

Assisted by the Cabin John Volunteer Fire Department, Santa waves from the top of a firetruck during his annual rounds through local neighborhoods.

# Potomac ALMANAC

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PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

DECEMBER 24-30, 2014

ONLINE AT [POTOMACALMANAC.COM](http://POTOMACALMANAC.COM)

# BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## HOLIDAY SAFETY

**Free Cab Rides.** 10 p.m.-6 a.m. daily, through Thursday, Jan. 1. Washington-metropolitan area residents celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to \$ 30 fare), safe way home. Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 61,002 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area. Visit [www.soberride.com](http://www.soberride.com).

## AFFORDABLE CARE ACT DEADLINES

The 2014-2015 open enrollment season for the Affordable Care Act began Nov. 27. There are two deadlines residents should be aware of:

- Any resident not enrolled who is seeking a private health plan must complete the application process by Feb. 15, 2015.

Certified health navigators and assisters are available to help residents at county sites, including the one in our area, below, to browse available plans through the Maryland Health Connection:

Piccard Drive Health Center, 1335 Piccard Drive, Rockville.  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday: 9 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Residents also may self-enroll at the MHC site or call the state's

consolidated services center for enrollment assistance over the telephone: 1-855-642-8572 or 1-855-642-8573 (TTY). The call center is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Visit [www.marylandhealthconnection.gov](http://www.marylandhealthconnection.gov) for more.

## MONDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 29-31

**Winter Break Social Group.** 10 a.m. at JSSA, 200 Wood Hill Road, Rockville. This group is for children and teens with Autism Spectrum Disorders who currently receive Autism Waiver services. Within the context of a small, therapeutic group setting, this co-ed group helps participants with difficulty in social situations learn desirable social behaviors such as initiating friendships, making conversation, sharing, group cooperation, showing care and empathy, problem-solving, self-control, and handling teasing and strong emotions. Pre-registration is required to attend. Call 301-816-2633.

## FRIDAY-THURSDAY/JAN. 2-8

**Rockville Annual Coat Drive.** Rockville's Lincoln Park Community Center is partnering with Burlington Coat Factory and Shady Grove Adventist Hospital for an annual coat drive that will collect coats to be distributed countywide to families in need. Call 240-314-8780. Drop off coats of any size, in new or excellent condition at any of the following locations:

- Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.
- Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

- Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane
- Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive
- Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway

## TUESDAY/JAN. 6

**Hospice Workshop.** 6:30-8 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Learn how to balance sorrow and celebration while grieving. Call 301-921-4400 for more.

## MONDAY/JAN. 12

**St. Raphael School and Nursery School Double Open House.** Programs for 3-year-olds, 4-year-olds and 4-Plus (Pre-K), as well as extended-day offerings. Before-care and after-care offered. St. Raphael is K-8 and specializes in tailored academics through small-group instruction, integrated technology and differentiated learning. Visit [www.srnsm.org](http://www.srnsm.org) or [www.straphaelschoolmd.org](http://www.straphaelschoolmd.org) for more.

**Social Thinking Meets Academics.** 7:15-8:30 p.m. Har Shalom ECEC, 115 Falls Road, Potomac. Workshop on how social thinking directly impacts the student's academic performance, most notably related to reading comprehension and writing expression tasks. Register at [www.ccl-md.com](http://www.ccl-md.com).

## TUESDAY/JAN. 13

**Support Group.** 1:30-3 p.m. North Bethesda United Methodist Church 10100 Old Georgetown Road,

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PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN VASSALLO

## Ready for Christmas Pageant

St. Raphael nursery school students Evan Suk and Mariana Musalem model their shepherd and angel costumes for the Christmas pageant.

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Happy New Year  
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HO HO HO! Santa is here Saturday at 5258 and Sunday at 7405 10am-12pm  
Holiday Hours: Dec 20-23 9am-6pm Dec 24 9am-3pm Dec 25 Closed  
Dec 26-30 10am-5pm Dec 31 10am-3pm

Bethesda-Chevy Chase 5258 River Road Bethesda, MD 20816 301.656.3311	Beltway 7405 River Road Bethesda, MD 20817 301.469.7690
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## Sharing in the Joy

Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department members assisted Santa on his annual visit through local neighborhoods. Residents were asked to donate toys for delivery during the department's visit to the National Center for Children and Families.

PHOTO BY  
DEBORAH STEVENS  
THE ALMANAC

# B'Nai Tzedek Leads Ceremonies for Hanukkah

## Lighting the menorah at Potomac Place.

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

**O**n Tuesday, Dec. 16, the first night of Hanukkah, the lighting of the candle of a large menorah, singing, and the giving of gelt welcomed in the Jewish holiday. Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt, Cantor Marshall Kapell and members of the Congregation B'Nai Tzedek led the ceremony in the courtyard of the Potomac Place Shopping Center. Afterwards, the synagogue members again participated in a candlelighting ceremony outside Nordstrom's at Westfield's Montgomery Mall.

The Potomac Place ceremony featured many festive Hanukkah songs such as Hanukkah O' Hanukkah S'vivon Sov Sov, Chanukah Chag Yafe, and the Latin American Ocho Kandelikas, which means Eight Candles. Songsheets were distributed as the more than 50 members joined voices to sing the traditional songs. They were accompanied and led by Kapell who played the guitar.

"Usually many people from the community who are passing by on their way to shops or restaurants stop by and join in," said Amanda Katz, assistant executive director of Congregation B'nai Tzedek. "We are pleased to let the people of Potomac know that we are right here in Potomac, just off South Glen Road, and give them information on some of the activities that we are involved in."

Melissa Levine attended with her daughters Lexie and Sloane. "It's so important for kids to feel confident about being Jewish and comfortable displaying the Jewish religion in public. There were never public lightings when I was a child, and now they have the Menorah lighting tonight on the Mall and so many other lightings, both in Bethesda and at the Westfield Mall," said Levine.

Everyone at the ceremony was in celebratory spirit, particularly Weinblatt who was dressed as a dreidel. He said, "We are celebrating the first night of Hanukkah with the lighting of the first two candles of the Menorah. It is customary to light this taller additional light aside from the Chanukah lights. This extra light, referred to as the shamash, may be used to

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**Cantor Marshall Kapell with Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt of Congregation B'NaiTzedek at the Menorah candlelighting in Potomac Village.**



**Barry Perlis helps to light the Menorah. He was honored as Citizen of the Year at this year's Potomac Day.**

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



**Melissa Levine with daughters Lexie and Sloan at the Menorah candlelighting in Potomac Village.**

# Potomac's Arden Courts Celebrates 20 Years

**A facility for memory care.**

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

**A**rden Courts in Potomac, the first community built by Manor Care dedicated to those with Dementia and Alzheimer's, celebrated its 20th anniversary on Nov. 5. More than 200 healthcare professionals, government officials, resident families and local businesses in the community came out in support.

A representative for U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen presented Arden Courts of Potomac with a congressional citation, a representative for U.S. Sen. Barbara Mikulski presented a certificate of congratulations and a representative for U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin attended in honor of the anniversary. Board Members from the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce, David Kylo from the National Center for Assisted Living and County Councilmember Roger Berliner were among the guests celebrating the evening with a champagne toast, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Arden Courts of Potomac was built in 1994 to house 48 residents who live in four



**Chef Tony Mack welcomes visitors to the 20th anniversary celebration of Arden Courts in Potomac.**

smaller "houses," each with its own living room, dining room, kitchen, bath and laundry areas. Walking paths, visual cues and home-like amenities provide a sense of freedom and independence in a safe, secure environment. They offer specific programming throughout the day — art, music, exercise, social interactions and more make up a typical day at the Arden Courts. The residents are encouraged to continue doing what they know, to stay involved with activities and to live a healthy and safe lifestyle.

Manor Care now has 54 Arden Courts communities.

"I love taking care of people and seeing them happy," said Director Nancy Reburn who has been with Manor Care for 13 years. "We provide 10 hours of programming each day to the residents. Some of our activities that are really fun and interesting are to talk about the past, their jobs or trips they have taken. We do everything from cooking, exercise, word games, current events, jewelry making, intergenerational activities, social activities and themes for the week.

For example, our theme might be, 'Let's go to Paris.' We decorate the studio, talk about everything they will see, share stories and reminisce. We are truly a community and our residents enjoy spending time with us and with one another."

Andrea Marchesotti, manager, market development said, "Memory Care is All We Do' is the tag-line for Arden Courts. That's what makes us so special. We were designed by a team of neurologists who carefully researched and created a loving and nurturing environment for those with dementia and Alzheimer's. It is very calm here and the residents can move around freely in a loving and nurturing environment. We also offer support groups for the family and educational programs for the community. As our nation ages, there will be a greater need for understanding and education concerning dementia and Alzheimer's and we are providing that through our programs on 'How to choose an assisted living facility,' 'When is the right time to consider a facility?' and others."

Reburn added, "The celebration was fun and everyone had a grand time. It will be fun to celebrate the Silver Anniversary in just five years."

Arden Courts of Potomac is located at 10718 Potomac Tennis Lane. For more information, call 301-983-3620 or visit [www.ardencourts/potomac](http://www.ardencourts/potomac).

**DULLES ELECTRIC**  
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## ANNUAL TIFFANY SALE

Lowest prices of the year so hurry in for the best selection. Over 80 fixtures on display and perfect timing for the holidays!

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**Potomac Community Recreation Center**  
With Support From Montgomery County Recreation Youth Sports

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Sunday, January 4

**Boys & Girls Grades 2-6**

**SESSION ONE**  
1:00PM-2:30PM  
Grades 2 & 3 • Course #403123

**SESSION TWO**  
3:00PM-4:30PM  
Grades 4, 5, & 6 • Course #403124

Pre-Registration is FREE and limited to the first 60 students for each session. First come, first served basis.

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Montgomery County Recreation is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Please contact a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist at 240-777-9870 or [rec.mainstream@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:rec.mainstream@montgomerycountymd.gov) to request accommodations.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
**Recreation**  
POTOMAC  
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER  
11315 FALLS ROAD  
POTOMAC, MD 20854  
240-777-6960  
[montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/rec)

# BULLETIN BOARD

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Bethesda. Support group for anyone grieving the death of a loved one. A six-week group that meets each Tuesday from 1:30-3 p.m. Registration required at 301-921-4400.

**Public Hearing.** 1:30 p.m. Third Floor Hearing Room of the Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville. The Montgomery County Council will hold a public hearing on Expedited Bill 58-14 that would create a new non-merit position of Development Ombudsman in the Office of the County Executive. Those interested in testifying at the public hearing can start signing up on Thursday, Dec. 18, by calling 240-777-7803. The deadline to sign up is 5 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 12. Call 240-777-7910 to obtain copies of the bill or go to [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council).

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 14

**Winter Speaker Series.** 6-7:30 p.m. Planning Department Headquarters, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. "Trials and Errors of Corridor Cities Planning" focuses on the planning politics and development in the Rockville-Gaithersburg area; the challenges of a new town in Germantown; and the planning and development of Clarksburg. Visit [www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/onceandfuture](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/onceandfuture) for more.

**Community Meeting.** 7-9 p.m. at Rockwood Manor Special Park Brooke Hall, 11001 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks will host a community meeting on the recently completed feasibility study for Rockwood Manor Special Park. Parks staff will present facility rental policy changes and findings of noise, traffic and environmental studies. Visit [www.ParkProjects.org](http://www.ParkProjects.org) and click on Rockwood Manor Special Park under Public Meetings.

## MONDAY/JAN. 19

**Literary Contest Entries.** Montgomery County Office of Human Rights, 21 Maryland Ave., Rockville. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee will announce

Literary Contest and Visual Arts Show for Students. Call 240-777-8491 for more.

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 21

**Support Group.** 6:30-8 p.m. Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Workshop for parents grieving the death of a child of any age. A six-week group that meets each Wednesday from 6:30-8 p.m. Registration required at 301-921-4400.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 22

**Support Group.** 6:30-8 p.m. Hughes United Methodist Church, 10700 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring. Support group for anyone grieving the death of a loved one. Call 301-921-4400 for more.

**Parent Loss Support Group.** 6:30-8:00 p.m. Mt. Calvary Baptist Church 608 N. Horner's Lane Rockville. For adults who have experienced the death of one or both parents. A six-week group that meets each Thursday from 6:30-8 p.m. Registration required at 301-921-4400.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

**Entry Deadline.** Bethesda Magazine and Bethesda Urban Partnership are now accepting submissions for their annual essay and short story contest for adults and high school students. Entrants' essays, short stories and poetry can be on any topic. Visit [www.bethesda.org/bethesda/writing-contests#Essay](http://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/writing-contests#Essay) for contest rules, eligibility and the application form.

## SUNDAY-TUESDAY/JAN. 25-27

**Volunteer Training for Hospice and Transitions Programs.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Jewish Social Service Agency, 6123 Montrose Road, Rockville. 20-hour specialized training for the Hospice and Transitions programs for prospective volunteers to provide support to seriously and terminally ill individuals and their

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## GRAND OPENING!

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# Scaling the Mountain

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**Saturday, January 24, 2015**

Fairview Park Marriott  
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Falls Church, Virginia

*A continental breakfast will be served.*

**R.S.V.P.** by contacting Baird Corporate Events at 888-331-1907 or go to [thewiseinvestorgroup.com](http://thewiseinvestorgroup.com). If you are unable to join us in person, we encourage you to sign up for a recorded version of the seminar.

Admission is \$45 for clients, \$65 for non-clients. All proceeds to go to Hopecam, a nonprofit connecting hospitalized and homebound children undergoing treatment for cancer with loved ones and support networks.



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# OPINION

## Merry Christmas *A message of peace and joy.*

**M**erry Christmas. It's a magical time of year, and perhaps The Almanac has over indulged in displaying the many rituals of Christmas on our pages in the past few weeks. In events around the area, a sense of community has infused Christmas tree lightings, menorah lightings, choral performances, singing of carols and other traditional events with warmth and joy.

But Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you believe the Christmas story literally or in spirit, you know it is the story of joy, hope and love, the promise of redemption. So here, let us share the verse from the Bible, Luke 2: 4-19:

"So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.'

"When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.' So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to

them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart."

## Happy Hanukkah

Happy Hanukkah, which lasts for eight days and this year began Tuesday evening. While Hanukkah is not one of the most important Jewish religious observances, it is a celebration that gets added attention from timing. Hanukkah celebrates the miracle of a one day supply of oil for the temple lasting eight days.

### Editor's Note about the Rest of 2014

This is our last regular edition of 2014. Next week, after Christmas, we will publish the Children's Almanac, devoted entirely to the artwork and writing of local students. Our next regular editions will publish Jan. 7, 2015, with deadline for content and advertising of Jan. 2. In the meantime you can reach the editor at [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com) and sales/marketing at [sales@connectionnewspaper.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspaper.com).

— MARY KIMM

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### EDITORIAL

### BULLETIN BOARD

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families. Volunteers visit patients in their homes and in residential facilities, provide companionship and emotional support, practice assistance with errands and transportation, and offer respite for caregivers. Volunteers must be older than 18. Applications and interviews will be held. Contact Amy Kaufman Goott at 301-816-2650 or [agoott@jssa.org](mailto:agoott@jssa.org).

### WEDNESDAYS/FEB. 4-MARCH 25

**Deaf Adults Relationship Therapy Group.** 5 p.m.



PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

## Stopping By

**Santa Claus came to the Clara Barton Craft Show recently. When asked why he was so skinny, he said he had been exercising at the gym.**

at at JSSA, 200 Wood Hill Road, Rockville. This eight session group is for adults 25 and older to share joys and sorrows, hopes and fears, coping mechanisms, and strategies for improving relationships. \$75 per session. (May be insurance reimbursable) The group meets from February 4 – March 25 at 5:00 pm. Pre-registration is required to attend. Email [lkatz@jssa.org](mailto:lkatz@jssa.org).

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 11

**Winter Speaker Series.** 6-7:30 p.m. Planning Department Headquarters, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. "Creating and Sustaining the County's Agricultural Reserve" traces the 30-year effort to protect the rural landscape and the working farms of upper Montgomery County. Visit [www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/onceandfuture](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/onceandfuture) for more.

**How to De-Stress Your Family Workshop.** 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. Har Shalom ECEC, 115 Falls Road, Potomac. Join as Elizabeth DuPont Spencer, LCSW-C, co-author of the "Anxiety Cure for Kids - A Guide For Parents," therapist and presenter provides insight about stress and teaches how to make simple changes in thinking and life. [www.ccl-md.com](http://www.ccl-md.com)

### WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

**Winter Speaker Series.** 6-7:30 p.m. Planning Department Headquarters, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. "Hunting the Snark: Growth Policy and the Public Interest" evaluates the effects of the 40-year evolution of county growth policy on development patterns. This final session of the Winter Speaker Series will discuss the institutional structure of planning in Montgomery County for effective and democratically accountable land use policy. Visit [www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/onceandfuture](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/onceandfuture) for more.

### FRIDAY/MAY 1

**Walt Whitman High School 50th.** The Class of 1965 will gather again to begin a celebration of old and new. Casual event with something for everyone. Two days of activities planned, including a tour of the new campus, happy hour meet and greet, a hike and picnic, an afternoon "fireside" discussion remembering the 60s and a cocktail reception with dinner, live music and dancing. Advance reservations are required. Visit [www.waltwhitmanclassof1965.com](http://www.waltwhitmanclassof1965.com) or call 240-669-

4996.

### GUIDE DOG FOSTERS NEEDED

**Guiding Eyes for the Blind** – Montgomery Region is looking for volunteers to foster and train future guide dogs. Volunteers will foster a specially bred guide dog for 14 months, attend bi-monthly training classes, and teach the pup house manners, people skills and socialization within the community. Dog crates, training equipment and monthly medications are provided. Contact Margie Coccodrilli at 301-869-2216 or [gebraiser@comcast.net](mailto:gebraiser@comcast.net) or visit [www.guidingeyes-md.org](http://www.guidingeyes-md.org).

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Suicide Grief Support Group.** At JSSA, 6123 Montrose Road, Rockville. This ongoing bereavement support group is for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This group meets every first and third Monday. No charge. Pre-registration is required to attend. Call 301-816-2708.

**Because I Love You** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting parents of troubled children of any age. The group helps parents deal with drugs, runaways, truancy, verbal abuse, physical abuse, curfew violations and other misbehavior, as well as help parents deal with themselves, to manage and live their own lives without obsessing over their child's behavior. The group meets 7:30-9:30 every Thursday at Bethesda United Methodist Church Room 209, 8300 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. Visit [www.becauseiloveyou.org](http://www.becauseiloveyou.org), email [hbrite1@netzero.com](mailto:hbrite1@netzero.com) or call 301-530-3597.

**Adult Bereavement Groups.** Dates and times vary depending on group members. Hospice Care, 518 S. Fredrick Ave. Gaithersburg. Peer driven support groups in those in need of support. Free. Contact Penny Gladhill at 301-990-8904, or [Pennyg@hospicecaring.org](mailto:Pennyg@hospicecaring.org).

**Suicide Grief Support Group.** Meets every first and third Monday at JSSA, 6123 Montrose Road, Rockville. A bereavement support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. Call 302-816-2708 to register and for more.

**What's Next?.** Dates and time are not yet announced. JSSA, 200 Wood Hill Road, Rockville. A co-ed support group for young adults, 18+, with learning disabilities. It will address the emotional and social changes and challenges to occur as a natural sequence of growth, as well as increased freedom and responsibilities. Call 301-610-8382 to register.

## POTOMAC ALMANAC

[www.PotomacAlmanac.com](http://www.PotomacAlmanac.com)

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Email community entertainment events to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## ONGOING

**Winter Lights.** Through Dec. 31, this recurring event is a 3.5-mile drive through a holiday light show at Seneca Creek Park with more than 360 illuminated displays. It also has additional events including walks and runs under the lights and S'more lights. Proceeds from the Festival benefit local charities. Call 301-258-6350 or visit [www.gaithersburgmd.gov](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov) for more.

**Christmas Tree Sale.** Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, Station 10, 8001 River Road. Call 301-365-2255 or visit [www.cjpvfd.org](http://www.cjpvfd.org) for more.

## FOOD & DRINK

**Del Frisco's Grille North Bethesda,** 11800 Grand Park Ave., is keeping it classic for its inaugural holiday season. The Grille will be open with regular hours and menu on Christmas Eve, serving lunch from 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., and dinner from 4-10 p.m., including familiar dishes like chilled Virginia oysters, filet mignon, jumbo lump crabcakes and Nutella bread pudding for a merry Christmas Eve dinner. Call 301-881-0308.

**Potomac Village Farmers Market.** Thursdays, 2-6:30 p.m. at Potomac United Methodist Church, at Falls Road and Democracy Blvd. Visit [www.potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net](http://www.potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net)

for more.

**Bethesda Farm Women's Market.** Year-round, every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., at 7155 Wisconsin Ave. Visit [www.farmwomensmarket.com](http://www.farmwomensmarket.com) for more.

**Pike Central Farmers Market.** Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., near the Shriver Aquatic Center in the bus parking lot at the intersection of Old Georgetown Road and Executive Blvd. Visit [www.centralfarmmarkets.com](http://www.centralfarmmarkets.com) for more.

**Kensington Farmers Market.** Year-round on Saturdays, 8 a.m.-noon. at Kensington train station parking lot on Howard Avenue. Visit [tok.md.gov/events/farmers-market](http://tok.md.gov/events/farmers-market) for more.

**Winery and Market.** Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Rockland Farm Winery and Market, 14525 Montevideo Road, Poolesville. Offers fruit, veggies, pasture-raised meats, wine tasting and tours. Visit [www.rocklandfarmmmd.com](http://www.rocklandfarmmmd.com) or call 301-825-8075.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 21

**Cooking Series.** 2 p.m. Bethesda Jewish Congregation, 6601 Bradley Boulevard, Bethesda. Food historian and columnist Sheilah Kaufman will be addressing "A History of Jews and Chocolate." Tickets are \$12/member and \$15/non-member. [www.bethesdajewish.com/](http://www.bethesdajewish.com/) registration or 301-469-8636.

**Free Holiday Concert.** 3 p.m. Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center, 7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Encore Chorale will present a holiday choral concert with an international flair. Includes traditional favorites for Christmas

## SANTA & HIS ELVES

**Collecting Toys.** 6-9 p.m. Each night between Dec. 11-23, Santa will make his way with his merry bunch of firefighter elves, through the streets of the community to collect toys for the National Center for Children and Families in Bethesda, the USMC Toys for Tots program and the Children's National Medical Center. Contact Fire Chief Jimmy Seavey Sr. at 301-252-5315 or [MDFIRE0412@aol.com](mailto:MDFIRE0412@aol.com). For a complete schedule visit [www.cjpvfd.org/news/santa-will-be-making-his-rounds-soon/](http://www.cjpvfd.org/news/santa-will-be-making-his-rounds-soon/)

❖ **Saturday/Dec. 20** — Merry Go Round Farm, Beallmount, Lake Potomac, Stoney Creek Farm, Saddle Ridge

❖ **Sunday/Dec. 21** — Potomac Village, Camotop, Falconhurst, Bradley Farms, McAuley Park, Kentdale Estates, Bradley Blvd. Estates, Congressional Forest Estates

❖ **Monday/Dec. 22** — Bannockburn, Bannockburn Estates, Al Marah, Wilson Knolls (1st due only)

❖ **Tuesday/Dec. 23** — This will be a make-up day for inclement weather or missed area

❖ **Wednesday/Dec. 24** at noon — Santa Delivers Toys to children

and Hanukkah, as well as music that reflects holiday traditions around the world. Free.

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

**Chanukah Family Spectacular.** 5:30 p.m. at Bethesda Row on Bethesda Lane. Chanukah: Lights & Music event presented by the Chabad Center of Bethesda. The event features a giant Techno-Menorah flashing and pulsating to the music of Hassidic rapping sensation "Mor-To-Life." Family entertainment, music, food, and more. Event is free and open to the public. Visit [bethesdarow.com/events](http://bethesdarow.com/events) for more.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 28

**Gingerbread House Decorating.** 12-2:30 p.m. at VisArts Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. VisArts provides the juice and cider to keep the holiday mood going. For children

6 and up. Two people can share one house but all children must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets \$45. Visit [www.visartscenter.org](http://www.visartscenter.org) or call 301-315-8200.

## TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 30-31

**Winter Craft Days.** 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Winter themed crafts, lunch at Rockville Town Square restaurant, ice skating, and more. School is closed for the day, but VisArts is open. VisArts provides all of the materials. \$100. [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org)

## SUNDAY/JAN. 4

**Waltz Dance.** 2:45-6 p.m. Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Boulevard, Glen Echo. 2:45-3:30 p.m. introductory waltz workshop, 3:30-6 p.m. dance.

Admission \$10. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park 301-634-2222, or visit [www.waltztimedances.org](http://www.waltztimedances.org).

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 7

**Wireless Wednesdays.** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Need help with a new tablet, smartphone or e-reader? Bring wireless device to Wireless Wednesdays at Potomac Library and learn how to download digital content provided free by the library, including e-books, audiobooks, magazines and even music. Call Jeff Corber 240-777-0690.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 10

**Washington Conservatory 2014-15 Piano Plus! Concerts.** 8 p.m. Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Concert series features members of the Washington Conservatory faculty and guest artists. Free (pay-as-you-can, donations welcome). Visit [www.washingtonconservatory.org](http://www.washingtonconservatory.org) or call 301-320-2770 for more.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 25

**Submission Deadline.** My Little Town, a juried exhibition about Washington, D.C. Submit up to five jpeg images to [photoworks.gallery@gmail.com](mailto:photoworks.gallery@gmail.com), with My Little Town in the subject line. \$40 entry fee. Call 301-634-2274, email [GayleRothschild@gmail.com](mailto:GayleRothschild@gmail.com) or visit [www.glenechophotoworks.org](http://www.glenechophotoworks.org) for more.

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# LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

## The Luxury Home Community

Modern luxury homebuyers are looking for more than just a spacious floor plan and world class amenities inside the home—today's luxury is defined by the lifestyle and values, not just the home's construction and its rooms! Country clubs and golf communities are two choices that have remained enduringly popular for the luxury homeowner—but the 21st century has given homeowners a diverse range of choices in defining what means luxury to the individual buyer, their lifestyle, recreation and values. Contemporary living, forward-thinking options—here's just a sampling of the luxury lifestyle communities available for prospective home buyers to choose from:

- **Equestrian.** Steadily gaining popularity, equestrians and horse enthusiasts are delighting in the return of the gentleman's farm to the luxury home market. In this type of lifestyle community, elegance meets functionality in developments with riding trails and stables that carry on a noble tradition.
- **Vintage Luxury Homes.** These communities fuse modern convenience, technological upgrades to historic constructions, blending yesterday's charm with today's modern amenities to perfectly balance family values, unique architecture and sumptuous living.
- **Aviation.** Piloting communities are one of the newest types of luxury communities, with aviation enthusiasts enjoying access to private landing strips and hangars in the privacy and convenience of their own backyards.
- **Marinas.** For those to whom the sea calls, marina communities offer boat slips, docks and wharf access to navigable bodies of water, offering homeowners the ultimate in luxury—waterfront living and the convenience of a marina without surplus fees or excess travel time.
- **Private Reserve.** For the greenwise homeowner, nature lover or ecologically-minded home buyer, private reserve communities offer the experience of living on open-space acreages with an abundance of protected natural life, strict regulation of urban sprawl and the conveniences and amenities associated with upscale living—camping, if you will, luxury-style!

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## PEOPLE



## Horse-Filled Holidays

The Potomac Horse Center held its holiday party and show on Sunday Dec. 14. Participants decorated their horses and stalls and then had a drill.

**The Drill Team:**  
Kathy Legg on Whiley, Leslie Leventer on Winston, Julia Dorfman on Goose, Donna Downing on Nacho, Kerin Ablashi on Steel, and Rebecca Nielsen on Red.



Leslie Leventer and her horse Winston.



Jenna Farber and Chumley.

PHOTOS BY  
DEBORAH STEVENS  
THE ALMANAC



Josephine Samuelson, Natalie Manos and Ebony.

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# SPORTS

## Girls' Basketball Roundup

The Wootton girls' basketball team split its first four games of the season, including a 75-14 victory over Wheaton on Dec. 17.

Twelve different Patriots scored against Wheaton, led by Sheri Addison's 13 points.

Wootton faced Magruder and Northwest to close out December. The Patriots will return to action at 7 p.m. on Jan. 6 on the road against Quince Orchard.

Whitman improved to 5-0 with a 60-8 victory over Northwest on Dec. 17 in the Vikings' home opener.

Whitman closed 2014 with a game against Churchill. The Vikings will return to action at 7 p.m. on Jan. 6 on the road against Bethesda-Chevy Chase.

Churchill improved to 3-2 with a 57-40 win over Gaithersburg on Dec. 17.

The Bulldogs faced Whitman and Blair near the end of December. Churchill will return to action at 7 p.m. on Jan. 6 on the road against Walter Johnson.



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE

**Sheri Addison, right, and the Wootton girls' basketball team split their first four games this season.**

## Boys' Basketball Roundup

The Wootton boys' basketball team improved to 3-1 with a 51-48 victory over Wheaton on Dec. 17.

The Patriots faced Magruder on Dec. 19 and Northwest on Dec. 22, after The Almanac's deadline. Wootton will travel to face Quince Orchard at 7 p.m. on Jan. 6.

Whitman won back-to-back

games, improving to 3-2 with wins against Wootton (57-43) and Northwest (63-53).

The Vikings wrapped up 2014 with games against Churchill, Tuscarora and South Hagerstown. Whitman will host Bethesda-Chevy Chase at 7 p.m. on Jan. 6.

Churchill dropped its first five games of the season, including a 76-32 loss to Gaithersburg on Dec. 17.

The Bulldogs faced Whitman and Blair to end 2014. Churchill will host Walter Johnson at 7 p.m. on Jan. 6.

Md.), on Saturday, Dec. 6.

Fifty **Montgomery County Public Schools** educators achieved certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in 2014. This brings the number of Board-certified teachers in MCPS to 709. Montgomery County far surpasses all other districts in Maryland and ranks ninth among school districts in the nation in the number of new National Board Certified educators. MCPS is ranked eighth among the top 30 districts for the total number of National Board Certified educators.

National Board Certification, a voluntary program established by NBPTS, is achieved through a performance-based assessment that typically takes more than a year to complete. It is designed to measure what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do.

The process requires teachers to demonstrate how their activities, both inside and outside the classroom, strengthen student performance and contribute to student achievement. Educators earn National Board Certification after completing a series of assessments that include teaching portfolios, student work samples, videotapes, and rigorous analyses of their classroom teaching and student learning. Candidates also complete a series of written exercises that probe the depth of their subject-matter knowledge and their understanding of how to teach those subjects to their students.

Full-time, non-administrative MCPS educators receive an additional \$2,000 in their MCPS salary each year as long as they retain valid certification. The state also provides a stipend to certified teachers that meet certain qualifications, pending annual funding.

## SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts selected **Andrew Shebest** for its internship program in the Production Department. Shebest, son of Philip Shebest and Susan Cornell, is from Potomac and is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Music and Trumpet Performance at the University of Maryland College Park. As the production intern at the Kennedy Center, he assists the production staff by coordinating rehearsal rooms and running shows in Kennedy Center theaters. He also served as a production assistant and assistant stage manager.

**Maxwell Seigel**, a sophomore from Potomac, performed with the Westminster Symphony Orchestra at McDaniel College (Westminster,

## Salt River Lobster



Salt River Lobster has been serving the Montgomery County area for over thirty years, mainly in the Bethesda area. Last year, we joined the Potomac Farmers market at the intersection of Falls/Democracy on the parking lot of United Methodist Church. Although most of the vendors have left for the winter, we remain every Thursday from 2-6. (Check our website for holiday schedule.)

We offer a wide variety of quality seafood products including fish, live lobster, shellfish, smoked products and other related products.

Go to our website for more information • Check us out and consider us for your holiday needs.

[www.salt-river-lobster.com](http://www.salt-river-lobster.com)

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### For more information, please contact:

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**Cantor Marshall Kapell leads the group in Hanukkah songs.**

# Celebrating Hanukkah

FROM PAGE 3

light the Hanukkah lights and we all derive benefit from its light. We say thank you to God for the miracle of our ancestors and our heritage.”

Hanukkah, the eight-day festival of light, celebrates the triumph of light over darkness, of purity over adulteration, of spirituality over materiality. At the heart of the festival is the nightly menorah (candelabrum) lighting: a single flame on the first night, two on the second evening, and so on till the eighth night of Hanukkah, when all eight lights are kindled.

This is the second year that the ceremony at Westfield's Montgomery Mall, called "Hanukkah Night Lights," has taken place to welcome in Hanukkah. The event is co-sponsored by the PJ Library along with The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County, Congregation B'nai Tzedek, Jconnect, the Jewish Food Experience, the Jewish Social Service Agency, Magen David

Sephardic Synagogue and Temple Beth Ami.

PJ Library provides families raising Jewish children from 6 months to 8 years old with a free treasury of high-quality, expertly-selected and child-tested Jewish books and music each month. PJ Library in Greater Washington is a gift from The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, the United Jewish Endowment Fund, the Howard and Geraldine Polinger Family Foundation and the Perlin Family Foundation.

Sarah Rabin Spira, community outreach associate, said, "We send out free Jewish songs and books by email. This is a community-friendly program and there are absolutely no strings attached. We send to 4,400 families in our metropolitan area and nationwide to 120,000 families and growing. Sign up on-line at [www.Jconnect.org/pjlibrary](http://www.Jconnect.org/pjlibrary).

To learn more about Congregation B'nai Tzedek go to its website at [www.bnaitzedek.org](http://www.bnaitzedek.org) or call 301-299-0225. The synagogue is located at 10621 South Glen Road in Potomac.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

### ONGOING

**Montgomery County's Winter Guide for Recreation and Parks.** Montgomery County Recreation Administrative Offices, 4010 Randolph Road, Silver Spring. Registration for programs and classes is now open. The guide features hundreds of activities and programs that make it easy to enjoy a healthier and more active lifestyle, including sports, therapeutic recreation services and active adult senior programming. Print copies are available at recreation center, park facilities, aquatic and senior centers and public libraries. Residents who prefer receiving the guide by mail can pay an annual subscription fee of \$5 and receive a full year of five issues. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec).

**Catholic Bible Study.** Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, 9222 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac. The local chapter of "Walking With Purpose" invites women to personal study, small group discussion and speakers designed to link everyday challenges with biblical

teaching. Childcare available. Visit [walkingwithpurpose.com](http://walkingwithpurpose.com) or email [wwp.olom.details@gmail.com](mailto:wwp.olom.details@gmail.com) for more.

### Youth Basketball Registration.

Montgomery County Recreation is now accepting team and individual registrations for youth basketball leagues and programs for all skill levels. Call 240-777-6870 or visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec).

### Career Gateway Program.

Learn how to write a resume, polish networking, interviewing skills and use internet job search resources more effectively. Each session of the Career Gateway features 30 hours of small group classroom instruction over five days, comprehensive take home materials, practical exercises and a long-term mentors. Cost is \$75. Call 301-255-4215 or [egreenberg@AccessJCA.org](mailto:egreenberg@AccessJCA.org) for more.

**Victims of graffiti** should file a report with Montgomery County Police by calling 301-279-8000. Make sure to take a photo of the graffiti. Property owners are responsible for removing graffiti on their property. Visit [graffitifree.org/contact.html](http://graffitifree.org/contact.html).

Find information for home care, housing, transportation, or senior lifestyle issues by calling the **Senior HelpLine** at 301-255-4200. This free service, offered by the Jewish Council for the Aging, and open to everyone, provides expert referrals to more than 4,000 resources in the area.

## The New Normal



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Loosey goosey, I suppose. As much as one might prefer some predictability in their life (certainly a cancer patient would – I know I would), I may be entering a cycle of permanent unpredictability. Whereas my previous schedule was chemotherapy every three weeks, a CT Scan every three months, followed up by a face-to-face appointment/examination/assessment with my oncologist sometime during the next week (in effect, every three months as well), my most recent abnormal lab results may very well be upsetting my apple cart. However, rather than change my infusion schedule to every four weeks due to recurring high creatinine levels showing up in my current every-three-week, pre-chemotherapy lab work, my oncologist wants to keep me on the same track. His thinking is, since my most recent CT Scan showed "shrinkage," he wants to continue treating my cancer as aggressively as possible, since we're having some success – so long as my body tolerates the drug, that is. My worry is that, from what little I understand, these last two lab results are indications that my body (kidneys) may in fact no longer be tolerating the treatment and that my future treatment is subject to change, shall we say.

For the moment however, the change will not be in the drug I'm infusing but with the frequency. I will still be scheduled for my chemotherapy every three weeks, with my usual pre-chemotherapy lab work the Wednesday before the Friday. If my creatinine level is too high on that first test, we will delay the infusion by one week and I will return to the lab the following Wednesday and hope for an improved result. What this means to me is, I can't ever know, given the variability in my last two lab results, whether I can plan on chemotherapy every three weeks, every four weeks or some reasonable facsimile thereof. What little control I thought I had over my life: the predictability/regularity of my infusions, apparently is over. Now, so long as my creatinine goes down on the subsequent retests, I will live with the consequences – happily. Still, I have lost something very important in my life, something with which I have become quite accustomed these last few years: knowing who, what, when and where. Why this is happening, and whether or not a slope has become slippery all of a sudden ("all of a sudden" – after six years, nothing is all of a sudden) is the big question, a question/scenario that my oncologist will likely blame the cancer for causing (simple, isn't it?). Because, that's sort of what cancer does, he'll probably say.

Part of me understands that "If It Ain't Broke" there's no need to fix it; we just need to work in some flexibility. And if the flexibility keeps me alive, I'm all for it. Nevertheless, this change will affect my life, my future. I can never know – for sure, and anticipate accordingly – what my lab results will be (as I have been able to these last few years) and plan/schedule/arrange my non-cancer activities. I will once again become a victim of my own circumstances. I will never know until I'm told (e-mailed actually; I'll know by the results whether that next chemotherapy appointment will be put off) whether I'm busy two days hence or not. Moreover, I'll likely repeat the cycle the following week and beyond. Maybe the regularity of the irregularity will become my new routine? Maybe breaking up the every-three-week schedule – sometimes – will give me and my body some much needed/appreciated rest. I can only hope so. I don't want to think that it's not so. I've gotten used to my life. And though this is definitely a blip, I'm thankful to still be showing up on the radar.

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

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# Potomac REAL ESTATE

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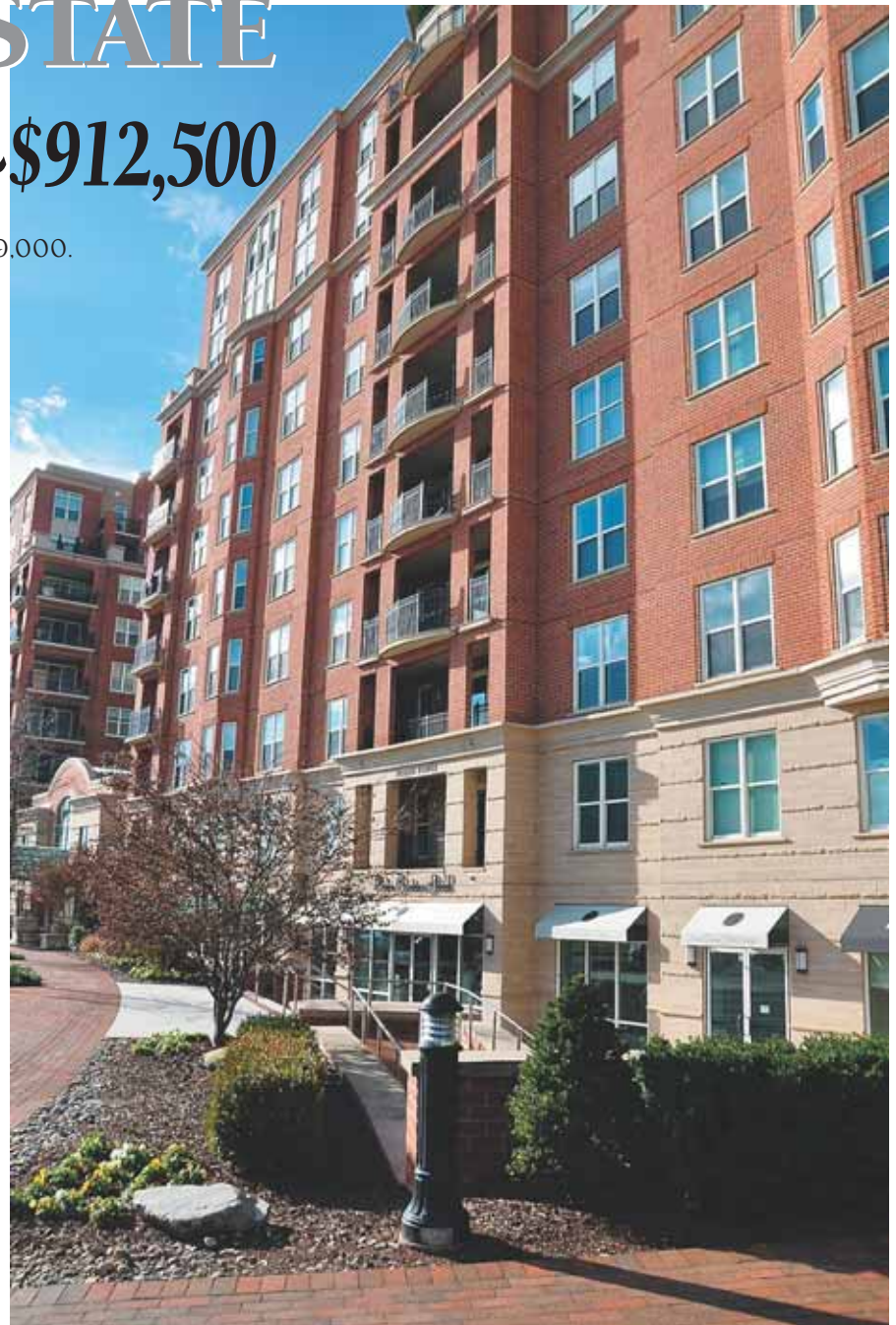
IN OCTOBER 2014, 37 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,500,000-\$309,000.



**2** 10605 Unity Lane — \$892,500



**3** 9621 Trailridge Terrace — \$813,500



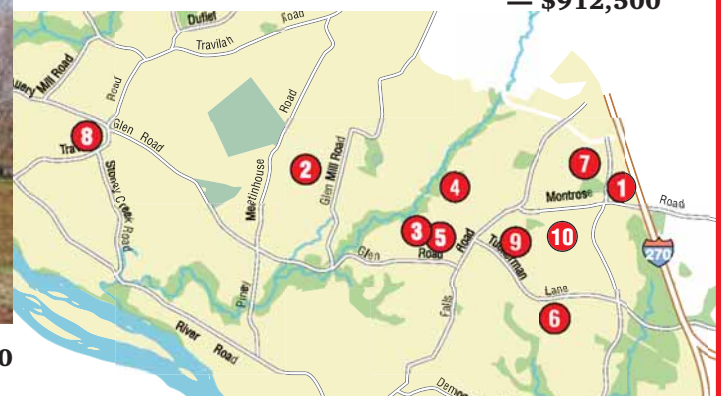
**1** 12500 Park Potomac Avenue #604N — \$912,500



**7** 7 Scotch Mist Court — \$751,000



**4** 9329 Copenhaver Drive — \$778,000



**9** 11801 Coldstream Drive — \$662,000

Address .....	BR	FB	HB	.....	Postal	City ..	Sold Price	.....	Type	.....	Lot AC..	PostalCode	.....	Subdivision	.....	Date Sold
<b>1</b> 12500 PARK POTOMAC AVE#604N	2	..	2	..	1	POTOMAC	\$912,500	.....	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	.....	2.11	20854	.....	PARK POTOMAC	.....	10/31/14
<b>2</b> 10605 UNITY LN	5	..	2	..	1	POTOMAC	\$892,500	.....	Detached	.....	2.11	20854	.....	POTOMAC OUTSIDE	.....	10/31/14
<b>3</b> 9621 TRAILRIDGE TER	4	..	2	..	1	POTOMAC	\$813,500	.....	Detached	.....	0.41	20854	.....	ROBERTS GLEN	.....	10/31/14
<b>4</b> 9329 COPENHAVER DR	5	..	3	..	0	POTOMAC	\$778,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.26	20854	.....	COPENHAVER	.....	10/17/14
<b>5</b> 11817 TRAILRIDGE DR	4	..	3	..	0	POTOMAC	\$765,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.41	20854	.....	ROBERTS GLEN	.....	10/09/14
<b>6</b> 11005 LAMPLIGHTER LN	5	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$761,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.21	20854	.....	FOX HILLS	.....	10/20/14
<b>7</b> 7 SCOTCH MIST CT	6	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$751,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.26	20854	.....	POTOMAC WOODS EAST	.....	10/08/14
<b>8</b> 12909 BRUSHWOOD TER	4	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC	\$675,000	.....	Detached	.....	2.64	20854	.....	TRAVILAH MEADOWS	.....	10/07/14
<b>9</b> 11801 COLDSTREAM DR	4	..	2	..	1	POTOMAC	\$662,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.19	20854	.....	HIGHLAND STONE	.....	10/10/14
<b>10</b> 11721 DEVILWOOD DR	5	..	3	..	0	POTOMAC	\$660,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.29	20854	.....	REGENCY ESTATES	.....	10/31/14

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