanded westward. The C&O Canal Trust opens the Lockhouse to the public as part of the Canal Quarters program.

The C&O Canal Trust received the Project Excellence Award for Preservation Partnerships for the Swains Lockhouse project. This recognition came from the Maryland Historical Trust at their Annual Maryland Preservation Awards banquet. Congratulatory resolutions came from the Maryland Senate and Senator George Edwards, and the Delegates representing District 16 in Montgomery County. New Park Superintendent Tina Cappetta joined the celebration on only her third day of work. Also joining in, Bill Holdsworth of the C&O Canal Association and Don Harrison of the Friends of the Historic Great Falls Tavern.

The C&O Canal National Historical Park was also recognized at the awards ceremony for Outstanding Stewardship by a Government Agency for the Conococheague Aqueduct project.

The Maryland Preservation Awards, presented annually by the Board of Trustees of [www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



**Pictured: Elizabeth Hughes, Director, Maryland Historical Trust; Tina Cappetta, Superintendent, C&O Canal NHP; Robin Zanotti, President, C&O Canal Trust; Bill Holdsworth, President, C&O Canal Association; Don Harrison, President, Friends of Historic Great Falls Tavern.**

the Maryland Historical Trust, are the highest level of recognition for historic preservation, heritage education and community development projects in the state.

The history of the Swain family is closely tied to the C&O Canal.

John Swain helped build the canal in the 1830s, family members worked on canal boats, then as lock keepers of Lock 21, which became known as Swain's Lock. The house was built in 1830. Jessie Swain was the last lock keeper in 1924 when the canal closed to boat traffic. After that, the family opened a concession stand, renting boats and bikes to park visitors and selling ice cream and live bait.

The Swains lived in and maintained the house until 2006 when they turned it over to the National Park Service, C&O Canal National Historical Park.

Swains Lock is just over two miles west of Potomac Village. As one of the C&O Canal Trust's Canal Quarters, it is convenient for an overnight stay and a historic experi-

ence for residents or their guests.

It is one of seven lockhouses in the Canal Quarters program, allowing guests to stay up to three nights in the lockhouses, experiencing life along the canal.

Each lockhouse provides visitors with an interpretive theme and is furnished with period furniture according to its specific time period.

Swains Lockhouse represents 1916.

That year was selected because that was about the time the canal was changing from commercial use to recreational and because that is the year the National Park Service was founded, according to Carl Lennartson, an historical interpreter with the National Park Service. The house has heating and air conditioning, indoor plumbing and is ADA-accessible, the first of the Canal Quarters to reach that designation.

The Lockhouse sleeps eight people and is available for overnight stays for \$180/night plus fees. For more information visit [www.canaltrust.org/quarters](http://www.canaltrust.org/quarters).



**Bert Swain, who grew up in the lockhouse at Swains Lock and is now a member of the board of directors of the C&O Canal Trust, speaks at the ribbon cutting ceremony in June 2019 marking the completion of refurbishing the lockhouse.**



**Bert Swain with his high school friend Doug Johncox and his wife Kris Johncox.**

PHOTO BY PEGGY MEWAN/POTOMAC ALMANAC

# What Is 5G Anyway?

Meeting encourages residents to get informed about 5G; some say dangerous, some say ugly, others say essential.

BY PEGGY McEWAN  
POTOMAC ALMANAC

Potomac resident and environmental health advocate Theodora Scarato held a meeting at Potomac Community Center Jan. 22 to raise awareness of radiation from cell phones and the cell towers that are increasing around the County as the United States moves towards 5G technology.

Wikipedia says: “5G is the fifth generation wireless technology for digital cellular networks that began wide deployment in 2019. As with previous standards, the covered areas are divided into regions called “cells”, serviced by individual antennas. Virtually every major telecommunication service provider in the developed world is deploying antennas or intends to deploy them soon. The frequency spectrum of 5G is divided into millimeter waves, mid-band and low-band. Low-band uses a similar frequency range as the predecessor, 4G.”

“5G is more cell towers and more cell phones and more wireless everything,” Scarato wrote in an email. “So [the meeting] was about the push into a technology for which there are safer alternatives.” About 40 people attended the meeting which Scarato said she took as a good sign. Most seemed concerned about the number of new cell towers needed for implementing 5G. “There is no 5G in our area,” Scarato said. “There are certain test cities [for 5G] now. DC is a test model.” An audience member noted that DC’s test does include some of Montgomery County, coming up Wisconsin Ave. “Who’s pushing 5G,” Mark King, of Germantown, asked, then answered. “The driverless car industry, a driverless car can



PHOTO BY PEGGY McEWAN

Theodora Scarato, an advocate for the Environmental Health Trust, presents information on the dangers of 5G technology at a meeting at Potomac Community Center Jan. 22.

never be out of contact with a cell tower.” “I disagree,” Robert Janko, another attendee, said. “Driverless cars have operated for 10 years without a problem.” That did not mean Janko was in favor of more cell towers. He is a member of mocoSafeG.org and encouraged others in the audience to contact County Council members about more cell towers which, according to the flyer he passed out, are not needed. “There are serious problems regarding these cell towers – potential cancer risk to your health, drop in home values and negative aesthetics,” mocoSafe5G wrote in its flyer. Montgomery County’s website says 5G “is the coming

fifth-generation wireless broadband technology based on the IEEE 802.11ac standard. 5G will provide better speeds and coverage than the current 4G. 5G operates with a 5Ghz signal and is set to offer speeds of up to 1 Gb/s for tens of connections or tens of Mb/s for tens of thousands of connections.” While many residents are concerned about poles so close to their houses, it’s not always because of health concerns. Another member of the audience said, “I do not think there is a health concern here. I would hate to have a 5G cell tower is my front yard because I think they are ugly.” Carol Falk from the West Mont-

gomery County Citizens Association told WAMU that 5G towers could lower property values. As the meeting went on, more and more audience members offered opinions and ideas, exchanging ways citizens can have more influence over the approval process for cell towers. The conversation seemed to slip from health concerns to politics. Scarato said she was glad to have her planned presentation move into a conversation on the issue. “I’m just thrilled there are so many engaged people. They want a choice; they want transparency and they want to be part of the process. One solution to new towers and higher speed technology, she said, is “moving towards putting as much data traffic on fully wired networks [which] would offload a lot of the capacity needs that industry says they are trying to meet.” “I hope readers will be curious about the issue and look into it. Be aware that wireless companies ... have paid scientists and PR firms working to whitewash the issue,” she said. County Councilmember Hans Reimer advocated last November on his blog for allowing more 5G towers. “In our increasingly digital world, wireless connectivity is essential to every imaginable technology, from phones and tablets to buses and Metro trains to manufacturing and medical equipment. Wireless will be bigger and more pervasive in the future than today — that is as clear as anything could possibly be.” Pending before County Council is zoning text amendment ZTA 19-07 that would: Allow wireless facilities on poles in the public right-of-way by “limited use” when those antennas are set back at least 60 feet from the nearest building, plus numerous other screening, color, and size/height conditions. Allow wireless facilities on poles in the public right-of-way by “conditional use” when those antennas are between 30-60 feet from the nearest building, plus numerous other screening, color, and size/height conditions. Does not allow antennas on poles that are closer than 30 feet to the nearest building. Ken Silverman, in Reimer’s office, said they here from businesses who say 5G will be important to future growth and deploying future strategies. But he adds, “There isn’t a rush on this; we do want to do it right.”

**2020 is here and we all have new goals to achieve!**

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# Trone To Seek Reelection

Trone represents Maryland's 6th Congressional District, which splits parts of Montgomery County and Potomac with the 8th District.

BY PEGGY McEWAN  
POTOMAC ALMANAC

U.S. Rep. David Trone (D), who represents District 6, completed his first year in office in December. Along with a list of accomplishments, Trone recently announced he is running for reelection.

"Representing the people of Maryland's 6th District has been an honor of my lifetime, and I'm ready to continue this fight with them," Trone said. "My team and I have worked tirelessly in Washington and throughout our four district offices on issues most important to the people of Maryland's Sixth District, including the opioid crisis and economic inequality."

The sixth district includes all or parts of Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick, and Montgomery counties. It shares Potomac with the 8th District, represented by U.S. Rep. Jamie Raskin (D).

Members of Congress are elected for two-year terms. Trone will participate in the Primary Election April 28, running against Maxwell Bero, of Clarksburg, the only other Democrat who filed for the election.

Three Republicans are competing for a chance to unseat Trone. They are Kevin Caldwell of Brunswick, Chris Meyyur of Frederick and Neil Parrott of

Funkstown.

In reviewing his first year, Trone said he was most proud of the work on the opioid crisis.

"As many people know, my nephew Ian Trone died of a fentanyl overdose in 2016 when he was alone in his hotel room," Trone said. "My family and I experienced the all-too-common pain of losing someone to addiction, and it was devastating. ... I came to Congress to bring urgency to the opioid crisis that took my nephew and is killing 192 people every day. I'm happy to say we are moving in the right direction."

"In my first year I started the Freshmen Working Group on Addiction, a bipartisan group of 64 lawmakers from 31 states that meet multiple times a month to determine how we can dedicate funding and resources at the federal level to end this epidemic. We put together a package of 25 pieces of legislation on addiction and mental health that approach the problem from many different angles. My bill, which would give an additional \$7.5 billion to states over the next 5 years, passed the House last year and I'm hopeful that we can get this through the Senate and on the President's desk. ... I'm encouraged by the urgency I've seen with my colleagues this year in the Freshmen Working Group on Addic-

SEE TRONE, PAGE 7



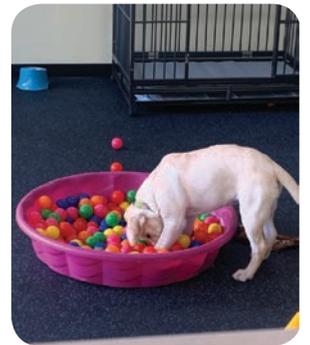
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# ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## NOW THRU MARCH 1

**Action and Reaction by Mark Goldman.** At Sandy Spring Museum, 17091 Bentley Road, Sandy Spring. Action and Reaction by Mark Goldman captures the most iconic moments in sports. This photographic exhibition showcases the intensity, athleticism, and success behind the action of D.C. area professional and collegiate level sports teams, while also revealing the competitiveness, heart, and emotion behind each player's reaction. Hours: Thursday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., and the First Saturday of each month 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit the website: [www.sandyspringmuseum.org](http://www.sandyspringmuseum.org)

## NOW THRU MARCH 1

**Art Dolls: Figurative Sculptures Tell a Story.** At Sandy Spring Museum, 17091 Bentley Road, Sandy Spring. Reception: Sunday, Jan. 12, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. This exhibit features the work of students enrolled in doll making classes at Montgomery College taught by Wendelin Daniels. The students explore mixed media art and the human form through the design and creation of original art dolls. The dolls span a wide range of persona, from portrait dolls of historical figures to fantasy dolls, and everything in between. Hours: Thursday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., and the First Saturday of each month 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit the website: [www.sandyspringmuseum.org](http://www.sandyspringmuseum.org)

## NOW THRU FEB. 2

**“A Raisin in the Sun.”** Jan. 31, and Feb. 1 at 8 p.m.; and Feb. 2 at 2 p.m. At F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Set in Chicago's South Side in the 1950s, this racially relevant classic depicts the dreams and ambitions of the Younger family as they await and receive a life-altering insurance check. Faced with daily tensions, prejudices, and a harsh reality, the family struggles to maintain dignity amid the chaos. Tickets: Adults \$22 / Seniors (62+) and Students \$20. Visit [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov).

## THURSDAY/JAN. 30

**Baby and Toddler Storytime.** 10:30-11 a.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. A storytime experience for our youngest library users and their caregivers. Call 240-777-0690.

**Play Date at the Library.** 11-11:30 a.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. This is a drop-in social playtime for toddlers/preschoolers/Kindergarten and their caregivers. Call 240-777-0690.

**Maryland Wine Tasting.** 7-9:30 p.m. At The Old Maryland Grill, 7777 Baltimore Ave., College Park. Experience an exclusive, multi-course dinner and Orin Swift wine tasting with a local wine expert at The Hotel at the University of Maryland's Old Maryland Grill. Cost is \$139. Visit the website: <http://www.thehotelumd.com/winemakers-dinner>

## SATURDAY/FEB. 1

**Chinese Book Discussion.** 10:15 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Chinese book discussion in Chinese language. Ask for the book at the Circulation Desk. Free. 90 minutes.



**DuPont Brass, co-writers: Anthony Daniel Jr, Jared Bailey, Isaac Bell IV, and Jake Grotticelli.**

## Live Concert

Friday/March 13, 7:30 p.m. At Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. The sixth annual Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards, produced by the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District, will once again feature a live concert performed by the competition finalists. The following five songwriters will perform their original songs at the concert. One will win the \$10,000 Grand Prize and 25 hours of complimentary recording studio time at Innovation Station Music. ♦ DuPont Brass, D.C. Metro Area; ♦ Co-writers: Anthony Daniel Jr, Jared Bailey, Isaac Bell IV, Jake Grotticelli; ♦ Hayley Fahey, Derwood, MD; ♦ Select songs co-written with Austin Bello of Bristow, VA; ♦ Genna Matthew, Charlottesville, VA; Eric Scott, North Beach, MD; and Maimouna Youssef, Baltimore, MD. Tickets begin at \$15 and are available at [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) or call 301-215-6660.



**Klein plums at Artists & Makers Studio in Rockville.**

## Thesis Exhibition

Feb. 7-27. At Artists & Makers Studio, 11810 Parklawn Dr., Suite 210, Rockville. The graduates of The Compass Atelier's Master Artist Program, Class of 2020, will have their Thesis Exhibition at Artists & Makers Studios from Feb. 7-27, 2020. This exhibition will feature the work of 21 graduating artists completed during their Thesis Year of the Master Artist Program. Opening Reception on Friday, Feb. 7 from 6-9 p.m.

No registration.  
**Chinese New Year Celebration.** 10:30-12 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. The celebration includes a Lion Dance, Chinese painting, performances and dancing. Free. Call 240-777-0690.

**English Conversation Club.** 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.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 us any time! For

more information, call 240-777-0690.

**Pressenda Chamber Players.** 8 p.m. At Westmoreland Church, One Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. The Conservatory Concert Series presents the Pressenda Chamber Players: string sextet and quintets. Featuring Aaron Berofsky; Kathryn Votapek (violin); Amadi Azikiwe; Philippe Chao (viola); Jan Mueller-Szeraws, and Tobias Werner (cello). Guests are invited to attend Wine & Words after the concert for complimentary beverages and an informal Q & A

with the performer. Cost is \$20 suggested donation. For more information: 301-320-2770 or [washingtonconservatory.org](http://washingtonconservatory.org).

## SUNDAY/FEB. 2

**Summer Camp Open House.** 1-4 p.m. At VisArts, 155 Gibbs Street, Suite 300, Rockville. Summer Camp registration is now open. Want to know which award-winning summer camp is right for your child? Join VisArts for the free Open House and discover all that Camp VisArts has to offer. You'll have the opportunity to tour the art studios, meet the professional instructors, and participate in art demonstrations. First 100 people to register will receive a free gift.

**Waltz Dance.** 3:30-6 p.m. At Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The ensemble Trio con Brio will provide a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambro, 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 p.m. Admission is \$13, \$5 for full-time students with student ID. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to [www.WaltzTimeDances.org](http://www.WaltzTimeDances.org) or e-mail [info@WaltzTimeDances.org](mailto:info@WaltzTimeDances.org).

## MONDAY/FEB. 3

**Dance and Laughter for Total Wellness.** 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Attention Seniors! Want to stay healthy and pursue wellness while having fun?

## FEB. 3 TO APRIL 13

**RSVP/AARP Tax-Aide Program.**

Mondays All Day. At Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. RSVP/AARP Tax-Aides provide free federal and state (Maryland) tax preparation services for low-to-moderate income taxpayers who live or work in Montgomery County.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 4

**Read to a Dog.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Looking for a great opportunity to improve your little reader's language skills and interact with cool furry friends in the process? Then "Read to a Dog" is for you.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 5

**Census Jobs Info Session.** 1-3 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Learn more about available Census 2020 jobs. We offer competitive wages, flexible hours and opportunities for everyone, whether you're seeking full-time work or looking to earn extra money.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 6

**Bilingual Chinese Storytime.** 10:30 to 11 a.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Come join our children's librarian for stories and rhymes in Chinese and English.

**Play Date at the Library.** 11-11:30 a.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. This is a drop-in social playtime for toddlers/preschoolers/Kindergarten and their caregivers.

**Great Decisions.** 12:30-2 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Lecture sponsored by Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter.

**True Life Cinema Series.** 3-5 p.m. At Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Watch "Souls of Black Girls: the Image of Color in the Media"—52 min "White Scripts and Black Supermen: Black Masculinities in Comic books"—55 min.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 8

**Friends of the Library Booksale.** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Used books, DVDs, and more available for children, teens, and adults. All are welcome.

**English Conversation Club.** 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.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 us any time! For more information call 240-777-0690.

**Socrates Cafe.** 4-5:30 p.m. At Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Socrates Cafe is a forum for discussion. Participating in Socrates Cafe enables you to explore and discover through question and conversation.

**Mosaic Harmony 5th Annual Interfaith Concert.** 7-9 p.m. At Silver Spring United Methodist Church, 8900 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring. Mosaic Harmony proudly presents the 5th Annual Interfaith Harmony Concert in Celebration of 2020 United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week. Featuring performances by Adams Beat, Jayamangala, Metropolitan Washington Baha'i Chorale, Mosaic Harmony, Shir Halev and Silver Spring UMC Choir. Free admission. Donations are being collected on behalf of UNICEF. For a complete list of programs go to: [ifcmw.org](http://ifcmw.org).

## SUNDAY/FEB. 9

**Symphony of the Potomac.** 3 p.m. At Montgomery College's Cultural Arts Center, 7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Featuring The

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[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

# ENTERTAINMENT

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Founders and music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Joseph Haydn, and Ludwig van Beethoven. The program will open with Mozart's Overture to Idomeneo, followed Haydn's Symphony No. 104, London. The second half features the Symphony No. 3, Eroica, by Beethoven. Advance tickets to the performance, \$15 (adults), \$5 (student/youth under 18), and \$10 (groups of 10 or more), plus a service charge, are available from [BoxOfficeTickets.com](http://BoxOfficeTickets.com) until Saturday, Feb. 8. Tickets purchased at the door are \$20 (adults), and \$5 (students with ID/youth under 18). Visit the website [mcblogs.montgomerycollege.edu](http://mcblogs.montgomerycollege.edu).

## Jud Caswell at Focus

**Rockville.** 7:30 p.m. At Tikvat Israel Congregation, 2200 Baltimore Road, Rockville. Jud Caswell is a talented multi-instrumentalist, wielding his guitar, banjo, whistle and cittern, who crafts songs that transport from a Maine old farmhouse, the salty shore and a wood full of birdsong. Tickets are \$18 in advance at <https://www.focusmusic.org/event-3675405> and for members, \$20 at the door.

## MONDAY/FEB. 10

**"Sparky and Rhonda."** 7:30 p.m. At Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Tickets: \$20 adv, \$25 door; Children & Students w ID: \$15 adv, \$20 door. Contact Institute of Musical Traditions at 301 960-3655, or visit [imtfolk.org](http://imtfolk.org).



**Bokante will perform Wednesday, Feb. 26 at AMP by Strathmore.**

## Bokante

Wednesday/Feb. 26, 8 p.m. At AMP by Strathmore, 11810 Grand Park Ave., North Bethesda. Tickets \$39-\$59. Bokanté is the super group of musicians from five countries and four continents, formed by Michael League (Snarky Puppy). The group won a recent Grammy Award nomination for their second album *What Heat* in the category of Best World Music Album. Visit the website <https://www.ampbystrathmore.com/live-shows/bokante>.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 15

**Stephen Wade.** 7:30 p.m. At Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Tickets: \$30 adv, \$35 door; Children & Students w ID: \$25 adv, \$30 door. Contact Institute of Musical Traditions at 301 960-3655, or visit [imtfolk.org](http://imtfolk.org).

## SUNDAY/FEB. 16

**Waltz Dance.** 3:30-6 p.m. At Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The ensemble Some

Assembly 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 p.m. Admission is \$13, \$5 for full-time students with student ID. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to [www.WaltzTimeDances.org](http://www.WaltzTimeDances.org) or e-mail [info@WaltzTimeDances.org](mailto:info@WaltzTimeDances.org).

# Trone To Seek Reelection

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tion."

When asked what surprised him most about his job in Washington, he wrote, "I came to Congress to get things done and make sure those who don't have a PAC or lobbyist have a voice to represent them. On two particular issues, addiction and mental health, I've been pleasantly surprised at the willingness of both Democrats and Republicans to work together to find solutions and introduce bills together. These are issues that I've heard are important for constituents from Potomac to Western Maryland, and I'm glad that representatives in Congress can recognize this urgency too."

"In 2019 alone, we held 175 public events across all five counties in Maryland's 6th District," Trone said. "From our forum on curbing gun violence in Rockville to conversations with farmers in Clear Spring, I believe the time we spent in the District helped our office remain connected, responsive, and in tune with constituent needs — and that translated into action."

As for the economy, he said, "We need 21st Century approaches to bring 21st Century jobs to communities across our District. In December, we secured an additional \$100 million to expand broadband — including to rural communities that are too often overlooked. ... I also voted for a higher minimum wage, equal pay for women, protections against workplace discrimination for the LGBTQ community, lower prescription drug costs, and more. Sadly, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell refuses to bring these bills to a vote in the Senate."

Trone identifies part of his record and respon-

sibilities as "holding the Trump administration accountable."

"As part of the Education and Labor Committee, I pressed [Education] Secretary [Betsy] DeVos to answer whether she believes racial segregation poses a threat to educational opportunities for children of color. She refused to answer, which should concern all of us.

"In another hearing, I asked Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta what he believes the federal minimum wage should be. Secretary Acosta refused to give a number. (The federal minimum wage has been \$7.25 for nearly 11 years — I voted to raise it to \$15.)

"On the Foreign Affairs Committee, we worked to mitigate the damage of President Trump's reckless foreign policy decisions. We passed sanctions on Turkish officials and businesses connected to Turkey's invasion of Northern Syria that threatened our Kurdish allies. We also required the intelligence community report to Congress on human rights violations in Saudi Arabia and the killing of Washington Post reporter Jamal Khashoggi.

"Finally, in December, faced with overwhelming evidence of President Trump's use of military aid to Ukraine for personal gain, I voted for two Articles of Impeachment: Abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. I continue to urge my Senate colleagues to conduct a fair, impartial trial — nothing is more important than determining the truth."

Trone sits on the Education and Labor, Foreign Affairs, and Joint Economic Committees in Congress. TO get in touch with him, email [David@DavidTrone.com](mailto:David@DavidTrone.com) or tweet [@DavidJTrone](https://twitter.com/DavidJTrone).

## Can You Spell Thyroidectomy? (Or Ice Cream?)



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I couldn't before, Mr. Rogers, but now I can. And I even know what it means, which 10 days ago, in my neighborhood, I wouldn't have had a clue. Now, not only do I have a clue, I have a date for surgery: Jan. 27. Moreover, in addition to a date (and I don't mean my wife, Dina), I have a time and a place, a list of pre-surgical dos and don'ts, and a few items to buy: a post-surgical healing ointment and a special scrub to help minimize the risk of infection. And of course, I've been advised to wear loose-fitting clothing, perhaps a button down cardigan will do. If all goes well, I'll be home in my jammies around supper time when my recovery begins. Details of which are still a bit sketchy. I suppose I'll have to 'recover' to find out.

Let me amend that last sentence: I'll be on a soft-food diet for five days. What might not jump at you is that I don't eat many soft foods (M&Ms melting in one's mouth instead of their hands likely doesn't count). More significantly and quite out of my ordinary, my wife, Dina will be managing and controlling my menu. So far that menu includes eggs, pudding, apple sauce; all good but her last two items: spinach and kale, not good at all. I imagine I'll survive the surgery, but given how rarely Dina and I have shared meals together over the years, I may not survive the recovery. And though her heart and head might be in the right place, I'm afraid my knife and fork won't be. During the best of times, I'm challenging to feed. After my surgery, I'm likely going to be at my worst. Although I certainly don't look it, food has always been the bane of my existence.

But at that post-surgical point, aren't I entitled? I mean, when I was a little boy and had my tonsils removed, I remember being given ice cream to eat - in bed. That had never happened before - or since, quite frankly. Soft foods. What's softer than ice cream? Why should I be deprived? I have two types of cancer. Yet so far, I don't see ice cream on the list. Maybe Dina's waiting for confirmation from the surgeon that cold foods are just as soft as hot. If true, I think I'm going to need that in ALL CAPS to convince my wife to give in to my indulgences. After all, one's thyroid gland isn't extracted every day so shouldn't I scream (perhaps whisper would be advisable) for ice cream? Wouldn't it soothe the savage beast that I might be after surgery? Presumably there will be some pain or discomfort and/or side effects from prescription medications I'm obliged to take so why not humor me; I like to laugh.

Except there's really nothing funny about surgery, other than the old joke: it's minor surgery when it's someone else, when it's me, it's major. So even though I've been told on relatively good authority that a thyroidectomy is not exactly major surgery, it's still me that's being anesthetized and operated on for four hours. And though I'd rather it would be somebody else, I don't see how that would help remove my thyroid gland which apparently has spread cancer to my neck and a lymph node. I guess if it has to come out, it might as well come out of me. And then we can get on to the business of learning whether I have one cancer or two and perhaps get an updated assessment of my life expectancy. If I had my druthers, I'd just as soon have only one cancer. Two is too much.

That being said/vented, right now, I just want to wake up after surgery and get home. And when I get there, either that night or for breakfast the next day, there better be a pint or two of ice cream with my name on it. I think it's only fair, don't you?

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

# POTOMAC ALMANAC

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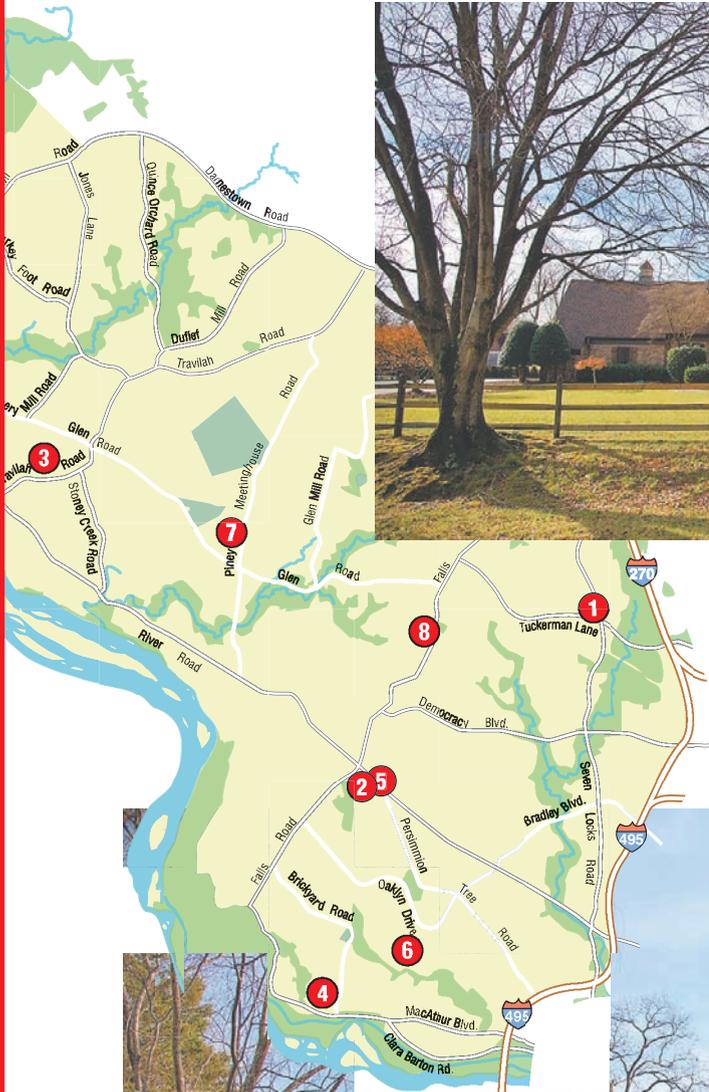
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# Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

## November, 2019 Sales, \$1,075,000~\$1,310,000



IN NOVEMBER 2019, 43 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,000,000-\$540,000.



**8 9428 Fox Hollow Drive — \$1,075,000**

**3 12904 Brushwood Terrace — \$1,270,000**



**5 9816 Tibron Court — \$1,235,000**



**2 9809 Hall Road — \$1,300,000**



**6 9705 Beman Woods Way — \$1,184,000**



**4 7400 River Falls Drive — \$1,260,000**

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 11413 PATRIOT LN	5	..	5..	2	POTOMAC	\$1,310,000	Detached	0.15	20854	POTOMAC CREST	11/22/19
2 9809 HALL RD	6	..	4..	2	POTOMAC	\$1,300,000	Detached	0.48	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE	11/06/19
3 12904 BRUSHWOOD TER	5	..	4..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,270,000	Detached	2.00	20854	TRAVILAH MEADOWS	11/22/19
4 7400 RIVER FALLS DR	5	..	4..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,260,000	Detached	0.35	20854	RIVER FALLS	11/15/19
5 9816 TIBRON CT	4	..	3..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,235,000	Detached	0.54	20854	POTOMAC VILLAGE	11/20/19
6 9705 BEMAN WOODS WAY	3	..	3..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,184,000	Detached	0.19	20854	AVENEL	11/04/19
7 11221 GREENBRIAR PRESERVE LN	4	..	5..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,150,000	Detached	0.74	20854	GREENBRIAR PRESERVE	11/18/19
8 9428 FOX HOLLOW DR	4	..	3..	2	POTOMAC	\$1,075,000	Detached	0.25	20854	BEDFORDSHIRE	11/12/19

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