

# The Monocacy

# MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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Some house repairs require respiratory caution. See more pictures of the Rebuilding Together Team on page 2.



The Girl Scouts make leaders. Find out how in Tidbits on page 6.



Washington Ballet's Eun Won Lee with HGCBT's founder and artistic director Fran Ichijo. Get the details in Center Stage on page 9.



How big was the one that got away? See fishing tournament pictures on page 11.

## Two Charged in Restaurant Burglaries

By Jack Toomey

An adult female and a juvenile male have been charged with the burglaries of the Mexican Grill and the Watershed Café that occurred in the early morning hours of April 28, and the Crown Gas Station on April 6.

On the morning of April 28, a passerby noticed that the front door of the Mexican Grill, the well-known Poolesville eatery, was tampered with and standing open. The citizen called the police. Soon after arriving, the officer verified that the front door had been pried open, allowing the culprits to enter the premises. A large amount of liquor had been stolen.

On the same night, presumably the same group of thieves tried to break into the Watershed Café across the street. In that case, they tried to pry open the back door but were unsuccessful.

A police spokesperson said that the security system inside the Mexican Grill indicated that the intrusion happened at about 2:30 a.m. She said that nearly \$600 worth of liquor was stolen.



The Mexican Grill, one of three targeted area businesses, was burglarized on April 28.

Jessica Gomez-Koehn, the manager of the Mexican Grill, said, "I feel violated. We have been here ten years, and I am concerned about the police presence (in Poolesville)." She said that she had been in contact with Town Manager Wade Yost and is hoping that she can attend the next commissioners'

meeting to make her feelings known.

In the meantime, police detectives from the Rockville Station began investigating both cases. They obtained security footage from the Mexican Grill and determined that a small car

Continued on page 18.

## UMCVFD Volunteer Saves Life at Golf Course

By Rande Davis

On April 23, a male golfer at the Poolesville Golf Course had a severe cardiac arrest, lost consciousness, and stopped breathing. Thanks to the quick action by an area UMCVFD volunteer and Montgomery County Fire Rescue personnel, the individual, who had lost a heartbeat, was revived and safely transported to Shady Grove Hospital. There is no official report on the man's condition other than it is thought that he is still recovering at the hospital.

Lynne Bodmer, of Total Automotive and Diesel, who has been an active UMCVFD volunteer for many years and is the organization's current treasurer, heard over her emergency radio receiver that an individual had collapsed at Poolesville Golf Course and was in need of immediate assistance.

The golfer was reported to be at the eighth hole.

Instantly, Lynne remembered that her daughter, Mollie, a trained career firefighter and EMT employed by Prince William County Fire Rescue Service in Virginia and a volunteer with UMCVFD, was playing golf that day with her grandfather (Lynne's dad), Charlie Glass. She called Mollie on her cellphone, who happened to be starting her second nine at the tenth hole, next to the eighth. Mollie then rushed to the victim.

After assessing the severity of situation, she initiated the chain of the survival and began CPR, resuscitating the patient, providing constant compressions to restore the man's heartbeat, and awaiting the arrival of

Continued on page 19.



Mollie Bodmer was golfing with her grandfather, Charlie Glass, when she got a call about a cardiac arrest victim on another hole.

## Family Album

# Repairing Homes for Residents in Need



*Poolesville Helping Hands, working through Rebuilding Together, has been assisting in home repairs for residents in need for nearly twenty-five years. Joe Hetrick of Chrysler Homes and Bernie Mihm of Fine Earth Landscaping used their professional expertise in organizing and managing this voluntary effort. This year, fifty-six area residents stepped forward to help.*





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## Rande(m) Thoughts

### Fessing Up!

By Rande Davis

I made a bold and perhaps outlandish announcement in February, and now I have to live with it. In a moment of what I now see as deranged foolhardiness, I let you, our loyal readers, in on my goal to get myself fit, lose some weight, set specific goals, and, even worse, in a weak moment of zaniness, promised to keep you informed every three months. Uh-oh, the first day of judgement has now arrived. There's no turning back, no way out, so here goes.

My first goal was to join Anytime Fitness and start on February 1. I then promptly missed my first goal by putting that off by ten days, but at least I did join the club. That's the good news. The bad news is that was really not enough. You actually have to go inside and do some work.

Anytime Fitness assigned counselor Chris Sabate to give me an orientation tour and to provide some initial advice that might help me in preparing my plan. Chris is a very nice and knowledgeable young man, a Poolesville High School graduate who went on to play ice hockey for the University of Maryland. He looked the part and proved to be a master of self-control since, as he read over my goals, he smiled, was highly supportive, and never once gave into what must have been a strong urge to burst out laughing. He told me my goals were good and doable and never once mentioned he was thinking these goals were attainable for a man forty-five not seventy.

My goals were simple: lose forty-five pounds, boost my energy level, and strengthen my upper body. I didn't even consider trying to add muscle to my legs. Pretty much my whole life my silhouette has resembled a golf ball on a tee, so I don't think now is the time to worry about trying to beef up the legs. The only time my profile didn't look that way was when I marched out of basic training at 155 pounds. Since then, it has been a slow cadence upward until I finally reached 275 a couple of years ago. I did get down to 245 before starting Anytime Fitness, but I was still nearly a hundred pounds above my army days.

What makes matters even worse is that I am not as tall as I was in the

army. They officially measured me in at 5' 11.75". Today I am lucky if I am 5' 10". I discovered I was losing height just a few years ago and was shocked I was no longer a six-footer. In a panic, I went to see my doctor. I was scared. You gotta understand: as a kid I was psychologically impacted by the original movie *The Incredible Shrinking Man* and immediately recalled a time I drove through a strange misty fog in a place where cloudiness should not have been. Was this the moment in which my fate was set? Was I to continue to shrink forever? The doctor reassured me that all was fine, that most people lose height as they grow older. What a relief—I had figured that at the current rate, in three hundred years I would only be about two inches tall. Whew!

I guess I shouldn't have been surprised about losing inches, but what made the matter worse was I actually thought I was growing taller not shorter. I based that on the fact that as the years have gone by and my belly expanded, every time I had to pick up something from the ground, it was clearly farther away than it had ever been before. I logically concluded I was getting taller.

Back to the update: How am I doing? It's been slower than I had hoped. Weighing-in in the heavy-weight division, I still am hopeful to make it below two hundred by Poolesville Day. This morning I was 224, so at that rate, I may make it. As far as upper body progress, not so much. My first attempt was on an upper body machine set for fifty pounds by someone using it before me. I discovered this when I called the attending staff over to complain that it was broken. When she adjusted the weight to twenty-five pounds, the apparatus was miraculously fixed.

If you go by Anytime Fitness and see me at the window on the treadmill, go ahead and wave, but I might not see you as I'll be keenly watching the video screen. The thing allows me to "run" with others all around the world, and I am lost to reality as I am virtually walking on a nature path somewhere in Turkey, Australia, or Europe with others working out. I suspect some of them must be really old, since I find I can occasionally pass them.

While progress is being made, on the horizon I see a huge hurdle; when I look out the front of my house, I see a sign across the street: Coming Soon, Dunkin' Donuts.

## Garden

### A Historic Arboretum

By Maureen O'Connell

Tucked away off the main street in Poolesville, behind the log and frame John Poole House, is a garden that time and people have forgotten: the Edward L. Stock, Jr. Memorial Arboretum. This collection of shrubs, trees, herbs, and perennials, indigenous to western Montgomery County before 1850, was started in 1976 by nurseryman and landscape designer Edward L. Stock, Jr.; he designed the garden and was its major planter. After graduating from Cornell University in 1929, he returned home to Bethesda and, with his brother Steve Stock, started a nursery and landscape business, Stock Brothers, Inc. They later moved from Bethesda to Rockville in 1946 and to Beallsville in 1961. Today, the Four Streams golf club occupies this land.

In 1974, Historic Medley District (HMD) Inc. purchased and restored the John Poole House (JPH), built in 1793 and the oldest building in Poolesville. A .83-acre lot surrounded the house, and, for Mr. Stock, it became his avocation to develop an arboretum



The John Poole House  
Ed Stock Arboretum.

stocked with plants brought to the Poolesville area by early settlers and plants native to the environment. He did extensive research with the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., the Montgomery County Men's Garden Club, and horticulturists working in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia to find plants that were hardy, low maintenance, and would thrive in Poolesville weather conditions. They would also be the types of plants that a shopkeeper would grow in his backyard. He searched for such plants

Continued on page 24.

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## Town Government

### Commissioners Adopt FY20 Budget And Taxes, Higher Water Rates

By Link Hoewing

The Town of Poolesville commissioners adopted the proposed FY20 budget and taxes as well as a hike in water rates at their May 6 meeting. They first held an open hearing on both proposals, and only one resident offered any comments.

Bob Roit criticized spending increases for "community affairs" programs, including money allocated to support the Fair Access Committee which has been leading an effort for a new high school and co-located county services center. There were no other questions or comments, and both measures were approved unanimously with all commissioners present.

County councilmember Andrew Friedsen appeared at the start of the meeting to award a certificate of recognition to Stand Up Poolesville, a local group of citizens that is dedicated to promoting debate and discussion on key topics with leading state, county, and local officials. He said the award acknowledges the group's success in promoting active involvement in public affairs. Commission President Jerry Klobukowski also gave each member of Stand Up Poolesville a citation from the commissioners recognizing the work of the group.

Officer Tara Bond, the county police community affairs officer who regularly attends commission meetings, updated the commissioners on a series of recent robberies affecting local businesses. Watershed Café, Liberty Gas Station, and the Mexican Grill have all either been broken into or had items stolen. Officer Bond noted that exterior cameras recorded some of the suspects who were involved in the robberies. While the suspects had hooded sweatshirts that obscured their faces, the cameras still picked up clothing and other unique attributes of the individuals involved that allowed the police to make arrests.

Jessica Gomez-Koehn, the manager of the Mexican Grill, appeared to offer her perspective on the robbery. She said the break-in has left her very worried, and she has had trouble sleeping. The robbers apparently tried to break in at the back of the restaurant and had been seen walking around the area previously. Gomez-Koehn has not see any police cruisers for a long period of time and believes that frequent drive-bys by police cars would help deter late night break-ins.

In response, Officer Bond acknowledged that county police coverage of Poolesville and its surrounding areas is strained in part due to the immense amount of land that is in the Upcounty. Officers are sometimes responding to incidents that occur more frequently in populated areas like Germantown and farther south. She added that it is not possible to increase coverage for Poolesville without more police officers. The county police department has requested more money for officers, but the budget is now undergoing review. She urged local citizens to speak up in support of more funding to hire officers.

Officer Bond also said that the case of the break-in at the Mexican Grill proves the value of surveillance cameras, and she urged local businesses to install them. The police offer free security assessments to help local businesses make improvements that will help protect them from robberies and break-ins.

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## Tidbits

### Winner of April 26 Monocle Mystery Photo Contest

Glenn Wallace was the only person to correctly identify the mystery building in the picture as a former one-room schoolhouse in Poolesville.

### Two Local Girls Elected to Girl Scout Council

Jessica Mense was one of two girls elected at the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital (GSCNC) Annual Meeting, April 13, 2019 to help govern GSCNC, an organization with over 87,000 members: 60,000-plus girls in grades K-12, and 27,000-plus adults in the Greater Washington Region which includes the District of Columbia and twenty-five counties in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. Jessica, a Poolesville High School sophomore and a member of Troop 4300, is one of two girls who was selected by the GSCNC Nominating Committee to serve with seven adult officers and twenty-one adult members-at-large after a competitive application process including essays and a formal panel interview.

Among those who elected Jessica was Abigail (Abby) Antonishek, PHS freshman and council delegate for Service Unit 32-11 to GSCNC. Abby was appointed by the service unit to serve as the liaison between the service unit and GSCNC by running a session with the Girl Scout leaders in the service unit where she asked for feedback regarding council operations and policy. She then attended a council forum where she identified and communicated the service unit's needs to the board of directors. She attended the GSCNC annual meeting and elected the council board of directors and nominating committee.

### Wasted! at Rocklands Winery

On Wednesday, May 1—a picture-perfect evening for an open-barn

event—Poolesville Green and Rocklands Farm Winery brought together environmentally-conscious folks from the Upcounty (and down) to learn ways in which we all can stop wasting food. The screened documentary, *Wasted! The Story of Food Waste*, both educated and entertained those gathered while serving up its main message: to change the way individuals, restaurants, and corporations buy, prepare, cook, recycle, and eat food. Through the eyes of chef-heroes like Anthony Bourdain, Dan Barber, Mario Batali, Massimo Bottura, and Danny Bowien, attendees watched the world's most influential chefs make the most of every kind of food, transforming what most people consider scraps into incredible dishes as part of a more sustainable global food system. *Wasted!* illustrated the criminality of rampant food waste and how it's directly contributing to climate change. Rocklands graciously offered scrumptious local fare before the showing, and afterwards, hosted a panel of Montgomery County food rescuers (Montgomery County Food Council), farmers (Stars and Plows), and activists (Charles Koiner Center for Urban Farming) for a lively Q&A that generated many ideas for Poolesvillians to consider. To borrow a copy of the *Wasted!* DVD, contact Christina M. Nanof on Facebook.

### Poolesville Certified as a Wildlife-Friendly Community by the National Wildlife Federation

Leading a nationwide trend in community concern for habitat loss, Poolesville has been officially designated an NWF Community Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). The town is one of only 120 such communities in the country and the eighth community in Maryland to receive this honor. NWF's Certified Wildlife Habitat Program has been helping people take personal action on behalf of wildlife for more than forty years. The program engages homeowners, businesses, schools,

Continued on page 23.



At Rocklands, teaching an old proverb: Waste not, want not.

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## School News

### New County Study Supports the Need for a New High School

by Link Hoewing

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) just released a report that seemingly makes a good case that Poolesville High School (PHS) needs to be rebuilt; however, it is not yet a certainty that PHS will be placed in the queue for rebuilding in the near future. Instead, a look back at the history of the school suggests that PHS students, parents, and Upcounty residents will need to do a lot more work to convince the county to invest in a new school for our area.

Back in the late 1990s, I began a more-than-two-decade involvement as a PTSA leader and cluster coordinator (the advocate to the county for a cluster of schools) for Poolesville's schools. Even then, the core of PHS was almost fifty years old. Today, it is nearing seventy years old.

Along with many other parents and local leaders, we pushed for many years to have PHS put on the list for rebuilding. We argued that not only was the school very old by county standards, it had also been added to over the years in such a way that it was almost as if someone randomly attached rooms here and there. The list of problems related to the school building ranged from the lack of ADA-compliant bathrooms in some areas to problems with the HVAC system (that led to air quality issues).

Our efforts seemed to bear fruit at various points. In the early 1990s, MCPS began to use a system called FACT (Facilities Assessment with Criteria and Testing) to assess older school facilities in order to help determine when to schedule them for renovations, additions, or complete rebuilds. Using a set of parameters such as Utility and Energy Costs, Maintenance Costs, Facility Design Guidelines (i.e., condition of electrical systems, HVAC systems, water systems, and so on), and Educational Specifications (i.e., impacts on school programming and educational outcomes), scores were developed for each school. The scores would help, along with other criteria, to rank schools for capital projects.

Under the FACT system, Poolesville was first assigned (in 2001) with a 2019 modernization date. Starting in 2003, PHS was assigned a modernization date of 2013. By 2013, PHS was assigned with a new date for modernization of 2022. In the 2015 CIP and 2016 MCPS Capital Improvements Plans, PHS had a completion date for modernization of August 2023. In 2017, PHS was relegated back to "TBD" status as the superintendent announced that a new evaluation system—called the Key Facilities Indicators or KFIs—would be instituted. Schools would have to be reevaluated using the KFI system.

Despite being consistently included on the list for modernization under the FACT scoring system, a number of other factors always played consistent and major roles in determining how PHS was treated. For example, in documents for project funding used by the county's Office of Management and Budget, "fiscal constraints" were repeatedly cited over the years as reasons for delaying Poolesville's modernization and bumping it from the FACT list.

Although capacity and overcrowding were specifically not included in the FACT analysis for school modernization, they were often cited in other MCPS documents and reports and were very likely a major factor in moving PHS off the list. This remains a factor even now as this quote from the FY 2018 superintendent's CIP recommendations makes clear, "We must continue to address the backlog of capacity projects at the elementary level and be prepared in the next CIP to address anticipated overutilization at the secondary level."

The heavy focus on capacity pressures will always leave PHS at a disadvantage. About forty years ago, Montgomery County created the Agricultural Reserve (mostly in Western Montgomery County) to preserve open space in the county. Poolesville High School is located at the center of the Agricultural Reserve and serves a population of about fifteen thousand residents or only about a percent of the county's total population. As a result, our needs will never be able to compete with the demands resulting from growth that affect other regions of the county, and Western Montgomery County is often overlooked for major capital infrastructure investments.

The new KFI system is similar in many respects to the old FACT system except that it is not just focused on aging schools. All schools have been analyzed under the KFI process, and it reviews a number of facets of a school building's condition, including School Safety and Security, Building Quality, Indoor Environment, and Building Age.

Continued on page 19.



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## In Your Own Backyard

### A Witness to History: The Trundle Farm

By Jon Wolz

#### Part one of the story:

One day after church, Steve Horvath and I were talking with Jonathan Warner about the C&O Canal and how we occasionally walk by Lock 26. Jonathan mentioned that his property backs up to the park, and he accesses it from his property for walks along the towpath. He subsequently sent me a report of his property which is known as the "Trundle Farm" written by Paula Reed and Associates. This report focused on the historical relationship of the farm with the canal. Over the years, I visited the Antietam National Battlefield and it was not until I began reading about the history of the Trundle Farm and other sources that I found the connection between this farm and the historic White Farm across the Potomac River in Virginia having a significant effect on what was to become one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War.

Today, thirty-three acres remain of



The amazing barn at Trundle Farm.

what was once 238 acres of the original Trundle Farm. It is located on Martinsburg Road and borders the Dickerson Conservation Park and the C&O Canal. The Trundle Farm has four buildings including a house and a red sandstone building on the west side of Martinsburg Road and a red sandstone and wood bank barn and red sandstone springhouse on the east side of the road. The bank barn was

one of the finest of its kind ever constructed in Montgomery County. The house is 1½ stories of log and frame which are now covered with siding with additional sections built on to the original log house over a period of years. From 1816 through 1818, Otho Trundle purchased six contiguous lots totaling 238 acres of "Wilson's Bad Luck." The west side of this land bordered the Potomac River. Otho Wilson constructed a log structure which is now on the north end of the current house prior to 1821. Otho died in 1821 intestate, and the Montgomery County court system awarded the real estate to his son William Trundle. The Trundles traded farm goods with farms in Loudoun County and traveled down their farm road where goods were transported back and forth across the Potomac River at White's Ford. Easy passage to and from the Potomac River was short-lived.

On July 4, 1828, near Little Falls, five miles above Georgetown, President John Quincy Adams, turned the first spade full of dirt (after hitting rocks and roots) at the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Subsequent to groundbreaking, the C&O Canal Company (Canal Company) began purchasing land from property owners in order to build the canal. By 1830, the Canal Company was unable to settle with the Trundle family for the purchase of their land where the canal was to pass through the Trundle property. A court-appointed jury set a price of \$1,054 for ten acres of land and awarded William Trundle \$653 in damages. The Canal Company built the lockhouse for Lock 26 between June 1829 and January 1830. The lockhouse burned down in 1969 leaving only the stone foundation. Lock 26 and its stone bypass flume were constructed between January 1831 and August 1832. The red and some gray Seneca sandstone was boated upriver seventeen miles from the Seneca Stone

Quarry. Today, the lock was filled in by the park service to stabilize the lock walls. Culvert 65 was completed underneath the canal in 1832.

Once the canal was completed, travelers no longer could travel from the Trundle Farm down to the river or up from the river without using the ferry boat across the canal. At times of low water, travelers went through culvert 65 which was twelve feet high and wide. Iron straps still hold the lock stones together, some of the iron hardware that held the lock gates in places is visible, as well as rope marks in the lock stones left by mules pulling canal boats through the lock, and chisel marks made by the quarrymen at the time the stones were cut and pulled from the quarry. Also, a piece of the wooden lock gate survives against the lock wall. A stone dock was built on the berm side (opposite side from the towpath) that allowed the Trundles to ferry a boat across the canal which enabled continued trading with Virginia farms. On the river side next to the towpath, there was also a stone waste weir built that allowed for canal water to be drained as needed when the water level was high.

During 1832, a cholera epidemic came upon the canal workers. The waters of the canal ditch and the workers' camps were conducive to the transmission of the bacteria. By August 1832, work along the canal had stopped after workers fled and would not resume until 1833. The canal was watered to Lock 22, Violette's lock, from Georgetown by 1831, and from Lock 22 to Lock 34 across from Harper's Ferry by 1834.

In December 2017, I was invited inside culvert 65 by park service employees who were repairing the culvert. Ducking my head, I carefully stepped along boards held up by scaffolding. Just inside the culvert, there is a stone with "1832" carved on it. The

Continued on page 18.

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## Center Stage

### Back by Popular Demand!

By Rande Davis

The excitement is building as the June 2 opening of the Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre presentation of The Jungle Book returns to Poolesville High School. This original ballet by artistic director Fran Ichijo was first performed six years ago when the current leads were just eight years old.

The ballet was enthusiastically praised for its beauty, quality, and emotional inspiration. Madame Ichijo explains that her version of Jungle Book "is based on the Rudyard Kipling novel, not the Disney version. I love literature and telling a story through ballet. People will laugh and cry along with Mowgli."

This dazzling original adaption of Kipling's timeless tale of a boy, Mowgli, raised by animals in the jungle of India, communicates the importance of respect, loyalty, and integrity. With their unique and beautiful dances, the brilliantly-colored jungle creatures delight and fascinate Mowgli. Deeply attached to his loyal animal friends and accustomed to life in the wild, Mowgli nevertheless becomes increasingly curious about the human village. The secret of the red flower (Fire) intrigues him and helps him bring about the ultimate defeat of his nemesis, the tigress Shere Khan.

The performers were thrilled and honored to have very special experience in their development when Washington Ballet's Eun Won Lee traveled to Poolesville twice to assist in the training and rehearsals for this performance.

Lee has been described by the director of the Washington Ballet, Julie Kent, as "a willowy dancer with fine technical and musical strengths, who has won honors at many international competitions, including the Korea Ballet Association's Prima Ballerina Award." Her repertoire includes leading roles in Giselle, Swan Lake, Don Quixote, and La Bayadère, among other staples of the ballet canon.

Miss Lee was taught in part by one of Ichijo's students in Korea. "I danced and taught there for eight years (from 1978 to 1986), so I guess she is my grand-student. Our dancers got top flight coaching from a beautiful, renowned dancer. It was really cool, like going full circle."

Miss Lee coached Anna Porch in the "White Swan" solo, Elizabeth Vinokurov in "Bluebird," Charlotte Vogel in "Raymonda," and Christina Zhang in "Black Swan." All of these are part of the story as Baloo the Bear teaches Mowgli the language of the animals, and the Raymonda solo represents the Goddess of Inspiration who gives him the idea to use Fire to defeat the troublesome Tigress Shere Khan.

There will be performances at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. General admission is \$25.00 with a discount to \$20.00 for seniors, military, veterans, and students. Tickets can be purchased at hgbct.org.



Washington Ballet's Eun Won Lee with HGCBT's Elizabeth Vinokurov.

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## Ag News

### Farming the Land For a Century

By Lisa Warffeli

"Farming is my life," Scot Poffenberger tells me, and it has been the life of the four generations of Poffenbergers before him. Scot's family has farmed the same land for over a hundred years and in 2016 was recognized as a Century Farm by the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Century Farms are farms that have remained in the same family for at least one hundred consecutive years. Scot sat down with me to explain his path to farming, its smooth patches and the rough ones, and why he remains hopeful his children will continue the Poffenberger tradition.

Scot grew up on the farm then enrolled at Virginia Tech where he earned an animal science degree. He intended to become a veterinarian. Then, on a summer break, he got a job working on a cattle farm; he started getting paid and soon forgot about vet school. He then worked in breeding show cattle. Having grown up in 4-H, Scot had shown beef steers, so he was familiar with the world of cow models. He managed a couple of other farms after graduation and then the family farm transitioned to him.

Sixty Angus beef cattle roam Scot's land munching on pasture and hay. He has three bulls with which he times breeding so that he has calves in March and April and then again in September and October. He raises the calves until they are weaned, and then he sells them privately or through feeder calf sales when they are approximately five hundred pounds. He keeps the heifer calves for breeding, and they are typically sold once they reach around ten to twelve years old. He also raises a few cows for friends. He tells me one of the best parts of his cow-calf operation is bringing a healthy calf into the world.

Like a lot of farmers, Scot works off the farm as well. He manages Willard Agribusiness. Willard Agribusiness farms 3,600 acres of corn, wheat, and sorghum. Scot organizes the purchasing of the seed then, once those seeds become plants, he organizes the harvest, and after the harvest, he manages the sale of the commodities. Scot's work requires him to be a certified commercial applicator so that he can spread pesticides and fertilizers. He also is a certified nutrient management consultant. Each farm must have a nutrient management plan. The plan



Scot Poffenberger

keeps track of the amount of fertilizer in the ground per acre. Every two years, Willard Agribusiness must have soil samples taken and the results reported to the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Scot emphasizes the preciseness of fertilizer application. "You don't want to have excess because that can cause runoff." His certifications require classroom time, manuals, and tests, and once you are certified, you must take annual courses, just like any licensed professional.

All that science and precision can be wiped out by the fickleness of Mother Nature. Too much or too little rain affects the yields. Scot says this just makes them have to work harder. If one field is too wet to harvest, you have to move all your equipment to a field that is dry. Moving equipment across many miles can take up quite a bit of time in a day. Last harvest season "wasn't fun." Usually, Scot says, they finish harvest the first week in November. Last year, they finished the day before Thanksgiving.

I asked Scot what advice he had for someone interested in farming. "You have to like what you're getting into and stay the course." He recommends starting small and going to as many education classes as you can. He hopes that those who have grown up on family farms will want to "carry on the tradition." He hopes his own kids and future generations will want to carry on the Poffenberger farm for another century.

Interested in being recognized as a Century Farm? Information and the application form can be found at [www.mda.maryland.gov](http://www.mda.maryland.gov). If you have a Century Farm, I would be interested in hearing about your farm and your family's story. Please contact me at [lisamarie1048@gmail.com](mailto:lisamarie1048@gmail.com).



May 10



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# THE ANNUAL Richard S. McKernon Fishing Tournament



A partially-cloudy day made for a great day to fish.



The record number of fifty-six participants awaited the results of measurements.



These are the prize winners, but those who fished had a terrific day, so all really won big.



Town Parks director, Preston King, announced the winners.



Alexis Crawford, lower left, caught the 25.5-inch-long catfish to take top prize.



Oh, no! A quarter of an inch too short.

## 2019 Fishing Tournament Winners

Overall Winner: Alexis Crawford, 25½-inch 4-lb. Catfish

### Ages 6-8

- 2nd: Ayla Johnson, 16¾-inch catfish
- 3rd: Taylor Hansen, Most Fish Caught

### Ages 9-11

- 1st: Matthew Lowe, 19½-inch catfish
- 2nd: Alec Smuikys, 17½-inch catfish
- 3rd: Lorelei Watkins, Most Fish Caught

### Ages 12 - 13

- 1st: Meghan Davidson, 14-inch catfish
- 2nd: Dustin Fisher, 8-inch blue
- 3rd: Kyle Pope, Most Fish Caught

### Ages 14-16

- 1st: Eric Clyne, 18-inch catfish
- 2nd: Haili Wilhelm, 11-inch catfish
- 3rd: Sam Wilson, Most Fish Caught

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## Things To Do

### Poolesville Area Senior Center

All events at 17750 W. Willard Road, Poolesville

**Pickleball:** Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

**Zumba Gold:** Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

**Mahjong:** Thursdays, Room 129, 10:00 a.m.

**The Blue Hearth is now open every weekend.**

**Bruster's vendor truck** now open in Poolesville. Check Facebook for hours. Be sure to clip the Bruster \$1 off coupon on page xx for a sweet deal.

### PASC Special Event: Plan Ahead

See feature play *Grease* at Toby's Dinner Theatre. Reservations by May 30. Details in ad on page 7.

### May 11

#### Historic Medley Scavenger Hunt

John Poole House. 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

### May 12

#### Mother's Day

Be sure to make reservations at area restaurants early.

### May 13

#### Poolesville Green Special Event

Join in welcoming Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light cyclists as they arrive in Poolesville on their trip to Washington, D.C. A discussion of solar power will be featured. *Am Kolé Sanctuary Retreat Center, 19520 Darnestown Road, Beallsville. 7:00 p.m.*

### May 15

#### Nightingale Library Special Event: Community Reception & Art Show

Music performed by Violinsanity. Light refreshments will be served. Appropriate for all ages. 7:00 p.m.

#### Poolesville Planning Commission

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

#### WUMCO Help! Annual meeting

Guest speaker Link Hoewing on progress for new community high school. 17750 West Willard Road. 6:30 p.m.

### May 16

#### Nightingale Library Special Event: Family Storytime

Diverse stories and activities that promote and develop language skills and imagination for preschoolers and kindergarteners, babies and toddlers. 10:30 a.m.

### May 17 and 18

#### JPMS Phantom Players Present: Schoolhouse Rock LIVE!, Jr.

JPMS Media Room. 7:00 p.m.

### May 18

#### Annual Poolesville SpringFest

Featuring craft beer, BBQ, and blues. We will have over twenty breweries and wineries, local BBQ and artisan vendors, and live bands. Southbound Steel performs from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the Kelly Bell Band performs from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Plenty of kids' activities including rock wall, moon bounce, and mechanical bull. *Whalen Commons.*

### May 18

#### Nightingale Library Special Event: Science Club

Children will learn about science doing different activities and experiments. Ages 6 to 8. 2:30 p.m.

### May 19

#### Annual Potomac Hunt Races

All details at [potomachuntraces.com](http://potomachuntraces.com). Please note change in parking lot arrangements. *Partnership Road, Poolesville.*

### May 20

#### Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

### May 21

#### Nightingale Library Special Event: Pajama Family Storytime

Diverse stories and activities that promote and develop language skills and imagination for preschoolers and kindergarteners, babies and toddlers. 7:00 p.m.

### May 23

#### Poolesville Green Special Event

Montgomery County Solar Co-Op info session. Use collective buy power for your rooftop solar. Free. *Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.*

Would you like to announce a meeting, club, or upcoming event in Things To Do? Then let us know!

Send it along to [editor@monocacymonocle.com](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com)

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## Foundations

### A Survey of Our Inheritance: Wolf's Cow

By Kenny Sholes

There's something about standing in an abandoned or vacant old house that summons a range of feelings. On one hand, there's a certain sense of sadness at seeing a home that was once occupied by a family now empty. On the other, there's a feeling of hope that the home will again be occupied in the future—a hope that the dining room will have more thanksgiving dinners, children will ride the stairway bannister again, and loving inhabitants will again tend to the yard. When you stand in the foyer of Joseph White's now-empty home, on the Rickman Horse Farm at the corner of Moore and Bucklodge Roads, these competing feelings are certainly present.

In 1824, Joseph White, a member of the prominent and local White family, married Mary Collinson Gott, the daughter of a wealthy plantation owner a few miles away. Joseph had been given a tract of land, referred to in survey records as Wolf's Cow, by his father and had begun work on a new home around 1822. Completing his federal-style home around the same time as his wedding, Joseph and his new bride moved in and went to work farming the land.

Historic records seem to indicate that Joseph was good at his trade and became a relatively prosperous farmer. In fact, Joseph was one of the founding members of Medley District Agricultural Society which served as a forum for local farmers to share agricultural techniques and knowledge. As was the case on most farms in what we now consider the Agricultural Reserve, Joseph did possess multiple slaves (we know of at least four) to assist in this work. Unfortunately, we don't know much more about these individuals aside from their names which were listed in Joseph's father's will: Matildy, John, Peter, and Henry.

The home itself has a fairly simple floorplan that is replicated in other federal homes in the area, but it's in the details that Joseph White's home really shines. In the 1980s, the county's historic preservation planning staff noted that the house is architecturally significant for the area because of a few features,



including the glass fanlight window over the front door, the finely-crafted roofline moldings, and its side-gabled roof. There's also an interesting main staircase that was unquestionably beautiful in its heyday.

Perhaps one of the more interesting aspects of the home's history is that in the fall of 1862, when the Civil War was beginning to heat up and the conflict was coming closer to the Medley District, two of Joseph and Mary's three sons crossed the river to fight for the confederacy. Fighting under the command of their cousin, Col. Elijah White (as almost all local men in the area who fought in the Civil War also did), both sons appear to have been captured and released at some point during the war before eventually returning home to get on with their lives.

Continued on page 22.



## Potomac Hunt Races May 19, 2019

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## Youth Sports

### PHS Softball: A Spring Surprise

By Jeff Stuart

For the seniors on this year's PHS softball team, success has been hard-earned. They are the surprise of the spring season.

"They have been working really hard," said Coach Laurie Wohnhas. "The seniors are great leaders for the underclassmen, and they help carry on the tradition year after year. I can't take all the credit for their success this year. Brian Hagen, Tracy Perkins, and Dan Gilbert have put in a lot of time to help develop them in the off season. My assistant coach Rich Wyne has also been a tremendous help with this team."

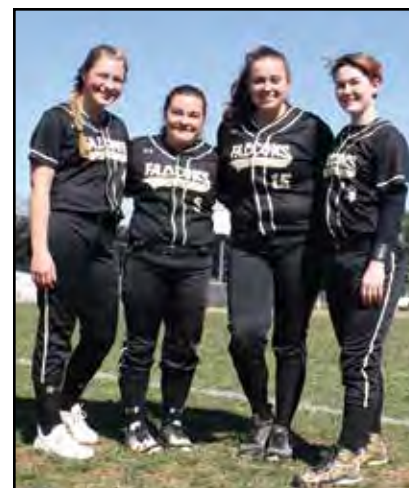
"We had a lot of seniors graduate my freshman year, so a lot of us got brought up to varsity," said senior outfielder and pitcher Gwen Boe, "and we all have been playing varsity for about three years now. A lot of us have been doing fall softball as well to help prepare for the season. I think gradually, over time, we have improved. I had a feeling this season was going to be a

good one. We have seven seniors, and we have been playing softball since fourth grade, and we wanted our last season to be our best—and it has been. Every game it seems something new happens to get excited about. I think the Blake game was our best game. They are a very good team. We have had good games with them in the past. We played well all around. Defense was good, and pitching and hitting were good. We came out and fought for that win. Senior Megan Dower has played well this year. She came up a year after the rest of us. She didn't get a lot of playing time last year, but you can definitely tell that over the fall and the offseason she put a lot of work into it. Her hitting has definitely improved. I am just happy to see how far she has come and how much of an asset she has become to the team.

"I think our low point was the Northwest game. We had been playing well up until that point. We knew that they were a strong team and that we may not come out on top, but we were hoping for the best and when that went by the wayside, I think our confidence was dashed a little bit, and that carried over into the Whitman game—but everybody put that out of their heads. We pulled it together. Ever since then, we have been playing really well."

"I didn't see this coming," said senior first baseman Cassandra Meir, "but, last year, we were all juniors or underclassmen. We knew we could grow as a team. We spent a lot of time practicing in the offseason. We came back together for the season and have done a great job so far. I definitely think our hitting has improved. Our pitcher, Ainsley, had eleven strikeouts against Blake. She is one of the best pitchers I have seen this season. I think the Whitman game was a good one for me. I caught four foul balls—and I caught one while running into a fence—and I was on base every single time. I think my whole infield has improved and especially my shortstop, Jenna Stroud."

"I think the Blake game was our best game," said senior outfielder Maddie Burdette. "We played really well in all aspects of the game. We really showed up. It was a very exciting game. We had a lot of clutch hits. Jess Convers, a junior, had a really big hit, and Holly Raines, another junior, had a big hit, too. It is basically the same team, but just the fact that we have been able to use all our skills and come together as a team is great. We were working on that last year, but this year we were able to do better with that. Ainsley has been pitching really well. I just hope to do well because it is my last year."



Jenna Stroud, Maddie Burdette,  
Gwen Boe, and Ali Ransom.

The team finished out the regular season with a 10-6 record overall, and a 5-1 record in the 3A/2A Division.

The other seniors, Allison Ransom, Clare Wilson, Maureen Hueting, and Meghan Dower have all helped in the team's success as well. Ali has sacrificed playing third base instead of catching. Clare has been in the DP spot more this season because she is an excellent batter. She leads the team with homeruns. Maureen has been the surprise of the team. She has been

Continued on page 24.

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## School News

### Pre-Prom Lunch Hosted by SADD

By Andrew Sojka and Ethan Rolls

The week before prom is always full of excitement and preparation at Poolesville High School (PHS). While prom is a time to make long-lasting memories and friendships, it's important to remember to stay safe on the big day. PHS Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) hopes to remind students to stay safe while still having a good time.

On Tuesday, May 14 and Thursday, May 16, SADD will host lunchtime events at PHS with free food and information about safety just in time for the prom on May 17. Montgomery County Police will have a wrecked car on campus all week long. During lunch, students will have the chance to see EMTs use crash dummies to demonstrate how accident victims can be extricated from seriously-damaged cars. Police will talk with students about driving while intoxicated, having designated drivers, and how Uber and party buses still require responsible decision-making. Students will also be able to "drive" on a drunk-driving simulator and try managing simple tasks while wearing goggles that mimic impaired senses.

The Upcounty Prevention Network (UPN) and several local businesses are providing and serving food so the students can eat while the events take place. On Tuesday, the Watershed Café on Fisher Avenue is bringing ice cream, and Paisano's Pizza in Rockville is donating pizza. On Thursday, Howard Miller has arranged for the Mamma Lucia restaurant (Falls Grove location) to provide delicious lunches with both meat and vegetarian pasta. These wonderfully generous neighbors have really stepped up in support of our students. Poolesville High School has also been tremendously supportive of SADD's programming.

Thanks to PHS Principal Deena Levine and SADD sponsor Edward Morrell for supporting our students. It's yet another example of how our community works together, so our youth can grow up safe and happy.

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## Yeas and Neighs

### Gusty Winds, Steady Drafts

By Andie Devynck

On Sunday, April 29, as part of the semiannual fundraising event for the Gentle Giant Draft Horse Rescue (GGDHR, or Gentle Giants for short) in Mt. Airy, runners began the day early in the Thundering Hooves 5K on a course that wound its way around the barns and fields populated with draft and draft-cross horses. Shortly after the race's end, the runners and other attendees gathered at the main arena, hunkering down at the picnic benches and in ringside folding chairs to snack on food truck Mexican fare and to listen to country music while the GGDHR set the stage and batted down the hatches for the jumping competition and archery demonstrations. Amid wind blasts of up to fifty miles an hour, the stars of the day—select horses in training, ridden by GGDHR's head trainer, assistant instructor, students, and volunteers—cantered and jumped as their riders steered them to the fences, or dropped their reins and drew back their bows, sending arrows into bullseyes to the amazement, relief, and delight of onlookers.

Since 2005, Gentle Giants has been promoting the benefits and uses of draft horses of all breeds as trail, schooling, and competition mounts. Their primary function is to facilitate the rescue of draft and draft-cross

horses from slaughter, abuse, and neglect. GGDHR staff and volunteers strive to educate the public through the use of brochures, pamphlets, and public presentations on the topics of: horse slaughter and cruelty, the responsibilities of horse ownership, the overpopulation and overbreeding of horses, and how overbreeding contributes to the horse slaughter industry.

Slaughter is a highly profitable market, and most of the public is unaware that the buyers for the slaughterhouses frequent public auctions to purchase their horses. Gentle Giants staff attend these auctions and choose draft horses they feel are the most viable candidates for rescue, and then outbid the meat buyer. They transport the horses to the rescue, where the horses are quarantined for a minimum of twenty-one days for their own health and safety, as well as that of the other horses on the property. During that time, they begin to evaluate each individual horse and learn its personality and training level on the ground and under saddle. GGDHR Adoption Coordinator and Professional Trainer Shelby Broos and her staff ride the horses under many different circumstances and evaluate the level of rider for which the horse would best be suited.

During quarantine time, the horse also receives any necessary veterinary care, farrier care, dental care, and training. Some male horses may require gelding. To reduce equine suffering and to improve the equine economy, Gentle Giants has launched Operation G.E.L.D. (gelding equals less death), the first gelding program of its kind in

**Continued on page 19.**



Great things happen at Gentle Giant Draft Horse Rescue.

## WUMCO Help, Inc. Matters

### Celebrating 51 Years of Service

by R. Adam DeBaugh, Assistant Executive Director

#### WUMCO Wednesday at Watershed Café

Mark your calendars! The Watershed Café in Poolesville will donate 10% of their income on the SECOND Wednesday of each month. The next one is June 12. See you there!

#### State Farm "Quotes for Good"™, May 8<sup>th</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup>

Call State Farm for an auto insurance quote, mention WUMCO Help, and they will donate \$10 to WUMCO! Rebecca Altendorf and Zach Armiger from the State Farm office in Old Town, Gaithersburg, are sponsoring WUMCO as this month's "Quotes for Good" organization. From May 8<sup>th</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup>, Zach's agency will donate \$10 to WUMCO for every household who calls or stops in for an auto quote and mentions Quotes for Good and WUMCO. People who are already State Farm customers are not eligible but can ask their friends and relations to call for quotes. Call 301/519-2886, ask for Zach or Rebecca, and mention WUMCO. There is no obligation to buy a policy, but they are confident they will beat your current insurance fees.

#### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of WUMCO Help will be at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, in the room next to the WUMCO Office and Food Pantry in the Family Life Center at Poolesville Baptist Church, 17550 W. Willard Rd., right across from Poolesville High School. Our special speaker will be Link Hoewing for the Fair Access Team that is lobbying for a multipurpose facility to replace Poolesville High School. Come and hear about the new developments in this effort to not only modernize the high school, but also to add a community center, medical clinic, and police substation for our town.

#### Visit our webpage and follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

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#### Questions?

Please write Adam DeBaugh at wumco2@gmail.com if you have any questions, comments, or ideas for this column.

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## Youth Sports

### PHS Boys' Lacrosse Season Highlighted By Two OT Wins

By Jeff Stuart

"The season has started out pretty well for us," said boys' lacrosse coach Stuart Orns. "We are improving our fundamentals which translates to better lacrosse...We don't have a lot of players, but our whole team plays hard and doesn't quit. The Rockville game was exciting. We were down one goal with twenty-seven seconds to go. We set up a play for Clark Trone, and he made an outstanding move to the net and scored to tie the score. We ended up being down two men in overtime due to penalties. Connor Sorrell, our junior goalie, made a great save, and we cleared the ball up the field. Clark made another outstanding shot across the cage for the win.

"There haven't been a lot of surprises. Cole Roy, a junior, has really excelled and is playing a strong midfield game. Colin Hemmingway, a junior, is one of the best players in the county. Clark is playing really great. All our top players are competing at a high level."

"The Rockville game wasn't what we were looking for," said senior attack Clark Trone. "We thought we could have played a little bit better. We were missing a couple of guys, but it turned out fine. We moved the ball around. I just tried to find open spaces and score. It all worked out in the end...The difference for me this year is leadership. Last year, the seniors did really well, teaching us how to get to the next level. We are trying to do the same thing for the underclassmen, to show them how it is done. I think our best game was against Churchill. Just because the last couple of years it has been a blowout game for them. This year, we might have lost, but the way everyone played collectively—the goalie, defense, midfield, and attack—it was one of the best showings I have seen in my years here. If we had just a little more depth or made just a few more plays, that game could have gone either way. I am looking forward to playing with these guys and having fun. Hopefully, we can make a run in the playoffs. I'd like to give a shout out to our goalie, Connor Sorrell. Many times this year he has stepped up. He is an athletic goalie. He will come out of the cage. He will try to hit people. He will do what other goalies don't. He hustles. He gets the job done."

"We have a lot of young talent. We want to finish this year off with a bang," said senior midfielder Nikolas Sofelkanik. "In past years, seniors taught me how to run a team and respect others, so I feel that leadership role this year. I think my best game was against Churchill. Even though we lost, 11-7, the way we played was unbelievable. We didn't drop the ball. We didn't make mistakes. The chemistry was great. They beat us because they had more players...I would like to give a shout out to Jalen Inman on defense. He is a junior. He is fierce and aggressive, hustling and always looking to get better."

"This year, we only have two subs," said senior midfielder Ethan Gaddis. "We used to have at least four, and we have played some tough teams. I didn't play in the Rockville game, but I think that was our best game. We were short of players, but we pulled through and got the win. We had one midfielder who came up from JV to help us out. I'd like to give a shout out to Cole Roy. He has been a big part of our midfield. He has buns of steel. He can run for hours, and since we are short of players, that helps us a lot. As a senior, looking back, last year Coach Orns used to tell us stories about his lacrosse-playing days. I really enjoyed those."

On April 10, the Falcons played another thriller defeating Blair in overtime, 14-13, with Ethan scoring the winning goal in overtime. In the early going, Poolesville won almost all the faceoffs building a quick, 3-0 lead. Trone opened the scoring and had four goals. Hemmingway, Gaddis, and Sofelkanik each scored twice. Roy, freshman Adam Barkdoll, and juniors, Tim Dominici and Adam Eisenhardt, also scored.

Other juniors are Sam Allgood, Ben Miller, and Zak Onderko. Defenseman Aiden Godsey is a sophomore.



Clark Trone, Nikolas Sofelkanik, and Ethan Gaddis.

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Continued from page 1.

**Two Charged in Restaurant Burglaries**

had made several visits to the front door of the restaurant but then backed off for minutes at a time. Finally, the video showed the two people taking turns trying to pry open the front door. Eventually, they were successful. A detective took the video to Poolesville High School where security personnel identified the woman as Emily P. Lewis, an eighteen-year-old former student of the school. They also identified the seventeen-year-old juvenile.

On May 3, Ms. Lewis visited the school to take care of some business, and one of the detectives saw her

standing at the ride-on bus stop next to the school. She was placed under arrest and taken to the Rockville Station where she gave a statement. She confessed her guilt in the Mexican Grill case, the Watershed Café attempted burglary case, and also a burglary at the Crown Gas Station that took place on April 6 during which over \$2,000 worth of cigarettes were stolen.

A seventeen-year-old juvenile was also arrested, and detectives are investigating whether two other juvenile males were involved.

Emily P. Lewis, of the 17400 block of Collier Circle, and the male juvenile were charged with two counts of second degree burglary and one count of attempted burglary.

Continued from page 8.

**A Witness to History: The Trundle Farm**

interior stones are skewed and rifled; this was the only culvert constructed in this way. The workers told me they were about to stop work for the winter. In 2018, the scaffolding washed away, and work has not resumed on repairing the culvert. There are two sinkholes in the dry canal bed above the culvert, and the ceiling of the culvert

could collapse as others have done in recent years along the canal. In the early 1830s, Canal Company stone masons helped construct the Trundle barn. A gray stepping stone with the stonemason's chisel marks was once by the giant silver maple tree in front of the lockhouse. The park service, when doing some grading work at the lock, removed the stepping stone and dumped it on the other side of the bypass flume. The stepping stone is now hidden in the woods.

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Continued from page 1.

### UMCVFD Volunteer Saves Life at Golf Course

the emergency staff from the fire department. By the time of arrival of the units, the patient's circulation had returned, so Mollie's performance of CPR and chain of survival had successfully brought the person's heartbeat back. She then stepped aside as the rescuers of MCFRS took over, further stabilized the man, and transported him to Shady Grove.

Montgomery County Fire Rescue Paramedic Engine 729 from Germantown and Medic Unit 731 from Quince Orchard had been filling in at Upper Montgomery and responded to the call while units from Upper Montgomery were conducting training on the Potomac River.

Chief Mike Burns pointed out that it was the quick thinking of UMCVFD members and the willingness to serve that helped save this person's life. The importance of having trained personnel at the scene immediately made all the difference, and he emphasized that the department holds CPR classes for the general public. If anyone is interested in learning about CPR, visit the UMCVFD website or email [CPR@umcvfd.org](mailto:CPR@umcvfd.org). As always, UMCVFD is looking for members and, if interested, please email [membership@umcvfd.org](mailto:membership@umcvfd.org) or go to [UMCVFD.org](http://UMCVFD.org) and click on Contact Us.

Continued from page 7.

### New County Study Supports the Need for a New High School

The county just released the new KFIs and it has included a chart that lists every school assessed along with ratings for each area of focus. It uses color codes of Red (suggesting potentially major failures or flaws that will require substantial investment to address), Yellow (an indication that the issue under review may or may not need significant investment depending upon what further analysis reveals), and Green (indicating a condition that generally is acceptable or requires only minor attention). In addition, schools have overall ratings on issues that consider all of the factors reviewed.

PHS has an overall rating of Red, and it is the only high school in the county that received such a rating. Only one school in the county is older than PHS among those reviewed (Damascus), and it received only a Yellow on an overall basis. The KFI report also specifically did not include assessments regarding School Safety and Security or ADA compliance. Given what we know about the deficiencies PHS has in these areas, it is likely that these factors would only add to the low rating the school has been assigned.

The Fair Access for Western Montgomery County Committee immediately responded to the MCPS report. The committee said it was "pleased to see the data has demonstrated the need for a new Poolesville High School." It also said that it agreed "that careful examination of school facilities using a set of criteria is an important component of decision-making regarding the modernization of schools."

The committee also went on to say that the KFIs—as MCPS itself has said—are only one factor in the decision-making process. The committee continued, "We know, based upon the superintendent's own October 2018 admission, that PHS is one of nine 'major capital projects' that 'require major capital work due to both facility condition elements and capacity or programmatic elements.'" The committee ended its response by noting, "The KFI data supports a modernization decision that allows our students and residents in Western Montgomery County to be treated fairly. Now the county can move forward and build a multiuse facility containing a twenty-first-century PHS co-located with a community/senior center, clinic, and police satellite station as our committee has advocated."

The new KFI report is an important development that helps make the case for a new high school and co-located services facility, but my experience as a PTSA advocate for over twenty years demonstrates that our community cannot take anything for granted. We were bumped off the list for modernization repeatedly under the FACT system, which was supposedly a data-driven system. We will need to continue to make our voices heard by county leaders even with this new report, or we might find ourselves losing out once again.

Continued from page 16.

### Gusty Winds, Steady Drafts

Maryland. Operation G.E.L.D. makes gelding accessible and affordable for Maryland horse owners facing financial hardships ([www.operationgeld.org](http://www.operationgeld.org)). The program covers the cost of the gelding procedure (up to \$200) and directly compensates the veterinarian who performs the surgery.

When the horses have completed their quarantine, they are available to be placed into adoptive homes under a strict contract. The horses are advertised on the Gentle Giants website and on the internet to help find suitable adoptive homes. Each horse is evaluated with its prospective adopter; if they feel the horse and rider are a suitable match for one another, then the adopter may apply to adopt that horse. At that time, GGDHR performs a background and reference check, and may, at times, also conduct home visits, if deemed necessary.

Gentle Giants is primarily funded by adoption fees, private donations, and sponsorships which facilitate the rescue of future draft horses from slaughter. The rescue was the recipient

of the 2009 Red Cross Hometown Hero Award for work in the field of animal welfare. In addition, GGDHR is deemed Accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, the highest rating possible.

Anyone wishing to visit the farm needs to make an appointment in advance. Donations can be made through the website and via PayPal, by mail, and onsite during appointments. Draft horse lovers who are not interested in owning a Gentle Giant but who would like to sponsor one will want to discuss the specifics of doing so (choosing a horse to sponsor and what that entails) with GGDHR staff. The processes of sponsoring and adopting a Gentle Giant horse are explained in full on the website, as is the process of volunteering with GGDHR. Anyone wishing to aid GGDHR in its efforts to promote education and adoption is encouraged to contact Lena Baer, Community Outreach Coordinator. For more information, visit the Gentle Giant website and Facebook page: [www.gentlegiantsdrafthorserescue.org](http://www.gentlegiantsdrafthorserescue.org) and [www.facebook.com/pg/GentleGiantsDraftHorseRescue](https://www.facebook.com/pg/GentleGiantsDraftHorseRescue).

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The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department presented careers in first responding.



Dave Davis, investigative detective, and Josh Fielder of the Central Intelligence Agency on investigation careers.

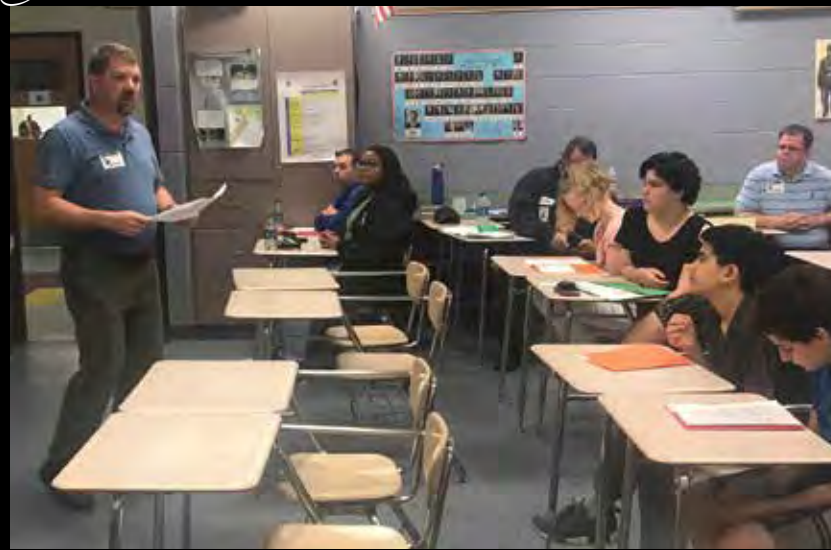


Jean Tetlow watches Dr. Josh Heller of Holy Cross Hospital instruct students on the magic of careers in healthcare.

# CAREER DAY for Graduating 8th Graders



Dr. Scott Dewey of NIST.



Doug Agnes of GenOn on engineering and technical careers.



Megan Lau of the Maryland-National Capital Park Police department.



Cindy Eeg and Dr. Marianne Van Doorman of the Poolesville Veterinary Clinic presented the benefits of a career in animal care.



Bill Beyer of local news channel Fox 5 on broadcasting careers.

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## Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

### Present Crime

**Burglary:** 19600 block of Fisher Avenue (Mexican Grill), 19700 block of Fisher Avenue (Watershed Café).

**Theft of auto parts:** 17400 block of Hoskinson Avenue, 20900 block of Big Woods Road.

**Identity theft:** 17800 block of Elgin Road.

### Past Crime: 1954

A five-day drinking bout led a forty-three-year-old Wheaton man to fire several rifle shots at police officers who had come to his house. Police said that the wife had returned from work and was thrown about the kitchen by her drunken husband. She escaped to a neighbor's house where she called the police. After the police were fired on, twenty-six other officers, a fire engine, and an ambulance came to the house. After two hours of negotiations, the man came to the front door where he was overpowered by officers. The wife was taken to the hospital for treatment of her wounds. Upon her release from the hospital she said that she did not want to press charges against her husband.

A twenty-six-year-old airplane mechanic was charged with bigamy after police

learned that he was married to two women at the same time. The man worked the overnight shift at National Airport which allowed him to juggle his schedule so he could visit both of his wives everyday.

A Rockville man reported to police that a piggy bank containing about twenty-five dollars in change had been stolen from his house while he was at work.

A group of people, some related, gathered for their weekly card game at the Adamses' residence in Norbeck. After a few hours of cards and drinking, an argument broke out about the stakes of the game. William Adams retrieved a shotgun and killed twenty-one-year-old Betty McKelvin. Adams was charged with murder.

Burglars broke into Councilman's Grocery Store in Potomac during the overnight hours. They broke open two cash registers and stole \$85.

A thirty-eight-year-old Rockville man was killed when he fell off of the back of a garbage truck from which he was working and then was run over by another truck. The accident happened at the county dump in Rockville.

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

Continued from page 13.

### A Survey of Our Inheritance: Wolf's Cow

I have no sympathy for the Confederate cause, and I'm eternally grateful that the Union was able to eventually crush the Rebel Army, but standing in the doorway of Joseph's home, I can't help but wonder what it was like to be in his shoes 157 years ago. What did those last goodbyes look like as the boys headed off to war? What was it like to have the boys return home defeated after the war and attempt to return to some semblance of a normal farming life?

There are plenty of old homes in the Agricultural Reserve where mothers and fathers hugged their sons one last time before they headed off to the Civil War, but there's something about the Joseph White House that seems to bring the feelings of absence and longing to the surface. Perhaps it's because the home sits abandoned and empty, emanating

the sense that it's waiting for someone to return (it's now owned by the county which has bolstered its structure but has little funding with which to do much more), or maybe it's because the views from the front windows haven't changed in the 195 years since the home was built, and it's easy to imagine Mary looking out these windows and waiting for her boys' uncertain return.

The home remained in the White Family for more than 150 years before being sold and falling into disrepair in the 1980s. Thanks to the efforts of local preservationist and Historic Medley District member Mary Kephart, the home was added to the county's list of historic homes and saved from demolition. Today, it sits quietly on its rock foundation with an interesting past and a hopeful future.

As always, for more details and pictures, please follow along on our facebook page @HistoricAg ReserveProperties.

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Poverty Ridge Band at 4:30 p.m.

May 20 - Paint Night with Karen

May 25 - Jeff Carmella Band

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Continued from page 6.

**Tidbits**

places of worship, and other institutions that want to make their communities wildlife-friendly by creating multiple habitat areas in backyards, schoolyards, corporate properties, community gardens, parkland, and other spaces.

NWF commends the dedicated residents of Poolesville and the Sustainable Poolesville team for their wildlife conservation efforts and for coming together for a common purpose—to create a community where people and wildlife can flourish. At a time when communities are faced with the problems of losing habitat to development, Poolesville stands out as a model for other communities to emulate. The knowledge and inspiration that this project has generated will lead Poolesville residents and visitors to take better care of their natural world. Learn more about the National Wildlife Federation programs at [NWF.org/Community](http://NWF.org/Community) and get more updates from the National Wildlife Federation at [NWF.org/News](http://NWF.org/News).


The Sustainable Poolesville Community Wildlife Habitat Project is part of



Poolesville's continuing efforts at sustainability and is managed by volunteers with the Sustainable Poolesville Green Team. The mission of the Green Team is to create awareness of stewardship and sustainability issues, identify opportunities for the town to cost-effectively reduce its environmental impact, and facilitate initiatives to capture these opportunities. Poolesville became a certified sustainable community in 2014 under the Sustainable Maryland Program.

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J.D. Kuhlman

Continued from page 4.

#### A Historic Arboretum

on the banks of the Potomac River, along the C&O Canal, and in the woods of neighboring Sugarloaf Mountain. He formed a list of several hundred trees, shrubs, vines, and perennials indigenous to the area.

A garden for a general store owner in upper Montgomery County Maryland in the late eighteenth century was built for utilitarian purposes as opposed to a garden for pleasure. This was equally true for gardens in medieval times throughout continental Europe. There is not a clear delineation between these two types of gardens, but it is clear that some parts of some gardens were intended primarily to delight the senses and others for their end products. The kitchen or utilitarian garden contained food and medicinal plants as well as plants for covering floors, soothing insect bites, and other household purposes. Garden beds would be raised and edged with boards or woven willow reeds to improve drainage.

Starting in 1976, Mr. Stock planted thirty-seven varieties of deciduous trees and shrubs, evergreen trees and shrubs, native vines, and perennials for shade and sun. Each year, more plants were added. Among the list were: Silver Maple, Hackberry, Persimmon, Black Walnut, Pin Oak, American Linden, Dogwood, Sweetbay Magnolia, Virginia Pine, American Holly, Mountain Laurel, Witch-hazel, Black Haw, Elderberry, Spicebush, Virginia Creeper, Butterfly Weed, Blue False Indigo, Joe Pie Weed, Wild Cranesbill, Daylily, Jerusalem Artichoke, Black-Eyed Susan, Liverwort, Cardinal Flower, May Apple, and Dutchman's Breeches.

In the JPH Arboretum, there is a raised-bed herb garden designed by Sue MacGregor and expanded by herbalist Kandi M. Bolton. It is divided into six separate plots, and as far back as medieval times, herb gardens were divided into different parts for different purposes: dyer's garden, culinary garden, fragrance garden, and medicinal garden. For many centuries, people dyed their own cloth using plants that they grew. They experimented to find which ones could provide different color hues. The culinary garden provided herbs that could flavor salads, meats, fish, and vegetables. The fragrance garden could delight the senses, and the flowers could be used in sachets and potpourris. The medicinal garden would have been very important to John Poole and his family. Since medieval times, people from the king to the peasant farmer looked to herbs and flowers to treat and hopefully cure illnesses. You could find a variety of plants grown for all of these uses. Among them were: calliopsis, lady's bedstraw, safflower, basil, anise, caraway, dill, coriander, chives, rosemary, thyme, garlic, tarragon, oregano, comfrey, horehound, sunflower, lady's mantle, yarrow, rue, queen of the meadow, and mullein. Today, we can still find these plants in our gardens.

Ed Stock, one of the oldest professional plantmen in the Washington-metropolitan area, died in 1991. His obituary mentioned that he valued longevity and historic authenticity in gardening. "We should take the word perennial literally," he used to say, meaning that when we plant a perennial, whether a Shasta daisy or a red maple, we should be able to expect it to live for a long, long time—at least as long as the gardener.

As I have said many times, a garden lives in a state of constant evolution. Even with low-maintenance plants, however, a garden will not continue to thrive without the care of a gardener. Nature can work very fast to undo what you have carefully done. Sadly, the garden behind the John Poole House was neglected for many years, and many of the beautiful flowers, herbs, shrubs, and trees that Ed Stock planted died. Now HMD is in the process of reclaiming this garden and bringing it back to its former glory. There are new raised beds, a pergola, and new plantings, but much more work has to be done. We need your help. I also would like to establish a Friends of the Arboretum group to help maintain our garden. No experience necessary, just the determination to help HMD make it a showplace garden for the residents of Poolesville and our many visitors.

If you can help with this very worthy cause, please call me at 301-972-8307 or email me at [MAFOConnell@msn.com](mailto:MAFOConnell@msn.com).

Continued from page 14.

#### PHS Softball: A Spring Surprise

away from softball for two years and had hits in the Magruder game (triple) and the Seneca Valley game. Meghan has been the player who has improved the most. She has improved

in all aspects of her game: hitting and fielding. She is one of the hardest workers on the team.

The rest of team are juniors, Jenna Stroud, Holly Raines, Sami Kellogg, and Alaina Shields. Catie Galant, Colleen Hueting, and Ainsley Hagen are the sophomores on the team.

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- Pope Francis





## Remembrance

### Carolyn M. Caldwell

Carolyn Lawuan Etheridge Mitchell Caldwell lost her four-year battle against cancer on March 23, 2019.

Carolyn was born April 29, 1944 to James M. and Louise T. (Mini) Etheridge. She was predeceased by her husband Harry Hamilton Caldwell and by her brother Michael X. Etheridge, Sr.

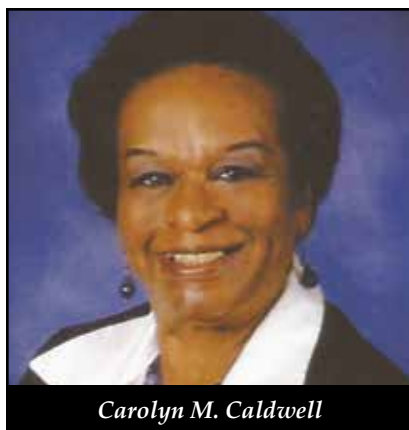
Carolyn was the sister of Poolesville's James M. "Skip" Etheridge, (Faith), Dedra E. Swanson (Jerry), and Lynnette E. McCarthy (Kevin).

Carolyn is remembered as a person of great energy and determination. As a young child, Carolyn began piano lessons, eventually becoming a master pianist, playing by ear at concerts. A graduate of the Academy of the Sacred Heart Catholic High School, where she excelled in the classroom and basketball, she received a bachelor's degree from the University of the District of Columbia and a master's degree from Catholic University of America. She was working on her Ph.D. when she became ill.

She was highly-regarded for being devoted to family and friends and hosting and cooking for family events with her fried chicken, potato salad, and chitterlings legendary among all her knew her.

After entering the federal government at an early age, she switched to sales, becoming one of the top salespersons of Avon products in the region. Her athletic prowess extended into adulthood; she became an avid bowler with several offers to turn pro before her knees began to fail her.

Carolyn also leaves to mourn her loving children, Gregory Shaun Mitchell and Tracey Mitchell Lyles; as well as grandchildren, Justin Hill, Ronald Lyles, III, and Sydney Mitchell.



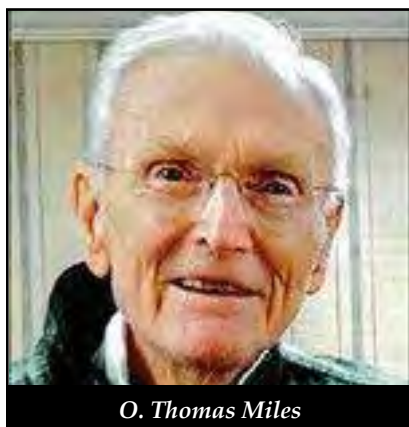
Carolyn M. Caldwell

### O. Thomas Miles

Thomas Miles died March 28, 2019 at Wilson Health Care Center in Asbury Methodist Village, Gaithersburg. Tom was born in Baltimore on January 16, 1923, the son of Myrtle (née Seidel) and Oscar T. Miles, Sr.

He graduated from Baltimore City College (high school). His undergraduate education at Muskingum College (now University) in New Concord, Ohio was interrupted after his first semester when he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943. He trained as a medic and served in Great Britain, France, and Germany. After World War II, he returned to Muskingum and graduated. He married Sue McCray and went to Princeton Theological Seminary where he earned a Master of Divinity degree in 1951. He later completed a Doctor of Ministry at San Francisco Theological Seminary. Tom was a Presbyterian minister for sixty-eight years. Tom then worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington, D.C. for twenty-eight years, directing the counseling program that helped low-income homeowners avoid foreclosure. He became the Interim Pastor at Potomac Presbyterian Church (PPC) in 1984 and was actively involved there for over twenty years. He taught writing classes at Montgomery College and published three books, *Dialogues with God*, *Crisis and Creed*, and *To Live and Die by Faith in the 21st Century*.

Tom is loved and missed by his two daughters, Sally Miles of Madison, Wisconsin and Kathleen Miles of New York City; and by his loving friend and companion of twenty-seven years, Grace Sheppard of Poolesville. Donations in memory of O. Thomas Miles, Jr. may be made to the German shepherd rescue of your choice or to the Monks of New Skete (newskete.org).



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## Celebrating 30 Years of Service

### A Brief History of Veterinary Medicine: Part 2

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

**Medieval Medicine:** From A.D. 500 to 1500, religious philosophy dominated medicine. There was a return to cult healing in an attempt to treat disease thought to be a punishment for mortal sin. Priests in monasteries focused treatment on prayer for diseased flocks and livestock, fasting, and incantations to return the animals to health. Farmers using early homeopathic treatments utilized roots, leaves, and seeds of certain plants that provided relief and sometimes recovery of animals. The credit was given to the priests because the farmers would never confess that they had used alternative healing to prayer. Medicine, and especially veterinary medicine, languished for several hundred years.

It was not until the tenth century that a relaxation of religious doctrine brought the first medical-education based teaching hospitals. This occurred in Italy. Anatomy on people was still illegal, so they studied comparative anatomy on pigs. This was because the church considered pigs anatomically and behaviorally similar to people. Very little treatment for people or animals was done during this time, as the church still held great sway. Sick people still gravitated to the church for spiritual healing instead of hospitals. There was a dramatic shift in the thirteenth century when truly ill patients were presented and treated, mainly with comfort and nurturing.

**Renaissance Medicine:** The European Renaissance of the fifteenth century delivered the foundation of modern veterinary and human medicine. This period introduced investigation, observation, and experimentation. It would be more than 500 years before this form of medical theory became the standard of care. The great artists of the period, including Leonardo, Raphael, and Michelangelo, were also anatomists, but veterinary medicine languished through the Middle Ages. It was not until the end of the sixteenth century when Carlo Ruini wrote, "Anatomy of the Horse, Diseases, and their Treatment". Interestingly, Mr. Ruini was a nobleman and a lawyer.

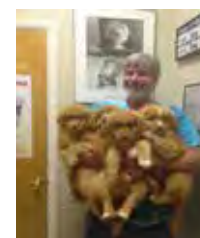
Because of efforts to treat injuries to horses during battle, many advances to animal treatment were accomplished during this period.

Until the nineteenth century, the nature of viruses and bacteria responsible for three great and several lesser epidemics in humans and animals was not knowable. In part 3, we will review, "The Enlightenment" and bring veterinary medicine to its modern conclusion.



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