

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

June 9, 2017 • Volume XIII, Number 7



Drs. Pike and Valega hosted their annual client appreciation day. There's more to see in Family Album on page 2.



Carl Hobbs and daughter Jenn are planning another great party—for a good cause, too! Look for your invitation on page 5.



LUCAS 2 will save lives, find out how in Tidbits on page 6.



Shopping like it's 1821. See how in Daytripper on page 9.

State Champs!

By Jeff Stuart

"Well, a-beat the drum and hold the phone. The sun came out today," sang John Fogerty in his hit song "Centerfield." Well, the sun did come out, and Poolesville defeated defending champion Chesapeake in the 3A Championship Game, 4-3, at Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen on May 27—and May 28, too, because it rained most of the day, actually, and the game did not start until 10:00 p.m. and ended well after midnight. They closed the concession stands in the third inning, but Poolesville did win its first ever state title. "Don't say it ain't so, you know the time is now," sang Fogerty.

The Falcons got off to a quick start as shortstop Brady Pearre, who had three hits, singled with the bases loaded and no outs in the bottom of the first to give Poolesville a 2-0 lead. The Falcons were not able to add to it until Colin Metz doubled home two more runs in the fourth to give Poolesville a 4-0 lead.

"It was crazy to get going that early," said Pearre. "It was such a big jump start for our offense which had been struggling. Two runs felt like six."



2017 State Champions: Poolesville High School's varsity baseball team.

"I was nervous with two strikes on me," said Metz who had a busy night in centerfield as well. "I was able to barrel it up. It feels great. I never had this feeling in my life."

Starter and winning pitcher Cole Carmack, using his defense and an occasional sneaky fast ball when he needed it, escaped several jams in a

Houdini-like manner, inducing one key double play. He threw four scoreless innings before needing bullpen help in the fifth when the Cougars scored three times. That inning started with an error and a walk. Chesapeake left ten runners on base and the bases loaded twice.

Continued on page 4.

Center Stage—Still Painting on Walls

By Susan Petro

While other teenagers were busy hanging posters of their favorite rock stars and celebrities on their bedroom walls, long-time local resident Karen Kouneski went a step further and was, much to her mother's dismay, painting her favorite rock stars on her walls. Paintings of Pink Floyd, Jimi Hendrix, and Charlie Daniels adorned her bedroom walls while some of her more creative images were painted inside her closet. "I used to get into trouble for painting on walls," said Kouneski, who has since turned her hobby into a business, aptly named Still Painting on Walls.

Although, Kouneski's mother wasn't always thrilled with her daughter's habit of painting on walls, both she and Karen's father, a housepainter



Karen Kouneski of Still Painting on Walls in front her mural at Lee's Trees.

himself, encouraged her to keep up with the art she loved. Her dad inspired her creativity by bringing home drawing books. Kouneski grew up in

Olney before moving to Poolesville in 1992 where she and her husband raised three children.

Continued on page 8.

Family Album



After the festivities, the tent had to come down.



Fire trucks responded to a suspected gas leak at PHS on May 12. Fortunately, there was no leak, and everyone was fine.



Alex Pike, just another big kid, tested the balloon slide at the Pike/Valega Patient Appreciation Day.



These folks felt quite appreciated at the Pike/Valega Patient Appreciation Day.



Attendees enjoyed the American Legion Post 247 annual picnic.



More satisfied customers at the Pike/Valega Patient Appreciation Day.



Nick and Mary Markoff, Laura Davis, Dave Wilson and son, Sam.

Town Government

County Proposal for Golf Course Project and Town Takeover of County Roads Top Agenda

By Link Hoewing

The commissioners lauded both the local Girl Scout Troop and the Poolesville High School baseball team at their regular meeting on June 5 (read elsewhere in this issue for stories on the scouts and the baseball team).

Commission President Jim Brown welcomed Coach Steve Orsini and his assistant coaches and the boys of the Poolesville High School baseball team. The commissioners invited the team to honor them and present a special proclamation hailing the team's accomplishment in becoming the first baseball team at the high school to win the state championship in Poolesville's division, 3A.

President Brown said that the proclamation emphasized how proud the entire community is of the team and its "amazing year." He pointed out that the team had "been on the brink before" but had never won the title. The team's success had excited the entire town, and he and the other commissioners laughed at how they had to wait until after midnight to hear how the championship game had turned out.

After reading the proclamation, President Brown presented a copy to each member of the team. In brief remarks, Coach Orsini said that while the parents of the boys on the team, the managers, and the assistant coaches were all keys to helping support the team's achievements, in the end "it really became a community effort and slowly evolved all year" as the team had more and more success.

After the awards and presentations, the commissioners heard from Keith Miller, the head of the Montgomery County Revenue Authority. Miller has spearheaded the effort of the county to obtain funding to build a grape-crushing facility on a portion of the property where the Poolesville Golf Course now sits. Miller talked at length about the long history of the golf course which began as a private facility that was eventually purchased by the county in 1982. The clubhouse at the golf course at one time was a major venue for dances, parties, and even weddings. It included a bar, kitchen, and several rooms. Over the years, however, the facility fell into disrepair. While a number of proposals were considered to renovate it, the county never moved forward with any of them.

Two years ago, the county began to work on the idea of using some of the property at the golf course to build a grape-crushing facility to serve local grape growers. In addition to the crushing facility, Miller explained, the county is planning to open an education/research building and an events center, as well as using some space (eight or so acres) to allow students and researchers to grow grapes. Miller stated that all of these activities fit well within the Ag Reserve in Montgomery County. Miller stressed that the golf course will remain in operation. The entire project is expected to cost around \$14.5 million, and it is projected to be completed by 2020.

After Miller's presentation, the commissioners voted to award the contract for trash pickup and recycling service in the town to Bates Trucking. Town Manager Wade Yost said six bids had been submitted, and Bates Trucking submitted the lowest responsive bid. They propose to provide trash pickup twice a week and to provide single-stream recycling pickup. The total proposed cost of the Bates Trucking proposal is approximately \$466,000 a year.

The commissioners next moved to consideration of a proposal for the town to take over maintenance and control of county roads within Poolesville. This issue has been under discussion for some time. Four roads—or parts of roads—are currently owned and maintained by the county within the town. These include parts of Fisher Avenue and Hughes Road, West Willard Road, and Westerly Avenue. All of these roads together total approximately 2.37 miles.

Yost noted that the county has been straightforward and is not interested in doing significant maintenance work on these roads. In terms of the benefits of the town assuming maintenance and control, it could be much more responsive to citizen needs for such things as traffic calming devices and repairs, as well as providing snow removal much more rapidly than the county. Since an actual turnover of ownership from the county to the town would require extensive survey work and legal reviews to determine rights of way boundaries and the like, the county is open instead to simply turning over maintenance and control of the roads to the town. The county would own the roads but have no say in how they are maintained.

Continued on page 16.

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Commentary

Burning Questions

By John Clayton

Summer is almost here, and these months of worrying and (worse) writing about national affairs have taken their toll. Other major questions and concerns that vex me have remained unanswered.

When buying gasoline at the pump with a credit card, I am often asked for the ZIP code. This makes no sense to me whatsoever. If I'm in Poolesville or Germantown, it's no problem, I know those codes cold, but what if I'm somewhere else? What if I'm in Virginia? For that matter, why do they even care if I know the ZIP code? How is that any of their business? Honestly, I just ignore the request and put in my own ZIP code which seems to work. Then I can pump my gas and get back to going to where I was going.

Another situation occurs when driving and listening to music on Spotify through my smartphone. This is a great service and it's free with a few restrictions, including a requirement that you periodically listen to some advertising in exchange for "free" music. That seems fair; I watch Nationals games under the same rules essentially; however, my dilemma is that occasionally, while I am driving, the Spotify dude says I can get thirty minutes of uninterrupted tunes if I press a button to watch a short video. I press the button, and the video plays, but since I'm driving, I don't actually watch the video, even though I have clearly indicated that I would. Am I committing an ethical violation here? Am I listening under false pretenses? This is a concern.

Turning to baseball, I note that the Philadelphia Phillies are the worst team in the Major Leagues. This is fitting and proper. While they had a run of success a few years ago—even winning

a World Series championship—they have historically been the worst team a good deal of the time. In fact, the Phillies have lost more games than anyone else in history. This is in part because they are a very old franchise, and there are newer teams with worse losing percentages, but the Phillies are still the anti-champs in terms of number of losses. There are a few teams whose historic number of losses is at least in the ballpark, so to speak, but they have better overall win-loss percentages, and the Phillies' historic win-loss ratio is pretty bad, so they are clearly where they are meant to be this season.

It occurred to me that this might be the time to try the English soccer system of demoting—or relegating—one's worst teams to a lower level of the sport. This occurs in the English Premier League. Without belaboring too many details, each year, the bottom three teams get dropped to what is essentially a minor league, and other teams are promoted to the Premier League. This might be just the ticket: Drop the Philadelphia Phillies to the AAA minor league level for a year and let some worthy minor league team from Scranton or Pawtucket or Durham or Fresno or some other worthy city have a go at a year in the big leagues. There might be a few details to iron out, like a requirement that they honor minor league concession prices, but it's worth a try. The National Basketball Association could try it, too, although that would be more bad news for Philly, as the 76ers would be going down for sure. The National Football League might be more difficult, with the absence of a viable lower league, but maybe they could go play in Europe for a year. Pack your bags, Cleveland Browns.

I believe that if I focus on these questions this summer—and try to think less about our national situation—for lack of a better phrase, I will be a happier person. Covfefe to you, too.

Continued from page 1.

State Champs!

Before the season, Cooper Myers-Mallinger said, "I personally think we can make a run at the state championship and bring it back to Poolesville," so it was fitting that he should be called upon to fulfill his prophecy, halt the late Chesapeake rally, and nail down the victory. He had a key strikeout and fielded a come-backer to the mound and ran toward first before tossing to Zach Widenhofer for the final out. Chesapeake had the tying run on third.

"I like starting, but this was special tonight," said Cooper. "I was just straightforward in my approach. It's an accomplishment. Twenty-five years from now, I am going to remember these guys. I am going to look back and I am going to see every single one of them. It's a great feeling."

Six players of the starting nine for Poolesville played together for UMAC in 2012 at the same Cal Ripken Stadium, winning the 12U Maryland championship, going on to be national champs, and representing the USA in international competition and lost to the Japanese team. They are Cole, Brady, Cooper, Colin, Matthew Convers, and Ryan Haddaway.

Matthew, Ryan, and Colin will be back next year, along with first baseman Zach Widenhofer and outfielders Jimmy Dutton and Ryan Kasten. Juniors Luke Trythall and Zack Walker will also be back as will sophomores Cade Seely, Eamon Murphy, and Max Fisher.

The Falcons will miss senior right fielder Mike Morgan next year. The coach is Steve Orsini. Assistants are James Witt, Mike Nessel, Bill Cartwright, and Ryan D'Amillio. Managers are Sara Orsini, Gabbie Brooks, Ashley Diller, and John Thompson.

Place your ad in the next issue
of the *Monocle*.

Call Rande Davis at 301-509-9232

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Local News

Big Weekend Coming Up—Don't Leave Town!

The weekend of June 23 to 25 is an exceptionally festive time in Poolesville. You might want to make sure you stick around.

The fun starts on Friday at the Poolesville-sponsored annual Bark in the Park. This event is a favorite for dog lovers of all ages and includes cutest dog, games for dogs, prizes, DJ, MCP K9 demo, dog rescue groups, food vendors, and a farmers' market. It runs from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Starting early on Saturday, June 24 is the town's popular flea market, the Big Flea. The park will be lined with yard sale vendors from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be food vendors there, too.

At around 10:00 a.m., Poolesville Military Support Group's 11th Annual Community Picnic kicks off with the arrival of the motorcycle escort in the CVS parking lot when the buses from Walter Reed Bethesda Medical Center transporting military heroes recovering from wounds along with the families arrive. The motorcycle guard, over one hundred bikes long, will escort the troops to White's Ferry for a day of fun, fellowship, fishing, and great food. The fun begins at White's Ferry at 11:00 a.m. All are invited to join in the picnic and greet these dedicated Americans. Donations will be accepted by cash or check to benefit the Fisher House Foundation and the Yellow Ribbon Fund. If you can't make it, you may send your donation to PMSG, Box 261, Poolesville, MD 20837.

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of Montgomery County's Heritage Days, a countywide festival offering programs and activities appealing to visitors of all ages and interests. On Saturday and Sunday, Heritage Days features over forty free events all around the county. This weekend is the perfect time to explore local history, culture, and nature. Sites are open from noon to 4:00 p.m.

A special focus this year is on heritage food traditions with activities including cooking demonstrations—featuring both unique cooking methods and presentations by acclaimed chefs—farm and garden displays, and food trucks. Other programs will highlight the Civil War, agricultural history, historic African American communities, the stories of local railroads and trolleys, and much more.

Continued on page 17.

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Tidbits

LUCAS 2: Backup to Save Your Life

The UMCVFD Auxiliary recently purchased a new backup LUCAS 2, heart resuscitation device to be part of the fire department's paramedic unit. The LUCAS 2 is a CPR chest compression machine which improves the expectation of surviving a heart attack by fifty percent over manual CPR. Manual CPR can be exhausting, and the ability to maintain CPR procedures can vary from person to person. While the fire department already has a LUCAS 2 on its ambulance emergency vehicle, this new unit will be available whenever the ambulance is out on a call. Through county contracts, the UMCVFD purchased the \$20,000 unit for only \$13,000. Now you know why playing bingo at the fire hall is much more than simply a great night out with friends.



UMCVFD's new LUCAS 2, a mechanical heart compressor, is destined to save lives in our area.

Commissioners Laud Girl Scout Troop

Scout leader Anita Andrade and assistant leader Melissa Widenhofer introduced eight girls from Troop 3032 who discussed projects they had completed concerning the importance of clean air and ways to reduce air pollution. Presenting before the commissioners were Marianna Andrade, Erin Dower, Ella Franklin, Tilly Gagn, Cassi Fielder, Grace Parker, Lia Widenhofer, Rachel Yablon, and Daphne Fernandez.

The project the girls described was undertaken in order to achieve the Silver Award, the highest award girl scouts in grades 6, 7, and 8 can earn. The award is given to girls who complete special projects intended to help promote changes for the better in local neighborhoods. The eight girls each offered key points based on their research about the importance of clean air and how to protect it. They also prepared elaborate tabletop presentations that included pictures, graphs, statistics, and ideas about how to improve air quality.

One of the major focuses of the project was the importance of green plants, particularly trees, to improve air quality and to increase the amount of oxygen in the air. As part of the project, the girls planted eighty Norwegian pine trees along Jerusalem Road. Mrs. Andrade explained that the planting project took quite a bit of time and effort, but the girls really enjoyed it. She also offered to leave the tabletop boards and presentations to be displayed at town hall, and local residents can see them there for the next few weeks.



Girl Scout Troop 3032 educated the Poolesville commissioners on the importance of clean air and ways to improve air quality.

Stamm Family Wins Monocle's "Want to Be Part of History?" Contest

On May 30, the 150th day of 2017 and part of the town's sesquicentennial (150th anniversary) celebration, a drawing was held at the Poolesville Town Hall for the "Want to Be a Part of History?" contest. The Monocle has joined with the Town of Poolesville in sponsoring the contest for the chance for a family's history to be written and published in the Monocle and then encapsulated in a time capsule to be buried in Whalen Commons in October then opened in 2067. The Stamms also received a commemorative framed version of the aerial photo taken of residents of Poolesville forming the number 150 on Whalen Commons.

Continued on page 8.



**Big Things
Happening
This June**



Fridays on the Commons

June 16: ANNUAL PES SUMMER CARNIVAL

Loads of fun for the kids and family. Includes games, inflatables, rides, contests, Lip Sync Battle, food and artisan vendors, and more! Benefits PES PTA. Wrist bands: \$10.00. Starts at 4:30 p.m.

JUNE 23: BARK IN THE PARK – 6:00 p.m.

Go Team Therapy Dogs & MCP K9 Demos: 6:30 p.m.
Musical Chairs for Dogs & Parade: 7:00 p.m.
Dog Kissing Contest: 7:15 p.m.
Cutest Dog Contest: 7:30 p.m.
DJ – Inflatables – Food Trucks

JUNE 30: RED, WHITE, AND BREWS

Fundraiser for Historic Medley District, Inc.
Inflatables – Farmers' Market – Food Trucks
Beer and Wine Garden featuring Barley & Hops and Rockland Farms
Mindy Miller and the Chrome Tears: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
The 19th Street Band: 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.



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Equestrian

Yeas and Neighs

By Andrea Caplan

Our distinctly-shaped Ag Reserve covers a lot of ground, both literally and figuratively. Within its crazy-quilt borders, many traditional working farms and long-standing small communities continue to survive and thrive, withstanding the stresses and pressures placed upon them from the bustling urban and suburban Montgomery County centers to our south. Yet many Ag Reserve residents hail from cities, those in Maryland and beyond, and have brought with them sensibilities and skills which they then offer in the form of businesses that enrich our unique part of the state.

Hidden in plain view within our northern tip, east of downtown Damascus, lies just such a place. Great Strides Horse Farm is an oasis of calm in which its human and equine inhabitants form a village of sorts, quietly busy at the work of healing both human and equine minds and bodies primarily through the practices of Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy (EFP) and Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL). Great Strides began over twenty years ago as a nonprofit, the brain-and-heart child of Terry Lewis, a clinical social worker from the NYC area who loved horses and rode throughout her childhood there. Her motto, "Promoting mutually beneficial relationships between people and horses," reflects the melding of her two loves, psychotherapy and horses, and her desire to see both species coexist and help one another to live less stressful, happier lives.

The serenity of Terry unadorned twenty-three-acre farm belies the enormous and ongoing amount of planning, experimentation, and outright work she and Emily Osborne (her Chief Everything, as Terry affectionately refers to her), village cofounder and riding instructor, have done to create it. Terry and Emily use both art (Terry has certification in art therapy) and science to organize all aspects of horse and human care, with a specific eye to ensuring a calm, orderly environment essential for learning and healing. After the financial crash of 2008, Terry discontinued the nonprofit, needing to downsize and streamline operations, as she and Emily brainstormed ways to continue their mission with a sustainable future. Emily offered the idea of turning the operation into a cooperative, where, as opposed to retaining a staff as



Terry Lewis of Great Strides stables in Damascus.

barns traditionally do, all the horse owners would work collectively, giving three hours per horse per week, doing various chores, to both support the horses and each other. The idea provided the bridge for the mission of the nonprofit to the center's success as a for-profit venture.

Terry discovered early in her practice, working with families, that people needed more physically-grounded ways to manage their emotions. With her hand at her throat in a cut-off gesture, Terry explained that "emotions happen in our bodies, from the neck down, and just talking in an office setting didn't address what was going on in the rest of their bodies, leaving them less able to learn the skills to manage those emotions effectively." Mary Kaminsky, one of the village EFP therapists, came on board as the village reinvented itself, and, alongside Terry, can be found conducting sessions with clients at any and every spot on the property, as the whole facility is a teaching space. All EFP clients are introduced to the work with horses unmounted. Even experienced riders begin their healing journeys on foot beside not astride their horses.

Terry notes that before anyone gets up, they need to explore how they are emotionally around their horse on the ground, and often people are as surprised by what they learn about themselves as what they learn about the horse. Terry sums up the goal in all the learning and therapy at Great Strides in the form of a question: "How can I (the client) move through space, stay relaxed, be aware, and communicate (with the horse) all at the same time, no matter what we're doing, and not get distracted or disconnected from the present moment?" Achieving that goal is a mindful process, a journey along a healing path.

With just twelve horses and eight cooperative members currently sharing in the village experience, Terry believes the village is now ready to increase its numbers and is looking forward to doing so while retaining the sense of the supportive, healing

Continued on page 11.

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Continued from page 1.

Center Stage— Still Painting on Walls

Kouneski didn't abandon painting on walls as an adult. After high school, she studied drawing, sculpture, and graphic design at Montgomery College but is mostly self-taught through years of practice. When her children were young, she decorated their bedroom walls with custom murals and art. Kouneski turned her son's room into a comic world scene with images of superheroes and comic book stars. Her oldest son, Willie, brought pictures of his room into elementary school for show and tell, and teachers and others began to take notice of her talent.

"People will pay you for this!" said one teacher.

Soon after, Still Painting on Walls was born and, by word of mouth only, Kouneski began a career of painting murals and artwork on clients' walls. Twenty-four years later, Kouneski is still painting on walls and offers a wide range of painting and design services for her clients.

"I'm your one-stop shop," said Kouneski, who, in addition to custom murals, does regular interior painting, faux finishes, oil paintings, and has even applied gold-leafing to ceilings and the steeples of a few area churches, including the cross atop St. Mary's Church in Barnesville. For that particular job, she climbed forty feet in the air and still needed another ladder to reach the cross, so she had them take down the cross rather than risk being blown off the ladder in a heavy wind.

Her custom creations can be found

on both interior and exterior walls and even swimming pools of her clients' homes and businesses. The types of paintings are only limited by one's imagination as Kouneski works with each client to determine what design elements or scenery to include. Kouneski's inspiration comes from learning about her clients' interests and design ideas.

Kouneski painted the meeting room of the Town of Poolesville's Town Hall with images of local historic homes and structures. Another captivating mural covers the entire front wall of the nearby Lee's Tree Service's office building. The exterior wall takes on the appearance of the woods surrounding the building in a beautiful landscape scene that fits in perfectly with the surrounding trees.

One of Kouneski's favorite creations is that of a storybook panel she painted of Montana scenery which was four feet by eighteen feet long and included fourteen different design themes. Her client provided pictures from some of their favorite memorable moments or places from their visits to the state, and Kouneski created a custom scene by combining the series of images into one mural. Currently, Kouneski is working on a large painting that will be mounted in the sanctuary of a nearby church.

When not painting, Kouneski enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, two boys, ages six and two, and is looking forward to the arrival of a granddaughter. To learn more about Kouneski's paintings and creations, visit her Still Painting on Walls Facebook page or contact Karen at stillpaintingon@gmail.com.

area was covered by family dairy farms.

The Divco milk delivery truck is the third in the MOOseum's collection of vehicles that once delivered farm-fresh dairy products door-to-door in suburban Montgomery County. The unique collection covers a hundred years of delivery, including a 1904 horse-drawn dairy wagon, a fully operational 1919 Model T milk truck, and now the half-century-old Divco delivery truck, with its distinctive snub-nose design.

The MOOseum is open from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. each Saturday during the summer months, and from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month. The Sunday afternoon programs feature members of former county dairy farm families to meet and greet visitors.

Continued from page 6.

Tidbits

MOOseum Expands Its Exhibits

Montgomery County's King Barn Dairy MOOseum has purchased a historic 1954 Divco 300 milk delivery truck for its growing exhibit of the area's century-old dairy industry. The unique dairy museum tells the story of the era when more than 430 local family dairy farms provided fresh products to the nation's capital.

The King Barn Dairy MOOseum is located in an authentic 1930s-era dairy barn, once part of the James and Macie King farmstead, now part of the South Germantown Recreational Park in Boyds, at 18028 Central Park Circle, Boyds, off Route 118 and Schaeffer Road. Prior to the 1990s, the



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Looking for a Great Singer

The Frederick Arts Council will once again hold open auditions for a singer to perform the National Anthem at its annual Art in the Park event in September. Auditions will be held at the Weinberg Center for the Arts on Wednesday, June 28 at 6:30 p.m., prior to the Weinberg's previously-announced Flying Dog Film Series screening of *Top Gun*. Those who wish to audition should contact Gabriella at info@frederickartscouncil.org to reserve a slot.

Get Ready for More of the Tooth

Local author, Dr. Carroll James (known to many as dentist, Dr. Jim Rhea), has just published the third book in his series: *I Swear to Tell the*

Tooth is book one, The Whole Tooth (book two), and And Nothing but the Tooth. These delightfully-intriguing and witty true tales of quirky patients and scatterbrained employees are a hoot. Join Dr. James on his lively flashbacks to dental school, mischievous summers spent on his grandparents' Appalachian farm, and his volunteer adventures abroad. This series dispels the notion that dentists are boring or sadistic.

To download or purchase the book (they make great Father's Day gifts!), visit www.drcarrolljames.com for a link to Amazon, photographs, and upcoming events. He and his wife, Karen will be at Barnes & Noble at Francis Scott Key Mall in Frederick on Saturday, June 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Daytripper

Exploring the Unexpected, Close By

By Rande Davis

Visiting a major museum or other high-level venue can be great, but it can require some planning and preparation. Sometimes you just want something simple, something more relaxing which allows you to take off late in the morning, get back well before dinner, and not cost an arm and a leg.

Recently, I was in the mood for simple, so we decided to just head out, explore the countryside, look for the unexpected, and hope for the best. We targeted Burkittsville, Maryland only because we had heard about the little hamlet but had never gone there. It was a forty-minute drive, famous for the movie *The Blair Witch Project* of 1999, has a spot where cars are said to appear to roll uphill, and it played a key role in the battle of South Mountain which helped shaped the outcome of Antietam.

The day was absolutely gorgeous and, if nothing else, a leisurely ride on the rolling and winding back roads reminded me of the bygone days riding with my grandparents on Sunday afternoons. We didn't know what was to happen except we knew we would eventually end up at a soft ice cream place. My grandpa always said if we spotted a horse farm and shouted, "Cabooshtouzly!" he would stop to ask the farmer to give us a ride on one of his ponies. Upon spotting our first horse, we kids would wildly start shouting, "Ca-boosh-touzly!" and he would laugh like crazy. One time, he actually stopped at a farm for a ride (I suspect he was friends with the farmer), but my sister fell off her horse into a wagon full of manure. We stuck to the ice cream cones from then on, but his nonsensical word lives on today in family lore, and I still use it to entertain my grandkids in various ways.

Upon entering Burkittsville, the charming, old-fashioned "Welcome to" signs serve as a caption to the picturesque glimpse of a church steeple through the trees. As we were in search of the unexpected, the first surprise was a historic cobblestone main street in the center of town, with the churches, cemetery, and many Civil War-era buildings and homes standing curbside, "etched in time, almost as though the town itself were a ghost from the past," as accurately described by the website for Burkittsville.

The town's Civil War connection is very significant but somewhat overshadowed by the Battle of South Mountain (originally known as the Battle of Boonsboro Gap) and, of course, Antietam. In September of 1862, Union troops forced residents to flee the town as the Battle of Crampton's Gap commenced which led to the Battle of Antietam. The homes that were used by the Union Sixth Army Corps for hospitals and shelter remain untouched by time and war.

Our game plan remained simple: Ride each road leading into and out of Burkittsville for a few miles, exploring things to see or do. Riding up South Mountain northwest of town, we arrived at Gathland State Park. We were startled to come upon the National War Correspondents Memorial Arch, honoring journalists who died reporting on the war. The monument was erected in 1896 by George Alfred Townsend who was himself a war correspondent. The edifice rises fifty feet, and is forty feet wide, with three, nine-foot tall archways above a large, sixteen-foot-high archway at the base, and featuring a Romanesque statuary and a castle-like turret at the top of one end. Many quotes and interesting features make the monument well worth the visit.



Burkittsville's P. J. Gilligan Dry Goods & Mercantile Co. has been in continuous operation since 1821.



Khris Hansen and Bill van Gilder of Bill van Gilder Pottery.

Continued on page 11.



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Things To Do

Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC) Events:

Pickleball: Mondays and Fridays: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m. (June 19 will be at *Stevens Park*)

Game Day: Tuesdays. 1:00 p.m. *Poolesville Baptist Church.*

Zumba Gold: Every Wednesday in gym, 1:00 p.m. (in *Whalen Commons* on June 21)

June 11

Montgomery County Police Event

This is the next talk in a series of discussions and seminars hosted by MCP personnel and other county contributors, featuring a discussion with questions and answers on drug abuse. *Poolesville Baptist Church.* 7:00 p.m.

June 12 to 17

62nd Annual Carroll Manor Fire Company

Featuring all the best in fireman carnivals. Great food, super bands, fabulous midway rides. *Adamstown.*

June 13

PASC Movie Night

Hidden Figures. Refreshments offered. *Poolesville Baptist Church gym.* 7:00 p.m.

June 14

PASC Special Event

T'ai chi. *Poolesville Baptist Church gym.* 10:30 a.m.

Poolesville Planning Commission

The newest Wilshire Community Project to be presented, *Town Hall,* 7:00 p.m.

June 15

PASC Special Event

Book club. *The Sudden Appearance of Hope* (available at library). *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 7:00 p.m.

June 16

Fridays on the Commons

Annual PES Summer Carnival: Loads of fun for the kids and family. Includes games, inflatables, rides, contests, lip sync battle, food and artisan vendors, and more! Benefits PES PTA. Wrist bands: \$7.00. *Whalen Commons.* 4:30 p.m.

June 16 and 17

St. Peter's Annual Book Sale

Books for all ages and all subjects, including movies, music, and software. Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

June 17

Volunteer Cleanup Party

For the John Poole Jr. House and the Old Town Hall Bank Museum: Getting our beloved and iconic historic buildings spruced up to showcase for Montgomery County Heritage Days the weekend of June 25. Come help a great cause. Pizza and refreshments served. 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Local Author Book Signing

Author of *I Swear to Tell the Tooth* and *The Whole Tooth*, Dr. Carroll James, will be signing copies of his latest book, *And Nothing but the Tooth.* Barnes & Noble, *Francis Scott Key Mall, Frederick.* 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

June 19

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

June 21

Haiti Fundraiser at Bassett's

Come help a worthwhile cause. All day, lunch and dinner, dine-in or carryout, ten percent of all food sales donated to support Marisol and Candice's Haiti Fundraiser. *Bassett's Restaurant.* All day.

June 23

Fridays on the Commons

Bark in the Park: Dogs, DJ, inflatables, and food trucks. *Whalen Commons.*

Go Team Therapy Dogs and MCP K9 Demos: 6:30 p.m.

Musical Chairs for Dogs and Parade: 7:00 p.m.

Dog Kissing Contest: 7:15 p.m.

Cutest Dog Contest: 7:30 p.m.

June 24

Poolesville Big Flea

Great variety of used items and collectibles. *Whalen Commons.* 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

11th Annual Poolesville Military Support Group Picnic and Outing for Wounded Troops

10:00 a.m.: Motorcycle escort of more than 100 bikes leads troops to White's Ferry for picnic, fishing, music, and fellowship. Bring side dish. Donations for Fisher House and Yellow Ribbon Fund gratefully accepted. *White's Ferry.* 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

3rd Annual Field and Fiddle Festival

Benefit for Montgomery Countryside Alliance, featuring: live music, a musical chicken, local brews and wines, food trucks, equestrian derring-do, raffle, and bake sale (details in Tidbits). Two Farms (*19731 Bucklodge Road, Boyds*). 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Continued on page 18.

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Continued from page 9.

Exploring the Unexpected, Close By

Dedicated to all the army correspondents and artists of 1861 to 1865, the inscription reads:

"Whose toils cheered the fireside, educated provinces of rustics into a bright nation of readers and gave incentive to narrate distant wars and explore dark lands."

Townsend acquired the land in Crampton's Gap, the site of the Battle of Crampton's Gap and one of three gaps on South Mountain where the Battle of South Mountain had been fought between Union and Confederate forces in an early encounter in the Maryland campaign. Townsend purchased the land as a retreat and immediately began designing the buildings that would become his Gapland Estate. Only a small portion of the large home remains today and serves as a mountain-top museum honoring him and all journalists, including Mark Twain, a close personal friend of Townsend. After Townsend's death, Gapland changed hands three times before being acquired by the Department of Forests and Parks and named as a state park in 1949. With ample parking, this is a great spot to pick up the Allegheny Trail for a little (or a lot of) hiking.

Just down the hill from the heart of the monument is Bill van Gilder Pottery. Bill van Gilder uses a slow-momentum kick wheel and soft clays to pursue the casual nuance of form and surface. "I make multiples of similar pots and within each series there is discovery... Would this form be more interesting made larger? What will happen if I add this to the clay body? Will this type of fuel change the surface or color of clay?" Curiosity is paramount. His best work "seems to make itself, when the acquired knowledge and intuition of material and fire is allowed to take over."

His wife, Khris Hansen, greeted us in the retail shop where we found a myriad of intriguing gift ideas made from clay.

Another spot that was recommended but that we did not have time to explore on our visit is the Distillery Lane Ciderworks which sits on ninety-five acres just

outside of Burkittsville. The farm is a historic site dating back to the Civil War and is officially known as "The Encampment" as it was used as a camp for Union soldiers leading up to the battle of Antietam.

Returning to the center of town, we came upon P. J. Gilligan Dry Goods & Mercantile Co., a living history retail store frozen in the 1860s which has been in continuous operation since 1821. Proprietor Paul J. Gilligan offers products for use by Civil War reenactors, owners of period homes who want to create that authentic 1860s look, and customers who just want a unique gift. He is also a most gracious host, sharing a plethora of information on the town's history, its role in the Civil War, with lots of ideas for places to explore. The store is open every Saturday and Sunday year-round, from 11:00 a.m. (noon on Sundays) to 7:00 p.m.

Other points of interest near Burkittsville include: Washington Monument at the top of the mountain, Sharpsburg just seven miles away, Big Cork Vineyards, Orchid Cellar Meadery and Winery, and South Mountain Creamery. Need lunch or dinner? The Main Cup in Middletown, Dan's Restaurant and Tap House, and the classic Old South Mountain Inn in Boonsboro come highly recommended.

Continued from page 7.

Off the Well-Beaten Path to Healing—with Horses

community the village has created. Both Terry and Mary are also opening their EFP practices to including new clients, as is Emily in her teaching biomechanics lessons and ELP. Terry is certain that the way forward is through the continued experimentation and collaboration that created Great Strides in the first place. Given the great need in our world for calm, congeniality, cooperation, and deeper communication, Great Strides offers a necessary answer to the call, and is yet another reason for the Ag Reserve to be proud of its ability to integrate the traditional with the progressive.



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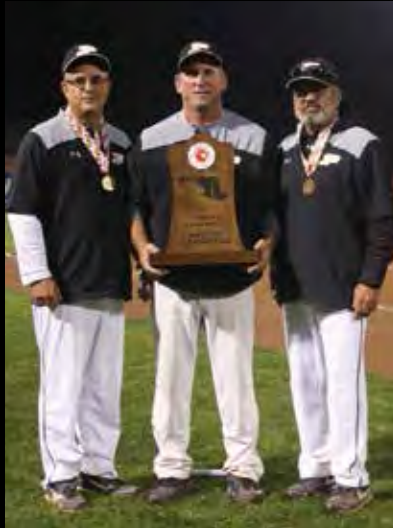
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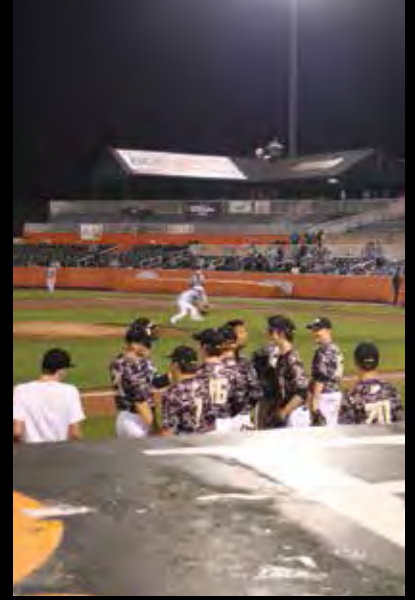
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Youth Sports Falcons Own 3200 At State Meet

Poolesville's one-two distance runner punch of Ryan Lockett and Andrew Lent has been making headlines all season. The 3200 is their main event and the 3A State Championship race at Morgan State on May 27 marked their last race together. Ryan finished first and Andrew second, fewer than two seconds behind. Both set personal records in the event.

"From the beginning of the season, we wanted to aim for one and two," Lockett told Kevin Milsted of Mocerunning.com. "When I turned around and crossed the finish line, I expected to see him. I've had a lot of great races, but this was the best."

Lent told Milsted, "It means everything to just come out here and end it this way."

Ryan also finished first in the 1600m and eighth in the 800m, setting personal records in both.

On the girls' side, Nandini Satsangi finished first in the 3200, setting a PR. Logan Nandini finished third in the 1600m running another PR.

All in all, the Falcons claimed four individual golds in capping their strongest outdoor season in quite a while.

The girls' 4x100 relay team of Juanita Jaramillo, Sachi Howson, Heather Robinson, and Meher Kaur finished fifth. The 4x400 relay of Howson, Theresa Nardone, Rachel Onderko, and Jaramillo also finished fifth.

The girls' 4x800 relay team of Nardone, Maria Phelps, freshman Logan Rohde, and Satsangi finished sixth.

All eleven Poolesville runners competing scored points.



Ryan Lockett, Andrew Lent, Theresa Nardone, Maria Phelps, Sochi Howson, Juanita Jaramillo, Rachel Onderko, Heather Robinson, Logan Rohde, Nandini Satsangi, and Meher Kaur.

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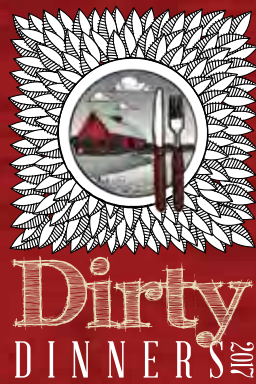
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Continued from page 3.

County Proposal for Golf Course Project and Town Takeover of County Roads Top Agenda

In the discussion, it was noted that significant repaving of these roads would be needed over the next decade or more. The exact costs are not known, but a very conservative estimate, according to town engineer John Strong, is that it could cost around \$1.3 million. Some highway user fees will be received in future years from the state and county, but they will not cover the entire cost of maintenance.

The uncertainty of the costs and the fact that it is not known now what the schedule will be for repaving led Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski to raise objections. He said that before moving forward, the citizens should know if there will be any impacts on their taxes and when they could expect to see improvements in the roads. Commissioners Brown and Stump iterated that the cost estimate in hand is conservative and does give citizens a sense of what to expect; furthermore, the county has been so unresponsive to town requests and needs that, consequently, the town has not been able to respond to citizen concerns. In their remarks, both Stump and Brown said the town has a very strong road maintenance program and can now apply its approach to these county roads which will best serve citizens.

The proposal was amended by Commissioner Stump to remove the Fisher Avenue segment, which may be considered later. By a four-to-one vote—Commissioner Klobukowski voting “no”—the commissioners agreed to seek control of the other three roads from the county.



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Remembrance

Maynard Clark "Junior" Luhn, Jr.

Maynard Clark Luhn, Jr., 89, of Poolesville, passed from this life on May 31, 2017.

Known as Junior, he was born on November 21, 1927 in Comus and was the son of the late Maynard Clark Luhn, Sr. and Eula Lee Wynne.

Maynard is survived by his beloved and loving wife of sixty-three years, Arlene DeEtte Luhn.

Known by most as Junior, he spent his career in the oil heat business with his brother-in-law. He was remembered as a businessman who often helped those who may have had difficulties handling the cost of oil or a heater.

Recalled as an avid sports fan, especially baseball and the New York Yankees, in his youth he was an all-star player for the Montgomery County fire department team and was a pitcher in the minor leagues for the Washington Senators. His grandchildren lovingly called him "Poppy" and he was remembered as a great supporter and fan of the teams on which his grandchildren played. He was remembered for a special motto of life which he shared with his loved ones: "Keep your eye on the ball."

He was a member of the Barnesville Baptist Church and the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department. It was recalled that when the late Mr. Dick Owens's home caught fire, Mr. Owens had lost consciousness; nevertheless, Junior ran into Mr. Owens's burning home, up to the second-floor bedroom, and singlehandedly carried him out.

A proud veteran of the U.S. Army, he served his nation, and locally as a past member of the Monocacy Lions Club.

As a grandfather, he also played the role of father to his granddaughters. He was remembered as a man others knew they could count on when times were hard. He was also remembered as someone who gave love, protection, kept secrets, and would "drop anything when others were in need."

Beyond his loving wife, Junior had three children, Kevin Luhn of Hagerstown, Ellen Williams (husband Ed) of Beallsville, Laura Hiatt (husband Rodger) of Elk, Washington; one sister, Billie Luhn of Poolesville; three grandchildren, Lara Saylor (Ryan), Megan Malik (Atif), April Kroboth (Brent); and three great-grandchildren, Zain Malik, Aleena Malik, and Kaycee Saylor.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Barnesville Baptist Church, P.O. Box 69, Barnesville, MD 20838.



Maynard Clark "Junior" Luhn, Jr.

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Saturday, June 17 from 9AM to 1PM



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Continued from page 5.

Big Weekend Coming Up—Don't Leave Town!

Heritage Days also showcase local arts and culture as well as outdoor recreation, including biking, hiking, and walking tours. Many venues offer musical entertainment, activities and crafts for children, and refreshments!

Celebrate Heritage Days and explore fascinating sites that help make Montgomery County great. A color brochure with driving map is available by googling Montgomery County Heritage Days 2017.

On Saturday evening, Montgomery Countryside Alliance's third annual fundraiser, the Field and Fiddle Festival, kicks off at Two Farms (19731 Bucklodge Road, Boyds) from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The lineup of fun includes: Kids' music legend Barry Louis Polisar, America's Got Talent contestant (and Germantown native) Jokgu the piano-playing chicken and her backing band the Flockstars, Justin Trawick and the Common Good, local libations by Waredaca Brewing and Rocklands Winery, and food trucks (Cipolla Rossa Pizza, 3rd Alarm BBQ).

There will be a vaulting demonstration (crazy stunts on horseback) from Great Falls Vaulters and other equestrian wonders and a raffle and bake sale!

Cost is \$25.00 per person. All proceeds to benefit Montgomery Countryside Alliance.

Visit the *Monocle* online at www.monocacymonocle.com

Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

We are still working with the Montgomery County Police Department to gain access to the present crime information.

Past Crime

June 9, 1936 The tenth wedding anniversary of Delbert and Lillian Corbett did not end well after Mr. Corbett lost control of the family car and it struck a tree near the Rockville courthouse. Mr. Corbett, his wife, and three children were all attended to for cut and bruises. Officer Burdine charged Mr. Corbett with reckless driving.

June 14, 1934 Sergeant Guy Jones was attempting to serve a warrant on a Sandy Spring man when the man attacked the officer. Sergeant Jones drew his weapon and shot the man three times. The suspect was taken to the Montgomery General Hospital where his condition was described as serious.

June 17, 1935 A six-month-old baby was killed after a car crash at Dawsonville. Police determined that the baby's father was driving and was rounding the curve on the Darnestown Road when the car went up an embankment

and overturned, trapping the child in the wreckage. An older child wiggled out of the wreckage and ran to the nearby house of Dr. Upton Nourse (on today's Sugarland Road). Dr. Nourse came to the scene, but it was too late to save the baby.

June 18, 1939 Bethesda police were investigating what they thought was a murder case that had happened on East West Highway. A deputy U.S. Marshall had reported that he had seen two youths beating another and then hauling the body into a wooded area. Officers were called in from home to search for the body. Meanwhile, other officers picked up the two boys and took them in for questioning. While they were questioning the youths, they were startled when the "victim" walked into the police station; he told the police that the whole thing had been a misunderstanding after a night of revelry at a Prince George's County roadhouse.

June 18, 1935 William Harold and James Poindexter were hanged at the Baltimore Penitentiary for the rape of a Chevy Chase teenager that happened in 1934. The girl had been walking in a wooded area when the two attacked her. They were convicted after a jury trial at Rockville.

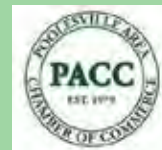
Some material in this column was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post

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Poolesville, MD MHIC 128570 MDA 28831 J.D. Kuhlman

Continued from page 10.

Things To Do

June 24 and 25

20th Annual Heritage Days Weekend

A countywide festival offering programs and activities appealing to visitors of all ages and interests. Featuring over forty free events all around the county.

Celebrate Heritage Days and explore fascinating sites that make Montgomery County great. A color brochure with driving map is available by googling Montgomery County Heritage Days 2017. This weekend is the perfect time to explore local history, culture, and nature. Sites are open from noon to 4:00 p.m.

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And visit our website calendar for programs at all of our sites, year-round!



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