



Why is this Donkey so excited?
It's our One Year Anniversary.
see Photo Quiz page 9.



It's always better to have a friend.
See Equestrian Page 17.



This ballerina might look familiar.
See Center Stage page 19.



Recognize This Location?
see LOCAL QUIZ page 21.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 11, 2005

Volume 2, Number 1

Methodist Church Parsonage Receives Last-Minute Reprieve

By Rande Davis

An agreement reached between the trustees of the Poolesville United Memorial Methodist Church and the Historic Medley District, Inc., a local preservationist society, has prevented the condemning of a church building known as the "Old Parsonage."

After standing in place for 102 years, the Old Parsonage was apparently coming to an end. After what had become an emotional and potentially divisive ordeal among church members over the fate of the building, it was apparent to the trustees of the church that a final decision had to be made so that the church community could move beyond this difficult issue. The Historic Medley District, Inc. (HMD) made a new proposal during the last seventy-two hours before a church vote that most likely would have ended in a decision to demolish the Old Parsonage. The turn of events dramatically returned hope for those wanting to keep the building.

While final leasing arrangements and agreements need to be formalized between the Trustees and the HMD,

the direction now appears to be one of mutual cooperation and a partnership to bring the issue to a congenial end.

Last used as an education center



The Old Parsonage

with a daycare center in the rear section, the house had lost much of its usefulness with the completion of the McDonald Center, a multipurpose facility completed in 1997. When the church closed the daycare center in 2004, the structure sat predominantly unused, becoming a financial drain on the annual budget of the church. The trustees of the church began studying their options concerning the building a few years ago. Last fall, the council

committee determined that the church was not in a financial position to take the steps necessary to renovate the building and remove all hazardous material concerns, and also address the other capital needs of the church campus. Since it was determined the Old Parsonage could no longer fulfill a useful role, the cost of maintenance and utilities would become a significant financial drain on the operating budget of the church. Adding to the problem for many church members was the fact that the house had become, in their opinion, an eyesore now caked in stucco and in need of repair.

However, the role of the house in church history, its streetscape location, and a lifelong personal identification with the building by church members turned the seemingly black and white financial decision into one fraught with emotions and delay.

As reports of the pending fate of the parsonage expanded to the community at large, the Historic Medley District, a non-profit preservation organization dedicated to saving and renovating historic

—Continued on Page 4.

Local Doctor Presents Book on the Today Show

By Rande Davis

Often, when we do not agree with others, we use the cliché that we "don't see eye-to-eye." Poolesville's Dr. Leonard Sax may just have a solid reason why that cliché is so valid, and



Poolesville's Dr. Leonard Sax

he might just throw in a new cliché about ear-to-ear, to boot.

Dr. Sax opened his practice in Poolesville in 1990 after completing his residency at Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He had completed his undergraduate studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1980, majoring in biology. He had then completed his medical studies in 1986 at the University of Pennsylvania where he entered a unique M.D.-PhD combined program of study.

This combination of being a family physician and PhD psycholo-

gist led him to recognize the importance of gender differences in how children learn. His concern that these differences are neglected or minimized in American public schools resulted in his new book, *Why Gender Matters: What Parents and Teachers Need To Know About the Emerging Science of Sex Differences*. This fascinating book caught the attention of the producers at the Today Show and they invited Dr. Sax for an interview with Al Roker.

Dr. Sax's book takes the reader back to the early 1980s when well-

—Continued on Page 13.

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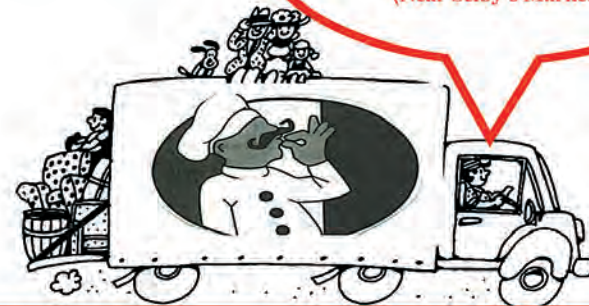
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Old Parsonage Continued—

buildings in the area, began to investigate the concerns of some church members about a pending decision to demolish the building.

The major roadblock to the church in trying to work out an arrangement to save the building centered on the estimated cost of total abatement of all lead and asbestos issues. The estimated cost for full abatement ranged up to nearly eighty thousand dollars before any restoration or renovation work was even to be considered. An original proposal by HMD to take on the maintenance without full abatement of hazardous material was not considered to be acceptable to the trustees.

On Wednesday, February 23, the Board of Directors of the Historic Medley met in an emergency session, reviewed the situation, and decided in a 9-1 vote to make a proposal that would meet the essential demands of the trustees. HMD's proposal was a lease agreement that would: "Immediately abate all hazardous materials to the highest professional standards, restore the building that would bring it to a pleasing and historic appearance, use the building only for activi-

ties appropriate to a structure on Church grounds, and assume all financial obligations for these arrangements."

With the final vote by the congregation pending on February 27, time was quickly running out for the Old Parsonage. While recognizing that final terms of a lease still needed to be worked out between HMD and the church, the trustees recommended to the congregation that the proposal be approved. At the same time, the church also voted that, in the event that a final agreement between HMD and the trustees is not forthcoming, the trustees would not need an additional congregational vote to demolish the structure.

The Historic Medley District, Inc., has for more than thirty-one years saved or renovated many historical buildings in the area. Readers who would like to get involved in this project can call 301-972-8588 for further information. (Editor's note: the writer of this article is currently First Vice President of the HMD.)

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Romans 12:5*

<p>Holy Week Schedule</p> <p>March 20: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion 4:00 - 4:45 pm (Saturday) - Confession 5:30 pm (Saturday) - Mass 8:00, 10:45 am - Mass</p> <p>March 21: Monday of Holy Week 8:30 am - Mass</p> <p>March 22: Tuesday of Holy Week 8:30 am - Mass</p> <p>March 23: Wednesday of Holy Week 6:40 am - Mass</p>	<p>March 24: Holy Thursday 8:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper/Until midnight - Adoration</p> <p>March 25: Good Friday 12 noon - Stations of the Cross 8:00 pm - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion</p> <p>March 26: Holy Saturday 11:00 am - Blessing of Food for the First Meal of Easter 4:00 - 4:45 pm - Confessions 8:00 pm - Easter Vigil</p> <p>March 27: Easter Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 10:45 am - Mass</p>
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Editorial

The Concerned Citizen

By Rande Davis

There are many ways people demonstrate concern and care for the community. Our local government officials, the multitude of coaches and teachers, and the the \leaders of our non-profit organizations are all examples of a community of caring people. Some serve in high-paced and publicly visible arenas. Others serve and are rewarded with the joy of working with youth. Then there are those who serve almost unnoticed void of public acclaim, plaques or trophies.

These individuals do have a title—they are called Concerned Citizens. Over the years they have formed something of a shadow government. They sit through town meetings to what can seem like an endless endeavor. Some have run for office—others prefer to help others get elected. Various individuals have kept this seat warm over the years. The seat may have held Jack Stringer or George Kephart, Sr. Today, at any given town meeting you could find Conrad Potemra, Bob Roit, Rudy Gole and others. One does not have to agree with them to recognize that their scrutiny plays an important watchdog role.

Rudy Gole has been going to town meetings nearly religiously since moving here in 1994. He has sat through countless town meetings that went beyond midnight, observing quietly until that moment when citizen comments are requested.

The Poolesville town meeting of February 21 demonstrated both the effectiveness of his public service and the responsiveness of the town government. As the meeting progressed the town manager's report updated the commissioners on the status of the exploration of new wells by a developer. The drilling company hired by the developer reported the need to put in a temporary gravel roadbed for access to the site, the cost of which was estimated to be \$5,000. This type of expenditure was customary for the town to accept in the past. It appeared that the town would accept this expenditure so that the drilling could proceed.

Then Rudy Gole came forward. He asked for a clarification regarding that expenditure. It was his opinion

that the cost of the drilling was clearly part of the developer's cost and since the road was necessary, he believed the developer not the town was responsible for the \$5,000 expenditure. He made his point, thanked the commissioners for their time, and returned to his seat.



Rudy Gole

The first commissioner to voice agreement was Jerry Klobukowski. Then Link Hoewing referred to the original arrangements and said he believed that notes from that meeting would probably confirm Mr. Gole's comments. Each commissioner soon agreed that Mr. Gole's perspective had merit, and Town Manager Wade Yost resolved to obtain the notes and charge this cost to the developer.

Mr. Gole is retired after a thirty year career with the Maryland Park and Planning Commission. The seats reserved for the public remain largely empty save for the large contingent of local media, the dedicated service of Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce President Tom Kettler, and the occasional visitor. Mr. Gole takes his seat in the front row against the far wall. He sits, listens, and waits for his moment to present his perspective. His initial involvement came in opposition to the annexation issue of the 1990s and his most ardent concern is growth beyond a population of 6,500. Along the way he is proud of some achievements. A public pathway at Campbell Park from Wooten to Hempstone and a hazmat recycling service at the beauty spot are examples of his influence at various times over the years. With the population of Poolesville at about 5000 we think we each owe Rudy a buck for the work he did the other night.

I found this entire episode to be a poignant example of good government and good citizenry. Isn't this the way it should be? No government or public official can always be right. Being wrong on occasion isn't evil or even a full measure of competence. It's just a part of life. Just as importantly, activist citizens at times can do more harm than good. For the way it turned it out the other night, Mr. Gole and the commissioners deserve our applause. Well done, gentlemen.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Poolesville, MD 20837
301 349-0070 • FAX 301 349-5646

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Attention: Parents of Kindergarten Age Children

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If You Were Not There in 1939

One of the most beloved movies of all time will make its return to the big screen. The original *Wizard of Oz* will be shown on the wide screen at the Weinberg Center for the Arts in Frederick on March 12 at 8:00 p.m. This is part of the Weinberg's special classic movie presentations.

Fans of the Junior Miss Program and Friends of Mary Beth Wroth Take Note

The Junior Miss Program for Maryland will be at the Weinberg Center on March 19, and Poolesville's Mary Beth Wroth has entered the contest. The program should be fun for the whole family and a great way to support Mary Beth. For more information, call 301-228-2828.

Home Products Show

On the weekend of March 19-20, the Frederick Home Builders Association is sponsoring the 30th annual Home Products Show. There will be many exhibits home products and services and the event is free of charge. (There is a \$2.00 parking fee) The show runs from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Homemade Maple Syrup and the Great Outdoors

Cunningham Falls State Park sponsors its annual Maple Syrup Festival on two weekends in March. On March 12 to 13 and March 19 to 20, come by the park as maple syrup is made fresh. The park offers films and presentations on this old craft. After sampling the syrup enjoy the hiking trails for fresh air and good exercise.

Monocacy Lions Friendship Night Re-Scheduled

Due to a snowstorm, the annual Lions Friendship Night for prospective new members has been re-scheduled for Monday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. The evening dinner meeting will present Club services and events, an overview of Lion activity at the District and national level, and installation of a new member. This will be a great opportunity to learn all about this club. Anyone interested in service to the community is welcome and should contact King Lion Rande Davis at 301-349-0070.

March 19 and March 20

The 41st Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, sponsored by the private, non-profit Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission \$4.00, Kids under 12, Scouts and youth groups with adequate leadership free. For further information contact Wendell Mohr, 301-926-7190, wmohr@errols.com, or Harvey Lindenbaum, 301-212-7832, harveylind@aol.com.




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In the Garden

Plant Personalities

By Maureen O'Connell

Gardening is not just an opportunity to get dirt under your fingernails and add a touch of color to your landscape. It is a chance to create something of your own. The only limitations are physical – how much space do you have and what are the conditions of the soil and water requirements. Do you take into consideration the plants' personality? Now I am sure that you are thinking, her she goes again – stayed out in the sun too long. Every plant certainly does have a unique personality. This is not a scientific system. I have found that the longer that I garden, my plants become like old friends that each spring you eagerly wait to see them again. Some are shy and retiring, others are flamboyant and voluptuous, and others are the “know it all types.” Yes, plants do have personalities.

I have an old garden book that, just for fun, classified plants as Cinderellas, Bread and Butter plants, Shooting Stars, Prickly Customers and Soft Touches, Sophisticates, Dainty and Detailed, Gate Crashers and Drama Queens. Last week, before it snowed, I walked around my gardens and tried to see where my plants would fall into these personality types.

Cinderella plants shoot to stardom in a matter of weeks, and they disappear into dormancy before the clock strikes twelve. This fleeting performance is typical of spring flowers. About this time of the year Max, Sam and I resume our serious daily garden walks to see which plants are the first to herald spring. Sometimes, if no one is out of bed yet, Max and Sam assist them on their journey by digging large deep holes throughout the garden. I threaten them that I shall leave them in the house the next time if they don't stop their excavation work. They know that I am only fooling; a walk is not a walk without Max and Sam.

The earliest and most exquisite Cinderella is the Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*). If there is snow this time of the year, and this year there is, snowdrops are up and blooming under the cover of snow,

waiting to greet us as soon as it melts. Runners-up right behind these lovely ladies are the cheery star like flowers of Glory-of-the-Snow (*Chionodoxa forbesii*) and, from the Buttermilk family, the pure white blooms of the Wind Flower (*Anemone blanda*, White Splendor).

Who could not love the Lily-Of-The-Valley? Besides the delicious fragrance of its bright white bells dangling from long stems, they faithfully appear every spring under the “not-yet-leaved-out Dogwood tree, where little else is happy.

The last Cinderella in my garden to fit the slipper is the wonderfully-sounding *Fritillaria*. There are several species in this genus, but I like the Crown Imperial. It grows to about three feet and sports brightly-colored two and one half inch pendent bells capped with a tuft of leaves. It loves full sun and a rich well-drained soil.

Bread and Butter plants are like old friends who are stalwart, good-natured and easy to please and always there for you. Like some horses, they are easy keepers. Unlike the fleeting Cinderellas, they provide the stage backdrop for the overall picture for months. Few need staking and they are not too demanding. They are the sensible and predictable ones. They don't mind if you go to the beach for two weeks; they'll be there happy to see you when you return. I am going to include Roses in this category, even though they are not too keen on being ignored for two weeks. They fit this category because they are the main characters at my Garden Party. They can be stately like “Queen Elizabeth” and “Abraham Lincoln,” frivolous as “Iceberg,” carefree as “Knock-out,” and voluptuous as the “Fairy.” Their companions that keep them happy and cool are Lavenders, Ladies Mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*), and Geranium “Johnson's Blue.” Running across the stage there are also the Rudbeckias, “David,” “Eva Cullum” and “Bright Eyes” of the Phlox family, “Razzmatazz” the Echinacea, my ever-faithful “Belles of the Border” Oriental Lilies, and the phenomenal work horses of the garden, the Daylilies. The stage is getting a little crowded now, but one can not forget the always thirsty Astilbes, the well-bred Delphiniums and the “Please stand up straight” Sedum “Autumn Joy.” Last but not least, there is the drought-tolerant

Yarrow (*Achillea*). Yellow is their most common color, but last year I found a strain that offers the most diverse colors I have ever seen, running from red and pink, through apricot, pale yellow, cream and pure white.

All of these plants are relatively easy maintenance, but they still need the proper growing conditions to exhibit their easy-going nature and their true personalities. They have a certain *joie de vivre* that demands they be essential guests at the Garden Party.

Next to appear onstage are the Shooting Stars. They provide a fleeting sparkle amongst the regulars in the garden bed. They don't stay on stage long, but what a show they provide. Their impact is unforgettable. Early in June my peonies put on their extravagant display. They have no natural enemies; give them sun and a neutral to slightly sweet soil and they are happy. Some of my plants are almost twenty years old. As an added bonus, after bloom is complete, you are left with a handsome mound of dark green foliage that will provide an anchor all summer for its neighbors.

Few flowers can compare with the grace and stately beauty of the Iris. For years I had a large stand of Siberian Iris. Unlike the Bearded Iris, their leaves and flowers would flutter in the soft breezes of spring. Unfortunately, as the Dogwood tree above them grew larger, it hid the sun from them. They did not take kindly to moving to a sunnier home, so gradually they disappeared. I have had better luck with Bearded Iris. The Dykes Medal is the Nobel Prize of the Iris world, given annually to just one iris. I have four of them: “Beverly Sills,” “Conjuration,” “Bride's Halo,” and “Edith Wolford.” They are all scattered amongst my David Austin roses and they all seem happy together.

In Flanders Fields the poppies grow between the crosses, row on row that mark our place; and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below.

“In Flanders Fields” 1915, by John McCrea (1872-1918), a Canadian doctor and poet who served and died in World War I.

Oriental Poppies (*Papaver Oriental*) bloom lavishly in May and June. They burst out of the ground with unequalled brilliance. My favorite is ‘Patty's Plum’. She sports five to six inch plum-purple flowers with dark blackberry colored centers. It is said that poppies can survive fifty to one hundred years in the soil. This was poignantly demonstrated during WW1 in the above excerpt from the poem “In Flanders Fields.” When soil was disturbed to bury the dead soldiers, poppies were the first flowers to appear. To this day the poppy is linked with the voices of those who have died in war and they continue to be heard each Remembrance day.

If plants can inspire poetry, it is often the “Shooting Stars” transience that can turn prose into poetry.

(I am getting a little lengthy now, so I shall try to move the rest of my personalities a little faster across the stage.) Some plants can be described as prickly customers, while others have a soft touch. They provide the touchy-feely aspect of plants.

The best two actors in this category are Echinops “Globe Thistle” and Eryngium “Sea Holly”. As their stems and leaves are spiny and rough, these are the best two armed plants around. The bright metallic and sapphire blue of their flowers demands your attention. The top prize for the most furry of plants goes to *Stachys byzantina* “lamb's ear.” I can still vividly remember visiting Jockey Hollow National Park in my hometown Morristown, New Jersey when I was about ten years old. This was where George Washington and his troops spent the winter before going to Valley Forge. I have long since forgotten most of the historical details of the area, but the one thing I do remember is the Lamb's Ear plants. They were soft and fuzzy. Strange how some small details remain in one's memory. Now, many years later, I have Lamb's Ear plants in front of many of my rose plants.

Some people are charismatic; they draw and hold your attention effortlessly. One can call them subtly sophisticated. In the plant world I can think of two in my garden that fit that description. The first one is Thomas Jefferson's favorite flower Columbine (*Aquilegia*). It appears strange that two birds as different as the eagle

—Continued on Page 14.



Drs. D. Timothy Pike and Margaret A. Valega with sons Alex, Ryan, and Conner.

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Things To Do

March 12

Full Screen Showing of *The Wizard of Oz* (1939)
 Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick.
 8:00 p.m. Call 301.228.2828

March 15

PHS PTSA Meeting
 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 16

St. Peter's Preschool Program
 Infants up to preschoolers.
 Music, Bible Stories & Crafts.
 Snacks, puzzles, faith-building fun
 1:00 p.m.

March 18

UMCVFD Basket Bingo
 Doors Open: 5:00 p.m.
 Games Start: 7:00 p.m.
 \$15/\$20 301-605-0548.

St. Mary's Crab/Seafood Feast
 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 301-972-7452

JPMS Annual Variety Show
 Middle School Talent on Display
 7:00 p.m.

March 19

Saturday Easter Egg Hunt
 Lilypons Water Gardens
 Buckeystown
 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 800-999-5459

March 19 and March 20

41st Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show
 Montgomery County Fairgrounds
 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

March 21

Poolesville Library
 Book Discussion Club
 "How the Irish Saved Western Civilization"
 7:30 p.m.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)
 Poolesville Presbyterian Church
 Infant Care Support
 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

March 24

Poolesville Library Storytime
 Ages 3-6



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Gaithersburg: Located in the Flower Hill subdivision, this charming home has been fully renovated with numerous upgrades & amenities. Main lvl LR, DR, table space kitchen, deck, MBR & MBA, full bath, laundry BA. Lower lvl fam. rm w/ FP, laundry rm, powder rm, 1-car attached garage. Amenities include: new w/w heating & a/c systems, new carpet, kitchen w/ new cabinets, Corian countertops, new appliances. MLS#MC5154404. Offered at \$415,000.00.

"Orchid Haven"

Barnesville: Nestled on 2.73 wooded acres, this rustic log cabin is updated with modern amenities. Enter through the front porch into the main lvl which consists of a living rm, dining rm, kitchen, California rm w/ woodstove, 2 BRs & full BA. The upper lvl has a Master BR and Master BA. The basement lvl houses a storage & utility area & an exit door to the outside. Amenities include: new w/w heating & a/c systems, exposed log walls, recessed lighting, professional quality greenhouse, attached garage. Conveniently located just one mile from Barnesville train station. MLS#MC5124946. Offered at \$449,000.00.

Poolesville - The Hoskinson House - This commercially-zoned property, located in the heart of the Town of Poolesville, is improved with a 2-story colonial w/Federal detail. The original section of the home was constructed circa 1826, making it one of oldest properties in Montgomery Co. Originally a primary residence, the property has in recent years housed a dental office on the main lvl & an apt. on the upper lvl. Most recently, it has been modified to house 2 separate apts, one on each lvl. The upper lvl can be accessed from the main lvl or through a separate exterior stairway. Each lvl contains a table space kitchen & full bath in addition to 3 large rms on each lvl. Amenities include: replacement windows throughout, new vinyl siding, 2-year old gas furnace. MLS # MC 4881960. Offered at \$550,000.00

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MARCH MADNESS HEADQUARTERS

Photo Essay Contest

In observance of our first anniversary we present a photo essay to show how much everyone loves *The Monocle*.

Can you recognize each location, or identify at least one person in each picture? The reader who can identify a person or location in the most pictures will win (dramatic pause) *A Free Dinner for Two*.

To win your *Free Dinner for Two*, just send us your entry listing the number of each picture and the location or a person in each picture. Send your entry to Monocacy Press LLC, P.O. Box 175, Poolesville, MD 20837, or e-mail your entry to editor@monocacymonocle.com, or fax your entry to 301-349-5646. All entries must be received by March 29 at Noon, Eastern Standard Time, so

that we can tally the entries, announce the winner in our April 8 issue and get on with our lives. In the event of ties we will have a drawing or flip a coin. Contributors to *The Monocle* and their families or anyone who is deemed to have some unfair advantage are ineligible. People that are actually in the pictures are eligible and may identify themselves as necessary. The decision of the judges is final.



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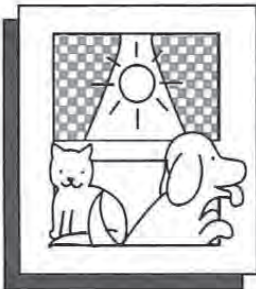
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Local History

The Last Hanging in Montgomery County

By Jack Toomey

Just south of Boyds, between Clopper Road and Old Baltimore Road, are the ruins of the old Julian Waters farm. In 1920, one of the most infamous crimes in the history of Montgomery County occurred on this property.

The Waters farm encompassed about a thousand acres, and, as was the custom, Dr. Waters employed many farm hands and other employees who lived in cabins or shacks spread out over the property. James Bolton lived in one of these cabins near Little Seneca Creek. He lived with Hattie Shipley, whose husband was in prison for murder, and her two children. Mrs. Shipley was pregnant with Bolton's child at the time.

Since an election was coming, Julian Waters was in the habit of going around encouraging people to vote. When he visited Bolton, an argument ensued. Later, Waters went

to the general store in Germantown and told the group gathered there about his conversation. One of the people present was Guy Vernon Thompson.

There was bad blood between Bolton and Thompson, and later, Thompson went to Bolton's cabin. A fight broke out; Bolton hit Thompson with a corn cutter, and Thompson shot Bolton in the shoulder. Since Montgomery County had no police department in those days, the sheriff came around and confiscated the shotgun, and the matter was supposedly forgotten.

When Thompson recovered from his wounds, he vowed revenge. On the night of November 18, 1920, Thompson walked through the woods to the general store in Germantown where he broke in and stole fifty pounds of dynamite. He walked back through the woods and placed the dynamite under Bolton's cabin. The explosion was so loud that it was said the president of the Poolesville bank was awakened and ran out into the street thinking that someone had dynamited his bank. Hattie Shipley's two children and Bolton were killed. Hattie managed to crawl through the woods to a friend's house from which help was summoned. Hattie recov-

ered from her injuries, but a few days later, she gave birth to a stillborn baby. She was quoted in the Washington Star, "I had just gotten up to look at the clock and it was 4:15 a.m., then I went back to bed and was just dozing off when there was a tremendous flash and explosion. I heard Mr. Bolton say 'My God, Hattie, do something for me or I will bleed to death.' Mr. Bolton implored me to go to the Dorseys' to get help. I couldn't find my children."

Suspicion immediately fell on Thompson, and he was arrested. His wife took the sheriff to a place in the



The remains of the cabin.

woods where the keys to the Germantown store were buried. Thompson had stolen the keys on an earlier date. A detective was called from Washington, D.C. and arrived by train. He managed to find Thompson's fingerprints inside Waters Store.

Thompson was placed in the jail in Rockville, but the sheriff soon received word of a lynching party that was being formed. He quickly moved the prisoner to the Baltimore jail.

Thompson's trial began on January 7, 1921. Since it was a sensational crime, crowds fought for space in the courtroom. The sheriff was sent out into the streets to find a jury pool of seventy-five men. The trial lasted two days, and Bolton was found guilty of three counts of murder. He was sentenced to death by hanging.

On April 15, 1921, Thompson was hanged in the yard of the old county jail. A crowd had gathered in hopes of witnessing the execution, but only nine citizens were allowed into the courtyard as required by law. The old county office building now stands on this site. Guy Vernon Thompson was the last person to be executed in Montgomery County. After 1921, the state took over the responsibility of executions. Thompson was buried in the Neelsville Presbyterian Church cemetery.

Today, deep in the woods of Seneca Creek Park, the old Waters farm, the ruins of the Bolton cabin, and the road where Hattie Shipley crawled for help can still be seen.

Dr. Sax Continued—

meaning and well-motivated researchers were promoting a concept that differences in the genders were primarily behavioral. Through the years, Dr. Sax's experience with troubled boys led him to question some of the conventional wisdom on this subject. Recently, Dr. Sax reports that scientists have discovered that differences between girls and boys are more profound, more "hardwired," than anybody guessed. In concluding that brains develop differently in girls and boys, the theory was supported by physical aspects in the retina that cause girls to see things differently than boys. He points to recent studies with newborn babies where a woman stands on one side of the crib and a mobile on the other. For boys, the mobile draws their attention, and for girls, it was the human face. These studies also point to girls drawing naturally in colors while boys prefer black, gray, silver, and blues. Put another way, boys are hardwired for verbs and girls for nouns. Additionally, it has been determined that girls' hearing sensitivity is seven times greater than boys'. This phenomenon

expands into adulthood as females' hearing sensitivity is as much as twenty-five times greater than for men. (Something tells me most wives can easily attest to this concept.)

Dr. Sax's observations in the book are too complex to adequately cover in one news article, but as research develops supporting his position even further, the importance of these theories in educating our young people go from significant to essential. It is his concepts on properly communicating to students by recognizing these gender differences that can result in profound impact and improvement in education for both boys and girls. While his educational strategies can be used in co-educational environments, single gender classrooms make the process much easier for the teacher and more effective for the student. Here is an example Dr. Sax uses to present his theories:

Consider the typical first- or second-grade classroom. Imagine Justin, six years old, sitting at the back of the class. The teacher (a woman) is speaking in a tone of voice which seems normal to her. Justin,

however, barely hears her. Instead, he's staring out the window or looking at a fly on the ceiling. The teacher recognizes that Justin isn't paying attention. Justin is demonstrating a deficit of attention. The teacher may reasonably wonder whether Justin perhaps has attention deficit disorder.

That's actually one avenue which led to my interest in this topic about ten years ago. I saw this parade of six- and seven-year-old boys being marched into my office with Mom clutching a note from the school which read: "Please evaluate Justin for ADD. Would he benefit from medication?"

After evaluating such a boy, I found in some cases that the problem was not so much with the boy, but with the school... specifically, with the school's failure to recognize the differences in auditory acuity of the boys and girls and the school's failure to recognize the differences in the developmental timetables of boys and girls.

Our local celebrity doctor has written numerous popular articles and scholarly publications on this topic.

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Plant Personalities continued— (aquila) and the dove (Columbus) should give their names to the same flower. Supposedly the petals resemble the outspread wings of either bird, and the spurs their arching head and neck. Their flowers are the plant world's most elegant. The second sophisticate *Tricyrtis* has the unflattering common name Toad Lily. It is so called because of their darkly spotted and splotched mysterious flowers. This plant will certainly stop you in your tracks when the first flowers open each autumn.

There are some plants that are so dainty and detailed that they demand that you get down on your hands and knees to appreciate their structure. Otherwise they are adrift in a sea of competition. Every spring I eagerly await the first signs of my *Arisaema triphyllum* "Jack-in-the-Pulpit." He is only twelve inches high and he lives

amongst the pushy hostas. You have to get up close to appreciate this strange hooded green with purplish red striped flower. Once it has attained its full height it looks quite statuesque. He does not last too long, since Buzz the Cat has taken a fancy to napping in the hosta bed with my Jack.

We all know personalities who are Gate Crashers. Well, the plant world is full of them. Invite them one year to your Garden Party, and they come back uninvited every year after. I have had my share of these perennials: *Tradescantia*, *Physostegia* and *Veronica*. I will never again sow the seeds of *Four O'Clocks*, *Cosmos* and *Cleome*.

After the first year that I planted them, they grew to over six feet tall and smothered all of their neighbors. I dug them up in the fall, hoping to see them never again. Come spring, they

were back again. Uninvited little pests!

For our Finale, please enter the Drama Queens. I have run out of fingers counting the human DQ's I know. Who are they in the plant world? We all know them. They cannot be ignored. Our eyes are drawn to them and they demand our undivided attention. That describes very well the *Dahlia*. He does not know how to be subtle. He creates such a cacophony of color that many gardeners grew these plants in outcast patches behind the vegetable garden. It is not that they are not beautiful; their problem, if you see it as that, is they demand stage front. They don't share well. Several years ago, I visited Chartwell, Winston Churchill's home. He took great pride in his gardens. I thought I had finished touring them, when I peeked through a wooden gate, thinking it

housed garden tools and mowers. I was surprised to see a huge plot of dahlias of all sizes and colors. This was the home's cutting garden. I then remembered from touring the house that all the flower arrangements consisted of dahlias. I must admit that I do not have such a garden, yet. I did plant ten little dahlias in the rose garden last year. They performed very well for a short time. Then the Japanese beetles arrived and the little drama queens left the stage.

How many personalities do you have in your garden? The more you have, the merrier the Garden Party.

Next issue: Grab your pruners – Work Ahead.

N.B. Correction – In the last issue I said that due to my reduced-in-size vegetable garden, the monks would have to go to the Safeway. The monks e-mailed me that they preferred to shop at Selby's.



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Equestrian Herd Life

By Debby Lynn

Ask any horse about his real life. He'll tell you it's all about his equine buddies. We like to think we are the central figure in our horse's lives. It's probably not us. Most likely, it's that cute little chestnut in the next stall.

Herd influences are a significant factor in the training or handling of your horse. His safety in natural surroundings is very dependent on his ability to stay with the herd and follow the lead stallion or mare's directives. These types of instincts, which are related to survival, are a compelling force in your horse's life. When his behavior is dictated by these forces rather than your wishes, both your safety and your enjoyment in riding are compromised.

Many of the behavior patterns we find least desirable are related to being herd or buddy sour. For example: your horse's tendency to hurry toward home when you go out on

trail, a difficulty riding one horse away from the barn when his buddy does not come along, or an inability to keep your horse from running if others in your riding group start to run. Even hot horses at the track may be nervous because they are missing the security of a stable herd environment.

However, herd instincts can work in your favor. Sometimes a hot horse will settle when integrated into a calm and gender segregated herd.)

An older buddy horse is useful when first backing a youngster. The young horse can be ponied, i.e., led by someone riding the older horse. Youngsters are usually happy to follow the older horse around, and as long as the older horse shows no sign of worry, the young horse remains calm. When a rider is added, they usually remain calm, continuing to follow the lead of the older horse.

Ponying is also very useful when acclimating your youngster to the various hazards encountered while riding out of doors. As long as the buddy horse is unflappable, you can

safely accustom your horse to road traffic, bicycles, stream crossings, cows, flapping plastic bags, barking dogs, etc.

What happens when it's time to go without the buddy horse? Hopefully, you have been making yourself a part of your horse's herd. This can be done by simply spending casual time with him. Try sitting under a tree in the pasture, a short distance from your grazing horse, while you read a book. Your presence is not threatening or demanding. You are just offering your horse the comfort of one more safety-in-numbers body.

In addition to becoming part of his herd, you need to establish your position as dominant. This can be done with a few minutes of structured activity each day, using one of the "natural horsemanship" methods. A good "natural horsemanship" method relies on the person copying natural herd behavior. The Parelli method is a good choice, particularly if you don't have a round pen.

Once your horse successfully transfers his dependence on the herd

to dependence on you, all you have to do is make sure you are as calm and unflappable as his old buddy horse. Sometimes problems with horses being spooky or fearful on trail have to do with the rider showing tension when approaching a potential hazard.

Herd bonds are an overwhelming influence on your horse's behavior. Although we can never expect our horses to cast aside their instincts, we can modify them to benefit us. If we work within the framework of their natural behavior, rather than trying to work against it, we are setting them up for success, and ourselves, too!

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Youth Sports

Youth Lacrosse Team Coming to Poolesville

The Poolesville Youth Lacrosse Association (PYLA) will be offering an introductory program to lacrosse for Poolesville area boys in the fourth through eighth grades. This will be an extension of a program already in place for seventh and eighth graders. The purpose of this program is to prepare players to play high school lacrosse. The Poolesville High School (PHS) lacrosse team is a recognized powerhouse but without a feeder program—PYLA is expected to become that feeder program.

The coaching staff is comprised of head coach, Mr. Colan Potemra and assistant coach, Dr. Malcolm Field. Mr. Potemra was in the first graduating class of lacrosse players from PHS in 1999. He went on to be a Division II, four-year scholarship player at Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina as a defensive midfielder. Mr. Potemra's primary goal is to teach lacrosse fundamentals to interested players. Fundamentals include field presence, sticks skills (short stick, long pole, and goalie stick), ground balls, and basic offense and defense. Individuals on the PHS lacrosse team will earn student service hours by assisting the coaching staff to teach the basics.

Practices will be held in Poolesville from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., two or three days a week. An optional practice may also be held on Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00. It is expected that middle school boys will play six to eight games against local and regional area teams, and that beginner clinics will be held for elementary school boys with opportunities to play in some scrimmages based on skills developed.

Lacrosse is a very physical game. Games are usually decided by the team and players in the best physical condition, and the coaching staff intends to do everything possible to



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ensure top physical conditioning. Lacrosse is a very competitive sport and everyone will be expected to give a maximum effort each and every play.

It is mandatory (this is emphasized) that all players be properly equipped to play lacrosse. This includes full helmet, pads, and mouth guards, in addition to sticks. Mr. Potemra has struck an agreement with Sports Extra in Bethesda to reduce this price by twenty percent, just mention Poolesville Lacrosse. For safety reason, no one (emphasis again) will be allowed to play or practice without proper equipment. Lacrosse equipment includes a helmet, gloves, shoulder pads, elbow pads, rib pads (optional), mouth guard, cup, and a

lacrosse stick. Much of the equipment can be used from year to year.

This year, the team is looking to reduce registration fees to sixty dollars which will cover insurance costs, assist with the purchase of lacrosse balls and goalie equipment, and pay referees and other miscellaneous expenses. Any parent able to generate fundraising dollars to reduce the overall costs of the program should get with Dr. Field at his or her earliest convenience.

As with any new program, there are always many questions. Parents are urged to call Dr. Field at (301) 349-5712 or Mr. Potemra at (301) 233-4730.

Youth Wrestling Round-Up

The Poolesville Athletic Association (PAA) youth wrestling team and the young Tuscarora Titans ended their seasons with much success.

The league tournament, where the ten teams in the Damascus Sports Association Wrestling League (DSAWL) competed for championships, took place on Sunday, February 20 at Damascus High School. The

competition was intense and the matches grueling, but the wrestlers walked away with many accomplishments. Of the forty-one PAA wrestlers who competed, twenty-five placed in the top four according to their weight classes. For Tuscarora, eight out of fifteen Titans placed in the top four.

These wrestlers then went on to compete in the Mid-Maryland Wrestling Tournament on Sunday, February 27 at Damascus High School. There were over three hundred wrestlers from four leagues, and the competition was ferocious. One third of the qualifying Titans and nearly half of the qualifying PAA Falcons placed in the top four.

For the DSAWL tournament, PAA had the following winners: first place went to Dmitri Agnew, Kirby Carmack Billy Coombs, Cody Dorsey, Avery Garber, Benjamin Mackie, Tyler Magaha, Cody Savage, Jeff Tallia, and Logan Wilson; second place included Joe Caw, Corey Florczyk, and Cory Savage; third place, Jeffrey Carpenter, Ryan Florczyk, Jack Seeger, and Robert Winning; and fourth place winners were Jake Armstrong, Hunter Hegmann, Alex Huelbig, Charles Lyles, Parker Mangold, Jack McAleer, Tommy Murgia, and Joe Seeger. The third place overall trophy went to Poolesville White, and the biggest trophy of all, the sportsmanship award, went to Poolesville Black. This is the fifth time in the eight-year-history of PAA wrestling that a Poolesville team has won the sportsmanship award. Also, Cody Savage won the Jim Hyrkas Award for the most pins in the least amount of time. Head coach of PAA wrestling, Steve Seeger says, "We had an outstanding season. Overall, it was an exceptional performance and a good base to form a team to go to the higher level." PAA wrestling plans on having a beltway team for the 2006 season.

Tuscarora finished its season five and one. The wrestlers who qualified for the Mid-Maryland Wrestling Tournament were: first place, Quinn Mehan and Tyler Peterson; second place winners were Wesley Wenzleff, Henry Mills, and Shane Davis; third place, Mark Guglielmini and James Grant; and fourth went to Sebastian

Anderson. Coach Mark Guglielmini was very pleased with the team as this was its first year. "I'm real happy with the way things turned out," he says. "We should be pretty decent next year." Considering that all but one of those qualifiers were first-year wrestlers, the Titans will be quite competitive.

The Mid-Maryland Wrestling Tournament was quite a difficult tournament, but both teams were happy with how their wrestlers competed. Corey Florczyk of PAA and Henry Mills of Tuscarora both took first place in their weight classes—quite a feat! Second place winners were Kirby Carmack, Ryan Florczyk, and Cody Savage, all of Poolesville. Third went to Falcons Avery Garber, Logan Wilson, and Titans, J.T. Martin and Quinn Mehan. Fourth place winners were Billy Coombs, Tyler Magaha, Joe Caw, Robert Winning, and Jake Johnson, Falcons all. Titan J.T. Martin and Falcon Jake Johnson were not qualifiers from the league tournament because they are in weight class zero. There were not enough zeros in the DSAWL to create a bracket, and they had to compete against wrestlers in weight class one. These two went directly to the Mid-Maryland Tournament.

Congratulation wrestlers, coaches, and parents.

Tributes

Dickerson Cheerleader at NFL Pro Bowl

Ali Steffannelli of Dickerson just returned from Honolulu, Hawaii



Ali Steffannelli

where she was chosen to participate in the All-American Cheer and Dance 2005 NFL Pro Bowl Scholarship and Performance Tour at a national cheerleading competition in 2004.

Ali is the daughter of Albert and Chrisy Steffannelli and is a freshman at St. John's at Prospect Hall in Frederick. She cheered during the game and during the half time entertainment program. Her appearance at the Pro Bowl was part of a \$70,000 scholarship competition.

Center Stage

Ballerina Bound

By Dominique Agnew

You may remember an earlier issue of the *Monocle* featuring Sarah Wroth, ballerina in the Boston Ballet. Evidently, dancing Wroths come in pairs—*un pas de deux*?

Mary Kate Wroth, a senior at Poolesville High School, began studying ballet at the Frederick School of Classical Ballet at the age of five after pirouetting through the halls during her older sister's dance classes. While the life of a dancer is definitely grueling at the professional level, getting to that point is just as tough, especially in a school of ballet like the one in Frederick where a number of dancers have gone on, well-prepared, to dance in professional companies throughout the United States.

Already, Mary has a tough schedule. She dances six days a week. Every day after school she dances from 3:30 until 6:45, and on Saturdays her classes are in the middle of the day. On top of that, she is taking three Advanced Placement courses in her school schedule, not leaving time for much else.

This hard work has begun to pay off with successful auditions. Every

year, the Frederick School of Ballet puts on a performance of the *Nutcracker* at the Weinberg Center for the Arts with principal roles danced by New York City Ballet dancers. Mary performed as the lead flower which is one of the two best parts that can be had by non-professional dancers.

In the summers of 2003 and 2004, Mary took part in the Miami City Ballet Summer Internship. It is among the best summer programs in the country, accepting only 175 dancers



Mary Kate Wroth

from around the world. Mary is also delighted that after an audition in January, she was accepted into the Indiana University Ballet Theater where her sister studied. Probably the best dance program for college, most graduates end up in ballet companies if they don't leave early when accepted into companies. Also,

Mary was one of the finalists for the Maryland Distinguished Scholar for Talent in the Arts.

Mary's parents are extremely supportive of both girls. As a matter of fact, Mary's mother, Dean, works in the office of the Frederick School of Ballet while Mary has her classes. Her father, Ted Wroth, finds it all amazing. He thinks it can be hard for a second child to follow in the success of a first child. "She's done very well," he says. "Both [girls] have worked very hard and earned it. Nothing was handed to them." He's always made it a point to ask Mary if she wants to continue. "It's her decision," he adds, but it's one with which he's happy. "It keeps them disciplined to be involved; their grades in school show it."

Much of this discipline probably rubbed off from Joyce Morrison, owner and head of the Frederick School of Ballet for nearly thirty years. Ms. Morrison's dancing pedigree is long and distinguished, and she has passed it to the many students who have danced through her classes. Mary says, "She is tough enough to prepare dancers, and her school is a good stepping stone for dancers" who want to pursue such a career.

While Mary's dedication to dance is unique, it was a surprise to meet Mary and look up into her face. Can ballerinas be tall? At 5'8" Mary is your taller-than-average dancer, but

it's not an obstacle. "It's a little more difficult," she explains, "with longer legs it's harder to do quick movements." Also, Mary is not dead-set in her plans to dance professionally. It's highly likely she will pursue this, but she also wants to open a restaurant. One plan is to do both. Most ballerinas don't dance professionally all their lives, so she may just do the restaurant thing after she dances. Either way, she stands on a firm foundation built on the rigors of studying dance—and excelling.

School News

John Poole Middle School Presents a Variety Show

On Friday, March 18, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., JPMS will present a variety show. The doors will open at 6:30 pm.

Admission is \$5 for Adults and \$3 for students.

Tickets will be pre-sold during lunch at the school on March 16, 17, and 18. There is a limited number of tickets available.

Any remaining tickets will be available at the door the night of the show.

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