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# Potomac ALMANAC

The Potomac Day  
parade was led  
by Grand Marshal  
Julia Perlman.

## Enjoying Potomac Day

NEWS, PAGES 2-4

### Volunteering at the C&O

NEWS, PAGE 5

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**Paddington Bear, who turns 60 this year, was the mascot on the Friends of the Library, Potomac, Parade entry.**

PHOTOS BY  
PEGGY MCEWAN  
THE ALMANAC

## Celebrating Potomac

**Crowds attend 36<sup>th</sup>  
annual Potomac  
Day parade.**

BY PEGGY MCEWAN  
THE ALMANAC

**R**oads closed, music playing, people gathering ...it was time for the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Potomac Day parade to begin.

And begin it did.

At 10:30 Saturday morning, Oct. 20, led by a Montgomery County motorcycle police officer, followed by Alex Smelson from Boy Scout Troop 773 at Potomac United Methodist Church, carrying the American flag, the parade started down River Road.

As the flag passed the Long & Foster office building Chrissellene Petropoulos sang

the National Anthem. Petropoulos is a trained opera singer who teaches voice lessons to many Potomac residents.

School groups, politicians, scouts, local business people, sports teams, politicians, local clubs, Friends of the Library and more politicians paraded down River Road waving to friends and other spectators, showing their pride as Potomac citizens.

With 36 years of history, Potomac Day has grown but is still true to its original purpose said Adam Greenberg, president of Potomac Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the event every year.

"It is our business community saying thank you to the community," Goldberg said. "I think it was great, the parade was a little longer than usual. A lot of that is because it is a political year, that's always fun with politicians stopping to shake hands."

And, he added, there were tons of people

SEE CROWDS, PAGE 4



**Bennett Schifferly, 5, and Alice Seymour, 6, wait for the Potomac Day parade to begin on Saturday.**



**Princess Amelia and Dragon Lukas dressed in costume to watch the Potomac Day Parade.**

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The Foreman Family celebrate the selection of Katelyn as "Potomac Youth of the Year."



Susanne Lee, Citizen of the Year.



Nonprofit of the Year: KindWorks.



Potomac Community Village.



Retrospect kept Potomac Day hopping with lively tunes.



Cub Scouts Pack 773.



Enjoying the amusement rides.



Classic cars on display.



Jakob and Daniel Macholz loved riding on the East-West Tae Kwon Do float.



Anton Riegger and Daniel Lee enjoy Potomac Day because they get together with their friends, love the free food and the climbing challenges.



Eli Farrah and granddaughter Maddie love coming to Potomac Day with grandma Denise and sister Isabelle. Farrah says, "Potomac Day is fun for the kids and if it is fun for them — it's fun for us!"



JR and Sanya Shah enjoy Potomac Day. Sanya said, "I'm going to have a unicorn painted on my face." She loves the moon bounce and the games.



Brownies Noor Rekhi and Asha Thambi said they loved marching in the parade. They also enjoyed the fast rides. They are shown here with Noor's mom, Karishma Rekhi.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC



# Crowds Attend 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Potomac Day Parade

FROM PAGE 2

at the festival after the parade.

Business display booths, rides and lots of inflatables and an antiques car show took up most of the parking lots on both sides of Falls Road. It was probably one of the only days in the year residents didn't complain about the lack of parking.

Janet Bobrow and her daughter Anna stood on the corner of River and Falls roads waiting for the parade to begin. They drove down from Perry Hall, Md, where they now live just to be a part of the day and allow Janet Bobrow to relive old memories and share them with Anna. "I used to live her 20 years ago," Bobrow said. "I had a lot of memories here."

Pepe Gaye, assistant manager of the BP station at River and Falls, watched the parade as he has since 1987. "I like it, it's just nice to get together," he said. "This is a nice community."

So too do Potomac Elementary School students Sheraz Bashir, a fifth grader, his first-grade brother Shazil and their 20-month-old sis-

ter Zara, who watched the parade with their mother.

The boys had a great time picking up candy thrown from cars, floats and trucks in the parade and taking them back to show their mother their growing collection of goodies.

Sarah Bashir said the boys have been attending the parade all their lives.

"I always have fun," she said.

When the parade ended, the festival began with plenty to do for all ages. There were rides and games to play, animals to pet, pumpkins to decorate, businesses to learn about, pizza to eat, free samples from Vie de France and Sprinkles, a climbing wall and the antique cars to look at.

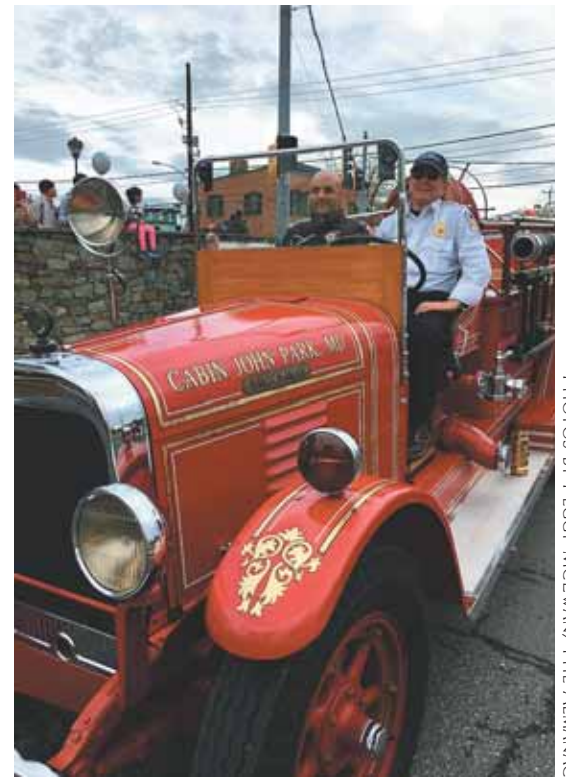
Sisters Laila, 6, and Dani, 4, rode the Mind Winder, which took them off the ground, spinning and twisting through the air.

"It was awesome," Laila said. "Whenever we wanted to spin we could go faster."

Dani agreed. "I couldn't stop laughing because it was so much fun," she said.



Alex Smelson from Boy Scout Troop 773, Potomac United Methodist Church leads the Potomac Day Parade with the American flag.



An original fire truck, bought in 1930, from Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department led the department's line of fire and rescue apparatus that ended the Potomac Day Parade.

PHOTOS BY PEGGY MCEWAN/THE ALMANAC



The ponies are from Madison Fields — a therapeutic riding stable in Dickerson, Md.



Anton Riegger climbs up an inflatable — finding it to be more difficult than he thought it would be.



The McKonnen sisters say they love Potomac Day because of the big rides and spinning for prizes.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC



Christi Mitchell gets her flu shot from Melissa at Giant Pharmacy while sons Chase and Connor look on. Chase and Connor are the grandsons of Mike Mitchell of Mitch and Bill's. When asked what they like about Potomac Day, Chase said, "Everything!" Connor said, "The rides." They both were excited that they get to see grandfather Mike Mitchell (owner of Mitch and Bill's).



A crowd of community leaders and local residents attended the 2018 Potomac Day festivities seen here led by Attorney General Brian Frosh, Democratic nominee for Lt. Governor Susie Turnbull, District 15 State Senator Brian Feldman, District 15 State Delegates Kathleen Dumais and David Fraser Hidalgo, and District 15 Democratic nominee for Delegate Lily Qi.

PHOTO BY SARTIA WILLIAMS



# C&O Volunteers: Proud To Serve

As park visitors' numbers grow, federal park budget declines, volunteers make up difference.

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

**M**any who volunteer their time and services for the C&O Canal Trust and other organizations reject recent press coverage describing the dissatisfaction of several volunteers who feel slighted by National Park Service staff and made to feel as if their contributions were not important.

The C&O Canal Trust provides more than 1,500 volunteers to the C&O Park. They also raise funds which support the park — the most visited national park in the U.S.

Here is the Canal Trust's response letter which was sent to volunteers as well as donors:

"We are contacting you today regarding the article about the volunteer programs at the C&O Canal National Historical Park ....

"With ongoing federal budget shortfalls, the C&O Canal's National Park Service staff is under tremendous pressure to provide an increasing number of visitors with the programs and amenities they have come to expect at our national parks. The C&O Canal Trust's role, with your assistance, is to help relieve that pressure by managing programs on behalf of the park and by recruit-



**Jennifer Hearn, volunteer quarter-master of Lockhouse 6.**

ing about 1,500 volunteers each year to undertake a range of preservation and maintenance projects.

"While the C&O Canal Trust is the non-profit partner of the C&O Canal National Historical Park, we independently operate our own volunteer programs and have a




**Lockhouse 6 and the canal.**

dedicated staff person who manages the relationships and safety provisions of our volunteers. The Trust's volunteer programs have not experienced the negative feedback referenced in the article, but we are taking these concerns seriously and are using them as an opportunity to reflect on our own pro-

grams and how we can provide truly beneficial support for the park as well as meaningful experiences for our volunteers.

"As both the C&O Canal Trust and the C&O Canal National Historical Park embark on new five-year strategic plans this year,

SEE VOLUNTEERING, PAGE 11



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## ENTERTAINMENT



**Sculptural piece depicting melting glaciers and boiling Oceans.**

### Sculptural Ceramics

Exhibition of ceramics, now through Nov. 13, noon-6 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East West Highway, Bethesda. Free. Kanika Sircar is exhibiting contemporary sculptural ceramics that reference environmental and climate change. Her forms depict shorelines, waves and boats in surging seas, colors and texts interspersed on beautiful surfaces. Email: [kanikas@starpower.net](mailto:kanikas@starpower.net) or visit [www.waverlystreetgallery.com/october2018](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com/october2018)

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

#### ONGOING

**Autumn Adoption Fest.** Through Oct. 25 at Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center, 7315 Muncaster Mill Road, Derwood. MCASAC will offer no-cost adoptions to encourage the public to adopt homeless pets and make room at the shelter for new arrivals needing placement. After a summer of high animal intakes, largely the result of multiple hoarding cases investigated by the Division, MCASAC has a wide-variety of pets ready to go to a new home. Visit [www.montgomerycountmd.gov/asd](http://www.montgomerycountmd.gov/asd) for more.

**Art Exhibit: "Abstract & The Figure."** Gallery hours, through Oct. 31 at Framers Choice Gallery, 402 Main St., Gaithersburg. Vian Borchert's collection consists of a melange of recent abstract paintings along with abstracted figurative artwork. Visit [theframerschoicegallery.com/](http://theframerschoicegallery.com/) or call 301-987-8711.

**Art Exhibit: Paintings and Sculpture.** Through Nov. 3, gallery hours at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Gallery B presents the October exhibit, a group show by Nihal Kececi of Gallery NK, featuring work by Nadia Arditti, Claudia Cappelle, Gulten Imamoglu, Nihal Kececi and Eric Westbrook. Visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

**Exhibit: "Places We Find."** Through Nov. 4, gallery hours at Photoworks Gallery in Glen Echo Park. "Places We Find" features work from Sandy Sugawara and Catiana Garcia Kilroy. The exhibit highlights how common places can become a source of surprise and discovery through the photographer's lens. Visit [glenechophotoworks.org](http://glenechophotoworks.org) for more.

**Teen Writers' Club.** Tuesdays through May 28, 6:30-8 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Teens (13-18) with a passion for writing are invited to join the Teen Writers' Club. Learn and practice new writing techniques, share your work, and learn how to critique other works with author Neal

Gillen. Free. Email [acsagillen@aol.com](mailto:acsagillen@aol.com) for more.

**Pups on the Patio.** 4-7 p.m. every Thursday at Silver, 7150 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda. Guests can enjoy drinks, appetizers and dinner with their pets outside on Silver's patio. Visit [www.eatatsilver.com](http://www.eatatsilver.com) for more.

**Children's Storytime.** Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda. Listen to employees read children's stories. Free. Visit [www.storelocator.barnesandnoble.com/event/4824850-21](http://www.storelocator.barnesandnoble.com/event/4824850-21).

**VisArts Cocktails and Canvas Class.** at VisArts in the Painting & Drawing Studio, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Price \$40. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org/cocktails-and-canvas](http://www.visartsatrockville.org/cocktails-and-canvas) for more.

**Drop in Art Activities.** Every Saturday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Candy Corner Studio at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., parents and children can explore a new art form or theme. \$10/child, parent combo. Drop-in only. [www.pgip.org](http://www.pgip.org).

**Mommy & Me (& Daddy, Too).** Third Tuesday each month. 10 a.m. at Rockville Town Square. Meet for a morning out with active learning and creative play with lunch specials, story time, arts and crafts, sing-alongs, prizes and more. [rockvilletownsquare.com/events/mommy-and-me](http://rockvilletownsquare.com/events/mommy-and-me).

**Potomac Games Group.** Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. at Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. The world is in the midst of a Golden Age of new board and card games for players of all ages. Free. Contact event host Randy Hoffman at 412-983-5411 or [wrandyhoffman@gmail.com](mailto:wrandyhoffman@gmail.com).

#### NOW THRU MAY 28, 2019

**Teen Writers' Club.** 6:30-8 p.m. Meets at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Free. Teens ages 13-18 with a passion for writing are invited to join in this Teen Writers' Club. Learn new writing techniques, get practice in different writing exercises, share work, and learn how to critique work of others. Local author Neal Gillen leads the club, which meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each

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



# ENTERTAINMENT

Month. Contact: Neal Gillen at  
acsagillen@aol.com.

## NOW THRU NOV. 13

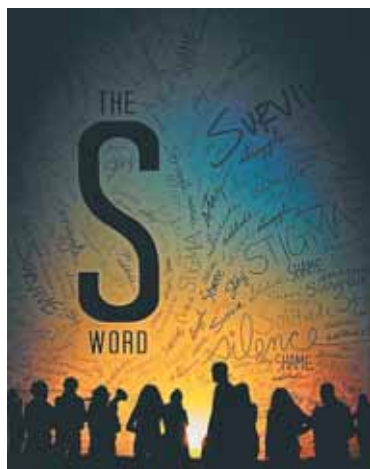
Exhibition of Ceramics. 12-6 p.m. At Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East West Highway, Bethesda. Free. Kanika Sircar is exhibiting contemporary sculptural ceramics that reference environmental and climate change. Her forms depict shorelines, waves and boats in surging seas, colors and texts interspersed on beautiful surfaces. Email: kanikas@starpower.net or visit the website [www.waverlystreetgallery.com/october2018](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com/october2018)

## TUESDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 23-28

**Washington International Horse Show.** At Capital One Arena. America's favorite horse show returns for its 60th Anniversary. General admission starting from \$25. Visit [wihs.org/tickets](http://wihs.org/tickets).

## THURSDAY/OCT. 25

**Film Screening The "S" Word.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. At AFI Silver Theatre, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Cost: \$5. In this award-winning documentary, a suicide attempt survivor is on a mission to find fellow survivors and document their stories of unguarded courage, insight, pain and humor. A presentation and Q&A session will follow the screening. Members of the community working to fight mental health stigma and to support individuals with a mental illness will be available to answer questions and share resources. Contact Laura Laskofski at [LLaskofski@Every-Mind.org](mailto:LLaskofski@Every-Mind.org). Get



## The "S" Word

**Film screening of The "S" Word.** Oct. 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m. At AFI Silver Theatre, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Cost: \$5. In this award-winning documentary, a suicide attempt survivor is on a mission to find fellow survivors and document their stories of unguarded courage, insight, pain and humor. A presentation and Q&A session will follow the screening. Members of the community working to fight mental health stigma and to support individuals with a mental illness will be available to answer questions and share resources. Contact Laura Laskofski at [LLaskofski@Every-Mind.org](mailto:LLaskofski@Every-Mind.org). Get tickets at [www.every-mind.org/registration-forms/the-s-word/](http://www.every-mind.org/registration-forms/the-s-word/).

tickets at [www.every-mind.org/registration-forms/the-s-word/](http://www.every-mind.org/registration-forms/the-s-word/).

## SATURDAY/OCT. 27

**Halloween FunFest and Trunk or Treat.** 6-10 p.m. At St. James Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Admission \$5/each or \$20/family max. Safe, secure and fun for all ages. Haunted Catacombs 6-8 p.m.; Trunk or Treat 6-9 p.m.; Costume Parade 7-7:15 p.m.; Spooky Organ Concert 7:30-7:45 p.m. Call 301-762-8040 or visit the website [www.stjamespotomac.org](http://www.stjamespotomac.org).

**Stand-Up Comedy.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Cissel-Saxon American Legion Post 41, 8110 Fenton Street, Silver Spring. Get in the Halloween spirit with a night of stand-up comedy from some of the most fun comics around. Come in costume, enjoy a Candy Corn Cocktail and sit back to enjoy the comedy of Haywood Turnipseed, Jr., Rose Vineshank, Anthony Oakes and Monica Welham. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes. Cost is \$20 VIP tickets (includes reserved seating and a complimentary Candy Corn Cocktail); \$16 for general admission in advance / all door tickets will be \$20. For more information, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spooky-comedy-halloween-stand-up-show-at-post-41-tickets-50791276074>. Contact Kim at 301-351-2096 or [improbablecomedy@gmail.com](mailto:improbablecomedy@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY/OCT. 28

**Halloween Walk-a-Thon.** 8 a.m. At the C&O Canal, Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. Features a 1K and 5K Halloween Walk-a-Thon that helps a child attend school. Edu-Girls works towards the education of children in Indian slums. It partners with schools

like Vimukti in India to sponsor local girls who are at risk of dropping out, and persuades their parents to keep them in school by providing financial support through high school and beyond. Suggested donation \$40/adult; \$30/additional family member. Visit [www.edugirls.org/](http://www.edugirls.org/)

**Haunted House Number 13.** 4-6 p.m. at the Clara Barton Community Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. Halloween harbors superstitions, one of which is that thirteen is unlucky. So be wary as you approach this year's creepy Haunted House at the Clara Barton Community Center. Fortunes will be told, witches and zombies will haunt visitors' paths, and games will challenge their nerve and skill. All ages are welcome, free of charge, though children up to age 12 are most likely to be spellbound. Little ones may want a hand to hold. Refreshments will be offered, and small gifts will be handed out to children. Call 240-777-4910 for more.

## MONDAY/OCT. 29

**Live Music: Hanneke Cassel & Dave Wiesler.** 7:30 p.m. at Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Cassel and Wiesler met at Pinewoods Scottish Dance camp in 1998 and have been happily making music together since then. Tickets: \$20 advance, \$25 door. Students & Children: \$15 advance, \$20 door. Visit [www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org) or call 301-960-3655.

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 31

**Live Music.** 7-11 p.m. at Lahinch Tavern and Grill, 7747 Tuckerman



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We hope our current patients will have the opportunity to meet and be treated by Dr. Do sometime soon. And for anyone who requires the expertise of the area's only Uveitis specialist, he is ready and available whenever you need him.

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# Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

## August, 2018 Sales, \$1,101,500~\$1,280,000

IN JULY 2018, 54 POTOMAC HOMES  
SOLD BETWEEN \$3,500,000-\$452,000.

**2 11710 Smoketree Road  
— \$1,280,000**



**6 11531 Swains Lock Terrace  
— \$1,110,000**



**8 11213 Broad Green Drive  
— \$1,101,500**



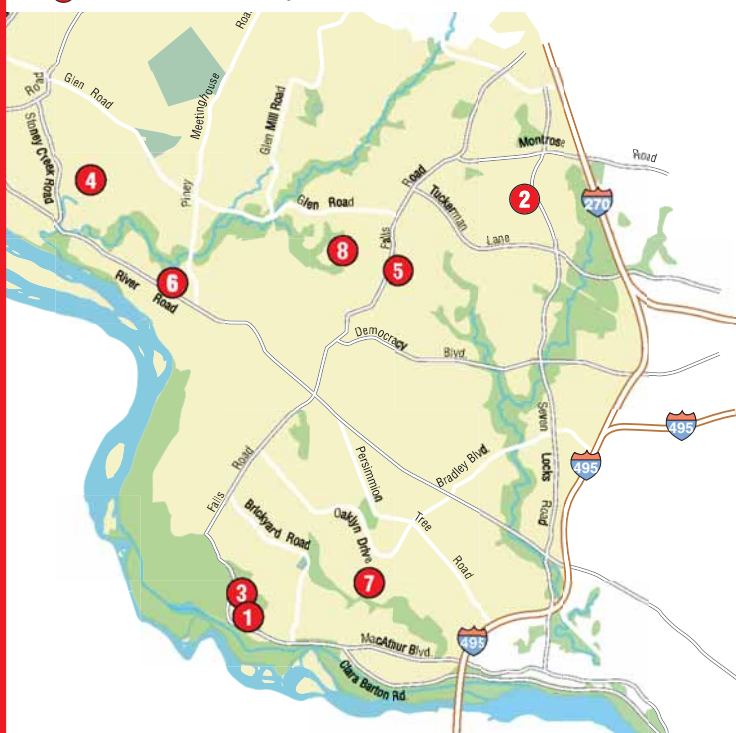
**5 9334 Sprinklewood Lane  
— \$1,150,000**



**3 7826 Stable Way — \$1,257,000**



**1 10641 MacArthur Boulevard — \$1,280,000**



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1 10641 MACARTHUR BLVD .....	4	..	4	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,280,000 ...	Detached .....	0.55 .....	20854 .....	POTOMAC OUTSIDE .....	08/03/18
2 11710 SMOKETREE RD .....	5	..	4	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,280,000 ...	Detached .....	0.22 .....	20854 .....	REGENCY ESTATES .....	08/10/18
3 7826 STABLE WAY .....	5	..	4	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,257,000 ...	Detached .....	0.19 .....	20854 .....	RIVER FALLS .....	08/23/18
4 12010 WETHERFIELD LN .....	4	..	3	2	POTOMAC ...	\$1,160,000 ...	Detached .....	2.00 .....	20854 .....	LAKE POTOMAC .....	08/29/18
5 9334 SPRINKLEWOOD LN .....	6	..	4	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,150,000 ...	Detached .....	0.31 .....	20854 .....	PINE KNOLLS .....	08/15/18
6 11531 SWAINS LOCK TER .....	5	..	4	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,110,000 ...	Detached .....	2.11 .....	20854 .....	SADDLE RIDGE .....	08/06/18
7 9630 BEMAN WOODS WAY ...	3	..	3	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,105,000 ...	Townhouse ....	0.09 .....	20854 .....	AVENEL .....	08/01/18
8 11213 BROAD GREEN DR .....	4	..	4	2	POTOMAC ...	\$1,101,500 ...	Detached .....	0.48 .....	20854 .....	BEDFORDSHIRE .....	08/07/18

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# ENTERTAINMENT



“Sunset Over The Water” by Vian Borchert.



“Rain” by Vian Borchert.

## Solo Exhibit: ‘Abstract & The Figure’

Vian Borchert’s collection consists of a melange of recent abstract paintings along with abstracted figurative artwork. Gallery hours, through Oct. 31 at Framers’s Choice Gallery, 402 Main St., Gaithersburg. Visit [theframerschoicegallery.com/](http://theframerschoicegallery.com/) or call 301-987-8711.

Lane, Potomac. Free admission. Call 240-499-8922 or visit [www.lahinchtaavernandgrill.com](http://www.lahinchtaavernandgrill.com) for more.

### THURSDAY/NOV. 1

**Music Storytime for Toddlers.** 10:30 a.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Free. They’ll have hand drums, bells, mini guitar, small speaker, and other instruments. Children will have the opportunity to play these instruments and learn important basic fundamentals of music. They also will get to move, dance, and participate in a musical parachute game. Recommended for ages 3 through 5. Contact Cindy Gil at 240-777-0690.

### FRIDAY/NOV. 2

**Four Exhibits in Five Galleries Reception.** 6-9 p.m. At Artists & Makers Studios 1, 11810 Parklawn Dr., Suite 210, Rockville. Featuring four exhibits at two locations with A&M1 Parklawn hosting photographer Roy Sewall in two galleries with two exhibits “C&O Canal Panoramic Views” and “Mysterra”, and Dan Roncesvalles with Sara Moline curate “DMV Drop-In: Highlighting the DC Metro Skate Scene.” At A&M2 Wilkins painter Pat Coates presents her work in “Finding Peace” along with “Hats, Magnificent Hats” curated by David Hubbard. These four exhibits will open First Friday festivities between 6-9 p.m. on Nov. 2 and will showcase resident artists’ open studios for browsing as well – leading into Open Studio Weekend, 12-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Visit [www.artistsandmakersstudios.com](http://www.artistsandmakersstudios.com).

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 2-4

**Ethnic Food Festival and Bazaar.** Friday 12-8 p.m.; Saturday 11-7 p.m.; Sunday 12-4 p.m. At St. Mark Orthodox Church, 7124 River Road, Bethesda. The annual St. Mark Orthodox Church Food Festival & Bazaar is known for its delicious Russian and other Eastern European food specialties, such as piroghi, piroshki, halupki, blini, borscht, and more. Shop for baked goods, jewelry, lip color, pottery, hats, scarves, shawls, and religious items. Lucky Draw room, Grand Raffle table, and guided church tours. Visit the website <https://stmarkoca.org/food-festival->

bazaar/

### SATURDAY/NOV. 3

**Dulcimer Music.** 12:30-3 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. Live music by the Mountain Dulcimers of Northern Virginia. Visitors can try playing. The programs at Great Falls Tavern are free, but there is an entrance fee to the park of \$10 per single vehicle (subject to change). Call 301-767-3714 for more.

**Pianist Sofya Gulyak.** 8 p.m. at Westmoreland Congregational UCC, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. First woman to win first prize at the Leeds International Piano competition performs all-Russian masterpieces as part of the 2018-19 Washington Conservatory Concert Series. Free, with donations welcome at the door. Visit [www.westmorelanducc.org/](http://www.westmorelanducc.org/) for more.

### SUNDAY/NOV. 4

**Friendship Circle Holiday Boutique.** 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. At Beverly Farms Elementary School, 8501 Postoak Road, Potomac. Free to enter. Featuring over 25 vendors ranging from makeup to clothing plus a silent auction. Friendship Circle supports individuals with special needs and their families by providing recreational, social and educational programming. Additionally, Friendship Circle aims to educate volunteers and promote an inclusive community that values all individuals regardless of the challenges they face. All proceeds from vendor registration and raffle ticket sales will go to the local Friendship Circle chapter.

**Waltz Dance.** 3:30-6 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 2:45-3:30 p.m. Featuring the band Trio con Brio. 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/NOV. 5

**Songwriting Contest Deadline.** The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District announces the fifth annual

Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards. The adjudicated competition is seeking the best local songwriters and will award one talented songwriter a Grand Prize of \$10,000. The award also includes a young songwriter category for which an aspiring songwriter who is younger than 18 will have the chance to win \$2,500. Additionally, the Grand Prize Winner will also be awarded 25 hours of recording studio time with Innovation Station Music. Visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) or call 301-215-6660 for more.

### TUESDAY/NOV. 6

**Read to a Dog.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Every first and third Tuesday of the month, school-age children, especially beginners learning to read and those who want to improve their confidence in reading skills, are invited to practice reading aloud in short (10-15 minute) semi-private sessions with a certified therapy dog. First-come, first-served. No registration required; no younger siblings. Free. Call 240-777-0694.

### THURSDAY/NOV. 8

**Intelligent Lives Film.** 7-9 p.m. At Bullis School, 10601 Falls Road, Potomac, in the Blair Family Center for the Arts. Main Street will host a screening of Dan Habib’s new film, Intelligent Lives, which follows the lives of three adults with intellectual disabilities and challenges common perceptions of intelligence. Cost: \$25. Groups of 11 or more pay \$20 per ticket. Contact [info@mainstreetconnect.org](mailto:info@mainstreetconnect.org) to request group rate. Visit the website: <https://mainstreetconnect.org/event/intelligent-lives/>

### SUNDAY/NOV. 18

**Waltz Dance.** 3:30-6 p.m. At Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 3:30-6 p.m. Featuring the ensemble Fyre playing a mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambro, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Admission is \$13, \$5 for full-time students with student ID. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or go to [www.WaltzTimeDances.org](http://www.WaltzTimeDances.org) or e-mail [info@WaltzTimeDances.org](mailto:info@WaltzTimeDances.org).

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# OPINION

## Get Out and Smell the Leaves

BY CAROLE FUNGER  
THE ALMANAC

As we all know, fall arrives slowly here in Maryland. Just when you think the temperatures have cooled, they shoot up again along with the state's oppressive humidity. Finally, though, there comes a morning when the air has turned crisp and the colors more vivid. That's when I throw on a jacket and go outdoors to smell the leaves.

Aside from the beautiful show, I take pleasure in all the small details of the season: the delicate remains of the tooth-edged brown oak, the fiery red maple formed like a palm and the heart-shaped yellow linden. I love how the leaves float on the pungent air, fluttering down to weave crazy quilts on the still-warm soil. As they crackle beneath my feet, I savor their earthy aromas; fragrant cinnamon, orange spice and the powerful scent of dry foliage roasting in the autumn sun.

What is it about fall that summons up our deepest memories? How can one whiff of a decaying oak stir my reflection, catapulting me back into the giant leaf piles of my youth?

I think that the answer lies not only in fall's colors, but also in something less tangible – its smell. Harder to pinpoint than hearing or seeing, the experience of smelling opens pathways



Youngsters enjoy playing in leaves.

to a deep-seated awareness that sleeps inside all of us. This awareness, once awakened, recalls the child we once used to be.

Floating upward through the annals of time,

the distinctive aroma of autumn leaves reconnects us to this child, reminding us of our own colorful story, our unique pathway through life and our timeless link to the natural world.

## Help Girls in India Attend School

Edu-Girls, a Washington-based non-profit, is holding a 1K and 5K Halloween Walk-a-thon at the C&O Canal on Oct. 28. Parents are invited to bring their children and toddlers for a Fun Run near the canal.

Anand Seth, the founder of Edu-Girls, and a long-time resident of Potomac, started the organization after retiring from the World Bank: "A few years ago, I read a 2010 UNESCO report which stated that girls living in poverty are the most difficult to reach section among the 80 million children not in school. When I read about Malala being shot for wanting to go to school in her own hometown, I began to wonder whether access to education for economically disadvantaged girls in developing countries had really improved? That year, I visited my family's hometown in Jaipur, India, and I

went to see a local school for girls, Vimukti, which was reputed to be a pioneer in this area. I felt I wanted to do something, however small, to help these children stay in school and that's how Edu-Girls came into existence."

Edu-Girls works towards the education of children in Indian slums, specifically girls, who, without their support, would be pushed into leaving school to contribute to the family income, or into early marriage. It partners with schools like Vimukti in India to sponsor local girls who are at risk of dropping out, and persuades their parents to keep them in school by providing financial support through high school and beyond.

To date, 650 girls have successfully completed high school and there is a 100 percent pass rate; 92 percent of funds raised go straight to sponsor a girl.



Halloween Walk-a-thon at the C&O Canal on Oct. 28 will raise funds for Edu-Girls.

Registration for the Halloween Walk-a-thon opens at 8 a.m., Oct. 28, at the Great Falls Tavern Visitors Center. 11710 MacArthur Boulevard. The walk starts at 9

a.m. Suggested donation is \$40 for an adult, \$30 for additional family member; \$30 for students. Children under 12 are free. Visit [www.edugirls.org/](http://www.edugirls.org/).

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### SOBER-RIDE FOR HALLOWEEN

**Free Sober Rides.** Saturday, Oct. 27, 10 p.m. through Sunday, Oct. 28, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a code in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. WRAP's Halloween SoberRide promo code

will be posted at 5 p.m. on Oct. 27 on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com). The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code.

#### TUESDAY/OCT. 30

**Preserving and Restoring Sight.** 10 a.m.-noon at Leisure World Clubhouse Two, 3300 North Leisure World Blvd., Silver Spring. Join Wai

Wong, MD, PhD, Senior Retina Researcher at National Eye Institute (NEI) at the National Institute of Health (NIH) as he discusses the impact of regenerative medicine and the progress in preserving and restoring sight. Dr. Suleiman Alibhai, Director, Low Vision Learning Center will discuss new technologies that compliment medical research. Visit e-

[clubhouse.org/sites/leisureworld](http://clubhouse.org/sites/leisureworld) for more.

#### WEDNESDAY/NOV. 14

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

## POTOMAC ALMANAC

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#### EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

#### EDITORIAL

PHONE: 703-778-9415

E-MAIL:

[almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com)

#### EDITOR

Steven Mauren, 703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

#### PRODUCTION EDITOR

Jean Card  
[jcard@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jcard@connectionnewspapers.com)

#### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Susan Belford, Carole Dell, Cissy Finley Grant, Carole Fungler, Colleen Healy, Kenny Lourie, Peggy McEwan, Ken Moore

#### Contributing Photographers

Harvey Levine, Deborah Stevens

#### Art/Design:

Laurence Foong, John Heinly, Ali Khaligh

#### Production Manager

Geovani Flores

#### ADVERTISING

For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

Display Advertising:

**Kenny Lourie** 301-325-1398  
[klourie@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:klourie@connectionnewspapers.com)

#### Debbie Funk

National Sales & Real Estate  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

#### David Griffin

Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

#### Jerry Vernon

Executive Vice President  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

#### CIRCULATION

[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Inside Lockhouse 6 with its 1950s furnishings and Eisenhower plate.

## Volunteering at C&O

FROM PAGE 5

we will continue to work independently to ensure the Trust's volunteer programs operate safely and effectively. We will also work with our National Park Service partners to identify new roles the Trust can play to help alleviate burdens placed on park volunteers and staff.

"We are very grateful to you and all who care for the C&O Canal and its five million annual visitors through volunteerism and financial support."

Canal Trust volunteers such as Jennifer Hearn and Donald Street feel exactly the opposite from the cited volunteers in the newspaper last month. Don and his wife Linda Bergofsky are volunteer quartermasters at the Edwards Ferry lock, outside of Poolesville, and Hearn is a volunteer quartermaster at Lockhouse 6.

Street said, "I found the [newspaper] article to be puzzling based on our own experience. The article was definitely a little unnerving because I don't know anyone who has had problems with feeling disrespect for our services. I have never had a disagreement with anyone from the National Park Service. They have always been more than helpful and friendly."

Hearn has been keeping a watchful eye on Lockhouse 6 for years. She makes certain it is always tidy, the entrance code is changed and the special little lockkeeper's cottage along the C&O Canal is ready for the next Canal Quarter's renter. The home is just a stone's throw from her home in Brookmont. Her pride in her volunteer position is apparent as soon as one meets her. "This home was built in the 1830s and rebuilt in 1848 after a flood. It now has 18 inch walls. It is furnished in with '50s furniture in honor of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, who saved the Canal from being made into a superhighway. This lock house is truly a treasure – and I'm so happy to share it with visitors," she said.

Hearn commented that there are more than 1,500 volunteers working with the C&O Canal Trust. "If volunteers are really unhappy, I don't think they would continue their service to the park. I personally have always felt totally supported by the NPS staff and found them to be most appreciative for my time and efforts. NPS has been delightful in removing trash, taking home items for recycling, mending trails and taking care of this beautiful park. I am personally sad to see such an article. All of us who volunteer were disturbed by the article because it seemed to address the feelings of

only a few volunteers and not the entire group. I know many volunteers who love caring for our national park," she said.

Heidi Glatfelter Schlag, director of marketing and communications for the C&O Trust states that while visitation to the C&O National Park has risen substantially from 4 million in 2010 to almost 5 million in 2017, the National Park Service staff has dropped from 108 in 2010 to 70 in 2018. The NPS budget has dropped from \$10.5 million to \$9.5 million.

Robin Zanotti, president of the C&O Canal Trust, said, "The NPS is feeling the pain of decreasing resources with increasing park usage. Referenced in the article is the budget. The only way to meet the needs is through the use of our many volunteers who gladly donate their time, talents and energy because they love the park — and being in the park. The Canal Trust manages its own volunteers through training, teaching safety, rules and regulations and how to do their jobs. The NPS could never provide the personnel to do everything in this 184.5 mile park. Thus, they must rely on the volunteers and supervise them as much as they can. Of course there are other volunteers besides Canal Trust volunteers — NPS, C&O Canal Association, Appalachian Trail Conservancy and more. The crux of the problem is the discrepancy between the number of park rangers and the number of volunteers and how to provide supervision for them. However, the only way to manage it is to maintain a line of communication between the various groups. We feel we do this well and when asked, our volunteers state that they feel they can always reach and talk to a park ranger — and that they are courteous and respectful in all ways."

Many feel that the article was addressing the frustration of volunteers from organizations other than the Canal Trust. One Appalachian Trail Conservancy volunteer said she never felt ignored — in fact she was concerned that she was over-protected by the NPS.

National Park Service Superintendent Kevin Brandt said, "The C&O Canal National Historical Park has a rich history of award-winning volunteer programs that engage as many as 3,400 volunteers annually in the important work of caring for this vast resource. We are at a point where it makes good sense to assess our volunteer structure and the staff resources required to properly manage it, specifically the training and supervision of so many capable volunteers."

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## Resorting to Radio



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

There I was, Wednesday evening, Oct. 17, around 6:30, sitting on my living room couch, club sandwich in hand, preparing for the League Championship Series game 5 between my Boston Red Sox and the Houston Astros when as I've done a thousand times before, grabbed the remote to turn on the television. Pressing the usual button, I was distressed to see no picture and hear no sound. Having experienced this kind of disappointment numerous times before, I didn't panic yet. I went about the diagnostic process first.

I checked my remote to see if the batteries were firmly connected, which they were. I then pointed the remote back at the television, but still no response.. Next, as I have been prompted previously under similar circumstances ("Your X-1 platform ..."), I pulled the plug and waited 30-plus seconds before reconnecting. Thirty seconds later, I re-plugged and still my television sat idle. Next I went into my home office to check the status of my computer since they're "cableized" together. The lights on my modem were flashing (a hopeful sign) so I clicked on one of my desk top icons and was met with the dreaded "No internet connection," confirming my worst suspicion. For the moment, 90 minutes before game time, I was out of service (heck, I was out of luck). Finally, I called my cable provider for clarification/further confirmation when I was met with the equally dreaded pre-recorded message: "There has been a service interruption in your area. Service is expected to be restored tomorrow afternoon." "TOMORROW AFTER-NOON? THE GAME IS TONIGHT!" That was the exclamation I can print. What came next was not particularly complimentary.

For the next hour or so I puttered and muttered and did nothing to improve my circumstances. At 9:30 pm I called my brother to get a score. (He lives in Washington, DC and has a smart phone. I live in Maryland and have a flip phone, a k a "stupid phone"). Unfortunately, he had left his cell phone in another room and didn't hear my call. Frustrated, I swore yet again and trudged upstairs to go to bed. After getting into my "jammies," I laid down in bed and rolled onto my left side to set the alarm on my clock radio when it hit me (not the clock radio); the baseball game is being broadcast on the radio! And so I scrolled the dial on the clock radio until I heard ESPN radio broadcasters John Shambee and Jessica Mendoza calling the game. If I can't watch the game, I can certainly listen to it. And so I did, just like I did as a "little-leaguer" all those many years ago listening to Ken Coleman and Ned Martin of the "Boston Red Sox radio network" while living on Athelstane Road in Newton Centre, Ma. Except this time, I wasn't clutching a transistor radio. I was hands free, listening.

For the next nearly three hours, I laid in bed and listened. Most of the broadcast I heard and some of it I missed as occasionally I fell asleep. But for a time I was transported back in time sort of, before cable television proliferated when the games were broadcast almost exclusively on radio and baseball was seen through the eyes of those sitting in the "Catbird seat," to quote the legendary Red Barber. Listening to how they described what they saw during the game was how many of my generation - and the preceding generation, fell in love with baseball: "How about that!" to quote the late, great, Mel Allen.

It was a late night, but happily, for me and Red Sox Nation, the Sox won and will now be returning to the World Series for the first time since 2013. Game one will be Tuesday night, Oct. 23. I can't imagine that there will be a repeat non-performance from my cable provider, but if there is, and I am forced to go to plan "B", radio, I will do so. The circumstances got us a win in game five, so there's no reason to think it wouldn't get us a win in game one, too. After all, it's not only the ballplayers that are superstitious.

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



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