

A photograph of a heron in flight over a stand-up paddleboarder on a river. The heron is in the upper center, wings spread, flying towards the left. The paddleboarder is in the lower center, wearing a white shirt, blue patterned shorts, and a straw hat, holding a paddle. The background is a dense line of green trees under a clear blue sky.

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2014-2015


Potomac  
**ALMANAC**

A heron flies above a stand-up paddleboarder on the Potomac River just above Seneca Creek on Sunday, July 13.

## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Helping the Community



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### Manna Food Center

Manna Food Center, the main food bank in Montgomery County, strives to eliminate hunger through food distribution, education and advocacy. Manna has distributed more than 43 million pounds of food to more than 2.7 million individuals. Manna provided food to 5 percent of Montgomery County residents this past year. 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, 301-424-1130 or [www.mannafood.org](http://www.mannafood.org).

### Mercy Health Clinic

Mercy Health Clinic is a free, community-based volunteer organization providing quality healthcare to uninsured, low-income residents of Montgomery County. The clinic, located in Gaithersburg, depends on the expertise of volunteers, healthcare professionals and support from community partners to provide quality care to those in need. The clinic is staffed with medical professionals including family practice physicians, cardiologists, endocrinologists, nurse practitioners, nurse assistants, translators and behavioral health counselors. 7 Metropolitan Court, Suite 1, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, [www.mercyhealthclinic.org](http://www.mercyhealthclinic.org).

### Interfaith Works

Interfaith Works provides shelter, food, and clothing to low-income and homeless neighbors. 114 West Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, [www.iworksmc.org](http://www.iworksmc.org).

### Potomac Community Resources

Potomac Community Resources, Inc. provides therapeutic, recreational, social and respite care programs for teens and adults with developmental differences, as well as information about community resources for families. 9200 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, MD 20854, 301-365-0561 or <http://pcr-inc.org/>.

### Montgomery County Coalition For the Homeless

Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless, a commu-

nity-based nonprofit organization, is a leading provider of permanent housing, intermediate housing, emergency shelter and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness. MCCH programs serve 1,600 men, women and children each year. 600-B East Gude Drive, Rockville, MD 20850, 301-217-0314 or [www.mcch.net](http://www.mcch.net).

### Shepherd's Table

Shepherd's Table is a non-profit organization in downtown Silver Spring, supported by volunteers, religious organizations, government, businesses, foundations and individual donors. Shepherd's Table provides help to people who are homeless or in need by providing basic services, including meals, social services, medical support, clothing and other assistance. , 8210 Dixon Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301-585-6463 or [www.shepherdstable.org](http://www.shepherdstable.org).

### Fisher House

The Fisher House program supports members of the military and their families when they travel great distances for specialized medical care. Fisher House Foundation donates "comfort homes," built on the grounds of major military and Veterans medical centers, including Walter Reed in Bethesda. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times. Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 111 Rockville Pike, Suite 420, Rockville, Maryland 20850, 888-294-8560 or [www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org).

### Friends in Action

Founded by Interfaith Works (formerly Community Ministry of Montgomery County) in 1986, Friends in Action recruits and trains a network of people from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. Volunteer mentoring teams are linked for one year in a supportive relationship to a needy family in their community. The goal of the program is to help the family identify their strengths and develop attainable and manageable goals that guide them toward financial independence and personal well being. 114 West Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, 301-762-8682 or [www.iworksmc.org/friends-in-action](http://www.iworksmc.org/friends-in-action).

McLean celebrates differences; they don't walk away from them. These kids are the people who will think differently and solve the world's problems.

It is surprising how few public or private schools understand how to educate a child with learning disabilities—yet capable of high academic performance. McLean is the only school that can provide a rigorous, college prep curriculum for students with learning challenges!

The love, attention, and the individualized understanding of our daughter's academic needs were managed in such a positive manner. McLean has changed our child's life, and our family dynamic.

Our son was off the charts smart—but couldn't get organized. It was a relief to come to a school that recognized his intellectual strengths.

McLean School is a K-12 college preparatory school that serves students who are traditional learners, and those with mild to moderate learning differences—including language-based differences, ADHD, and anxiety.

McLean students thrive in a supportive, student-centered academic environment, with smaller classes, challenging opportunities, and more individual attention.

Contact us: Cathy Patterson, Director of Admission  
[admission@mcleanschool.org](mailto:admission@mcleanschool.org) or 240.395.0686.

**McLean School**  
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8224 Lochinver Lane Potomac, Maryland 20854  
[www.mcleanschool.org](http://www.mcleanschool.org)

K-12 College preparatory school supporting bright students' individual learning styles

## Parents Talk.

Join the conversation about McLean School.

# About the Almanac

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

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated version of our award-winning Insider's Guide to the Parks, plus details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, 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 e-mail or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. 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 births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries. We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo. We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our cal-

## Keep in Touch

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** Email to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com) or submit online at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>  
**CONTACT:**  
 Potomac Almanac: [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com)  
 For advertising and marketing information, email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9431.

endar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

The Almanac is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac.

Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

The Connection Newspapers have won hundreds of press awards in just the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, Best in Show for our Insiders Guide to the Parks, first place for our community guides, plus awards in news, art, business, special projects, sports, entertainment, design, photography and much more.

We have staff and contributors here at the Connection with remarkable talent and experience, far greater than one might expect. We continue to publish 15 distinct papers every week that serve their communities in distinct ways. We welcome contributing writers, with the caveat that our freelance pay is nominal; if you are interested in covering news or events in your community, email [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com). We offer summer and year-round educational internships with information at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships).

In addition to our weekly coverage, we have monthly special focus pages on Wellbeing; Education, Learning, Fun, and HomeLifeStyle, plus other seasonal specials including Real Estate, Senior Living, Fall Fun, Food and Entertainment (also Winter, Spring and Summer), a twice a year Pet Almanac, and others. If you have story ideas for these, email [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com); if are interested in marketing, email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM  
[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)  
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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## VIEWPOINTS

### What do you like about living in Potomac?



"I like Great Falls. Some of the parks are nice."  
 — Aaron Ellsworth



"It's quiet and peaceful."  
 — James Taylor



"It seems generally safe, and I'm glad that my kids go to Montgomery County schools."  
 — Jill Tender



"I like how international the community is."  
 — Orma Kuti



"All of my really close friends that I've made over the years are from Potomac."  
 — Alex Korty

# Why I Live in Potomac

BY GINNY BARNES  
 PRESIDENT OF WMCCA

## A SPECIAL PLACE

Though I've lived here over 30 years and walked many local trails, it was only recently I learned about the Ford Mine Trail which begins at the farthest end of the Great Falls parking lot and meanders up and down steep wooded slopes for somewhat over two miles, returning along the berm side of the canal. The trailhead is well marked at the edge of the parking lot and nearest the canal. Since most of us usually park closest to the visitors center, this trail has to be a destination to find since it starts at the opposite end of the parking lot from the tavern.

## ISSUES TO WATCH

❖ The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) which operates the water filtration plant on River Road has applied for a mid-river intake to reach cleaner drinking water. If approved, this massive project will take up to five years to build, have significant environmental and physical impacts on the C&O Canal National Historic Park and increase heavy truck traffic through Potomac.

❖ Montgomery County has recently revised the zoning code. While it does not change the basic rural zoning in Potomac, implemented will reveal how it may change the character of the Potomac Subregion.

❖ Rockwood Park on MacArthur Boulevard is considered an enterprise property in the Montgomery County Park system. The house and grounds are promoted for weddings, conferences and special events. It is currently undergoing a study to identify improvements needed which may include proposals to alter traffic flow through the site and increase park impacts on the adjacent neighborhood and the larger Potomac community.

It was love of a man that brought me to Potomac many years ago to live overlooking the Watts Branch stream in a log cabin that was moved in the 1940s from behind Great Falls Tavern. My husband George grew up here in the '50s and '60s in a childhood many of us only dream about with open space to ramble and a small village where he had his first job in the pharmacy as a teenager. Potomac has grown of course. It is no longer a place for adventurous pioneers like his parents who wanted a rural country life to raise their kids. A lack of amenities like paved roads and electricity were acceptable inconveniences. Glen Road was a one-lane stretch of concrete. If you met a car coming the other way, both had to drop right or left wheels off a steep edge onto washed out gravel. South Glen was still a dirt road. The Potomac Hunt met in our front pasture.

Settling here, I came to love the forests, the tree-lined rustic roads and, of course, the C&O Canal National Historic Park (NHP) where our home once lived. As years have gone by, I'm constantly discovering new natural areas to explore. The federally owned C&O Canal stretches 184 miles and you could walk to Cumberland or Georgetown on the edge of a mighty river. I consider this the ultimate luxury of living in Potomac, even if I never do it. But Montgomery County itself has a wealth of parks and some of the largest are in Potomac. Blockhouse Point Conservation Park is likely the best of preserved natural areas, stretching out along River Road from Muddy Branch all the way to Calathea Farm. It adjoins the NHP with over 600 acres of mature forest and trails that lead to an overlook of breathtaking proportions. On a clear day you can see the Blue Ridge in the distance and below you a narrow ribbon of towpath between the canal and a long slice of dancing rapids with rock islands where water birds gather.

Visiting certain places has become a ritual and I feel bereft if I miss those that rely on the season. In spring, Violette's Lock is an ode to Bluebells that spread over river banks. In the long narrow pools along the Berma Road at Old Anglers, Wood Frogs are a loud chorus of mating frenzy. In summer, I take out-of-town visitors to Olmstead Island at Great Falls and watch handsome Great Blue Herons fish on the rocks below the falls. Autumn colors in forests at Widewater beside the towpath could not be more beautiful on a quiet Fall morning or afternoon. Untold pleasures still await any curious outdoor Rambler.

## POTOMAC ALMANAC NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

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## NEWCOMERS GUIDE

# Election Day Nov. 4

Every state and local office that represents Potomac is on the ballot Nov. 4.

If you want some choice in who will represent you on County Council, as County Executive, in the Maryland General Assembly, now is the time to engage. If you think it doesn't matter much, these are the people who make land use decisions, decide what to do with county property, who set tax rates, who decide how much money will go to schools, who control services that affect traffic and many other things that affect quality of life more than anything that happens at a national level. Every Montgomery County voter will receive a detailed ballot booklet which will include their polling place location in the mail.

### COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Incumbent County Executive Isiah Leggett (D) will face Republican challenger Jim Shalleck.  
[www.ikeleggett.org](http://www.ikeleggett.org)  
[www.voteshalleck.com](http://www.voteshalleck.com)

### COUNTY COUNCIL

Potomac residents are represented by the District 1 county councilmember and the four at-large councilmembers. The incumbent Democrats in all of these positions won their primary elections.

### COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Voters choose one candidate.  
 Incumbent Roger Berliner (D-1) will face Republican challenger Jim Kirkland.

### COUNTY COUNCIL AT LARGE

Voters will vote for four candidates of the nine names on the ballot.

Democrat incumbents will face four Republican challengers and one Green Party candidate.

Marc Elrich (D-at large), [marcelrich.com](http://marcelrich.com)  
 Nancy Floreen (D-at large), [www.nancyfloreen.org](http://www.nancyfloreen.org)  
 George Leventhal (D-at large), [www.georgeleventhal.com](http://www.georgeleventhal.com)  
 Han Riemer (D-at large), [hansriemer.com](http://hansriemer.com)  
 Robert Dyer (R), [www.RobertDyer.net](http://www.RobertDyer.net)  
 Chris P. Fiotes Jr. (R)  
 Adol T. Owen-Williams II (R)  
 Shelly Skolnick (R)  
 Tim Willard (Green)

Montgomery County State's Attorney Incumbent Democrat John McCarthy, [johnmccarthy.us](http://johnmccarthy.us)

Republican Dan Gaskill, [www.facebook.com/pages/Dan-Gaskill-for-States-Attorney/202411253290307](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Dan-Gaskill-for-States-Attorney/202411253290307)

Montgomery County Board of Education

There are seven members of the Montgomery County Board of Education, plus a student member. Two members serve at-large, while the other five members live in their geographic districts. But all members are elected county-wide by voters across the county, and serve staggered terms. Members of the Board of Education are non-partisan

and elected without identifying as belonging to any political party.

This year, one at-large member and members of Districts 1, 3 and 5 are on the ballot.

**Board of Education At Large,** voters choose one of two:

Shebra Evans, [www.shebraevans.com](http://www.shebraevans.com)  
 Jill Ortman-Fouse, [www.jill4allkids.com](http://www.jill4allkids.com)

**Board of Education District 1,** voters choose one of two:

Judy Docca  
 Kristin G. Tribble

**Board of Education District 3,** voters choose one of two:

Laurie Halverson, [www.lauriehalverson.com/](http://www.lauriehalverson.com/)  
 Patricia O'Neill, [www.patoneill.org](http://www.patoneill.org)

**Board of Education District 5,** voters choose one of two:

Mike Durso, [www.facebook.com/durso4boe](http://www.facebook.com/durso4boe)  
 Larry Edmonds, [www.facebook.com/pages/Larry-Edmonds-for-Board-of-Education-District-5/389020714546495](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Larry-Edmonds-for-Board-of-Education-District-5/389020714546495)

Incumbent Sheriff Darren Popkin (D), Clerk of the Court Barbara H. Meiklejohn (D), and Register of Wills Joseph M. Griffin (D) are all running unopposed.

**U.S. CONGRESS**  
 Potomac is divided between Maryland Congressional Districts 6 and 8.

**District 6:**  
 Incumbent John K. Delaney (D), [www.delaneyforcongress.com](http://www.delaneyforcongress.com)  
 Dan Bongino (R), [www.bongino.com](http://www.bongino.com)  
 George Gluck, (Green), [georgegluck.com](http://georgegluck.com)

**District 8:**  
 Incumbent Chris Van Hollen (D-8) [www.vanhollen.org](http://www.vanhollen.org)  
 Dave Wallace (R) [www.wallaceforamerica.com](http://www.wallaceforamerica.com)

**FOR GOVERNOR/LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**  
 Voters will choose one ticket:  
 Anthony Brown and Ken Ulman (D) [www.anthonymbrown.com](http://www.anthonymbrown.com)  
 Larry Hogan and Boyd Rutherford (R) [www.hoganforgovernor.com](http://www.hoganforgovernor.com)  
 Shawn Quinn and Lorenzo Gaztanaga (Libertarian)

**COMPTROLLER**  
 Incumbent Peter Franchot (D)  
 William H. Campbell (R)

**STATE DELEGATES AND SENATORS**  
 Potomac is split between District 15 and 16. Each resident is represented by one state senator and three state delegates from their district. District 16 includes Bethesda, Chevy Chase and parts of Potomac.

**DISTRICT 15 SENATE:**  
 Brian Feldman (D), [brianfeldman.com](http://brianfeldman.com)  
 Robin Ficker (R), [www.fickersfor15.com](http://www.fickersfor15.com)

**DISTRICT 15 DELEGATE:**  
 Voters pick three of the six candidates on the ballot:  
 Kathleen Dumais (D), [www.kathleendumais.com](http://www.kathleendumais.com)

SEE WHAT'S ON, PAGE 5

## NEWCOMERS GUIDE

# What's on the Ballot?

FROM PAGE 4

David Fraser-Hidalgo (D),  
fraserfor15.org  
Aruna Miller (D),  
Ed Edmundson (R) ed4md.org  
Flynn Ficker (R), fickersfor15.com  
Christine Thron (R)

### DISTRICT 16 SENATE:

Susan Lee (D),  
susanleeforsenate.com/  
Meyer Marks (R),  
marksformaryland.org

### DISTRICT 16 DELEGATE:

Voters pick three of the six candidates on the ballot:

Bill Frick (D), www.billfrick.com  
Ariana Kelly (D),  
kellyfordelegate.com  
Marc Korman (D), marckorman.com  
John Andrews (R),  
www.andrewsfordelegate.com  
Lynda del Castillo (R)  
Rose Maria Li (R),  
www.voteroseli.com

There will be one Montgomery County question and two statewide questions on the ballot:

### STATEWIDE QUESTION 1

Constitutional Amendment (Ch. 422 of the 2013 Legislative Session)

Transportation Trust Fund – Use of Funds

(Amending Article III by adding Section 53 to the Maryland Constitution)

Limits the use of Transportation Trust Funds to the payment of principal and interest on transportation bonds and for constructing and maintaining an adequate highway system or any other transportation-related purpose. Also

prohibits the transfer of Transportation Trust Funds into the General Fund or a special fund of the State, except for: (1) an allocation or use of highway user revenues for local governments or (2) a transfer of funds to the Maryland Transportation Authority or the Maryland Transportation Authority Fund. Transportation Trust Funds may be used for non-transportation related purposes or transferred to the general fund or a special fund only if the Governor declares a fiscal emergency and the General Assembly approves legislation, by a three-fifths vote of both houses, concurring with the use or transfer of the funds.

### STATEWIDE QUESTION 2

Constitutional Amendment (Ch. 261 of the 2014 Legislative Session)

Special Election to fill Vacancy in Office of Chief Executive Officer or County Executive

(Amending Article XI-A, Section 3 and Article XVIII, Section 2 of the Maryland Constitution)

Authorizes charter counties to provide for special elections to fill a vacancy in the office of chief executive officer or county executive, and exempts a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of chief executive officer or county execu-

tive of a charter county from the constitutional requirement that elections for State and county officers be held on a specified four-year cycle. Under existing law, charter counties may only authorize special elections to fill vacancies on the county council.

Montgomery County Question A, Charter Amendment by Act of County Council

District Councilmember Residency Requirement

Amend Sections 102, 104, 106, and 114 of the County Charter to:

- ❖ clarify that a candidate for a District Council seat must reside in the district at the time of the primary and general election;

- ❖ provide that a councilmember elected by a district must reside in that district during the member's entire term;

- ❖ provide that any change in the district boundaries during a district councilmember's term does not render the councilmember ineligible to complete that term;

- ❖ clarify that any revised Council District boundaries apply in any special election held to fill a vacancy after the boundaries are amended; and

- ❖ clarify that, if a vacancy occurs, the Council appointee, or the candidate elected in a special election to fill the vacancy, must reside in the district as it exists when the vacancy occurs.

## Montgomery County Election Calendar

- ❖ Oct. 14: Deadline to register to vote or change your address online.
- ❖ Oct. 23: Early voting begins at 10am
- ❖ Oct. 30: Early voting ends at 8pm
- ❖ Nov. 4: Election Day (vote at your polling place between 7am to 8pm)  
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/registration/VoterRegistration.html>

For more see <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/elections> or [http://www.elections.maryland.gov/elections/2014/general\\_candidates/index.html](http://www.elections.maryland.gov/elections/2014/general_candidates/index.html)

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**THEME NIGHTS!**

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**Club**

**FRIDAY**

*FOR GRADES 3 THRU 6*

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**\$85.00**

**POTOMAC**

**Community Recreation Center**

11315 Falls Rd. | Potomac, MD 20854

Call 240-777-6960 For More Info

Potomac Club Friday will be held on the following dates:

October 10, 17, 24, 31

November 7, 14, 21

December 5, 12

January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

February 6, 13, 20, 27

March 6, 13

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**  
**Recreation**  
[montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/rec)

Course#

**393770**

# ALMANAC INSIDER'S GUIDE TO POTOMAC RIVER

## From Whence Its Name:

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.



**Great Falls Tavern**

### Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center and Olmsted Overlook

11710 MacArthur Blvd.  
301-767-3714

If you haven't seen Great Falls, it's time to get out there.

Enter the C&O Canal National Histori-

cal 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.

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 pouring 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 rangers 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

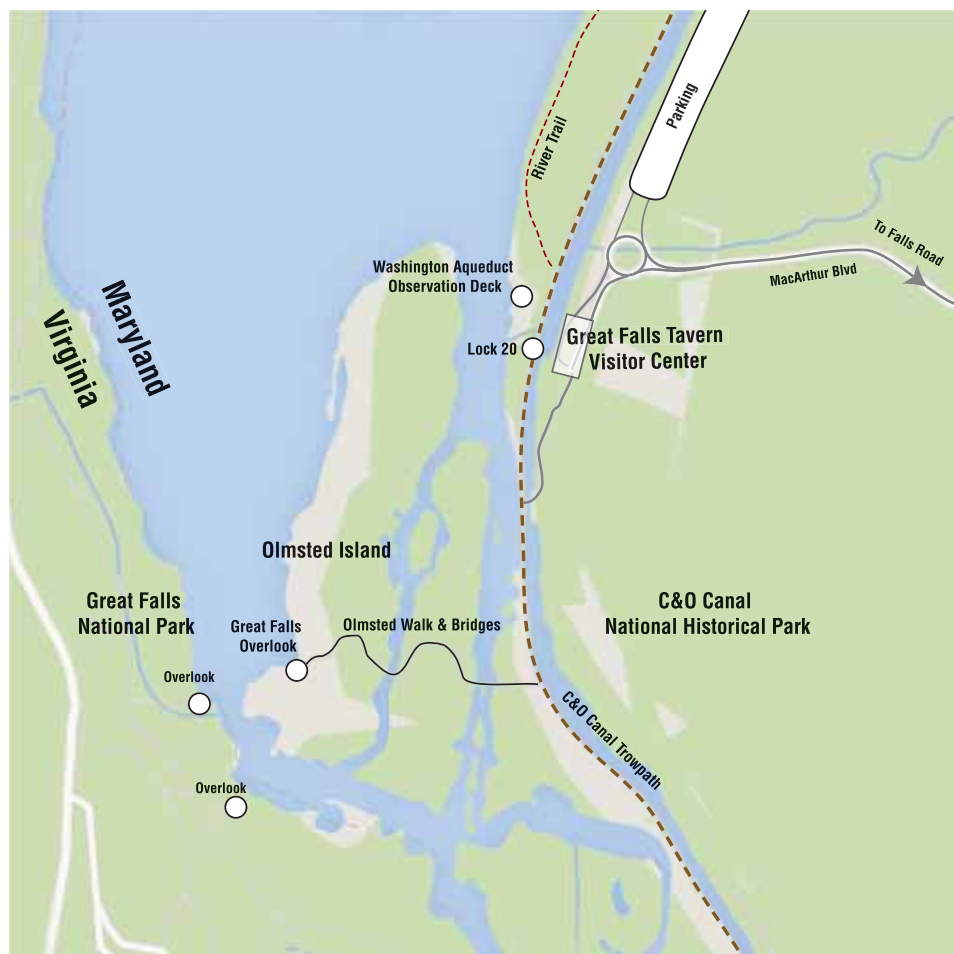
**INSIDER'S TIP:** The Gold Mine Trail can be accessed at the top of the entrance

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 many rare plants. Active trail stewards carry park radios for emergency communication and receive basic first aid training to help with minor injuries. [www.nps.gov/choh/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/choh/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm)



**Geese and gosling in the C&O Canal**

# Enjoy the Potomac

## 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.nps.gov/choh/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/choh/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm)

## 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



**Many kinds of boats and boards launch from the Seneca Creek boat ramp at Riley's Lock.**

a day and night to learn about the living conditions of a lockkeeper's family. [www.canalquarters.org/](http://www.canalquarters.org/)

## Blockhouse Point Conservation Park

14750 River Road, Darnestown, MD 20854

(301) 670-8080

[www.blockhousepoint.org](http://www.blockhousepoint.org)

Those who know the 630 acres of land that straddles River Road between Tobytown and Callithea Farm 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.

Blockhouse Point also tells of Potomac's history. During the Civil War, the 19th



**Bikes are available for to borrow for free at Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center.**

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.

SEE POTOMAC, PAGE 11

# Potomac Insider's 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 updated guide to much of what Potomac's parks have to offer.

SEE PAGES 6, 7 AND 11 FOR MORE ON RECREATION ALONG THE POTOMAC RIVER

## 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

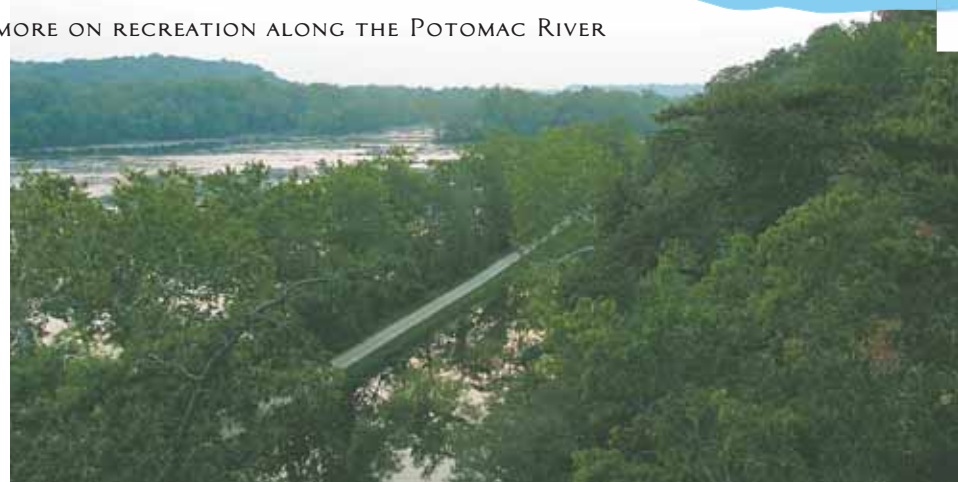
Pennyfield Road (off River Road)

## 7 The River Center (Lockhouse 8)

7906 Riverside Drive, Cabin John  
http://potomac.org/river-center



Great Falls Tavern



Blockhouse Point Conservation Park

## 8 Blockhouse Point Conservation Park

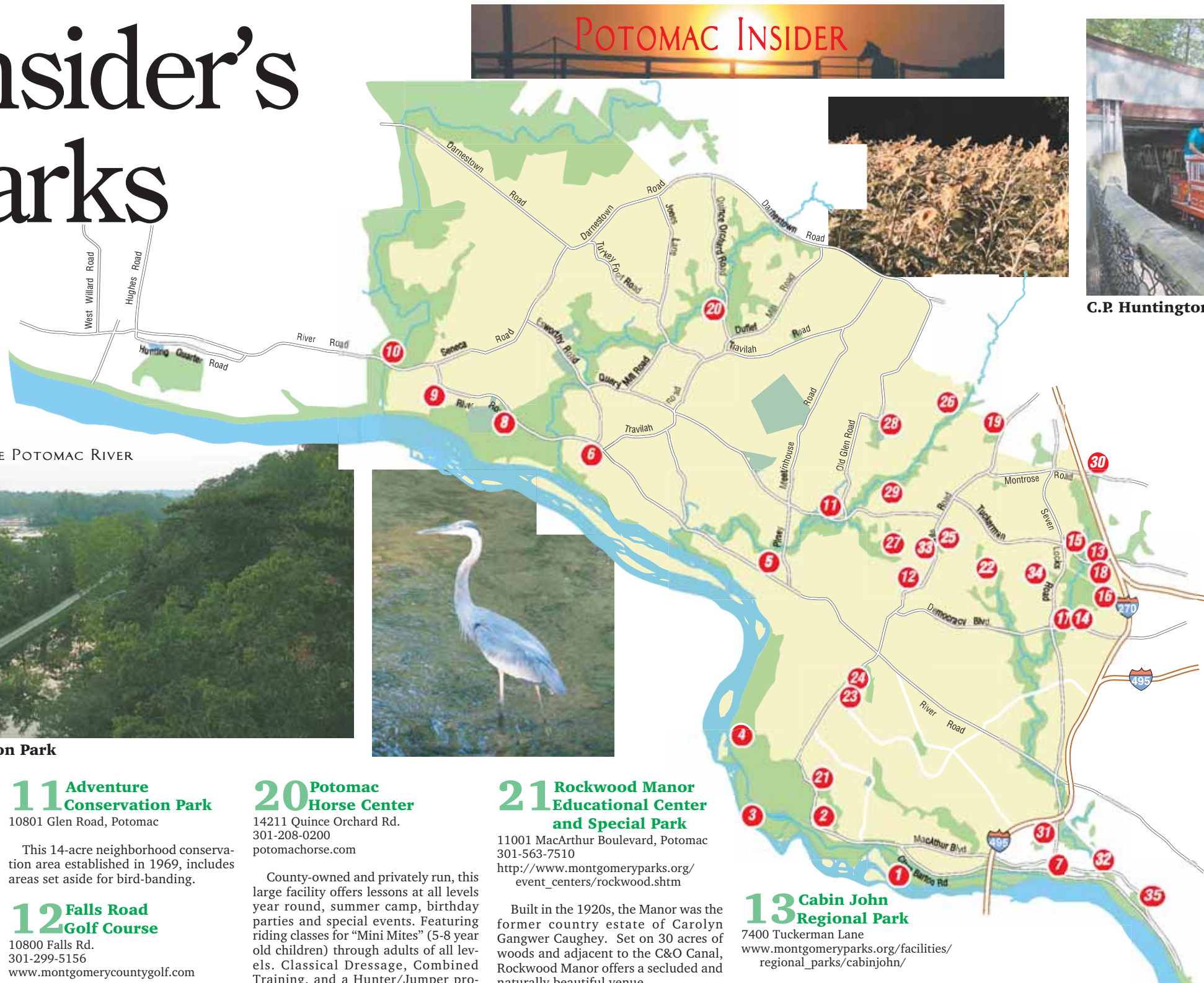
14750 River Road, Darnestown, MD 20854  
(301) 670-8080  
www.blockhousepoint.org  
http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParcTrails/trails\_MAPS/trailmap\_pdfs/blockhouse\_trails.pdf

## 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.

## 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.

## 19 Hadley's Playground

at Falls Road Local Park  
12600 Falls Rd.  
Park Manager: 301-299-0024

Falls Road Local Park, which showcases the award-winning Hadley's Park, 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, including one at Dulles Town Center and one in McLean.

The park is the brainchild of a Potomac family whose daughter, Hadley, uses a wheel chair. The family envisioned an accessible playground after watching her daughter's wheel-chair 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.

Rockwood Manor's overnight lodgings are available for destination weddings, multi-day business retreats or training sessions, family reunions, workshops, weekend or weekday getaways and other events.

Facilities for weddings, meetings, with overnight accommodations and dormitories for youth groups.



Falls Road Golf Course

## 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 former country estate of Carolyn Gangwer Caughey. Set on 30 acres of woods and adjacent to the C&O Canal, Rockwood Manor offers a secluded and naturally beautiful venue.

Rockwood Manor's overnight lodgings are available for destination weddings, multi-day business retreats or training sessions, family reunions, workshops, weekend or weekday getaways and other events.

Facilities for weddings, meetings, with overnight accommodations and dormitories for youth groups.

## 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 under the shade of a 200-year-old sycamore and spot minnows, crayfish, bathing birds of beaver activity in the Cabin John Creek. Locust Grove offers

## 13 Cabin John Regional Park

7400 Tucker 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.

## 15 Robert C. McDonell Campground

7701 Tucker 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/

programs featuring local natural and cultural history for children, teens and adults. Currently, naturalists teach tots a class on "Bugs, Slugs and Other Things." 12-16 year olds how to become a virtual wildlife rehabilitator and treatment methods for injured and orphaned wildlife.

**INSIDER'S TIP:** The Locust Grove Nature Center trains adults to become volunteer naturalists, with courses on stream ecology and pollinators. Numerous civic leaders monitor water quality in streams throughout the Potomac region. Get involved.

## 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 for patrons' use. Professional on-site racquet restringing and regripping is also available. Private and group lessons for all ages and seasonal court rentals.

## 18 C.P. Huntington Miniature Train

7410 Tucker Lane  
301-765-8670 Train Information; call 301-650-2880 Party Room Reservations

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 10am-6pm  
September, Open Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day, 10am-6pm

## 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 Tucker 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 MNCPPC, 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.



C.P. Huntington Miniature Train

## Neighborhood Parks

Potomac has many small neighborhood parks 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 Gegerscroft Neighborhood Park

12021 Gegerscroft 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, acquired in 1966, features a playground, softball field, baseball field and two lighted tennis courts and a 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 plan also preserves large portions of the site adjacent to the stream valley. The project was approved and funded for detailed design and construction by the Montgomery County Council and is scheduled for completion in Summer 2015 according to the parks website.

## 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

## 30 Tilden Woods Local Park

6800 Tilden Lane  
Playground area, ballfield, lighted tennis courts, and picnic area.





**Great Falls**



**McKee Beshers Wildlife Management Area**

## Potomac Insider's Guide to Parks

### 33 Potomac Community Center

11315 Falls Road  
240-777-6960  
[www.montgomerycounty.gov/rec](http://www.montgomerycounty.gov/rec)

This is Montgomery County's busiest community center, providing a variety of recreation activities for all ages such as open gym, arts and crafts, exercise/leisure classes, group support meetings and socials, senior adult activities through the Potomac neighborhood, Senior program, area and county-wide sports programs, summer camps, programs for individuals with special needs, children and adult holiday parties, volunteer opportunities and more. Facilities include a gymnasium, exercise room, meeting rooms, art room, lounge area, community room and social hall. The outdoor area includes two baseball fields, lighted basketball and tennis courts, and a former in-line hockey rink. The Center offers table tennis, billiards and foosball, a gymnasium, weight room, social room, meeting rooms, and hundreds of classes through the Montgomery County Recreation Department. The Montgomery County Recreation Dept., along with the Friends of the PCC, Inc. is working to renovate and reopen the outside inline rink for children and adults with special needs. The projected opening is slated for this fall.

The Friends of the PCC, Inc. is a non-profit organization which works in conjunction with the Montgomery County Recreation Department to support the wide array of activities offered by the PCC as well as raise monies for the Center. The Board is comprised of volunteers who strongly support the mission of the Center.

**INSIDER'S TIP:** The PCC will be hosting an outdoor family movie night on Sept. 26. Additional information will be forthcoming. Parents with children in grades three to six can register them now for Club Friday. Club Friday which began in 1991 is a fun-filled supervised evening of different activities. Club Friday will meet at PCC from Oct 10-March 13 (no program Nov. 28, Dec.

19-26) from 7-9 pm. There are just a little more than 400 members, and the slots are always filled. The cost is \$85 per participant. (And volunteers are always needed.)

Additionally, After Hours is also held once a month for children in grades six through eight. More information on After Hours will be available shortly.

### 34 Community Center

7700 Scotland Drive  
301-983-4455

The 3.75-acre park is currently closed for the complete removal of the existing structure and the construction of a new recreation center. A larger gymnasium and modern interiors will be a focal point for the facility. Upgrades to the site include improved landscaping and parking, meeting green building and sustainability goals; energy guidelines, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Tentatively, the center will reopen in November.



**Potomac Community Center**

### 35 Glen Echo Park

7300 MacArthur Blvd.,  
Glen Echo  
[www.glenechopark.org](http://www.glenechopark.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, silversmithing, 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.

The restored carousel is open for rides in August, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 12 - 6 p.m. In September, Saturday and Sunday, 12 to 6 p.m.

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

The Serpentine Barrens Natural Area is considered one of the most important

natural areas in the county because of its unique geology and plant community. Serpentine ecosystems are globally rare and occur intermittently in an arc east of the Appalachian Mountains from Alabama to Maine. The trees are unusually small relative to their age because of the challenging growing conditions of serpentine soils. Therefore, forests appear to be early successional, but in reality are in a climax condition. Oaks as old as 175 years old will have a diameter of trees you would expect to be one or two decades old. The large contiguous forest of the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park provides critical habitat for forest interior dwelling species, particularly birds. These species require large unbroken tracts of forest to successfully breed. Large contiguous forest habitat is becoming increasingly scarce in Montgomery County as development continually fragments woodlands into smaller isolated tracts. Over 60 species of birds have been detected in the park, including a significant number of forest interior dwelling species such as Louisiana waterthrush, scarlet tanager, ovenbird, pileated woodpecker, and barred owl. Mammals include common species such as red fox, white-tailed deer and gray squirrel, as well as less common species such as eastern coyote. Reptiles include most of the common species of the County as well as the less common eastern hognose snake, five lined skink, spotted turtle and a curiously abundant population of box turtles. Wetlands and vernal pools provide breeding habitat for spotted salamanders, marbled salamanders, wood frogs, spring peepers and other amphibians.

### 39 Callithea Farm Special Park

15000 River Road

Callithea Farm Park is a 97 acre property located adjacent to the M-NCPPC equestrian trails at Blockhouse Point Conservation Park and the C&O Canal. Horse boarding is available. Contact the farm manager at 301-977-7682.

# Enjoy the Potomac

FROM PAGE 7

[http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkTrails/trails\\_MAPS/trailmap\\_pdfs/blockhouse\\_trails.pdf](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](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/Cultural_Resources_Stewardship/heritage/documents/blockhouse_broch_web.pdf)



**Caleva sailboats in the River just above Riley's Lock.**

## 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 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.



**Kayakers pass under the historic aqueduct at Seneca Creek to reach the river.**

**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.

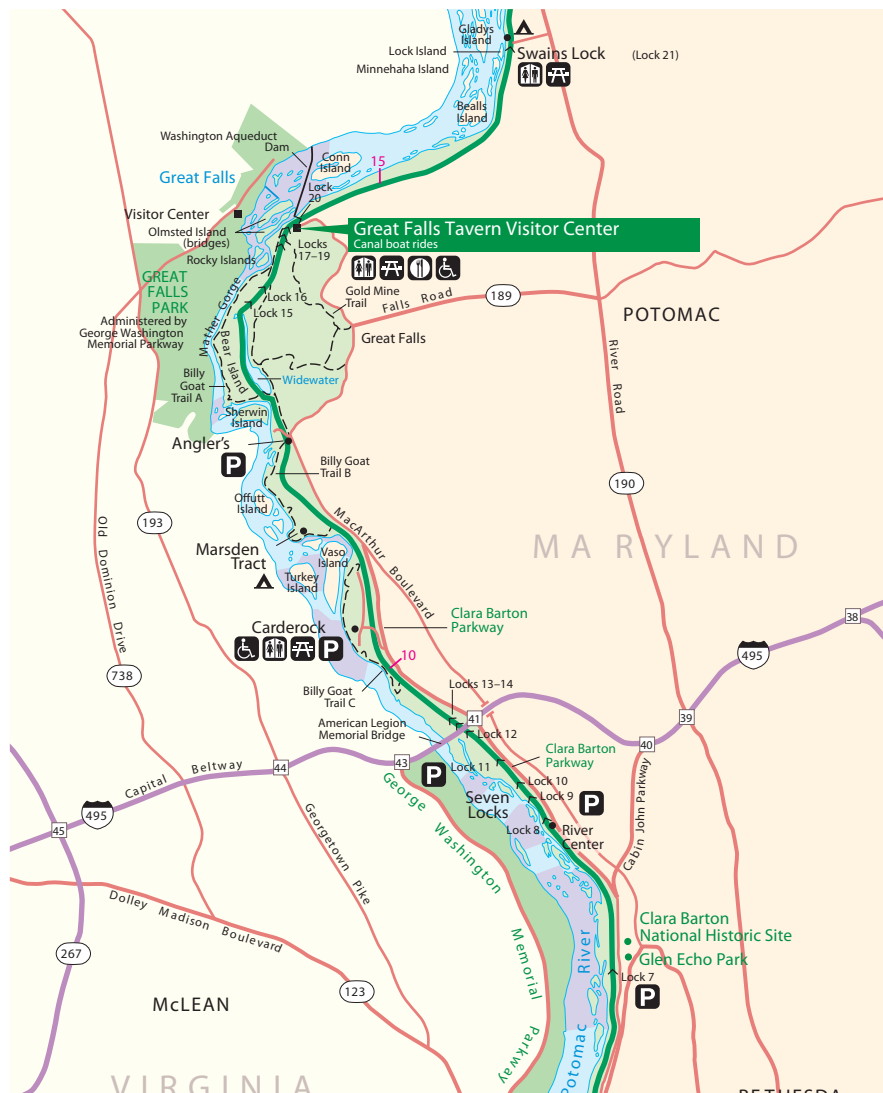
## The River Center (Lockhouse 8)

7906 Riverside Drive, Cabin John [potomac.org/river-center](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., 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



**Views from the Billy Goat Trail, whitewater stand-up paddleboarders.**

River. . Each year, as many as 250,000 visitors pass its front door to learn about the canal's history, take part in hands-on learning and help in environmental projects. If you are interested in volunteering contact Rebecca Long at [long@potomac.org](mailto:long@potomac.org) or 301-608-1188 x215.



**Violette's and Riley's locks offer some of the most spectacular sunsets in the region.**

# POTOMAC ENTERTAINMENT

## August 2014

### WEDNESDAYS-SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

**Great Falls Tavern, Mule-Drawn Canal Boat Rides.** 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. Boat rides along the historic C&O Canal. Visit [www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/great-falls-canal-boat-rides.htm](http://www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/great-falls-canal-boat-rides.htm)

### SATURDAYS-SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

**Carousel Rides.** 12-6 p.m. Rides on the historic 1921 Dentzel Carousel at Glen Echo Park. \$1.25 per ride. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org) for more.

### SUNDAY/AUG. 31

**Glen Echo Open House.** noon-4 p.m. at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Open house, hosted by Glen Echo Park Partnership, introduces visitors to arts, dance, theater, classes at the park. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org).

### FRIDAY-MONDAY/AUG. 30-SEPT. 2

**Yellow Barn Studio and Gallery 43rd Annual Labor Day Art Show.** 7-9 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Features the work of more than 250 artists, including painting, photography, ceramics, jewelry, glass, pottery and more at Glen Echo. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org) or [www.yellowbarnstudio.com](http://www.yellowbarnstudio.com).

### SATURDAY, MONDAY/AUG. 31, SEPT. 1

**Irish Music and Dance Showcase.** 1-5 p.m. at Bumper Car Pavilion, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Two days of Irish music and dance. Presented by Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture and the Irish Inn at Glen Echo. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org) for more.

## September 2014

**Carousel Rides.** Saturday and Sunday, noon-6 p.m. at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Rides on the historic 1921 Dentzel Carousel in Glen Echo Park. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org) for more.

### THURSDAYS THROUGH SEPTEMBER

**Potomac Village Farmers Market.** 2-6:30 p.m. Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 S. Glen Road at corner of Falls Road and Democracy Blvd. Visit [potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net](http://potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net) for more.

### MONDAY/SEPT. 1

**75th Annual Labor Day Parade.** 1 p.m. Olde Towne Gaithersburg, starting on Girard St. and E.

Diamond Ave. and finishing on Russell and Odenhal avenues, rain or shine. Free parking in Old Town Garage. Visit [www.gaithersburgmd.gov](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov) for more.

### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 3

**Potomac Chamber of Commerce Networking Event.** 4-6 p.m. In partnership with Normandie Farm Restaurant, the Potomac Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event for business people in Potomac. Hors d'oeuvres will be provided and a bar will be available. Cost is \$10 for Potomac Chamber Members and \$15 for non-members. To reserve a place or for more information call 301-299-2170 or visit [www.potomacchamber.org](http://www.potomacchamber.org). R.S.V.P by Sept. 1.

### WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 3-27

**The Trawick Prize Finalists Exhibition.** Wednesdays through Saturdays, noon-6 p.m. at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E. Downtown Bethesda's annual juried arts competition awards: Bethesda Contemporary Art Awards. Visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) for more.

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 12

**Art Walk in the Park.** Every second Friday May through October, 6-8 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Artist demonstrations, refreshments, open studios and galleries. Free. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org) for more.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 14

**Parks Half Marathon.** 7 a.m. A run from Rockville to Bethesda that showcases Montgomery County's park system. Sponsored by Montgomery County Road Runners Club. Online registration is open. Cost is \$60 along with a \$4.68 online registration fee. Visit [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

**Potomac Library Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Runs most months. Most hardbacks will be \$1. Most paperbacks will be \$.50 Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/branches/potomac.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/branches/potomac.html).  
**Montgomery County Out of the Darkness Community Walk.** 10 a.m.-noon at Rockville Town Center, 200 E. Middle Lane. Benefits the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Visit [www.afsp.org](http://www.afsp.org).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Park After Dark.** 6-10 p.m. at Historic Great Falls Tavern, 11710 MacArthur



PHOTO BY MARY KIMM

## Potomac Day

**Very Hungry Caterpillar with Karen Currie of the Friends of the Library and Elie Pizarra Cain at the 2013 Potomac Day parade.**

Blvd., Potomac. A night of foot-stompin' philanthropy fueled by chili, libations and tunes. \$175, \$125 is tax-deductible. Visit <http://canaltrust.org/trust/> for more.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

**Cabin John Kids Run.** 9 a.m. Cabin John Regional Park in Potomac, Westlake Drive. Free for runners 18 and under. A mile run, half-mile run and quarter mile young run is offered. Registration is race-day only. Visit [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org) for more.  
**Then & Wow!** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Glen Echo Park's annual celebration of the park's past and present. Magicians, carousel rides, arcade games, face painting, mini golf, exhibits, tours and more. Admission to the park is free. Rides and some activities require tickets. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org) for more.

### SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

**Guided Tours of Riley's Lockhouse.** River Road and Riley's Lock Road, Poolesville. One of the C&O Canal's original lockhouses. Join volunteers in period costume and explore the life of a lock-keeper. Riley's Lock Road. Visit [www.nps.gov/choh](http://www.nps.gov/choh) or call 301-983-0825 for more.

## October 2014

**Firehouse Open House.** Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department

Station 10, 8001 River Road, Bethesda. Activities include live action demonstrations, including stop, drop and roll, stove fire demonstrations and automobile extrication. Cabin John Volunteer Fire Department now hosts birthday parties for children. Call 301-365-2255 or visit [www.cjpvfd.org](http://www.cjpvfd.org) to find this year's October date.

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 5-6

**Potomac Country Vintage Arts Festival.** Event kickoff, Oct. 5, 4-7 p.m. and the Arts Festival, Oct. 6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 10333 River Road, Potomac. This event is organized by Saint Francis Episcopal Church to help raise funds for dozens of local charities. Visit [www.potomaccountryhousetour.org](http://www.potomaccountryhousetour.org) for listing of activities and this year's schedule.

### FRIDAY/OCT. 10

**Art Walk in the Park.** Every second Friday May through October, 6-8 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Artist demonstrations, refreshments, open studios and galleries. Free. Visit [www.glenchopark.org](http://www.glenchopark.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 11

**Potomac Library Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 10101 Glenolden Dr., Potomac. The Potomac Library Book Sale is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Books

will be on sale, hardbacks \$1 and most paperbacks \$.50. Call 240-777-0690 or 301-765-4083 or visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/branches/potomac.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/branches/potomac.html).

**The 25th Annual Taste of Bethesda.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. held in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle. Located three blocks from the Bethesda Metro. Sixty restaurants and five stages of entertainment will be present for the Taste of Bethesda, along with a kids corner with face paint and arts and crafts. Admission is free. Taste tickets sold in bundles of 4 for \$5. Call 301-215-6660 or visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 25

**Potomac Day in Potomac Village.** 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at 9812 Falls Road, Potomac. Arts and free entertainment for all ages, ranging from rides for children to an antique show and business fair. The Potomac Day Parade will be at 10:30 a.m. Call the Potomac Chamber of Commerce at 301-299-2170 or visit [www.potomacchamber.org](http://www.potomacchamber.org) for more.

## November 2013

**The Potomac Chamber of Commerce's Annual Awards Dinner.** Normandie Farm, 10710 Falls Road. The Potomac Chamber of Commerce honors Potomac's citizen, businessperson and youth of the year. Visit [www.potomacchamber.org](http://www.potomacchamber.org) for more.

**Potomac Community Center Open Flea Market.** The Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, has been regularly scheduled on a biannual basis in November and May. Call 240-777-6960 for more.

**Lessans Family Annual Book Festival.** The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. Call 301-881-0100. Visit [www.jccgw.org](http://www.jccgw.org) for more.

**Bazaar.** Greek Orthodox Church of Saint George, 7701 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. Handmade artistry, holiday decorations, jewelry, specialty crafts, and Greek delicacies, including its famous baklava. Visit [www.stgeorge.org](http://www.stgeorge.org) or call 301-469-7990 for more.

### SUNDAY/NOV. 2

**Rockville 10K/5K.** 8:15 a.m. Annual race. Visit [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/NOV. 8

**Potomac Library Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 10101 Glenolden Dr. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Most hardbacks will be \$1 and most paperbacks will be \$.50 Visit



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# ENTERTAINMENT

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Library/branches/potomac.html or  
call 240-777-0690 or 301-765-4083.

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 12

**West Montgomery County Citizens Association (WMCCA) Meeting.** Second Wednesday each month, October-May, 7:15-8:45 p.m. Potomac's umbrella citizens association is scheduled to hold its first general meeting. Visit [www.wmcca.org](http://www.wmcca.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 22

**Dinner of Champions.** The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. The 23rd 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. Call 301-881-0100 or see [www.jccgw.org](http://www.jccgw.org).

## THURSDAY/NOV. 27

**Turkey Chase 10K Run.** Starts at 8:30 a.m. at 9401 Old Georgetown Road at Spruce Street. The 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. Visit [www.turkeychase.com](http://www.turkeychase.com) for more.

## FRIDAY/WEDNESDAY/NOV 28-DEC. 31

**Winter Lights.** This recurring event is a 3.5-mile drive through a holiday light show at Seneca Creek Park with more



## Children's Theater

ARTWORK BY RAÚL COLÓN/IMAGINATION STAGE

The 2014-2015 season of **Imagination Stage's theater for children** begins in late September and runs through August 2015. Shows run approximately 90 minutes, including one intermission. Performance times are Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 and 4 p.m., with occasional Saturday 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. performances. Dates and titles subject to change. Subscriptions are available for \$54-90. Flex packs for seven or more also available. Single tickets, \$10-30, go on sale Aug. 11. Call 301-280-1660 or visit [www.imaginationstage.org](http://www.imaginationstage.org).

- ❖ **"The Night Fairy,"** Sept. 24-Oct. 26, features a fairy with damaged wings who has to make new friends. Best for ages 4-10.
- ❖ **"101 Dalmatians,"** Nov. 19-Jan. 11, 2015, tells the story of Dalmatian parents who set off on a rescue after Cruella de Vil kidnaps their puppies. Best for ages 4-10.
- ❖ **"Wiley and the Hairy Man,"** Feb. 4-March 8, 2015. This traditional tall tale tells of Wiley who lives in fear of the Hairy Man who lurks in the swamp. Best for ages 6-12.
- ❖ **"Sinbad: The Untold Tale,"** April 8-May 31, 2015. When a mysterious cloud descends upon Baghdad, putting all of the adults to sleep, two children must go on a quest. Best for ages 5-12.
- ❖ **"Double Trouble,"** June 24-Aug. 9, 2015. Lottie and Lisa are 10-year-old twins who are being raised separately by their divorced parents. When they meet and switch places, the adventure begins. Best for ages 5-10.

than 360 illuminated displays. It also has additional events including walks and runs under the lights and S'more lights. Proceeds from the Festival benefit local charities. Call 301-258-6350 or visit [www.gaithersburgmd.gov](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov) for more.

## December 2014

**Christmas Tree Sale.** Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, Station 10, 8001 River Road. Call

301-365-2255 or visit [www.cjpvfd.org](http://www.cjpvfd.org) for more.  
**Santa on Fire Engines.** This event is run by the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department. A procession of fire engines carry Santa on a tour of Potomac neighborhoods over the course of several evenings in December, collecting unwrapped new toys for needy children. Call 301-365-2255 or visit [www.cjpvfd.org](http://www.cjpvfd.org).

**Friends of the Yellow Barn.** The friends of the Yellow Barn will be putting on annual members show.

Dec. 1 through Dec. 23. Visit [www.glenechopark.org](http://www.glenechopark.org) or [www.yellowbarnstudio.com](http://www.yellowbarnstudio.com) for more. Call 301-634-2222.

**Bethesda's Winter Wonderland.** This event will include concerts at Imagination Stage and in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle. The event features caroling, ice sculpting, storytelling, holiday performances and hands-on craft activities for children. Call 301-215-6660 or visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) for more information and exact locations.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 14

**Jingle Bell Jog 8K.** 9 a.m. at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. The Rockville Senior Center's last run of the year. Participants will run through a residential area. Sign-up is day of. \$10 for adult non-members and \$5 for non-members below the age of 18. Visit [www.mcrc.org](http://www.mcrc.org) for more.  
**Potomac Library Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 10101 Glenolden Dr. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Call 240-777-0690 or visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/potomac.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/potomac.html).

As organizations finalize their calendars, here are some highlights to look out for during 2015.

## January 2015

**The Maryland General Assembly** meets in Annapolis each year for 90 days to act on more than 2,300 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. <http://mlis.state.md.us>.  
**West Montgomery County Citizens Association, General Meeting.** Second Wednesday, Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac 7:15-8:45 p.m. Public is welcome. Visit [www.wmcca.org](http://www.wmcca.org).

## February 2015

**The Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival.** Hilton Washington D.C./Rockville Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville. The festival provides live musical



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Friday, Nov. 21 10:00-12:00  
Friday, Jan. 23 10:00-12:00  
Saturday, April 18 10:00-12:00

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# ENTERTAINMENT

performances, workshops and seminars. Visit [www.midatlanticjazzfestival.org](http://www.midatlanticjazzfestival.org) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 11

**West Montgomery County Citizens Association.** 7:15-8:45 p.m. at the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Public is welcome. Visit [www.wmcca.org](http://www.wmcca.org).

## THURSDAY/FEB. 19

**Chinese New Year** begins Feb. 19 and is the year of the sheep. Watch for local events at Potomac Library and Potomac Elementary School, which has a Chinese language immersion program.

## March 2015

### WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

**West Montgomery County Citizens Association.** 7:15-8:45 p.m. Potomac Community Center, 1315 Falls Rd, Potomac. General meeting, public is welcome. Visit [www.wmcca.org](http://www.wmcca.org) for more.

## April 2015

### The Bethesda Literary Festival.

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](http://www.bethesda.org) for more.

### The Annual C&O Canal Pride Days.

A joint effort between the park and C&O Canal Trust brings hundreds of

volunteers into the park to conduct maintenance projects. Work at C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls (Md.) and other sites along the Potomac River and C&O Canal towpath. Call the Canal Trust at 301-714-2233, [www.canaltrust.org](http://www.canaltrust.org), or see the park website at [www.nps.gov/choh](http://www.nps.gov/choh).

### Potomac Watershed Cleanup.

Sponsored annually by Alice Ferguson Foundation. In 2012, more than 14,238 volunteers picked up 574,000 pounds of trash including 1,314 tires, 27,400 cigarette butts, and 27,200 plastic bags. Volunteers helped at many sites along the Potomac River in Potomac. Visit [www.fergusonfoundation.org](http://www.fergusonfoundation.org).

### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 8

#### West Montgomery County Citizens Association.

General meeting, second Wednesday, Potomac Community Center, 7:15-8:45 p.m. Public is welcome. Visit [www.wmcca.org](http://www.wmcca.org) for more.

### MONDAY/APRIL 27

#### Kaiser Permanente Pike's Peek

**10K run.** along Rockville Pike from Shady Grove Metro to White Flint Mall. See the Montgomery County Road Runners Club website at [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org) or [pikespeek10k.com](http://pikespeek10k.com).

## May 2014

#### Potomac Community Center Open

**Flea Market.** The Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, has been regularly scheduled on a biannual basis in November and May. Call 240-777-6960 for more.



## Santa Makes the Rounds in December

Santa will begin making his annual trip through the neighborhoods in Cabin John, Bethesda, and Potomac in early December. As tradition dictates, the volunteers of Cabin John Park VFD will assist Santa as his "elves." As Santa makes his way through the neighborhoods, toys will be collected for a local shelter to be given to children who will not be celebrating Christmas at home this year. To help support Santa and his elves with their work, donate unwrapped gifts appropriate for any age child (approx. 18 years of age and younger) as they pass through your neighborhood. Toys may also be donated in person at fire station #10 at 8001 River Road, Bethesda. Santa's schedule isn't ready yet, but will be shared when it is available. Visit [www.cjpvfd.org](http://www.cjpvfd.org) for more.

#### Mule-Drawn Canal Boat Rides.

Great Falls Tavern, May - October. Call the C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls visitor center, 301-767-3714 or visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

#### Potomac Horse Center Annual

**Spring Open House.** See [www.PotomacHorse.com](http://www.PotomacHorse.com)

#### Run Aware 5K.

Cabin John Regional Park, Westlake Drive, organized by Montgomery County Road Runners

Club. 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. Visit [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org).

#### Potomac Village Farmers Market.

May through October (and sometimes into November), Thursdays, 2-6:30 p.m. Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 South Glen Road at corner of Falls Road and Democracy Blvd. 301-792-

6054.

**Spring Festival.** At the 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](http://www.stgeorge.org) for more.

**The Potomac Hunt Races.** An annual May tradition, celebrating 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. Visit [potomachuntraces.com](http://potomachuntraces.com).

**Strawberry Festival.** At Potomac United Methodist Church, 10300 Falls Road in Potomac, 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](http://www.potomac-umc.org) for more.

**The Landon Azalea Garden Festival.** In the 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](http://www.landon.net).

**Mark's Run.** A 5-K race and one-mile run 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](http://www.landon.net).

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# SPORTS

## Getting To Know ...

### ... Churchill Sports

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**School Colors:** Blue and green.  
**Athletic Director:** Scott Rivinius, 301-469-1240.

**Football Coach:** Joe Allen (sixth year).  
 After reaching the playoffs in back-to-back seasons, the Bulldogs finished the 2013 campaign with a 1-9 record. It was Churchill's first losing season since 2007.

**Boys' Soccer Coach:** Arnold Tarzy.  
**Girls' Soccer Coach:** Haroot Hakopian.  
**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Robert Bean.  
**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Kate McMahon.  
**Baseball Coach:** Scott Blackwood.  
**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Jeff Fritz.  
**Rival School:** Wootton.

**What happened last year:** The golf team finished state runner-up. The girls' cross country team placed fifth in the state. The volleyball team reached the region championship match. The girls' soccer and field hockey teams reached the region semi-finals. The boys' lacrosse team reached the region final for the third straight year, but lost to Wootton.

**Quotable:** "We're a program. We don't rebuild anymore, we just reload. We've got a great JV program with a great JV coach. Our guys are involved — if they're not playing a second sport, they're involved in la-



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

**Louis Dubick and the Churchill boys' lacrosse team in 2014 reached the region final for the third straight year**

crosse year-round now. They're doing all the right things." — Boys' lacrosse coach Jeff Fritz.

### ... Whitman Sports

#### Girls' lacrosse team won the region championship.

**School:** Walt Whitman High School.  
**Mascot:** Vikings.  
**School Colors:** Black, white and Columbia blue.  
**Athletic Director:** Andy Wetzels, 301-320-6595.  
**Football Coach:** Jim Kuhn (eighth year).

The Vikings won their final four games and finished 7-3 in 2013, but fell short of a playoff berth.

**Boys' Soccer Coach:** Dave Greene.  
**Girls' Soccer Coach:** Greg Herbert.  
**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Chris Lun.  
**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Pete Kenah.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**The Whitman girls' soccer team won the 2013 state championship.**

**Baseball Coach:** Joe Cassidy.  
**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Mike Ricucci.  
**Girls' Lacrosse Coach:** Katie Bitonti.

**What happened last year:** The girls' soccer team won the state championship, finishing with a 16-1-1 record. The boys' basketball team finished state runner-up. The girls' basketball team reached the region semifinals and finished with a 21-3 record, including a 20-game winning streak. The girls' lacrosse team won the region title

### ... Wootton Sports

**School:** Thomas S. Wootton High School.

**Mascot:** Patriots.  
**School Colors:** Red, white and blue.  
**Athletic Director:** Christopher Thompson, 301-279-8575

**Football Coach:** Eddie Tolliver (third year).  
 The Patriots won three of their first four games in 2013, but finished with a 5-5 record.

**Field hockey Coach:** Kearney Blandamer.  
**Boys' Soccer Coach:** Doug Schuessler.  
**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Chris Bohlen.  
**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Maggie Dyer.  
**Baseball Coach:** JD Marchand.  
**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Colin Thomson.  
**Rival School:** Churchill.

**What happened last year:** The golf team repeated as state champion. The field hockey team finished state runner-up. The volleyball team won the region title. The boys' lacrosse team won the region championship. The girls' lacrosse team finished region runner-up.

**Quotable:** "My freshman year is the last time we won [the region title] and I just know the feeling — I really wanted to get it back. It was hard to get all the seniors wrapped around how good it feels and how



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

**Austin Schoenfeld and the Wootton boys' lacrosse team won the 2014 4A/3A West region championship.**

much work really needs to be put in, but we definitely put in the work and it shows." — Then-senior lacrosse player Austin Schoenfeld after the Patriots beat Churchill in the region final.

### ... Bullis Sports

**School:** The Bullis School.  
**Mascot:** Bulldogs.  
**School Colors:** Blue and gold.  
**Athletic Directors:** (boys) Andres Parra, 301-983-5743, (girls) Kathleen Lloyd, 301-983-5738.  
**Football Coach:** Pat Cimento (fifth year).

The Bulldogs lost their 2013 season opener to St. John's, but responded by winning their final nine games to finish 9-1.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Bruce Kelley.  
**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Hayley Hollis.  
**Baseball Coach:** Brian Lumpkin.  
**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Jeff Bellistri.  
**Girls' Lacrosse Coach:** Kathleen Lloyd.

**What happened last year:** The boys' basketball team won the IAC championship.



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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

### A Sense of History, Community

BY ROGER BERLINER  
COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER

There are so many reasons why people from around the country move to Montgomery County – for our schools, our vibrant economy, our extraordinary quality of life ... and the list goes on and on. However, there are other less tangible aspects of life here, including a rich history that lends our communities a strong character and sense of belonging. Potomac is one of those places where history binds the community together.

As your councilmember since 2006, it has been my honor to serve the greater Potomac community, my home for more than 20 years. Like many, I came for the excellent school system, lovely residential neighborhoods, and the great green expanse. But it wasn't long before I came to appreciate that the character and culture of Potomac has been so powerfully shaped by its sense of history.

One such reminder came this past spring as I attended an annual Canal Pride Day event along the C & O Canal, hosted by our friends at the C & O Canal Trust. As you will learn, or may already know, the Canal is one of the most visited national parks in the country, and for good reason. It runs

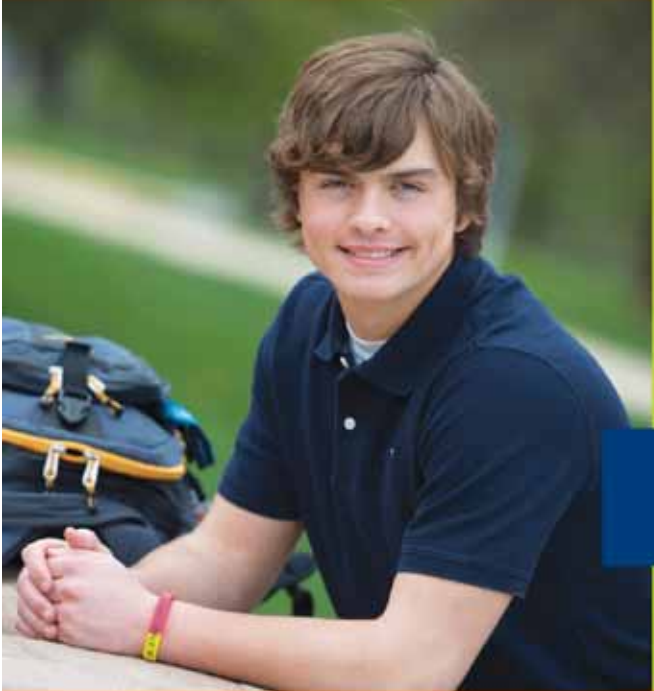
along the majestic Potomac River, making it an ideal spot to walk with friends (including our four-legged ones), go for a jog, bike, or simply have a moment of respite from the tensions of the day. And it was the Canal's construction out from Georgetown that helped Potomac farmers in the 1830s transport their goods into the city to market – a huge innovation and boon to the local economy at the time.

To see so many volunteers from the community on that crisp spring day helping to preserve historic buildings, improve the grounds, plant trees, and beautify the park along the Canal left me a simple, but powerful reminder about Potomac. History matters. A sense of community matters. And in the daily hustle and bustle that comes with today's busy and sometimes chaotic world, those are some of the intangible aspects of life in Potomac that many of us have come to cherish.

As you settle into this community and come to call it your own, it is my hope that you will find your own favorite pieces of Potomac history.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you ever need assistance on a county government issue. You can reach me at 240-777-7828 or at councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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