

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

May 24, 2019 • Volume XV, Number 5

Starting Over: Envisioning New Community In the Center of Town

By Rande Davis



Many aspiring musicians from the Poolesville Cluster performed in the bandshell of Whalen Commons. Family Album on page 2 has more photos.



UMCVFD gave a graphic pre-prom demonstration of car rescue techniques. School Tidbits are on page 6.



Gwen Reese shared history as part of the HMD scavenger hunt. See story on page 9.



She's got the Bull by the horns! Springfest 2019 photo collage can be found on pages 20 to 21.

On May 13, Poolesville's Billy Willard and family members hosted an exploratory presentation on a new vision for the nearly fourteen-acre property next to Whalen Commons. Due to space limitations at the venue, Willard's attorney Jim Clifford's barn at the corner of Route 28 and Cattail Road, the approximately fifty attendees were invited guests and those actively involved during the previous Wilshire project process. Entitled "Envisioning Community," the presentation was designed to begin what Willard sees as an extended process of working with the town government and the general public, step by step, to create a central town community which will "meet the needs of Poolesville's citizens by building a community that will look the same now as when your grandchildren are around." While the discussion was limited at this initial stage, the exploratory



Poolesville's Billy Willard addressed attendees at a recent introductory planning meeting about their property adjacent to Whalen Commons.

process will continue to expand and will eventually include larger meetings at which the general public will be invited to participate.

The problems of the past were not ignored. The previous plan, the Wilshire

Project, had contractually obligated the Willards to that builder for the plan which was ultimately turned down by the Planning Commission.

Continued on page 11.

Bicycle Wreck, Fight Mar Weekend Activities

By Jack Toomey

Saturday, May 18 was a pleasant spring day, and throngs of visitors, townspeople, and the usual groups of bicyclists descended on the Poolesville area for a myriad of activities.

The Potomac Peddlers Cycling Club held a fifty-mile bike ride that began in Seneca. At about 11:30 a.m., the fire department and police were dispatched to a serious calamity on River Road near Riley's Lock Road. A small group of cyclists had broken away from the main group and were headed back to their cars on River Road when a seemingly-crazed driver approached them from the rear and began blowing his horn, flashing his lights, and shouting obscenities. Willy Alardo was one of those cyclists and later described the driver of the car as someone who wasn't necessarily upset at the cyclists



The intersection of River Road and Old River Road was near the site of the cyclist accident on May 18.

but as someone who was mad at the world. Alardo said that the driver kept swerving towards the three cyclists as if he were trying to intimidate them.

Finally, Alardo saw one of his cycling partners, a middle-aged woman, fall

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Family Album



Poolesville Cluster's Spring Concert



Town Government

Commissioners Approve Takeover Of Fisher Avenue from the State

By Link Hoewing

In a major development that has been several years in the making, the Town of Poolesville commissioners voted unanimously at their May 20 meeting to accept a transfer agreement offered by the State of Maryland that will give the town control of Fisher Avenue, including the intersection where it connects to Route 109 and the Wootton Avenue intersection at the other end of the road. The commissioners made the approval conditional on a final signoff by town engineer John Strong as to the quality of the road repaving of Fisher Avenue currently being managed by the state.

The transfer of control is significant because it will allow the town, for the first time, to manage all aspects of the main street running through the town, including the crosswalks that are located near Whalen Commons. The safety of these crosswalks has long been an issue. The town has been working for many years on a Streetscape Plan that will revamp how the turning lanes are set up along the roadway and has been asking the state for electronic crosswalk signs that would include flashing warning lights when pedestrians are beginning to cross. The state has refused to do so despite repeated pleas from the town. The town can now move ahead with its plans to improve the roadway for traffic and for improved pedestrian safety.

Before the vote on the road transfer, the commissioners heard a report on the recently-concluded Maryland legislative session offered by the state senator representing Poolesville, Brian Feldman, and from David Frazier-Hidalgo and Lily Qi, state delegates from District 15 that includes Poolesville.

Senator Feldman offered the opening remarks with two overall observations: First, the legislature, although controlled by the Democrats, worked collaboratively with Republican Governor Larry Hogan on a great many issues, including education funding; second, over 2,500 bills were introduced in the just-completed session, and 850 were adopted. Of these, among the most significant were the budget bills that preserved a balanced budget, protected the state's triple A bond rating, and did not increase taxes. He also highlighted both healthcare reforms (including legislation that will lead to hundreds of thousands being able to get healthcare insurance for the first time) and the Maryland Clean Energy Jobs legislation designed to promote jobs in the solar and wind energy industries.

Delegate Frazier-Hidalgo said that he had worked on legislation intended to regulate the deployment of 5G wireless technology. There have been concerns about how the new technology will be deployed because it requires extensive numbers of new poles and transponders to be sited in neighborhoods. The federal regulator of the wireless industry, the Federal Communications Commission, has adopted rules that largely preempt local and state governments from adopting their own rules, but Maryland has refused to simply accept those rules and is studying the issue this summer in anticipation of considering legislation in the next legislative session.

Delegate Qi also focused in part on 5G technology in her remarks, but she said her focus had been on how to use wireless technology to ensure that no one in Maryland is unable to access online services, particularly those in rural areas like those around Poolesville or those in poverty.

All three representatives noted the extensive focus in this legislative session on widening Interstate 270 and the Beltway. They asked how the commissioners felt about these initiatives.

Commissioner Valaree Dickerson responded that a major transportation issue for the Upcounty is the lack of public transportation for those in need and the elderly. She noted that County Councilmember Andrew Friedson is looking into the possibility of using some funds that have been generated by a per-ride tax levied on Uber and Lyft to expand bus service.

Commissioners Jerry Klobukowski and Jim Brown both mentioned the activities of the Fair Access Committee and the effort to get support for a new high school/multiuse facility that would include a community/senior center, clinic, and police satellite station. The issue of whether the state might be able to kick in some funding for at least the multiuse facility was raised. Senator Feldman replied that state bond bills to support building facilities generally do not include funding for schools or such things as community centers which are considered county or city responsibilities.

Continued on page 23.

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Rande(m) Thoughts Starting Over

By Rande Davis

I think starting over is one of the best things of life. Who among us doesn't love having a second chance? Without a second chance, how many careers would end, marriages dissolve, friendships wane. While the march to aging is non-stoppable, when it ends it ends, there is no do-over. Until then, don't we all wish for "one more chance to get it right"?

The Willard family wants one, too. After undergoing nearly two years of much wrangling—and public discourse that was often intense and at times even angry and hot—the Willard family wants a do-over. Their past proposal for developing the land next to town hall, commonly referred to now as the Wilshire Property, brought out the best and the worst in all of us. The best from us because, through the entire process, from beginning to its end, it was a wonderful example of civic and grassroots public decision-making in action. The worst because there was much disinformation throughout that was more than just simple mistakes; it was, at times deliberately misleading and dishonest.

From the very moment the registered letters sent to adjacent homeowners were opened, the public was fired up. Ultimately, the discourse settled down a bit as the process began to function as it is designed to—after filtering fact from fiction led to a more reasoned approach and decision. Our concerned citizens did not turn to loud and disruptive demonstrations, throw rocks, or burn buildings. They gathered together in concern. Some, like Protect Our Poolesville, sought an organized and thoughtful path, motivating voters—some even running for office—and taking responsible actions. Petitions were signed and surveys taken, and public meetings were well attended. That's the good news.

The bad news was that there was much misinformation promoted that at times led to venomous dialogue. Wild claims of corruption of public officials reached the nastiest and most despicable levels of character assassination, sometimes by people who were otherwise more responsible. The erroneous charges ran from conflict of

interest to accepting bribes. Most of this remained as whispers or allusions on Facebook. The *Monocle* even received an accusatory hoax that was criminal in its attempt and purpose, so much so that the police department had to investigate.

Now, just like the Willards, we as a community get a do-over, a second chance to do it right, too—without any of the anger, hyperbole, and distortions.

At the meeting by the Willards announcing that they are trying to piece together something that the town will overall accept and get behind, one could not help but be struck by their sincerity of intent and purpose. They are clearly not the damn-the-torpedoes-full-speed-ahead thinkers. The family deserves the respect and appreciation for the nearly six generations (in Poolesville for 148 years) of contributions they have made to this community as farmers (still do), public servants in town government, and concerned citizens.

Here is a sobering thought to keep in mind: The Willard property's historic role for farming has been voluntary. The property could always be sold to others not connected in any way to the town. The fact is the property can be developed in many different ways without the requirement of any restrictions beyond standard zoning and ordinance restrictions. That means there are many structures that could be built there, including a storage facility, warehouse, small apartment building, or any number of commercial establishments that can disturb the natural ambience of the town, increase traffic, and consume or foul resources. There are trade-offs to be made.

In seeking to fulfill the hope of the general public as expressed by many during the last time around, the Willards desire to build single-level housing priced competitively, suitable for empty-nesters, or those just staring out. For every home purchased by a senior citizen from our area, another (their old home) will bring a new family into the cluster, helping to maintain our school population without radically expanding our overall size. No matter what goes on the land after the soybeans and corn are gone, the town will be changed forever.

The Willards say this time they want to get it right; we also have the chance to get it right. This is our last best chance to do so.

Local News

WUMCO Help Annual Meeting

By Catherine Beliveau

On Wednesday, May 15, eleven members and seven board members were present for the annual meeting of local charity, WUMCO Help, Inc. Much of the meeting was dedicated to providing information about the operations of the organization in 2018, including a presentation of the annual report, and reports of the transportation, pantry, and volunteer coordinators. Information was given regarding the fundraising days scheduled at local restaurants when a portion of the proceeds for a day will be given to WUMCO. Watershed Café will do this the second Wednesday of each month and the Mexican Grill will host the fundraiser on the third Wednesday of each month. There was also data provided on the third year of the membership drive, the largest source of funding for programs. The 2018 membership drive resulted in 190 returning and 66 new members. Donated funds are used to provide services which include assistance with rent/mortgage,

utilities, medical costs (doctor visits and prescriptions), and car expenses. Members are rewarded for their generosity with discounts at a variety of local businesses. They are also able to vote for board members and to confirm the budget as presented by the board. Those present elected two returning board members, Jane Stearns and Brice Halbrook. They also approved the 2019 budget as presented. If you are interested in learning more about WUMCO operations, you can see the annual report on their website at www.wumcohelp.org.

Every year, a speaker is invited to the annual meeting to discuss topics relevant to the organization, its clients, and members. This year, Link Hoewing, longtime WUMCO supporter, volunteer, and member of the Fair Access Committee, was kind enough to make a presentation. He provided information regarding the need for a new high school and efforts of the committee to bring a new multiuse high school facility to Poolesville. The committee is advocating for a facility which would hopefully include a senior center, gym and activity rooms, mental and physical health support services, and a police satellite station. Mr. Hoewing also discussed the

Continued on page 14.

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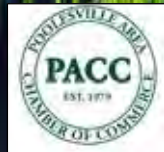


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School News

It's Enough to Make a Marine Cry

PHS senior Julia Quart is about to make history in becoming the first female graduate of Poolesville High School to become a U.S. Marine.



First PHS female leatherneck, Julia Quart.

She was attracted to the marine recruitment booth on Poolesville Day in her junior year as she had always been proud of her dad who was a marine. She still holds onto his cover (hat) as a keepsake. Somewhat reluctant at first, she explored the idea more fully before she finally made a decision to join. When she announced her decision to her parents, Jackie and David Quart, her father was so proud, he broke out in tears.

With the decision made, she began attending monthly physical fitness workouts which she thoroughly enjoyed. She had been a gymnast, so she excelled in the physical fitness challenges. She recently won first place in the National-Capital Region

for doubling the standard requirement of pullups for females (seventeen), and coming in second doing crunches (a crunch is a standing half-squat). She did over 120 within two minutes. She's down to running 1.5 miles in twelve minutes and hopes to be under eleven minutes by the time she heads to basic. She will go to Camp Lejeune on August 5 to begin thirteen weeks of basic training followed by four weeks of Military Combat Training (MCT). As she fulfills her four-year requirement, she will be able to complete two years of college at their expense. She will wait to make a decision on reenlisting later, but if she does, she could also complete her other two years of college without having any debt when she is done.

She smiles with confidence when asked about the upcoming rigors of marine boot camp, "I know I will get through." Marines are famous for making boys into men, and for the first time ever from Poolesville, they will be making one determined girl into a woman.

PHS Student-Athletes Signed Letters of Intent

The following students signed letters of intent to attend university on athletic scholarship.

Boys' soccer: Andrew Tarus, Salem International University, West Virginia

Football:

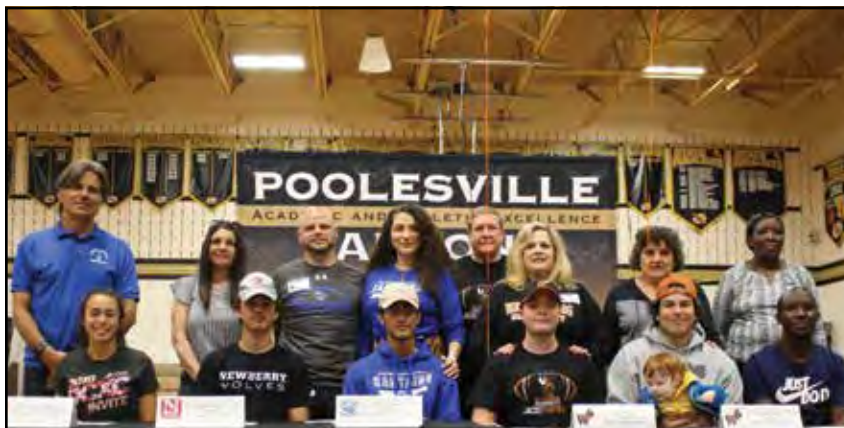
Ben Miller, Waynesburg University, Pennsylvania

Nick Beaton, Waynesburg University, Pennsylvania,

Ethan Gaddis, Christopher Newport University, Virginia

Track and Field: Nandini Satsangi, University of Minnesota

Continued on page 19.



Future college athletes: Nandini Satsangi, Clark Trone, Ethan Gaddis, Nick Beaton, Ben Miller, Andrew Taurus.

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Local News

The Grand Marshal for Poolesville Day: A Tradition Highlighting Community Involvement

By Link Hoewing

In 1992, Poolesville held its first Poolesville Day. The event was a small affair, but it continued to be held each year, growing in size, number of vendors, entertainment venues, and attendees.

Poolesville held parades in those days, but they were in celebration of the homecoming game. By 2004, Poolesville Day itself included a parade and instituted the naming of its first grand marshal.

The grand marshal is intended to be far more than simply a pretty face or a popular name to headline the Poolesville Day Parade. It is an attempt to honor the individuals or organizations in our town who reflect in significant ways what we see as representing important aspects of who we are as a community through their activities and accomplishments. It is a meaningful part of the Poolesville Day celebration.

Grand marshals are selected by the Poolesville Day Committee from nominations submitted by residents. The committee uses a set of guidelines to consider the nominations and asks those submitting the name of a person or organization to “describe a specific act or acts (personal or civic) of outstanding service which has been generally recognized as placing the individual or group (nominated) in a category well above others for sustained and distinguished service and commitment to the Town of Poolesville and its surrounding areas.”

It is important to note that the guidelines do not specify that any person or organization nominated has to live in Poolesville or its surrounding areas. The nomination is focused on what the person or organization has contributed to the health and wellbeing of the Poolesville area. It is possible, for example, that a county or state official who does not live in our area may have done a lot to make the lives of citizens in the Poolesville area better, for example, by introducing and passing legislation that is extremely beneficial to all of us.

Nor have all nominees for grand marshal been individuals. A number of organizations involved in community service in the Poolesville area have been nominated in the past. Jake Perkins, a founder of Poolesville Day and its leader for many years until his death in 2007, was posthumously named grand marshal and his aunt and uncle appeared in the parade in his place.

Here is the list of all past grand marshals:

- Link Hoewing*: Past Commissioner, PTSA Leader, 2018
- Jerry Klobukowski*: Commissioner, Education Liaison, 2017
- Tim Pike and Margaret Valega*: Local Business Owners, 2016
- Grace Sheppard*: Elementary School Teacher, 2015
- George Hillard*: Fire Chief, 2014
- Maggie Nightingale*: Local Activist for Poolesville’s Library, 2013
- Jim Brown*: Commissioner, Local Business Leader, 2012
- Ray Hoewing*: Long Time Local Activist, 2011
- Jane Stearns*: Founder of Local Charity WUMCO, 2010
- Betty Jean and Roy Selby*: Long Time Owners of Local Grocery, 2009
- Odd Fellows Lodge Poolesville*: Local Charitable Services Group, 2008
- Judy and David Feigin*: Aunt and Uncle of Jake Perkins, 2007
- Mary Chiswell*: Teacher, Oldest Poolesville Resident, 2006
- State Leaders of the Lions Club, Odd Fellows, American Legion*: Local Charitable Services Groups, 2005
- Earl Moore (UMCVD Fire Chief) and Sgt. Frank Brown (MCPD, County Police, Fifth District)*: Police and Fire Leaders, 2004

The Poolesville Day Committee welcomes nominations for this important position until July 26. Entry forms are available on the committee website and can be submitted directly on the site: www.poolesvilleday.com.



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In Your Own Backyard

A Witness to History: Part Two of the Trundle Story

Part One was published in the May 10 issue of the *Monocle*.

By Jon Wolz

By 1860, brothers James Trundle and William H. Trundle held separate interests in the Trundle Farm. The Trundles were Southern sympathizers. William operated a canal store and a ferry boat across the canal where he traded with farmers from Virginia. In 1856, Elijah "Lige" V. White of Poolesville, bought a farm in Loudoun County, on the opposite side of the Potomac River from the Trundle Farm. White was familiar with the ford across the Potomac that allowed for travel and trading between Maryland and Virginia. White joined the Confederacy in 1861 as a private and by 1862 had risen to the rank of colonel. After the second Battle of Bull Run, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee wanted to take the war out of Virginia and into Maryland or even Pennsylvania. He hoped Maryland, being a slaveholding state, would secede from the Union. Also, he wanted to gather up the fall harvest in the north for his troops, gain more troops, obtain foreign recognition for the Confederacy, and maybe have the North seek peace with the South.

Colonel White was assigned to Gen. Stonewall Jackson and word was passed along to Lee about a Potomac River crossing at Colonel White's farm. Colonel White served as Jackson's personal guide in Maryland. Colonel White's farm was a large open field that bordered the Potomac River. About 35,000 soldiers, including infantry, wagons, and cannons converged on

the farm on September 4, 1862. There was a summer drought, leaving the river water very low. The height of the river bank was about sixty feet above the water. General Jubal Early's men leveled the steep Virginia riverbank to enable their wagons and cannons to cross the ford. Today, the banks are still steep; however, there are some low spots that may have been cut away in 1862. Peering across from White's Ford, I could see the tip of Mason's Island that gave the invaders temporary rest as they crossed the Potomac. The muddy river bank has great blue heron, duck, raccoon, and now my tracks, as well as two automobile tires.

Stonewall Jackson's mapmaker Jed Hotchkiss noticed the "bright green island stretched away to the right." At midday on September 5, 1862, Stonewall Jackson crossed his main force at what was to become known as White's Ford. On September 6, Gen. James Longstreet's troops crossed the river. General J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry were the last to cross the ford. Water, at times, rose up to the middle of the horse's bodies. Because of injuries, both Lee and Jackson were not able to ride horseback across the river but rode instead by wagon. Many locals, including townspeople from Poolesville, greeted the soldiers at the riverbank by singing, "Maryland, My Maryland."

As the Army of Northern Virginia crossed into Maryland, they were greeted by William H. Trundle who immediately joined the Confederate Army and joined Mosby's Rangers. In 1864, William died in action. Once across the river, Colonel White guided thousands of troops who marched along the C&O Canal towpath to culvert 65 where they walked through the culvert up the Trundle farm road where they passed by the Trundle house. At Lock 26, a bridge was built across the lock by General Early's men so wagons and cannons could cross the watered canal. From there, they too made their way up the farm road



This was the front of the Trundle Farm, facing the Potomac River during the Civil War. Today, the front faces Martinsburg Road.

passing by the Trundle homestead. Two shopkeepers in Poolesville opened the stores they were tending and let the Confederates empty out the stores, accepting Confederate script in return. The main force marched on to Frederick before turning west to South Mountain and Sharpsburg where the Battle of Antietam was to be fought. There were other river crossings at White's Ford by both Confederate and Union troops during the Civil War, all passing through the Trundle farm.

After the Civil War, James Trundle became the sole owner of the farm. In 1879, he helped road commissioners plot out Martinsburg Road which, after it was built, separated the house from the barn.

After the Civil War, the farm stayed in the Trundle family until 1884 when it was sold to Frederick Miller. In 1950, Sidney Wells, Jr. and his wife Katherine Wells bought the Trundle

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Tidbits

Memories Are Made of These

The Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC) has an exceptional entertainment lineup for the next Quarterly Social and Birthday Celebration. While this June 12 event will give special honor to seniors with birthdays in April, May, or June, the free gathering welcomes all seniors.

The featured entertainment will be Hal and His Pals, offering wonderful musical memories of the fifties and sixties. Hal Gearhart, an accomplished singer/song-writer who entertains twice a year with ballads and rock and roll in the Music Room at Strathmore, sold out both Strathmore performances for this year. He performed at the inauguration of the Dean Martin stamp in Mr. Martin's hometown, competed in the 2013 MD Senior Idol contest, and regularly performs at scores of events annually.

Performing with him are his pals Jimmy Petrohilious, on guitar and piano, and Dave Almy, singer and rhythm guitarist.

This PASC event with light refreshments will be at 17750 West Willard Road beginning at 1:30 p.m.

A Hunt for History

On Saturday, May 11, the Historic Medley District, Inc. led adults and children on its first Scavenger Hunt through five historic locations in the Poolesville area. Everyone was given a list of clues to aid them in their hunt. Starting at the Darby Store and House in Beallsville, Julie Mueller and Don Housley of Montgomery County's Department of Parks recited the history of this site. Originally, the store and blacksmith shop were at the location of the Darby Store at the intersection of Beallsville Road and Darnestown Road. In 1908, H.C. Darby bought the land, and in 1910, he built a two-story general store. He later built the large white house to the left of the store for his family. Excavation work unearthed many artifacts, many dating back to the Civil War.



Seneca schoolmarm Julie Shapiro rings the bell for visiting scavenger hunters.

After a short drive, the "hunters" arrived at Edwards Ferry, Lock 25. Two period-dressed volunteers gave an interesting talk about its significant Civil War tie when it was used as a river crossing for the Union Army, as well as for many civilians.

A winding drive down the back roads led to the third site, the St. Paul Community Church in Sugarland. Gwen Hebron-Reese, founder and president of the Sugarland Ethno-History Project, was on hand to speak to the group about the history of the church and its importance to the Sugarland Community.

Miss Darby (Julie Shapiro) was at her Seneca Schoolhouse on River Road to lead the adults and children through an "average" school day, including a difficult spelling bee and a Hot Potato game.

The last stop of the day was at the Rocklands Farm Winery on Montevideo Road. Owner Janis Glenn walked the group around the farm with its beautiful fields and barns. They all then gathered around picnic tables for cookies, lemonade, and wine and talked about the adventures of their day as scavenger hunters.

St. Peter's Makes it Official

The vestry of St. Peter's Episcopal Church voted unanimously to officially name the Rev. Emily Lloyd its thirty-seventh rector. While replacing the previous priest, Rev. Ann Ritonia, Rev. Lloyd was designated as Priest in Charge during the transition. Senior Warden Sandy Worley Miller made the announcement, noting how happy the vestry was in its decision. The obviously-very-pleased priest thanked the vestry for the appointment saying how "thrilled and blessed she was" and declaring that "St. Peter's is no longer a church in transition."



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Focus on Business

Calleva's Farm Store Is Open for Business

By Susan Petro

The new Calleva office building located in the center of town, sandwiched between Anytime Fitness and Poolesville Tire & Auto, has recently opened a new farm store. Customers can purchase seasonally-fresh greens and produce that is grown at the Calleva farm, along with a variety of fresh-baked breads, cookies, farm-raised beef, crafts, and even cold drinks.

Currently, the store hours are Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Store Manager, Niki Markoff, and long-term employee, Julie Clendenin, are spearheading the farm store outlet.



Calleva's marketing manager Julie Clendenin with store manager Nikki Markoff.

Calleva's founders, Nick, Alex, and Matt Markoff, had long wanted to add a Poolesville location to their outdoor education organization which began as a small summer camp in 1993. According to the Calleva.org website, Calleva serves as a leader and innovator of outdoor education with over one hundred schools and community partners throughout the D.C.-metropolitan area.

Instead of focusing on a single location, Calleva offers a variety of activities at many differing sites. The Poolesville building was purchased to provide a new location for the office staff to work and gather. The farm market is located in the front corner of the building. The remainder of the space is dedicated to their year-round staff, which includes about twenty people, four of which work full-time in the Poolesville office. In the summer, the seasonal staff swells to over a hundred employees; however, the camp counselors operate mostly mobile camps, many of which begin and end their days at the Riley's Lock location.

In addition to the wide variety of thirteen week-long summer camps, single day and multiple overnight trips that range from all sorts of water-based activities like kayaking, sailing, and whitewater rafting, Calleva also offers farming camps and other family activities like family nights at the farm, Dirty Dinners featuring farm-grown foods, and their wildly-popular Markoff's Haunted Forest (one of the top Halloween attractions in the nation).

The Poolesville building was extensively remodeled and restored to maintain much of its original character. Previously, the building housed the Crafts-A-Plenty store operated by longtime Poolesville resident, Reva Hoewing, and, before that, the Williams Store, a grocery and general store operated by

Continued on page 14.




May 30



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Continued from page 1.

Starting Over: Envisioning New Community in the Center of Town

Acknowledging the problems experienced during the first approach, Willard entitled his presentation introducing the new project ideas as "Oops". He noted that he and the town commissioners and the public were caught unawares when the builder submitted its storm water management plan prematurely to Montgomery County and prior to being able to collectively develop various concepts of the plan first. Willard emphasized that things are different now as the family is solely in control and committed to "doing it right."

He opened by saying that they have taken the comments put forth during the original process very seriously, including those offered by the Town Commissioners, Planning Commissioners, Protect Our Poolesville (POP), the Historic Medley District, Inc., and the general public. An extensive survey by POP was an essential tool in their assessment of public sentiment. They heard very clearly a number of things. They learned of the desire for smaller houses and no townhomes. They now are looking at single-family two-story homes with a master bedroom and bath on the first floor, two and three bedrooms, with square footage ranging from 800 to 1500 square feet. They believe their new concepts will lead to better architectural designs that integrate with the ambience of historical Poolesville, especially allowing for good assimilation with the John Poole House and the former Poolesville Bank. Willard explained his preference for calling it the Poolesville Bank since his personal history of the town reached back to long before the building became a town hall, adding that even a great, great uncle of his was a founder and past president of the bank.

The process of selecting the design of homes has already begun with Willard and others traveling extensively throughout America to visit communities that substantially meet the Willards' goal of high-quality homes with historical design (including functioning front porches) that are single-family and suitable for senior downsizing, but at the same time able to meet the needs of first-time homeowners.

As to the number of homes and pricing, Willard explained that it was far too early to narrow that down other than to say their goal is to reach a price level that works for the targeted market of seniors and new families.

The town's overlay zoning ordinance that previously guided the process was designed to provide more flexibility in development to the builder while giving better and stricter control of the development by the town for the final plans. As an example, the town government will have more control on things like more park space and extended environmental pathways and commitments for quality materials. Willard indicated they would prefer to engage the zoning overlay process again.

The comments from those attending the meeting were primarily receptive to this open approach with concerns regarding more traffic, overcrowding, and pressure on current infrastructure being raised. Commissioner Martin Radigan, while remaining noncommittal, said that they (the Willards) were "going in the right direction." Commissioner Val Dickerson said that she "shares the desire of many of our citizens who would prefer to stay here rather than moving out as they age. We don't want people to have to leave Poolesville as they become empty-nesters." She added that, as a resident of Poolesville since 1969, she knows the Willards well and the family's history, of their leadership, and commitment to the town. "I like that the builder in this case will not be someone who just builds and sells the homes and moves on elsewhere. The Willards will be here forever." In fact, the Willard family has been in Poolesville since 1871 farming the land (and continue to do so.) De Willard was actually the town's very first chairman of the Planning Commission, and the family has personally been responsible for preservation of many important facilities, including the Pumphrey Home in the center of the planned site, and its predecessor, the Cubitt Home which was moved by horses and logs in 1917 to its current location behind Watershed Café.

As this new process begins, Billy Willard sought to reassure those in attendance of the family's commitment to seeing Poolesville prosper and thrive. With an obvious need for tradeoffs down the road, the Willards hope to move forward with the public's support and establish a center town community clearly within that vision.

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

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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.

Chair/Slow Flow Yoga: Mondays, 11:00 am in the café (excluding May 27)

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 19.

May 25

Kids Connect with Computer Science

Learn Python 3. Want to learn how to make your own video game or create your own app? Get started with basic programming classes and learn everything from printing out one line of text to creating your own calculator! No previous computer science experience is needed. No registration required. Ages 8 to 11. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 3:00 p.m.

June 1

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Annual Yard Sale

Clothes, furniture, toys, electronics, CDs and books, and more. Donations in good condition accepted from May 26 to May 30. www.poplutheran.org. 11900 Darnestown Road, Darnestown. 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

June 2

HGBCT's Jungle Book

Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre presents *Jungle Book*, a ballet adaptation by Artistic Director Fran Ichijo. Adults: \$25.00; military, seniors, and students: \$20.00. *PHS Auditorium*. 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

June 3

Daniel-Jeffers American Legion Post 247 meeting

All veterans welcome. *Calleva Offices, next to Anytime Fitness*. 7:30 p.m.

Poolesville Area Senior Center Monthly Board Meeting

Open to the public. *Poolesville Town Hall*. 4:00 p.m.

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

June 4

Declutter to De-Stress Session Three

Seminar and lunch in the café. *Poolesville Area Senior Center*. 12:00 p.m.

June 8

Poolesville Big Flea and Recycling Event

Super community flea market; free electronic recycling, paper shredding; paint disposal \$2.00 per can (paint must be in original container); Monocacy Creek BBQ sandwiches. Rain date for yard sale only on June 9. *Whalen Commons*. 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

June 12

PASC Special Event: Quarterly Social and Birthday Celebration!

Honoring seniors whose birthdays are in April, May, or June. Featuring: Hal and His Pals, renowned singer/songwriter Hal Gearhart. All are welcome to this free event. *17750 West Willard Road gym*. 1:30 p.m.

Poolesville Planning Commission Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

June 15

Calleva Dirty Dinner

Upscale farm-to-table dinner for adults. Details at Calleva.org.

June 17

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

June 19

Poolesville Presbyterian Intergenerational Summer Family Gathering

All welcome. Light supper, crafts, Bible stories, games, music. Register at poolpres.com. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

June 22

Family Night on Calleva Farm

Fun activities for all ages. Dinner available for purchase. Details at Calleva.org.

Monocacy Critters

Serendipitous Pet and Animal Pictures*



Stephanie Kasner, who lives in Hunters Run, took this picture of an owl guarding the intersection of Hillard Road and Hoskinson Road.

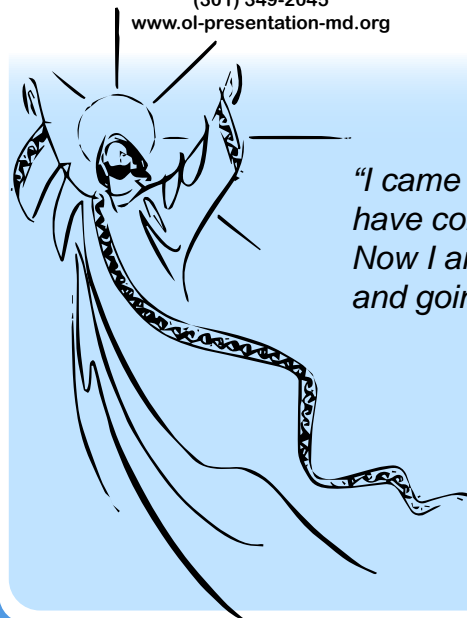
*Do you have an unusual or funny picture of an pet or animal? Mail or email the picture to editor@monocacymonocle.com or P.O. Box 372, Barnesville, MD 20838



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Saturday: 4:00-4:45 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

Pulpit

Poolesville Baptist Welcomes a New Pastor

By Rande Davis

The Rev. Joel Gilbert was recently named the new pastor at Poolesville Baptist Church.

Ordained in 2001, Gilbert got his B.S. with a major in music composition and minor in church music from Taylor University in Indiana and his Master of Divinity from Liberty University.

As a native Californian, he likes to say he is a 49ers fan by birth and a Redskins fan by marriage. Married to his wife Danielle for twenty-five years, the couple met in middle school and began dating while attending Montrose Christian High School. It's no wonder a friendship blossomed since they shared their passion for faith and sports. She in volleyball, basketball, softball, and he in soccer, basketball, and baseball.



The Gilbert family: Airman Zachary, Pastor Joel, fifth grader Zoe, wife Danielle, and senior Melody.

His passion led him to guide people in worship as early as middle school and through high school. His love of music led him to his zeal for acoustic guitar and piano.

They both decided to attend Taylor University in Indiana. Danielle got her degree in Elementary Education. "God had laid on our hearts a desire to work with the teenagers in Maryland," consequently, in the fall of 1995, he joined her church and they began volunteering. "What began as youth-ministry-only transitioned to assisting with worship during a time of transition. In 1999, the new senior pastor invited me to join the staff part time as a youth pastor. From that time on, God has grown in me a love for his church and a heart to shepherd his people. God has allowed me to serve in various combinations of youth ministry, worship ministry, church planning, and administration."

As to how he finally made his way up the road, it started last fall. "Over the last few years, Jace Broadhurst (the previous pastor at PBC) and I had rekindled a relationship; we've known each other since high school but had not been in close contact until recently. We would meet for lunch once or twice a year to talk about church life, family life, missions, and try to encourage one another. On a couple of occasions, he asked me to consider joining him at PBC. Due to the age of my kids, I didn't feel like the timing was right. Then in November of last year, it became clear to him that God was calling Jace to Indiana, so this time when he had asked me again to consider replacing him at PBC, the first steps forward were taken."

For fun, the Gilberts like to travel, go for walks, watch movies, and relax with

Continued on page 19.



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Garden

The Phoenix of the Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

A few weeks ago, I wrote an article about the effect of the past winter on my garden plants—the losers, the winners; some expected, some not. On the lost side, I did not include one plant, *Rosa rugosa* 'Roseaie de l'Hay.' Even though he lost more shoots than in the past, he is my "Phoenix of the Garden." Like the legendary Phoenix, the long-lived bird that cyclically regenerates and is otherwise born again and obtains new life by arising from the ashes of his predecessor, my rosebush will renew itself. I can cut the old, dead shoots down to ground level, and new healthy shoots will rapidly be produced from below the points that I have cut.

Swedish botanist Carl Peter Thunberg first introduced to the western world the *Rosa rugosa* (meaning "wrinkled rose" because of its creased petals and serrated foliage) in the 1770s, having seen it in Japan, so although it is a dominant species in certain areas of the northeast and northwest of the United States, it is not native. It is a species of rose native to eastern Asia, northeastern China, Japan, Korea, and southeastern Siberia, where it grows on beach coasts, often on sand dunes. It is a super-tough, resilient plant because one area of its natural domain is the windy and salt-blasted sand dunes of Russia and Japan. You could correctly call the rugosa rose a much-loved invader with a host of benefits.

When I moved to Barnesville in 1980, a friend gave me four 'Roseaie de l'Hay' plants. I planted them in their own rectangular bed in full sun. I did not plant them with my other David Austin and hybrid tea roses; the *rugosas* are too boisterous in habit and rude healthiness to be paired with their delicate cousins. I have enjoyed their brilliant and intensely-perfumed flowers, apple-green foliage, and apple-shaped hips every year since without fail.

There are many varieties of this rose, but one of the finest is 'Roseaie de l'Hay' with its rich wine-purple, elongated buds which open to very large, double, magenta blooms with contrasting creamy stamens. It has a very strong perfume and repeat flowers well. This rose takes its name from Roseaie de L'Hay, one of the best and oldest roses-only gardens in the world. I visited it several years ago; it is located about five miles south of Paris. Jules Gravereaux, the founder of the Bon Marché department store in Paris, purchased this large property in 1892 and hired the famous landscape architect and horticulturist Édouard André to lay out a garden containing 1,600 roses. He collected roses from all over Europe and began creating new varieties for the production of rose oil for perfume. 'Roseaie de l'Hay' was bred by the French rose hybridizer M. Cochet in 1901; he also designed the garden.

This born-survivor plant has many characteristics that make it an ideal specimen (and a rose at that!) for your Monocacy garden. Its dense growth habit makes it good for screening or a hedge effect. If you want low maintenance in a rose, this is your choice. It is highly-drought tolerant, and deer and rabbit resistant. Its thick leaves are less prone to fungal problems, rust, and Japanese beetles. It does best in full sun and it will attract birds, pollinators, and other wildlife. The wonderful, apple-green rosehips ripen in August and offer delicious fruit for the birds all winter, depending upon how greedy your backyard birds are.

Since I have stopped using pesticides in my gardens, I no longer have my much-loved David Austin (except for 'Olivia Austin') and hybrid tea roses, but I will always have my *Rosa rugosas*.



Rosa rugosa 'Roseaie de l'Hay' is the Phoenix of the garden.

Continued from page 4.

WUMCO Help Annual Meeting

results of the recent assessment of the Poolesville High School facility and how it might influence decisions regarding a potential new building. A facility such as this would likely have a positive impact on WUMCO clients and their ability to access county services. Mr. Hoewing encouraged those present to advocate, via letters and phone calls to county and board of education officials, in support of the proposed facility.

Continued from page 10.

Calleva's Farm Store Is Open for Business

Mr. Williams who was known back in the day for his pet monkey who often came to the store.

Today, the interior of the building brings the outdoors inside with a wall of kayaks, skis, and other outdoor gear. The original hardwood floors remain. A huge wooden table milled out of reclaimed wood stretches ten feet long and three feet wide. A local artisan, photographer, and the lead designer for Markoff's Haunted Forest, Christopher Knowles, and Paul Brubacker designed and created the masterpiece table that includes a scaled etching of the Potomac River carved into the top. Important historical landmarks along the river, along with Calleva's various locations like Riley's Lock and their newer Virginia location were hand-lettered into the top which was sealed with a total of six layers of resin.

Calleva hopes to offer occasional events at the offices so that Poolesville residents can enjoy the beautifully-restored space. In the meantime, be sure to stop in to see for yourself while shopping for fresh produce and goods. To learn more about all Calleva has to offer, follow their Facebook page or visit their website at www.calleva.org.

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Youth Sports

Falcon Coed Volleyball Team Scraps for Wins

By Jeff Stuart

There are a number of teams vying for the 2019 county coed volleyball title. The competitive balance makes for a spirited competition. "We have had good rallies, and they are scrappy, and it is the kind of volleyball I like," said Coach Megan Warner. "The kids are so determined to keep the ball off the floor. Even if it's ugly sometimes, it's great volleyball, and it's athletic and entertaining. Coed is just fun. When I played, it was such a great outlet and stress reliever for me. So much confidence was built when I was able to play with all of my friends and not just my girlfriends.

"We have eighteen kids on the team this year. We have a lot of seniors and a lot of newcomers. We have kids that have come over from basketball, soccer, swimming, and cross country. For most of them, it is their first time in the volleyball world. Even the newcomers are very athletic and caught on really quick. This is Kyle Stevens-Donati's senior year and Ainslee's [Barger] second year, so they should carry us over. We didn't lose a lot to graduation last year. It is going to be exciting to see how far they can go, and I think they can go a lot farther than they think. It's a great bunch.

"Because our ceiling is so low, the boys get a lot of back row experience very quickly because they have to keep the play alive. The girls have to learn how to purposely place the ball and not just swing away and kill it. I think the relationship between the girls having to be a little smarter and the boys having to control the first ball if it comes to them works out really well. We have two seniors that started out on the boys' team four years ago. They have worked very hard on their skills and it shows. With this group of kids that we have, the chemistry on and off the court is so seamless. Our game against Seneca Valley was great. They have a new coach, and the spirit and atmosphere of that program is uplifting."

"We are playing really well," said sophomore Ainslee Barger. "We have hitters this year, so that's nice to see. Coed is supposed to be fun. It is not so competitive, but sometimes it is. The Blair game was nerve-wracking. I think everyone was, like, shaking because they kept coming back on us. I am not going to lie, but I think if we played them again, we would probably sweep three games. I think blocking is the strength of our team. We have big people on the front row. It is nice having a team that can block the ball. We are still trying to figure out where we are playing this year, position-wise and rotations. Last year, I was a setter. This year I am not setting, but I am hitting, and that is beneficial for me. We have to swing higher on a net at boys' height. That helps me and the other girls, so there is a definite benefit to playing coed because that will carry over to next fall."

Senior Michelle Gu had a few good gets in the Blair game and served well.

"The coed volleyball program as a whole is very supportive," said senior Angela Wang. "We all come together as a team. Playing coed in the spring in my last season as a senior is a great way to top off my high school career. It is my first time playing coed... We have a pretty big team, but we all have different skill sets, and it's about working together. We have a lot of energy on the court. Games are always my favorite time. Lots of time in the huddle we will go, like, 'One, two, three, Falcons!' or jump together after a good play. I am looking forward to continue playing with my friends and being competitive."

Angela isn't the only senior finishing out a PHS athletic career on the coed team. Senior Eric Palmer came over from basketball, Jisu Kim from swimming, and Daniel Berger from cross country. Vivek Mehta and Vaibhay Patil came over from the boys' volleyball team for their senior years.

Mehta played boys' for three years. "I always wanted to do both boys' and coed," said Vivek, "so my senior year, I switched to coed. It is pretty competitive. I still like competition. The Blair game was pretty exciting. I was looking forward to the Clarksburg game because that was my home school. That was pretty competitive. I know a lot of the players on that team."

The Falcons beat Clarksburg three sets to one thanks in part to senior Kirsten Yee opening up the third game with a ten-point service run.

"I think we have come a long way since the first game," said senior Patil. "The chemistry is better. We know where we are supposed to be on the court. We know each other better. This is my first year on coed. My first year on boys' was last year. In the boys' game, there is more hitting. The girls have different skill sets. They have to be good on defense, so we have to learn that. I think it is a more interesting and varied game than the boys' game. There are longer rallies. I think my favorite game was the Seneca Valley game because a lot of the new players



The 2019 Falcon Coed Volleyball Team.

got to play. Eric and junior AJ Poore are hitting and blocking so much better. Darien was really good on the back row. It is nice to see everyone improve and grow. Last year on boys', I was an outside hitter. This year I play on the back row, so a lot of the girls give me advice like predicting where a hitter is going to hit and when to guard the line and where to be on the court. I am looking forward to the playoffs. Last year with the boys, we did not get that far, and this year I think we have a better chance to do well than the boys did last year."

Yee, Wang, Gu, Michelle Wipf, and Bryanna Sellers played girls' volleyball in the fall throughout their careers. Stevens-Donati was on the coed team the last three years. All were on the 2017 coed championship team. Justin Ma is also a senior. Minsu Kim, from swimming, is a junior. Olivia Paksima is a sophomore. Anita King and Kelsey Alfaro are freshmen.

Starting this year, players could sign up and try out for boys or coed, but they could not switch over from one to the other during the season.

Poolsville Presbyterian Church Intergenerational Summer Family Gatherings All Welcome!



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Speer Hall, Poolsville Presbyterian Church

Youth Sports

PHS Girls' Tennis Earns a Move Up To Division I

By Jeff Stuart

In order to make Montgomery County girls' tennis players eligible to play in the state tournament, MCPS moved the girls' tennis schedule from the fall season to the spring this year. Since boys' tennis is also played in the spring (and always has been), Coach Andy Johnson, who previously coached both teams, chose to continue to coach the girls' team, and Tom Lang took over as the new coach of the PHS boys' tennis team.

"The team had a strong season, finishing 6-6 overall and 4-1 in Division II play," said Coach Johnson. "Based on the division performance, our team will move up to the top county division, along with the Poolesville boys' team. Hard-fought, 4-3 victories over rivals Quince Orchard and Northwest highlighted the match play. In both, our three doubles teams swept their matches. Number one singles Angie Zhou prevailed against Quince Orchard, and number four singles Val

Mozolina won a thriller against Northwest to help secure the victories. The upcoming county and 2A region/state tournaments will provide a chance for the girls to match up against some of the best players in the state."

"This season has been a really amazing experience," said senior captain Isabel Huntley. "Being captain has been exciting because I love talking to all of the girls no matter what grade they are in. They are all the most adorable and sweet people. Tennis is my favorite thing to do and one of the great joys of my life. The match against Quince Orchard was electric. It was very contentious. It all came down to the first doubles match. I was partnered with Kaviya Kandaswamy, a freshman. We won the first set, 6-3, and the second set, 7-5. It was a great match.

"I would like to give a shout out to my doubles partner Pauline Mnev, another senior. She is so supportive and wonderful, and I love to play with her. I was really impressed with Christine Tang's efforts this year. She is a sophomore. In the off season, I would see her practicing on the court during lunch and after school. It was really inspiring, and she has really improved."

"I have been playing tennis since I was four years old," said senior

captain Anusha Chinthalapale, "but this is my fourth year playing tennis for Poolesville. It's been a pretty big journey. My dad has been my coach. I went from playing club tennis to playing school tennis. The atmosphere is very different. Playing for the high school is definitely more familial. Everyone is very close. We are in a circle, and it is really nice to have that dynamic... My favorite match was the Sherwood match. We, at second doubles, lost the first set, 4-6, but we won the second set in a tiebreaker, and the third set went to a tiebreaker, as well, and we won that. Even though we lost as a team, that was probably Christina and my biggest win at second doubles.

"I would like to give a shout out to Kaviya Kandaswamy. She is one of our freshmen on the team this year. She is pretty awesome. She is so bubbly. She is so versatile. She plays singles and doubles. She is a very good player, and also I want to give a shout out to Maria Hancu, a junior who is new to the team this year. She came in and played third singles which is really a big deal for someone to come onto a team so late in the high school experience and do that. She knows what she is doing, and that kind of confidence shows on the court. She has a good personality. She is intriguing. It is really good talking to her.



Captains, Isabel Huntley and Anusha Chinthalapale, Pauline Mnev, and Sayaka Shanbhag.

"As for a season highlight, Angie Zhao, a freshman, beat Churchill's number one singles player, senior Rebecca Redlich, 4-6, 6-3, 6-0. She has qualified for the states in singles. She is very, very good, and she knows it, but she is chill and laid back about it."

Sayaka Shanbhag and Val Mozolina played singles.

Seniors Huntley, Chinthalapale, and Mnev anchored the doubles teams along with Tang, Kandaswamy, Hallie Maytin, Mahima Thirukkonda, Molly McCutcheon, Divya Mathur, and Roshini Parameswaran.



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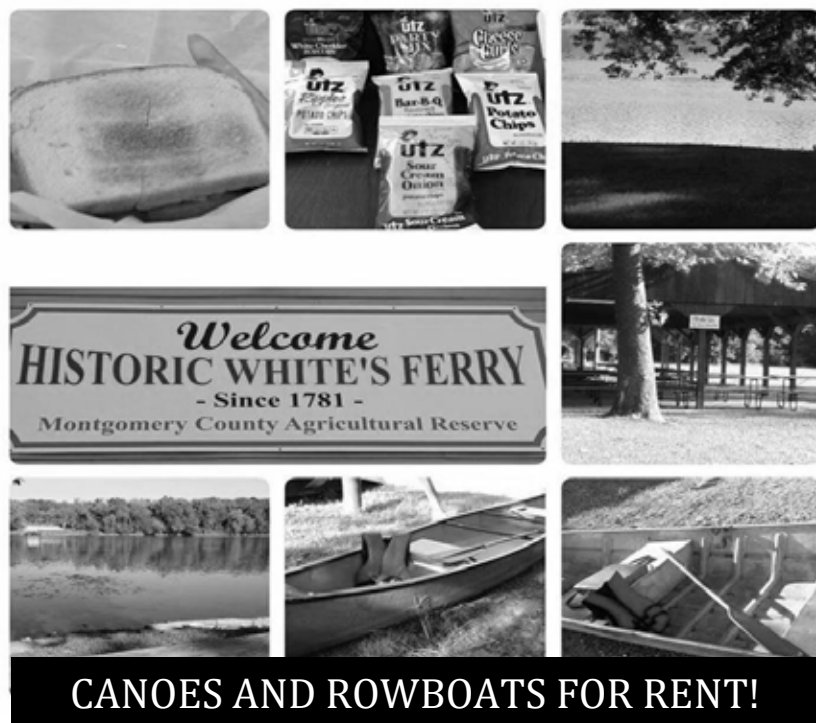
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School News

The Magic of The ME Tree

By Angela Smith

Pulling up to Monocacy Elementary School (MES) is like entering another world as evidenced by the beautiful canvas in which the school looks painted in front of the majestic Sugarloaf Mountain. It is further surreal as you step out of your vehicle and inhale the fresh air that is reminiscent for me of family trips to the mountains in Pennsylvania. In addition to the outstanding education provided by MES teachers and faculty, the students also have a truly incredible setting and rare opportunity to learn, play, and grow in the picturesque Montgomery County Ag Reserve. As is the case with many children, an exciting part of our son's (Mason Smith) school day is recess on the expansive playground with fields that seem to go on forever as they extend to the base of the iconic mountain. Who wouldn't love spending time there?

I was intrigued to hear Mason's dinnertime story about his day and the "Wishing Tree" he discovered on one

of his first days at MES. I envisioned a fairy tale unfolding as he told me about the wish he made on Earth Day 2019 and how several days later it came true when he discovered a treasure map at the base of the nearly sixty-year-old oak tree planted in 1961 when the school was first built (Garth Seely of Landscape and Nature Discoveries, LAND confirmed the age). The "treasure map" appeared to be a drawing left behind by another child, but the sense of excitement and adventure that it instilled in our boy's young mind was priceless. For several days, he carried that map around and dreamed of all the treasures he might be lucky enough to find, albeit for a young child the treasure would be simple pleasures such as toys and candy.

In a casual conversation with MES alumni neighbors, it was quite the surprise to hear their daughter's unsolicited account of the fond memories she and her girlfriends have of that very same tree. She reminisced about what they called the Pixie Dust Tree where they pretended to be magical fairies. She giggled as she told me about the secrets they shared under that tree, the wishes they made, and how that was where her young imagination came to life.

Continued on page 27.



The ME tree at Monocacy Elementary School.

Photo by Julia Dorman.

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Continued from page 6.

School News

Lacrosse: Clark Trone, Newberry College, South Carolina

New Head Football Coach Named

Gina Grubb, Athletic Director at Poolesville High School, has announced that Anthony Nazzaro has been named as the head coach of the varsity football team.



New PHS varsity football head coach Anthony Nazzaro.

Coach Nazzaro, currently a physical education teacher at Northwood High School, has been coaching football in the county for twenty-one years at Magruder, Blake, and currently at Sherwood High School. During his tenure, he has served as the varsity head and assistant coach and as an offensive and defensive coordinator.

Coach Nazzaro came highly-recommended as a coach and teacher. An athletic director who worked with Nazzaro said, "He understands the meaning of the 'student-athlete' and is dedicated to their success academically and athletically. He knows the game of football and works hard to prepare his players for every game.

"Most importantly, Coach Nazzaro is a leader who conducts himself with high moral and ethical integrity, earning him the respect of everyone he meets. His professionalism as a



Ethan Rolls, Andrew Sojka, and Mr. Morrell (faculty advisor to SADD)

teacher-coach makes him a superior candidate."

Pre-Prom by SADD Educates about the Dangers of Impaired Driving

The PHS SADD Chapter (Students Against Dangerous Decisions) held two lunchtime events the week before prom to emphasize making smart and safe decisions as students head into Prom Night on May 17. The two events were both fabulous successes with hundreds of students choosing to spend their lunchtime outside, viewing a car that had been wrecked on the road, watching the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department demonstrate the process of extracting crash dummies from the crushed vehicle, wearing goggles that simulate impaired senses, "driving drunk" on a simulator, and enjoying wonderful pizza from Paisano's Pizza, pasta from Mamma Lucia's Italian restaurant, and ice cream from the Watershed Café. The Upcounty Prevention Network UPN, a group of concerned citizens banded to mitigate the effects of substance and alcohol abuse, supported the SADD initiative.

PES Placed 2,000 Flags to Honor Fallen Heroes

The students at Poolesville Elementary School were asked how they wanted to celebrate Memorial Day 2019. Working through the Student Government Association, they selected a project with the Memorial Day Foundation. SGA sponsor Shawnette Daly explained that the students chose to place 2019 small American flags on the school's front lawn to commemorate the military personnel who sacrificed their lives to secure America's safety and freedom. Every student in the school helped to place the flags.

Continued from page 13.

Poolesville Baptist Welcomes a New Pastor

family. Danielle's family is still in the area; in fact, her father grew up in Poolesville at Jerusalem Baptist. Joel's family is in Delaware and California.

The ears of the teenagers at PBC most likely perked up when they learned that the Gilberts have led multiple youth missionary trips abroad. There is no certain trip planned, but if past is prologue, the kids at PBC better start packing their bags.

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A bird's eye view of the Memorial Day project created by PES students to honor those who gave their lives for our country.

Photo by Ed Armenta.



Photos on this page by Ramona Davis.



Youth Sports

PHS Boys' Tennis Sweeps to Division II Title

By Jeff Stuart

After three consecutive losses to Division I opponents, Walter Johnson, Churchill, and B-CC, to start the season, the PHS boys' tennis team went on to sweep the next five, all Division II matches, winning the division and earning the right to move up to Division I next year. They then easily defeated Division IV Kennedy, 7-0, Division III Wheaton, 5-2, and Division IV Seneca Valley, 7-0, giving them eight consecutive wins. They finished the season with another Division I loss to Richard Montgomery. Their 8-4 record was the fifth best in the county overall. They were the only Falcon spring sports team to win its division this year.



2019 Boys' Tennis Team

"In the 4-3 win over Quince Orchard, six of the seven matches were decided in the third and final set," said coach Tom Lang. "The number three doubles team of freshman Robert Xu and junior Dinal Gunaratne came back from down 2-5 in the third set to win a critical match, and the number one doubles team of Daniel Fong and Sourabh Vellala, both seniors, capped off the Falcon victory by coming back from one set down in the final match of the day. Freshman Rohan Bhat at number one singles scored an easy win, and senior Sam Zhou at number two singles was also able to put his opponent away in the third set.

"Against Blake, another division foe and another close 4-3 win, Blake took three of the first five matches before Surya Padmanabhan at number three singles and Patrick at number four singles each closed out their individual matches in the third set to give the Falcons the win. Patrick did it in grand fashion, coming back from a set down before taking the third set, 6-0. The number two doubles team of sophomores Danny Liang and Shankar Haridas won as did number three doubles."

"This the first time PHS has ever won a Division II title, so we are very excited," said senior captain Patrick Rodriguez, number four singles. "I think our biggest successes were at Quince Orchard and Northwest. Quince Orchard was a division match. We beat them in a tight match, so it was a good way to start division play. Northwest was our last division game, so we began and ended on a high note. A personal highlight was against Blake. I was down, 5-1, in the first match, so I was about to lose the set, but I came back and won the match in three sets. I think the Northwest match was our best match overall because that was really the culmination match for us, and everyone played well.

"I think our number one singles, Rohan, has played very well. He has really helped this team. Robert is another promising freshman. He has played number three doubles with Dinal, and they won every single one of their division matches. Going forward, I just want to finish the season on a high note."

The Falcons won their only other division titles, both Division III, in 2006 and 2014.

Continued on page 30.



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Continued from page 3.

Commissioners Approve Takeover of Fisher Avenue from the State

After the state representatives appeared, the commissioners unanimously approved a County Hazard Mitigation Plan that is used to guide county, city, and state responses to emergency situations such as blizzards or floods. Every five years, the town must agree to be a part of the mitigation plan which spells out the roles of all jurisdictions in the event of major emergencies.

The commissioners then unanimously approved the reduction or elimination of some bonds that Kettler-Forlines has in place with respect to paving, storm water management, and water/sewer construction in its Brightwell Crossing development. Bonds are paid by the developer to protect the town in the event a builder fails to meet its obligations to pave streets properly or build sewer and water lines that meet requirements. Bond requirements are lifted or eliminated entirely as a development reaches various stages of completion.

Town Manager Wade Yost then outlined a plan to completely replace or upgrade all lighting in town hall with LED lights. Several hundred lights would either be replaced or upgraded. Much of the nearly \$9,000 in cost would be paid by a nonprofit group that promotes energy efficiency, Empower Maryland. The commissioners approved the plan unanimously.

The commissioners next turned to final approval of the budget and tax rates for FY 20 and the water and sewer rates. They had previously given preliminary approval but left the record open for written comments. They gave unanimous approval to the two pieces of legislation.

A brief exchange at the end of the meeting concerned the Springfest event. It was a major success with good attendance said Commissioner Dickerson, raising over \$11,000 to help pay for the costs of such things as security and music for the event. The other commissioners agreed, but Commissioner Brown had heard from some that the \$40 fee for the event was "steep." Although fees at similar events in other jurisdictions are much higher, Commissioner Brown asked that a lower fee be considered if it could be done in a way that would allow for all necessary costs to be covered.



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Yeas and Neighs

What a Difference a Year Makes!

By Andie Devynck

Despite Maryland's having had one of the wetter springs on record, mud was not the main event at this year's 67th running of the Potomac Hunt Races (PHR) at the Seneca Valley Pony Club's Bittersweet Field on Partnership Road. Fears of a repeat of last year's mosh pit dried up; instead, there was the usual mostly-dry and well-groomed turf, with an overlay of Maryland's signature heat and humidity—a welcome return to normal. As a bonus, a countervailing steady breeze lent Race Day a lovely respite from the relentless sun, helping cool horses and humans alike as races came and went.

The big change to this year's PHR—shuttle buses from parking sites in Poolesville and Gaithersburg instead of general admission parking on the Bittersweet grounds as in the past—proved to be a fine idea that worked but was perhaps unnecessary given that solid footing everywhere abounded. That said, most of the rest of the spectator activities, fanfare, and, most importantly, the races themselves, went off in their usual manner. Unfortunately, a couple of the crowd pleasers—the Parade of the Potomac Foxhounds and the Sidesaddle Parade—were forgone because of the time crunch, and some horses withdrawn from one of the later races because of the high heat/humidity.

From the Presentation of the Colors and the singing of the National Anthem by local vocalist Jackie Kempa just after noon, to the Pony Races for Junior Riders rounding out the day just after 5:00 p.m., the racegoers ate, drank, shopped in the Vendor Village, and otherwise made merry under tents and tree shade along the inner and outer rails of the racetrack. All present witnessed some of the bravest horses and experienced jockeys Maryland has to offer in flat races (including one for sidesaddle riders) and races over timber, galloping anywhere from 1.5 to 3.25 miles. Thankfully, the Stick Horses and their child jockeys were spared such great lengths, and the Mounted Police Demonstration draft horses didn't need to break a sweat showing off their cool-as-cucumbers crowd-control maneuvers, remaining mostly at the walk.

During one of the earlier races over timber, a flashback to the Preakness the evening prior gave spectators an unexpected thrill. One rider came off along the way, but the horse continued on with the pack for much of the rest of the race. Worried onlookers watched as the loose horse turned 180 degrees and began running back towards the oncoming pack. Luckily, no collisions occurred, and after some more back-and-forth attempts to escape by the riderless horse, it was caught at last by a trainer. A collective sigh of relief from the crowd was followed instantly by cheers for the display of bravery and a safe conclusion to the excitement.

Set against the backdrop of twenty-four unexplained deaths of horses at the Santa Anita racetrack since December of last year, and one death on May 17 at the Pimlico track in Baltimore (both facilities owned by the same business, the Stronach Group), there is a heightened awareness and concern among the general public of the hazards of horse racing. The PHR races over timber are considerably riskier than those on the flat, and yet not one horse suffered a fall, much less a death—a testimony to the fitness of the horses, the wisdom of the owners, trainers, and handlers, and the experience of the jockeys onboard.

For those of you interested in the history of the Potomac Hunt Race Course at Montevideo, here are a few basic facts: Austin and Gogo Kiplinger bought the 1830 farm in 1958, and it was their home until Gogo died in 2007 and Austin in 2015. Their son Knight and his wife, Ann, are the family stewards of the farm today. Austin and a neighbor, Jesse Smith, founded the Seneca Valley Pony Club (SVPC) on the western part of the farm, along Partnership Road, in 1961. It was named Bittersweet Field, after the color bittersweet—a bright orange (like a persimmon) that was the color of Gogo's beloved 1953 Mercury convertible.

Austin joined the Potomac Hunt Club (PHC) in the early 1960s, when he was in his early forties, and hunted until he was eighty. Knight continued the tradition, hunting with PHC as a teenager until he graduated from Landon in 1965 and went off to college. In the early 1960s, the PHR were held at Ray Norton's Western Breeze Farm, on Norton Road and bordering River Road, just past Potomac Village. When that land was sold for suburban development, the races were moved to the home of Tommy Dowd, a Washington lawyer who lived at Belvedere Farm, on Travilah Road, near the hunt kennels and clubhouse on Glen Road. Tommy was later a Master of the Potomac Hunt. When the Dowd farm was sold for development in the 1980s, the Hunt needed a new home for the



Running of the 2019 Potomac Hunt races.

races, and Austin volunteered Bittersweet Field, still being used by SVPC for its youth activities and adult three-phase, Olympic-style competitions a few times a year. The new course was inaugurated in the late eighties, and today, it continues to share this beautiful piece of ground one Sunday in mid-May every year alongside the ongoing activities of SVPC.

All four hundred acres of Montevideo, on the eastern edge of the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve, are under conservation easements, so the land can never be developed. It will be open forever, and Knight and Ann hope it will continue to be a key center of equestrian excellence in the form of the Pony Club, eventing, fox hunting, and the annual Potomac Hunt Races for many years to come.

In addition to the Kiplinger family, Skip and Vicki Crawford (Masters of the Potomac Hunt Club), and Beverley Bosselmann, also a Master of the Hunt and the PHR event coordinator, deserve special mention. Beverley is the mother of the late Cpl. Kirk J. Bosselmann, after whom the eighth and final race of the day is named. Again, this year's PHR proceeds go to T.A.P.S. (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors) to aid families who have lost a loved one in the armed services. For more information, visit PotomacHuntRaces.com, or their Facebook page, and remember to mark your calendars for the 2020 Potomac Hunt Race: Sunday, May 16.



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Continued from page 8.

**A Witness to History:
Part Two of the Trundle Story**

Farm. The Trundle family cemetery was destroyed in 1958 by PEPCO to create a power plant. Some grave-stones and burials were relocated to other cemeteries. In 1973, the C&O Canal National Historical Park bought thirty-three acres of the farm between the canal and the river. In 1984, seventeen acres on the east side of Martinsburg Road including the barn were sold.

Currently, Jonathan M. Warner owns thirty-three acres on the west side of Martinsburg Road, including the house, down to the C&O Canal. Today, the farm road still leads from behind the house past culvert 65 to Lock 26. There are briars and woods that were once farmland along the canal. There are areas of standing water in the woods. Behind the house, there is a rugby field and a pond. During the Civil War, there was a young silver maple tree growing at Lock 26. The tree is massive now, and it is the largest silver maple tree in Maryland. That tree witnessed the operation of the C&O Canal, the troop movements during the Civil War, and several great floods in its long life.

There is a White's Ford historical sign on the towpath at about mile 39.17. The actual White's Ford is at mile 38.90. Every year in late summer, only when the river is low, a group of enthusiasts wade across the river at White's Ford. On my visit to the Maryland side of White's Ford, I found the riverbank littered with flood trash. The riverbank nearby has a thick patch of the plant "scouring rush." Looking across at Mason Island, there is a bald eagle's nest high up in a sycamore tree. I carried out from the riverbank an empty propane tank and left it next to the towpath.

The Trundle Farm is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sources for this story include, permission from Jonathan M. Warner to walk the Trundle Farm, "Trundle Farm" by Paula Reed and Associates, The C&O Companion by Mike High, The Towpath Guide by Thomas Hahn, The Civil War by Shelby Foote, The Battle of Antietam by Jeffry D. Wert, the Maryland Historical Trust application document on the Trundle Farm, Civil War roadside signs in Maryland and Virginia, and my own personal experiences.



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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Burglary: Poolesville High School, also 19400 block of Wasche Road.

Theft of Auto Parts: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Theft, Shoplifting: 19700 block of Fisher Avenue.

Trespassing: 15600 block of Hughes Road.

Loud Noise Complaints: Numerous loud noise complaints about the repaving of Route 107/Fisher Avenue. All resolved as not a police matter since the contractor has a permit for night work.

Past Crime: 1955

The Montgomery County Licensed Beverages Association put out a warning to all 160 of its members to be aware that the Montgomery Police were using undercover tactics to "snare" owners of beer taverns. They pointed to a case in Germantown where a bartender was arrested in the middle of his shift. Chief McAuliffe said that two of his officers were in the Lone Pine Inn when they saw an obviously drunk patron being served beer and thus arrested the bartender. The chief also said that his department did not use juveniles or other entrapment tactics.

A series of hit-and-run wrecks resulted in the arrest of a Rockville man. Police said that the man first sideswiped a car driven by County Manager Melvin Reese on West Montgomery County Avenue. The car continued down the street where it hit a car driven by a seventeen-year-old Chevy Chase boy. The driver and his

ten-year-old brother were seriously injured. The driver of the hit-and-run car was soon arrested.

A bullet from a county officer's gun put an end to a high-speed chase up Wisconsin Avenue into Rockville. Police said that an airman stationed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds was drinking at a Bethesda bar when he met another patron. After hours of drinking, the military man grabbed the keys to the other man's car and said, "I've got to go," and then ran out of the bar and took off in the car. The car theft was quickly reported to the police, and Pvt. Henry Davis saw the car going up Wisconsin Avenue at high speed. When it refused to pull over, Davis fired two shots, flattening one of the tires and bringing the chase to an end. The airman got out of the car with a .45 caliber pistol strapped to his waist.

A high-speed chase down Georgia Avenue into the District resulted in a seventeen-year-old being arrested and the front gate of the Walter Reed Medical Center being ripped off. Police said that the boy was seen speeding through Wheaton and Silver Spring, and when Montgomery County officers tried to stop the car, it fled into D.C. In front of Walter Reed, the car went out of control and hit the wall and gate of the facility.

The Montgomery County Council nixed a proposal where a county officer was to give a weekly report, lasting ten minutes, over radio station WGAY. The council gave no reason for their decision but did say that the public had the right to be informed.

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

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Continued from page 18.

The Magic of the ME Tree

How many wishes, secrets, dreams, and laughter has that old tree witnessed through the years as it too has grown with the children of MES? On the heels of Earth Day 2019, this tree serves as a reminder to all of us that “preserving our environment” goes beyond a catchphrase to something so much more magical and character shaping. Although there is nothing magical about why I call it the ME tree, as you may have guessed, it simply stands for Monocacy Elementary. Whether you call it the Wishing Tree, the Pixie Dust Tree, or some other name, I would love to hear from current and former students that share a similar fondness and special memories. Please reach out to me via email at 72smity@gmail.com.

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Monday
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10:00 am Mass

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Continued from page 1.

Bicycle Wreck, Fight Mar Weekend Activities

off of her bicycle into a ditch on River Road. The injured woman was rushed to a local hospital where she was admitted with critical injuries. As of press time, she remained in the ICU unit.

The Potomac Peddlers, a group of over 3,000 members, put out their own press release about the incident. They said a driver harassed three members of the club who were riding single file. The driver, in a mid-sized silver SUV, yelled obscenities, honked, and swerved towards each rider. When the driver passed the rider in front, he forced her into a ditch where she suffered life-threatening injuries. Anyone who has information about the car or driver should call the police at 240-773-8477.

The Montgomery County Police Collision Reconstruction Team was dispatched to the scene and blocked River Road for several hours while they conducted their investigation.

Police spokesperson Rick Goodale said that the team could find no evidence that the car struck the bicyclist; thus, the incident was not a hit and run. He stressed that if the car were ever located, investigators would like to speak to the driver.

Longtime residents might recall that the incident was at the same location of an incident about twenty-five years ago where a car, driven by an underage boy, mowed down an Olympic cyclist, killing her.

In the meantime, Poolesville's annual Springfest was being held at Whalen Commons. At about 3:00 p.m., some attention was drawn to two men fighting on the sidewalk in the 19600 block of Fisher Avenue. Two county police officers who were detailed to the festival ran to the scene and had a difficult time restraining one of the brawlers. Additional police units were called to the scene, and one participant was arrested. He was identified as Luis Acosta, age 22, of Russell Avenue in Gaithersburg. Acosta was charged with Second Degree Assault, Disorderly Conduct, and Resisting Arrest.

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Remembrances

Joseph L. Johnson

Joseph L. Johnson, 60, formerly of Poolesville, passed away on Monday, May 6, at AristaCare at Woodland Park, Pennsylvania.

Born in Baltimore on December 17, 1958, he was a son of the late Howard Johnson and Freda Chiarizia. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

After high school, he entered the United States Marine Corps, achieving the rank of corporal.

Surviving are a son, Jeffrey Johnson, husband of Emily; granddaughter, Evelyn; grandson, Cameron, of Poolesville; brother, Walter "Tinker" Johnson, husband of Debbie, also of Poolesville, brother Steve Johnson of Six Mile Run, sister Bonnie Williams, wife of Duane of Broad Top City, Pennsylvania; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Darlene "Snookie" Crooks.



Joseph L. Johnson

Leona J. Nelson

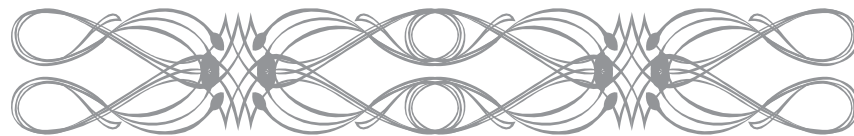
Leona "Lee" J. Nelson, 79, died May 10 peacefully in her sleep at Frederick Memorial Hospital.

Lee moved to Poolesville in 1987 and became an active member of her community. Lee was very involved with her local church and participated in many community dinners, fundraisers, and ministries through the church. She also assisted with many of the events organized by the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary.

Lee was known by her family, friends, and community as a kind heart who would open her heart and home to anyone who needed. She had many rescue dogs during her life and took pride in ensuring their care. Lee enjoyed socializing with her friends in Poolesville and could be seen at many of the community events. When not at community events, Lee loved having her family and friends over for dinner or to enjoy time in her swimming pool.



Leona J. Nelson



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Continued from page 22.

PHS Boys' Tennis Sweeps to Division II Title

"I have been playing tennis at PHS for three years," said number three singles Surya Padmanabhan. "In the match against Blake, Patrick and I were the last two matches, and we both had to win them. I won my match and Patrick won his, and we clinched that division match.

"It has been great with Mr. Lang. He put us through a lot of drills that have helped us in both doubles and singles and has really motivated us when we needed it most. I would like to give a shout out to Daniel Fong, our other captain; he, along with Coach Lang, have done a great job of motivating us.

"I think the Quince Orchard match was the best match for us as a team because it came down to the last match

which was our first doubles match. Both teams were on the sidelines cheering on their own teams, and in the end we came out on top."

"It's been a great year of tennis for the boys," said Coach Lang. "I've enjoyed working with them in practice and loved watching them compete in the matches. Many of our players were able to win matches by rallying from behind which is a testament to their will to battle and to compete point by

point. Going undefeated in Division II is a highlight of the season, but with the team we have, we are looking forward to making some noise in the region tournament which starts May 16."

Boys' tennis alternates are junior William Xu and freshmen Raghav Haridas, Philip Huang, Ziyang Ahmed, and Akash Raghav. All of the alternates were able to play and win matches this year for the Falcons.

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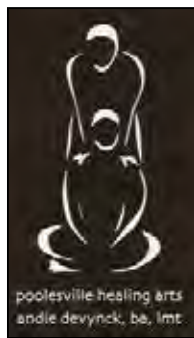
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Celebrating 30 Years of Service

A Brief History of Veterinary Medicine: Part 3

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

By the eighteenth century, the Age of Enlightenment provided the advance of reason and scientific investigation over superstition. For the first time in over 500 years, rejection of religious dogma in favor of the scientific method for understanding nature and our world became accepted. This promoted a rapid expansion of medicine both for animals and humans.

John Ray and Francis Willoughby led the way for scientific study of animals and plants. Carl Linnaeus established the binomial nomenclature classification system in his *Systema Naturae* in 1740.

As society and social complexity expanded the role of medicine to treat and protect animals that were increasingly being used for transportation, farming, and food sources, it made Veterinary Sciences of paramount importance economically, socially, and militarily.

Twenty veterinary schools had opened in Europe. The crude veterinary medicine practiced for centuries by people called marshals, cow leechers, or farriers, all who learned their quack habits from their fathers or indentured apprentices, was soon to fall away. Education in universities that provided students with examinations and credentialing provided a rapid expansion in the veterinary field.

The world's first veterinary school of modern times was opened in Lyon, France, in 1762, with Claude Bourgelat, a veterinary practitioner who used the scientific method for understanding disease, as the first director. Students from many European countries were sent to learn and bring back the most current knowledge. The Veterinary College of London (now the Royal Veterinary College) was established in 1791. It is interesting to note that the first modern school of human clinical medicine providing instruction for future human physicians did not open until 1794 in Paris, France.

During the nineteenth century, the principals of microbial disease were established thanks to pioneers like Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch. Rudolf Virchow defined the cell as the basic unit of life.

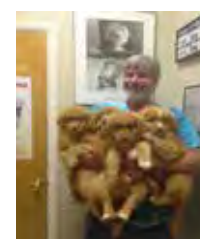
In North America, the Ontario Veterinary College, in Guelph, Canada first began teaching veterinary students in 1862, followed by Iowa State University in 1879.

Veterinary medicine absorbed the rapid advances of clinical methods, antibiotics, advance pharmacology, biology, and molecular medicine as the twentieth century came to a close. In the twenty-first century, veterinary medicine is now part of a critical global community of all types of professionals working together in the One Medicine principle with the United Nations to understand bio-security and the complete web of interaction of nature in this biosphere we call Earth.



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