

Potomac ALMANAC

Grand Marshal
Chrisselene Petropoulos.

Potomac Day Was Here

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Friends Mean Everything

SENIOR LIVING, PAGE 6

New Flagship Liquor Store

NEWS, PAGE 6

OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 2, 2021

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM



7 13312 Drews Lane — \$2,091,000



8 12209 Scarlet Tanager Drive — \$2,995,000

Potomac REAL ESTATE

August, 2021 Top Sales

IN AUGUST, 2021, 76 POTOMAC HOMES
SOLD BETWEEN \$4,675,000-\$455,000.

6 11315 River Road — \$2,300,000



3 8909 Harvest Square Court — \$3,375,000



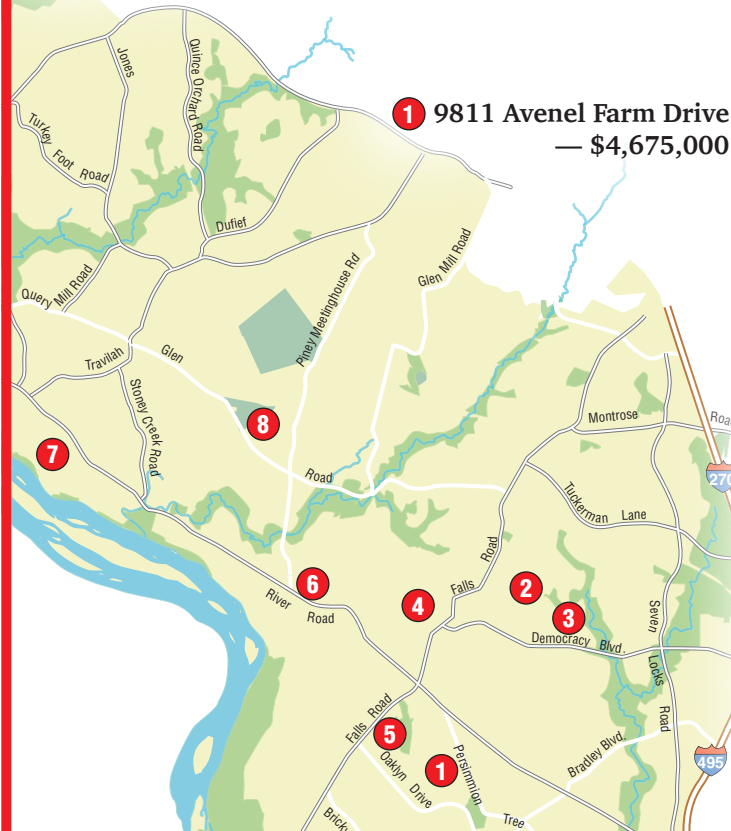
5 9418 Thrush Lane — \$2,612,500



1 9811 Avenel Farm Drive — \$4,675,000

Address.....	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City.....	Sold Price...	Type.....	Lot AC.	Postal	Code ...	Subdivision.....	Date Sold
1 9811 AVENEL FARM DR	6...	6...	3	....	POTOMAC	\$4,675,000	Detached ..	2.00.....	20854.....	AVENEL		08/16/21
2 10608 STAPLEFORD HALL DR	6...	6...	2	....	POTOMAC	\$3,400,000	Detached ..	2.06.....	20854.	KENTSDALE ESTATES.		08/31/21
3 8909 HARVEST SQUARE CT	9...	11	3	....	POTOMAC	\$3,375,000	Detached ..	2.00.....	20854.	KENTSDALE ESTATES.		08/09/21
4 10530 SOUTH GLEN RD.....	6...	4...	2	....	POTOMAC	\$2,995,000	Detached ..	2.32.....	20854	POTOMAC FARM ESTS		08/13/21
5 9418 THRUSH LN	9...	7...	4	....	POTOMAC	\$2,612,500	Detached ..	0.77.....	20854	WILLIAMSBURG GARDENS		08/24/21
6 11315 RIVER RD	5...	5...	3	....	POTOMAC	\$2,300,000	Detached ..	2.33.....	20854	POTOMAC VIEW ESTS		08/16/21
7 13312 DREWS LN	5...	3...	1	....	POTOMAC	\$2,091,000	Detached ..	0.69.....	20854	MERRY GO ROUND FARM		08/11/21
8 12209 SCARLET TANAGER DR	6...	5...	1	POTOMAC	\$2,000,000	Detached ..	0.60.....	20854	GREENBRIAR PRESERVE		08/31/21

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[HTTP://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/NEWS/2021/JUL/16/POTOMAC-HOME-SALES-JUNE-2021/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/jul/16/potomac-home-sales-june-2021/)



POTOMAC DAY

Potomac Day Was Back

Potomac Day and the Potomac Day Parade returned last Saturday, Oct. 23.



Maryland mounted police provided the equine presence for this year's Potomac Day Parade.



Grand Marshal Chrisselene Petropoulos.



Rat Pack for the car show.



Story book character Lilly appears with Friends of the Library Potomac.

POTOMAC DAY

Potomac Day and The Potomac Day Parade Returned Last Saturday, Oct. 23.

FROM PAGE 3



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE STEVENS/POTOMAC ALMANAC



Tommy Aschenbach with his Army Military Deuce 12 M35 80.



Potomac Swim and Tennis



Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department made a big splash at the Potomac Day parade on Saturday, Oct. 23, here with the swift water rescue team.



Children's activities were back on for Potomac Day, including Squeals on Wheels Petting zoo and other amusements.



BULLETIN BOARD

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

SATURDAY/OCT. 30

Pressenda Chamber Players. 8 p.m. at Westmoreland Church, One Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Free with \$20 suggested donation. Contact: Jovan Zivkovic at jzivkovic@washingtonconservatory.org

FALL BACK TO RECREATION WITH FALL EVENTS

Montgomery County Recreation is hosting family-friendly events for everyone to enjoy this fall season. From free movies to swimming with pumpkins, events will be hosted at community recreation centers and aquatic facilities located throughout the County.

The fall special events hosted by Montgomery County Recreation include: Friday, Oct. 29. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Damascus Community Recreation Center Spooktacular Outdoor Movie Night, 25520 Oak Drive, Damascus. Spend a Spooktacular Friday night outside watching The Witches, (rated PG). The event includes a costume contest to find the silliest, spookiest and most creative costume, a mini pumpkin patch and a trick or treat table. Registration # 138325.

Saturday, Oct. 30 Floating Pumpkin Patch. Eunice Kennedy and Sargent Shriver Aquatic Center, 5900 Executive Boulevard, North Bethesda, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Swim Center, 1201 Jackson Road, Silver

Spring. Ever picked a pumpkin in a swimming pool? It can happen for children ages 2 to 12 years who will swim around to pick a pumpkin and then decorate it. Swimming with pumpkins will be available until noon and decorating will be available until 12:30 p.m. \$10 per person. Registration # 133556 (Shriver) and 139882 (MLK).

Saturday, Oct. 30. 3-6 p.m. Gwendolyn Coffield Fall Family Festival, (outside parking lot), 2450 Lyttons Road, Silver Spring. Ghouls and goblins come dressed in your Halloween costume to win a prize. Enjoy games, a dance party candy, and treats. See the Halloween-theme decorated cars and vote for best.

Saturday, Oct. 30. Clara Barton Neighborhood Recreation Center Haunted House, 7425 MacArthur Boulevard, Cabin John. Fortunes will be told, witches, zombies will haunt your path and games will challenge your nerves and skill. Path will be inside, and all other activities will be outside. Refreshments will be offered, and small gifts will be handed out to kids.

Friday, Nov. 5. 7-9:30 p.m. Ross Boddy Neighborhood Recreation Center Movie Night, 18529 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring. Cruella is the featured movie for this free event that will be in the gymnasium. Light refreshments will be available for purchase. Registration # 139318.

Registration for events can be made online at ActiveMONTGOMERY. Not all events require registration. More information on Montgomery SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 7

CALENDAR

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

Like to help others?



Potomac Community Village

Volunteer with us. Meet new neighbors. It's all about helping Potomac seniors remain in their homes as they age.

to learn more or to volunteer:

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Thank You for Being a Friend

Women find comradery, support and fun though weekly art group.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

First they start with coffee, conversation and perhaps a slice of cake. Then they unzip their canvas tote bags which hold paint brushes, acrylic paint in a rainbow of colors, Mod Podge, a canvas and maybe dried flowers and a few scraps of wrapping paper. The group of six women, who have been friends for more than 50 years, meet every Friday morning at 11:30 to explore their interest in art, maintain their friendship and satisfy their need for relaxation.

"We talk about everything from our grandchildren to what's going on in the world," said Chrystal Pierce, a retired art teacher who lives in Fairfax, who organized the group. "We each work on what inspires us on a particular day. It's different for each of the women. Some paint or make decoupage art on canvas, some sketch or some just doodle. The art is secondary, the main idea is spending time together and having something to look forward to every week."

The women, who are in their early 70s have been close friends since high school and have supported each other through life changes that range from the death of a spouse to the birth of a grandchild. None are aspiring artists, but they use art as a way of maintaining their bond. They take turns hosting their weekly art and social sessions and they believe that their healthy friendships will sustain them as they age. "I know that friend groups like ours can keep you happy and that contributes to your overall wellbeing," said Liz Best, a retired high school guidance counselor who now lives in Potomac. "Coronavirus was a tough time for us when we couldn't get together. We used Zoom, but it was only slightly better than nothing."

As a single mother of five, Dickerson got support from her friends while she was raising her children in Alexandria. "I had one son who used to give me so much trouble," she said. "He would throw these parties and mess up my house when I wasn't there. I can't tell you how many times he was suspended from school for one thing or another. I would



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRYSTAL PIERCE
(from left) Gloria Black, Chrystal Pierce and Alice Dickerson have been close friends since high school. They gather every week for art and conversation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRYSTAL PIERCE
Creating art is one of the ways that Chrystal Pierce and her friends stay connected.

"Art is secondary, the main idea is spending time together and having something to look forward to every week."

— Chrystal Pierce, Fairfax

call these friends and they would tell me that it was all going to be okay." When Gloria Black was diagnosed with breast cancer the women took turns going with her for her chemo treatments. "I don't think I could've done it without them," she said. "Liz even knitted a cap for me when I lost all of my hair. They made meals and brought them to my house so that I didn't have to cook for my family. When I think about what these women mean to me, I get tears in my eyes."

Pierce says that while she sometimes gives advice and offers ideas to the other women, most of their time together is relaxed. "Nobody judges or comments on anyone else's work," she said. "There have been times when one or the other of us has wanted to create something to hang at our house, but most of the time we just want to relax and enjoy each other's company."

New Flagship Liquor Store in Cabin John Shopping Center

Montgomery County's Department of Alcohol Beverage Services (ABS) will open a new retail concept and flagship store, Oak Barrel & Vine, in the Cabin John Village Shopping Center in Potomac. The store will have a grand opening from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 27.

The Cabin John Village Shopping Center is located at 7913 Tuckerman Lane in Potomac (between the Giant and Starbucks retail stores). The store will feature more than 2,000 handpicked items with a focus on spirits and locally produced products. It will have a dedicated tasting area and event space that will be used to drive business for Maryland Made distilleries, wineries, and breweries.

"This is our store of the future and the stores we open over the next few years will follow this model, not only in terms of aesthetics and selection but in terms of the innovative shopping experience offered," said ABS Director

Kathie Durbin.

For the grand opening, and in the days that follow, some rare and allocated items will be available for purchase. Each specific highly allocated item will be limited to one bottle per customer and no more than two highly allocated bottles can be purchased per customer, per day.

ABS is the alcohol wholesaler of beer, wine, and spirits for Montgomery County and operates 26 retail stores throughout the County. In addition, ABS manages alcohol licensing, enforcement and education for more than 1,000 businesses. Generating more than \$30 million in net income annually, its profits are used to pay down County debt with a portion deposited in the general fund to pay for resident services that would otherwise be funded by County tax dollars.

Beginning on Oct. 27, the store will be open from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from noon-5 p.m. on Sundays.

Help for Job Seekers

Montgomery County Public Libraries is offering free online workshops and one-on-one sessions geared toward assisting job seekers and entrepreneurs throughout November. All workshops are offered virtually.

An internet connection and a device (such as a smartphone, tablet or computer) are required for participation.

Throughout November

**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, Nov. 1: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5727060>

Monday, Nov. 8: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5727065>

Monday, Nov. 15: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5727127>

Monday, Nov. 22: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5727226>

Monday, Nov. 29: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5727277>

Wednesday, Nov. 10: 2-3 p.m. Job Searching Tips and Resources for Veterans

Learn about key MCPL resources for job-seeking veterans – including an introduction to newly launched Brainfuse-VetNow. VetNow is an online tool that assists

veterans with navigating the VA system, transitioning to civilian employment, and excelling in academics. The session will also feature the Maryland Department of Labor – and their services to assist veterans seeking employment. Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5717157>

Monday Nov. 15: 1-3 p.m. Job Search Strategies (in a Pandemic)

Learn about best practices for conducting a job search in the current (pandemic) job market. Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5727336>

Tuesday/Thursday Nov. 16 and 18: 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/5136279>

Tuesday, Nov. 16: 10-11:30 a.m. Introduction to Entrepreneurship

Are you just starting your entrepreneurial journey? This workshop will cover the fundamentals of building a business and help you determine if you're ready to become a small business owner. Presented in partnership with the Maryland Women's Business Cen-

SEE JOB SEEKERS, PAGE 7

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

County Council Appoints Carol Rubin to Planning Board

Montgomery County Council appointed Carol Rubin to the Montgomery County Planning Board. Councilmembers recognized Rubin's experience at the Montgomery County Planning Department, as well as her ability to navigate complicated negotiations and her analytical and legal skills.

"Ms. Rubin has dedicated over 20 years to public service in Montgomery County, including 16 years with Park and Planning," said Council President Tom Hucker. "We are thrilled that she will bring her passion for Montgomery County, in-depth knowledge and breadth of experience to the Planning Board."

"I am confident she will make an excellent addition to the Planning Board and continue their work to achieve our shared goals of abundant housing, green, efficient transportation, and a high-functioning economy that benefits all corners of the county," said Councilmember Hans Riemer, who serves as chair of the Council's Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee.

Rubin recently retired as a special project manager for the Montgomery County Planning Department. Prior to that, she served as acting deputy planning director with oversight responsibility for the Divisions of County wide Planning and Policy, Management Services, Information Technology and Innovation and Research and Strategic Projects.

Her career includes more than seven years as assistant county attorney in the Office of County Attorney and sixteen years at Montgomery County Park and Planning.

Previous roles for Rubin included her time as principal counsel of the Transactions Practice Team, representing both the Montgomery Parks and Prince George's Parks and Recreation Departments. More recently, as special project manager for the I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Study, she worked closely with technical staff to focus on the avoidance, minimization and mitigation of impacts to parkland throughout the project area. She also served as acting deputy director at Montgomery Planning in 2018 and as principal

counsel for the Montgomery County Planning Department and Montgomery County Planning Board in the Office of the General Counsel at the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission from 2005 to 2018.

Rubin will complete the remaining term of the former member of the Planning Board Natali Fani-Gonzalez, who resigned on Aug. 31, 2021.

Current Planning Boardmembers include Chair Casey Anderson (Democrat), Gerald Cichy (Republican), Tina Patterson (Unaffiliated), and Par-tapVerma (Democrat).

Members of the Planning Board serve four-year terms and are limited to two full terms. No more than three members of the Planning Board may be from the same political party, and each member must be a resident and registered voter of Montgomery County when appointed. The chair of the Planning Board is a full-time position, and Planning Board members are part-time positions.

Some of the Planning Board's responsibilities concerning planning include the development of the County's General Plan, master plans and functional plans, the formulation of subdivision regulations and the preparation of, or recommendations on, text amendments to the Montgomery County Zoning Code.

The Planning Board also implements the subdivision process by reviewing and approving all preliminary plans, site plans and other development plans, provides advice on the planning implications of capital facilities and programs. The Planning Board provides comments, under its mandatory referral authority, on plans for public facilities of local, state and federal agencies and approves the work program and the annual operating budget for the Planning Department and the Commission's bi-county offices.

The Planning Board also sits as the Park Commission. It approves the annual Parks Department operating budget and Capital Improvements Program (CIP), reviews and approves land acquisition contracts and major development contracts, and development plans for individual park facilities.

Help for Job Seekers

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ter (MWBC). Register: <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/5727617>

Wednesday, Nov. 17: 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/>

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

County Recreation is available on the website.

SUNDAY/NOV. 7

Waltz Dance. 3:30-6 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Join them for a Waltz Dance in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park on Sunday, November 7, 2021 featuring the ensemble Waltz Sisters. This versatile band will provide a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including

event/5193362

Wednesday, Nov. 17: 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/5727305>

Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. The 45-minute dance lesson begins at 2:45 p.m. with a half-hour introductory Waltz workshop and a more advanced move presented the last 15 minutes. Social dancing follows until 6 pm Admission is \$15, \$5 for full-time students with student ID. No partner required.

For more information, call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org.

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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"No, Thank You"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Really? I'm being polite to an artificially-intelligent computer now? Why, exactly? Do I risk cancelling my transaction if I'm not courteous and respectful when I sign off? This ludicrous thought crossed my eyes the other day when I was transacting some after-hours banking business through my bank's ATM. I put in my debit card, waited for the machine to click/read my details, and then proceeded to conduct my business. Though I was shown multiple/options/buttons to press to advise the computer what I needed to do, I was only making a deposit. "Yes," I was asked, the amount entered is correct. "Yes," I'm selecting my checking account. "Yes," I'd like a receipt with the check image. "Yes," I'd like a paper receipt, not one texted to my cell phone or emailed to the email address on file. Finally, after confirming all these details and completing my transaction, I was asked - via the computer screen, if I wanted another transaction. It's at this exact nearly-final moment at the ATM when I got the inspiration for this column.

If indeed I was finished with my ATM banking business, I needed to sign off (thereby freeing up the machine for the next person). However, signing off was not simply a "yes" or "no" answer. There was of course a box for me to press to end this process. The words in these boxes were my answer as provided by the computer. The box said: "No, Thank You." That's when it hit me. By pressing this box - and tacitly agreeing to its sentiment, I was being forced - indirectly, into being polite to an inanimate object, whether that object was being artificially intelligent or perhaps simply programmed to be insufferably presumptuous. Either way, I felt my humanity compromised as if I had just made the ultimate sacrifice: my independence. I wasn't a man anymore. I was a machine.

Do you mean to say that there's honor-among-thieves-type of courtesy between computer users and the computers themselves? Am I supposed to treat my fellow computer like my fellow man? Like it has feelings? And if I somehow fail to interact with my computer in the proper form/tone/inflexion/manner, could I suffer negative consequences for my oversight? What are we talking about here? The movies? The future? Real life? I just wanted to make a deposit through my bank's ATM. I didn't want to start a relationship and I certainly didn't expect to inadvertently incur the wrath of some computer network last night that might now target me as some kind of virus (I've had all my vaccinations, even my booster). In fact, I'm simply a depositor. I'm not a threat. And I definitely don't want to have to pass muster with a computer chip. Can I speak to someone real, PLEASE? Of course not. It's after hours. I guess I'll have to come back tomorrow. But as it turned out 'tomorrow' is a Saturday and the branch is no longer open on Saturdays. If I have any further business to conduct, it will have to be through the ATM. Great. Can you say vicious cycle?

But if I am to believe the computer programmers, the computers are incapable of being vicious. They're simply calculating, without being calculating. They're not being "Hal" from "2001: Space Odyssey." There's no ulterior motivation. They're not making my life miserable because they can. They're tools, like a doorknob, except they're excellent with numbers. They are simply following instructions/programs, very detailed ones for sure, but nothing more. I don't have to worry about them - aside from their computations, do I? And if I don't have to worry about them then why do I have to be nice to them, considerate to them as if they had feelings? I'm the one with feelings. You should be more concerned with being nice to me, not me being nice to computers. It used to be said that "Talk is cheap;" now it's computer code that's cheap. Obviously, in today's world, computers are essential, but never more than the customers. We may not always be right but our opinions always matter.

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

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