

Potomac ALMANAC

Throw pillows in vibrant shades of blue add a burst of color to this front porch designed by Maria Fanjul of Cabin John, Md. firm Anthony Wilder Design/Build.

Style for the Great Outdoors Uptick in Porches and More

PAGE 7

Potomac River Asserts Its Power

NEWS, PAGE 3

Adopting Parts Of Falls Road

NEWS, PAGE 4

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ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

JUNE 9-15, 2021

REAL ESTATE SALES, PAGE 2 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 6 ♦ KENNY LOURIE, PAGE 7

PHOTO BY JACKIE ROBBINS

Potomac REAL ESTATE

March, 2021 Sales, \$1,115,624~\$920,000



6 11011 Lamplighter Lane — \$992,418



7 10003 Gable Manor Court — \$975,000



4 10625 Rock Run Drive — \$1,025,000

IN MARCH, 2021, 58 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD
BETWEEN \$8,500,000-\$210,550.



8 11426 Patriot Lane — \$920,000



1 7912 Lakenheath Way — \$1,115,624



2 10420
Democracy Lane
— \$1,110,000

Address.....	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City.....	Sold Price...	Type.....	Lot AC.	Postal Code ...	Subdivision.....	Date Sold
1 7912 LAKENHEATH WAY.....	5	...	3	...	1	....POTOMAC .	\$1,115,624 ...	Detached..	0.23.....	20854. INVERNESS FOREST.	03/15/21
2 10420 DEMOCRACY LN.....	4	...	3	...	1	....POTOMAC .	\$1,110,000 ...	Townhouse	0.10.....	20854..... EAST GATE.....	03/15/21
3 7938 TURNCREST DR.....	4	...	3	...	1	....POTOMAC .	\$1,060,000 ...	Townhouse	0.10.....	20854... POTOMAC CREST ..	03/22/21
4 10625 ROCK RUN DR.....	4	...	2	...	1	... ROCKVILLE	\$1,025,000 ...	Detached..	0.41.....	20854... FAWCETT FARMS...	03/19/21
5 9524 REACH RD	4	...	3	...	2	... ROCKVILLE	\$1,003,500 ...	Detached..	0.25.....	20854..... FALLSREACH	03/09/21
6 11011 LAMPLIGHTER LN.....	4	...	2	...	1	....POTOMAC	\$992,418 ...	Detached..	0.24.....	20854..... FOX HILLS	03/15/21
7 10003 GABLE MANOR CT...	3	...	2	...	1	....POTOMAC	\$975,000 ...	Townhouse	0.09.....	20854. POTOMAC VILLAGE	03/31/21
8 11426 PATRIOT LN	5	...	3	...	1	....POTOMAC	\$920,000 ...	Detached..	0.25.....	20854.. REGENCY ESTATES .	03/17/21

COPYRIGHT 2021 MARK ETSTATS FOR SHOWINGTIME. SOURCE: BRIGHT MLS AS OF MARCH 31, 2021

Detectives Investigate Drowning in Potomac River

Detectives from the Montgomery County Police Major Crimes Division are investigating a drowning in the Potomac River that occurred on May 31.

On Monday, May 31, at approximately 8 p.m., 2nd District officers along with Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel responded for the possible drowning of an adult male in the Potomac River near Scott's Run.

Witnesses told investigators that the victim, identified as Franky Smith Gonzales Sapaico, age 26, of Springfield, Va., was swimming in the river in the area of Scott's Run when he went underwater and never resurfaced. Montgomery County Police - Managed Search and Operations Team (MSOT) officers along with Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel searched for Sapaico that evening but could not locate the victim.

Search operations continued until the evening of June 3.

At approximately 5 p.m., Friday, June 4, family members, who were also searching for Sapaico, located his body in the water near Scott's Run.

MCP along with Montgomery County Fire Rescue personnel responded to the Potomac River near Scott's Run and recovered the victim.

This death was followed by an apparent drowning near Fletcher's Boathouse, the 2nd recent loss of life of people trying to swim the Potomac.

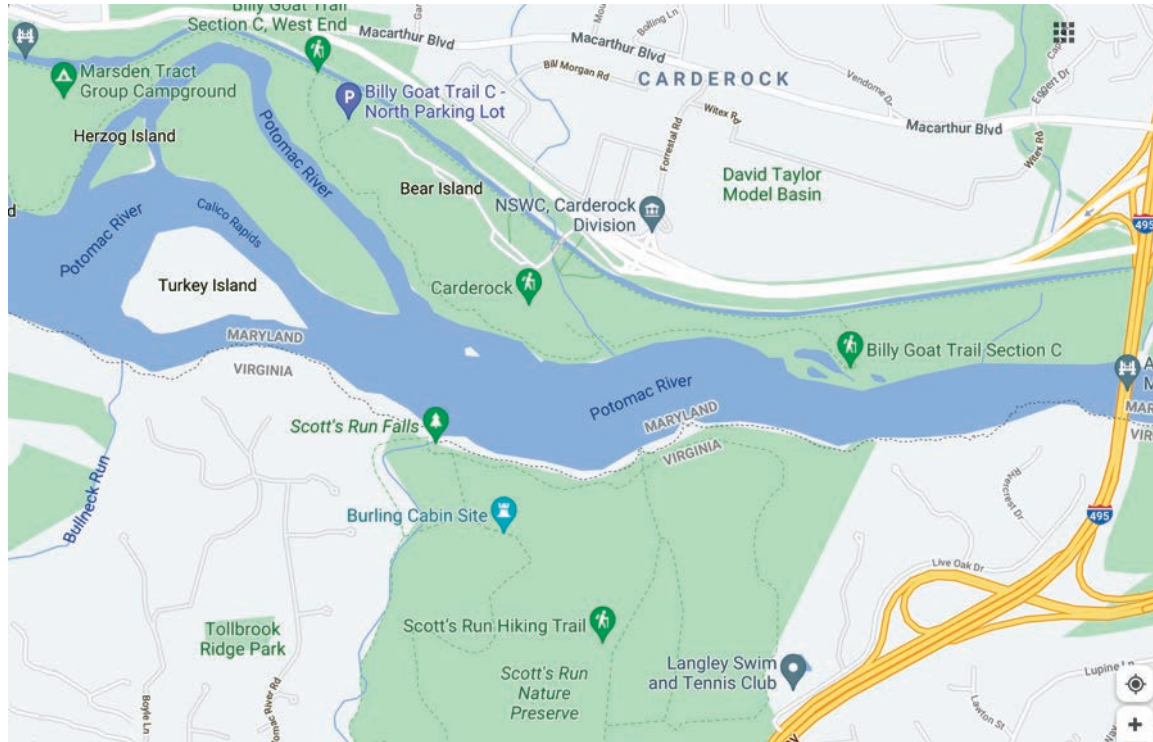
(The other was nearby in @MontgomeryCoMD by Scotts Run, McLean, Va.) "The river around and north of Fletchers is beautiful, scenic, but DANGEROUS! Don't put your life at risk."

D.C. rescue reported five calls partway through the day on June 6. "There is an increase in recreational use along our waterways, and it is reflected in increased responses."

"Fireboats had 5 calls so far this shift, which is far from over. In addition to the falcon rescue & search near Fletcher's Boathouse, they assisted an injured jet skier, a vessel taking on water, and extinguished an outside fire on the Virginia shoreline near Fletchers."

Pete Piringer, Chief Spokesperson for Montgomery County (MD) Fire & Rescue Service, @mcfrsPIO, added that the Potomac River Safety Awareness Campaign (kicked-off Memorial Day). Montgomery County Fire and Rescue is @MC-FRS asking visitors to observe the warnings, come prepared and be safe. There is a lot to learn from Captain Bell with the MCFRS Wa-

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



COcanalNPS and be safe in the areas near Potomac River and Great Falls. Lots to learn from the @MC-FRS Swift Water Rescue Team.

Source: <http://mcfrs.blogspot.com/2021/05/know-before-you-go.html?m=1>

Potomac River: What You Know Could Save Your Life

The Fire Chief's annual Potomac River Safety Campaign kicked off this Memorial Day and MCFRS is asking residents to observe the warnings, come prepared and be safe. There is a lot to learn from Captain Bell with the MCFRS Wa-

ter Rescue Team:

"The Potomac is very deceptive, it has some spots that look very calm, very tranquil, look very easy to swim in. But, because the river is a very high-volume flowing river there is a very strong undercurrent with lots of rocks, lots of unseen obstacles and the water is never clear, so you can never see what you're getting into. These dynamics are especially pronounced in the area of the river called the Potomac Gorge. It is a turbulent zone where water comes into conflict with geology. This stutter-step in the earth's crust makes Great Falls a beautiful spot, it also makes it

D.C. Fire and Rescue June 6: @dcfireems ... apparent drowning near Fletcher's Boathouse is 2nd recent loss of life of people trying to swim the Potomac. The other was nearby in @MontgomeryCoMD (by Scotts Run, McLean, Va.). The river around and north of Fletchers is beautiful, scenic, but DANGEROUS! Don't put your life at risk.

dangerous."

It's important to keep in mind that the falls are only a piece of a complicated section of river spanning about seven miles. Uprooted trees, debris, hidden boulders and other hazards create a situation so dangerous for swimming that wading and swimming is illegal in many places.

The river is moving fast and there are a lot of hazards that you can get pinned up against, get your feet trapped in," says Bell. "And the trees, they create what we call a strainer effect where, if you get swept into them, you can very easily get caught and trapped by your body." Even wading into the river can lead to a dangerous situation. Mud and silt and pollutants make it impossible to see more than a few inches below the water's surface. The river's bottom is too often underestimated.

"I feel like I'm safe because I have my footing and I step into an eddy or something and I'm relatively safe there, but then as soon as I take one step to the rear of where I'm at it'll drop from a four to five foot to a 20 to 30 foot drop. And as soon as you lose that, you run that panic sensation and you



PETE PIRINGER, CHIEF SPOKESPERSON FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY (MD) FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE, @MCFRSPIO

IMPORTANT NOTE: @MontgomeryCoMD @COcanalNPS Swimming is prohibited in Potomac River and in fact It's illegal to swim in the Potomac if entering from the C&O Canal National Historical Park in Montgomery County under CFR 7.96 (e).

can very easily drown."

Bell and his team are well-trained, with plenty of experience. Even so, he says it's tough to rescue someone once they are already in the river's grasp.

"Usually we're out of the fire house within a matter of a minute, and then we have to go down there and it's going to be five to ten minutes to get to the river's edge to put the boat in. And then it's going to depend on where in the river from where we launch as to how long it takes us."

Too often by the time swimmers realize they are in trouble, it's too late. Captain Bell notes that it can take up to 20 minutes just to reach the scene. "A swimmer could very much be in a fight for their life prior to us arriving, and have lost that fight." MCFRS is asking anyone who is visiting the Potomac River to be aware of the dangers and respect the river.

The Billy Goat Trail, especially section A, is challenging and dangerous. A sign in early parts of the trail says: "Difficult Trail Ahead. Many hikers are injured every year on this section of the Billy Goat A trail. The terrain includes sharp drops, requires jumps across open areas, walking along the edges of rocks and a climb up a 50-foot-traverse. Beyond this point, the next available exit is at the midpoint, up to on hour hike over difficult terrain. If you are tired, low on water, or unprepared for a very strenuous hike, please turn back."

Cleaning Up for Good

Potomac's Peggy Dennis adopts part of Falls Road for Common Cause.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN

When Potomac resident Peggy Dennis goes for a walk, she also goes on a mission. She picks up trash and recyclables as she goes.

One day it occurred to her to extend her mission by publicizing her favorite political organization: Common Cause Maryland.

To that end she contacted Montgomery County Department of Transportation about the Adopt a Road program, a volunteer program to encourage citizens to take charge of clearing litter from roadsides.

The program posts signs naming the person, persons or organization cleaning up at the beginning and end of each clean up section.

"I don't feel I need to have my name up there on the post, but I'm glad to do the work in the name of an organization I admire and respect. Anyone can do the same for their church, civic association, club or in the memory of someone they cared for," Dennis said.

"Because there is little to no funding for litter pickup, we count on program participants to help keep our roads free of trash, protect the environment, enhance our quality of life and the appearance of our Coun-

ty," the Adopt a Road website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dir/AdoptARoad.html, states. "Volunteers ... provide a real service to the community, by removing unsightly litter from County roadsides before it reaches local streams or clogs storm drains that feed into the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers and, eventually, our water supply."

It took a while for Dennis' signs to be installed marking a .8-mile section of Falls Road from MacArthur Blvd. to Alloway Drive, but she collected 28 pounds of non-recyclable trash and 119 recyclables: glass and plastic bottles and aluminum cans while waiting for the day she and members of Common Cause Maryland could celebrate "their sign."

"If you're adopting a road that has had no TLC for a few years, you'll find the initial cleanup takes several passes," Dennis said. "There are plenty of bottles and cans peeking out from their half buried hiding places among the leaves and brush. But as you continue your monthly or bi-monthly rambles, you'll find less and less to collect. Perhaps people are more conscientious about not littering when there is no visible litter to add to. Perhaps during the hot months people have their car windows rolled up and prefer to keep the AC on and the litter inside. Who knows? I only know that joining the Adopt-



PHOTO COURTESY CORIN REID, COMMON CAUSE MARYLAND

Local residents Peggy Dennis and Margaret Green pose by the newly installed Adopt a Road sign on Falls Road near the intersection of MacArthur Blvd. Dennis lobbied for the sign promoting Common Cause Maryland to bring awareness of the group's work. They are seen with some of the trash Dennis has collected along the road.

a-Road program and doing my trash walks make me feel good."

As for Common Cause Maryland, Dennis said she has been a member for about 20 years, she can't remember what issue brought her to the group. But she has strong views on some of the issues facing Maryland voters today.

"Because these times are perilous, and our democracy is threatened by forces seeking to restrict voting rights; place candidates in the presidency who have been elected by a minority of the voters; gerrymander districts to ensure 'safe' districts for their own party; and campaign using funding from undisclosed individuals and companies," she said. "The For the People Act 2021 (HR-1) is now before our legislators on Capitol Hill. If it is passed, it will go a long way toward making our democracy more democratic rather than less."

Common Cause Maryland is working hard to see that this bill passes and that the National Popular Election Compact is approved in enough states to insure that the majority of the voters will carry the day [in] future presidential elections and not the minority reflected in the Electoral College."

One more thought from Dennis about cleaning local roadsides:

"Remember the old saying, 'Golf is a good walk spoiled'? Well, Adopting-a-Road is a good walk made even better. Many of our roadsides cry out to be tidied up on occasion. And who better to do it than the folks that live there?"

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewsletters.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

JUNE 10-JULY 29

Thursdays in the Park Free Concert Series. 5:30-7:30 p.m. At Grand Park Ave. and Market Street (by Montgomery County Conference Center Garage), 5701 Marinelli Rd., North Bethesda. Enjoy free outdoor live concerts every Thursday evening from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. starting June 10th. Fun lawn games will also be available as well as food and drinks for purchase. 2-hour free parking in the Montgomery County Conference Center garage for concert attendees.

June 10th -- Performer: David Thong Duo.

June 17th -- Performer: Driven to Clarity Duo.

June 24th -- Performer: Phil & Elizabeth Kominski of The Breakaways.

July 1st -- Performer: Emma & Joey J Duo.

July 8th -- Performer: Chasing Autumn Duo.

July 15th -- Performer: Eli Lev & Megan Leigh Duo.

July 22nd -- Performer: Timmie Metz Duo.

July 29th -- Performer: Juliet

Lloyd Duo.

SUNDAY/JUNE 13

Focus Music Presents. 7:30 p.m. FocusMusic and the Jewish Islamic Dialogue Society Present SONiA disappear fear and Ertugrul Erkisi * online at www.focusmusic.org. Presenting a diverse combination of genre, language and faith – a much-needed dose of community in our fractured times. Presented online through www.focusmusic.org | \$15 | Info: Rob Hinkal at rob@focusmusic.org or www.focusmusic.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 14

The City of Rockville will reopen Rockville Senior Center, Monday, June 14, providing limited hours and amenities for members. The center will not be open for drop-in use or daily lunch. The senior center and fitness room will be open, by reservation only, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. More information about the online reservation system will be available in coming weeks.

The senior center, located at 1150 Car-nation Drive, will follow federal, state and local COVID-19 health and safety guidelines: Face coverings and physical distancing of 6 feet or more will be required.

Spring and summer programs that have been advertised and scheduled will remain virtual. New, in-person programs will be adver-

tised in the summer newsletters. For more information about Rockville Senior Center, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter, or call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov.

TUESDAY/JUNE 15

Pressenda Chamber Players. 7 p.m. At Westmoreland Congregational Church, One Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. This live concert by the Pressenda Chamber Players, Ensemble-in-Residence at the Washington Conservatory of Music, is a musical family affair with family members Aaron Berofsky, violin, Kathryn Votapek, viola and Charles Berofsky, piano joining Tobias Werner, cello to perform the Piano Quartet No. 1 in g minor, K. 478 by Mozart and the Piano Quartet No. 2, Op. 87 by Dvorak. Admission is free, with a suggested minimum donation of \$20.

RECREATION SENIOR CENTERS TO REOPEN

Montgomery County Recreation Senior Centers will begin providing in-person senior services on Monday, June 14. The Holiday Park Senior Center located at 3950 Ferrara Drive in Silver Spring and Damascus Senior Center located at 9701 Main Street will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

North Potomac Senior Center located

at 13850 Travilah Road in Rockville and the White Oak Senior Center located at 1700 April Lane, Silver Spring will reopen for service on Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. beginning Tuesday, June 15. Also beginning Tuesday, June 15 the grassy area of the Long Branch Outdoor Pool located at 8700 Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring will be used to provide senior activities from 9 to 11 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday as the weather permits.

The Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center located at 1000 Forest Glen Road in Silver Spring will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday beginning Saturday, June 19.

To register for a class or program, visit www.mocorec.com

SATURDAY/JUNE 19

Montgomery County's 24th Juneteenth Celebration will be held at the BlackRock Center for the Arts located at 12901 Town Commons Drive in Germantown from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, June 19.

The event will feature traditional events like the award recognition ceremony and Juneteenth inspired food. This year's theme "Freedom at the Rock... Acknowledge, Educate, Celebrate" traces the African American struggle for freedom through education, art, dance, music and honoring our elders. New this year, the festivities will also include educational activities, a historical

journey of African American Music and artistic entertainment, and food trucks, all designed for the whole family. Activities will take place both inside and on the lawn of the arts center.

The Montgomery County Office of Human Rights and the County Executive's African American Advisory Group are coordinating the program with special support from BlackRock Center for the Arts to commemorate the 156th anniversary of the events of June 19, 1865. On that day, Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to take possession of the state and enforce the emancipation of its enslaved persons. The event today is known as Juneteenth and is celebrated widely across the United States.

LIBRARIES SET TO REOPEN

Montgomery County Public Libraries is announcing the reopening of seven additional branches to the public on June 14. The branches are:

Aspen Hill Library; 4407 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville;

Damascus Library; 9701 Main Street, Damascus;

Davis Library; 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda;

Little Falls Library; 5501 Massachu-

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BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

setts Ave., Bethesda;
Long Branch Library; 8800 Garland Ave., Silver Spring;
Potomac Library; 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac;
Quince Orchard Library; 15831 Quince Orchard Road, Gaithersburg.
These seven branches, as well as the six branches reopening to the public on June 1, will follow newly adjusted opening procedures which include no appointments, no capacity limits, and no social distance requirements. Holds to Go service will be discontinued prior to the reopening of the branches.
The remaining branches will reopen on July 6, with the exception of Germantown Library, which is closed for a refresh project, and Noyes Library for Young Children.
For additional information visit MCPE's website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library.

LIBRARIES OFFER FREE ONLINE WORKSHOPS

Montgomery County Public Libraries is offering free online workshops and one-on-one sessions geared toward assisting job seekers and entrepreneurs throughout June. All workshops are free and offered virtually.
An internet connection and a device (such as a smartphone, tablet or computer) is required for participation.
Throughout June – Every Monday 9:30-11:30 a.m.
H.I.R.E. (Helping Individuals Reach Employment) Sessions
Sign up to meet virtually/confidentially

one-on-one with a career counselor for advice and assistance with your job search.
Register:
Monday, June 14: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5140841>
Monday, June 21: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5140863>
Monday, June 28: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5142784>
Wednesday, June 9; 10-11:30 a.m.
Introducción al espíritu empresarial - Virtual - En asociación con el Maryland Women's Business Center (MWBC)
Convertirse en un emprendedor exitoso requiere un trabajo arduo y una planificación minuciosa. Durante este taller presentaremos los siguientes conceptos: Una evaluación de las características de los empresarios exitosos; Aclaremos algunos de los mitos y realidades de la propiedad de pequeñas empresas; Iniciaremos una autoevaluación para determinar si está preparado para convertirse en propietario de una pequeña empresa; Estableceremos un plan de acción para completar sus autoevaluaciones buscando comentarios de las partes interesadas, como familiares, amigos y clientes potenciales; Descubriremos los servicios proporcionados por el Maryland Women's Business Center que pueden ayudarle a iniciar y hacer crecer su negocio.
Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5126181>
Thursday, June 10; 1-3 p.m.
How to Prepare for your Virtual Job Interview
Learn how to differentiate yourself

from other candidates, be Zoom ready, package your experience, tell your story, be ready for challenging questions and feel more confident in your next interview.
Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5153771>
Tuesday/Thursday, June 15 & June 17; 5:45-7:45 p.m.
LinkedIn Boot Camp (Part I / Part II)
This popular two-session/two-day workshop focuses on both the mechanics & strategy of using LinkedIn as a tool to conduct a successful job search
Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/4760612>
Wednesday, June 16; 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
How to Apply for Jobs with Montgomery County Government
Find out everything you need to know about applying for jobs with Montgomery County Government.
Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/4842046>
Tuesday, June 29; 12:30 p.m.
Proctored Northstar Assessment Test; Assess your Digital Literacy Skills
Demonstrate your digital literacy skills by taking a proctored Northstar Assessment test during a scheduled test session. If you score 85% or higher, you'll earn a Northstar Digital Literacy Certificate to share with your employers. Tests will be administered and monitored remotely – allowing you to take the test from the convenience of your home. Registration is required.
Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5126177>

It is time to re-emerge and become social again!
Join PANC to make new friends, reconnect with old ones and become involved in our local community.

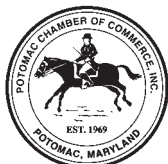


CHECK OUT
www.potomacneighbors.com
FOR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Want to know more about "aging in place" in Potomac?

Want to volunteer to help neighbors?

Just visit our website
www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org
or call 240-221-1370 to learn how.



Normandie Farm

THE POTOMAC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
in partnership with
Normandie Farm Restaurant
Introducing-The Roadside Café
invites you to a

NETWORKING EVENT!

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 • 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
10710 Falls Road • Potomac, MD 20854
Cost: Potomac Chamber Members: \$10.00
Non-Members: \$15.00
Cash Bar available

NORMANDIE FARM IS GENEROUSLY PROVIDING
HORS D'OUERVES FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT!

To reserve your place and/or for additional information,
Call the Potomac Chamber of Commerce:
301-299-2170

Or reserve your spot online at www.potomacchamber.org
R.S.V.P. by June 15, 2021

Bring your business cards and plenty of conversation!

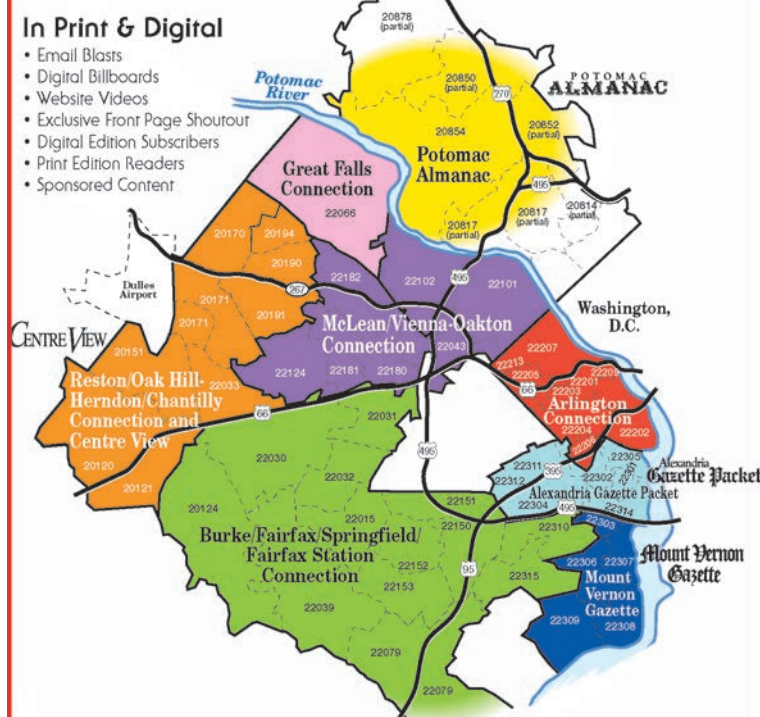


If you would like to donate a door prize, please call Jennifer at the Chamber office.



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Alexandria Gazette Packet

Mount Vernon Gazette
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advertising@connectionnewspapers.com

CALENDAR

VISIT LOCUST GROVE

Locust Grove Nature Center, 7777 Democracy Blvd. Outdoor exhibits, natural features, and trails are open every day from dawn to dusk. In the Upper Meadow, look for Monarch butterflies, caterpillars and eggs on the milkweed in summer. Check out the dogbane for iridescent dogbane beetles. Listen for wrens and bluebirds near the bluebird nest boxes. Watch for box turtles crossing the path in the early morning.

In the Lower Meadow, watch for bats hunting in late afternoon or early evening. Sit under the shade of the 200-year-old sycamore, and imagine what the park looked like when it was part of a large farm. Watch as Cabin John Creek flows briskly by. In the spring, listen for the calls of spring peepers and other frogs from the vernal pools. You might also spot minnows, crayfish, bathing birds, or signs of beaver activity.

Visit with the giants as you follow the trails through the Mature Forest. Towering white oaks and tulip trees dwarf the younger understory.

CRAFT OF POETRY. Zoom, 6-7 p.m. Poet Chet'la Seabee discusses her book-length prose poem, *Field Study*. Chet'la will be in conversation with Emily Holland, poet and editor of *Poet Lore*, America's oldest poetry journal. See <https://www.writer.org/> for registration information and to receive the link to the event.

33RD BIENNIAL EXHIBITION of the Creative Crafts Council. 7 p.m. Online. A Zoom link will be emailed to participants 30 minutes prior to the event. Free, but RSVP required to receive a zoom link. Please note: Strathmore has a number of free outdoor concerts and virtual events throughout June, as well as concerts that require purchasing tickets.

See <https://www.strathmore.org/>

BETHESDA PAINTING AWARDS: The Bethesda Painting Awards is downtown Bethesda's annual juried art. Nearly 300 artists from Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. submit work to this annual competition created to honor regional painters. The work of the eight finalists will be on display at Gallery B from June 3 - 26, 2021. See Bethesda Urban Partnership at <https://www.bethesda.org/> for details.

WAVERLY STREET GALLERY. 1-4 p.m. (Also on Saturdays, 1-4 p.m.) Early Summer Show featuring Waverly Street Gallery artists. 4600 East-West Hwy #102. No appointment necessary but masks are required. See <https://www.waverlystreetgallery.com>

Repeats Thursdays and Saturdays through July 3, 2021.

GLEN ECHO FOLK DANCERS. Virtual. 7:30 - 9 p.m. lesson, followed by dancing from 9-10:15 p.m. See <https://glenechopark.org/events-calendar>. Repeats weekly on Thursdays.

PUBLIC ART. Bethesda is filled with public art. Browse a portion of the collection of public art on <https://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/public-art> for descriptions of projects and locations.



Potomac Day Back Oct. 23

Mark your calendars for Oct. 23, 2021 because Potomac Day is back with the traditional business fair, parade, car show and more. Reserve your spot early as these sell out quickly and everyone is excited to be back in action. Call Jennifer at the Potomac Chamber of Commerce at 301-299-2170.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

JOSIAH HENSON MUSEUM AND PARK. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 11410 Old Georgetown Road. The life and challenges of Reverend Josiah Henson, enslavement in Maryland, and the ongoing struggles of racial equality and justice on the former plantation property of Isaac Riley where Henson was enslaved. Henson, whose 1849 autobiography, *The Life of Josiah Henson, Formerly a Slave, Now an Inhabitant of Canada*, inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. \$5 adults, \$4 youth, \$4 seniors. See <https://www.montgomery-parks.org/parks-and-trails/josiah-henson-park/>

Repeats all Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, same hours.

CABIN JOHN PARK MINIATURE TRAIN RIDE. 3-6 p.m. on Fridays. 7410 Tuckerman Lane. Scenic two-mile, 15-minute train ride through Cabin John Regional Park. Tickets are limited and can be pre-purchased online at [ActiveMontgomery.org](https://www.active-montgomery.org) -- \$2.50. (Children two and younger ride for free with an adult.) See <https://www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/cabin-john-regional-park/minature-train/> for covid precautions and ticket information.

Repeat same hours on Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

PARK RANGERS AVAILABLE. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Chesapeake & Ohio National Historical Park, 11710 MacArthur Blvd. Park rangers are available to provide maps and information even though the visitors center is still currently closed. See <https://www.nps.gov/choh/index.htm>

Repeats Saturdays and Sundays, same hours.

LIVE MUSIC. 6-8 p.m., Downtown Bethesda. Bethesda Urban Partnership has helped organize additional restaurant seating outdoors in downtown Bethesda. The "Bethesda Streeterly" will be set-up as open seating, with all tables placed at least 6 feet apart and a limit of four people permitted per table. Live music each Friday to enjoy while also enjoying outdoor dining. For precise locations and details,

see <https://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/bethesda-streeterly>
Repeats Friday evenings.

FRIDAY NIGHT DANCERS. 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Virtual, Glen Echo Park. Join Friday Night Dancers for a virtual contra dance and live music. See <https://glenechopark.org/events>. Repeats Fridays.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2021

CAROUSEL STORY TIME. 9:30 a.m. Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Join us as we read *Carousel* by Donald Crews. Choose your horse. Hold on tight. Available also on YouTube. See <https://glenechopark.org/carousel/>

PLAY BALL. Shirley Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive. 7 p.m. Bethesda Big Train hosts the Alexandria Aces. The Bethesda Big Train is a team of top level college players playing in the summer wooden bat Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League. The Big Train, named the best summer college baseball team in the nation in 2011. See <http://www.bigtrain.org/> for information about the team, league and how to purchase tickets.

STATION TO STATION, POET TO POET. 5-6 p.m. Zoom, Writer's Center. For the *Plume 9* anthology, Danny Lawless, editor of *Plume*, enlisted forty-nine guest editors, who offered a poem of their own, then selected, introduced and presented a poem from another poet. This session is moderated by *Plume* editor Amanda Newell. Free. See <https://www.writer.org/> for registration information and to receive the link to the event.

RIDE THE CAROUSEL. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The 1921 Dentzel Carousel was installed in 1921 and celebrates its 100th Anniversary all season long. Purchase tickets at <https://glenechopark.simpletix.com/>. \$5 per person for a four-hour time slot. See <https://glenechopark.org/carousel/> for additional information regarding covid protocols.

Repeats all Saturdays and Sundays. Extra hours on Memorial Day.



Thursday June 10, 2021

POTOMAC VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET. Thursdays, 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 South Glen Road. Potomac Village Farmers Market operates all Thursdays, May through November. Repeats weekly on Thursdays.

WRITING FROM TRAUMA. Writer's Center, zoom. 3-4:30 p.m. Poets Holly Karapetkova, Susan Mockler, and Kirsten Porter explore the use of trauma writing as a vehicle for processing pain and building resilience. The poets will share some of their work and offer writing prompts geared at helping participants to write from their trauma and embrace healing. Free. See <https://www.writer.org/> for registration information and to receive the link to the event.

OUTDOOR SWIM HOURS. 12-6 p.m. weekends only, three-hour slots available. Bethesda Outdoor Pool, 6300 Hillandale Road, Bethesda. 301-652-1598. For more pools including upcounty in Poolesville and Gaithersburg, and for summer hours starting June 19, see www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec/facilities/aquaticcenters/outdoor-pools.html

INDOOR SWIM HOURS. Shriver Aquatic Center, 5900 Executive Blvd, 240-777-8070 See. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec/Resources/Files/aquatics/KSAC.pdf>

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

PLAY BALL. 7 p.m. Shirley Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive Bethesda Big Train hosts the Gaithersburg Giants. Sixteen Big Train alumni have made it to the major leagues.

See <http://www.bigtrain.org/> for information about the team, league and how to purchase tickets.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

POTOMAC LIBRARY. 10101 Glenolden Dr. Montgomery County is scheduled to reopen Potomac Library on Monday, June 14. See www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library. Also, see Friends of Potomac Library at <https://www.folmc.org/chapters/potomac-chapter/>.

ICE SKATING. Cabin John Ice Rink, 10610 Westlake Drive. Cabin John Ice Rain has numerous public skate sessions every day of the week, including 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at 5:30-6:30 p.m. sessions most every weekday. See cabinjohnice.org for details.

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

PLAY BALL. 7 p.m. Shirley Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive. Bethesda Big Train hosts the South County Braves. See <http://www.bigtrain.org/> for information about the team, league and how to purchase tickets.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

POTOMAC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. NETWORKING EVENT. 4-6 p.m. At Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. See www.potomacchamber.org. Register by June 15, 2021.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Black Rock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive. Montgomery County's 24th Juneteenth Celebration. This year's theme "Freedom at the Rock... Acknowledge, Educate, Celebrate" traces the African American struggle for freedom through education, art, dance, music and honoring our elders. New this year, the festivities will also include educational activities, a historical journey of African American Music and artistic entertainment, and food trucks, all designed for the whole family.

The Montgomery County Office of Human Rights and the County Executive's African American Advisory Group are coordinating the program with support from the BlackRock Center for the Arts to commemorate the 156th anniversary of the events of June 19, 1865. On that day, Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to take possession of the state and enforce the emancipation of its enslaved persons.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION CONCERT. Lift Every Voice. The New Orchestra of Washington (NOW), believes in the transformative power of music to bring us closer and connect us to one another. This concert celebrates the music of Black composers of the past including George Walker, William Grant Still, Florence Price, and a vibrant Black composer of today, Jessie Montgomery. \$120-\$160 for table seating one to four. <https://www.strathmore.org/what-s-on/summer-2021/now-juneteenth-celebration/>

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HOME LIFE STYLE



PHOTO BY DIEGO VALDEZ

This space for a McLean home, created by architect Rolando Valdez of Bethesda firm GMT Architects, boasts a floor to ceiling fireplace.



PHOTO BY JACKIE ROBBINS

Throw pillows in vibrant shades of blue add a burst of color to this front porch designed by Maria Fanjul of Cabin John, Md. firm Anthony Wilder Design/Build.

Style for the Great Outdoors

Designers see uptick requests for porches and other outdoor spaces.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Alonging to spend more time outside after a year-and-a-half spent inside is driving a trend in home design, including an uptick in requests for projects like screened porches and patios.

"This past year, homeowners were interested in creating gathering spaces that offered opportunities to be outside, said designer Susan Matus. "I think that we will continue to see the interest in screen porches grow as many spent more time outdoors during the pandemic."

When owners of Cabin John, Maryland residence decided to update their front porch, they tasked designer Maria Fanjul of Cabin John, Md. firm Anthony Wilder Design/Build with the job.

"Because it was an older home, we had to stay within the existing porch's footprint," she said. "In order to draw the eye up, we centered the porch's stairs to align with the front door, raised the porch's roof to allow more natural light into the space and the home, and curved the wood along the gable of the porch's roof."

The space's crisp white columns contrast with the home's deep blue tone, outfitted with neutral furniture. Throw pillows and a rug in bold shades of indigo and yellow add another burst of color. The overall look is clean and calming. "The owners now have a brighter porch to enjoy," said Fanjul.

While designing a new, custom home in McLean, Va., architect Rolando Valdez created a back porch that offers a seamless transition from the home's interior to its natural surroundings. "There are arched openings that mimic those



PHOTO BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

This backyard porch by Susan Matus of Case Design/Remodeling offers a view of the home's wooded backyard.

found inside [and] provide a clear look at the pool and patio beyond," said Valdez of Bethesda firm GMT Architects.

The space is consistent with the overall style of the home which was inspired by those found along the New England coast. "The porch embraces the colors of the home's pastel blue shingles and white trim," said Valdez. The space is outfitted with vaulted ceilings, a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace and flagstone floor that leads to the deck with built-in grill.

When adding a porch to an existing home, Matus and architect Vicente Neto, both of Case Design/Remodeling, worked to create a space that was compatible with the style of the home's interior while also offering views of the wooded backyard.

"We wanted the porch to be accessible but also not block views from the dining room, kitchen or bedrooms on the second floor," said

Matus. "The porch can be entered directly from the family room."

"Homeowners now realize how valuable and special the additional gathering space of a porch really is."

"This past year, homeowners were interested in creating gathering spaces that offered opportunities to be outside."

— Susan Matus

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The Masks are Off ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... and I suppose life is back on, especially for those of us who have been vaccinated. No more hiding your emotions and expressions behind your face-covering as you once again start interacting with the general public. They can see you and of course, you can see them - and you can hear/understand them, too. Conversations will flow more evenly now that they won't be interrupted by an "Excuse me, I can't understand you," or a "Could you please repeat that?" Conversations that were previously affected by fits and starts will revert back to questions and answers and what abouts. For me, the mask was an impediment to normal conversion. Necessary and prudent during a once-in-a-lifetime, public health emergency, but apparently, the time has come. Previous directives: masks, social distancing, contact tracing, quarantining and vaccinations were all most of us ever talked about. Now with vaccinations getting into more arms, our lives are expanding. From our living room to just plain living.

Though there are still mask-on requirements: in schools, on public conveyances, and in airports, train stations and the like and while obtaining healthcare services, we are now, especially those of us vaccinated, free to return to our previous life, mostly. Soon capacity restrictions will be lifted as our lives, so far as the activities which involve large crowds, both inside and out, can open back up in their entirety. Moreover, social distancing will likewise become a thing of the past. Now, all those round stickers marking six feet of distance as well as the plexiglas dividers will disappear as well. However, individual businesses retain the right to require visitors to mask up. As Bobby Brown used to sing: "That is my prerogative," and so too will businesses have their own prerogative to require patrons - or not, to abide by their mask-wearing requirements.

All of that being said and understood, even though I'm fully vaccinated, I still feel like I should mask-up. From the national vaccination statistics, there are plenty of people who have not yet been vaccinated and/or are unwilling/unconvinced they need to comply. I can't quite understand the "vaccine hesitancy" or the disinterest in following these most recent public health advisories. It seems like such a small, relatively risk-free/preventing risk step to take. I mean, whatever temporary side effects/discomfort one might experience a day or two after the injection pales in comparison to the effect on your body and/or life expectancy contacting the virus might have. I'll take a definite over a maybe anytime.

Besides, I don't want to be responsible for my own demise, or any others for that matter. In this situation, I'm happy/proud to conform to the public health directives. The virus is bigger - and badder, than any one of us; so to be bigger and badder than the virus, literally and figuratively, the more of us who receive the vaccine, the more of us will be able to survive this pandemic and safely embrace our former lives while not fearing the consequences of our inactions.

The other day at my local Giant, I happened to walk by the customer service desk where I heard a customer bragging to an employee about not planning on getting a vaccination, like he was proud of it. What a disconnect! I'm proud to have gotten my vaccination, and I'm equally proud to have participated in a national effort to try and combat the greatest health crisis this country has suffered since the Spanish Flu first infected Americans over 100 years ago.

I just wish more people would put the country ahead of themselves. For all that we're given here, it really doesn't seem too much to ask. In this circumstance, paybacks are not hell, they're heaven.

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

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