



Potomac  
Community  
Village

Oct. – Nov. 2016

*“your roadside assistance on the journey of life”*

240-221-1370

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

## Potomac Community Village News

### New and Prospective Member Get-Together, Oct. 26

Want to know more about PCV, meet new people and perhaps become more involved? Come to our New and Prospective Member Get-Together, on Wed., Oct 26, 3 -5 p.m., at a conveniently-located private Potomac home. RSVP by Monday, Oct. 24 to 240-221-1370. When you RSVP, we'll give you the address, directions and parking instructions. Lots of yummy refreshments promised!



### “The volunteer was so wonderful and nice.”

These are the words of one of our members, who asked for -- and received -- help with household organizing from one of PCV's outstanding volunteers. Her words echo what we hear all the time, describing PCV's volunteers as true blessings and wonderful neighbors. Another one of our volunteers had a “friendly visit” recently with one of our older members – she's in her late 90s - and her son is also a member. He's her sole caregiver and they live by themselves. Because our volunteer was there, engaged in conversation with his mother, the son was able to go outdoors and get some yard work done, worry free. He knew that if his mother needed any “hands-on” personal care, our volunteer would let him know. He spent more than an hour in the garden, enjoying the sunshine. But the best part happened when he returned indoors. “It was nice to hear laughter when I came back into the house, and not silence,” he said. Thank you to our volunteers who make stories like these possible.

But getting volunteer services is not why most of our members join, and then renew – we do it as an insurance policy, to make sure PCV will be there when we need it. But it turns out we also renew because of the new friends we've made – even though we still have many friends from before we joined - plus having access to other benefits such as computer help, the Neighbor-Suggested Contractor List and the fire safety home inspection program (details on other side). To learn more about membership, please call us at 240-221-1370 or see “Membership” on our website, [www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org](http://www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org).

### Holiday Friends – a new benefit for PCV members

PCV is launching our “Holiday Friends” program under which members invite a fellow member or two who might otherwise spend the day alone, for a Thanksgiving feast or a meal marking another holiday this season. Any members who would appreciate an invitation and potential hosts, please call Dita Smith at 301-983-9354. Thank you to our members who suggested we add this program to our list of member benefits.

**Next Meeting – Thursday, November 17, 7 – 9 p.m.**

**David Hoffman, Pulitzer Prize winning author, on his book,  
“The Billion Dollar Spy”**

**at the Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Potomac**

***All welcome. Free, but donations gladly accepted. Bring your friends and neighbors!***

**See other side for more about this fascinating author**

## Fire Safety Home Inspections Set for November 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup>

A joint effort between PCV and the County's fire department offers **free** fire safety home inspections **as a benefit for PCV members** on Wed., Nov. 2 (three appointments from 2 – 5 pm), on Thurs., Nov. 3 (six appointments from 8 am – 4 pm) and on Fri., Nov. 4 (same schedule as Nov. 3). Appointments will last 1.5 hours.

**The purpose of this benefit is to make it less likely for us to be injured or die in the event of a fire.** The inspection by the fireman will include an inspection of your home's smoke detectors and an evaluation of your home's safety, its exits, your emergency plans, and the proper placement of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. County firemen will also install new smoke detectors powered by ten year sealed batteries and carbon monoxide monitors which you have purchased and already have on hand, and will change batteries. (Retain store receipts, if you need to return any purchases.) One smoke detector, newer than ten years old, is required for each level of your home, including one for each bedroom area. If you plan to replace existing hard-wired detectors, you need to hire an electrician, as the fireman does not make such repairs. For more information, and to make an appointment, please contact PCV's Fire Safety Coordinator Elisabeth Schouten at 301-299-7923. If you leave a message, please include your name, address, phone number and email address.



*Our second member-only Walk on the Canal was held on October 15. It was a wonderfully cool morning which turned warmer as we walked. We walked about 5 miles round trip from the Great Falls Tavern to the bridge which crosses over the canal to Old Angler's Inn. A few of us went a bit further to mile marker 12. There were ten of us plus the sweetest little dog. Lots of good conversation along the way – and lots of exercise too. No additional walk has been scheduled – but if the weather holds out we'll try for one more in November.*

## A member-only trip to a musical show, on Sat., Nov. 12, 1 p.m.

Join us on **Sat. Nov. 12, at 1 p.m., at the Fitzgerald Theater in Rockville**, for a member-only trip to a musical version of the classic tale, Hansel and Gretel, featuring the Heart of Maryland Chorus along with the Greg Harrison Jazz Band. Tickets, regularly \$15, are \$10 for PCV members, with PCV paying the difference as a special member benefit. **Tickets MUST be ordered and paid for in advance, by Sunday, October 30.** Checks, payable to Potomac Community Village, are preferred, but credit cards will be accepted. For questions or to order tickets, please go to our website, [www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org](http://www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org), or call 240-221-1370. Current plans are for the group to go out for a post-show dessert.

## More about our November meeting speaker...

Author David Hoffman relates the fascinating and thrilling true account, set in Moscow during the Cold War, of Soviet radar expert Adolf Tolkachev who passed defense secrets to CIA agents which ended up saving the U.S. government around two billion dollars in research and weapons costs – the source of the book's title. Hoffman, a journalist with thirty years of experience, is a contributing editor for The Washington Post and a correspondent for several *Frontline* documentaries. He also wrote "The Dead Hand" about the end of the Cold War arms race. Hoffman won the Pulitzer Prize in 2010.

**Coming up with PCV... Book Group meets on Tuesday, Nov. 15, 1:30 – 3:30**, for members to talk about "*Born Survivors*" by Wendy Holden. For directions or questions, call Julia Medin (301-762-1290) or Linda Perlis (301-299-6181). Dates for the November **Morning Coffee and Conversation** and **Afternoon Tea and Talk** not yet known. See [www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org](http://www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org) for details. Our **December meeting, on Thursday, Dec. 15**, open to all, features a talk on Presidential memorabilia and offers our Winter Pot Luck Dinner. Plans are in place for a member-only **docent-led tour of the National Gallery's newly re-opened East Building** in January.

**THANK YOU!** PCV acknowledges the following for their support: the **Bolger Center** for providing PCV with free meeting space; **Carol Nerenberg**, of **Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty's** Bethesda office, for printing our newsletters each month. Carol can be reached at [carol@carolnerenberg.com](mailto:carol@carolnerenberg.com) or at 301-961-6000; **Hopkins & Porter**, a construction and handyman services firm at 301-812-3161 or [www.hopkinsandporter.com](http://www.hopkinsandporter.com), for their financial support.