

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

December 11, 2020 • Volume XVI, Number 18



Mary Sears, Anne Beers, and Tookie Gentlecore volunteered at the annual Our Lady of the Presentation Christmas Tree Sale and Festival. More pictures on page 2.



Nathan Smith White, 1817-1888, is profiled in Foundations on page 10.



Sam Hardwick had two things to smile about. You'll never know what unless you turn to Tidbits on page 12.



New PHS volleyball coach, Michele Naughton, returns to her roots. Youth Sports on page 14 has the Q&A.

Personnel Issues Remain Unresolved as Commission Meets

By Link Hoewing

The investigation into the actions of the Town Manager and their effects on town staff continued to preoccupy the Town of Poolesville commissioners at their December 7 meeting. The investigation by an outside "human resources" attorney was acknowledged by the commission president, Kerri Cook, and it is apparently going to be considered in an executive session scheduled to occur after the public meeting.

At the outset of the meeting, Cook noted that she wanted to revisit the assignments of commissioners to be *ex officio* members that she had made at the November 16 meeting. She said she thought she was following procedures that she had seen used by previous commissions in making the initial appointments. At that time, she had announced the appointments

without seeking the approvals of the other commissioners. This time, she asked each commissioner if they wanted to accept the appointment and, once they agreed, called for a vote.

As a result, some changes in the *ex officio* commission and board memberships were made. In particular, Commissioner Jim Brown was reinstated as a member of the Fair Access Committee (FAC). Cook took herself off that board and announced she would be the *ex officio* member of the Events Committee. Commissioner Ed Reed is also a member of the FAC as well as the Sustainable Poolesville Committee. Commissioner Martin Radigan will serve on the Planning Commission. Commissioner Jeff Eck was selected to serve on the Parks Board.

Immediately after the board appointments, a special event honoring

the twenty-four-year service of former Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski was held. A host of officials appeared to praise Klobukowski's work and years of service, including Councilmember Andrew Friedson, State Del. Lily Qi, Glen Echo Mayor Willem Polak, Jake Adler, an aid to Western Montgomery County Director Catherine Mathews who could not attend, Ryan Snow, an aid to Gov. Larry Hogan, and local residents Lynne, Ethan, and John Rolls. Klobukowski was praised for his passion for serving, his work on education issues for years, and his recent work helping promote the U.S. Census. He was also praised and thanked by all of his commissioner colleagues. The *Monocle* plans to publish a special article focused on Klobukowski's service in a later issue.

Continued on page 5.

Fifty Years Ago

By Jon Wolz

Fifty years ago, on December 15, 1970, the United States Senate, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs met to discuss S. 1859 and H.R. 19342 which authorized the establishment of the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal National Historical Park. Sen. Alan S. Bible was the chairman of the subcommittee, and he presided over nine other senators. Forty-five people testified that day. All but a few spoke as to why the park should become a National Historical Park. Only a few western Maryland landowners opposed the idea. The first four people to testify included Maryland Sen. Charles "Mac" Mathias, Jr., Maryland Congressman Gilbert Gude, Eagle Scout Jon Wolz (myself), and Life Scout Mark Stover. Other notable

Continued on page 17.



Congressmen Gilbert Gude and J. Glenn Beall, with Cub Scout Charles Stover and Eagle Scout Jon Wolz, during testimony promoting the designation of the C&O Canal as a National Historic Park. Charles Stover presented the committee members with C&O Canal Boy Scout patches.

Family Album



To those braving the cold weather to come out and buy a tree or Christmas item, Alex Murphy and Dee Jordan offered free hot dogs.



Chris and Tina Falconi with Destiny Murray handled wreath and roping sales.



The Choinski family picked out their tree with the help of Joe Truppo and Lalon Kasuske.



The Reyes family eyed some Christmas items during the church's Christmas Festival.

Happy Holiday Season

FROM

ANYART Solutions LLC

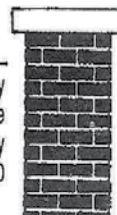
business.art.technology



DESIGNING FOR PRINT & WEB

— your Design Team for the Monocle

301.602.4367 ■ sales@anyartsolutions.com ■ www.anyartsolutions.com



A Full Service Chimney Company Dedicated to Safe & Energy Efficient Chimney Systems Since 1980

Sugarloaf Chimney Restoration

JERRY C. NEAL
President

301-972-8558

Chimney Experts to our Nation's White House and Your House
Lining & Restoration, Cleaning, Draft & Venting Problems, Masonry Repair & Waterproofing, Exhaust Fans, Smoke & Odor Problems, Animal Removal
sugarloafchimney.com



Monocacy Equine Veterinary Associates, P.A.

Richard J. Forfa, DVM, DABVP
Peter J. O'Halloran, DVM

Complete 24 hr Equine Health Care:

- Hospital Facility
- Digital Radiology & Lameness Exams
- Emergency & Intensive Care
- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Complete Reproductive Services
- Pre-Purchase Examinations
- In-House Farrier Service (therapeutic shoeing)
- Preventative Health Care (vaccinations & dentistry)



301-607-4025 www.monocacyequine.com

S&S IMPROVMENTS "PLUS" INC.



NO JOB TOO SMALL
HANDY MAN SERVICES

301-748-2670

Bathroom and kitchen remodeling, replacement windows and doors, replace rotten trim, light plumbing, toilets, shower doors, & much more
LICENSED AND INSURED MHIC 67678

Garden

Gifts of the Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

Usually, my late-November/early-December garden article is about holiday gifts for the gardener. As this issue is coming out on December 11, there is not much time to visit garden centers or order gifts online. You could always take a picture of the item and place it in a box wrapped in a red ribbon with the greeting, "Coming soon to your garden." Let me make a few suggestions of my favorite, essential garden gifts.

Tools. Everyone needs the right tools for the right job. These are mine.

Felco #2 hand pruning shear. I believe that they are the best on the market. The classic Felco design has remained unchanged for over forty years. They are sharp, smooth, easy to repair, and with their bright red handle, easy to find. It may be the last pruner you ever buy. I have had my two pairs for many years. They handle cutting jobs from delicate perennials, roses, to thick shrub stems.

Joyce Chen Scissors. These are your ultimate scissors, ready for any job. They were designed by Chinese American chef, restaurateur, television personality, and entrepreneur Joyce Chen over thirty years ago for use in the kitchen. Over time, they have evolved as the favorite tool of professional chefs, horticulturists, and craftspeople. Torque engineering allows you to cut through thick poultry and fish bones with ease, while they are delicate enough to use in the garden to prune roses, delicate herbs, perennials, and just about anything else. They come in the colors red, blue, yellow, and white. I have a blue pair in the kitchen and a red pair in my garden tote bag. At only six inches long, they are the only scissors you need.

Japanese Garden Swoe. Its triple-edged head is offset and tilted for easy weeding around and behind plants and vegetables in tight areas. The push-pull action ensures weeds will be severed from their roots, leaving your planted area free of weeds. It is my go-to weeder tool.

Hori-Hori Garden Knife. A heavy serrated multi-purpose steel blade for gardening jobs such as digging or cutting. It comes with a thick leather sheath to safely store this very sharp tool.

Garden Gloves. You can't work in your garden without good gloves. I keep several pairs in my garden bag, each having a different use. My favorite one for working with thorny rose bushes is made of goatskin and comes up to my elbows. It is resistant to abrasions, punctures, and nasty thorns. I have another pair that is waterproof and lighter to the feel for handling tiny seeds and seedlings.

Now, you need a bag to carry all these tools as you work in your garden. My favorite is my mid-size canvas tote with several exterior and interior pockets. No need to take everything out to find the small Joyce Chen scissors.

Books. There are many gardening books on the market covering everything from how-to manuals, roses, herbs, landscaping, shrubs, perennials, and trees. I have several shelves in the library full of them. Today, I am going to recommend just two: one was published in 1979 and the other one in March 2020.

The first one, *Onward and Upward in the Garden*, was written by Katherine S. White. She began working at *The New Yorker* in 1925, the year of its founding, and was editor there for thirty-four years. In 1958, she wrote the first of a series of fourteen garden pieces that appeared in *The New Yorker* over the next twelve years. Here, she explored the long history and rich literature of gardening and delighted her readers with well-written and often amusing comments on everything from garden catalogues, the Changing Rose, the Enduring Cabbage, Flower Arrangers, to her strong views on marigolds, ruffled petunias, snapdragons, to houseplants. In 1979, her husband E.B. White published the collected essays in the series. Even though these were written sixty-two years ago, this essential book has an enduring appeal for writers and gardeners in every generation; it is timeless. I have owned this book for many years, but I often go back



Spencer and Winston offer a lot of great garden gift ideas.





Keeping Poolesville Moving and Moving Responsibly!

Moving to a new home means cleaning up and cleaning out. You can help our environment by following these tips!

- Compost your yard waste. Return to Mother Nature!
- Breaking down cardboard boxes and recycling them produces 50% less sulfur dioxide than new box production, reduces environmental impact and saves landfill space!
- Start early with this one when decluttering: Sell, gift or donate lightly-used items.
- Use eco-friendly packing materials. Also pack up with what you have on hand---suitcases, laundry bins and trash cans!



BUY OR SELL WITH ME, USE MY TRUCKS, TRAILERS, AND DUMPSTER FOR FREE---ENVIRONMENTALLY!

CALL OR TEXT JIM
301-221-1988

THE HARDEST WORKING MAN IN LOCAL REAL ESTATE 

BROKER 001.831.8232

Don Hoffacker's Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.

"We have been top rated by a local, prominent consumer group"

Residential Sales & Services



- Free estimates
- Quality service
- Prompt service
- Family operated since 1977

SUPER SERVICE AWARD WINNER 2007-2015! 

<http://www.angieslist.com>

**19703 Waters Road
Germantown, MD 20874**

301-972-0017

<http://www.donhoffacker.com>

Continued on page 8.

Rande(m) Thoughts Moving Forward Together

By Rande Davis

After articles about town matters in our previous issue ignited online controversies, a basic question now becomes: Where do we go from here? I am certain a positive response will be achieved should the commissioners share an understanding of and adherence to the value of our commission-style form of governance. Specifically, this form of government seeks to avoid the pitfalls of coalition government, best understood as party politics. That our commission has not been defined by the standard political dividing lines—Republican/Democrat, left/right, Liberal/Conservative—blends well with our most fundamental goal to maintain the ambience of a small town. Admittedly, we still have to work on the “old-time resident versus new resident” contention a bit more.

So much of the errors made more recently and in the past by town commission presidents stem from an understandable yet regrettable misreading of their power and role. After all, having a mayor or chief executive officer is what most of us have experienced in local government.

There is a reason why the president is not officially called mayor: It is not an executive position. I think the confusion over the authority of the president stems partly from that title itself. The leader of Poolesville’s Board of Commissioners should be more aptly called Chair or Chairperson. Perhaps being titled as a COB would better describe the powers of the leader and give a clearer emphasis on the value of commission-style governance that avoids overreach by the commission leader.

This newspaper had its origins sixteen years ago in large part as a reaction to an ongoing barrage of attacks on the volunteer commissioners. We have dedicated our pages to strengthening a sense of community and pride in Poolesville as central themes, yet our mandate is not simply as a cheerleader but as a newspaper, so there have been times when we have taken community leaders to task. This recent episode in which we felt obligated to bring to the public’s attention to egregious actions by those in power was not our first time as a newspaper in doing so nor will it be our last. Most importantly, the information provided was not in any

way personal, and my only regret is that, for a few folks online, there was a departure from focusing on decisions made. That public reaction, however, is all too human just as were the misjudgments reported.

The objective in writing my column focusing on specific negative events comes from a process I learned to appreciate while in the army. When it comes to evaluations, the army has a process they call After Action Review (AAR). After any action or mission, the army performs extremely diligent and effective analysis, focusing on what worked, what didn’t, and how to do it better. Where mistakes are made, the keys to growth and improvement are frankness, honesty, focusing on actions and decisions made, not on personalities. The process is professional, not personal. Of course, this rigorous process can be hard on participants, but the need for preventing future errors and improving performance is essential. In the army, a successful and tough AAR is critical. Lives can depend on it. In a way, the AAR gives a different meaning to the phrase Army Tough.

Were my observations and report on Commissioner Cook tough? Yes, but with the intention of seeking correction. I have no proof other than my personal conscience for those who wrote accusing me of misogyny. I am comfortable in knowing my heart. I did not hold negative feelings toward Ms. Cook for being female. The proof is that I have taken male commissioners to task in the past as well. I believe the reason we have not had to do so more often is to the credit of our commission-style process. By avoiding coalition government processes which tend to build walls of division, an us-versus-them mentality, our process moves the power away from individuals to the group as a whole, resulting in a more resilient and congenial conclusion.

The reason so many of our commission votes on matters of substance in the past have been unanimous or near unanimous is that the commission system fosters open communication, transparency, extensive debate and discussion, with motions of adjustment along the way, so that when a final vote comes, a unified decision is reached. This is so much more conducive to a small town than the top-down power structure of a mayoral system.

I was glad when my column concerning events at the commissioner meeting sparked concern and debate. I was not pleased, though, with some of the uncalled-for harshness in subsequent debate either toward Kerri Cook

or myself. We will continue with our mission to promote community spirit while bringing straight news, and when we have to be critical, it will be in the spirit of the U.S. Army’s After-Action Review. Can I get a hooah?

Note of Correction: When FDR said that December 7, 1941 is a “day that will live in infamy,” he never thought he’d come up against someone like Rande Davis. In my otherwise heartfelt article about Sonny Marsh’s World War II experience in the November 20 *Monocle*, I had Pearl Harbor on a Monday but, most egregiously, in 1942. I really did know better. Crazy, I know. Still, when I googled to determine the exact day of the week, I typed in 1942 not 1941, and there it was: Monday! Oops! The string of errors began right there, and now I stand humiliated but, more importantly, corrected by many of our patriotic *Monocle* readers.

Fun Fact...

Hooah is a battle cry used by soldiers in the U.S. Army, airmen in the U.S. Air Force, and space professionals in the U.S. Space Force. Originally spelled “Hough,” the battle cry was first used by members of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment during the Second Seminole War in 1841, after Seminole Chief Coacoochee toasted officers of the regiment with a loud “Hough!”—apparently a corruption of “How d’ye do!” Since WWII, the word has been widely used throughout the U.S. Army and gained a more general meaning of “anything and everything except ‘no.’” It is comparable to “oorah” which the United States Marine Corps uses.

www.wikipedia.com

Do you or someone you know have a special announcement, or milestone you would like to share with our readers?

The *Monocle* welcomes your contribution.

Send to editor@monocacymonocle.com

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

Published and Edited by
John Clayton and Rande Davis

John Clayton
Production
Financial
301.349.0071
jclayton@monocacymonocle.com

Rande Davis
Advertising
Circulation
301.509.9232
rdavis@monocacymonocle.com

Dominique Agnew
Copyediting
dqagnew@gmail.com

editor@monocacymonocle.com
advertising@monocacymonocle.com
www.monocacymonocle.com

Monocacy Press, LLC
John Clayton, President
Rande Davis, Vice President
P.O. Box 372
Barnesville, MD 20838-0372
301.349.0071

Contributing Writers

Link Hoewing
linkhoe@aol.com
Maureen O’Connell
mafoconnell@msn.com
Tor Ofsthun
torofsthun@yahoo.com
Susan Petro
bsusan424@gmail.com
Kenny Sholes
kcs7110@gmail.com
Jeffrey S. Stuart
sark10@juno.com
Jack Toomey
jackt21262@aol.com
Jon Wolz
wolzjon@hotmail.com
Andrew Sojka
Student Reporter, PHS News
andrewsojka2021@gmail.com

Contributing Photographer

Terri Pitts
terri.pitts@gmail.com

Layout and Graphics
AnyArt Solutions LLC
sales@AnyArtSolutions.com

Fun Facts Contributor
Laura Muncy
laura@AnyArtSolutions.com

The *Monocacy Monocle* is a publication of Monocacy Press, LLC which is solely responsible for its content. Monocacy Press, LLC does not espouse any specific political viewpoint, and any opinions expressed in the *Monocle* are those of the author unless otherwise indicated. The *Monocle* does not endorse any product or service and is not responsible for any claims by advertisers. Articles and letters submitted for publication must be signed and may be edited for length or content. The *Monocle* is not responsible for unsolicited material. All contents of this publication are protected by copyright and may not be reproduced in whole or in part for any reason without prior consent of Monocacy Press, LLC.

Continued from page 1.

Personnel Issues Remain Unresolved as Commission Meets

During the announcements segment of the meeting, Brown mentioned that the FAC had been engaged in an ongoing dialog with the county's school planners about the options they are considering regarding the construction of a new high school. Brown said the committee had learned that the option the planners are focused on would result in the elimination of the old gym and would retain a significant portion of the old school building. The proposed plan would not include the construction of a new gym either; as a result, students would have less practice and playing space than they do now, and the already undersized "new" gym would remain without any expansion or modernization.

Working with Councilmember Friedson, the committee has been able to get the school system's planners to revisit their proposal and, while there are no guarantees, it appears they are looking at retaining the old gym and, at the very least, modernizing the existing new gym.

Brown also said he had been approached by the owners of the Donegan Property, where Tractor Supply and CVS are located. They are now thinking about trying to develop a project on their property that would result in the construction of a senior living complex of some sort. Brown said that suggests they most likely no longer believe that any commercial project, such as the idea of a 7-11, is likely to be viable. Brown told them they had to work with the town's procedures and to contact the town manager who would ultimately help them present their ideas for the consideration of the Planning Commission.

During the public comments phase of the meeting, several citizens appeared to offer comments. Alicia Micozzi, who lives in Bethesda but has long been familiar with our area, appeared to say that the recent farmers' markets on the commons had been a success, and she and others are planning to grow the event next year. She thanked Cook for being a supporter and promoter.

Local citizen Dan Levine appeared next. He wanted to recognize the town staff and was concerned about the ongoing "drama between our town manager and the staff." He said that "when you do the job, people are going to hold you accountable." He deplored what he sees as a "hostile work environment."

Cook said she feels the "public recognizes that we just don't have a human resources system in place" in the town government and, as a result, the town had to hire an outside attorney with expertise in human relations to examine the situation. She said that "we have no real employee rights protections" in the town's employment system and—in an apparent reference to the so-far "non-public" investigation of the town manager—said that "there is no such thing as public information when it comes to HR." Radigan added that the issues are being dealt with, and "employees say things are getting better."

Local citizen Marc Polson appeared to express his concerns about the negativity he is seeing on facebook and in local media regarding the town's personnel issues. He urged everyone to "support decency"; transparency is critical as the issues are debated.

Commissioner Jeff Eck reacted to the discussion by saying that "town residents asked about negative information" in town government, and he wondered whether "we are going to come up with answers" for the citizens. Town Attorney Jay Gullo responded that the commissioners were going to consider the matters in question at an executive session to be held right after the meeting.

Poolesville Plumbing & Heating Co., INC.

- Kitchen and bath remodeling
- New construction
- Repairs
- Toilet and faucet repair replacements
- Water heaters
- Gas piping
- Water and sewer replacements

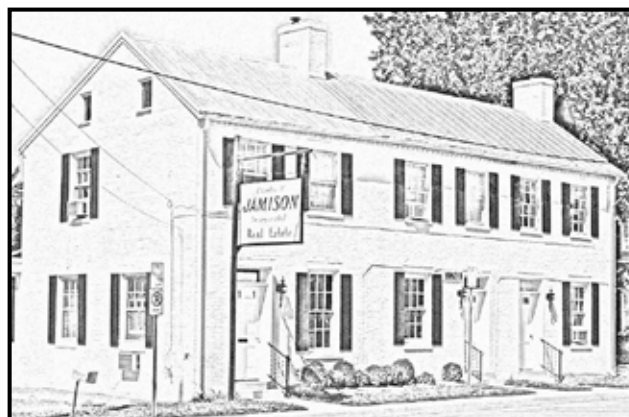


W.S.S.C. 464

20015 Wootton Ave., Poolesville, Maryland 20837

(301)972-7309

Fax (301)407-0742



YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERTS SINCE 1950

BRIAN JAMISON 301-788-8817

CHARLIE JAMISON 240-744-2690

FRANK JR JAMISON 240-793-4309



**19939 Fisher Avenue
Poolesville, MD 20837
Broker/Office 301-428-8200**



Locally-owned for 17 years!

**Ask us
about fall
cleanups and
fertilizations**

*"The most reliable service
from consultation to installation"*

- Landscape design
- Installation & maintenance
- Licensed fertilization
- Weed control and turfgrass maintenance
- Hand pruning of shrubs & trees

**Contact: David Bowen
301-536-3385**

MDA28129, MDA-F 1441



Senior News

Poolesville Seniors Host a Variety of Virtual Programs For the Community

Are you ready for activities to spark your interest in exercising, socializing, and learning new information? Then visit the Poolesville Seniors website, poolesvilleseniors.org, to see their schedule of virtual programs. These Zoom presentations are open to the entire community.

Mondays

Tai-Chi with Maureen Ivusic, 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays

Chair Yoga with Twyla Insalaco. 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. No class December 30.

Zumba Gold with Karen McPhatter. 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday, December 11

Songs of the Season Family Sing-a-Long

Poolesville resident, Rick Normoyle, returns to fill us with the holiday spirit

as we join him in singing seasonal songs. 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 12 **Rescheduled Event**

Latrobe Quarry Walk

Jon Wolz will lead a walk along the Latrobe Quarry. Mask required. Consult the Poolesville Seniors website for directions to the quarry and other important information. 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 17

Historic Properties of the Ag Reserve

Kenny Sholes continues his series with information about historical properties from the Agricultural Reserve. 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 7

Unlocking Treasures in the Library

Sharat Buddhavarapu, a librarian with the Maggie Nightingale Library in Poolesville, will talk about information and services available through the library. He will also demonstrate how to navigate their website to access the information. 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 12

2nd Tuesday Lunch Bunch

The topic will be: Getting back on track

Continued on page 7.

HILL'S HOME & Hearth PLUMBING & HEATING

PLUMBING SERVICES PROVIDED:

Repair or Replace Faucets, Sinks, Toilets, Garbage Disposals, Sump Pumps, Water Heaters, and Outside Faucets.

INSTALLATION OF WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS:
Water Softeners, UV Light Systems, and Neutralizers.

Sales, Service, and Repair
of Gas Fireplaces

ALL MAJOR CREDITS CARDS ACCEPTED

JAMES HILL 301-788-0445

Master Plumber/Gasfitter

Licensed & Insured



Monocacy Cemetery

Monocacy Cemetery introduces a unique new burial option located in the center of our scenic property. It's called "Cedar Lane."

This tranquil, tree-lined pathway offers an opportunity for individual burial sites lined with regulated, common-sized ground markers so the pathway view remains unobstructed. Each individual site accommodates one urn. Adjacent sites are available for family members at time of purchase.

Introductory Price – \$1,000 per site
Email monocacycemetery@gmail.com for details.

19801 West Hunter Road, Beallsville, MD 20839



www.monocacycemetery.com

Continued from page 6.

Poolesville Seniors Offers a Variety of Virtual Programs for the Community

in the New Year. What can we do to stick to our New Year's resolutions? Grab your lunch and let's talk about it on Zoom. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 14

The Golden Years of Washington

Former *Washington Post* columnist, Bob Levey, reminisces about his experiences with the *Post*. He will also discuss his new novel, Larry Felder, Candidate, about a longtime journalist who runs for Congress.

Did you miss one of Poolesville Seniors programs? Many of their presentations were recorded and are available with a YouTube link from their website.

To register for the programs listed above and to receive the Zoom link for each, visit poolesvilleseniors.org. If the registration information for the event you're interested in isn't there now, check back closer to the program date. To be added to their email list or for questions email: info@poolesvilleseniors.org. To receive a hard copy of their monthly newsletter, call 301-875-7701.

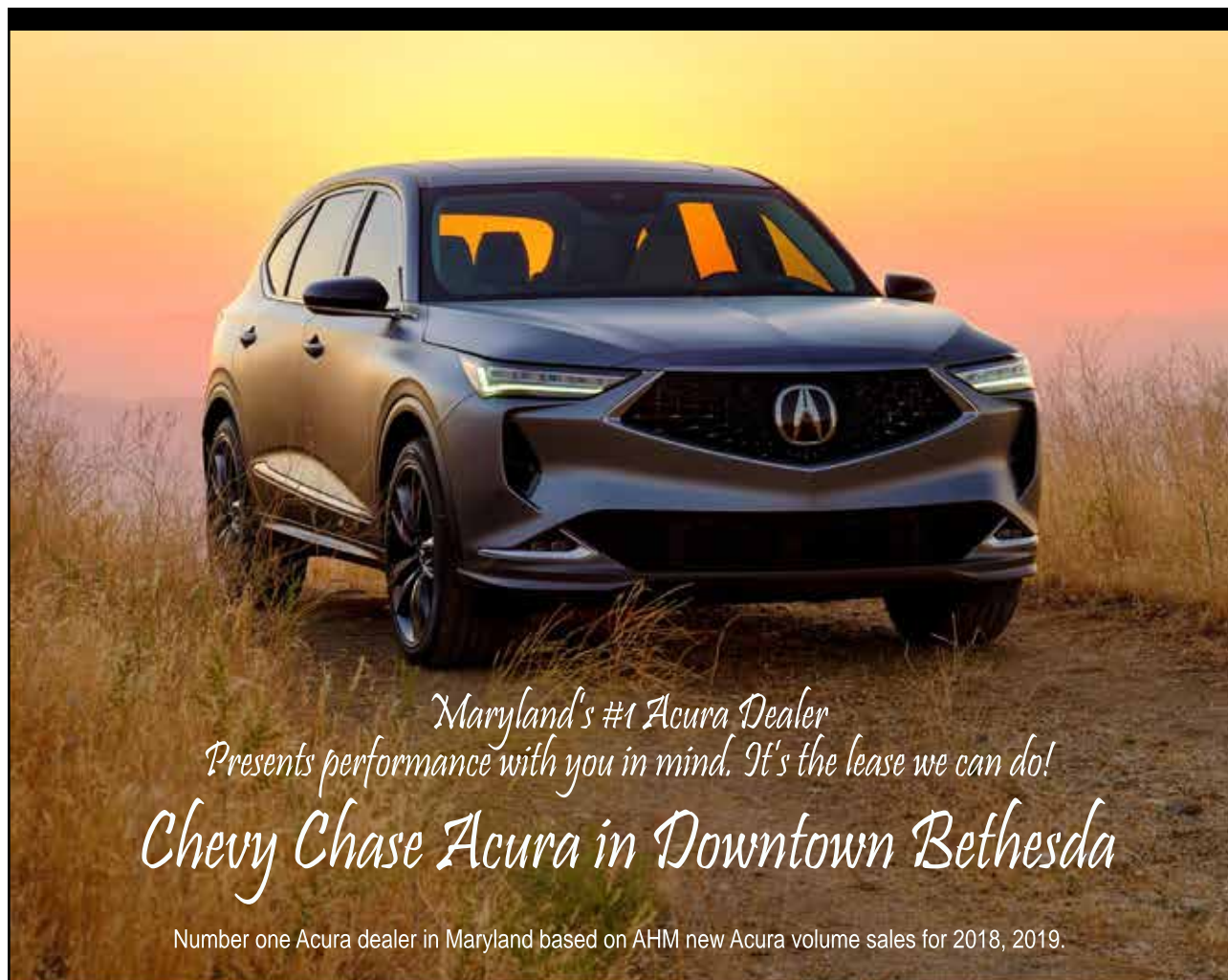
Fun Fact...

December is the twelfth month (and last month) in our modern-day Gregorian calendar (as it was in the preceding Julian calendar).

It was originally the tenth month of the Roman calendar (until 153 BCE); hence, "December" comes from the Latin word *decem*, meaning "ten."

During the Roman Empire, the calendar only had ten months and began with March. The winter period was not even assigned months because it was not an active time for military, agriculture, or civil life.

The month of December originally consisted of thirty days. When January and February were added to the calendar (around 700 BCE), December was shortened to twenty-nine days. Then, in the subsequent Julian calendar, two days were added to December, making it thirty-one days long. www.almanac.com



*Maryland's #1 Acura Dealer
Presents performance with you in mind. It's the lease we can do!*
Chevy Chase Acura in Downtown Bethesda

Number one Acura dealer in Maryland based on AHM new Acura volume sales for 2018, 2019.



Bethesda Detailers
*Check out all our vehicle appearance services online
at www.BethesdaDetailers.com
a prized division of Chevy Chase Acura
in Downtown Bethesda*

Continued from page 3.

Gifts of the Garden

to it to delight in its beautiful writing, gardening thoughts and tips, and her contagious enthusiasm in growing things.

The second book, *The Incredible Journey of Plants*, is a book of a different nature. Written by neurobiologist Stefano Mancuso, it explores the fascinating stories of plant migration that reveal the unexpected connection between nature and culture. Much of the book is about how plants have been transported around the globe. For example, you will learn why avocados have large seeds and how they evolved with mastodons.

Plants are always a welcome gift to a gardener. Most garden centers carry the usual holiday plants: poinsettias, Christmas cacti, Cyclamen, Amaryllis, and Paper Whites. For something a little bit different, consider orchids and bonsai trees. Orchids are easier to grow than you think. Moth orchids are the most popular, but the Lady Slippers are exquisite. I have a bonsai fig tree that I have been growing for forty years. I bought it in Maui, and I remember carefully carrying it back home on my lap on the airplane. One month ago, I bought another bonsai, a Fukien Tea Tree. He is only twelve years old, but he is doing quite well. Next year, I shall have an article on Bonsai for Beginners. Might be a new gardening hobby for you for the new year.

Do we need more things? As many of us have more time now at home, many have turned to gardening, so maybe garden things are good and essential things. Since March and the various stages of restrictions, our gardens have become our place of calm and refuge. As spring rolled into summer, summer to fall, and fall into winter, I only sometimes looked at my calendar—often the days were the same—but time does not stop in the garden; everything there is normal.

COVID-19 affects everyone in different ways. We who live in Monocacy Country Agricultural Reserve have the beauty and abundant outdoor space for escape. There are many people who live in crowded houses and apartments with many family members in crowded towns and cities. Many people have lost their parents, partners, relatives, and friends. They have lost their jobs and income. Many businesses struggle to survive and face the possibility of going out

of business. We have all fallen through the cracks of life before, but we now live in suspended time. We miss the comforting routine of everyday society. We will winter over and cross into 2021 with new hope. As I have said many times, gardens are cyclical and live in a state of constant evolution, so too do we. We have sadly seen how easily the semblance of normal human life can be overturned. Like gardens, we are all part of the seasons.

I join Spencer and Winston in offering all my readers best wishes for the holidays and the coming new year.

—The Gardener

Do you have a garden-related topic you would like to read about?
The Monocle welcomes your suggestions.
Send to editor@monocacymonocle.com

COTTAGE FOR RENT

Two bedrooms, den, 1½-bath cottage nestled on the 28-acre grounds of Sanctuary Retreat Center in Beallsville. Electric included – you pay for oil heat/propane. \$1600 per month. Occupancy beginning after January 15, 2021. If interested, please contact the office at 301-349-2799, or email admin@am-kolel.org.



THE PRICE OF BEING BLUE

The Challenges of Policing in an Age of Reform

Between the challenges brought by a global pandemic to the protests and violence triggered by the death for George Floyd in Minneapolis, 2020 has been a year of great challenges for many Americans. But perhaps none have been more challenged than law enforcement officers. At the same time their help is needed to provide aid due to COVID and their protection is needed during violent protests, their own lives and careers have never been in greater jeopardy. According to the "Officer Down Memorial Page", law enforcement deaths are up 90% from 2019. From Los Angeles to Minnesota and Maryland, law enforcement officers are being targeted for violence simply for wearing their uniform.

What's it like to be a law enforcement officer in this age of reform? How has the situation changed since the onset of COVID and the arrest of George Floyd? How can we best create an environment that is safe and just for all citizens, irrespective of racial background? This panel event will ask law enforcement representatives, family members and retired officers to give us insight into these and other questions.

About Our Speakers

Torrie L. Cooke is President of Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 35, which covers Montgomery County, Maryland.



Paul Kozich is a retired Arlington County Police Officer and former instructor at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy.



Heather Najjar is the mother of a Montgomery County Police Officer and a Doctor of Nursing Practice for Johns Hopkins Medicine.



December 15th, 2020 at 8PM ET via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83919467354>

Conference Dial-In: +1 301 715 8592 US, Meeting ID: 839 1946 7354



Knights of Columbus Council #6901
Donald J. Patti, Grand Knight

Pike & Valega, DDS
Exceptional dentistry for healthy, beautiful smiles

19601 Fisher Avenue
 Poolesville, MD 20837



Dr. D. Timothy Pike
 Honored Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and recipient of the Paul Johnson Service Award (www.AAID-implant.org)

Caring for your friends and neighbors since 1988. Innovation and exceptional care is our standard. We invite you to join our family of patients and experience commitment to excellent patient care.

CALL US TODAY!
(301) 972-7000



Dr. Margaret A. Valega
 Dean's Faculty at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry

- Dental Implants
- Crowns and Bridges
- Porcelain Veneers
- Mouthguards for Sports or Teeth Grinding
- Accepting Insurance
- 7:00 am Appointments Available
- Over 100+ 5-Star Reviews on Healthgrades.com
- Teeth Whitening
- Tooth-Colored Fillings
- Laughing Gas Available
- Financing Options

www.PoolesvilleDDS.com

J Clayton Homes

John Clayton, REALTOR®
 301-461-8840
 John.Clayton@LNF.com
 www.jclaytonhomes.com



Some Year-End Thoughts from Long and Foster Real Estate

While 2020 has been an incredibly challenging year, housing turned out as a bright spot. Despite the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, homeownership rates rose to 67.4% in the third quarter, up from 64.8% the same period in 2019.

The fundamentals are in place for a continued strong housing market in 2021, particularly with expectations that mortgage rates will remain around 3%. Here are a few more of our predictions for the year ahead.

Home prices will rise. The law of supply and demand will drive prices higher, with 5% to 6% increases predicted on average.

Affordability will remain mostly positive. Low mortgage rates will offset rising prices, increasing the number of households who can afford to buy a home.

Inventory challenges will continue. While builders are expected to construct homes at a faster pace in 2021, there's still a gap between demand and supply for new and existing homes.

Increased teleworking will influence housing. People will continue to work from home, affecting where they're shopping for homes and what they're looking for in those properties.

Technology remains critical. Virtual tours, remote closings and video conferencing kept real estate moving in 2020, and virtual buying and selling will continue to lead the way in 2021.

Whether you're looking to buy, sell or invest in real estate in 2021, I can help. With my partners in mortgage, title, insurance and moving, my Long & Foster family has you covered for all your real estate needs. Happy holidays!

What is your home worth in today's market? Give me a call so we can start planning your next move. I'm licensed in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Follow me online:

- @JClaytonHomes
- www.facebook.com/jclaytonhomes
- www.linkedin.com/in/jclaytonhomes

Helping you make real estate decisions with confidence.



Long and Foster Real Estate, Inc.

12500 Park Potomac Avenue
 Potomac, MD 20854
 301-469-4700 (Office)



**Additions — Kitchens
 Baths — Decks — Porches**



Relentless Service Since 1979

301-831-8776



Design & HOME RENOVATIONS
 DGLiuContractor.com
 25400 Old Hundred Road ~ Dickerson, MD 20842



MHIC: 6812

Foundations

The More Things Change

By Kenneth Sholes

One of the many benefits of the undeveloped Agricultural Reserve land is the ability to observe a landscape today that has experienced little change from how it looked two hundred years ago. On multiple occasions, I've peered out of a historic home's attic window and thought to myself, "This view is the same as the day the home was built." Still, I often find myself wondering what it actually felt like to be on this land long ago. How different from us were the people who lived here in the early 1800s?

About a year ago, while digging into the White Family (a prosperous family in the Ag Reserve throughout the nineteenth century), I came across archive holdings at Duke University of letters written to Nathan Smith White (1817-1888) from friends and family throughout the 1830s. Nathan was the first-born son to Benjamin and Rachel White, prosperous farmers who built the Inverness estate near Dickerson in 1818 (an amazing old home that is still with us).

The letters, written to Nathan primarily while he was a student at Princeton University from 1833 to 1837, paint a vivid image of life on this land two centuries ago.

One topic of consistent discussion in the correspondences is local weather, which makes sense given the White family's source of income. Throughout the 1830s, it seems clear that Nathan's father, Benjamin, repeatedly tried to grow tobacco but was frequently frustrated by the lack of cooperative weather. We know that many of the earliest settlers in the Ag Reserve came to this land in the later part of the 1700s from areas around the Chesapeake in search of fresh soil in which to plant tobacco, but by 1800, wheat was the crop of the day, so it's fascinating to see evidence of Benjamin continuing to try his luck with the crop three decades into the nineteenth century.

While the letters from Nathan's mother and father are more serious in tone and substance—such as Benjamin offering his college freshman son advice on how to handle expenses and maintain study habits in 1833—the letters from

Nathan's brothers and sisters are more informal, frequently highlighting the goings on in the "neighborhood," an often-used reference that seems to apply to the entire area around Dickerson and Barnesville. In January of 1835, we see correspondence from Nathan's brother of a large snowstorm, writing, "The snow is now knee deep and our work remains at a complete stand...The ladies and gentlemen are slaying [sic] about in every direction but have not yet favored us with their company." The incorrectly spelled "slaying" in this case is a reference to being pulled by horses in the snow, not some type of nefarious activity. For Easter in 1836, Nathan's sister wrote to him that "the young people of the neighborhood are going to take an excursion on the mountain at easter [sic] of which I expect to be one among them," a clear reference to Sugarloaf Mountain.

My favorite letter to Nathan came from his father in September of 1837, providing Nathan with advice on how to return home after graduation from Princeton. In the letter, Benjamin stated, "You had better come on to the Point of Rocks with your baggage, and we can send them for it. You could walk down the towpath or get on a boat and come down to lock no. 27 opposite us—and then come home. It is a plain way—the lock keeper can assist you or we must send for you." What's really amazing about this letter is the extent to which you could fairly easily still follow these instructions today, albeit that it is around a nine-mile walk and you would need to skirt the perimeter of the Dickerson Generating Station.

Following Nathan's graduation from Princeton, he went on to Yale Law School before opening his own law practice in Charles Town (now West Virginia, it was then still Virginia) in the 1840s. A successful lawyer, Nathan had two children with his wife, Fredericka. One of these children, Benjamin (named after his grandfather), fought and died as a Confederate soldier in the battle of Chancellorsville on May 3, 1863. It's interesting to consider that Nathan's grandfather is believed to have fought in the Revolutionary War in a bid to help create the nation while his son fought in the Civil War to break it in two.

Nathan and Rebecca, as well as their children, are buried at the Mt. Zion Church cemetery in Charles Town, West Virginia.

For me, the biggest takeaway from these letters is the notion that while times have changed and the world looks very different from the 1800s, the core goals,

Continued on page 15.

Monocacy Custom Services



**Excavating and Landscaping
Stormwater Management**

BRAD BAKER — 301-748-4117

EXCAVATING AND UTILITIES:

Excavation – Demo

Grading – Clearing

Bush Hogging

Large Area Mowing

Stormwater Management

**Pond Installation/
Restoration**

Driveways

Concrete/Asphalt

Septic Repair/Installation

Site Utilities



It's all happening at the Cug!



INSIDE DINING NOW OPEN!

Health and safety are still most important, so we have created some boundaries to provide the safest environment for everyone. Please use the hand sanitizing station at each entrance upon entering. **Bar Use:** High-top table design only. Patrons must stay at each table unless using restroom.



JOIN US IN WATCHING YOUR FAVORITE FOOTBALL TEAM!

CUGINI'S IS YOUR PLACE FOR THE BEST IN LOCAL CRAFT BEER!

Choose from over fifty local craft beers!

Mix and match as you please!

EVERY MONDAY: BOGO
Buy any large pizza, get one large cheese pizza FREE!

301-349-5800 19916 Fisher Ave. Poolesville



Watkins Cabinet Co., Inc.

Over 67 Years in Business and still going strong!

Hand Crafted Custom Cabinetry

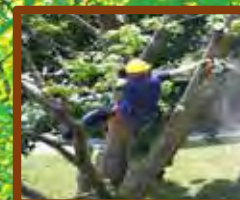
In the market for new cabinetry for your home?

301-428-8510
or
Info@watkinscabinet.com

For all of your Cabinet Needs.
MHIC 12995



**Maryland Tree Expert
Lic. # 118, Fully Insured**



**LEE PEYTON TREE SERVICE
301-208-8235**

**www.leestreeservice.net
FREE ESTIMATES**

- Tree Trimming, Pruning, and Dead Wood Removal
- Tree Removal, including Hazardous Trees
- Lot Cleaning
- Tree Removal by Crane
- Tree Selection and Installation
- Ornamental Tree Care
- Stump Grinding
- Property Evaluation
- Permit Applications
- 24-Hour Emergency Tree Service



FREE Woodchips and unsplit burnable wood delivered FREE to Poolesville, Dickerson, Barnesville, or Beallsville.

Tidbits

Newest Monocle Columnist Turns 30

The *Monocle* is pleased to announce that after the first of the year, Poolesville's Sam Hardwick will become the newspaper's author of the Things to Do (TTD) column. The column has been on hold due to the lack of community events as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. In anticipation of events becoming more prevalent, we look forward to Sam assisting us with this important news feature.

Sam, as a person with muscular dystrophy, is well known throughout the community especially as a high school sports enthusiast and has participated annually in the Special Olympics where he has won medals in bowling. He recently celebrated turning thirty, and his physical therapist, Pat Hess of Poolesville Physical Therapy, hosted a restricted birthday party for him at her offices. Pat has been working with Sam for twenty-seven years.

The Scouting for Food Event Success!



Local scouts collected over 7,000 pounds of food for those in need.

Once again, the local Scouts' collection of donated food from Poolesville residents exceeded the previous years' record. In 2020, 7,035 pounds of food were collected, weighed, and sorted by the local scouts with help from Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and parent volunteers. This was up 285 pounds from last year. There were over ninety adult and youth volunteers working together for this important cause. It was a little more challenging in 2020, having to limit volunteers gathering together to twenty-five per the executive order and to stay socially distanced while completing the task at hand, but the scouts masked up and went to work.

Wolz Receives White Coat

Shirley Wolz recently received her white coat from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine where she is currently a first-year student. She is now a "student-doctor." She graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2020



Shirley Wolz with parents Jon and Patricia Wolz.

Continued on page 16.

KUHLMAN LAWN SERVICE

CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE
FALL AERATION, OVERSEEDING,
LEAF REMOVAL, AND FALL CLEANUPS



301-407-0202







Lawn mowing	Landscape design and installation
Edging and mulching	Fertilization and weed control
Spring and Fall cleanup	Weeding mulch beds
Core aeration and overseeding	Pruning trees and shrubs
Leaf removal	Clearing and brush removal

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

Open Daily: Mon-Fri, 11a.m. Sat-Sun, 9 a.m.
19950 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville, MD 20837



Help us kick off the holiday season with a family-approved drive-in movie!!!

December 19th, Bassett's Parking Lot
Movie times: 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
\$40 per car. To purchase tickets:

[www.eventbrite.com/e/
poolesville-drive-in-movie-night-
tickets-131425875331](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/poolesville-drive-in-movie-night-tickets-131425875331)



A portion of all ticket sales proceeds will be donated to WUMCO to help our communities recover and thrive in these uncertain times.

A New Winter Menu Coming Soon!
Delivery every Friday and Saturday night,
starting at 4pm

www.bassettsrestaurant.net • 301-972-7443



Celebrate Christmas & Welcome the New Year

Sacrament of Confession
Saturdays at 3:15 pm

Christmas Eve:

2:00 pm
4:00 pm
7:00 pm
10:00 pm

Christmas Day:
9 am / 11 am

New Year's Eve: 4:00 pm

New Year's Day: 10:00 am

St Mary's Catholic Church

Barnesville, MD 20838

18230 Barnesville Road 301-972-8660 www.stmaryonline.com

On Facebook at Saint Mary's Parish and Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima

Rev. Kevin O'Reilly, Pastor

David Cahoon, Deacon

Daily Mass: Monday - Friday 9:00 am followed by the Rosary

Confession: Saturday at 3:15 pm



Youth Sports

New Volleyball Coach Michele Naughton, Coming Home

By Jeff Stuart

Michele Naughton took over the Poolesville High School girls' volleyball program this fall, replacing Kristie Fourcade. Taking the job brought her back to Poolesville.

What was your passion/motivation as volleyball coach? Was it the competitive aspect?

My coaching philosophy centers around one thought: "What hurts more, when you hit the floor—or when the ball does?" My high school coach said this to me at the beginning of my senior year, and it has guided not only how I played the game but also how I coach. I expect my players to work hard on and off the court. Academics come first, volleyball comes second. When my players are in the gym, I expect them to be one hundred percent focused on volleyball and equally focused on their coursework. In return, I will work just as hard. I will push them to be better, and I will guide them to resources on campus to help them be successful students. The time management skills student-athletes develop during high school follows them into college as well as their careers post-graduation.

I am committed to player skill development. I keep stats throughout the season to track how my athletes are performing in each skill: passing, setting, serving, and hitting. I also have my players' individual and team goals for the season. The team comes to a consensus on the team goals, and we post them in the gym as a reminder of where we are heading this season, and to help keep the season in perspective. I define a successful team as one which improves its playing from the start of the season to the end of the season. A team trusts each other to get the job done. A team will compete for every single point until the final whistle blows. If they do that, the wins will come naturally.

I expect my players to go after everything and to never give up on the ball. If you think you can't get there, then you can't. You have already lost, but if you go after everything, you will be amazed at what you can accomplish. "What hurts more, when you hit the floor or when the ball does?" At the mid-point of the season, we check in on our goals and adjust as needed so that our goals are attainable by the end of the season. This helps the team remember that they are working towards something at the end of the season and gives them the opportunity to have a sense of accomplishment when their goals have been met.

Prior to becoming coach at Poolesville, what was your coaching experience?

My very first coaching job was as the JV coach at Poolesville. Fran Duvall, my high school coach, was still coaching at Poolesville, and I reached out to her after I graduated from college to see if she needed assistance with the season. She needed a JV coach that season. I stepped in for the fall 2003-2004 seasons. I haven't stopped coaching since. I have coached at the collegiate level (Shepherd University, Simmons College, and Bentley University) as well as at the club level with Pumas Volleyball Club in Andover, Massachusetts and with Platform Volleyball Club here in Damascus. I also coached at Mystic Valley Regional Charter School in Malden, Massachusetts for four seasons.

Where did you play volleyball?

I played all four years at Poolesville High School, on both the girls' and co-ed teams as a setter. I graduated from the Global Ecology Studies Program in 1999. I also played all four years of college at Randolph-Macon Women's College in Lynchburg, Virginia as a setter and defensive specialist.

What do or did you try to teach your players besides volleyball?

I have a deep passion for volleyball and want to share that passion with the next generation. I also believe that volleyball teaches athletes life skills that carry over off the court, including working as part of a team, learning from and then letting go of mistakes, leadership, and communication. There is always something to learn from both positive and negative experiences. From positive experiences, we can learn what went well and how we can replicate that. From negative experiences, we can learn what we need to improve upon.

What do you think you bring to the program?

I believe that I bring my passion and knowledge of the game with me to

Continued on page 15.

WUMCO Help, Inc. Matters

Celebrating 52 Years of Service

Support WUMCO by Becoming a Member!

WUMCO is more than a food pantry! We also provide financial assistance to those in need and rides to the homebound for appointments.

The Holidays are Here!

- Thanksgiving was a big success with WUMCO providing turkeys and sides for 144 families and our partner churches and businesses another many hundreds.
- The December holidays are just around the corner, and WUMCO Help will continue to provide food for the holidays and toys for kids in December. In order to request holiday assistance, please call us at 301/972-8481 and press 6. Toy boxes are all over town for you to drop off toys for the little kids. Teenagers will receive a gift card, so those are especially needed this year too.
- This year, because of the Covid Pandemic, we will be delivering all food and toys for the holidays. Volunteer delivery people are needed, so please call us at the number above and press 2 to volunteer. We know the community will step up as always to help those in need in Poolesville, Boyds, Barnesville, Beallsville, and Dickerson have wonderful holidays.

WUMCO Memberships

Volunteers have been busy stuffing envelopes for our annual mass mailing to every postal address in our service area with return envelopes, letters, and updates for the 2021 membership year. Look for yours in the mail this month and—please don't throw it out but read it carefully—consider how you can help serve those in need in Poolesville, Boyds, Barnesville, Beallsville, and Dickerson. Please become a member of YOUR food pantry and financial assistance program. www.wumcohelp.org/Membership or send a check to P.O. Box 247, Poolesville, MD 20837. Thank you!

Have a very Happy Holiday season, from all of us at WUMCO Help.

Visit our Web page and follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

www.wumcohelp.org * WUMCO Help Inc * @WUMCOHelp * 301/972-8481
P.O. Box 247 (mailing), 17550 W. Willard Rd. (street), Poolesville, MD 20837

Questions? Please write Adam DeBaugh at wumco2@gmail.com or call the WUMCO office.

Total Automotive & Diesel Service

All manufacturers scheduled maintenance

**Now Licensed for:
Large Truck and
Trailer
MD INSPECTIONS
All vehicle inspections,
too**

ASE Certified Master Automobile Technician

All Manufacturers Scheduled Maintenance

Services Include:

Coolant Flush • Brake Fluid Flush • Oil Change
Transmission Flush Service • Power Steering Flush Service
4-Wheel Drive Service • Oil Changes • Front End Alignments
Brake Inspections • General Repair • Tire Repairs
Mount & Balance Tires • Rotate Tires • Pre-Purchase Inspections
Tune-Ups • Check Engine Light Diagnosis
Maintenance Light Diagnosis • Maryland State Inspections

New Hours!
Mon-Fri: 7am-6pm
Most Saturdays: 8am-3pm

30,000 Mile Service
60,000 Mile Service
90,000 Mile Service

19640 Fisher Ave • Poolesville
301-349-5888 • totalauto@comcast.net

Of 554 auto repair shops, CHECKBOOK rated Total Automotive as one of the best in the Washington area!

Continued from page 14.

New Volleyball Coach Michele Naughton, Coming Home

Poolesville, as well as knowledge of Poolesville High School and the community. I loved the four years I spent at Poolesville, and I am honored to be back with this community. I am very excited for the season.

What are your expectations for this season and beyond?

My expectations are to build and grow the volleyball program as a whole. My goal is to improve my athletes' individual skills as well as improving team cohesion.

When did you know you had gotten the head coaching position at PHS?

After interviewing with Regina Grubb at the end of July.

What are three things that your previous experience in coaching has taught you?

Focus on controlling our side of the net; we can't control the other side. Control our side and minimize our mistakes. Stay positive. Mistakes weigh us down. Negativity weighs us down. Keep moving forward, learn from your mistakes, and move on to the next point, the next rally.

Continued from page 10.

The More Things Change

frustrations, satisfactions, and concerns of moms and dads, brothers and sisters, friends and families have largely remained the same. Hard times pass, the sun rises each morning, and the view from Sugarloaf—largely unchanged since the 1830s—still inspires the occasional hike to the summit.

As always, you can explore much more at www.historicagreserve.wordpress.com.

Place your ad in the next issue of the *Monocle*.
Call Rande Davis at 301-509-9232

COLONY

SUPPLY CENTER INC.

We've Got You Covered!
Quality Landscape Products Since 1980

MULCHES	FIREWOOD	TOP SOIL
LEAF GRO	STONE PRODUCTS	WOOD CHIPS

WE DELIVER! 301.972.7666 BULK & BAGGED

19800 Darnestown Road Beallsville, MD

Go to www.colonysupplycenter.com or facebook for seasonal hours

MALLOW CONSTRUCTION, INC.

CUSTOM BUILDING & REMODELING!

CUSTOM CABINETS	NEW HOMES
KITCHEN & BASEMENT	ADDITIONS
RENOVATIONS	DECKS

*Local Builder of the Bodmer Home on Elgin Road and
the new Koeser home on Whalen Commons!*

MHIC #121368 CALL 301-366-4107



HUGHES

LANDSCAPING

Office
301-330-4949

Email
Info@hugheslandscaping.com

Check us out on Facebook [@Hugheslandscapingsupplyco](https://www.instagram.com/Hugheslandscapingsupplyco)



Hughes Landscaping was founded in 1983 by John Hughes on the principles of customer service and exceeding customer expectations —principles that the company still has in place today. Give us a call today to schedule a free estimate at your convenience.

We specialize in patios, deck building, tree care, any kind of yard maintenance, and anything else that you may need to have done outside of your home.

Continued from page 12.

Tidbits

where her major was Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She minored in Anthropology. Shirley graduated from Poolesville High School in 2016 where she was in the Science, Math, and Computer Science program. Her parents are Jon and Patricia Wolz of Poolesville.

Annual 5K Socially Distant

The local elementary school cluster group called Girls on the Run is made up of third through fifth grade girls. They hosted their socially distanced fall 5K recently. Members of the group are Zosiz Mirowicz, Renea Cooke, Allison Hwang, and Charlotte Hofmann.



Coaches Jess Bodmer and Jerome Hobart, and junior coach Chloe Maher. Runners: Zosia Mirowicz, Renea Cooke, Allison Hwang, and Charlotte Hofmann.

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

Maintenance & Installation
 ☎ 240-994-6674
 🌐 www.batemanlandscaping.com

PACC
 EST. 1979
 MEMBER OF COMMERCE

Serving our community since 2006

Hilton Funeral Home

A Tradition of Caring since 1890

Full range of services. Now offering **cemetery monuments**.

22111 Beallsville Road
 Barnesville, MD 20838

hiltonfh.com
 (301)349-2135

POOLESVILLE
SMALL ENGINE REPAIR
 a Division of Colony Supply Center, Inc. • www.poolesvillesmallengine.com
 📍 19800 Darnestown Rd., Beallsville, MD 20839 ☎ 301.972.1116

FREE PICKUP.
A \$60 Value
 (within 18 mile radius)

Winter Service Special
 For Generators and Snow Blowers

\$69.95

Change the oil, replace the spark plug and change all filters. For snow blowers, also includes checking belts/cutting edges and adjusting shoes. Call for complete details.
 Repairs not included.

Mention Promo Code **"WINTER"** to get this special pricing.
 Special good through the end of January

Continued from page 1.

Fifty Years Ago

people who spoke included Director George Hartzog, National Park Service, and President Colin Ritter of the C&O Canal Association.

Gilbert Gude spearheaded efforts to stop plans for a highway alongside the canal, then introduced the bill that resulted in the restoration of the nineteenth-century waterway and the creation of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. Mark Stover and I were invited by Congressman Gude to speak that day fifty years ago. On January 8, 1971, President Richard Nixon signed an Act of Congress making the C&O Canal into a National Historical Park.

The C&O Canal is one of the most intact canals of the American canal-building era of the nineteenth century. This historic canal is unique in that it remains virtually unbroken and without substantial modification affecting its original character for its entire 184.5 miles. The magnitude of the engineering achievement is exemplified by the length of the canal, its seventy-four lift locks to accommodate a rise of 605 feet from Georgetown to Cumberland, the eleven stone aqueducts spanning the major Potomac tributaries, seven dams supplying water to the canal, hundreds of culverts carrying roads and streams beneath the canal, and the 3,118-foot Paw Paw Tunnel carrying the canal through a mountain.

The C&O Company was chartered in 1825 to construct a shipping canal connecting tidewater on the Potomac River in Washington City with the head waters of the Ohio River in western Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, that would provide a trade route between populations in the east and lands west of the Appalachian Mountains. The company acquired the rights of the Potomac Company, formed by George Washington and associates to improve navigation on the Potomac. The Potomac Company had attempted to achieve its objective by deepening the channel and cutting skirting canals around impassible rapids, but the flow of the river proved too erratic to make these measures successful. The water levels of the river during the dry summer months often were too low, and at other times, the rising water levels were too high to navigate the river. After seeing the success of the Erie Canal in New York, the difficult experiences of the Potomac Company led C&O Canal promoters to plan for a separate canal paralleling the river. President John Quincy Adams turned the first spade of earth in ceremonies at Little Falls, Maryland, on July 4, 1828. On the same day, construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad westward from Baltimore was begun and would have significant implications for the ultimate fate of the canal and the canal era generally. The canal began operations in 1831 and was watered from Georgetown to Lock 22 (Violette's Lock today). Beginning in 1834, with the completion of the Monocacy Aqueduct, the canal was watered from Georgetown to Harper's Ferry.

The majority of the laborers on the canal were Irish immigrants, with a few Germans and native-born Americans. An attempt to use enslaved blacks for work was defeated by Canal Company stockholders in 1832. Laborers worked twelve-to-fifteen-hour days in all kinds of weather, beginning at sunup and continuing to sundown. Skilled tradesmen, carpenters, and stonemasons were needed for the locks, aqueducts, and culverts. The work of digging the canal prism was accomplished by the lowest-paid laborers using shovels, picks, and wheelbarrows. The workers would spend much of their day in the ditches, mired in mud or water up to the waist. Injuries were common on the line, and maiming and death far from rare.

Numerous disputes arose with landowners that resisted the Canal Company's efforts to purchase rights-of-way to build. Between 1842 and 1847, construction was at a standstill. By 1842, the B&O Railroad had made it to the Ohio Valley, and the canal construction stopped at Cumberland in 1850.

Agricultural products shipped down the canal prior to 1850 and then coal took over as the primary product sent down the canal to Georgetown. By 1871, the peak year of shipping coal, 850,000 tons were carried down the canal. During these profitable years, more than five hundred boats were in frequent operation on the canal.

In the late 1870s, the canal trade began to decline as many of the Allegheny coal operators began to ship using B&O Railroad, the canal's competitor. In 1889, an enormous flood forced the Canal Company into receivership, and the B&O Railroad emerged as the majority owner of the company's bonds. By 1924, the railroad had captured almost all of the carrying trade, and another damaging flood struck the canal. The repairs needed to resume operation were not made, and the active era of the canal came to an end. The 1924 flood provided the opportunity for the railroad to relieve itself of operating the canal.

In 1938, needing money, the railroad sold the entire canal to the Federal government for \$2 million, and it was placed under the National Park Service.

The Civilian Conservation Corps began restoring twenty-two miles of the canal from Georgetown to Violette's Lock in 1938. The great flood of 1942 washed over the canal, causing more damage, and the focus of our nation turned to World War II.

In 1945, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposed to build a series of fourteen dams creating reservoirs that would help with flood control along the Potomac River. One dam above Great Falls would have backed up the Potomac River almost all the way up to Harper's Ferry. The canal would have been completely underwater, including both the Seneca Creek and Monocacy Aqueducts. At a public hearing in the Interior Department Auditorium on April 3, 1945, only three people out of more than one thousand attending spoke in favor of the plan.

Another effort was underway in the 1930s that was favored by the Park Service to create a parkway over canal property. Congress approved plans to buy land below Great Falls on the Maryland side for the purpose of building a George Washington Parkway. In 1954, the Washington Post endorsed the parkway plan. U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas wrote a letter to the Post's editors inviting them to join him on a walking tour of the canal. The editors accepted, and a large group met at Lock 75 near Cumberland and began their walk down the towpath. Only nine from the group walked the entire way, and the Post modified its position to build the parkway alongside the canal instead of over it. The 1954 hike did not lead to any swift resolutions. Variations on the parkway, dam, and national park proposals came up in draft bills during the Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations.

By 1965, the parkway on the Maryland side was constructed, razing Lockhouse 5, and the parkway was renamed the Clara Barton Parkway in 1989. The Clara Barton Parkway shows how the C&O Canal Parkway might have affected much longer stretches of the canal, had not public sentiment been mobilized so effectively against the building of the parkway.

Do you have any interesting local history or fun facts to share with our readers? The *Monocle* welcomes your contribution.

Send to editor@monocacymonocle.com

Marketplace



Pat
Hess, P.T.

301-349-5443

19628 Fisher Ave. Poolesville

Would you like to remove
negativity from your life?

I will help you.

Please call me:

Christian at 240-876-1274

Customized Studio
Yoga for Private & Small Groups

Maria Briançon

gladiyoga

(301) 758-3983

gladiyoga@gmail.com • glad-i-yoga.com

20005A Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837



Charm your Guests with Chamber Music

We will work with you to achieve the musical effects you desire.

Dominique Agnew 301-407-0001

<http://Violinsanity.peatandbarley.com>

Hilary Schwab Photography

Portraits and Event Photography
Poolesville, MD (301)349-2322

25 years' experience

hilary@hschwabphotography.com

www.hschwabphotography.com

Sugarloaf
Pet Gardens
DEDICATED - APPROVED
PET CEMETERY

301-972-8882

Box 415
21511 Peach Tree Road
BARNESVILLE, MARYLAND 20838



YOUR AD COULD BE RIGHT HERE.
Call Rande Davis at 301-509-9232.

Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

No crime of any consequence in the circulation area was reported to the Montgomery County Police.

Police conducting a Holiday Task Force Drunk Driving roadblock arrested three men. The driver was charged with driving while drunk, and all three were charged with possession of a loaded 9mm handgun that was found in the car.

Past Crime: 1910 to 1915

The trial of Lee Ganley began at Hagerstown. Ganley was charged with burning down the house of

Edward Doy at Boyds on Christmas Eve. A horse belonging to Ganley was found standing at the scene of the fire. The trial was moved to Hagerstown because of the prejudice against Ganley in the Montgomery County area.

A two-year-old child, recently adopted by Perry Elkorn, was shot to death in the Elkorn residence at Sandy Spring. Elkorn reported that when he found his baby dead, he searched for his fourteen-year-old son and could not locate him. Authorities were working on the suspicion that the fourteen-year-old was responsible.

A committee of the Touring Club of America was tasked with identifying speed traps set up in jurisdictions across the country. The group set out in an expensive Overland automobile

especially donated for the cause. When they reached the recently-paved macadam section of the Rockville Pike between Rockville and Gaithersburg, they encountered three sheriff's vehicles lying in wait. They adjusted their speed to a reasonable one and did not attract the attention of the officers. It was reported that Sheriff Viett had obtained a high-performance touring car and carried with him a deputy and a magistrate and the necessary paperwork to hold court by the roadside.

Raymond Jenkins was convicted of assault and burglary after a trial at Rockville. Jenkins had been charged with entering the house of James Levine near Germantown and then approaching the bed of Levine and his son with a knife. Levine awoke, grabbed a revolver, and shot Jenkins in the

buttocks. Jenkins then went to a doctor for treatment where he was arrested. Jenkins claimed that two other accomplices waited outside, but there was no evidence to support that claim.

An elderly Kensington woman was found dead in her home under suspicious circumstances. After not hearing from Kate Manakee, a neighbor entered the house and found her deceased on the floor. Officials came to the house and determined that Miss Manakee had been standing on a step ladder brushing away cobwebs when she lost her balance and fell to the floor, striking her head. The death was ruled as accidental.

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

*Poolesville Area:
We're Open
for Business.*

Cornerstone Inc.

*General Contractor
Serving Poolesville and the surrounding
area for over 30 years*

Custom Homes – Additions – Baths
Kitchens – Basements – Roofing – Siding
Custom Barns – Fencing – Decks – Garages
Porches – Patios – Concrete Work

301-972-8700

Ron and Rinnie Magaha

MHIC #26662

William N. Price, CPA, CFP®, MS

Financial Planning and Tax Preparation

21800 Beallsville Road
P.O. Box 68
Barnesville, Maryland 20838
301-428-8191
Fax: 866-896-2325

william@williamprice.com
www.williamprice.com

Securities offered through Registered Representatives of Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., a broker-dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., a Registered Investment Adviser. Cambridge does not offer tax advice.



Thistle Thickets Farm
301-407-0001
www.thistlethickets.com
Boyds, MD

Hand-Crafted Goat Milk Soaps
Make Terrific Gifts!

Buy them online or from these fine merchants:
All About Equestrian, Farmers' Coop, Locals,
McCutcheon's, Mrs. Brown's Attic, Poolesville
Hardware, and RB Savage and Sons.



Norsegod Painters

There's a divinity that shapes our homes.
30+ Years' Experience - References
10% Winter Discounts - Free Estimates

Proper Prep Work - Attention to Detail
Precision Painting - Prompt
Contact: Tor Ofsthun
Call or Text 301-938-1460

Shear Elegance Hair Salon



Image Is Everything
Hair Services
for the Whole Family!

301-349-3773

19623 B Fisher Ave. Poolesville

Hours: Mon. 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Tue. 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.,
Wed. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Thur. 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.,
Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.



Violin Lessons

Boyds, MD

Over 15 Years' Experience

Sassmannshaus Method Certification

d2violin@gmail.com
301-407-0001

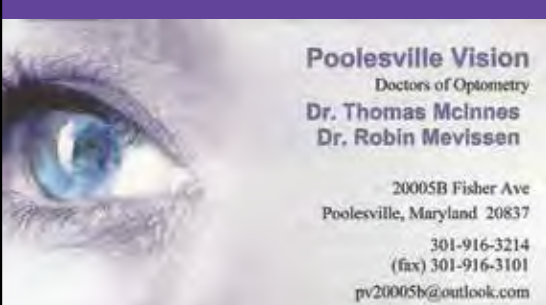


Morningstar Welding, LLC

**COMMERCIAL, FARMING, &
RESIDENTIAL WELDING**

301-349-2702

17612 Elgin Road - Poolesville



Poolesville Vision

Doctors of Optometry
Dr. Thomas McInnes
Dr. Robin Mevissen

20005B Fisher Ave
Poolesville, Maryland 20837

301-916-3214
(fax) 301-916-3101
pv20005b@outlook.com

Subscribe to the *Monocacy Monocle* (\$31.80 per year)
The *Monocacy Monocle* • POB 372 • Barnesville, MD 20838-0372
editor@monocacymonocle.com • www.monocacymonocle.com

Celebrating 31 Years of Service

Helping Your Pets Avoid Holiday Stress

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

Holiday traditions are things that we really embrace during these holiday seasons, but it is important to know that what we consider tradition, our pets may consider to be stress and danger. It is important to consider how holiday celebrations can adversely affect dogs and cats. By understanding this, we can all have a happier holiday.

Here are several key things to review before the holiday's hit big time. Be sure to discuss any concerns you may have with your veterinarian. There are new and improved treatments for stress you may not be currently aware of for your furry friends.

1. Changes in the home can create stress for your pets even if you don't think so. If your pets are suddenly acting differently, even simple changes to their environment can be the cause. "That elf on the shelf is looking at me funny."
2. Things we bring into the home during the holidays can also potentially cause physical danger to your pets. Fires in the fireplace, new electric cords, low-hanging candy canes, clothing and shoes your relatives bring with them. All these and more can be potentially dangerous for your pets.
3. Take time to set up your holiday decorations. See if the giant inflatable Santa in the front yard causes your pets to lose their holiday spirit. Flashing lights and animated things on the roof can also be very threatening to your pets.
4. Pets should never be forced to experience things that scare them. Forcing them to interact with scary things will not help them "get used to it." It only makes them more stressed or fearful.
5. Sometimes NOT including your family pets in the festivities is the greatest gift you can give to them. If many strange humans, smells, sights, and sounds are freaking out your four-legged friends, find them a safe room or zone where they have their own space. The relative or friend that tells you, "Animals love me," is usually not telling the truth. Random humans can cause maximal stress. You know how you never liked when Aunt Martha kissed you right on the mouth, well your dogs and cats like it even less.
6. Traveling with your pets to a distant holiday land or house can be a potent stressor. Be sure you touch base with your veterinarian about your travel plans. Travel documents are usually required, and medications can help travel stress significantly. CBD oils are untested and not currently recommend as a travel aid.
7. Whenever possible, try to maintain a state of normalcy for your pets during the holiday season.

So Ho, Ho, Ho and Happy New Year. Be safe and enjoy the season with an eye on your pets' comfort.



Poolesville Veterinary Clinic

DR. EEG AND THE ENTIRE VETERINARY STAFF ARE DEDICATED TO PROVIDING THE HIGHEST QUALITY VETERINARY CARE WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH. *PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE * LASER SURGERY * ACUPUNCTURE * DENTAL CARE * LASER THERAPY * FIBEROPTIC VIDEO SCOPE * ADVANCE IN-HOUSE LABORATORY * MICROCHIPPING * DIGITAL RADIOGRAPHY * GERIATRIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT * PAIN MANAGEMENT * BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION * REPRODUCTION

Open Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., CLOSED ON SUNDAY
Like us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter, Visit us on Foursquare 18



19621 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville • 301-972-7705
www.poolesvilleveterinaryclinic.com • poolesvillevet@verizon.net

19920 Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837 ★ (301)349-3880



www.poolesvilletire.com



FULL-SERVICE AUTO REPAIR SHOP



REPAIRS

Expert service performed by ASE Certified Technicians

MAINTENANCE

Scheduled maintenance on all foreign & domestic models

TIRES

The right name-brand tires to fit your needs & your budget

Mention This Ad For
\$5 OFF ANY OIL CHANGE



MENTION
THIS AD FOR
10% OFF
YOUR FIRST
KEY PURCHASE

AUTO KEYS

- ★ KEY FOBS ★ KEYLESS ENTRY REMOTES ★
- ★ TRANSPONDERS ★ SMART KEYS ★ CHIP KEYS ★
- ★ FLIP KEYS ★ EMERGENCY BLADES ★
- ★ PROGRAMMING ★ KEY CUTTING ★

19920 Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837

☎(301)349-3880 ✉poolesvilleauto@yahoo.com



COLLISION SPECIALIST

FULL-SERVICE BODY SHOP



ALL INSURANCE WELCOME!



Over 35 years of experience

Call to schedule a custom quote today



19920 Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837
(301)349-4550