



Volunteer parents and students pitched in to spruce up the John Poole House before the upcoming Heritage Day events. See more pictures in Family Album on page 2.



Some serious folks got together over a serious topic. Read Local News on page 3.



This is not your regular garden. See why in Garden on page 14.



Forty-seven years, four principals, and one shared and valued employee. See who in Tributes on page 18.

Willshire Plan Nearing Final Proposal To Town Commissioners

By Rande Davis

At the June 13 Poolesville Planning Commission meeting, Miller and Smith presented its latest proposal for the Willshire Community proposed for central Poolesville. In announcing that the newest plan has a reduction of the number of homes for the site to sixty-two new homes plus the preservation of the historic Willard family home, Chuck Ellison reported that he believed that Miller and Smith has incorporated in this latest version all the requests made by the Planning Commission.

Readers will recall that the project, now over two years in development, originally sought ninety-three homes and its second proposal cut that number to seventy-four homes. A major change in the number of homes has to do with the elimination of twenty-nine townhomes on the site.

Other highlights of the new proposal include the elimination of a vehicular entrance to the community located across from Norris Road and to the west of the historic Pumphrey home. The Willard family will be upgrading the exterior of that home as well as



An aerial virtual reality picture of the proposed Willshire Community looking north.

improving the landscaping to better blend with the new community. That historic family home was built in 1917 after moving another pre-existing historic home from the site through the use of two steam engines and roller logs to its present location at the corner of Milford Mill Road and Beall Street.

The removal of that entrance allows for a broader, more open park area that would create a public path to the John Poole House. This proposed open space would better raise the visibility of the Poole Trading Post from Fisher Avenue, along with a newly-proposed

Continued on page 17.

DNA Provides New Clues in 25-Year-Old Comus Murder

By Jack Toomey

A late season snowstorm had covered the upper part of the county with snow on the evening of March 22, 1992. The Sugarloaf Mountain Market on Comus Road had a few late-day customers. At roughly 6:00 p.m., a man walked in and supposed the store to be empty and was about to leave when he found the body of James Essell, the owner of the store, lying on the floor. Essell was dead and had been stabbed several times and hit over the head with a bottle of wine. The Montgomery County Major Crimes Unit conducted an extensive investigation, but no arrests were made.

In 2005, the Monocle was invited to inspect the murder case file which contained interviews, photos, and reports.



Left: The suspect of a local unsolved murder case as DNA suggests he would have looked twenty-five years ago. Right: The suspect as he may look today.

Continued on page 8.

Family Album



All aboard! Have your tickets ready for a ride around the Commons.



Ed Brown (second from left), owner of White's Ferry, with David Dise, Montgomery County, Director of General Services (third from left), and a team from the county scouting the site for the arrival of the Civil War monument being moved from Rockville.



PES principal Doug Robbins taunted his students to try to dunk him. They did a great job of it!



Young muscle is all it takes to get the heavy mulch down!



These young hoop stars tried their talents out at the PES summer carnival.



Even in the middle of a cleanup, there is time for a quick local history lesson.

Local News

More Talk on the Incinerator Fire

By John Clayton

The Sugarloaf Citizens' Association (SCA) hosted county, regional, and state representatives to discuss the December 2016 fire at the controversial incinerator in Dickerson that burns trash to generate electricity. The incinerator is not well-loved by its neighbors or by the environmentally-oriented SCA which lost a battle against its construction in the 1980s. The relationship was not improved by the fire which, after a roaring start reaching fifty feet high by the time it was first noticed, smoldered for eleven days before being extinguished by firefighters.

The facility, known more formally as the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility, is over twenty years old and is presently operated by Covanta, a global corporation headquartered in New Jersey, whose avowed mission is "to provide sustainable waste and energy solutions to ensure that no waste is ever wasted." The plant is close to the larger Dickerson Generating Station which burns fossil fuels to produce electricity. The Resource Recovery Facility, the location of the fire, strictly burns waste brought by rail from the Solid Waste Transfer Station in lower Montgomery County. It has had a significant history of maintenance problems and shut-downs which have accelerated as the plant gets older and more difficult and expensive to operate.

According to both the county and the SCA, small fires are fairly common, although this one grew rapidly out of control, requiring a hazardous air alert in the surrounding area of the plant. An environmental engineering company, HDR, Inc., was engaged to produce a Root Cause Analysis and recommendations for improved safety which had been discussed and revised prior to the meeting. Pursuant to this meeting and further reviews, a final Corrective Action Plan (CAP) will be produced.

William Broglie, Acting Chief of the MC Division of Solid Waste Services presented "Lessons Learned and Corrective Actions" as developed from the HDR report, and handled discussion and comments from SCA members and others. The cause of the fire remains unknown, and there was agreement that the fire and its initial discovery were in part a consequence of excessive amounts of unburned trash in the unloading area, allowing



Various parties met at the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association headquarters to talk about the incinerator fire.

the fire to grow and creating a barrier that prevented detection of the fire by plant employees. The abnormally-high and unsafe amount of material on the tipping floor was partially the result of a crane not functioning, among other operational disruptions. Inadequate boiler throughput and the "lack of maintenance and repair on the boiler and air pollution control systems" also contributed to excessive inventories of unburned waste. There was discussion of a number of procedural recommendations intended to limit the amount of waste material staged on the floor, and for improved procedures for the handling and maintenance of material on the tipping area (where refuse is received by rail) and in the refuse pits where it is staged for burning. A call for better planning, fire and safety analysis, and detection and early response systems were also mentioned, and Covanta described its initial responses to these items.

The proposed CAP includes eleven actions for the county and the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority, which owns the facility on behalf of the county, and twenty-four actions for Covanta. The county/authority actions include more third-party expert overview, better notifications to the community, and purchasing mobile particulate monitoring capabilities, so that the environmental impact of trash burning can be better monitored.

Covanta's action plan items include various maintenance upgrades, increased attention to and enhancement of fire suppression systems, attention to the results of a recent third-party review of existing fire safety systems and processes, and improved coordination with the county fire service.

Much of the meeting covered practical considerations for how to move forward with a safer, cleaner, and more efficient trash-burning incinerator; however, the questions and comments from SCA board members and others clearly reflected a view that the incinerator should be shut down. The controversy over the incinerator will accelerate as the county's contract

Continued on page 15.

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Commentary

Drinking and Breathing

By John Clayton

I have found myself thinking about pollution a lot lately, for a variety of reasons. There's enough national news to keep one worried about environmental policy, with the Paris Climate Accords, Trump's proposed budget cuts, and his choice of a seemingly environmentally-hostile Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator, but without belaboring those, some local issues were what really piqued my interest.

A meeting I attended concerning the Dickerson trash incinerator highlighted clean air and just how much dirty air we're willing to tolerate, or more significantly, how much we're willing for someone else to tolerate. The incinerator issue isn't going to go away anytime soon, but it was really an item about the Chesapeake Bay that hit me the hardest, specifically an announcement that the size of this year's dead zone (an area of little oxygen [hypoxic] or no oxygen [anoxic] that may kill fish and marine life) in the bay will be larger than the recent average, and bigger than last year. This year's dead zone is a little under two cubic miles or, if you prefer, 3.2 million Olympic-sized swimming pools. This information comes from scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Geological Survey, various state agencies, and the Universities of Maryland and Michigan. Now I know there are those who will think, "This sounds like the same scientists who came up with global warming," but don't be too hasty to dismiss the problem. They seem pretty sure about it.

This year's step backwards is seasonal to some degree, due to heavy rainfall in New York and Pennsylvania which ran off into the Susquehanna River and hence the bay. (No, that doesn't mean it isn't our fault.) It is still disappointing, though, as many indicators for Chesapeake Bay health have been improving ever so modestly in recent years. The bay is very vulnerable because it collects tainted runoff from six states involving over 150 rivers and streams. This requires a

significant level of federal coordination. President Trump sent a shock wave across the region when he proposed a \$73 million cut to bay cleanup funding, although congress has since signaled that the funds would be restored in a bipartisan rebuke to whatever impulse Trump was following. The threat was real: While the bay shows signs of recovering, it has a long way to go before its health is sustainable. It's an upstream battle to be sure, and to lose ground now would be devastating.

Multiple opinion polls have shown that Americans are clearly against reductions in efforts to protect the environment. A Quinnipiac poll in April showed that "Only eleven percent of the public believe the United States government is doing 'too much' to protect the environment, while fifty-nine percent believe they are doing 'too little.'" A subsequent Politico-Harvard University poll also showed a majority of Americans against proposed cuts to the Environmental Protection Agency, but a convincing majority of Republicans supported the cuts. This was attributed in part to a dislike of government regulations in general, but the overall trends were in support of maintaining our efforts to protect the environment. This suggests that while we all want clean air and water, we are far from agreeing on how that might be accomplished.

Having said that, I also accept that everyone has his limits on annoying regulations—I certainly have mine. Here in Montgomery County, I suppose it's only a matter of time before someone brandishes a few studies and harangues the county council about wood smoke and then we can kiss our woodstoves and fireplaces goodbye, and maybe our charcoal grills and hickory smokers, as well. I roll my eyes when I hear of Rockville banning outdoor smoking at restaurants and wonder how long the zealots will need to stampede the county council in the same direction. No, I don't "know" the science of the damage done by second-hand smoke in the great outdoors, or from that which may trickle indoors, but if a little exposure to secondhand smoke on a restaurant patio is unacceptable, then why do we expect people in Dickerson to breathe incinerator fumes?

Oh, wait, I do know why: It's because we're not trying to eat dinner in Dickerson.

Rande(m) Thoughts

Saving America: Common Men, Uncommon Integrity

By Rande Davis

Spoiler alert to fans of the TV series *Turn* on AMC. You may not want to read further and risk learning important information before the end of this season's series.

With July 4 coming soon, my thoughts turn to three little-known New York State farmers, John Paulding, David Williams, and Isaac Van Wart, who lived in the Hudson River Valley near Tappan during our War for Independence and who are the subject of a painting by my great-grandmother that hangs over the fireplace in our living room. The picture, darkened over time, celebrates the incredible dedication and integrity of these three militiamen and something they did that, as described by one historian in 1886, "saved our country from ruin."

Our founding fathers were remarkable men since they personally signed their death warrants when signing the Declaration of Independence. They literally pledged their lives, their



Painting of a key turning point in America's Revolution.

fortune, and their sacred honor to the cause of our liberty. Lose the war and the hangman's noose was their future. For such courage by these successful men who had so much personal wealth to lose, we rightfully give them our deepest honor; however, for the three men in the painting, except for a few small monuments in rural upstate New York and mostly on tombstones, it is something they did that saved our great leaders from the British noose. Here is their story.

On the evening of September 22, 1780, in the beginning of our sixth year of the revolution, when victory or defeat was tenuous at best, these farmers-turned-militia guards came

Continued on page 9.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

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Local News

S.T.E.E.R.ing Addicts in the Right Direction: Addressing Montgomery County's Growing Heroin and Opioid Epidemic

By Andie Devynck

Town Commissioner Valaree Dickerson opened the first community town hall meeting on the Montgomery County Heroin and Opioids epidemic Sunday evening, June 11, at the Poolesville Baptist Church quoting cold, hard facts: Six people a day die in Maryland, and eight in Poolesville in the last two years, from those drugs and the various, ever-changing combinations of them. Commissioner Dickerson lamented the difficulties the community faces in addressing the rising number of overdoses and sometimes fatalities that occur because "families and individuals are afraid of being shunned because the community is so small." She issued a clarion call to residents to resist this fear by acknowledging that everyone is touched by this epidemic in some form, and that not only is help available but it is okay to say, "I need help."

Doug Tressler, Community Outreach Officer at the First District Montgomery Police Department, echoed Dickerson's statement, saying addicts in our community are "silently screaming for help and standing on death's doorstep while doing it." Officer Tressler noted that as the epidemic is changing, so is the policing effort, describing it as being "less by the book, and more by the heart." His main points included stressing that these drug addicts do not suffer from a lack of willpower: eighty percent of heroin users started on prescription drugs, and addicts cannot rely on self-help to get off drugs; the police and the community must form partnerships to both intercede in crises and support in rehabilitation. His optimism regarding the community's ability to combat the epidemic lies in his perception that the county cares, is actively building those partnerships, and has ample resources to do so. Officer Tressler completed his portion of the presentation with a video offering a window into the emergence of heroin in the suburbs and how much stronger, cheaper, and easier to smoke the drug now is, thus enabling its stranglehold on addicts.

Next, Commander Dave Anderson introduced himself as a friend of both the church and the community. Commander Anderson claimed that one hundred officers now work in the Special Investigations Division as the rate of overdoses has increased to twenty-five deaths in the county in 2016, to twenty-five deaths to date in 2017. He stressed that while Narcan (Naloxone) is making a difference in stopping overdoses from becoming fatal (seventy-five ODers survived last year alone), by the time the police show up, it is often too late. Worse still, officers must now look at overdose scenes as hazmat situations and dress accordingly, as there is a significant likelihood an officer may come into contact with opioids that can be absorbed through the skin, or may track the substances into their vehicles, back to the precinct, or even into their own homes.

Deputy Director Lieutenant Ronald Smith, who oversees the Drug Enforcement Unit of Special Investigations, followed by introducing his team member Detective Chad Bleggi. Detective Bleggi, of the Drug Interdiction Unit, provided his view from the frontline with a series of facts and photos detailing the face of both fatal and nonfatal overdose scenarios and criminal methods in drug distribution interdictions. Director Smith returned to provide the important contact numbers and ways for residents who would like to anonymously report suspicious activity in the county: 240-773-TIPS or 866-411-TIPS, as well as texting CRIMES.

Alejandra Muñoz, S.T.E.E.R. case manager for Maryland Treatment Centers and the Montgomery County Police Department, introduced the county's March 2016 program which stands for Stop, Triage, Engage, Educate, and Rehabilitate. The program works with addicts before they are placed in the criminal system for first-time drug offenses. While sex offenders, those with violent convictions, and gang members don't qualify for S.T.E.E.R. and will not receive an intervention, all qualify for help with prevention through the program. Most drug offenders will qualify, however, and the program gives them the chance to get treatment rather than a citation. Alejandra quoted statistics to give shape to the S.T.E.E.R. population: of 208 offenders qualified to participate, 40% agreed to commit to the program, a notable increase over the standard 2% of the addict population who will both admit they have a problem and seek help; 73% are white, 10% African-American, 13% Hispanic, and 4% Asian; while 74% are male

Continued on page 11.

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Tidbits

Poolesville Day 2017 Is Fast Approaching

Mark your calendars, the date has been set: Poolesville Day 2017 is Saturday, September 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (rain or shine).

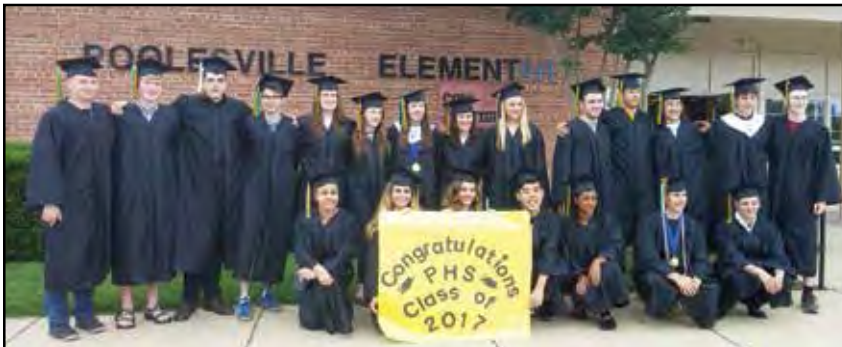
Poolesville Day doesn't just happen by itself and the Poolesville Day Committee needs volunteers. Please visit www.poolesvilleday.com to see how you can volunteer just a couple of hours of your time to support this year's twenty-fifth anniversary event.

Stage managers are needed. Please email poolesvilleday@yahoo.com if you are interested in making the music sound Awesome. Look for Poolesville Day on social media: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Live entertainment will be performed by a variety of local entertainers and community and school groups, headlined this year by The Bad Influence Band from our own backyard.

Another highlight of the day will be the return of the Classic Car Show along with the popular Electronic Vehicle Show sponsored by Poolesville Green.

What's that Clapping Sound Coming from PES?

It could have been the students applauding the arrival of summer, but actually it turned out to be for the departure of graduating PHS seniors who also attended Poolesville Elementary School. The group, clad in their caps and gowns, walked the halls of PES while the youngsters stood outside their classrooms for a very special annual event called the Clap Out. While these high schoolers passed, the students clapped for their success in graduating high school and for their having attended Poolesville Elementary. It was not only inspirational but a lot of fun for all.



Entire PES student body gave these 2017 graduates and former PES students a rousing "clap-out" in the halls of their shared elementary school.

At Least One Poolesvillian Steps up to the Challenge

David Wilson, a retired army officer from the medical services corps, owner of Response Matters LLC, specializing in help organization plan for emergency situations, and a substitute teacher at JPMS, has become the first Poolesvillian to declare his candidacy for political office. He will be running for State Senate from District 15. He is originally from West Virginia. He held his first organizational and fundraising function recently, hosted by Gail Lee.



Republican Candidate David Wilson and his wife Kim and son Sam (third from left) hosted a joint birthday party and campaign event on June 15.

Pool Renaming Ceremony

The Western County Pool in Poolesville will be named in honor of Sarah E. Auer in a dedication ceremony on Sunday, July 16 at noon. County Executive Leggett, the Montgomery County Council, and Montgomery County Recreation cordially invite the public to attend. Miss Auer, a popular coach for the Poolesville Piranhas swim team and a senior coach for Rockville Montgomery Swim Club, died in an auto accident in 2002 at the age of 21. The annual kids' swim meet held in her honor will be conducted at the pool the morning of the dedication ceremony.

Poolesville Farms and Businesses Highlighted in Bethesda Magazine

We know how much you love the *Monocle* and enjoy its unique coverage of the people, places, and organizations in the area. Last May, we got a run for our money by *Bethesda Magazine*, published by Steve Hull. Its cover story, "Made in MoCo" (featuring the son of Greg and Anna Glenn of Rocklands Farm), gave kudos to so many of our neighbors we admit to being nearly jealous.

Congratulations to all our friends and neighbors for receiving such wonderful recognition in this high-quality journal: Rocklands Farm (three times), the Markoff brothers for Calleva's Dirty Dinners (read about it in our next issue of the *Monocle*), Chocolates and Tomatoes Farm, Kingsbury's Orchard, Lewis Orchards, R. B. Savage and Sons, One Acre Farm in Boyds, Comus Market in Dickerson, and Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard. Bernie Mihm's Fine Earth Landscape took the highest prize for having his work mentioned in a feature article about home landscaping.

Talk about Publicity

Montgomery Magazine (online at Montgomerymag.com) decided to skip the particulars and simply declare our town a super great place to live. Poolesville's greatest cheerleader, Commission President Jim Brown, was given a few minutes to talk about how great we are and was able to make that last at least a half hour. Jim would tell ya he still only got about half of what he wanted to say. The story even got a quote from me which unfortunately also featured my picture in my John Poole getup. The only good news on that picture? I have lost twenty pounds, so I can use it as a comparison as I move forward.

Continued on page 7.



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Local News

Dickerson Man Charged with Impersonating Police

By Jack Toomey

The Montgomery County Police has put out an alert about a certain car and its owner after arresting a Dickerson man for impersonating a police officer.

On June 12, a high-ranking member of the department was traveling west on the Intercounty County Connector (ICC) when she saw an unmarked Ford Crown Victoria activate white and red lights on the car while weaving in and out of traffic. Other traffic was moving out of the way to avoid the car's unsafe lane changes. The county officer was able to stop the Ford at Shady Grove Road and Muncaster Mill Road. The driver produced a badge marked "Special Agent."

After determining that the driver was not a police officer, he was arrested. Police identified him as Philip Jonathan Ross, age 19, from Old Hundred Road in Dickerson. He was charged with a variety of traffic charges in addition to the Impersonating a Police Officer offense.

Because Ross lives in the Comus and Dickerson areas, police are asking residents if they have had any encounters with this young man and his car. Anyone who believes that they may have had an encounter with the impersonator is asked to call the 6th District Investigative Section at 240-773-5770.



Phillip Jonathan Ross



White Ford Crown Victoria used in the crime.

Continued from page 6.

Tidbits

More Recognition for Falcon Champs

State Senator Brian Feldman and Montgomery Councilman Roger Berliner brought a pair of impressive official proclamations of recognition and acclaim to the PHS Falcon baseball champs on the occasion of the team winning the state championships.



State and county proclamations heralding our 2017 Falcon state champs.



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Continued from page 1.

DNA Provides New Clues in 25-Year-Old Comus Murder

The detective in charge of the case at that time had surmised that someone had entered the store with the intention of robbing the store, and that Essel had fought with him. Blood had been left on the floor, and some of it belonged to the suspect who had been injured during the struggle. The blood was submitted for DNA study, and a DNA profile was obtained. It was entered into a nationwide data bank; however, no matches surfaced in the last twelve years.

What had never been revealed before was that the suspect most likely had driven a black Pontiac Fiero to the store. A passerby had seen the car, and it did not seem to belong to anyone in the area. After the Monocle story appeared in print, a Poolesville resident contacted this reporter and revealed that a former acquaintance had owned such a car. This information was investigated by detectives, but no DNA match was made.

A few weeks ago, the police department submitted the DNA profile to Parabon NanoLabs in Virginia. The company claims to be able to analyze DNA left by the suspect at the scene to produce trait predictions for the suspect. Individual predictions can be made for the subject's ancestry, eye color, hair color, skin color, freckling, and face shape. By combining these attributes of appearance, snapshot composites were produced depicting what the suspect might look like at a certain age and with a certain body-mass index (BMI). In other words, the DNA examination can predict what the suspect looked like at the time of the crime, and by using age-progression analysis, it can make an educated guess as to what the suspect looks like today.

The company provided the police department with two composite photos: one showing what the suspect looked like in 1992, and the second showing what he may look like today. The examination of the DNA revealed that the suspect was about twenty-five years old in 1992 and was a Native American.

The Major Crimes Unit asks that if anyone knows a male who drove a black Pontiac Fiero and looked like the photo shown in this article contact the Major Crimes Division at 240-773-5070. For those who wish to remain anonymous, Crime Solvers of Montgomery County is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for any information that leads to the arrest of the suspect(s). Tipsters can call Crime Solvers of Montgomery County toll-free at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477).

Monocacy Critters

Serendipitous Pet and Animal Pictures*



White Egret Scoping out the Canal.

Photo by Jon Wolz

*Do you have an unusual or funny picture of a pet or animal? Mail or email the picture to editor@monocacymonocle.com or P.O. Box 372, Barnesville, MD 20838

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Ag News

Common Ground Market

By Amanda Cather, Owner/Farmer of Plow and Stars Farm

The new Common Ground Market is a collaborative effort of a group of Poolesville-area women to bring high-quality local products from nearby farms and homesteads to our neighbors. The Common Ground Collective (CGC) organizes the market, and some of the members sell products there as well.

The “virtual” Common Ground Market is open weekly for online orders of products, including: fresh vegetables, flowers, herbs, bread, and eggs. Customers can order Sunday and Monday for pickup Tuesday afternoons from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Discovery Early Learning Center on Fisher Avenue in the center of Poolesville. On the first Sunday of the month, beginning June 2 and running through November, the Market is “live” from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Discovery Early Learning Center with supervised play available, and features local food trucks, meat, eggs, jams, bread, crafts, vegetables, flowers, and herbs. The CGC is actively looking for additional vendors if other folks who raise or grow local products are interested in participating.



Common Ground Market.

The Common Ground Collective includes: Courtney Buchholtz of From the Earth Foods, who also just became a first-time mom, and has attended the popular Silver Spring market for many years; Caitlin Robinson, who grows specialty produce and flowers at Moonflower Farm with her husband Tim and also works with Seed to Ceremony, a local sustainable flower business based at Rocklands Farm; Mary and Emma Kingsley of Three Graces Farm, who are building a sustainable apparel company called Lady Farmer while also creating herbal teas and other products; Christina Nanof of Our Green Acre, who often brings her animals to the market for children to meet; Ellen Letourneau of The Reserve Tours and Bucklodge Baked Goods, a cottage baker and crafter who also works part time with Montgomery Countryside Alliance; Caroline Taylor, the executive director of the MCA; and Amanda Cather of Plow and Stars Farm, who is primarily focused on the CSA operation she operates with her husband, Mark Walter, but who loves connecting with the Poolesville community through the Common Ground Market.

The women of the Common Ground Collective formed this group to support one another and to serve our community by promoting access to local farm products while making their own operations more sustainable and profitable. The collective model is a perfect framework as they see collaboration as more productive than competition. Farming can be a very lonely occupation, and there are times in the farming year when each of us is stretched to our maximum and can use support, guidance, extra hands in the field or just a good laugh with someone who understands what we are going through. The collective also

Continued on page 19.

Continued from page 4.

Saving America: Common Men, Uncommon Integrity

face to face with a man walking alone in the dark by the name of John Anderson and questioned him. In the early morning hours of September 23, while still dark along the high banks of the Hudson River, the three Colonial soldiers became suspicious and searched him and discovered a very disturbing set of papers in his boot.

Those papers, which were difficult to fully understand by the militia guards at the time but fully understood later by superiors, confirmed that Benedict Arnold was agreeing to turn West Point over to the British after a fake battle. Arnold, by personal request to General George Washington, was put in command of the essential garrison at West Point in gratitude for his previous heroic service, especially at Fort Ticonderoga. Had the British taken control of West Point and of the Hudson River, the colonies would have become split in half, disrupting communication and coordination and allowing for unchallenged and direct supply lines from Canada. If that had happened, historians report, the war most likely would have been lost. That night, America’s fate was

placed in the hands of these three men of modest and humble means. The walking traveler turned out not to be John Anderson but really was Maj. John André, a British officer and spy. He was well regarded, even by Americans, and considered a gentleman. George Washington regretted having to hang him since André was an officer in the British army, and Washington offered to trade him for Arnold, preferring to hang the traitor high. Major André offered the three guards bribes of immense value to just pretend they never saw him and to let him walk away to rendezvous with his waiting ship, The Vulture, anchored nearby ready to take him to England; nevertheless, these men of great personal character refused the offer and turned André over to their superior, Colonel Jameson.

Men of lesser integrity would have accepted the bribe. America, the land of the common man, was saved by common men—so amaze your friends this July 4 by raising your beer mug to toast America and to our common men and women of humble means, and especially to three men to whom we owe so much, John Paulding, David Williams, and Isaac Van Wart. Happy Fourth of July, everyone.

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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.

Game Day: Tuesdays. 1:00 p.m.

Zumba Gold: Every Wednesday in gym, 1:00 p.m. *Poolesville Baptist Church.*

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

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 plus a raffle and bake sale!

Benefit for Montgomery Countryside Alliance. *Two Farms (19731 Bucklodge Road, Boyds).* 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Odd Fellows's Annual Summer Picnic

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is having its annual summer picnic for seniors, widows, widowers, and orphans. Please RSVP to Richard Norwood 301-943-6845 or Spencer Schmidt 301-349-2057. *Memorial UMC Fellowship Hall.* 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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.

June 27

Keeping Senior Citizens Safe

Sponsored by the Poolesville Area Senior Center. Montgomery County Police seminar on safe shopping and parking habits, home safety and personal preparedness tips, awareness of scams, fraud, identity theft online, telephone, credit card, etc. *Poolesville Town Hall.* 7:00 p.m.

June 30

Red, White, and Brews

Fridays on the Commons Special Event: Beer and wine tasting garden, inflatables, farmers' market, food trucks and live music, featuring 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.

July 4

Annual Traditional 4th of July Family Fireworks

Presented by the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department and the Town of Poolesville. Includes four food trucks, music by Bobby Lewis, 3D fireworks glasses, kettle corn, plenty of parking. No alcohol, pets, coolers allowed. *Hughes Road in Poolesville.* Gates open at 5:00 p.m., fireworks at dusk.

July 5, 6, and 7

Sugarloaf Summer Art Camps

Camp will include a variety of art techniques: painting, collage, sculpture, weaving, drawing, printmaking, and more. Individual attention. Children from 6 to 13. *Deere Valley Farm, 22919 Dickerson Road, Dickerson.* Respond to RPLSBAKER@aol.com.

July 6

Businesses Help Businesses Grow Breakfast Meeting

Sponsored by the Poolesville Chamber of Commerce. *Poolesville Town Hall.* 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

July 7

Farm and Folk

Fridays on the Commons Special Event: Farmers' market, food vendors, barnyard olympics, and Justin Trawick in concert. 6:00 p.m.

July 7, 8, and 9

Market Weekend at the Blue Hearth

Summer sizzling sales. Featuring live music and M.A.D. BBQ July 8: 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

July 10 to 14

Barnesville Baptist Church Vacation Bible School

Featuring *Galactic Starvoyors: Discovering the God of the Universe.* Registration July 10 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Classes each evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Catholic Church Vacation Bible School

Featuring *God's Super Heroes.* Children 3 years to 6th grade welcome. Call 301-972-8660 for questions or to register. 9:30 a.m. to noon.

St. Peter's Vacation Bible School

Adventures on Promise Island. For info, call 301-349-2073. 9:00 a.m. to noon.

July 12

Poolesville Planning Commission Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

July 17

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

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Things To Do?

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Do you or someone you know have a special announcement, or milestone you would like to share with our readers? The *Monocle* welcomes your contribution. Send to editor@monocacymonocle.com

Continued from page 5.

S.T.E.E.R.ing Addicts in the Right Direction: Addressing Montgomery County's Growing Heroin and Opioid Epidemic

and the rest female. The age of most addicts is in the twenties, as the older the addict, the more likely he or she is to die from an overdose or an illness related to years of addiction.

Alejandra closed her talk reiterating the themes of the evening: the program is a group effort between the police, the treatment centers, and the community; anyone can become an addict as she has as clients a police officer, grandparents, and a neurobiologist, as well as other medical professionals, professors, and businesspeople. She pointed to the early success of the program by announcing that the entire Montgomery County Police Department will be trained in S.T.E.E.R. protocols this year. Her parting gift was a sobering video of a client who seemed on his way to a full recovery but unexpectedly overdosed when given opioids for a broken ankle from a skateboarding accident, a hobby he had recently resumed after graduating from his Narcotics Anonymous program as well as his graduate program in business development at a local college.

While the meeting was sparsely attended, participants were highly engaged as evidenced by the extended length of the event, the numerous questions asked, and the personal stories offered. Most notably, Lea Essich and her mom, Lisa, spoke about Lea's experience with her one and only heroin ingestion at age fifteen, an incident that left her unconscious for long enough to cause brain damage, and has left her as a wheelchair-bound quadriplegic, struggling to think and speak clearly. Their story was videotaped by Commissioner Dickerson; please contact her at 301-428-8927 for a copy. In case you missed the event and would like to attend another, the evening's entire presentation will go next to the Gaithersburg and Rockville communities. Contact Officer Doug Tressler at 240-773-6070 or Douglas.Tressler@montgomerycountymd.gov for further information.



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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Summer Squash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cucumbers: Slicing & Pickling		
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Yeas and Neighs

Right Here in Our Neigh-neighborhood

By Andie Devynck

Walk into the home of Denise Parsons and you know you're in the presence of an animal lover. You may be greeted at the door by any combination of Denise's mix of dogs and cats. The only four-legged creatures not allowed in the house, however, live just out back in the stable and surrounding fields. Equal parts St. Francis of Assisi, Wonder Woman, and MacGyver, longtime Boyds resident Denise Parsons keeps busy year-round with a host of equine and non-horse activities. Her main gig is as the producer of the Horse World Expo, which takes place every year in January in Timonium, Maryland, followed by a Bigger and Badder version in February in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The expos, in their twenty-second and sixteenth years, respectively, in 2018, bring together horse owners and enthusiasts, retailers, riders, trainers, and equipment vendors from around the country for several days of demonstrations, exhibitions, and just plain shopping and fun.

Each expo requires months of preparation and coordination, although after almost two decades, it is now an established production with a proven formula and distinguished track record. In the months following the expos, Denise takes a bit of time to recover, usually in a fishing boat but, once recuperated, is right back in the saddle again, literally and figuratively. Denise is an accomplished rider, as evidenced by scores of ribbons and trophies that adorn the walls of her home basement office. Another of her passions is racing—car racing!—so Denise isn't always hanging around the critters large and small. When it comes to channeling her generous spirit and abundant knowledge, she pours her heart into her nonprofit, saving the lives of at-risk gaited horses.

The mission statement of Denise's 501(c)(3), Gaited Advocate Intervention Team, Inc. (GAIT), reads: "GAIT, Inc. facilitates the rescue of gaited horses and other at-risk equines from slaughter, abuse, and neglect." GAIT's motto is: Rehab, retrain, ride. GAIT focuses on rescuing gaited horses from a variety of situations, including auctions, feed lots, and owner surrenders—usually those slated for the kill pens—that may be shipped to Canada or Mexico for slaughter. Sometimes, Denise finds unwanted gaited horses at the Thurmont, Maryland sales, so she doesn't need to travel far to find horses to save; however, the New Holland, Pennsylvania auction is the biggest killer buyer site in the area, so Denise and her rescue colleagues and fans keep a close eye on what's happening there. In addition, Denise gets many of her horses from out of state when colleagues and friends find a horse (and often its owners as well) in dire straits and in need of immediate help. At present, Denise has twenty horses boarding at training facilities in Maryland and Pennsylvania in various stages of recovery, most with the goal of finding forever homes as riding horses.

As a devotee of the gaited breeds, Denise has Facebook pages for both GAIT and its sister organization, Gaited Rescue Team, Sharing and Caring, featuring profiles and photos of horses currently being rehabilitated at various facilities, including Denise's own backyard. Given the size of her property, Denise keeps no more than four rescue horses there, in addition to Benny, her personal horse, and Billy, her adopted rescue. After years of bringing home these unfortunates as just a personal mission of mercy, Denise, along with a colleague in California, incorporated as a nonprofit last August. As a rule of thumb, she prefers to work with horses whose problems are not so severe that they will not be adopted, but she allows herself one truly hard luck case a year, keeping the animal at her home where she can monitor every aspect of its recovery.

This summer's labor of love is named Hershey who was shipped from Georgia where he had been underfed and neglected by a woman in a desperate situation herself. In just over a month with Denise, he has seen remarkable progress in the healing of the injuries to his hooves, skin, and digestive system. Despite the improvements, there are several more issues that have not been within her ability to address—yet. Other dramatic Hershey then-versus-now snapshots and details can be found on the Gaited Rescue Team, Sharing and Caring Facebook page.

If you've ever wondered what being an all-around horsewoman looks like, Denise fits the bill. As much as her animals have been lucky to have found their way to her, the Ag Reserve is lucky to have a Renaissance woman, an expert with a heart, living quietly within its midst.



This summer's labor of love is named Hershey, seen here, upon arrival.



Hershey with Denise wearing his fly mask.

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Garden A Bishop's Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

London is home to many magnificent and historically-important parks and gardens: Buckingham Palace Gardens, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St. James's Park, Regent's Park, Kew Gardens, Chelsea Physic Garden, Holland Park, and Richmond Park, to name a few. Another wonderful site to visit a little bit off the average tourism radar scope are the gardens of Fulham Palace, located on the property of Fulham Palace in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, near the banks of the Thames River. The palace has been the home of the Bishops of London for over twelve centuries, from A.D. 700 to 1973. This site is steeped in history. From exhaustive archeological excavations, there is evidence of Neolithic, Iron Age, and Roman settlers, and the foundation of a medieval palace under the East Lawn. Today, there are thirteen acres of botanical gardens, including a restored Walled Garden, all in the heart of London and open to the public. I have found in my travels that Walled Gardens are a quintessential part of a "proper English Garden."

The garden became prominent in Europe when Bishop Grindal (1559-1713) imported and successfully cultivated the first Tamarisk tree (one of the world's oldest trees and mentioned in the Bible as being planted by Abraham.). It was Bishop Compton (1675-1713) who gave the palace garden world importance. At this time, there were few botanical gardens in London, and Bishop Compton, a serious student of botany, had a keen desire to import rare species to his garden. As he was responsible for the Church of England overseas, he was able to arrange consignments from colonies in America, the Caribbean, and outposts in Africa and India through the years 1638 to 1688. The first magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*) in Europe was grown at the palace as well as rare species of oak, black walnut, and maples. Some of these species are still represented in the gardens today. The garden is protected as an historic landscape. Once enclosed by the longest moat in England, today, thirteen acres remain of the original thirty-six. The grounds and gardens of the palace have served a variety of purposes over the centuries. They provided food for the household and gardens for relaxation for both recreation and hospitality for the bishops and their guests. The area was an oasis

of tranquility in the bustling life of London. During World War I and World War II, the palace served as a military hospital and provided recuperation and healthy food to wounded soldiers and their families. After World War II, the garden fell into decline from economic problems. In 1974, the palace and its gardens were opened to the public, a year before Hammersmith Council leased the site for one hundred years.

I visited the palace and the gardens in the first week of June, just as the garden plants and flowering trees and shrubs were coming into full life. Just as our area did, London experienced unusually very warm weather in May, so everything was blooming early. Even the roses were in their summer glory gowns. The garden is tended by three garden apprentices who are contracted for eighteen months. They are aided by a large group of dedicated, hard-working community volunteers, who were busily weeding, staking, and planting young seedling when I was there.

The Walled Garden has two glasshouses filled with young crops waiting to be planted outside in the well-prepared open ground soil: tomatoes, aubergines, cucumbers, melons, cucamelons, chilies, brassicas, beans, courgettes, pumpkins, and cut flowers. Outside in well-laid-out rows were direct-sown crops of salad greens, spinach, radishes, beetroot, potatoes, and carrots. The "canaries in the mine" marigolds guarded the perimeters of the row after row of sprouting young vegetables. The Herb Garden was beautiful and wonderfully fragrant with almost any herb you can mention. The Knot Garden was destroyed by box blight in the 1830s. In March 2012, the garden was replaced and replanted in its original 1830s design. When I was there, it was a kaleidoscope of color and fragrance with irises, tulips, foxgloves, delphiniums, *Euphorbias*, roses, dianthus, lavender, *Perovskia*, Lamb's Ear, Ladies' Mantle, *Verbascum*, and many more beauties all in full bloom. There was a special small area set aside in the Knot Garden for dahlias, specifically the Bishops Dahlias: 'Bishop of Llandaff,' 'Bishop of Canterbury,' 'Bishop of Oxford,' 'Bishop of York,' 'Bishop of Leicester,' and 'Bishop of Dover.' These plantings were to highlight and make reference to the Bishop of London's historic residence of Fulham Palace. These dahlia varieties are available today in many garden catalogues.

Outside the Walled Garden, the woodland moat walk has been carefully

Continued on page 15.

House of Poolesville



Entertainment Schedule

DJ Entertainment: Fridays: June 23, 30, July 7 & 14 at 8:30 p.m.

ON THE PATIO AT 4:30 P.M.



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July 1: Tony's Summer Shakedown #5

July 4: AHOP IS OPEN

July 8: Bobby Lewis Band

July 15: Late Sax Usual



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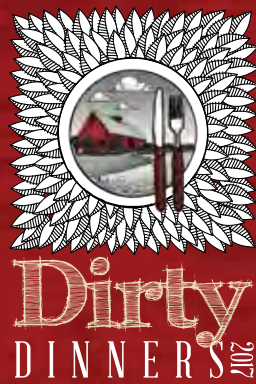
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Continued from page 14.

A Bishop's Garden

and lovingly restored, and a large area of it has been kept natural. Large clumps of nettles thrive there and are a wonderful resource for butterfly species and, in June, the red caterpillars feed on their leaves. The wonderful, dedicated people who take care of Fulham Palace and its grounds believe seriously that it is their responsibility to be "good stewards of the Earth." To me, that is the true meaning and purpose of a "gardener."

Another very interesting—and I think very socially important and responsible—feature of Fulham Palace and its history is the Fulham Palace Meadows Allotments. It originated as

a gift in 1916 from the Bishop of London, the owners of the adjacent Fulham Palace. It granted land allotments to the people of Fulham as part of an early Dig for Victory campaign in World War I. There are, today, 406 actively-growing plots run by Fulham Palace Meadows Allotment Association, the president of which was the incumbent Bishop of London until 1973, when occupancy of Fulham Palace ceased and it was sold to the Hammersmith and Fulham Council. When I visited, there were many people, young and old, out working in their "little city gardens." What a wonderful legacy from the Bishops of London. Next time you are in London, visit the palace and its wonderful, historic gardens.

Continued from page 3.

More Talk on the Incinerator Fire

and license renewal approaches in 2021. The county will be challenged to prove it can operate a safe and clean facility, and that shutting it down wouldn't be a better choice.

Traditional 4th of July Family Fireworks

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Focus on Business

St. Peter's Nursery School

By Susan Petro

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is excited to announce that it will be offering a new nursery school for children aged two and a half to five. Classes begin in September and will run three days a week, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Director Beth Watt, who also runs the Mother's Day Out program on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., is looking forward to the school's fall opening. She and teacher, Bettie Dansby, will each teach one of the two classrooms, which will be divided by the younger and older children. Parish Administrator, Kyra Wiley, is also part of the team and is looking forward to helping in the classrooms. The goal is to enroll around twenty-five students, but the program has room for up to thirty children. A grant from the Episcopal Diocese of Washington made it possible to open a nursery school in the addition that was built nine years ago to meet the needs of the expanding Saint Peter's congregation and community.

"This lovely addition was tailor-built for a school," said Watt, who added that the program has the potential to add even more classes in the future. Just outside the classrooms, an expansive new playground is in the works, as well, which will provide the children plenty of opportunities to play outdoors while learning important socialization skills.



School Director Beth Watt and Bettie Dansby.

"We are open to everybody of all faiths or no faith," said Watt. Faith-based lessons and prayers will be a part of the program. The school will include daily blessings at the beginning and end of the day and a prayer before snacks, and will include one or two services per month in the Children's Chapel.

"St. Peter's Nursery School will provide your child with experiences to develop socially, emotionally, and spiritually in a group outside of their home," said Watt in her introduction to the program that is given to prospective parents. The preschool is the first major step towards independence and provides an opportunity for growth, fun, and learning. A variety of activities designed to encourage self-expression, develop skills in math, science, and language will be offered as well as opportunities to demonstrate respect for others, cultivate music and listening skills, and foster a foundation for a positive self-image.

Watt, a native of Poolesville, moved to the community when she was around three and attended St. Peter's and graduated from Poolesville High School. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to return to her roots to open a program in the field she has spent many years nurturing.

After graduating from high school, Watt said, "I spent a good three years studying modern language and linguistics but ultimately decided that wasn't where my strengths were." After a couple of years of experience working with daycares, Watt decided to enroll at Towson University where she completed her degree in Early Childhood Education. During Beth's time at Towson, she realized it was the first time where she really excelled in her academia and graduated cum laude. "It hit me like a lightning bolt that this is what I am supposed to do," said Watt.

Watt moved with her husband to New Mexico for a few years after getting married. There, she did not have teaching credentials, so she spent her time doing both volunteer work and substitute teaching. Around the end of 2009, the couple moved back east to the Annapolis area to be closer to Watt's parents as they were getting older. In Annapolis, Watt returned to her Early Childhood

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Continued from page 1.

Willshire Plan Nearing Final Proposal to Town Commissioners

pergola with seating area, establishing a garden-like setting facing the historical building. It would also include additional historical informative signage about the John Poole site. Another pedestrian path to the John Poole House would be a proposed tree-lined path extending from Whalen Commons to the 1793 home, mimicking the original Coxen Road that was the main road into town until it was replaced in 1841 by Fisher Avenue. An expansion and improvement of the parking area for the John Poole House is also being proposed.

Dave Ager, representing Miller and Smith, stated that its parkland space meets the 1.4 ± percentage specified by the Planning Commission. The tot lot proposed, according to the builder, would be suitable for a much larger, 144-home site plan and will be positioned in the open space on the east side that runs north to south from Glass Way to the town hall parking lot and will be available for use not only to residents of the Willshire community but to all town residents, particularly those using Whalen Commons.

Ager added that reforestation plans call for fifty percent on-site with the other off site. They do not plan to remove large trees now along the path from town hall to Glass Way; furthermore, they have widened the greenway running north and south where the existing walking path is now.

The new plan has two entrance/exit roads. The first is at Fyffe Road, which is the road adjacent to town hall and also has parking for the park and hall. The other road in and out of Willshire is at Glass Way near the northeast corner of the development. The extension from Glass Way is designed to run west into the development, then south, and finally exiting east to Fyffe Road. It will have multiple stops signs and speed bumps to slow traffic. Because of its length and speed reduction aspects, it is also anticipated to discourage use by residents of Tama I.

The builder states the plan has 3.5 parking spaces available per home. The county and town requirements are 2.5 spaces.

The Willards spent \$11,000 to provide the community with digitally-adjusted pictures that show a virtual reality view of the development along Fisher Avenue and from Whalen Commons.

All planning commissioners voiced appreciation for the changes made by Miller and Smith in response to issues raised by the committee and other members of the public attending the previous meetings.

Those speaking from the robust public attendance overwhelmingly centered on their continued concern with the density, parking areas, and traffic issues, particularly as it impacts the Tama I development. Many residents living on Selby Court in Tama I voiced their disapproval of the use of Glass Way as an ingress/egress, citing safety concerns and over-use at the intersection of Glass Way and Selby Court. This area is highly trafficked by pedestrians, especially school children, and the lack of a sidewalk and other factors raised grave concerns from those speaking. Town manager Wade Yost said that the sidewalk issue will have to be corrected, and others suggested that making that area a three-way stop sign location would ameliorate those concerns. Street side parking as proposed was viewed as overcrowding the roadway with the issue of public emergency vehicle as well as general traffic safety noted as a concern.

Abby Clouse-Radigan, a leader with Protect our Poolesville, said, "I agree with the planning commissioners who said it's difficult to get a sense of what this density will actually look and feel like. One solution would be to have a map that shows the actual footprint of each unit, not just the lot size. Because density isn't just about number of units, it's also about scale, spacing, and proportion. The Poolesville Master Plan offers architectural guidelines for development in our town center: 'Structures should comport with the character and integrity of the surrounding area and embody the historical nature of the Commercial District' (Appendix C, page 1). These guidelines indicate that structure size should be comparable to existing buildings, and skylines should be kept within ten percent of neighboring buildings. Ensuring that new structures facing Whalen Commons, for example, are scaled to fit the historic houses along Whalen Commons, and that houses facing Fisher (and within the development) fit the existing rural village quality is especially important if we hope to honor and (ultimately) benefit from the National Register Historic Area designation of our town center." That designation provides benefits to historical property owners that can qualify them for potential grants to historically maintain that property.

Butch Zachrel voiced his objections to the new plan but stated, "No one is against building on the site," but the concern was density, and when he summoned those attending to voice their approval for a fifty-home development, the response was a loud and sustained cheer, indicative of the possible preferred outcome on the number of homes for most of those attending the meeting.



Willshire Community view from Whalen Commons, facing west.

Local resident and attorney Jim Clifford spoke on behalf of the Willard family, noting, for the record, the strong history of the family's stewardship in the Poolesville community. That stewardship includes not only still farming hundreds of acres in the area but also renovating Billy Willard's great grandfather's beer and ice cream store on Fisher Avenue. This same building was also used by his dad De as his John Deere sales office and currently has four occupied commercial retail and office spaces. The family has also renovated and restored seven old homes along Fisher Avenue in Poolesville. "Most impressive is that he and his wife voluntarily placed 268 acres of farm land located within Poolesville, that was zoned for half-acre building lots, into a permanent agriculture easement to protect the land from development. This was at a transitional point to the Ag Reserve, and the Willards felt it should not be developed for houses."

Planning Commission Chair Cal Sneed noted his preference to work with the Willards. "They have shown themselves to be very responsive to commission goals and adjustments. I do not prefer to miss this chance to work with such a cooperative owner as opposed to some distant new owner who does not have Willard's connection to the town nor same level of interest in Poolesville."

Finally, Cal Sneed maintained his support of the town's Master Plan and considered the Willshire proposal as effectively representing that plan. The Master Plan remains available for all residents to review online, and it is something all seriously concerned citizens should read and understand as it represents the official public document presenting the future of Poolesville for many years to come. That plan, implemented in 2011, took years to develop, was required by the state, and was designed and created under the leadership of the previous chair, George Coakley, and committee members. Only Cal Sneed was a member of the Planning Commission during that development process of the Master Plan.

In delaying a vote on moving the Miller and Smith proposal on to the Town Commissioners for their final decision, Sneed exhorted his fellow planning commissioners to use the next month to get any answers to their concerns or objections in advance and to be prepared to vote on a proposal at the next meeting in July. In gauging the "sense of the commission," Sneed and Bupp voiced support, Schramm was leaning toward approval, while Tims was asking for more time to consider his final decision, stating that if the vote were taken that night, he would vote against it.

If the planning commissioners vote approval of a plan in the next meeting, that plan will go before the town commissioners who will begin their own process of review and consideration prior to voting on the project. If they reject it, the plan will either be dropped or adjusted further by Miller and Smith. For clarification's sake, Mr. Ellison commented that if a fifty-home site were the only option, it would not allow them to offer the same Village Overlay benefits currently on the table.

The balance of the decision has now come down to whether or not the commissioners and the public believe the additional twelve homes are worth the proposed benefits presented under the Village Overlay ordinance. Of course, if the plan is dropped completely, the property could still have forty to forty-five homes built on it without the benefits offered, or a wide variety of potential commercial establishments could also be built there.

If this reporter is allowed one whimsical note after such a serious topic, it would be: "Ice cream and beer store? How perfect is that, anyway?"

Tribute

Hail and Farewell to an Amazing Group Of Public Servants

Over 400 Years in Education Retire

By Rande Davis

It's June, with its annual thrilling expectation of the wonderful summer days to come, but it is also a bitter-sweet moment as a group of highly-inspirational people have retired from our local schools as teachers, counselors, and administrators. We didn't want to them to depart without our heartfelt appreciations, a reflection on their service, and a chance for them to say goodbye.

John Poole Middle School

Darlene Umberger, Administrative Assistant to the Principal, 47 years

Darlene tops the list with forty-seven years of service at MCPS. She started in 1970 as a secretary, became Administrative Secretary in 1977 to 2004, and has been Administrative Assistant to the Principal since 2004 at JPMS. This lady has been in Montgomery County Schools her whole life.

Darlene grew up in the Dickerson/ Poolesville area on Mt. Ephraim Road in Dickerson. She attended Dickerson Elementary School in first grade until it burned down, then she was bused to Germantown Elementary School through third grade until Monocacy Elementary School was built. She attended MES through grade six. She graduated from Poolesville Jr./Sr. High School and then went to work with MCPS. Her entire family are products of MCPS.

She expressed her regards, "In 2004, I was fortunate enough to get the Administrative Assistant position at John Poole Middle School. I have worked with the most awesome people in my career who have also become my best of friends. It's been an awesome ride! I plan to travel and enjoy life. I am blessed to have the most amazing friends. I am also blessed to still have my mother with me at ninety-four years young. I also hope to be more involved with my family (daughter, son, and granddaughter)."

C. Diane Kitts, Secretary, Division of Career and Technology Education, CESC (22 years), Counseling Secretary, Wootton HS (13 years), and Counseling Secretary, John Poole MS (10 years) for a total of 45 years

Diane was born and raised right here in Montgomery County. She says



Front: Lynn Becknell, Diane Kitts, and Darlene Umberger
Back: Carolyn Cline, Margaret Arnold, Linda Petak, and Assistant Principal Brian Grotenhuis. Those in the front page picture are: Joe Sacco, Rick Bishop, Darlene Umberger, Charlotte Boucher, and Bob Sinclair.

farewell by saying:

"I have learned so much and have enjoyed my employment with MCPS. I have met wonderful people and have developed some really close friendships over the years. I will miss working at John Poole MS, but I am ready for this new chapter in my life to begin. John Poole MS is truly a wonderful place to work and to end my forty-five years of service."

Peg Arnold, Counselor, 28 years

Growing up in Michigan, Peg came to Poolesville in 1979 and taught at Argyle Jr. High School as a math teacher and drama coach for five years. She came to Poolesville Jr./Sr. High School in 1981, adding class sponsor, SAT preparation teacher, and assistant swim coach to her résumé. She then stayed home to raise her family for ten years before coming back to teaching, first at Baker Middle School, then landing at John Poole in 2001. At JPMS, she has been a counselor, peer meditation sponsor, national board professional/teacher certified, and MCEA Leadership Course Facilitator.

Departing remarks: "It has been a pleasure and honor to have the opportunity to participate in the lives of so many Poolesville and surrounding area families through my teaching, coaching, and counseling years. It is extremely gratifying to be a part of the journey of watching, supporting, and encouraging students as they grow from children, wondering what they were going to do, into successful and accomplished adults. I will miss the students, their parents, and the staff in retirement. The decision to retire came about as we are moving to Colorado

in October. We are excited about our new horizons and opportunities, but extremely sad to leave the Poolesville community and friends who have become like family."

Caroline Cline, Instructional Data Analyst, 24 years

Caroline has been with Montgomery County Public Schools for twenty-four years, starting as a cafeteria worker and then para educator at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School. For the past nineteen years at John Poole Middle School, she has been an Instructional Data Analyst. She and her husband, Bob, have lived in Poolesville for forty-one years and plan to retire here. Retirement plans include volunteering, some travel, and enjoying their grandchildren.

Linda Petak, Digital Literacy 1 & 2, 27 years

Originally from Brockway, Pennsylvania, when Linda joined the staff to work in education, she says she didn't know Montgomery County was such a hidden gem. She has loved working with everyone—students, parents, administrators, and staff—noting how it has been such a pleasure to work with them and thanking them for making her a better teacher, colleague, and person. She will carry many special memories of JPMS.

Monocacy Elementary School

Janet Beaudoin, Teacher and Counselor, 32 years

Janet has been at MES for twenty-seven years, where she taught kindergarten and second grade and became a school counselor in 1999. Originally from Cheverly, Maryland, she reflected, "Monocacy is like

home for me. I am very sad to leave the staff, students, and families of Monocacy. I am, however, looking forward to spending more time with my husband, children, and friends during my retirement."

Bonnie Brown, Teacher, 33 years

Bonnie grew up right here in Poolesville where she attended PES and PHS. Except for one year in Frederick County, she has been teaching her whole career at MCPS. She has taught kindergarten through third grade, and now that she is retiring, she is "looking forward to helping with my grandchildren."

Lynn Becknell, Paraeducator

Lynn looks forward to spending more time with her husband and family.

Poolesville Elementary School

Pam Kierce, Teacher, 32 years

Originally from Texas, Pam taught second and fourth grades for twenty-one years at PES. "I retire with great memories of so many wonderful Poolesville children walking through my classroom door. I have enjoyed working and living in the Poolesville community and look forward to casual years ahead of greeting children and parents on my walks through the community."

Donna Johnston, Teacher, 32 Years

Donna was a Special Education Resource teacher for ten years at PES, before obtaining her Master's degree in reading, and she became a Reading Specialist and has been so for the last twenty years. She grew up in Rockville and attended Hood College for both undergraduate and graduate studies. "I am looking forward to a bit slower pace of life. My husband and I are looking forward to relocating to Kentucky sometime in the near future. I have been very blessed to work in this special community and serve the wonderful children and families of Poolesville. I have worked with many wonderful teachers over the course of my career and have learned a lot. I will miss them all!"

Poolesville High School

Richard "Rick" La Rocca, Teacher and Principal, 30 years

Rick has taught at Walt Whitman, Rockville, Seneca Valley (two times), and Northwest High Schools, and has been assistant principal at Rosa Parks Middle School (two years) and PHS (eight years). He taught Spanish and Latin. This Bronx-born guy was raised in Lindenhurst, Long Island and, as he leaves, all we have to say is "Et tu, Rico?" He looks ahead: "I really don't believe in retirement. I have accepted a

Continued on page 20.

Remembrance

Mary Ann Johnson

Mary Ann Johnson passed away peacefully on June 1, 2017 at home in Viera, Florida at the age of 93. She was born on January 21, 1924 in Poolesville, and was the daughter of Roy and Mollie Bodmer. She is survived by her three sons, Lynn (Darilyn), Eric (Rebecca), and Tom (Vanessa); and ten grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother, Howard Bodmer. Her husband, Charles Warner III (Chuck) and her son, Charles Warner IV (John), preceded her in death. Her brothers, William, George, Charles, and Ray, and sister, Doris, also preceded her in death.



Mary Ann Johnson

Mary Ann grew up in Beallsville and was valedictorian of her senior class at Poolesville High School in 1942. She graduated from the University of Maryland School of Nursing in 1945. She worked as a registered nurse in the Army Air Corps immediately after graduation and met her future husband, Chuck, in November 1946 at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. They married on July 4, 1947 and remained married for fifty-seven years. Chuck died on May 9, 2005.

Mary Ann was a remarkable and tireless mother who ran a busy household for her career air force pilot husband. She raised four sons with the three surviving sons going on to become practicing physicians in anesthesiology, cardiology, and oncology. This would not have been possible without the love, support, and inspiration of such an amazing mother. She made many friends in diverse locations including Washington, DC, Ashiya AFB, Japan, Chicago, Illinois, Shreveport, Louisiana, Minot, North Dakota, Tucson, Arizona, and Camp Springs, Maryland. She and Chuck moved to Viera, Florida in 2002.

Mary Ann enjoyed tennis and golf which she played for many years with her husband. She was an avid bridge player and made many friends through bridge at the Indian River Colony Club in Viera. She loved her time there even after the loss of her husband and spent a lot of time with these special friends, going on cruises and attending social events. She enjoyed frequent visits from family with the high point being her annual birthday celebration in January. This would often involve a party bus and many of her closest relatives and friends attending from all over the country. During her last years, the care and compassion she received from the caregivers of Comforts of Home Care, Hospice of St. Francis, and Nancy Kollanda, her nurse, were truly extraordinary.

Funeral services with a celebration of Mary Ann's life are planned for 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 1, 2017 at the Hilton Funeral Home, 22111 Beallsville Road in Barnesville. Interment will follow at the Monocacy Cemetery in Beallsville. Reception will follow at the home of Howard Bodmer, 19600 Beallsville Road in Beallsville. All family and friends are welcome to attend.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Hospice of St. Francis, 4875 N. Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL 32940 or to Monocacy Cemetery, 19801 West Hunter Road, Beallsville, MD 20839.

Sandra Jo Rachel

Sandra Jo Rachel, 74, formerly of Dickerson, passed away on June 5, 2017 at the home of her daughter in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. Born February 11, 1943, she was preceded in death by her late husband, Russell Rachel, Sr., who passed away on February 12, 2014.

She was a homemaker and enjoyed to garden and camp. Sandra will be greatly missed by her dog, Angel.

Sandy is survived by four children, Russell Rachel Jr., Lisa Rachel and fiancé GlenShew, Michaelann Day (Rick), Christopher Rachel (Karen); and eleven grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Claude and Mary Louise, a brother Roland Baker, and a great-grandchild Kayla Grace.

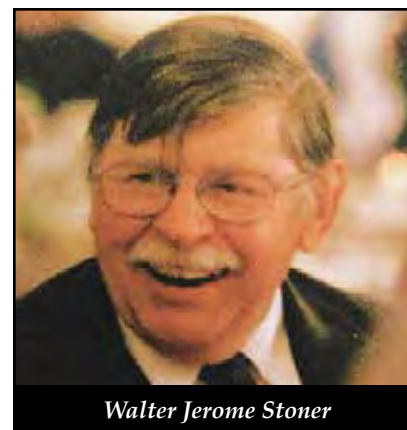
The family would like to express appreciation for SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Care & Hospice. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Care and Hospice, 2700 Luther Dr., Chambersburg, PA 17202.

Walter Jerome Stoner

Walter Jerome Stoner, 79, of Dickerson passed from this life on June 13, 2017.

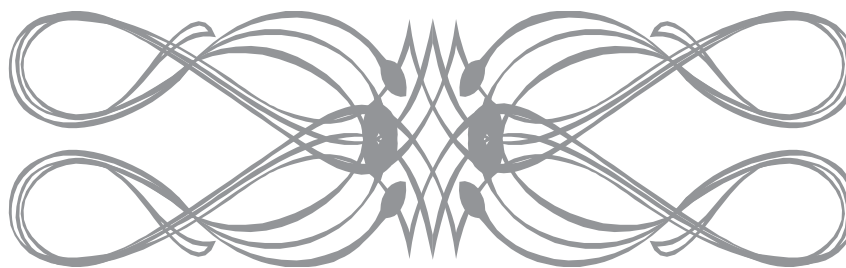
Born on February 19, 1938 in Altoona, Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late Michael Jerome Stroner and Gladys Marie Skelly.

He is survived by his loving wife, America Stoner, of Dickerson; one son, John C. Stoner and husband Richard A. Baxter of Atlanta, Georgia; one daughter, Elizabeth M. Hartman and husband Jeffery T. Hartman of Frederick; and one grandchild, Aja Amerie Baxter-Stoner.



Walter Jerome Stoner

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Lizzy's Lodge Rescue, PO Box 3334, Silver Spring, MD 20918 and/or Frederick Animal Shelter, 1832 Rosemont Ave, Frederick, MD 21702.



Continued from page 9.

Common Ground Market

helps us play to our strengths as small-scale producers to offer a wide array of products to our neighbors.

Those of us who grow food and flowers on our farms each grow slightly differently. From the Earth Foods is certified organic. Moonflower Farm and Plow and Stars Farm are not certified but use all-organic methods to grow their veggies and flowers, and also incorporate small-scale livestock production into their operations. Three Graces Farm goes "beyond organic," integrating permaculture techniques and herbalism into its beautiful and productive gardens and foraging edibles from the surrounding woods and fields. We all strive to practice sustainable agriculture, growing food for our families and our neighbors in ways that promote environmental health and our local economy. We draw inspiration from the differences in our operations, learning from one another and trying to make our farms more productive and sustainable every season. While many of us grow organically, vendors at the Common Ground Market don't need to be organic to participate. We believe strongly that there is a place in our community for responsible farming of every kind, and the market is an effort to provide a local outlet for all kinds of farmers and producers.

Farming is challenging, mentally, spiritually, and physically. At certain times of the year, it fills our lives from the moment we get up in the morning to the moment we fall into bed exhausted at night. At other times, it fits itself neatly into the spaces left by the other parts of our lives as mothers, businesswomen, and community members. It allows us to engage and connect with the beautiful land of the Agricultural Reserve in a meaningful way, and to nourish ourselves, our families, and our neighbors. The guiding principle of the Common Ground Collective, and the reason we decided to create and promote the market, is the belief that connection builds strong community. The more we can find everything we need in our own backyards (sometimes, literally!) the more connected we will be to our place, our neighbors, and our local environment. The Common Ground Market is an effort to create connection between local producers and consumers and build the resilience and self-reliance of our community and local economy. We are proud to offer healthy local products to the people of Poolesville.

Continued from page 18.

Hail and Farewell to an Amazing Group of Public Servants

position as principal of Delone Catholic High School in Pennsylvania. I have had an exciting career in MCPS and hope to implement much of what I learned here in my new role. I am very thankful for the experience and for everyone who mentored and supported me along the way! The thing that I am most thankful for, however, is the unbelievable opportunity to serve so many students and their families along the way. It has been both an honor and a privilege."

Sarah Pavlik, Teacher and Counselor, 33 years

Sarah worked one year as a psychology teacher at Churchill and Watkins Mill High Schools and twenty-two years as a school counselor at Gaithersburg and Watkins Mill High Schools, and then eleven years at PHS as a Resource Counselor. Originally from St. Paul, Minnesota, she earned her degrees in Psychology and Secondary Education in Social Studies. She and her husband, who is also retiring after forty years of MCPS service, are looking forward to world travel

and pursuing their interest in art. She also had the very high honor of being selected to be the commencement speaker at the 2017 graduation.

She bade the graduates farewell by telling them "to find your voice, don't wallow, grow and move on, get up when you stumble, learn to be resilient, and most importantly, rise up."

Sharon Moore, Teacher, 17 years

Sharon's entire term at MCPS has been with PHS. Prior to that, she had 3.5 years at the Barnesville School and one year in Prince George's County. Before teaching, she was a programmer/systems analyst with AT&T and consulted at the National Institute of Health for 1.5 years.

Her teaching is all math: both honors and regular algebra and geometry, pre-calculus, consumer math, business math, and quantitative literacy. She was class sponsor of 2007 and 2013, and was head of the House of Independent Studies and Head of the Math Department, both for two years. Originally from Anne Arundel County, she attended Glen Burnie High School. She told the Monocle that, in retirement, she looks forward to "traveling, hiking, biking, reading books on the beach, and spending time with my

husband, family, and friends. I will miss the students and the staff at PHS. Thanks for a great seventeen years."

Billie J. Bradshaw, Teacher, Department Head, Magnet Coordinator, 20 years

Billie is originally from Emporia, Kansas. She was a teacher for eight years in Matter and Energy, Honors and Advanced Placement Physics. For one year she was head of the Global Ecology Studies Program and then Magnet Coordinator for eleven years. She said, "It has been a privilege to be

part of the amazing staff at Poolesville High School. I look forward to traveling more with my husband of forty years, Larry Bradshaw, and spending more time with my four grandchildren."

James Cappuccilli, Counselor, 41 years

James is retiring after forty-one years of public education with twenty-two in California. He has spent the past nineteen years at PHS, retiring as a counselor. "It was a great ride to have spent my last two decades here in this welcoming community."

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Remembrance

John Mackie

John Mackie (né Ivan Mackiw) died on June 11, 2017 at his home in Mt. Airy, Maryland.

He was born in 1930 in Strutyn, Ukraine (at the time under Polish rule), the sixth and last child of Ivan and Maria Mackiw.

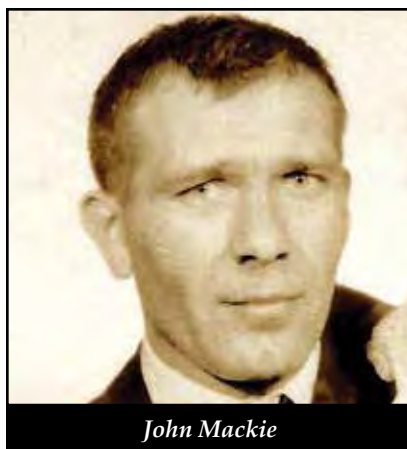
In 1942, as the Soviet-German war front approached their village, John's eldest brother helped the family escape to Germany where they lived in a refugee camp for six years. John's first formal schooling took place in Germany. In 1948, the family emigrated to the United States where they first went to Montana to work on a farm. Two years later, they moved to New Jersey.

John obtained his high school diploma there, then graduated with a Bachelor's and a Master's in Russian Studies. He served in the United States Air Force for three years. He spoke Ukrainian, Russian, English, and German fluently, and was proficient in French and Italian. His greatest passion was for classical music.

John was preceded in death by three brothers, one sister, and one son.

He is survived by his wife, Thérèse Mackie; one son, Francis, and one daughter, Dominique; nine grandchildren, Eric (Lindsay), Alicia (Matthew), Gisèle (Kevin), Joseph, Benjamin, Chantal, Jocelyne, André, and Dmitri; four great-grandchildren; and one brother.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Mercy Home for Boys and Girls, 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60607.



John Mackie

One Spring Day

By André Agnew

My grandfather was a hard man, molded by hard times. His real name was Ivan, though he changed his name to John when he immigrated to the United States from the Ukraine via Germany. As a young boy, during the 1930s, the Russians began brutally repressing the populace and systematically starving tens of millions of Ukrainians. So when Germany invaded in 1941, many Ukrainians saw the Germans as liberators. My grandfather's family decided to leave the widespread starvation to go live in Germany and find work there. During the fall of 1944, the German war machine began to falter as German cities were being bombed and Russia advanced steadily to the capital. My grandfather's story took place in the spring of 1945.

One day, my grandfather was out in the fields by himself, just passing the time. He was fourteen years old. It had just rained, and the air felt cool and fresh. The sky was overcast which gave the world a dull, gray gleam. After a while, a truckload of soldiers drove by on an ancient truck that was most likely commandeered from a nearby farm. As the truck tried to climb a hill, its wheels began spinning in the mud, and got stuck. A German officer leapt out of the truck, with his boots squelching into the mud, and then shouted a quick command, and all the soldiers clambered out of the truck and began struggling with the truck while the officer stood by watching imperiously. The officer eventually glanced over to where my grandfather was sitting and waded out towards him. The officer shouted out to him in German, gesturing to the feeble truck, which was still wriggling and coughing dark black smoke. My grandpa hesitated for a moment too long, so the officer calmly and methodically drew his pistol and leveled it at my grandpa's head, with the air of a man who had done this countless times before. My grandfather had no choice but to do what he said.

Back at the truck he was assigned to help an old German collect sticks and branches to put under the tires of the truck to give it traction. He and the old German never said a word to each other yet they befriended each other just the same. It was as if they had known each other for a lifetime, and there simply was nothing more to say, but to silently reminisce upon the days of old, and to share in each other's companionship. Time seemed to freeze in that little hillside in Germany; they could have easily gone on gathering wood to the muted sound of the falling rain. Cares and worries were washed away by the rain, and they lived only in the present. Eventually, the truck was freed, and the soldiers piled on and drove away. My grandfather and the old man never saw each other again.

After the war, my grandfather and his family immigrated to America, leaving behind his sister, who had gotten separated during the chaos of invasion in Ukraine. Throughout his adult life, his childhood memories had gotten suppressed along with the episode on the muddy hillside. This memory only just returned, as my grandfather and I were chopping wood in the woods behind his house, when he suddenly put down his ax and began telling this story amongst several others. I suppose something about us working together, as he and the old German had done so many years before, suddenly broke the dam, causing all the memories, good and bad, to come gushing forth at once. When he had gotten it all out, we resumed splitting wood, and for a time, it seemed we had gone back in time to 1945. The old German sprang to life in our woods, and my grandfather was fourteen years old once more, with the same solemn face—just without the twinge of bitterness that had set in across the long decades.



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In memory of U.S. Army Sergeant Eric M. Houck,
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in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, in support of
Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

Do you have an interesting story to share? Send it along to
editor@monocacymonocle.com

Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present

MCP's new computer system does not provide current information in a format the Monocle can access. We are working with the department to resolve this issue.

Past Crime

1902 Postal Inspector Frank Sharon began an investigation into a case where ninety dollars' worth of stamps were missing from the Potomac Post Office. Suspicion was applied to mail carrier George Marshall whose route encompassed the territory from Rockville to Potomac. Inspector Sharon learned that the stamps were secreted in a stable in Rockville where Marshall kept his horses. Sharon searched the stable and found about half of the stolen stamps. Just then, Marshall walked in, and Sharon ordered him to produce the rest of the stamps. Marshall was put under arrest by Sharon, and he eventually confessed to stealing the stamps after first claiming that he had bought them on the street from a small boy. Marshall was eighteen years old at the time and, in addition to his postal duties, he drove the stage from Rockville to Brookeville.

1902 One of the boldest robberies ever reported in Montgomery County happened on this date. It seems that Elijah Bean was in town and had parked his team and buggy in the stable behind the Montgomery Hotel. A boy named John Jackson stole the team and was headed out of town when apprehended.

1902 The crusade against vice continued on the Conduit Road (now MacArthur Boulevard) by order of

Judge Henderson of the Circuit Court. Deputies Bradley, Gibson, and Sullivan set out and stopped first at an establishment owned by Sadie Houk, a well-known former baseball player. The deputies ordered lunch and then called for beer. They were told that nothing intoxicating was for sale. They then headed for the Curtain Fishing Club and Rock Spring Club where they found nothing going on. They then went to the Cabin John Hotel because they held a warrant for the proprietor for running a gaming table and a violation of the local option law (serving alcohol).

1902 An example of good police work and trickery was exhibited by Detective Trumbo of the Washington force. Trumbo had been searching for Garfield Broderick on a charge of larceny. Broderick was said to have stolen a suit of clothes and a trunk from a house on K Street. Trumbo went to a farm near Rockville and convinced Broderick that he was from a hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey and that a good paying job was awaiting him there. Broderick believed the ruse and willingly accompanied the officer downtown where he was placed under arrest.

1902 Charles Dyson left his home at Quince Orchard with the intention of going to Rockville to purchase some items. For some reason, he lay down on the tracks of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and fell asleep. A fast express train saw Dyson but did not have time to stop. Dyson was taken to the Emergency Hospital in Washington where he died after about twelve hours. It was announced that the body would be taken back to Rockville where an inquest would be held.

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

Continued from page 16.

St. Peter's Nursery School

Education field, working in a variety of private preschool settings while completing numerous continuing education courses. One year ago, Watt moved back to Poolesville and is happily settling in and eager to begin teaching and directing the new nursery school at Saint Peter's.

When asked what she likes most about teaching young students, Watt said, "I love their innocence and enthusiasm for new things. I love that they are naturally loving. I believe that, at heart, children are very inclusive and accepting."

When not in the classroom, Watt can often be found reading. "I am a crazy, crazy reader," said Watt who reads all types of books except horror. "My family often has to bug me to get my nose out of a book." Additionally, Watt enjoys baking simple dishes and desserts, and is hoping to take up bird-watching like her grandmother who was an avid birder who traveled extensively on bird-watching trips and headed a local Audubon Society.

To learn more about St. Peter's Nursery School, its vision, and steps needed to take to reserve a spot for the fall, visit stpetersnurseryschool@saintpetersnet.org.

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Dogs and cats are our friends. We want them to share our lives, and they make us happy, so it is natural to want to share the experiences of exploring the world with them along for the ride, but in these high-heat summer days, it is critical to remember that leaving your pets inside a locked car, even with the windows down, can be deadly to them.

Even on milder days in our August heat, the inside of a closed car, or even one with the windows "cracked", can reach over 110 degrees within 20 minutes.

THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR LEAVING YOUR PET INSIDE YOUR CAR.

Puppies, geriatric, and specific breeds (dark-coated, Pugs, Pekingese, Boston Terriers, Mastiffs, Newfoundland, Great Danes, St. Bernards) are at greater risk of heat stroke. They cannot cool themselves efficiently and rapidly due to reduced airway flow and extreme size. Remember that dogs do not sweat. They only cool themselves by panting.

Signs of heat stroke can include:

- Weakness
- Vomiting
- Disorientation and difficulty standing
- Diarrhea, with blood
- Tremors or loss of consciousness
- Excessive drooling
- Heavy panting
- Loss of responsiveness to your voice

First aid:

- Hose or dunk them in tepid (not cold) water
- Flush their mouths with cool water repeatedly
- Place alcohol soaked towels between their legs and under their arms.
- Go immediately (don't wait to talk to your vet) to your veterinarian or the closest veterinary office by you (smart phone use).

Guarded prognosis:

Depending on the length of exposure, the delay in getting treatment and other age and health factors, the prognosis can good or bad. Kidney, liver, and brain damage are the most common effects of prolonged heat exposure. Dogs and cats can look fine immediately after recovering from heat stroke only to become very ill within 1-2 days.

Final thoughts:

See your veterinarian for blood work if you think your pet has been overheated and watch your pet for any changes in behavior or attitude on hot days.



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