

# The Monocacy

# MONOCLE

*Keeping an Eye on Local News*

*A Biweekly Newspaper*

April 29, 2016 • Volume XII, Number 3



*This biker is headed to Gettysburg—and he's not alone. See more in Family Album on page 2.*



*Sorry, folks, the Cutest Girls in the Cutest Matching Outfits Contest is over before it started. The full story is in Tidbits on page 6.*



*Old gas station sign brought back to life. Find out where in Business Briefs on page 8.*



*Falcon volleyballers: Hansheng Zhang, Eamon Chen, and Heartson Fan. See team story on page 12.*

## 650 Came to Lunch

By Rande Davis

On April 23, the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary hosted a lunch-stop for just over 650 bicyclists participating in World T.E.A.M. Sports' Face of America ride, traveling from the Pentagon on their way to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Since 2006, the Face of America bike ride has honored the men and women who were wounded or disabled while in service to our nation. Participants include many disabled veterans, along with currently-active military and retired military. Active duty service and emergency response men and women also joined the hundreds of able-bodied citizens who ride together.

It's one of the largest annual non-competitive bicycle rides in the Washington, D.C. region and is presented by Capital One Bank. Their classic route passes through Beallsville, traveling 110 miles before reaching the battlefields of Gettysburg. This year the organization added a new northern route that encompassed 120 miles from historic Valley Forge, Pennsylvania to Gettysburg. Both routes joined together in Gettysburg for the final few miles of the ride to the finish.

For more than twenty years, World T.E.A.M. (time, energy, achieve, money) has used athletics to challenge



*Thanks to the ladies of the UMCVFD Auxiliary and the Subway Corporation, these bikers left town well fed.*

disabled men, women, and children to accomplish goals they never thought possible. In all their events—whether mountain climbing, biking, whitewater rafting, or many other sports—they include both disabled and able-bodied participants.

As the travelers rested at the Beallsville fire department, they were fed a lunch prepared by the Subway Corporation which made more than 650 submarine sandwiches. The participants came from all over the world. Within five minutes of visiting with resting bikers, we talked to individuals

from Australia, Denmark, Nebraska, Boston, Long Island, and Bath, Maine. The Maine resident, Rory McCarthy, has literally traveled a bike ride 13,000 miles around the globe as part of a special team of T.E.A.M Sports' bicyclists, both able-bodied and disabled. There was wide diversity in gender and age among the participating. One woman, using a special adult tricycle for persons with disabilities, had both legs paralyzed. She, as with other persons with disabilities, had a long, broom-like

Continued on page 6.

## Nancy Irene Fost—Former Poolesville Town Clerk

Nancy Irene Fost, 76, most recently residing in St. Augustine, Florida, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on April 16. She was born in Akron, Ohio on February 2, 1940. She was preceded in death by her husband Edwin and granddaughter Toree Lee.

Nancy was Poolesville's Town Clerk for over thirty years and, along with Tom Dillingham, was the cofounder of the Poolesville Day festival. After her retirement as town clerk, Nancy owned and operated a very popular gift shop called Hand Made'ns, in the Stevens House, the brick historical home adjacent to the Old Town Hall Bank Museum and Exhibit Hall. She was the originator of the Cat's Meow, a series of wooden plaques depicting many historic Poolesville buildings. Nancy gave each customer at her shop a beautiful carnation as a way of saying thank you.

She is survived by her mother, Elizabeth Stevens; and children, Paulette Hagan (Tom) of Keedysville, Maryland, Terri Tyer (Philip) of St. Johns, Florida, Peggy Fost of Doylestown, Ohio, and Brad Fost of Lake Park, Georgia; and her sisters Pat Whitman of Doylestown, Ohio and Cindy Hall of St. Augustine, Florida. Nancy had twelve grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.



*Nancy Irene Fost*

Family Album

# World T.E.A.M. Sports's Face of America 2016



The view from the fire department's kitchen window only shows part of the crowd.



This is the over-650 bicyclists on their way to Frederick to stay overnight before continuing to Gettysburg.



Despite having special braces for both legs and seventy miles to go, this brave woman is all smiles.



Getting lined up to leave the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department, the bikers' hosts for lunch.



These bikers came from Nebraska, Denmark, and Boston.



Graham Murphy is a senior citizen from Australia.



Maine's Rory McCarthy has literally biked 13,000 miles around the world for World T.E.A.M. Sports's Face of America.

## Town Government Report

### Town Releases FY2017 Draft Budget By Link Hoewing

At their April 18 meeting, the commissioners of the Town of Poolesville released the draft of their FY2017 budget which they have been reviewing for some months. The commissioners also heard a presentation about the feasibility of installing an electric charging station on Whalen Commons for electric vehicles (EVs) and heard plans for the construction of an all-weather ice-skating rink in the town.

First to appear at the meeting were Brianna Roche and Lauren Lightcap, two Poolesville High School students, who discussed an analysis they had prepared regarding the feasibility of installing an electric charging station for EVs in the parking area of Whalen Commons.

The students noted first that Poolesville is a "charging station desert," meaning that no charging stations exist in the town or in areas nearby. They said that the total number of EVs in Maryland is expected to top 60,000 by 2020 compared to today's approximately 30,000 vehicles. The idea of installing an electric charging station builds on the town's "sustainable Maryland" program and would help promote economic activity as more people with EVs could be expected to visit the town if such a station existed.

Three types of electric charging stations are generally used throughout the U. S. L1 stations have a standard 120-volt connection and are often used in homes. L2 stations have 240-volt connections and can support most EVs. They are the most commonly used in public places and two types are deployed: A connected version in which the station is connected to the internet and allows both for information exchange and for charging by credit cards and other means for the use of the station, and a non-connected version which does not allow for payments to be made for the charging service. Finally, L3 stations, quick-charge stations, are also deployed but are largely aimed at those vehicles with the second port for the different plug configuration.

The students urged the commissioners to consider installing an L2 station in the parking lot immediately in front of town hall, in part because electric lines are already located nearby underground. They also pointed out that the state of Maryland currently has a rebate program in place that will expire in June of this year that could help the town offset some of the costs of the installation of a new station.

The four commissioners present (Commissioner Valaree Dickerson was not in attendance) were impressed with the presentation and seemed generally enthusiastic about the idea. Commissioners Brown and Halbrook both suggested that they leaned more to the idea of moving to the installation of a non-connected L2 station which would mean the service would essentially be offered free of charge. No decision was made regarding the idea, but the students and their sponsors were urged to keep working on the idea with the town.

Following the students, Gabriel Albornoz, the Director of Montgomery County's recreation department, made a presentation regarding the county's plans for building a public ice rink using an artificial surface. The proposal came out of the controversy surrounding the efforts of a local citizen, Marc Kohn, to build a rink in honor of his late daughter. The county originally threatened to fine Mr. Kohn but eventually worked with him and the town to come up with ways to build the rink while meeting county regulations.

Albornoz said that the county recognizes that ice hockey and ice skating are growing sports in the county and, as a result, the county executive asked his staff to find ways to work out any problems with the idea of an all-weather outdoor skating rink to be located in Poolesville. He said the county supports the construction of a 2500-square-foot rink in Poolesville and believes that it could be a model for the county. The county would shoulder the construction costs—estimated to be between \$70,000 and \$120,000—and would provide maintenance for the estimated life of the rink (ten to twenty years). As of now, the proposal would include building the rink at Dr. Dillingham Park.

The commissioners all praised the county for working constructively with them and Mr. Kohn on the project. Commissioner Brown observed that there remains a fair amount of work to do to bring the project to fruition, particularly agreeing to a Memorandum of Understanding setting out how the park will be built and responsibilities of all parties. Work on these items will be moving head in the next few weeks, and hope was expressed that construction could begin as early as July 1.

Continued on page 16.



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## Commentary

### Keeping it Friendly above All

By John Clayton

As a member of the Monocacy Lions, I realize that I should support any candidate that is also a member of Lions International—a fine and worthy organization, and the largest service organization in the world by far, and to the best of my knowledge, the entire galaxy—so when Donald Trump refers to his opponent as Lion Ted, I realize that perhaps I should be giving Sen. Ted Cruz more consideration, as he has found it important in his busy life to be a Lion. In fact, since referring to members of the club as Lion This or Lion That is generally a practice of fellow Lions, then Trump must also be a member. This is all very disconcerting. Oh, it's Lyin' Ted? Never mind.

Aside from that Emily Litella moment, and with apologies to the late Gilda Radner, I am vexed by the present state of the Republican race. They are in a bit of a pickle, and to review the bidding briefly, the delegate race is led by a total renegade that the mainstream party poohbahs abhor. The runner-up is probably the most hated man in the entire U.S. Senate, and the Democrats don't like him either. The only candidate who outpolls Hillary Clinton is in third place and the party leadership is trying to get him out of the race; furthermore, he still has fewer delegates than Marco Rubio, who dropped out before St. Patrick's Day, although Rubio is due respect for knowin' when to fold 'em.

This whole can of worms makes it hard to discuss the primaries with the other side. I can debate it with people of my general political affiliation (okay, it's not the GOP), and we can really yuck it up, but we're just experiencing joy at the misfortune of others (the Germans have a word for that; we do not) and thinking that stench of rotting refuse from the other side smells, well, like...victory.

However, this has made it almost impossible to debate events with Republicans, especially the ones you like, which for me is a pretty long list. For a variety of reasons in my life, I have been blessed with many friends and colleagues that happen to be Republicans. I also have Democratic and independent friends, some more

liberal than I, some not, but it seems that I have spent most of my adult life consorting with Republicans, and I cannot easily reconcile the stupefying events in the GOP this year with the people I know. Well, maybe a few of them, but not a statistically-significant number of them. The whole mess just hangs over any conversation. The time is long gone when one could just make light of the whole thing, "Trump? Trump? Cruz? Are you kidding me?" That was better when we all knew Trump would self-destruct, but Tom Sawyer wasn't declared dead anywhere near the number of times the Trump candidacy has been erroneously eulogized. If this was initially a joke on the GOP, it has steadily and inexorably become a joke on us all.

There are indeed any number of issues pushed by various Republicans around the country with varying degrees of fervor that I do not countenance. Some I differ with moderately, some I am outraged; it's not all kumbaya by any stretch of the imagination. This is not unusual, and such feelings flow from the other side just as vigorously; I have no monopoly on virtue or wisdom. I would not presume to list these issues without making the effort to define my objections, so I will leave it at that, and hopefully avoid taking any snarky drive-by potshots. I've got my list, others have their lists, and most of us vote instead of taking to the streets. That's not a small thing in this big round world.

My quandary remains: Friendly discourse is askew because everyone knows that one side has—there's no way around it—this trump card that can be played at any time. "Look at who you're going to have to nominate!" I have also found that the really frustrating part of this for Republicans is they can't believe that the election could be handed over to Hillary Clinton on a silver platter, a candidate they know they should be able to defeat if they were putting anything close to their best foot forward. We roll our eyes together over this kettle of fish and move on. How about those Nats and Caps?

Don't get me wrong: I have no problem with the candidate that wins being the one closest to how I think, none at all, but a lot of the fun from the back and forth has gone missing. I also don't think anything is in the bag either. It's way too early to count chickens, especially in such an inexplicable year.

## Rande(m) Thoughts

### The One Person You Want to Ask Most

By Rande Davis

My thoughts these days have been laden heavily with our local history. The reason has to do with my chairing a very special festival on May 7: Poolesville in History Day. Many people may find history boring, but who among us is not intrigued by the thought of being able to travel back in time. As a kid, the 1960 movie entitled *The Time Machine* with Rod Taylor and Yvette Mimieux (she was as beautiful as her name) intrigued me more than most any other movie of my youth. Then again, the competition was not stiff as I was also big on *The Blob*, *The Incredible Shrinking Man*, and for anyone of any age in the late fifties and early sixties, *The Guns of Navarone*. Strangely, only the first two had remakes done. At least one out of three is still a good batting average.

In one college entry interview, I was asked a question that was intended to give insight into the applicant's maturity: "Name three people you most wish to meet from the past." I got a raised eyebrow with the name of Daniel Webster. At least I gave a name he had never heard given before. With Webster's ardent op-

position to Andrew Jackson, and with a bit more political acumen, we might even be talking about replacing his face on the twenty-dollar bill today. Yeah, I still would like to have a chat with him.

Getting back to my time travel vision thing, though, how interesting it might be to step back onto the Indian trail we partly call Fisher Avenue to ask a few questions firsthand of a Native American on his way to the river. A few generations later, we had a significant number of slaves living here. How many questions would you like to ask any one of them? With the thousands of Union troops garrisoned here, I would find it very interesting to ask them what they thought about residing in Poolesville for a short time. Our town was pro-South with many young men enlisting to fight for the South. Man, do I have a bunch of questions for each of them.

My point of all this is: On May 7, the historical interpreters and exhibitors (more than fourteen) can answer most any questions just as if they actually lived in those days themselves. If you are in town, stop by, as it will only take about an hour of your time, and if it takes more than that, you just may have too many questions to ask.

History can be a whispered message lost in the night, or it can be like a whisper in the ear from generation to generation. This is your time to hear the whisper of the past.

## The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

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## Things To Do

### Planning Ahead

The Poolesville Area Senior Center is planning a family night at a Frederick Keys baseball game; it's a wonderful time to join friends for a night out at the ballpark. Deadline to sign up is May 5. The \$35 cost covers a light meal on a bus, fireworks, and a great night watching America's pastime. Contact Renata at 301-875-7701 or pvilleseiors@comcast.net.

### April 30

#### Annual Sugarloaf

#### Citizens' Association Meeting

Election of officers, Piedmont Environmental awards, guest speaker Casey Anderson of the Montgomery County Planning Board, and a legislative update by Del. David Fraser-Hidalgo. *Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson.* 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

#### The Big Flea!

Poolesville's annual flea market in Whalen Commons. Community-wide yard sale and flea market with vendors with items for all ages. New this year: Electronics recycling onsite as well as a shredder truck sponsored by MainSpring, Inc. Food available. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### PHS Varsity Home Games

**Lacrosse:** Quince Orchard. Girls at 10:00 a.m.; boys at noon.

**Softball:** Quince Orchard. 1:30 p.m.

**Baseball:** Quince Orchard. 2:30 p.m.

#### Montgomery County GreenFest

Inspirational speakers, films, electric vehicles, music, activities for all ages. Featured guest: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. *Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue.* 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### May 2

#### PHS Varsity Home Game

**Boys' tennis.** Clarksburg. 3:45 p.m.

### May 3

#### Poolesville Library Teen Book Club

Discussion of Sarah Maas's *Throne of Glass.* 3:00 p.m.

### May 4

#### May the Fourth Be with You

Activities planned around a Star Wars theme for tweens. *Poolesville Library.* 4:00 p.m.

#### Community Dinner

Meatloaf and great side dishes. *St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville.* Free. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### May 6

#### UMCVFD Auxiliary Bingo

Featuring gift cards and cash. 20 games, specials, door prizes, and raffles.; *19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville.*

### May 7

#### 26th Annual Richard S. McKernon Fishing Tournament

Stevens Park at *17304 Stevens Park Road, Poolesville.* Cost \$1.00. Prizes by age group. Registration: 8:30 a.m. Fishing from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

#### Poolesville Relay for Life Bake and Plant Sale

Perfect for Mother's Day celebrations! All proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society. *Located at Cugini's* from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### Poolesville in History Day

Explore ancestral history from the time of Native Americans through the Civil War. Inflating of Civil War replica of an Observation Balloon (8:00 a.m.), U.S.S. Constellation's The Ship's Company, experts from Balls Bluff National Battlefield, music by renowned Doug Jimerson and his Civil War Comrades, Civil War menu with historically-attired wait staff offered at Bassett's, self-guided walking tour of historical buildings, over fourteen historical exhibitors and displays. 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### May 9

#### PHS Varsity Home Games

**Baseball.** Churchill. 5:15 pm.

**Softball.** Churchill. 5:15 p.m.

### May 13 and 14

#### JPMS Phantom

#### Players Present Fame, Jr.

Set during the last years of New York City's celebrated High School for the Performing Arts on 46th Street (1980-1984), *Fame, Jr.* is the bittersweet but ultimately inspiring story of a diverse group of students as they commit to four years of grueling artistic and academic work. With candor, humor, and insight, the show explores the issues that confront many young people today. \$8.00. Both performances at 7:00 p.m.

### May 15

#### PASC Special Event: Spring Concert

Second in a series. Save the date. *Am Kolel Retreat Center.*

Have an event you'd like to list here?

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- Jesus (Matt. 11:28)

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Sunday: 8 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Sacrament of Reconciliation:  
Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Helping Hands of Poolesville needs your help April 30  
Contact Craig Cummins for details  
cummins@avonel.com

May 7th @ 9am, The Catechist Group topic will be "Is there a war between Science and Catholicism" for details please see the bulletin.

May 7th @ 5pm - 9pm St. Mary's Annual Spring Festival to benefit Haiti - Including Dinner, Silent Auction, Raffles and Live Entertainment, call (301) 972-8660 for tickets

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." - John 14:27

## Tidbits

### Poolesville Library Celebrates 25th Anniversary

The Poolesville Library just celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. We have come a long way from the days of old, which had the library in the Poolesville High School with limited services to a time, long ago, when a bookmobile served the area.

Congratulations to the hardworking staff and highly-resourceful volunteers.



Maggie Morningstar receives an award of recognition from the Upcounty Regional Service Center director Catherine Matthews (left), Public Library Director Parker Hamilton, Maggie Nightingale, and Town Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski.

### Thespian Excellence in Poolesville

Kudos to theater director Nathaniel Gordon on the Midnight Players' recent performance of the musical comedy, *Bye Bye Birdie*. With a cast of over sixty, a stage and set crew of more than thirty, and an orchestra of eighteen, there are few events that encompass more student involvement and none with more gusto and enthusiasm. We were only able to catch the Saturday matinee, so some of the performances of lead characters did not get our review, but those we caught performing were remarkable, and it was thrilling to watch such an array of talent.

In the performance we saw the lead roles of Agent Albert Peterson played by Bryce Taylor, Conrad Birdie by Oliver Locke, and Kim MacAfee by Emma Carpenter brought alive with talent greater than their years in this musical about Elvis Presley entering the U.S. Army. We must give special applause to Ellie Creedon who played the part of Rosie Alvarez. She has a most remarkable singing voice and range coupled with crisp and precise dancing skills.

### Kids Doing Good, All on Their Own

On Sunday, April 17, Kara and Jace Beyer, Catherine Loftus, and Melissa Ohmen, all students at Poolesville Elementary, decided on their own to turn a play date into an effort to raise money for St. Jude. They raided their household supply of bottled water and set up a water stand on a street corner in Tama I. They spent several hours offering free water to passing neighbors, and welcoming donations to St. Jude. (This was one hundred percent kid organized



Jace and Kara Beyer, Catherine Loftus, and Melissa Ohmen raising funds to benefit St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

and operated.) They raised \$65. This amount, plus money from their previous curbside sale, allowed them to send a \$100 online donation to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

The kids were excited by what they were able to accomplish in their own neighborhood. They're hoping to repeat this kind of fundraising through the summer.

### It Is official

Poolesville Day is slated for Saturday, September 17, 2016. The festivities will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a parade and will conclude at 4:00 p.m. The day will be filled with FREE activities for all ages. There will be multiple stages filled with live music and entertainment. The festival location will be along Fisher Avenue from Whalen Commons to historic downtown Poolesville. Go to the Poolesville Day website ([www.poolesvilleday.com](http://www.poolesvilleday.com)) for more information on how you can be a part of the festivities.

### A New Addition

Tessa Agnew is pleased to announce the birth of her new sister, Mika. The sisters' father, Eric Agnew (PHS Class of 2005), and their mother, Lindsay Agnew, have made them a loving home in Orlando, Florida.

Continued from page 1.

### 650 Came to Lunch

stick rising from the rear of her bike. This very simple device allows other standard bikers to assist in going up hills by coming up from behind her bike, grabbing the stick handle, and pushing the bike forward while peddling along.

With escort vehicles leading the way, and a comprehensive team

of motorcyclists who serve as road guards at intersections, the immense entourage of travelers was followed by trucks carrying overnight baggage, wheelchairs, while another served as a traveling bike repair shop. As the visitors left just after 1:30 p.m. on their way to Frederick, Maryland where they were to stay overnight before heading to Gettysburg on April 24, the fire department personnel waved them on with enthusiastic support.

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## Tidbits Of the Past

**April 1910** The lawsuit of James Armour of Cecil County, against Zachariah M. Waters, Montgomery County, resulted in a verdict in favor of Mr. Waters. It was claimed by Mr. Armour that the cattle that he purchased were infected with tuberculosis and \$2000 had been sought.

**April 1910** The funeral of Doctor Edward Wootton, who died at his home at Poolesville, was held at the family residence with about three hundred people attending.

**April 1911** Professor and Mrs. Willis Moore returned to their home near Rockville after spending the winter in Washington.

**April 1911** Miss Katherine Walling, of Poolesville, returned from Florida, where she spent the winter months, as was her annual custom.

**April 1913** The Rev. Frank B. Cowell, who had been the pastor of the Barnesville Baptist Church, accepted a similar position at the church in Providence, Rhode Island.

**April 1914** Miss Lydia Alomoney of Rockville had recovered from a spell of typhoid fever and was able to take short walks.

**April 1915** Miss Clydia Marie Carlin, daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. J. Walter Carlin of Boyds, and Crawford Wade Young of Buck Lodge, were married by the Rev. George Harrington, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church at Barnesville.

**April 1916** Blenheim, the home of Mrs. Mollie Jones, near Poolesville, was the scene of the marriage of Miss Elizabeth Darnell Jones, daughter of Mrs. Jones, and William Smoot, of Raccoon Ford, Virginia. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Augustine Smith, rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Poolesville.

**April 1916** Among the marriages of the week was that of Miss Ethel M. Grubb, daughter of Mrs. Margaratta Grubb, of Beallsville, and Howard W. Spurrier, the president of the First National Bank of Poolesville. The Rev. B. V. Switzer officiated.

**April 1934** The ninth and tenth grade girls of the Poolesville School entertained at tea in honor of their mothers.



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## Business Briefs

### Old Service Sign Repurposed

Colony Supply Store in Beallsville has renovated the antique gasoline road sign that has stood in front of the store at the corner of Route 28 and Route 109 in Beallsville for decades. By filling in the empty space with the name of the landscaping supply store, they have brought back to life a part of Beallsville's history. Our only question is, and perhaps you can guess by the shape of the sign: What brand of gasoline used to be sold there?

### PACC Offers Photo Contest For 2016-2017 Phone Directory

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a photo contest for the cover of the 2016-2017 Community and Business Directory. The entry form, complete with rules and requirements for submissions, is available on the PACC website ([www.poolesvillechamber.com](http://www.poolesvillechamber.com)). Copies of the entry form are also available at the Poolesville Town Hall. The winning image will be on the cover of the new directory and the photographer will be credited inside. Winners will also be announced in the *Monocacy Monocle* and on the PACC web page and Facebook pages as well as the Town of Poolesville Community Facebook Page. All entries must be submitted by June 1.

## COME MEET OUR PAST Events/Exhibits

- ★ See a full-sized replica of a Civil War Military Observation Balloon. Display by historic interpreter Capt. Kevin Knapp (U.S. Army – retired). In December 1861, Professor Thaddeus Lowe raised his balloon at Edwards Ferry to reconnoiter Leesburg. Inflation begins at 8:00 a.m.
- ★ Union and Confederate encampments. Ask these soldiers about their lives and what it was like to fight in the Civil War.
- ★ Discover the life of the Piscataway Indians who lived nearby. Exhibit and remarks by Rico Newman retired from the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Display of artifacts of their history, tradition, and culture.
- ★ Meet the Ship's Company, the Civil War naval crew of the USS Constellation, docked at Baltimore Harbor.
- ★ A tribute to our African American heritage by our own Phymeon Lyles as she interprets the proud history and culture of the Sugarland community of old.
- ★ The music of the Civil War by Doug Jimerson and his Civil War Comrades. On stage at Whalen Commons. A fun and educational show on the music of the past. Noon and 2:00 p.m.
- ★ Things for Children: Old-time school games, meet Abe Lincoln, get free copy of Gettysburg Address, see a renovated horse-drawn school bus, an antique fire truck, and, of course, the kids will love the big balloon.
- ★ Over fourteen exhibits and displays, including single-room educational schooling, Monocacy Cemetery with hundreds of pictures of folks who are buried there, the Great Fires of Poolesville by historian Jack Toomey.
- ★ The Role of Poolesville in the Civil War: Remarks by local metal-detectorist Greg Shores at 10:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at the Old Town Hall and Bank Museum.
- ★ Civil War-era lunch menu offered by Bassett's with historically-attired wait-staff.
- ★ Self-guided walking tour of the Civil War-era homes and buildings in Poolesville. Many open. Guide to the tour can be obtained at Old Town Hall and Bank Museum.

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**SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2016 • 9:30 A.M. ~ 4:00 P.M.**

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Please join us at 11:00 a.m. as we give the first ever Whisper Award to five residents who have made outstanding historical contributions to the area.



Town of Poolesville



Monocacy Lions



Keeping An Eye On Local News



## Tribute

### Dale Nestor's Contribution to Farming as a Career

By Rande Davis

Did you see the March 25 *Monocle* article about students from Poolesville High School (PHS) who created a "Drive Your Tractor to School Day"? They wanted to raise awareness and appreciation for our local agricultural industry, and its history and heritage. From our area's earliest days of raising tobacco, wheat, oats, rye, and corn, Poolesville has always stood out in farming in Maryland and has been a leading voice nationally. Non-farmers in the area do not realize it, but some of our local farmers, like Jamie Jamison and Dee Willard, are national leaders in the agriculture sector, which in turn makes them global leaders as well.

education, and that is Beallsville's Dale Nestor. Born and educated in West Virginia, Dale joined the Poolesville High School faculty in 1959 as an agriculture teacher in the school's robust vocational training program. Although, he continued to teach at PHS until 1987, he stayed in Montgomery County Public Schools until 1991. County educational programs have since moved on from agriculture and horticulture as a course of study, with a prejudice away from traditional courses in environmental studies, forgetting that there are many college programs offering agriculture-related degrees.

We asked Nestor to reminisce about the days when high school students were given the opportunity to study agricultural science.

His first reaction was to point out how agriculture offers insight and knowledge into so many other courses of study, from medicine to finances, from environmental studies to mechanics, and from animal husbandry to plant and crop management. Perhaps,



Teacher Dale Nestor in 1975.

The Global Ecology Science Program (GESP) at PHS is not the only environmental science that has put Poolesville on the map.

It is understood that for most high schools in Montgomery County, agricultural studies might not attract student attention, but in Poolesville, while the sexier GESP is an attraction that draws students from down county, it is our agricultural environment that really makes Poolesville the perfect place to offer that program. A tip of the hat to our farmers is warranted, for, without them, the Global Ecology program may have been established elsewhere in the county. Did you know that Poolesville is so central to farming that the first county fair was held here?

There is one local person whose name is entwined with agriculture and

most importantly, if you learn farming, you learn leadership and risk management. Farmers would humorously also point out that you learn gambling, too.

In his thirty-two years of teaching, the reason for the popularity of his courses is easy to understand when he discussed the "old days." Imagine the fun of a school program that didn't just talk about the value of animals but actually raised cows, cattle, swine, rabbits, and even a duck. He joked that the duck was as much a mascot as it was a farm animal. "It used to show up at the Selby home, which at the time was near the high school, so much, that Roy once told me that Betty Jean wanted me to either get control of the duck or get some diapers on it." Horticulture was a dynamic part of the program, and the

Continued on page 15.

## More from around town...



The JV girls' lacrosse team wraps their season up undefeated—congrats!



The PES fifth graders hard at work preparing for their upcoming talent show.



Coach Fedders talks strategy at halftime during the JPMS soccer game.

Eamon Murphy sent a shot from the corner toward the goal for the JPMS Timberwolves soccer.



Barbara Davidson, Aidan Davidson, Audrey Pritchard, and Suzette Bizzarro braved the sun and humidity to show their colors at the Monocacy Elementary voting precinct on Primary Day. The GOP appeared to have the parking lot to themselves in the afternoon. November may be more crowded.

## Local History

### Battle at Martinsburg

By Jack Toomey

The northwest part of Montgomery County did not see any major action during the Civil War, although there were several skirmishes including some in the downtown section of Poolesville. Some daring and thrilling cavalry raids were made into Montgomery County by rebel forces, and in 1864, the Confederate Army marched through downtown Poolesville on their escape into Virginia after their attack on Washington, but something that has been overlooked in the county's history is an incident called the Battle of Martinsburg.

Since Clement Beall was appointed sheriff in 1777, it has been the duty of the Montgomery County sheriff to serve legal papers, carry out evictions, and to attach personal property to satisfy debts owed. In 1922, James Elkins, a farmer living in Martinsburg, about five miles from Poolesville, was having financial difficulties. His creditors were demanding payment for farm equipment and seed, and Elkins did not have the money to pay them. His creditors went to the courthouse in Rockville where they obtained the necessary legal papers which allowed the sheriff to seize property from Elkins and then sell the property at auction to satisfy the debts owed. Sometimes these auctions were held on the courthouse steps and big crowds attended—some to get a good deal, others out of curiosity, while some came just for the excitement of the event.

On March 17, 1922, Sheriff Alvie Moxley and his chief deputy J. Stanley Gingell set off for Martinsburg in their automobile. For good measure, they took along a former deputy, Melvin Etchinson. The ride to Martinsburg was probably uneventful while Moxley and Gingell discussed the best way to serve the papers on Elkins and to seize his property. Apparently,

Elkins had a history with the officers and had given them trouble in the past. By noon, the officers had reached the long dirt driveway into the farm. Their machine kicked up a cloud of dust as it neared the farmhouse alerting the Elkins family to their approach. The officers knocked on the door, and Mrs. Helen Elkins answered the door and asked Sheriff Moxley about his business. Moxley replied that he was there in an official capacity to attach certain personal property of the family in order to satisfy liens placed by creditors. Mrs. Elkins then summoned Margaret and Elizabeth, her daughters, from the rear of the house. As Sheriff Moxley tried to enter the house, he was knocked to the ground by a blow to the jaw that had been delivered by Helen. She then yelled for Margaret, who was about five years old, to run out into the fields to get Mr. Elkins and his three sons. Gingell, apparently amused at the plight of his boss, began to laugh and, for good measure, Helen felled Gingell with a blow to the face. Mr. Etchinson, wanting no part of Mrs. Elkins, ran for the auto. Seeing Elkins and his sons racing for the house, Sheriff Moxley affixed the documents to the side of the house which satisfied the legal requirement. He jumped into the car with Gingell and they made for Poolesville. Arriving in town, they tried to enlist the aid of townfolk for added manpower, but they had no luck.

Defeated, they returned to Rockville and went to their offices. Gingell was nursing a bruised eye and it was said that his comrades and townfolk lined up for the next few days to see his black eye and to josh with him. Finally, Gingell had had enough and locked the door to his office.

Deputy Gingell later left the sheriff's department and became a private investigator. He was killed in the explosion of a house in Poolesville in 1931. Sheriff Moxley later was appointed as the Chief of Police of Montgomery County, lived eighty-seven years, and died in 1963.

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## Mystery History

### The Trees of Edwards Ferry Keep a Secret Of Amazing Things in The Sky from Long Ago

By Rande Davis

If you visit Edwards Ferry on the Potomac River today, there is some infrastructure, from the earlier 1800s, either fully or partially visible, most notably, Lockhouse 25 of the C&O Canal. Originally built in 1830, it was part of the town that made up Edwards Ferry, and its restoration today was completed to reflect the time around the Civil War (the lockhouse may be rented for an overnight stay by visiting canaltrust.org). The restored lockhouse and the ruins of Jarboe's store are near the boat ramp leading to the river. The topography of today creates much of the mystery concerning what the area looked like during the Civil War. Back then, the shore area

it, especially for those living quietly in their farming community in Leesburg. Professor Lowe was a very important man during the war and he had a title: He was called an Aeronaut. In fact, he came to be known as the Father of American Aeronauts.

This May 7, when Capt. Kevin Knapp (U.S. Army retired), a historical interpreter assuming the identity of Lowe, will come to Poolesville with his full-sized replica of a Civil War observation balloon and inflate it in Whalen Commons, even our sophisticated eyes will be amazed, intrigued, full of wonder. Should weather not cooperate, an eight-foot helium model will replace the large balloon, and Lowe will be there, standing in the balloon basket still ready to answer questions about him, his life, and about his important military mission that helped keep this nation one.

What were the men and times like back then? The following letter sent by Professor Lowe to Lt. Col. A. V. Colburn, Assistant Adjutant-General of the U.S. Army, gives some perspective. It shows that, maddeningly, if

Lieut. Col. A. V. COLBURN,  
Assistant Adjutant-General:

DEAR SIR: I returned yesterday from Poolesville, after stationing a balloon and necessary inflating apparatus with General Stone's division. This is the third of the new inflating apparatus, which has been sent out, and three more are now ready to go as soon as the other two balloons are finished. I commenced inflation at Edwards Ferry on Friday at 4:00 p.m., and in three hours generated gas sufficient to lift 1,200 pounds.

On Saturday morning, I ascended quite early and took an observation of the enemy's country. Very few troops were visible, and these were scattered both up and down the river. We could see into nearly every street of Leesburg, but scarcely any troops were visible. The main body appears to be between Leesburg and Centerville—I should judge fifteen or twenty miles below the former—as camps and heavy smokes were quite visible in that direction.

Later in the day I ascended again, and a number of their tents, which were visible in the morning inside of their earth-works between Edwards Ferry and Leesburg, were taken down, and teams were observed moving toward the village of Leesburg.

In the afternoon I was accompanied in my ascension by General Stone, who added several points to his map. The balloon still remains inflated, and will be ready for use at all times, in charge of a competent assistant aeronaut. The balloon now located at Budd's Ferry has been inflated over two weeks without any replenishing.

The communication of W. G. Fullerton, of December 2, in reference to photographic pictures taken from the balloon, which was referred to me, has been examined, and I would say that the author advances no new ideas. As soon as other matters connected with the balloons are accomplished I shall give the photographic matter a thorough and practical test.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
T. S. C. LOWE,  
Aeronaut.



On their way to Gettysburg in 1863, 75,000 Northern troops crossed the Potomac River at Edwards Ferry in 1863.

was much more open and clearly visible from across the river. The rising hillside behind, more obscured today by trees and brush, makes it difficult to envision the artillery lined up along the hilltop with gun sights steadied and aimed at Leesburg. Perhaps even more difficult to visualize are the 75,000 northern troops, on their way to Gettysburg in 1863, crossing the river on a pontoon bridge that temporarily replaced the ferry.

In 1861, when the little town bustled with its own post office and stores, a man named Prof. Thaddeus Lowe came to town and inflated his still-novel hot air observation balloon, causing it to rise toward the heavens to gain an unobstructed view of Confederate movements in Leesburg. How amazing the sight of that balloon must have been for all who could see

Lowe had set up there just two months earlier, perhaps the Battle of Balls Bluff would not have been a Union disaster. It also shows that, not surprisingly, even those who could not be in the balloon, since they were located scores of miles away, wanted to know what it was like to be up so high. In the letter back to Union Headquarters, Lowe reported his observational findings of Leesburg and mulled over the question of whether a photograph might be able to be taken from up high to share with those not able to be in the basket.

Here is that letter exactly as it was sent. Perhaps you will have your own questions of Professor Lowe when he inflates his balloon on May 7. The inflation begins at 8:00 a.m., if you want to watch or help out, while the other historical events begin later at 9:30 a.m.

## A MONOCACY MOMENT

### Lost in Time



Dickerson's  
Pre-World War II Mail Team

## Youth Sports

### PHS Boys' Volleyball: Preparing to Win

By Jeff Stuart

Standing at center net with her back to the net and a cart full of volleyballs, boys' volleyball coach Tiffany Grimes is smiling as she tosses the ball to a rotating group of two or three players playing in back court. The tosses are random in location. Some are soft, some are hard, some are high, and some are low, some are quick and some are slow, but the coach, in her third season coaching the boys' team at Poolesville, emphasizes passing and court coverage, and she seems to enjoy this drill as do her players.

"I think there is a lot of potential in some of our new players," said senior Hansheng Zhang. "We have a lot of freshmen and sophomores, so we have room to grow. In our opening win over Whitman, we didn't make a lot of mistakes. We won the first set pretty convincingly and the match, 3-0, so that was good for our morale... Clarksburg and Blair (May 2) are our top opponents. We just need to bring our A game... Our passing is better this year, so we can run more offensive sets."

"I think my passing and overall skill set have improved," said junior libero Eamon Chen. "I practiced a lot over the summer. I am also better at interacting with the team. I am a junior so I am a big brother to the underclassmen now... I think we will be competitive and I am looking forward to having a great time as a team."

"We really have a lot of dedicated and determined players this year," said senior Heartson Fan. "Our skill level is higher than last year, so I believe we will go further this year and perform better. Whitman was a pretty easy win for us, but we could have done better, given that our skill set is pretty high. I believe that we could have won the Walter Johnson game (a 3-1 loss). We maybe got overconfident or overexcited after taking the first game, but I think we can overcome that."

"I think Heartson is right, our average skill set is higher as a team than it was last year," said Coach Grimes, "but we don't necessarily have any big offensive game changers. Overall, I'm happy to have more players coming out as freshmen. That's important. I'll still be graduating several seniors. Heartson and Hansheng played for me the first year I coached

here. Two of those seniors are first-year players, but I like their energy and character on the court and want to give them the experience of the sport and the camaraderie that comes with it.

"I'm excited to have freshman Kyle Stevens-Donati on the team this year. He has a good volleyball IQ and so far seems to be committed to the game. Senior Alex Tolstoy also brings a level of consistency that our team needs.

James Klimkiewicz is a junior. This is his first year playing, but he is a good athlete and a natural leader. He's extremely coachable. I only wish I had gotten him as a freshman and that there were a lot more like him. Sophomore Ching Yuan Lin has played a pivotal role with his ability to control the ball," Grimes enthused. "I have a lot more freshmen and sophomores this year than I have ever had. That is super when you are building a program. We beat a Whitman team that wasn't bad. The fact that we took a game from Walter Johnson is big... I have a great group of kids. I love working with them. I sometimes think they are too nice. I think we need to work on getting a competitive edge, but I honestly am just interested to see where it goes."

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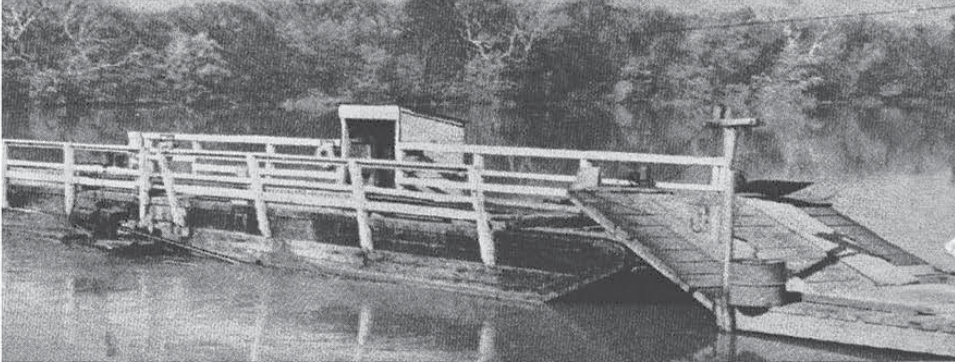
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This is one of the earliest pictures of White's Ferry as a powered ferryboat. Prior to that, boatmen used poles to push it across the Potomac River.

## Youth Sports

### PHS Coed Volleyball: Rising to Meet the Challenge

By Jeff Stuart

"I am very surprised to see where we are already, going into our ninth match," said coed volleyball coach Megan Kenneweg. "We lost a lot of seniors last year. We have nine seniors on the team this year, but only two of them are returning. They are Emily Benedict and Shirley Woltz. It was really nerve wracking at the beginning of the season because some of those new senior boys had never touched a volleyball other than in gym class, but their athleticism is amazing. We have Austin Grinkemeyer who played with the golf team in the fall. He has a blocking ability and his 'go get 'em' attitude is really infectious. He is not necessarily our best player, but he is one of those people who works hard and everyone else works hard around him.

Alexis Pak is a junior. She is a setter who also plays on the girls' varsity. Hopefully, she will be back with us next year as well. Keila Alfaro is also a junior. She also plays girls' varsity, and her ball control is phenomenal.

"In our match against Whitman we were still a little raw. I think we were a little bit uncomfortable with competing and playing with each other, but they were great sets. We only lost by two or three points each time. That showed a lot of growth. Against Walter Johnson we were, like, 'We know we can do this. We know how to rotate, we know how to switch off, and we know how to serve which is the biggest battle'—and we are working hard on service

and get to balls that seem impossible to get to on the back row is impressive."

One of the highlights of the season for the Falcons was a comeback win in the third game of the match against undefeated Northwest (8-0) at Poolesville. PHS trailed by nine points at one point in the match. A dramatic block by Rivas gave the Falcons the ball on a sideout at game point. Trailing, 24-21, Grinkemeyer had a five-point service run to help produce a 26-24 victory in that game, although they lost the match, three games to one. "Taking a game from Damascus earlier was a big turning point for the team," said Kenneweg. "I know the team's potential and I see the growth we have had. It was a big win for the athletes because of the rivalry, but it was also a huge confidence booster. They are starting to trust their skills. When we played Northwest, we minimized unforced errors. We were confident and very competitive. That showed that we have made great strides. We have come a long way."

"I always played soccer in the fall," said Rivas. "Some of my friends played on the boys' volleyball team. I would play with them on the weekends and other times, and I thought it was really fun, but I didn't think I was ready for that level of volleyball yet. I have learned a lot. Everyone has been real supportive and that helps. It's been fun."

"I used to play lacrosse in the spring," said Grinkemeyer, "but I decided not to do that this year. I thought volleyball would be fun—and it has been." "This season has started out pretty well," said junior Christina Zhang who plays on the girls' team in the fall. "I know last year they didn't do too hot, but this year we have a lot more experience and we are only going up from here."

competitive. They do hit a lot harder than girls, so it really helps me improve my defense for the girls' game in the fall—and it is a lot more exciting. The game is a lot faster."

Senior Lauren Whittaker is new

to the team this year. She also played on the girls' team last fall. Other senior boys are: Colin Jansson, Joshua Aurdos, Jason Kuldell, and Eltayeb Abdelrahman. Daven Raman, and Cal Pringle are juniors.



Austin Grinkemeyer, Alexis Pak, Julio Rivas, and Christina Zhang.

receive along with that. We are making big strides each and every game. The blocking by Julio Rivas has been awesome. He is a senior. He has never played. His ability to read the court

"We started out with a loss this season," said Alexis, "but we have won the last two and we have really improved. What I really like about coed is that the guys are very

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## Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

### Present Crime

**Theft from vehicle:** 16900 block of Darnestown Road.

**Drug arrest:** 20700 block of Slidell Road.

### Past Crime

**April 29, 1891** Captain C. W. Covington, a cashier at the Farmers and Traders Bank at Rockville, was reported missing. An audit of the bank's funds revealed that \$9800 was also missing.

**April 30, 1890** A serious accident happened on the Rockville Pike. It seems that Mrs. Thompson, wife of Paymaster William Thompson, United States Navy, was rushing with her team to meet the afternoon train at Garrett Park. The horses became excited and bolted away, throwing Mrs. Thompson to the ground. When Mr. Thompson arrived at the train station—and not finding his wife—he began walking towards their home, the Hermitage. After several miles of walking, the husband came upon his wife lying in the underbrush. She was taken to her home where she remained unconscious through the night.

**May 3, 1899** Charles Beecraft, a well-known Montgomery County farmer,

set off for Washington City with the intention of purchasing a large quantity of oysters. Somewhere along the road, he met three men who correctly guessed that Beecraft was carrying a large quantity of cash. They talked him into following them to a house where a large-scale poker game was supposedly underway. Instead of playing poker, Beecraft was set upon by robbers who relieved him of his money. The crime was reported to the police in Washington. For some reason, the three men were caught and tried in Washington and sentenced to prison.

**May 3, 1886** It was reported that during a fight in a Poolesville grocery store, Justice of the Peace Silas Davis handed a pistol to one of the combatants. Upon hearing that someone had spread a false rumor that had gotten into the hands of newspaper reporters, Davis issued a strong statement defending himself and denying that he had given anyone a gun.

**May 5, 1893** An outhouse on the farm of John Butt, near Rockville, caught fire during the night and burned to the ground. A large quantity of meat and other items of value were destroyed. Butt knew of no way that the building could have caught fire without being set afire.

*Some of the material in this column was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post.*

Continued from page 9.

### Dale Nestor's Contribution To Farming as a Career


students learned to raise vegetables as well as flowering plants. Back then, the school greenhouse at the school was actually used as a greenhouse. Contests were held, and crops and animals were sold. Classes were not just a dull forty-five minutes of review of information from a book, but boasted a real-life, hands-on exposure, a get-your-hands-dirty kind of experience. It was fun, and it was experience the students could use the rest of their lives.

In the days when PHS had a Future Farmers of America group, courses of study in small engine repair were also very popular. Farmers usually do their own mechanical work, too, so it was natural to make it part of vocational studies. Some of his classes even studied woodworking. One year, selected agricultural students from around the county were taken to Western and Eastern Europe to visit farms. Dale remembers one official from East Europe whispering to not pay too much attention, though, as propaganda from the Eastern block was not the most reliable information.

While agricultural studies have since been dropped, Nestor wonders

if a revitalized program might find renewed and invigorated interest among today's students. His over-three decades of teaching were fueled by his personal sense of duty and desire to be of public service. His life beyond the classroom has been a remarkable contribution to the community as he is a founder of Hands of Love, an organization started by Dr. John G. Todd, which he helped organize over two decades ago. Most people in the area have met Dale at one time or another since he was the leader of the Odd Fellows' annual fruit sales fundraiser. No citrus fruit has ever been more deliciously described than through the sales words of Dale's deep baritone voice. His service didn't stop there as he has put in decades of community service through the Lions Club and the American Legion. While rheumatic fever prevented his entry into World War II, he later joined the army to become a military policeman.

If our nation is to continue to be a leader in agriculture, it will need high schools that, pardon the pun, grow the seeds for future farming leaders and teachers, and people of public service like Dale Nestor who not only speak of the need to be of help, but who put those words into extended and dedicated action.



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## MONOCACY CRITTERS

### Serendipitous Pet and Animal



Poolesville's Jon Wolz took these photos of a blue heron at Culvert 69 at the Little Monocacy River on February 10. As he walked through the canal prism, he heard a rumbling below and watched the heron move away from the entrance of the culvert. The culvert is a twenty-foot span and was completed in 1832.

Send your unusual pet or animal picture to:  
[editor@monocacymonocle.com](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com)

## Garden

### Transform Your Landscape With Shrubs

By Maureen O'Connell

What's the state of your home's landscape? Does it have good curb appeal and does it add to the value of your home? Many design plans can be clumsy, neglected, a hodgepodge of scattered plants, simple, or downright boring. Some new houses with builder-planted trees and shrubs can look like a one-note garden or a lot with just grass. Rooflines in many new houses today are often broken up with dormer windows and multiple roof angles. This design might be architecturally interesting, but it needs plants, shrubs, and trees where the house meets the land to bring it back down to Earth.

Now, as we head into the spring season, it is an ideal time to make some changes. An ideal landscape should provide recreation, privacy, and pleasure. The right shrubs can unify space, add depth and architectural interest, block noise pollution, direct the flow of traffic, limit soil erosion, block eyesores in the background or adjacent properties, and add seasonal color. Shrubs are the backbone of the landscape. Some add interest with flowers, colorful leaves, or berries. The challenge is to pick the right ones for your lot among the hundreds on the market. Let me suggest a few that I have planted and are attractive, reliable, and trouble-free plants that have proven to do well in our Monocacy country.

*Cotoneasters* are a diverse genus of attractive landscape plants that include creeping ground covers, dwarf-sized bushes, and tall sprawling shrubs. The early small spring flowers are followed by bright red or orange berries that feed the birds all fall and into the winter. It is related to the rose family and is native to Asia, Europe, and North Africa. To its credit, it is widely tolerant of soil types (including alkaline soils), drought tolerant, deer resistant, and has few disease and pest problems; it is very low maintenance. The creeping ground cover variety is a good choice where soil erosion is a problem. About fifteen years ago, I planted three, very dwarf, prostrate, low-growing 'Tom Thumb' creeping *cotoneasters* by the foundation wall of the back of my house. The area receives full sun most of the day; other plants struggled to survive, but Tom keeps on thriving. It can also handle shady areas, making it a good choice

as a ground cover underplanted near trees. I highly recommend it.

Boxwoods are a popular shrub in our area. There are four different varieties and each one has different characteristics and growth habits. They are distasteful or poisonous to deer. The English variety is the small variety you see in the many historic homes in Williamsburg. It is slow growing at about one inch a year, maturing at about three feet. It is very good for bordering a pathway or flower bed. I have had some trouble with its winter hardiness and have lost several of them over the years. The American boxwood is very tolerant of cold weather's ice and snowstorms. I have five that are thirty-six years old and they still look great. During the February blizzard, their branches were bent down to the ground with snow and ice. Come the thaw, they bounced right back into shape. They can grow up to ten feet, so they are better placed on the lawn perimeter or in a hedge. The Japanese boxwood was first grown in the United States in the 1890s. It is one of the most adaptable species of boxwood, growing from three feet to twelve feet with dark green foliage. It is useful growing as a low hedge along a border. The last boxwood type is the Korean boxwood. Height is the major difference between the Japanese and the Korean boxwoods. The later will grow to about two to four feet tall, making it a better choice for a small planting scheme and not a border. They are hardy to both pruning and shearing. The Korean tends to stay greener in winter and is a good alternative for those who love the English boxwood but can't deal with its lack of winter hardiness. I planted six English boxwoods in two small garden plots in front of my house about five years ago; I had to replace them twice. Over the winter, their branches turned brown and by spring they were almost dead. This year I am replacing them with six Korean boxwoods with the hope that they will be more winter hardy.

*Deutzia* is a woodland shrub found across Asia from the Himalayas to Japan. They fare very well in our area. In the spring, it is quite showy with bright green leaves and small white blossoms on arching branches. In the fall, the leaves turn deep burgundy. I have three planted at the top of the driveway in partial sun to partial shade. They are now about six feet tall and are doing very well. They are deciduous and have had no insect or disease problems. *Deutzia* 'Yuki Cherry Blossom' is a wonderful dwarf variety with clusters of pink blossoms, growing about twelve to twenty-four inches. A new variety this year is

'Crème Fraiche' with gorgeous white blossoms. I have ordered two.

*Viburnum x burkwoodii* is a very reliable, very fragrant, low-maintenance hybrid flowering shrub. It is easily grown in an average, medium-moisture soil in full sun to part shade. It has an upright, fully-branched form making it well-suited as a hedge, screen, or accent plant. I have three of them planted next to the *Deutzias* and they all do well together. 'Summer Snowflake' and 'Blue Muffin' are two very attractive and hardy varieties.

Technically, *Thuja* 'Green Giant' is not a shrub; it is a very tall tree, growing up to sixty feet tall, but I must include it here as one of the best, healthy, low-maintenance, and fast-growing

evergreens that does an amazing job hiding unwanted views or neighboring eyesores. Unlike its relatives, the pyramidal Arborvitae or the Leyland Cypress with their poor branching structure that tends to lean and bend with snow and ice loads and not recover, the 'Green Giant' is very tolerant of winter storms and their damaging winds and ice. I planted fifteen along a fence line about six years ago and they are doing spectacularly. They have also very quickly blocked out an unwanted view. I highly recommend this giant of a tree.

Here is some food for thought for your yard and its landscaping. Do some research and plan carefully in order to choose the proper shrubs for your area.

Continued from page 3.

#### Town Releases FY2017 Draft Budget

The commissioners turned next to the proposed FY2017 budget for the town. The fiscal year starts on July 1 and, under the town's ordinances, the budget and tax rate must be adopted "not less than fifteen and not more than thirty" days after a public hearing on the matter. The commissioners have set May 2 as the date for the public hearing.

Town Manager Wade Yost remarked in his presentation about the budget that the town's infrastructure and its equipment have continued to age and that strong efforts will be needed to invest in upkeep and modernization going forward. To do so, the town relies heavily on two primary sources of revenue, income taxes and property taxes. The town "piggy backs" on the state income tax and so does not control the level of such taxes, but it does control property tax rates. For the second year in a row, under this year's budget proposal, property tax rates would increase, from seventeen cents per one hundred dollars of property valuation to a little over seventeen and a half cents.

While the property tax rates would be increased, Mr. Yost said that "most expense accounts have been maintained" relative to the FY2016 budget. He said part of the challenge for the town is that most of its other revenue streams—such as state revenue sharing and rents from cellular companies who use the town's water tower for

their facilities—have remained flat or decreased. He also said that the town faces continued and increasing costs to update aging infrastructure and equipment and that things like medical insurance costs for employees have increased significantly.

One of the continuing issues for the town is the failure of user fees (i.e., sewer and water charges) to fully cover all of the costs of operating and maintaining the sewer and water systems. That is true this year as well and that, along with increases in costs for the wastewater treatment system in particular, has meant a proposed increase in rates in the proposed FY2017 budget.

One important change in this year's budget includes the so-called Rainy Day Fund. These are the unrestricted or uncommitted monies raised that are set aside to support town operations in case of emergencies. In past years, commissioners had established an informal goal of \$800,000 with the idea of being able to support town operations in case of an emergency (i.e., a major and sudden loss of revenues or a dramatic increase in costs).

In the proposed FY2017 budget, the commissioners approved a new policy to set aside 17.5% of the total general funds in the budget for a Rainy Day or just over \$500,000. This is significantly less than in previous years but is justified, according to the budget, by the fiscal health of the town and the need to focus more resources on aging infrastructure and equipment.

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## Youth Sports

### PHS Boys' Tennis: No Superstars but Good Balance

By Jeff Stuart

"So far we are doing pretty well," said senior captain Chris Johnson who plays second singles. "We have struggled against the top Division I teams, but other than that, we have done okay. We are 2-2 in Division II. We got some big wins against Northwest, 6-1, and Blake, 4-3, and I think we can do well the rest of the season. I think our best match of the season was against Blake. It was a close match. All the individual matches were really close. We had a huge win in doubles and a few key wins in singles. Overall, it was a good team win. Patrick Rodriquez is a freshman. He is playing second doubles. He is doing really well. Sam Zhou, also a freshman, is third singles. He is also having a really good season. We are kind of relying on the freshmen to step up this year. My personal best moment was in the Blake match. It was a really long point and I ended up diving for the ball. I got all scraped up and a little bloody. It was a really exciting point and something I will remember for a while." In the match against Sherwood, the second place team in the division, Coleman Martinis and Christopher Nguyen battled against Sherwood's first singles in a marathon three-set contest. Coleman led, 4-3, at one point in that last set before falling, 6-4.



Falcon tennis players Chris Johnson, Coleman Martinis, and Rohit Chari.

"Last year we moved up from Division III to Division II by sweeping Clarksburg (7-0) in the final game," said senior captain Martinis. "The team has succeeded this year despite the loss of former first singles player, Dennis Wang. Our important matches are those against other Division II schools, such as Quince Orchard and Northwest.

We lost to QO, 6-1. I played Joe Cooke and he beat me in the first set, 6-1. I beat him in the second set, 7-5. We then played a tiebreaker where he beat me, 10-8. It turned out to be a pretty close match—closer than I expected, actually, especially given that Joe Cooke is an incredibly good tennis player."

The Falcons look to having a competitive and exciting season within Division II. Coach Holly Dacek leads the team again this season. Other returning players are Andy Lum and "Chewey" Chen.

Girls' tennis will move to the spring next season.

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Do you have an event or a special announcement you would like to share with our readers? Send to [editor@monocacymonocle.com](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com).

## Remembrances

### Hubert Leon Carlin

Hubert L. Carling, 91, of Boyds, died on April 18, 2016. He was the husband of the late Emily B. Carlin. Born on February 18, 1925 in Boyds, he was the son of the late William Melvin and Virgie (Beall) Carlin. Surviving are: one daughter, Nancy Carlin of North Potomac; one sister, Emily Jean Easter of Florida; five grandchildren, Danielle, T.J., Steven, Emily, and Malia; and three great-grandchildren, Hailey, Oliver, and Dempsey. Leon was preceded in death by one son, Patrick Warren, and two brothers, James Harold and William Douglas Carlin.

Carlin was a military veteran and was honored during his funeral with a twenty-one-gun salute.



Hubert Leon Carlin

### Ralph S. Connelly

Ralph S. Connelly, 76, of Boyds, passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by his loving family on Friday, April 22. Mr. Connelly was born in Rockville on November 10, 1939, a son to the late Lewis D. and Dorothy Lowe Connelly. He was the loving husband of Judy Roberts Connelly for fifty-six years.

Ralph was a master brick mason and devoted his life to a trade he loved. He enjoyed fishing and hunting in his younger years and spent his life of retirement enjoying his family.

Ralph was preceded in death by brothers, Jim Connelly, Lewis Connelly, Pete Connelly, Robert Connelly, and John Rankin.

Aside from his wife, Ralph is survived by two sons, Keith M. Connelly and wife Kathy of McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania, Bruce L. Connelly and wife Beverly of Clarksburg; grandchildren, Randell M. Connelly and partner Juan Vega of Stafford, Virginia, Holly C. Fellows and husband Jason of Knoxville, Maryland, Gregg M. Connelly and wife Jamie of McConnellsburg, Heather M. Blache and husband Eric of Libertytown, Maryland, Russell D. Connelly of McConnellsburg, Valerie D. Hagberg and husband Steven of Clarksburg, and Branden M. Connelly of Clarksburg.

Ralph is also survived by five great-grandchildren, Jaiden, Jenna, Jenson, Herbert, and Russell, Jr. who were his true pride and joy. He is also survived by one sister, Janice Butt of Germantown, along with numerous nieces and nephews.



Ralph S. Connelly

### Sarah Frazer Prestemon

Sarah Frazer Prestemon, 43, of Chiswell's Inheritance, Poolesville, died on Sunday, April 24, 2016 after a long and happy life with her beloved fiancé, Edward Lunsford, her close family, friends, and Sasha the cat.

She was born in Washington, D.C. and lived most of her life on her family's farm near Poolesville.

Sarah attended Goucher College and received an electronic imaging prepress degree from Montgomery College after deciding she preferred writing and editing to working full-time in historic preservation; nonetheless, her interest in historic preservation continued throughout her life as a member of Historic Medley District, Inc. She and Ed were for many years the docents at the Seneca Schoolhouse Museum and John Poole House Museum. Her publishing and research skills benefited Medley Press and various writers. She was also employed to do legal research and at the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission.

Born with spina bifida, which meant a life as a wheelie, she took active interest in the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act and in the failure of Poolesville to provide navigable curb cuts for their sidewalks.

She traveled as much as possible all around the United States and to Canada, Europe, and the Caribbean, including one memorable summer spent crossing the U.S. in an RV with her mother, stepfather, stepbrother, a large Bouvier, a golden retriever, and a Yorkie puppy named Marley. Her favorite mode of travel was aboard her grandfather's sailboat, "Sarah Frazer," where she was free of the wheelchair and could soar across the water in the Chesapeake Bay and the Mediterranean and from Venice through the Adriatic to Croatia and Turkey.

Sarah was a devoted member of the congregation of St. Peter's Parish whose minister, Rev. Ann Ritonia, provided spiritual sustenance throughout her last illness. Sarah's friends in the parish family stayed close to her and were an important part of her life. Her greatest joy was her faith in Jesus Christ.

She is lovingly survived by her mother, Elizabeth Perry Kapsch and her stepfather, Robert; her father, David Lee Prestemon and her stepmother, Kary; her brothers, William, Robert, and Patrick; her grandmother, Elizabeth Prestemon, her beloved cousin, Overton Kephart Brown; her Kephart, Prestemon, Brown, and Griffith aunts, uncles, and cousins, especially her aunts Ann Brown and Nancy Claggett. She has gone to join her grandparents, George and MaryAnn Kephart, and her grandfather, Robert Prestemon. Sarah leaves behind with love her fiancé, Edward Lunsford, and his parents, Robert and Laura Lunsford.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at St Peter's Parish, 20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville with a reception to follow at her family's farm at 18200 Beallsville Road, Poolesville.



Sarah Frazer Prestemon

### Catherine Wolfrey

Catherine Evelyn Woodard Wolfrey, 79, of Poolesville, passed away at home in the care of hospice on April 8, 2016. Evelyn was born in Lee County, Virginia, to Ransom and Mary (Oliver) Woodard on May 12, 1936.

Her beloved husband of fifty-nine years, John Fyfe Wolfrey, passed away on October 13, 2013. John was from Poolesville where they made their life together.

Evelyn leaves to mourn: her sister, Della (Woodard) Snodgrass of Holmes Mill, Kentucky; one niece, Marsha (Snodgrass) Meadows (Loren); one great-nephew, Bill McDonald (Emily); one great-niece Samantha McDonald; two great-great-nieces, Hailee Shea and Harper Grey; one great-great-nephew, Roman Joseph, all of Dayton, Ohio.

Evelyn also leaves many friends, neighbors, relatives, and her adopted family, Paige, Lin, Zach, and Mackenzie Kovach who shared their family with Evelyn and John for eighteen years and have been a constant joy.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to WUMCO Help, Inc., P.O. Box 247, Poolesville, MD 20837 or Second Chance Wildlife (scwc.org).



The Maryland State Flag was lowered to half-staff in honor of Maryland firefighter John Ulmschneider who died in the line of duty on April 15, 2016 and in honor of Nathaniel Henry McDavitt who was a United States Air Force soldier from Maryland who also died on April 15, 2016.



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## Spring: Time for the Bugs

Dr. Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF, FALSMS

The springtime has sprung and nature is revived for yet another long growing season. This also means that all the bugs that fly, crawl, burrow, and live inside are gearing up to make their case for reproducing and repopulating their species. Unfortunately, this also means that they will be trying to use your pets as a food source or home for their children.

You can be assured that as the grass grows quickly in the spring, the bugs use it to get to our pets. Internal parasites come out of their dormant egg stage, and the new larvae crawl up the grass blades to the tips looking to be picked up or eaten by a passing pet. Hookworms and whipworms do not need to be eaten; they can penetrate the foot pads or tongue to gain entrance into your pets' bodies. Roundworm parasite eggs can live for up to ten years in the soil. Sixteen percent of commercial potting soil has roundworm eggs present. On muddy days when your pets come in nice and slimy with mud, they groom themselves, ingesting any eggs that might be catching a ride in the mud. The lifecycles from egg to adult can get side-tracked as they migrate around your pets' bodies. Young pets can maintain an infection for up to one year. Adult pets can get re-infected repeatedly throughout their lives.

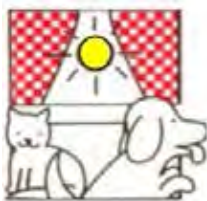
Tick babies (six-legged nymphs) have just finished their first meal from their host mice (mice are the reservoir for Lyme disease) and have dropped off to grow into a young adult (eight-legged larvae). This stage wants to find a second host and feed again. Once this has been completed, they molt into a mature adult and look for their reproduction host (yourself or your pet). In our area of the country, most ticks carry at least two types of diseases that can be transmitted from their bites.

The unwelcome mosquito is also ready for a busy growing season. They love to lay their eggs in standing water. Even a puddle as small as a spoonful can be a complete habitat for growing mosquito larvae. There are now mosquitoes that can survive and be active to temperatures as low as 45 degrees F. As heartworm advances in all regions of the U.S., Maryland is now considered a 12-month exposure area for your pet. Any pet that travels with their humans to the south has almost a 100% chance of being infected by heartworm-carrying mosquitos if they are not on a preventative.

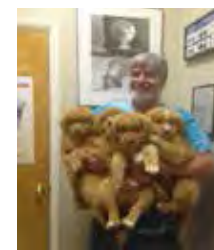
### What to do, what to do:

Simple steps to keep your pets and yourself safe this growing season:

1. Have your pets' feces examined and tested for parasites at least once a year. If your pet has ever been tested positive for a parasite, then likely their eggs are in your environment so biannual testing is a good idea. No pet can be too old to get re-infected.
2. Make sure that your heartworm prevention and flea/tick prevention are up to date and active. New multi-month protection is now easily and cost-effectively available. Talk to your veterinarian about the products that have the greatest and fastest effect.
3. Give all medications to prevent and protect against parasites ON TIME. Missing a dose by as little as 24 hours can put you and your pet at undue risk.
4. Be aware that over-the-counter compounds that do not come from a medical clinic may be counterfeit and are not warranted by the pharmaceutical company that produced it. If your product comes from an online site and is not in the original container, SEND IT BACK FOR A REFUND.
5. Parasites like roundworms and giardia can be transmitted from animal to people, so be sure to wash your hands after you have been working or playing out in the yard. Use protective footwear and wear gardening gloves. ALWAYS WASH YOUR PRODUCE. Never eat anything directly off the plant.
6. If anyone other than your veterinarian gives medical advice to you about your pet, thank them and call your veterinarian. This includes Dr. Google.



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