

# **The Monocacy**

## Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

### August 26, 2016 • Volume XII, Number 11

Officer John Gloss visited with Betty Ritorto and other residents and kids at the park. See the fun in Family Album on page 2.



This local recording studio executive is bringing a unique concert to Poolesville. Find out who and where in Local News on page 6.



Megan MacKenzie designed this delightful pink pig to promote the MC Fair. See more fair pictures on page 10.



MC Ag Fair Executive Director Martin E. Svrcek, thanked Kitty Cooley for hosting the Ag Leaders Luncheon. See more pictures on page 11.

At the Montgomery County Fair's Ag Leaders' Luncheon, held on September 13 at the fairground's Heritage Garden room, three highly-regarded members of the county's ag community were honored.

The luncheon brings together leaders from twenty-seven local, state, and national agriculture organizations to recognize the strong leadership of the county agriculture community, improve communication, and engage support among those who have an interest in seeing the continuation and growth of agriculture in Montgomery County.

The luncheon sponsors were the Montgomery County Agriculture Center, University of Maryland Extension, and the Montgomery County Office of Agriculture. Martin E. Svrcek, Ag Fair executive director, recognized 2016 Grand Marshal of the fair parade, Kitty Cooley, for her hard work in chairing the luncheon event.

Prior to presenting the leadership awards, Chuck Shuster of the Univer-



Chuck Shuster of the Maryland University Extension Program presented Potomac's Bob Hanson with a plaque commemorating his enrollment in the Montgomery County Fair Hall of Fame.

sity of Maryland Extension program made a keynote speech on the success and importance of agriculture education to the economy and its highlyrated career path for students. Maryland is a land grant university. In the

early 1800s, advocates of agricultural education lobbied the government to create colleges and universities specifically for agriculture and mechanical

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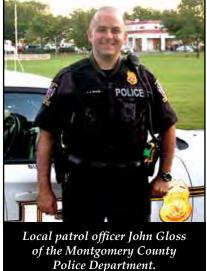
### Riding with the Cops: An Eye-Opening Experience and Lesson in Public Safety By Rande Davis

Poolesville is recognized by the Montgomery County Police Department as one of the safest communities in the county; nevertheless, while crime here in comparison to other localities is low, the area does have its issues with theft, domestic disputes, larceny, substance abuse, and drug sales, along with the more mundane yet potentially-dangerous concerns of unsafe driving like speeding and ignoring traffic signs.

The Monocle recently participated in a county police ride-along program to look at policing from the other side of the uniform. What we found is that even on a quiet evening of policing, there is much more to do than otherwise would be noticeable to the general public. Good policing comes from consistent dedication to the public's safety.

I rode with Office John Gloss, a seventeen-year veteran who is part of the Poolesville squad that patrols the area. While the area's population is small, the geography is large, and to make sure the crime statistics stay as low as they are, police officers follow a comprehensive routine that enables them to safeguard residents from the consequences of criminality. Of course, while prevention is key to a safe community, responding to crime or emergency situations is still the most high-profile aspect of the job.

Officer Gloss's duty begins in the afternoon and lasts until late at night. He sees this shift as the best of both worlds. On this shift, unlike others when most residents are either away from town or asleep, he is able to interact with many residents. "I prefer to patrol with my window down, so as I



come by pedestrians or other bystanders, I am able to wave and greet them-

### Continued on page 15.

### Local Farmers Recognized at County Fair By Rande Davis

### The Monocacy Monocle

Family Album



Officer John Gloss visiting with Matt Poe (left) and other kids at Whalen Commons.



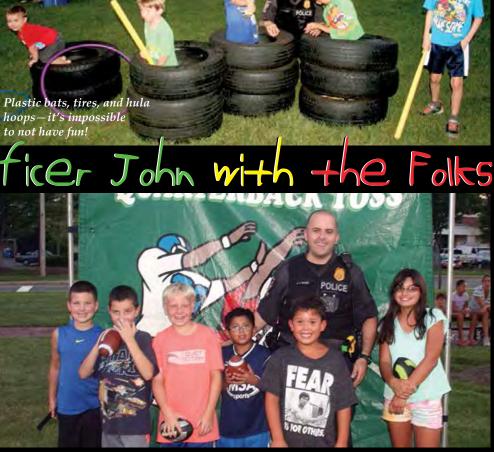
The Leichliter, Bettinger, and Antignani families came to the Friday Night Football event together.



Matt and Sue Kramek, Officer John, Leslie Poe, and Poolesville Parks Director Preston King at a recent Friday on the Commons.



Ricky Williams, Officer John, and Julia Riggs.



The kids beat Officer John in the football toss, fair and square.



When your mom owns Healthy Chocolates, smiles come easy.



The theme for Fridays on the Commons was football. Officer John handed out certificates for free smoothies to many of the attending kids.

## Town Government

### Few but Weighty Items On August Agenda For Commissioners

### By Link Hoewing

The Town of Commissioners cancelled their August 1 meeting as the summer lull kicked in. At their August 15 meeting, they had few items to discuss, but they were significant nonetheless.

The first item on the agenda was the cancellation of the annual fireworks display normally held each year at the soccer fields south of town. The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department (UMCVFD) plans and conducts the annual event, but due to predictions of a heavy rainstorm this year, the fire department decided to cancel the event. The town makes a major grant of \$10,000 each year to help pay the costs of the fireworks display-including the very costly purchase of the fireworks themselvesand Jeff Eck, representing UMCVFD, came before the commissioners to explain what happened and what might be done with this year's town grant that helps fund the event.

Eck explained that a few days before the fireworks were to be launched, the UMCVFD learned that a major rainstorm was predicted to occur on the day of the event, Monday, July 4. Forecasters predicted that drenching rain would occur, and Eck explained that parking for the fireworks display was all in open fields which would have become muddy and possibly almost impassable. In the past, when the fields were saturated, parking problems and stuck cars became major problems that tied up traffic and caused significant damage to the fields. In order to avoid such problems in light of what was predicted to be an almost-certain major storm, the fire department decided to cancel the event.

By the time it decided to cancel the fireworks display, UMCVFD had already made significant expenditures, including approximately \$1200 for temporary fencing and an additional \$1200 for various items needed to set up concession stands and seating. The vendor for the fireworks includes in its contracts a fifty percent penalty fee in any case in which an order for fireworks is cancelled less than five days before an event. The fire department expected to have to pay this penalty-approximately \$6000-since it did cancel the contract less than five days before the event; however, Eck added, due in part to the longstanding relationship

UMCVFD has with its fireworks vendor, it agreed eventually to shave the penalty fee to only \$1200. Eck said that UMCVFD decided to contact each of its funders-including the townand offer them several options to choose from regarding what would be done with their contributions for the event. They could allow the UMCVFD to keep the funds and apply them to next year's event. They could instead allow the contribution to be treated as a general donation to UMCVFD which could use as it saw fit, or the department could return contributions to donors.

In discussing the matter, it came up that the town had not yet sent its annual \$10,000. The commissioners discussed the fact that since the money had not yet been forwarded, it was free to use some of the funding which was still in the budget to help defray the costs the UMCVFD had already incurred. Some donors had already decided to make this offer. By a unanimous vote (Commissioner Dickerson was not present), the commissioners decided to contribute \$850 to UMCVFD to be used to defray a portion of the costs that had already been incurred.

The next item on the agenda was the 2016 Budget Closeout. This is a presentation on the final status of the last fiscal year's budget (the fiscal year for the town ends on July 31), including total expenditures and receipts. Town manager Wade Yost, in making the presentation, remarked that the town's budget is basically broken into two parts: General Operations, and Wastewater and Water (WW&W). General Operations are supported largely by taxes, grants, and loans, while Wastewater and Water programs are intended to be supported largely by fees (based on the amount of water and sewer services used by each customer).

Yost said that overall expenditures came in eight percent higher than projected due in large part to higher costs for snow removal, a grant from the general budget to the Wastewater and Water fund to cover a shortfall in total fees received, and costs for engineering oversight and development (contractor services needed to review and help oversee major infrastructure and repair projects). On the plus side, he said the town received a check from the state to help cover much of the shortfall for snow removal since the blizzard was considered a state emergency.

Yost also noted that for the first time in recent history, revenues from income taxes surpassed those received from property taxes. While this might be a welcome trend, it might also be an anomaly that would need to be carefully watched.

Continued on page 9.



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## Commentary Hot Days, Hazy Messages

### By John Clayton

The news carried on without me last week, as I was on vacation. Newspaper access, being expensive, was sporadic, and I rarely watched the news. I was on the Outer Banks, which I reached via White's Ferry, the best route I know of from the Barnesvillemetropolitan area, and the same is true for Poolesville. As best as I could tell, this was the week that was.

Following repeated mishaps and bad poll numbers, Donald Trump decided to step back from his halting attempts to campaign as a normal wussy presidential candidate and just tell it like he says it is. Working with ex-Fox News satyr Roger Ailes and an alt-right publisher named Stephen Bannon, Trump will, I am assuming, form a new media venture after the election blows over, which will be called something involving the name Trump. Considering this while on the beach, I submit it is a shame that Philip Seymour Hoffman isn't around to play Bannon in the inevitable movie, but I suppose Jeff Bridges will have to do, unless he plays Trump. I would die for the late James Galdofini to play Trump; furthermore, I wish we could exhume Charles Nelson Reilly to play that first whacko campaign manager, the guy with the eyes that grabbed the reporter and was in the crowd confronting protesters, whatever his name was. You just can't make this stuff up, but casting the movie is fun.

Bannon essentially replaced campaign manager Paul Manafort, who I think is going back to helping pro-Russian Ukrainians take over Ukraine. Apparently they pay a lot better than Trump does. When Trump's running mate (his name will come to me-I can't read the small print on the campaign signs) released his tax returns, pressure resumed ever so slightly for Trump to release his, so as to analyze actual income, charitable deductions, and just how embroiled with Putin and the Russians he might be. This is the strangest election ever, where the Republicans are accused of canoodling with the commies. In fact, Hillary Clinton seems to be the hawkiest candidate in the race, and has been for some time, notwithstanding Chris Christie's resolve to shoot down Russians in his no-fly zone. This is a role the Democrat rarely plays, and is confusing to many, and I'm sure quite disturbing to others. At least the Republicans still want to torture. They've got the Democrats boxed out on that one.

Meanwhile, with the prospect of success roaring in their ears, the Clintons assured everybody that they will move all that foundation stuff over to the side while Hillary is presidentover there, maybe on that buffet in the corner where they won't be distracted by it. Hey, they won't even look at it during dinner. No funds will be accepted from foreigners or Saudi Arabians or corporations or anyone else who might even remotely possibly be hoping to influence anything ever so slightly or curry favor with POTUS or FGOTUS (needs work). This, of course, satisfied practically no one anywhere as near as I could tell. Think about it. We have two people who have, let's be fair, been successful public servants who have never been convicted of doing anything illegal, which covers most people in public office, I grant you; however, even the rockingest Clintonista should admit that they have a funny habit of doing things that just might, or even could,

Continued on page 7.



## The Heat Is On as PHS Athletes Prepare For Fall Season

### By Jeff Stuart

### Football

A serious mid-August heatwave notwithstanding, the Poolesville High School athletes are out practicing for the fall season. The football captains are upbeat.

"It's been hard," said senior running back and linebacker Michael McDonald, "but we are used to the heat. We had team camp a few weeks ago, and it was hotter than this. I expect to go 8-2 and make the 3A West playoffs. We have new captains. I think the leadership is better than it was last year. We are returning eight of eleven starters on defense, so we are going to be a rock solid defensive unit. I always like to play Rockville, and I am trying to get payback against Watkins Mill. It is homecoming game, and I don't want to lose to them." Homecoming is September 30. The Rockville game is October 21.

"I'm definitely looking forward to getting better than we were last year and improving our record from 5-5,

hopefully going 8-2 like Michael said and making the playoffs," said senior middle linebacker Dakota Grimsby. "I have to agree with Michael on our leadership. I think it is better this year. All of us are friends with each other. We have been teammates for a pretty long time, so we know how our team works by now. I don't want to expose anything, but I think we have a couple of new things on offense and defense that we are excited to put in. I am looking forward to the Magruder game because last year it was a poor performance on our part against them, and it's also our Senior Night, so we will be ready to go out and see what we can do." The Magruder game is October 28.

"Practices have been good. We are really tight this year," said senior safety and wide receiver Colin Fisher. "Everyone knows everyone well. We have a new defensive line coach, Curtiss Belcher. He helps out on offense a little bit, too. He has just been a big help. Week one, we play Seneca Valley, and I am looking forward to not being embarrassed." The Falcons play Seneca at home on September 2.

"We have changed our offense and are running some different plays," said senior running back and linebacker Keegan Hemingway. "We have some new plays on defense like the

### Continued on page 21.



### **PHS Ranked First** Among Maryland Schools

Building on its tradition for academic excellence and student achievement, Poolesville High School was ranked first among Maryland public high schools in the newly-released "America's Top High Schools 2016" report by *Newsweek Magazine;* furthermore, Poolesville ranked thirty-second nationally and second among high schools in the Washington, D.C.-metropolitan region.

*Newsweek's* annual ranking of America's high schools is based on a variety of factors and performance indicators, including college acceptance data, student participation and performance on SAT and ACT college preparation tests, as well as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and other such tests.

"I know I speak for my fellow commissioners and for our whole community when I say we are so proud of the academic excellence that has become the hallmark of Poolesville High School," said Jim Brown, President of the Poolesville Town Commission. "We congratulate Principal Deena Levine and the staff at Poolesville High, and especially all of the students and proud parents, and we wish them all a wonderful new school year ahead."

### Anti-Substance Abuse Group Gets a Name

At the August 8 meeting of an antisubstance abuse group headed by Charlotte Boucher, the committee has adopted an official new name: Upcounty Prevention Network (UPCN).

Boucher was pleased to say, "I think it's a great name because it includes all the neighborhoods that send kids to Poolesville schools, it focuses on keeping our kids safe and strong by preventing substance abuse, and it underscores the collaboration among parts of our community that is key to our work."

UCPN is in the process of setting up its Facebook site which they plan to have up by Poolesville Day or sooner. In regard to Poolesville Day, UCPN is in need of adults and secondary school students to sit at its vendor table, hand out cards with information about the important mission, and encourage folks to fill out a survey on their iPhone, an iPad provided, or on hard copy.

The survey seeks to identify the level of awareness of residents of the area on issues relating to substance abuse. Resident participation in the survey will only take a very few minutes, but the information gained will be critical to the success of this group. All those concerned about youth issues of substance abuse are encouraged to stop by the UCPN booth and fill it out.

Students will be provided SSL hours and any of the four shifts during the day: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. This will allow plenty of time for all volunteers (students and adults) to participate fully in Poolesville Day activities.

### Monocacy Mystery Moment: Lost in Time Solved

We knew we could rely on our readers to help solve the mysteries surrounding a picture we placed in the August 12 issue. Of course, we heard from Dots Elgin and her son, Charles Elgin, Jr.



Here is the scoop. The picture is a horse drawn carriage with five passengers in historical guard in front of the Old Town Hall Bank Museum.

The year was 1954, and Poolesville was celebrating its sesquicentennial celebration. The driver was John Hickman, a local farmer, and next to him sat Mrs. Julius Hall (of the Hall house across from St. Peter's Church). Louise Clark and Betty Jean Wynne sat in the back. The fifth person is thought to be Lana Fritz. Oh, and by the way, about the Wynne girl? You know her better as Betty Jean Selby! The picture can be seen by visiting monocacymonocle. com and opening up the August 12 issue to page 8. We do not have a reason for 1954 being a 150th anniversary since the town's chartered incorporation was 1867 not 1804. We are open to any ideas as to why 1804 was significant.

### Big News Coming from Madison Fields

The Madison House Autism Foundation's Madison Fields farm in Dickerson thanks everyone who participated in the Montgomery County Farm Tour at Madison Fields and voted on names for its newborn mini horse—and the name with the most votes—drumroll, please!—is: Pikachu. They are grateful that Pikachu is as healthy, active, and adorable as can be.

Continued on page 14.



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# Things To Do

### August 26

**Fridays on the Commons: PES PTA Summer Carnival** Inflatables, kids' activities, food vendors, movie TBD. 6:00 p.m.

### August 29

Back to School for Students

### August 31

Poolesville Area Senior Center Tai chi, 17750 West Willard Road. 10:30 a.m.Zumba Gold. 1:00 p.m.

### September 1

PACC Breakfast Network Event Sponsored by Mark Corbett of Edward Jones, *Poolesville Town Hall*, 8:30 a.m.

### September 2

**PHS Varsity Home Games** Girls' tennis vs. Churchill. 3:45 p.m. Football vs. Seneca Valley. 7:00 p.m.

### September 3

**PHS Varsity Home Game** Boys' soccer vs. Magruder. 10:00 a.m.

### September 6

**Town Commissioners' Meeting** *Poolesville Town Hall.* 7:30 p.m.

### September 8

**PACC Breakfast Networking Event** *Poolesville Town Hall.* 8:30 a.m.

September 9 PHS Varsity Home Game Annual Hall of Fame Induction Game Football vs. Wheaton. 6:30 p.m.

### September 10

#### **Torchlight Recording Studios Showcase of Talent**

Featuring six area singers/songwriters in the folk/country ballad genre. Food vendors and restaurant carryout in walking distance for those who want to picnic. Attendees recommended to bring blankets or lawn chairs. Great for the whole family. Singers are: Ron Kemp, Joe Murray, Diane Bunch, Todd Walker, Natalie Dodson and Mike Conway, and Tim Kirkner. *Whalen Commons.* 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Have an event you'd like to list here? Email: editor@monocacymonocle.com



Just east of Route 109 and Barnesville Road

Do you have a milestone you would like to share with our readers? Send to editor@monocacymonocle.com

## Local News

## Showcase of Local Singer/Songwriters Scheduled at Whalen Commons

### By Rande Davis

Have you ever been amazed by how much high-quality musical talent our region offers? Dominique Agnew, Monocle writer for the Center Stage column, has covered so many over the years, and still more and more performers come to our attention. Poolesville's summer Fridays on the Commons has featured much of this talent and, now, for the first time, on September 10 at Whalen Commons, there will be a special evening featuring local performing singer/songwriters. All are clients of Torchlight Production Studios in Beallsville. Owner and operator of the studio, Jeff Feit, wanted to find a way to showcase these performers, especially those whose special genre features folk/country ballads (with some rock ballads as well) and would have broad strong appeal across varied demographic lines. "It will be an evening that the whole family through multiple generations will enjoy. Fans of James Taylor, Jim Croce, or John Denver will appreciate these guitarists and balladeers featuring much of their original works," said Feit.

Torchlight Productions is the passion and dream of Jeff Feit. His daytime career is as a mechanical engineer for the Department of Energy, but at night and on evenings, he transforms into a recording specialist, similar to the historical engineers of Motown or Abbey Road who all started small. Like so many historically-great recording studios, his is a tight space designed for versatility to meet the demands of his clients.

His passion for music started early as a pre-teen, learning to play the guitar, which ultimately led to becoming a rather prolific songwriter (mostly folk/country ballads) in his own right. Torchlight came into being in the late nineties as a way for Jeff to record much of his own work. His singing voice and style of music are very reminiscent of the legendary performers previously mentioned. He is also a great enthusiast of Richard and Karen Carpenter, with their mix of lush and full harmonies, and others like Simon and Garfunkel. "Their kind of creativity is why I got involved with my recording studio," Feit explained. "That's the kind of thing I try do here."

Jeff, a 1979 Magruder High School graduate, played in its jazz band which offered the big band sound and also started a bluegrass band with some friends, playing acoustic guitar for that as well. He got his mechanical engineering degree from the University of Maryland in 1984.

While in college, he began writing songs, mostly in the folk and country genres, and continued even after he went to work after college as a mechanical engineer at the Idaho Falls National Engineering Laboratory. While there, he began to pitch his songs to the Nashville market. At that time, he decided that he needed to use his mechanical engineering background coupled with his performing/songwriting experience to his advantage, so he began doing his own recordings.



Jeff Feit of Torchlight Recording Studios in Beallsville.

When he returned to Montgomery County in the 1990s, he got heavily involved in performing cover songs as well as original works, and decided he needed to up his recording game while joining with friend and fellow guitarist, Bruce Geyer to start a duo called Sidekicks. He continued performing even after the duo no longer played, and began the arduous voyage of solo gigs. Eventually, though, he shifted his focus to recording.

The largest segment of his business is recording original works, while some performers prefer to do covers which their booking agents use to land gigs.

At the ripe young age of forty-five, he decided to go back to school at the Omega School of the Recording Arts and Sciences in Rockville, while still working full time with DOE. At Omega, he attended classes three or four nights a week for thirteen months. It was at Omega that he obtained his certification as a recording engineer, and also became certified as an operator of Pro Tools, a digital state-of-the-art audio software application for professional recording. Even after graduation, Omega asked him back as an intern for a few months. This experience provided him with even more in-depth training in recording production.

## Local News

### Historic Poolesville Area House Built by Freed Slaves to Be Displayed in National Museum of African American History and Culture

### By Rande Davis

In 2008, the Montgomery County Planning Department, part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, initiated an effort to have an 1870s house built by former slaves near Poolesville featured in the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. The museum, located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., will open to the public on Saturday, September 24, 2016.

The original log house was constructed circa 1874 by former slave, Richard Jones, who, with his brother Erasmus, founded the freedman settlement known as Jonesville. Over time, other family members settled in Jonesville, building houses of their own. Most of the original Jonesville residences have been demolished or relocated. The Jones House is one of the few surviving examples of a Reconstruction-era home built by freed slaves in the country.

Owners of the house, who wanted to tear down the old structure and build a new home on the property, took their

### Continued from page 4.

### Hot Days, Hazy Messages

without too much of a stretch of the imagination, provide fertile ground for malfeasance. Not that it's happened (okay, there was that thing with the intern, speaking of satyrs), it's just a thought that it could, and it's mother's milk for those people that already hate you, and they're out there. I hear sensible voices all around saying, Just get rid of it. Give the foundation away, to someone, anyone, and not just to Chelsea. You're already rich, you can probably start another foundation without blinking in four or eight years, or in twelve or sixteen if Chelsea can beat Ivanka.

Allow me a bad metaphor: You're going to be President of the United States. You don't want to walk into the White House with a smoldering dumpster fire of controversy and innuendo dragged behind you. It smells and it could burst into flame at any time, to say nothing of the carbon footprint. This is what people who like you don't like about you, and it gets worse from there. Get rid of it—Now.

The Olympics were running the entire time I was on vacation, with great performances and derring-do from athletes from all sorts of places. The expectant, or at least potential, horrors of the Brazilians' preparations appeared to be overshadowed by some drunk and self-entitled swimmers, a story I tried to avoid, in part because the ringleader reminded me of a twenty-first century version of the nasty kid from the original *Karate Kid* movie.

It's great to be back. I timed the ferry just right on the return.

case to the County's Historic Preservation Commission. Recognizing that the Jones House was too dilapidated to save, the commission approved its demolition but recommended that the owners support the documentation of the original house's history through archaeology, photographs, and oral histories from the surviving members of the Jones family.

Acting on the commission's recommendation, Scott Whipple, Supervisor of the Planning Department's Historic Preservation Office, then called Smithsonian museum curator Paul Gardullo to find out if he would be interested in participating in the Jones House documentation effort. Gardullo seized the opportunity to acquire a rare, post-slavery artifact, disassemble it, and store it so it could eventually be featured in the National Museum of African American History and Culture which was being developed at the time.

The curator and his team have since reconstructed the original log building without its subsequent additions. The two-story house will be one of the largest exhibits in the new museum.

"County residents should be proud that the museum included this house from Jonesville to help tell the postslavery story," said Whipple. "It's very exciting to realize that something this historically important, which otherwise would have been lost forever, is instead being added to the national museum whose purpose is recount the African American experience in this country. I'm so pleased the museum took on the Jones House project and really hope our residents will visit the museum to see it."

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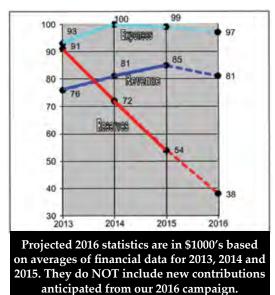


# Local News

### WUMCO Campaign Will Address Drop in Revenues

For the first time ever, WUMCO Help will be conducting a community-wide fundraising campaign starting in September. Board president Nancy Allnutt said that preparation for outreach to local residents, churches, businesses, and civic organizations to bolster donations have been underway since April. "There's never a 'good time' for a fundraising campaign, but circumstances compel us to undertake the effort if we are to insure WUMCO's ability to fully serve our lowincome residents over the long haul."

Analysis of the finances of the organization reveals the problem. Revenues have lagged significantly behind expenses for the past three years despite a relatively flat budget for the period. If present trends persist, WUMCO will deplete its reserves within the next two years or less. "We want to be pro-active and restore our financial underpinning for the coming years and not wait for a financial crisis or have to cut programs," campaign chairman Ray Hoewing said. "While WUMCO is supported by outside grants and organizations such as the United Way, about seventy-five percent of our revenues come from local individuals and organizations and, thus, we must take our case to the local community."



The WUMCO board is

very cognizant of the incredible support of the community over the years. The prime example is probably the donation of almost all the nonperishable food for its food pantry (over 16,000 lbs. distributed in 2015) from an array of many individuals and entities (notably including an average of over 5000 lbs. each year collected door-to-door by Boy Scout Troop 496). Executive Director Catherine Beliveau added that dozens of individuals step forward during the year to provide, among other things: office assistance; transportation to doctors and clinics for ailing

clients; and to organize, assemble, and distribute food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas (over 200 in 2015) and Christmas toys (for 348 children in 2015).

Most residents know that WUMCO was created by founder Jane Stearns forty-eight years ago but may not realize the wide swath of the Upcounty that it serves, roughly the area from the Frederick County line (northwest) to the Potomac River (south) to Clarksburg and Germantown (east), and while most view WUMCO as a sort of food pantry, many do not understand that over the years, it has evolved into a multiple-emergency services provider.

Program	No. of Clients Served One or More Times	Total No. of Individual Services
Emergency Food		
(food pantry)*	52 Families / 154 Person	s 128
Housing Costs	45 Families	48
Utilities Costs	74 Families	105
Medicines and Medical Procedures	22 Persons	70
Medical Transportation	4 Persons	19
Automobile Maintenance		
or Preservation	15 Families	19
Thanksgiving Food Baskets	154 Families	639
Christmas Food Baskets	166 Families	703
Christmas Toys	348 Children	348
*16,163 lbs.		

The move to its new headquarters in Poolesville in April 2015 required the absorption of rental, utility, and other costs previously donated by Ms. Stearns.

WUMCO pointed out that while changes in client needs cannot be predicted, it hopes to keep its annual outlays within the 2015 range in coming years.

In the next three months, residents will have many opportunities to learn about WUMCO and the campaign, notably a bulk mailing to every postal customer in its territory. Perhaps the most innovative feature is a first-ever membership program. That component and much other information will be found in this newspaper and Poolesville's FaceBook page, and disseminated by churches and civic organizations.

One especially heartening development will result in reducing the drain on the WUMCO treasury to fund the campaign. A generous donation of \$5,000 was made by Hands of Love, a charity with several different Christian ministries. Residents will recall that, for a number of years, one of those ministries was the collection, storage, and transportation of clothes,



Hands of Love director Link Hoewing presented a \$5,000 check from HOL to WUMCO president Nancy Allnutt to help with WUMCO's fall fundraising.

household goods, and other used items for distribution to low-income residents in West Virginia and to missions overseas. HOL is led by Dr. John Todd, who lived in the Poolesville area for decades, and the board includes a number of current or former Poolesville residents and business owners, including former PHS teacher Dale Nestor, former commissioner Link Hoewing, and State Farm agent Mark Warner.

# POOLESVILLE DAY SEPTEMBER 17 PACC 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK SIGN UP NOW!

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### Continued from page 3.

### Few but Weighty Items On August Agenda for Commissioners

Part of the reason the town needed to take funds out of general operations to support the WW&W operations was that costs for some operations were higher than expected or savings were less than anticipated. For example—and perhaps surprisingly—the town appears to have overestimated the savings from its recent installation of solar panels which may have reduced annual electricity expenses by only \$8,000 to \$10,000, far less than projected.

Overall Mr. Yost concluded, the town is in strong financial shape. The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Budget Closeout.

In a final agenda item, town engineer John Strong reported on continued testing to identify infiltration and inflow (I&I) problems in the town's sewer system. I&I occurs via cracks or breaks in the town's sewer pipes. These can occur simply due to aging, can be related to poor construction in the past, or can be due to natural ground shifting. Some I&I will always exist, but if it is too extensive, it can cause overflows in the sewer plant or, at a minimum, can require costly processing at the plant that is not needed.

Strong said that the recent I&I monitoring effort found three categories of problems that should be addressed. Some nineteen manholes are deemed to have serious water inflow problems and should be repaired. The town has over 900 manholes although not all were examined during the current study. Many laterals (large sewer main lines) in the Wesmond development were found to have significant I&I issues and allowed large amounts of water to enter the sewer system from the ground. Finally, older sewer mains along Fisher Avenue were found to have significant water leakage problems caused in part by construction practices in the past that did not require the use of long-term and careful sealing around pipes.

The commissioners were told that approximately \$433,000 are in the budget for "unrestricted use" and could be repurposed. They decided to take \$120,000 of that amount to help boost repaving of streets in Wesmond and committed the remaining funds to repairing the nineteen manholes and fixing the laterals in Wesmond. The approximately \$310,000 that was repurposed, when combined with funds existing in the I&I budget, will allow the completion of both the manhole and lateral repairs. The commissioners voted unanimously for this approach.

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Mallary Graham at the beginning of the lamb show.

The 4-H swine competitors readying their animals for the show.

Barnesville's Mina Prasada-Rao answers questions from the judge about her lamb.

# **MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR 4-H'ERS**



Jessica Rothenberg's lamb was crowned the Champion-Lamb 2016.



The 4-H Christman family competed in the beef show.



MC Beef 4-H competitor, Cole Johnson.



Forget about the Redskins Hogettes! Think MC Fair pink instead.





Boyds's Jenna Rothenberg walking her lamb during the show.



Ariana King

Lions Richard Manteuffel, Gary Burdette, and Charles Kearse handled the eye and ear examination duties at the MC fair.



Dickerson's James Savage



Sydney Wade



Ashley Hobbs and her award-winning lamb.





Montgomery County council members: Craig Rice, Marc Elrich, Sidney Katz, and Roger Berliner present Drew Stabler (microphone in hand) with certificate of achievement for his being recognized nationally for his farm's stewardship of the enivironment.

Kitty Cooley, long-time fair volunteer, was the 2016 Grand Marshal for the Montgomery County Ag Fair parade.



Kitty Cooley and State Comptroller Peter Franchot.



Joy Schwab presented Sue Hogan Sullivan an award for her outstanding volunteerism at the MC Fair.



Montgomery County 2016 Fair Queen Jessica Corazza and member of the royal court, Patrick O'Hanlon.





Bob Cissel, Craig Rice, and Mike Jamison at the Ag Leaders luncheon.



Valued volunteer staff: Lisa Hilton, Megan Poland, Mary Yates, Christina Hilton, and Helen Kaelin.

### Continued from page 1.

### Local Farmers Recognized at Fair

learning. Their dream was realized in 1862 when the Morrill Act granted eligible states 30,000 acres of land to establish institutes of learning that would focus on practical agriculture, science, military science, and engineering.

Shuster observed that the value of pursuing a college education in agriculture at the University of Maryland is evident by its ranking in the top five nationally in return on investment and having ninety percent of its graduates find employment upon graduation with the level of salaries those jobs commanded.

Potomac's Mount Pleasant Farm owner, Robert Hanson, was selected as an inductee in the Montgomery County Agriculture Hall of Fame. In presenting the award, Doug Tregoning, an MC Extension agent, remarked that the ninety-three-year-old Mr. Hanson has been active in the agriculture community even as youth when riding his pony to and from school in Bethesda. The family farm, which was originated by his parents Bill and Tip, at one time included one thousand acres in the Potomac area. Among Hanson's many achievements: he is only one of two living original members of the Montgomery County Fair Board of Directors, first president of the Rural Youth of the United States of America, 4-H Nation Chief, Maryland representative to the 4-H National Congress, Montgomery County Fair Committee, Rustic Roads Committee, and board member of the National 4-H Foundation.

The farm, which is the last active farm in Potomac, has raised cattle (including a state champion Angus bull), pigs, horses, hay, wheat, and more. He once sold one thousand pigs to a farmer in South America whose offspring lineage is still evident to this day. He has also been an innovator of many various pieces of farm equipment.He is a member of the Potomac Hunt Club; and his civic contribution includes sixty-three years as a member of Rockville Rotary, Rotary District Governor, founder of Potomac Rotary, secretary of Metro YMCA where he was a very effective fundraiser, and scoutmaster. Over the decades, around ten thousand scouts have camped on the family farm.

In a typical farmer's humble response to such a well-deserved award, he simply thanked the fair committee and was thankful that the family's fourth generation is still very active in the fair.

County farmer, Drew Stabler, was also honored by the Montgomery County Council for his recent selection by the National Corn Growers' Association with its annual Good Steward Award, which singled him out for his long-time environmental practices and conservation leadership through his good farming practices.

Representing the county council, Roger Berliner said that Mr. Stabler was a most-beloved member of the county's ag community and that his award for environmental stewardship cannot be overstated in its importance, especially when observing it was given to him out of all the corn growers throughout the United States.

Stabler's farm, the Sunny Rich Farm in Laytonsville, is an 1800-acre family farm that, along with corn, also raises soy, wheat, and other crops. His leadership in conservation is evidenced by his no-till practices and as a member of the governor's Agriculture Hall of Fame.

In receiving his award, Stabler said that good stewardship farming practices are well represented by the county's farmers and that he "just happened to live long enough to receive the award."

The Ag Center Leadership award was presented by Joy Schwab to Sue Hogan Sullivan for her consistent and long-time volunteer work as a member of the Montgomery County Ag Center Board of Directors, fair planning committee, superintendent of the information booth, and on the advisory board for Maryland Ag Association's Fairs and Shows committee.

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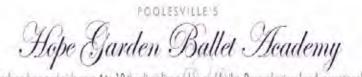
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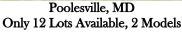


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Continued from page 6.

### Singer/Songwriters at the Commons

Today's modern recording studio does not always operate using large format recording consoles or racks full of other audio equipment. Instead, Jeff works off of a large screen digital-mixing console on a large, touch-sensitive monitor depicting multiple faders which he can move with his fingers simultaneously. Another large editing screen situated just above the mixer enables him to "see" graphically the sonic waveforms and an interpretation of each edit or change that he makes to the sound. He records each and every instrument through various microphones surrounding each instrument and singer. Clients don't need to fully understand the intricacies of what he does, they just want to be able to tell him what they are looking for in the mix, relying on his artistic expertise to produce a polished sound.

The studio has the typical black sound absorbing pads and white diffusors in specific places on the walls and ceiling. While he sits in his control room, the performers are in the studio room. Singers are usually situated in a cylindrically shaped, sound-absorbent, encapsulated space (a bit bigger than a telephone booth), while larger groups of up to six or seven band members perform in a bigger space within the studio room.

Jeff chose the name Torchlight, keeping the freedom-bearing message of the Statue of Liberty in mind, changing the message of Lady Liberty's beckoning words just slightly: "Give me your songs...yearning to be free." Torchlight clients seek its more laid-back, informal, and calming environment style of production, which proves to be attractive to the performing neophyte as well as to the highly-experienced professional.

The Torchlight Productions Recording Studio Artist Showcase on September 10 starts at 4:00 p.m. Attendees should bring chairs or blankets as picnic tables may be limited. Refreshments will be available, but bringing a picnic or buying carryout at a local restaurant can only add to the fun. Although subject to change, the lineup includes local singer/songwriters: Todd Walker, Ron Kemp, Tim Kirkner, Natalie Dodson and Mike Conway, Diane Bunch, and Joe Murray.

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September 2: DJ Slim Pickins at 8:30 p.m. September 3: DJ at 8:30 p.m.

September 9: DJ Kelli at 8:30 p.m. September 10 Bobby Lewis Band on the patio at 5:00 p.m.



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### Continued from page 5.

### **Big News Coming from Madison Fields**

They also announced that their eight-acre Mother Goose Corn Maze will be open every Friday through Sunday in September and October. In addition to the corn maze, Madison Fields will feature Mother Goose-themed activities including the "Ring around the Roses" straw bale maze for younger children, and the "Mary Had a Little Lamb" farm animal meet and greet. Local produce, breads, soups, honey, and other goods may also be for sale, in conjunction with other local farms. In October, "Peter, Peter Pum'kin Eater" pumpkin carving will be added. Proceeds from ticket sales to the Amazing Maze or any additional donations will support the Madison House Autism Foundation and will be directed towards developing social, employment, and housing options for adults with special needs, as well as the community-at-large. Madison Fields is located at 21355 Big Woods Road.





### Continued from page 1.

### **Riding with the Cops**

in some instances, even having a brief conversation.." A good example of the value of this on my ride was pulling up next to a car that was parked at Our Lady of the Presentation's exit. Officer Gloss pulled up with his window down and in a friendly manner simply asked if everything was all right or if the driver needed any help. "In my earlier days I may have been a bit more direct. Just asking, 'What are you doing here?' can be heard by some as harsher than intended." The Monocacy Monocle

Officer Gloss was attracted to policing as a young man and, after doing some interning with an upstate New York Police Force, he decided to attend college to study criminal justice. "There are negative aspects about policing, especially in the public's eye, but for me, the key is: I really do see my job as simply helping people." While he looked at an opportunity with a university police department after graduation, he learned about the Montgomery County Police Department and was very pleased when they hired him.

Riding with Officer Gloss, I soon came to appreciate the importance of

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focusing on the little things. Early in the patrol, he likes to stop and visit with a number of different businesspeople. "I can quickly get a feel for what's going on in the community. Are things uptight or relaxed?" While his visit may seem informal, he has two goals in mind: Trying first to find out if there is something going on in town he needs to know about early in his shift and, second, to make sure the businesses get to know him in a more unofficial way so that working with them in a more intense situation is easier.

While he begins the routine of patrolling the area, what may look casual to others is a studied approach. As we swing by the Poolesville Baptist Church, for example, he notes a dark sedan way in the back that is, to his eye, out of place. He swings to the back, approaches the car carefully to determine if anyone is inside, and checks out the interior for any obvious problems (weapons, drugs, etc.) or damage to the windows or doors that might indicate it was broken into. Dropping off a stolen car in the back of a parking lot is a typical scenario. He runs a report and in seconds he has all the information about the car and everything matches up, so he is satisfied there is not problem with this car parked here.

Patrolling the area means checking on the business parking lots frequently, riding through neighborhoods to make sure everything looks in order and that the smaller parks look safe, and then periodically riding through the more secluded spots like the larger parks, pathways, back lots of businesses, back roads, and equestrian trail parking lots. He has very powerful lighting capacity to sweep the park scene when it becomes dark. If someone is there, he is going to see him or her. His communication with town residents is one way to find out about some of the less obvious spots that could ultimately become a breeding ground "for things to go wrong or people up to no good."

Officer Gloss has befriended a number of residents and finds ways to help out whenever he can. This can be as simple as spending time with some residents who find themselves alone, assuring them that someone is looking out for them. This aspect of learning his patrol area is more important in the winter when being a shut-in can become dangerous. He is especially appreciative of the local support for the police. From Dr. Pike and Valega's "We support our police" sign, to Bob Planters who, when seeing him having dinner with me the night of our ride at Bassett's, came over, thanked him for his service and picked up the dinner tab.

While a major event or emergency did not happen on the quiet night we rode along, we did have a number of traffic stops for things that concerned Officer Gloss. In one instance, it was a blatant running of a stop sign. One of the most oft-made complaints in Poolesville is about drivers disregarding traffic signs or driving too fast on neighborhood streets. In response to public concerns, the police watch this carefully. One driver stopped had had a couple of warnings before, not only about running stop signs but running through that exact same stop sign twice before. Modern policing allows for even warnings to be recorded and noted, and this time, the driver needed the hard lesson of getting a ticket to remember not to blow through local stop signs.

As the evening became darker, the mundane traffic stops took on a more dangerous air. Officer Gloss approaches each car very carefully from the rear. Not only watching everything including possible movement inside the car but also by sliding his hand over the trunk to test if it feels fully closed or if it might pop open unexpectedly.

Ironically, one of the stops is for a car with window shading too dark to allow a police officer to see the interior. He carries a small tool to gauge if the shading is too dark. In this case, it is beyond allowable tinting and the driver is given ten days to have it removed or replaced by a legal tint. "Unfortunately, it's costly to remove, but many tinting companies don't care to go by the legal limits. They're happy to sell what you want, and, in this case, it's going to cost more than even a ticket." What can look cool to one, can also be a major safety hazard to another.

Officer Gloss especially enjoyed getting out of his patrol car and walking through Whalen Commons during one of its Fridays on the Commons. "Getting to greet the people, especially the littlest ones, and handing out free coupons for a smoothie was a lot fun and gives a chance for the kids to see cops in a friendly way."

While the ride-along experience did not come with any high-speed chases or major confrontations with the public, it did come with perhaps an even more important understanding of what professional patrolling looks like and why a safe community is not something that just happens by chance or simply by the goodwill of the public.







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### Police Blotter: Past and Present By Jack Toomey

### Present Crime

**Burglary:** 19500 block of Darnestown Road.

**Theft:** 17200 block of General Custer Way.

### Past Crime

August 31, 1882 In order to forestall a panic, the sheriff announced that there was no typhoid fever epidemic in Rockville. He said that "typhoid is no more prevalent here than cholera was in the District of Columbia." He did admit that a woman, living three miles outside of town, did die of typhoid during the previous case but insisted that it was an isolated case.

**September 2, 1885** Sharp-eyed sheriff's deputies spotted a trio of threecard Monte fakers getting off the train at the Rockville station. They were said to be en route to the Rockville Fair which was underway just across the pike. They were taken to court where the judge ordered them to board the next train and leave town.

September 6, 1898 Crooks of all descriptions descended on the Montgomery County Fair and were successful in fleecing many of the farmers and country people who came looking for a day of fun. Bunco men, shell workers, pickpockets, and confidence men roamed the fair looking for potential victims. In most of the games, the customer had no chance of winning. A well-known thief named One-Armed Casey, who was known up and down the East Coast, was allowed to set up shop. He fleeced every customer who attempted to play his game. Eventually, the sheriff showed up and ordered Casey out of town. One game played near a grove of trees drew the biggest crowd. A customer paid a dime to test his strength. The weight was rigged so that a child could succeed, but paying customers could not see that behind the tree, covered by a blanket, stood two men who were actually lifting the weight. Many young men went home to their families boasting about their superhuman strength.

August 31, 1901 A busy day was had for the constables detailed to the county fair. There were complaints of skin games being conducted where unsuspecting customers were being fleeced. The sale and consumption of intoxicating liquor was prohibited by law in Montgomery County. That did not stop people working at the dairy bar from selling bottles of liquor that were concealed under the counter. A serious assault was also reported. Edward Brown, a well-known farmer, cautioned a young man from smoking too closely to a barn. The man replied with a blackjack blow to Brown's face. Deputies immediately searched for the assailant.

**September 3, 1901** Sheriff Kennedy was a busy man on this day. He had arrested Ike Burton on a charge of being drunk and disorderly at Glen Echo. He took Burton to Rockville and turned him over to the jailer. When Kennedy returned several hours later, he learned that Burton had escaped wearing Kennedy's handcuffs. Kennedy then set off for Washington to look for a man running around wearing a pair of handcuffs.

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



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# Garden

## A Cool White Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

A flower garden should be a calming retreat from the outside world and even from your house.

Depending upon your color preferences, this can be true of flowers in any hue: bright red, orange, yellow, dark blues, and white. Most gardens look inviting in the early days of May and June; the weather is usually not too hot or humid. I call them "Goldilocks" days. For me, the challenging part comes in July when we can have ninety-degree temperatures, one hundred percent humidity, and Japanese beetles. Under these conditions, I find it hard to feel calm and cool with red hot colors. This past July has been no exception. There was little joy working in the garden. My escape was my White Garden.It is a modest garden with about fifteen different types of plants. The most famous white garden is probably the one of Vita Sackville-West (1892-1962), an English poet, novelist, and garden designer, at her home in Sissinghurst in Kent, England. It was the most renowned part of one of the most influential gardens of the twentieth century. She and her

husband Harold Nicholson began discussing the creation of a garden of a white and silver theme in 1949. By 1954, most of the key plants were in place and the new garden started to mature. In January 1950, she wrote an article for the British newspaper, *The Observer*, which most potently captured the White Garden's romance:

"All the same, I cannot help hoping that the great ghostly barn-owl will sweep silently across a pale garden, next summer, in the twilight—the pale garden that I am now planting, under the first flakes of snow."

What makes a white garden? It is not merely a plot of land planted with white flowers; that would be boring and look like a garden wall of freshlywashed white sheets. It will succeed only if foliage and flowers are in harmony with their neighbors with an interplay of foliage in shades of gray and green and flowers in shades of white. Throughout the plantings, there should be a balance between the flower shapes and sizes and foliage colors and textures. In selecting a spot for this garden, consider the background. It will not work in an open field. It needs the edges to be softened and held together by varying shrubs and trees. Contrasts of form can be provided not only by foliage, but also by the natural sculptures found in blooms: mounds and fluffs, globes and spires, in a variety of sizes. The tall spires of delphinium are totally different than the globe flower head of an allium.

I planted my White Garden about fifteen years ago, and as it matured, plants have come and gone. New additions have kept it healthy and interesting. It is a relatively narrow long strip under a stand of towering white pine trees. As they are of varying ages, the amount of sunlight or shade that the underlying plants receive is mixed. I want the garden to have four seasons of interest, so some bloom in early spring, early summer, mid-summer, and the fall.

My oldest and most favorite member of my white garden is *Dicentra spectabilis*, the old-fashioned White Bleeding Heart. The small, pure white, heart-shaped flowers are exquisitely elegant, long-lived, and disease- and pest-free. Blooming right behind it is *Allium* 'Mount Everest.' All through May and June their four-inch white globe heads on three-foot stems sway in the warm breezes.

My next flowering plants provide the most ravishing perfume of the spring garden, the white hyacinths.

My white dianthuses are the little, perfumed workhorses of the front border. If you keep them deadheaded, they will bloom all summer, right into fall. If you only grow bearded irises,



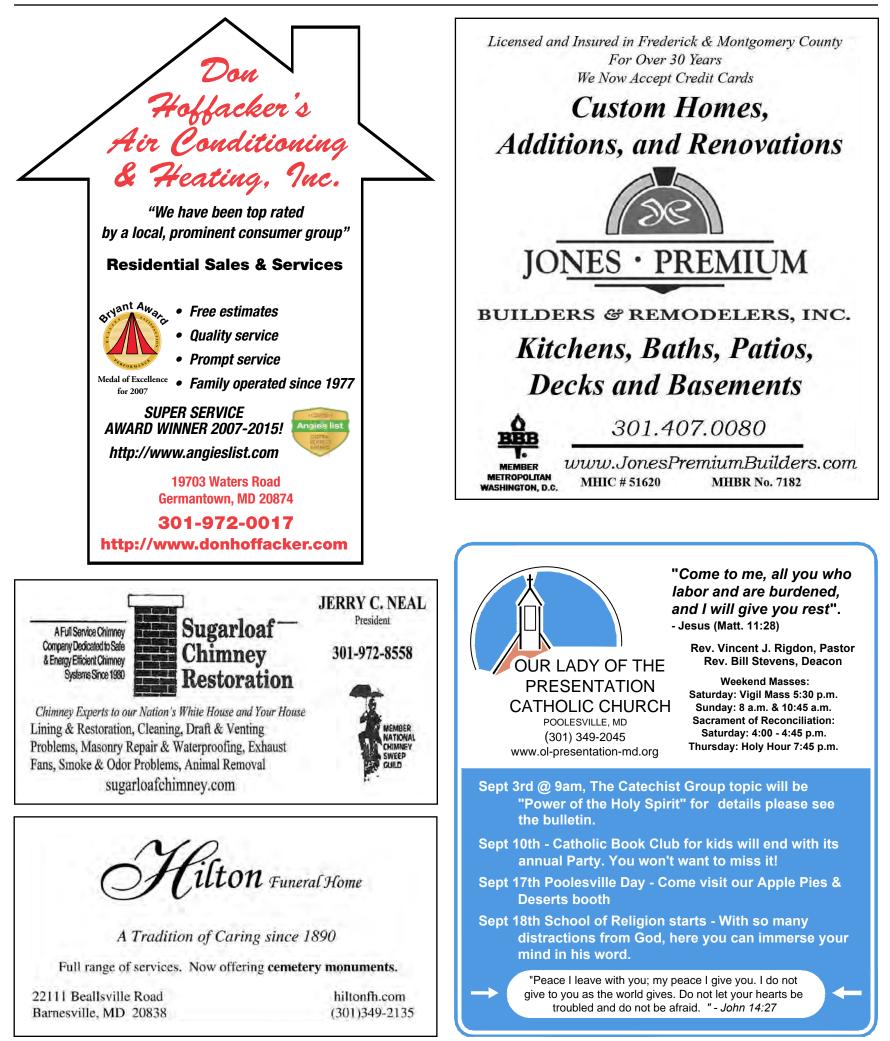
you are missing the beauty and elegance of its cousin, *Iris sibirica*. I sometimes find the bearded ones a bit top heavy; the Siberians are the picture of grace.

Rounding out the garden picture are: *Echinacea* 'White Swan,' Shasta Daisy 'Becky,' Phlox 'David,' Veronica Magic Show 'White Wand,' Foxglove 'Camelot White,' *Hemerocallis* 'Lady Elizabeth,' *Delphinium* 'Centurion White,' and the *Anemone sylvestris.* The queen of my white garden is the Oriental lily 'Casa Blanca.' It grows to about four feet tall with eightto-ten inch white blooms appearing

Continued on page 21.







### Continued from page 4.

#### The Heat Is On as PHS Athletes Prepare For Fall Season

other captains said. I am excited to see how it goes for us this year. I am looking forward to the Winters Mill and B-CC games this year since those were my two biggest games last year. I had the most fun in those games. In both of those games, I just think we competed really well, and they were just good games." The Winters Mill game is away on September 16, and the B-CC game is at Walter Johnson on October 7.

"I am very excited," said senior tight end and defensive lineman, Sam Pavlick. "This year, compared to past years, we are pretty much light years ahead of where we have been. We have already put in a lot of plays and are running them smoothly in practice. As the coach said earlier, we could probably play a game right now if we really needed to. I think it is going to work out well when our playing time starts. We had a scrimmage last Friday, and we got all our plays in already. I am really looking forward to the Richard Montgomery game. They usually get our A game out of us, and we usually get their A game out of them."

Coach Dave Murray echoed his captains' enthusiasm. "I'm really excited about this year because we have a great group of leaders. We have a lot of experienced players coming back, and our team is very close knit. I think we will continue to grow and compete in a very tough division. I'm looking forward to the challenge."

### **Field Hockey**

"We are two days into the preseason, and the team is working really hard. It sure has been a hot one," said field hockey coach Rachel Stream, "but they are pushing through it. (PUSH - Persistence Until Something Happens.) B-CC is our first game at home of the season on September 7. It will definitely be a big game. B-CC is very talented and has great hockey skills. I am just hoping we keep up with them and that we will learn from it. It will only build us up, and we can see what more we have to work out. We are going to try and go with speed this year because we have it. We are



very young, but these girls are willing to work and learn the game, so I am super excited. We are hoping to get back to where we got last year and maybe go a little further. We are going to keep working and see what the season has in store." Players to watch are senior Sophia Mense, first team All-County forward, junior forward Haley Harkins, and senior midfielders Delaney Cecco, Samme Mullikin, and Emma Whitehouse.

### Girls' Volleyball

"This season will be one of multiple phases," said girls' volleyball coach Daniel Duvall. "Senior Caroline Leng, Honorable Mention All-Met last season, tore her ACL in February and isn't expected back until October. As a major part of our offense, she will be missed. Junior Edlia Fogam should have a breakout year moving from the be a huge key to our success this season. Sophomore Kristen Yee will return to the setting position, and then everything else is pretty much up for grabs. I have a young team, with five sophomores, one freshman, three juniors, and five seniors. The youth mixed with the experience should be good for growth, but could result in some growing pains and ups and downs. No different than any other season, so I'm hoping for some good surprise play from some underclassmen and for some upperclassmen to step up where we need them. After our annual preseason scrimmage tournament, I should have a better understanding of where we stand and what we will need to be focusing on." The girls' first home game is against Quince Orchard on September 7. They are at Damascus on October 10.

middle to the outside hitter. She could

### Continued from page 19.

### A Cool White Garden

in late summer when other plants are slowing down. I can't have enough of these sensational flowers.

My foliage plants in my white garden are not second-class citizens; they are equal actors on the stage. Is there no more appropriate name for *Stachys byzantina* than Lamb's-ear? This very hardy and long-lived perennial with its thick, wooly, soft leaves provides a striking textural quality unfound in many other plants. I have about eight of them living along the front of the sunny front border. Dusty miller with its silvery-gray foliage and lacey leaves is an old standby and is a reliable and hardy companion to the flowers. *Artemisia* is also called mugwort, wormwood, and sagebrush. These names do not sound very attractive, but this herbaceous perennial belongs in a white garden. Grow it for its silvery-green foliage and its aromatic, culinary and medicinal properties. There are many herb plants that are good choices for this garden. I have found several sage plants that do very well and add a lot of textural contrast. My favorite is Silver Sage.

These are the plants that live in my white garden. There are many other choices, but I have found that these do well in our Monocacy climate.

Maybe at twilight a great ghostly barn-owl sweeps silently over my pale garden. I hope so.





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# Wackiest Pet Names of 2016 Peter H. Eeg, DVM

# **Poolesville Veterinary Clinic**

While we always try to educate and inform you about interesting and important aspects of your pets' lives, we sometimes just have to take a moment to enjoy the humor that goes with owning pets.

Nationwide Insurance holds an annual Wackiest Pet Names contest. The company does this by going through its database of 575,000 insured pets (You didn't know that Nationwide insurance insures pets also? Well, now you do.). They posted the 50 wackiest on their website, wackypetnames.com, for all to enjoy. Here are the top ten for dogs and cats:

Top 10 Wackiest Dog Names of 2016

p 10 V	Vackiest Dog Names of 2016	Top 10 Wackiest Cat Names of 2016
1.	McLoven the Stud Muffin	1. Agent Jack Meower
2.	Kanye Westie (a personal favorite)	2. Shakespurr
3.	Angus Von Wigglebottom	3. Meowmadeus
4.	SuperFunCoconutDog	4. Macaroni Bob
5.	Optimus Prime Rib	5. Sir Pickles Pennybottom
6.	Maximus Waffles	6. Princess Poopy Paws
7.	ChaChi Big Foot	7. Butch Catsidy (Another Favorite)
8.	Scrappin Sruffy Macdoogle of the Highland Macdoogles	8. Sharkbait Hoo Haa Haa
9.	Lieutenant Colonel Be Back Soon	9. Ziggy Snowdust
10.	Aggie Von Schwaggie	10. Enzo Asparagus Santa

So let us know your favorite or share a fun name you have encountered. Hope you and your "Kanye Westie" and "Butch Catsidy" have a great end of summer. Remember that back-to-school days are a good time to review your pets' vaccinations and preventatives -- just as it is for your less furry children.



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