

# The Monocacy

# MONOCLE

*Keeping an Eye on Local News*

*A Biweekly Newspaper*

*April 28, 2023 • Volume XIX, Number 3*



*WORLD Team's Face of America cyclists tour came to Lewis Orchards for lunch. More pictures in Family Album on page 2.*



*SCA president Steve Findlay and guest speaker Dr. Sara Via. Meeting details on page 3.*



*Val Dickerson and Ed Reed at opening of the Harriet Tubman monument at the Button Farm museum. Read about it on page 8.*



*Essence Studios: Dance and Performing Arts has something for nearly everyone. Learn more in Center Stage on page 10.*

## *Commissioners Hold Hearing on FY24 Budget, Pass Renewable Energy Resolution, and Discuss Chickens Once Again*

*By Link Hoewing*

During their two meetings in April, the Town of Poolesville commissioners held a public hearing on the proposed FY24 budget, approved a resolution setting a hundred-percent renewable energy target for the town (excluding its vehicles and large equipment) by 2030, and discussed again its recently-passed "Chicken Ordinance" due to a concern raised by a local citizen.

At their April 3 meeting, the commissioners held a public hearing on the budget. The budget was open for written public comments until March 31. The FY 2024 proposed budget maintains the constant tax rate of nearly eighteen cents per \$100 of assessment, and water rates remain the same. The proposed FY 2024 Budget is balanced, funds all debt

service obligations, and funds critical operation and maintenance items. It projects that total revenue will come in at \$5,084,723, and total expenditures for the year will be \$5,053,608. No comments were submitted either at the public hearing or in writing, and the budget will go into effect on July 1, the start of the new fiscal year.

The commissioners next considered a resolution proposed by its Sustainable Poolesville Committee that sets a goal of transitioning the town's operations (aside from its vehicles and heavy equipment) to operating entirely on renewable energy sources by 2030. The draft resolution notes that the town already generates enough electricity via its solar panel field located near the wastewater treatment plant

to satisfy about eighty percent of its energy needs.

Don Street, the chair of the Sustainable Poolesville Committee, said the committee had based the draft resolution on a proposal crafted by the Sierra Club of Maryland. He said it is "non-binding" but sets a "laudable goal to aim for." The draft resolution notes that both the state and county have set renewable energy goals. In the case of the county, it targets 2035 to achieve "zero emissions" in county operations.

While it was repeated that the resolution proposes only a "target" and that it is nonbinding, Town Manager Wade Yost said that the town is "already well on its way" to meeting

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## *The True History of White's Ferry and the Virginia Landing*

*By Rande Davis*

**The following is from a legal brief resulting from extensive research into the relationship between the Virginia landing and the White's Ferry service that originated in 1871.**

The ferry landing was condemned by the Circuit Court of Loudoun County in 1871, and the Rust family was paid for its land. From the record in that case, it is apparent that the proceeding was a "friendly condemnation." Colonel Elijah Viers White, owner of the ferry service (referred to previously as Conrad's Ferry) and the landing on the Maryland side of the river, wanted to formally establish the landing on the Virginia side of the river at the location which it had already occupied for many decades.

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*For nearly two hundred years, property owners on both sides of the Potomac River had a cordial relationship and agreement as to where the public landing was located on the Virginia side of the Potomac River. Not so today.*



# Family Album



Essence Studios: Dance and Performance Arts hosted the monthly PACC network breakfast in April.



A recent pop-up walk destination was the Seneca Stonecutters Cemetery. The Jon Wolz walkers were met at the beginning of their walk by two descendants of stonecutters buried at the cemetery, including Shirley Clipper Shields and Barbara Jackson.



Lewis Orchards hosted the luncheon rest stop for the cyclists of the Face of America challenge that inspires wounded vets.



Cyclists formed teams to join in the WORLD Team 108-mile annual Face of America tour.



Due to severe weather, the cyclists had cut the ride short and load up in trucks to get to Frederick.



Poolesville's American Legion Post 247 once again held its annual Saloon Dinner at Calleva's Haunted Forest western town.



Happy cyclists after getting their Boar's Head sub lunches!



## Local News Events

### Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Annual Meeting

By Maureen O'Connell

On Saturday, March 15, 2023, Sugarloaf Citizens' Association (SCA) President Steve Findlay welcomed a large group of people to its annual meeting at Linden Farm in Dickerson. The farm encompasses 150 acres, 90 of which have been farmed for years but are currently undergoing a regenerative agriculture refresh. The year 2023 is a special one for SCA as it celebrates the fifty-year anniversary of its foundation. Steve asked everyone to save the date of October 1 on their calendars for a grand party at Linden Farm.

Over these past fifty years, SCA remained true to its primary mission to preserve and protect the Agricultural Reserve, the ninety-three thousand acres of north and northwest Montgomery County zoned in the 1980s for farming, land conservation, and open space. It has been heralded as the best example of land conservation in the country. Today, many issues and proposals attempt to further the fragmentation or industrialization of our treasured Ag Reserve. The SCA seeks to protect the Ag Reserve against these incursions by protecting Sugarloaf Mountain, probing toxic chemicals in the Ag Reserve, creating better waste management in Montgomery County, enhancing appropriate solar energy in the county, supporting regenerative agriculture, revamping the Dickerson power plant property, and supporting the fiber optic "QLoop" project. Steve strongly encouraged everyone to join SCA to preserve our rural legacy and open spaces. We all must act to be an advocate of sound environmental stewardship.



SCA members socialize prior to the start of their annual meeting.

SCA founded and oversees the Piedmont Environmental and Educational Foundation, which awards grants to students and schools to create environmental citizenship, responsibility, and appreciation for the natural world and to provide opportunities for students to explore nature and educate others with their knowledge. Jim Brown, SCA Board of Directors member, heads up this committee. He introduced this year's grant winners: Acorn Waldorf School, Silver Spring; Walter Johnson High School, Germantown; Takoma Park Elementary School; Gaithersburg Middle School; Richard Montgomery High School, Gaithersburg; Martin Luther King Elementary School, Germantown; Ashburton Elementary School, Bethesda; and Nature Forward (formerly Audubon Naturalists). Students and teachers from these organizations gave presentations to the audience on their projects.

The meeting's guest speaker was Dr. Sara Via, Professor and Climate Extension Specialist at the University of Maryland, College Park. She spoke with a great deal of knowledge about climate change impacts on health and agriculture. Everyone who works in agriculture, from a farmer with hundreds of acres of cultivated fields to the organic farmer struggling to maintain his vegetable and flower plots to the backyard gardener with small vegetable and flower gardens, must recognize and take responsibility for the ever-growing threats to agriculture from climate change. Everything a farmer or a gardener tries to accomplish

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## Rande(m) Thoughts

### White's Ferry Public Landing Dispute 2.0

By Rande Davis

If I don't say so myself, I find our front-page presentation of the true history of White's Ferry's Virginia landing amazingly revealing. This is not the first time that the Virginia and Maryland parties decided to clarify the boundaries of the public landing.

Think about it for a moment: By 1871, it was clear the location of the current landing for the ferry in Virginia had been well understood for decades already when it was known as Conrad's Ferry. Colonel Elijah Viers White bought the ferry, operated the service, bore its expenses, and received its revenue, and both sides were well pleased and benefitted highly from the ferry operation. The service radically improved the commerce opportunities for the farmers and tradesmen on both sides of the river. Everyone was happy the ferry was there, and the public benefitted from the declaration of it as a public landing, including most assuredly the Rust family, the ancestors and original owners of Rockland Farm.

Nevertheless, Elijah White went to court to have the landing legally established to prevent any misunderstandings that could occur in the future. As you will read, the court agreed to the request made by White, a request that was also joined by the Rust family and directed both parties to simply get together, agree to the specifics of the boundaries, and the landing would be made public. After agreeing to the boundary restrictions, the two parties even brought in a third party to confirm this agreement. This

person was the overseer of the farm, an employee of the Rusts. This alone confirms the intention and agreement by the Rust family. The court then granted the request, noting there was no dispute between the parties, settled on a price, and the court confirmed the price was paid. This clearly shows that the owners of the farm were paid for their land with the location delineated and the price paid to their satisfaction.

Everything was fine and legally approved for over 150 years. Then the current owner, during a dispute on a separate issue, decided to argue that the public landing agreement was null and void since no plat had been filed at the time confirming the agreement. While there are two surveys showing the landing where it is today, the court in Loudoun County deemed those surveys inadequate as proof that it was indeed the intention at the time of origination. Historically, this is not the first time a failure to file a plat occurred, and courts have previously agreed that it was not necessary when no one disputed the claim within a reasonable amount of time. Is 150 years enough time? The Devlin family blatantly misinforms the public on the agreement and the intention of their ancestors.

In regard to the landing, the land-owners received payment, the ferry owners paid for it, and the courts validated its legality. That landing belongs to the public. The ferry should be allowed to resume service for the benefit of all on both sides of the river. To quote President Ronald Reagan referring to the Panama Canal in his campaign slogan: "We bought it, we paid for it, it's ours." That the Virginia family has been offered over a million dollars to accept the truth of history is generous beyond credulity.

## Garden

### Rugosa Rose: What's Not to Love?

By Maureen O'Connell

In a recent article, I mentioned my "phoenix" of the garden, the rugosa rose. Let me tell you more about this amazing plant. I hope I can convince you to plant one or more this spring. The Latin word rugosa means "wrinkled" and refers to the leaves of the *Rosa rugosa*. It is a prolific grower that can fend for itself. Many years ago, I gave up trying to grow hybrid tea and old roses. They demanded too much maintenance and too many chemical cocktails to survive in our area. The four rosebushes I kept were the *R. rugosa* 'Rosaie de l'Hay,' which a friend gave to me when I moved to Barnesville in 1980. Forty-three years later, they are still healthy and blooming.

Is it possible to "go green" with roses? If you choose an appropriate variety, the answer is yes. Not all roses are fussy and high maintenance. Get ready to set aside your chemicals and consider planting a rugosa rose. Some people say that they have cons: They are invasive and extremely thorny.



Author's rugosa rose at the end of March 2023.

I did not have that experience. They have more benefits than negatives. They are disease resistant, and insect, deer, and rabbit resistant. A few Japanese beetles show up in early July, but they quickly disappear. Highly-fragrant flowers bloom from May until the frost. Rosehips, the fruits of the rose, appear as the flowers drop off. Rosehips are edible and can be made into jams and jellies. During WWII, when citrus fruits were unable to be imported, Great Britain encouraged people to collect and eat the hips as a source of vitamin C. They are also a great food source for wildlife and a nutritious snack for birds well into the winter. I have not had a problem with

Continued on page 23.

## The Monocacy MONOCLE

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Published and Edited by  
John Clayton and Rande Davis

John Clayton  
Production  
Financial  
301.461.8840  
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  
301.461.8840

### Contributing Writers

Link Hoewing  
linkhoe@aol.com

Maureen O'Connell  
mafoconnell@msn.com

Kenny Sholes  
kcs7110@gmail.com

Jeffrey S. Stuart  
sark10@juno.com

Jon Wolz  
wolzjon@hotmail.com

### Student Reporters

Max Bingham  
Kaitlyn Schramm

### 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

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## Mystery History

### Toasting Poolesville's Peter's Forest

By Rande Davis

In 1802, traveling to our area was considered going into the wilderness. The difficult ride (on horseback or carriage) would have most likely left the weary traveler tired, hungry, and thirsty. Arriving into town, a welcomed sight would have been the tavern on the north side. Since it is located behind the Maggie Nightingale Library, most readers would not even know that Riney's Tavern, named after the innkeeper, William Riney, still stands there.

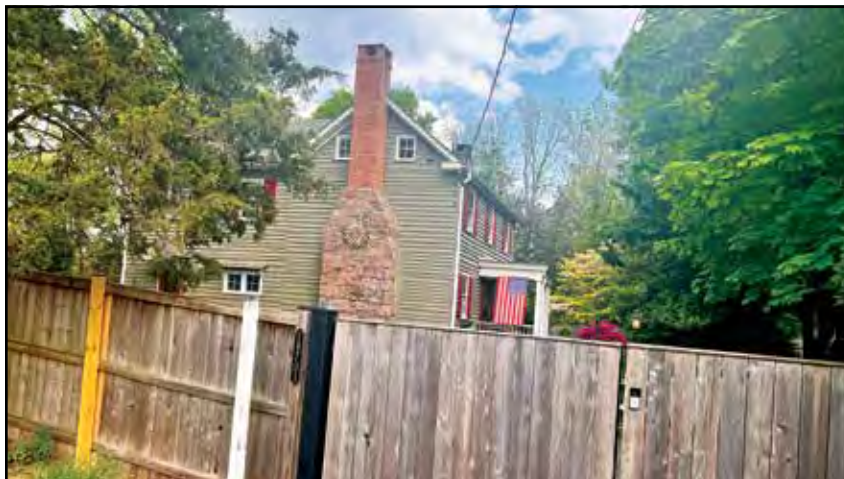
Back then there was no Fisher Avenue. The main road into town, Old Coxen Road (now Beall Street), came into town behind the BB&T Shopping Center. Today, that little neighborhood is named Peter's Forest, and the tavern is the residence of Paul and Betty Hauck.

Why Peter's Forest? When this part of the "wilderness" was finally surveyed back in 1784, its owner and surveyor, Robert Peter, called this plot of land the "forest."

The question about today's obscure location is solved now that we know that it was originally on the main road into town, but the mystery of its location is but a small part of the intrigue of Peter's Forest. It is the surprising stories of its owners that our Mystery History readers will find most appealing.

The man who owned the property at the end of the 1700s was a refined gentleman from Georgetown. His name was Thomas Plater. Back then, friends of Mr. Plater probably called him Colonel since Mr. Plater achieved that rank while seeing action in the state militia during the Whiskey Insurrection of 1794.

Then again, friends and foes alike would have referred to him as the Hon. Thomas Plater. Why? Because this tavern in the woods was owned by Maryland Congressman Thomas Plater, who, as a member of the Federalist Party, served all the citizens of Maryland as a member of the House of Representatives from 1801 to 1805.



*On the other side of this fence is what remains of Peter's Forest, Poolesville's very first watering hole.*

Why was he a representative for all the citizens of Maryland? Back then, the district was an at-large district. It was not until a movement that was organized in Beallsville, which challenged the powers-to-be in Baltimore, that congressional districts changed from at-large districts. Our area eventually became known as the Medley District.

Mr. Plater, a man of significant financial means, possessed historically-interesting wealth. He owned two major pieces of land. One consisted of 900 acres (valued at \$7.00 per acre!) and another 150-acre holding (valued at \$3.00 per acre). Records show that part of his "property" included "five Negro men (\$1725), four Negro boys (\$1,000), two Negro women with children (\$450), five Negro girls (\$500), and, inexplicably, one Negro woman and her husband (\$10.00).

Mr. Plater left his residence in Georgetown and moved to Poolesville where he died in 1830. Adding to the mystery surrounding him is that no one knows where this man of accomplishment and wealth was buried.

Continued on page 22.



# Basketball Camp

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## Senior News

### Poolesville Seniors Presents Virtual and In-Person Programs

Are you looking for activities that stretch your mind, renew your body, and lift your spirits? Then visit the website for Poolesville Seniors, [poolesvilleseniors.org](http://poolesvilleseniors.org), or call 301-875-7701 to register for a wide variety of virtual and in person events. **Registration is required, but all events are open to the community.** Most in-person events are located at Speer Hall at Poolesville Presbyterian Church.

**April 29**

#### Classical Jazz Piano

Celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month. Join Maestro Zeli Leite, Brazilian-born piano virtuoso, for a wonderful evening of classical and jazz piano on the grand piano. CDs and t-shirts will be available to benefit the Maestro's foundation, Association of Autism's Friends. Registration required. Poolesville Presbyterian Sanctuary, followed by a social at Speer Hall. 7:00 p.m.

**May 4**

#### Holocaust Survivor

Join Herbert Hane, a Holocaust survivor, and the son of a Lutheran mother and Jewish father, when he recalls his childhood in Germany during the Holocaust and after WWII. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

**May 5**

#### Glenstone Museum

Visit the world-class Glenstone Museum nearby in Potomac, a 64,000-sq.-ft. gallery space on 300-plus natively-landscaped acres. It is the largest private contemporary art gallery in the U.S. New exhibits feature works by Ellsworth Kelly and Kara Walker. Registration required. 10:00 a.m.

**May 11**

#### Enjoying European Travel

Join European travel specialist Barbara Paulson to get the most enjoyment out of your European travel. Barbara brings us tips on how to pace your days, deal with the weather, travel between locations, secure your safety, experience the local food, culture, language, customs, and pack to come home. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

**May 15**

#### PS Book Club

*Klara and the Sun* is a science fiction novel by Kazuo Ishiguro, the author of *Remains of the Day*. The narrator, Klara, a solar powered AF "artificial friend," relates her life from her time in the window of the AF shop to her life as a companion to a sickly teen and beyond. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

**May 18**

#### Historic Ag Reserve Properties with Kenny Sholes

Explore the next historic Ag Reserve Properties with local historian Kenny Sholes, who brings us the stories of an array of impressive historic homes, those who built and lived in them, and the important part they played in American history for centuries. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

**May 19**

#### Friday Movie Night

Watch *Ticket to Paradise*, a 2022 release starring George Clooney and Julia Roberts as a divorced couple who team up to sabotage the impending wedding of their daughter to a seaweed

Continued on page 7.



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Continued from page 6.

**Senior News**

farmer in Bali. Romantic comedy. PG-13. Snacks will be provided. Registration required. Speer Hall. 7:00 p.m.

**June 8**

**MoCo Recycling**

Join Alan Pultyniewicz, MoCo Recycling Coordinator, to learn how to recycle correctly—what you really can and can't recycle, and how to help reduce the county's waste. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

**Weekly Events**

**Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays**

**Outdoor Open Play Pickleball.** Stevens Park. 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m..

**Tuesdays**

**Bridge and Other Games**

Snacks provided. Registration required. Speer Hall. 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays**

**Tai-Chi** with Maureen Ivusic. 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Virtual.

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

**Trivia Game Night**

If you love Trivia, come join a team with Poolesville Seniors. For more information, email info@poolesvilleseniors.org. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

**Thursdays**

**Outdoor Ladder Play Pickleball**

Limited to a maximum of 24 players. Stevens Park. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Mahjong** with Joyce Kral. Beginner and seasoned players are welcome. Speer Hall. 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information or to register for any of the programs listed here and receive the Zoom link for each, visit the Poolesville Seniors website: poolesvilleseniors.org. Many of these presentations are also streamed live on their Facebook page and recorded for later viewing on their YouTube channel. Did you know that you don't need a computer to participate? You can join the Zoom presentation using your smartphone or just listen in using the local telephone number from Zoom and the Poolesville Seniors meeting ID and Password. Call or text them at 301-875-7701 to learn how.

Have an event you'd like to list in the *Monocle*? Email it to: editor@monocacymonocle.com



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## Tidbits

### Harriet Tubman Monument on Display

Button Farm Living History Center is proud to host the “Harriet Tubman: Journey to Freedom” monument by artist Wesley Wofford. This moving tribute has traveled to major cities across the nation and depicts Tubman as a formidable force on the perilous Underground Railroad. Wesley Wofford is honored to unveil his most significant monument to date. This nine-foot Harriet Tubman “Journey to Freedom” sculpture is installed in a private building in Dallas, Texas. Harriet personifies a role model and hero, and we are proud to commemorate the resilience and contributions of strong women throughout history.

According to artist Wesley Wofford, “She is leaning into the wind with her shoulder, chin down, and bracing herself against the elements. Her eyes are cut formidably up, anticipating the next part of the journey. The wind illustrates the peril of the journey but is also a metaphor for the intense opposition she faced.”

Menare founder Anthony Cohen says Button Farm is proud to host the statue. “Harriet Tubman was a force of nature, and her spirit is still felt more than a century after her passing. Many will pilgrimage to see the statue for its powerful symbolism of our ongoing quest for freedom.

“At Button Farm, we grow heirloom vegetables, herbs, and fruits in our Museum Garden, as well as eggs from our heritage breed chickens. Produce is used in educational programming and use on the farm, and surplus is sold directly to the public on the weekends at our Farm & Flea Market.”

Button Farm’s market is open on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

### KPC Treating Its Own Wastewater

Kunzang Palyul Choling (KPC), the Buddhist Temple on River Road, has again begun treating its wastewater in an environmentally-sensitive and economically-efficient way through its constructed wetlands—no more expensive pumping of septic tanks, no more stress on municipal treatment systems. Instead, they are treating their wastewater through organic processes and releasing the cleaned water back to the watershed.

Since 1988, KPC has been a leader in this technology with the first—and still the only—constructed wetlands of its kind in Maryland. The wetlands are a set of planted sand and gravel ponds, which naturally filter the wastewater, which is further treated with aerators, filters, and ultraviolet light, then extensively tested before being released. This design, the brainchild of sangha member David Bailey, was specially engineered and certified by multiple agencies and has been monitored and maintained by sangha volunteers since its installation. In addition, KPC has maintained support of the courses, testing, and licensure of the primary volunteer operator through the State of Maryland Department of Environmental Protection.

With the addition of a state-of-the-art underground nitrogen-removing tank, the system is performing better than ever and will continue to far into the future. Other upgrades included a smaller, more efficient UV lighting unit.



*Lewis Orchards hosted the luncheon of hundreds of cyclists who participated in the annual Face of America event. Linda Lewis greeted Col. Gregory Gadson (retired), a double amputee and leader of the organization.*

### Hundreds of Cyclists Lunched at Lewis Orchards

For more than twenty-five years, World T.E.A.M. organization has used athletics to challenge and empower men, women, and children with disabilities to accomplish goals they never thought possible.

The organization sponsors the Face of America cycling challenge for veterans, wounded veterans, and others on a cycling ride from the Pentagon to Gettysburg’s historic Civil War battlefields.

Cyclists travel 108 miles in two days, with an overnight stay in Frederick, Maryland. The route is fully supported with manned rest stops every ten to twelve miles, SAG wagons, skilled ride marshals, a moto team, and mechanical support.

Face of America provides athletes the opportunity to welcome adaptive and able-bodied servicemen and women as teammates and to show them how much we appreciate their service and dedication to the American spirit.

Colonel Gregory Gadson, a double-amputee cyclist and one of the leading members of Face of America, lettered four years as co-captain for his army Black Knights football team at West Point. In 2007, the former defensive tackle was serving as commander of the 2-32 Field Artillery Battalion in Baghdad, Iraq. Returning to base following a memorial service, a roadside bomb destroyed his vehicle, taking both his legs and injuring his right arm. Evacuated to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., Colonel Gadson took up hand cycling to maintain his physical fitness. His first Face of America was only two years later, and since then, the Virginia athlete has inspired other veterans and the able-bodied through regular participation. Of course, his acting career, starting when he battled aliens in the 2012 science fiction movie, *Battleship*, from Universal Pictures, also provides inspiration to many.

### Howard Named Legionnaire of the Year

American Legion Post 247 is honored to announce that their Post Adjutant, Annette Howard, was awarded the Legionnaire of the Year award for District 8. Commander Julien Singh observed, “This award is well deserved, and we are grateful to have Annette as a member of our post.” Annette will be featured in our June issue’s Monocacy Vet column.

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Continued from page 8.

Tidbits



District 8 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Kevin Cogan, Post 247 Post Commander Julien Singh, Adjutant Annette Howard, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Cliff Bergstresser.

Tornado Ripped through Poolesville

An EF0 (the weakest tornado on the Enhanced Fujita scale) tornado ripped through Poolesville on April 25, tracking a path one hundred yards long and twenty-five yards wide. The storm had a one-minute duration, downing mostly trees and causing damage to at least one home. No one was injured. An EF0 tornado can have wind speeds of sixty-five to eighty-five miles per hour.



Photo by Timothy Pruss.

An aerial view of the path of the EFO tornado that hit Poolesville.

Fun Fact...

en.wikipedia.org

The Fujita scale (F-Scale) is a scale for rating tornado intensity, based primarily on the damage tornadoes inflict on structures and vegetation. The scale was introduced in 1971 by Ted Fujita of the University of Chicago, in collaboration with Allen Pearson, head of the National Severe Storms Forecast Center (currently the Storm Prediction Center). The F-Scale was replaced with the Enhanced Fujita scale (EF-Scale) in the United States in February 2007. This new scale more accurately matches wind speeds to the severity of damage. The scale rates from an EF0, with wind speeds up to eighty-five miles per hour and light damage, to an EF5, with wind speeds over two hundred miles per hour and catastrophic damage.

To put this in perspective, the typical takeoff speed for a Boeing 747 is around 160 knots (184 mph), depending on several factors—the speed of an EF4 tornado.

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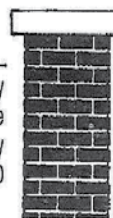
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## Center Stage

### Essence Studios, Dance and Performing Arts: Not Just Dance and Not Just Ballet

By Rande Davis

Claire Jones, a 2010 graduate of Poolesville High School and one of the more prominent students of Hope Garden Children’s Ballet Theatre (HGCBT) since she was just six years old, has proven to be the perfect replacement for the iconic Fran Ichijo (HGCBT’s founder and creative director) in offering the dance arts to our region under the new guise of Essence Studios, Dance and Performing Arts.

While deftly picking up Fran’s baton of success, Claire has expanded its horizon with her new vision for programs for dance and movement classes for all ages and experience levels, both youth and adult. The studio now offers multiple classes and programs, including mixed level Ashtanga yoga, barre classes, Pilates mat, senior yoga/stretch, Mummy and Me creative movement, teen and adult ballets, tap dance, and this is just the beginning. Starting this summer, she will broaden her artistic reach to include theatrical performance. From June 26 to June 30, she will have her first-ever Elementary Musical Theater Camp with instructions from singing to acting. In July (24 to 28) she will be offering a Musical Theater Camp. These summer classes are designed for dance, performance, and drama.



For Jeff, Beth, and Claire Jones, Essence Studios: Dance and Performing Arts is a family affair.

As the artistic director and owner of Essence Studios, Claire has created programs for everyone. “Essence Studios is for everyone; we feel very strongly that dance is something that should be liberating and a medium where you feel comfortable just to be you.”

On June 3, she will offer a free spring recital program, “Leaping off the Canvas,” either at Whalen Commons or possibly at the new stage at Riverworks Art Center on West Willard Road. Now she is back to choreography, rehearsing, and dancing the nights away!

Claire can bring it all to dance education. She is well versed in classical ballet. She has studied tap, contemporary, and modern dance, and stage management and lighting. She earned her dance degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She has been teaching all age groups for almost twenty years at multiple studios in Columbia, Germantown, Silver Spring, and currently in Frederick.

Through her journey, Claire has been supported by her parents, Beth and Jeff Jones, who have been remarkable advocates and promoters of the arts in Poolesville, especially through many years of technical direction and stage management for the Poolesville High School drama club, the Midnight Players. Their incredible artistic talents have brought a high level of professionalism to the high

Continued on page 17.

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## Youth Sports

### Boys' Lacrosse Win Over Damascus Highlights PHS Spring Sport Season

By Jeff Stuart

The PHS boys' lacrosse team (7-1) provided the highlight of the spring sports season at PHS so far on Thursday evening, April 14, defeating Damascus, 10-9. The game was intense. Both teams really got after it. It was worthy of the Poolesville-Damascus rivalry which, in the sport of lacrosse, is particularly strong.

"I thought Damascus was well-conditioned, and they rode us exceptionally hard, causing a lot of turnovers," said Coach Stuart Orns. "That kept them in the game. I thought our team played with a huge amount of heart. Our goalie, senior Lucas Bocek, was outstanding, all our players put forth an amazing effort. Damascus is a good team, well coached. It was an exciting game. I am just glad we came out on the right side of it.

"We have fifteen seniors. They are a great group who will be graduating together. The season has gone well so far. We have just about wrapped up the western division title and want to finish out the rest of our schedule playing solid lacrosse as we prepare for the regional tournament.

"Freshmen Ethan Schlossberg and Levi Roe have done a great job of stepping into the program and improving each game. Sophomore Vincent Volpe has been exceptional as an all-around midfielder and excelled at taking faceoffs. Juniors Sean Radimer, Tyler Shefter, and Maverick Trone have been contributing and continue to improve. Those guys will form the foundation of the team next season.

"Our entire senior group works well together. Mason Hopkins (Trippie), Cole Johnson, Jacob Jenkins, Jack Roe, Mason Hillegas, Ian Rodriguez, to name a few, have been outstanding so far. Goalie, Lukas Bocek, has been exceptional and always makes big saves at critical moments in the game.

"We are waiting for one of our key defenders, Jack Feys, to come back from a broken left foot. His return will just make us an even tougher team to play."

Mason Hopkins got the Falcons on the board with a goal in the first period. The period ended with the score tied at 1-1. The Falcons, with good defense in the last five minutes, led 5-3 at the half, scoring three goals after the Hornets had taken a 3-2 lead.

When senior Mason Hillegas scored with five minutes left in the fourth period, the Falcons had a 9-6 lead, but on a double-extra-man opportunity, the Hornets scored thirty seconds later. After an unsportsmanlike call on the Damascus bench, senior Jacob Jenkins scored with three minutes left. Damascus scored again with two minutes left and again with one minute left. It was a one-goal lead at 10-9, and the Hornets got the ensuing faceoff, but Volpe had a huge groundball pickup which got possession back for Poolesville. A desperation shot by Damascus as time expired went wide.

"So far, the Damascus game was the most fun we have had," said Johnson. "We are coming off a pretty good season last year. We lost a couple of good seniors, but we have all picked it up. We have played a couple of good teams so far. We beat Damascus for the second time in thirteen years. We have beaten them in back-to-back years. Other than that, the Northwest game was good for us. We played as a team, we shared the ball, everyone had it.

"Mason Hopkins has stepped up a lot this year, being a leader and being in charge of the team. Our two freshmen have stood their ground and made a place for themselves on the team. Looking forward to the Quince Orchard game on May 5."

"It was a pretty good game back and forth," said Jenkins, on the attack. "I felt like we could have played a lot better. I guess we were a little rusty coming back



Rear: Liam Brennen, Alex Incao, Ian Rodriguez, Stefan Rich, Ryan Soskin, Jack Roe, Mason Hillegas, Cole Johnson, Jacob Jenkins, Lucas Bocek, Mason Bean; front: Ashton Gaddis, Landon Fiery, Zach Ransen.

after the break. Lucas, our goalie, played very well. Like Cole said, we shot well against Northwest. We had good decision making. I really like beating Damascus last year, too. We crushed them by six, that was a highlight."

"We have a very experienced team," said senior Jack Roe. "We have fifteen seniors, so we are ready to have a big last ride. Last night was a fun game, back and forth all the way. We managed to pull it out. Vinny Volpe has made an amazing leap forward. He has taken almost all our faceoffs this year. I am looking forward to the Quince Orchard game but also to the Wootton game. They have a really strong team."

Continued on page 13.

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## In Your Own Backyard

### A Historic C&O Canal Culvert And a Stone Wall

By Jon Wolz

Along the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal, there are more than two hundred stone culverts carrying small creeks and streams beneath the earthen canal prism and towpath. A few of these culverts even carry roadways beneath the canal. Some road or passage culverts had streams flowing through them and, depending on the water level of the streams, were not always practical to use.

Culverts were constructed using all stone, or a combination of stone and wood, or a combination of stone and brick. After the canal became a National Historical Park in 1971, some of the culverts were repaired with concrete, and some of the barrels that have water flowing through them have been replaced with steel pipe. Culverts below Harper's Ferry were generally 110 feet long. At Mile 39.63 is Culvert 65, located near the entrance to the towpath by the Dickerson Conservation Park parking lot. This culvert has Chiswell's Run flowing through it and a spring stone at the entrance on the left side with "1832" cut in the face of the stone. This culvert is unique in that it is the only one on the canal that is "skewed" and "rifled." The culvert has a twelve-foot span and served as a passage culvert. A bridge was not built at Lock 26 which is three hundred yards downstream from the culvert. Passage and road culverts were larger in width and height as compared to most of the culverts that were used to carry only streams through them.

On May 28, 1830, David Trundle signed an agreement with the C&O Canal Company's attorney to allow Trundle and his heirs to operate a ferry across the canal from the Trundle farm. As the canal was being built through the Trundle farm, it would cut off thirty-three acres of farmland along the Potomac River. The C&O Canal Company thought to mitigate this inconvenience by allowing the Trundles to operate a ferry across the canal.

In 1831, the C&O Canal Company Board of Directors voted to authorize the construction of pivot bridges over Locks 26 and 27. Only the bridge at Lock 27

was built and served travelers using nearby Spinks Ferry that once crossed the Potomac River with a Maryland landing spot near the mouth of the Little Monocacy River. The C&O Canal Company did not build a bridge at Lock 26. According to canal historian Karen Gray, the C&O Canal Company preferred not to build bridges because they were costly to maintain and preferred to build passage culverts when they were needed.

By 1834, Trundle requested authority from the C&O Canal Company from the Board to erect a pivot bridge over Lock 26, "in lieu of the ferry way" to which he was entitled. Chief Engineer Fisk could think of no reason to deny this request provided the abutment for the bridge was on the berm side (opposite side of the canal from the towpath) of the waterway and that the company should at all times have "complete control over the bridge so as to prevent any interference with the use of the lock for navigation." This would be accomplished by a stipulation placing the bridge under the supervision of the lockkeeper. Trundle, not

Continued on page 13.



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Culvert 65 of the C&O Canal: the "1832" culvert.

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Continued from page 12.

**A Historic C&O Canal Culvert and a Stone Wall**

the lockkeeper, would turn the bridge, which would never be across the lock except when it was in use. Superintendent Elgin, when he at the Board's request investigated Trundle's request, reported that he did not know if a bridge at Lock 26 "would be of any aid to the Canal Company or to the neighborhood, as it would intrude upon the property" of the company by necessitating a road across the lockhouse lot. Elgin felt that the bridge would be useful to only Trundle as there was a road culvert about three hundred yards above the lock with a "tolerable" road leading to it. This road afforded Trundle's neighbors access to the ferry. Considering Elgin's findings, the board refused Trundle's request for a bridge at Lock 26. The Trundles would need to operate a ferry across the canal or use Culvert 65. The Trundles were farmers, and in addition to needing access to their lands cut off by the canal, they did business with local farms as well as farms in Loudoun County.

In 1862, William H. Trundle was operating a store next to the canal between the lock and Culvert 65. There was a stone dock at that location for the Trundle ferry operation and for boats to tie up at the store. The stone dock is visible today and is on the berm side of the canal. On the ground above the stone wall there is stone rubble. According to historian Jim Poole, the store was destroyed by fire by Union soldiers. In September 1862, William joined with the Confederates after they crossed White's Ford. Approximately thirty thousand Confederate infantry marched through Culvert 65 up to the Trundle farm road on their march to Frederick. The Confederates eventually fought the Union soldiers at the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam. While the infantry marched through the culvert, General Jubal Early's men threw a makeshift bridge over Lock 26 just upstream from Culvert 65 to haul wagons and cannon over the waters of the canal at the lock. Historians have written that the soldiers crossed the Monocacy River at Furnace Ford. They would have marched along Furnace Ford Road, passing by the Rock Hall home before crossing the Monocacy River at the ford. Most of the old Furnace Ford Road is abandoned with forests growing on it. The sunken impression of the road and stone walls that lined the road can still be seen.

I have gotten a closeup view of the outside and inside of Culvert 65. Wearing waders, I walked into the entrance and exit of the culvert. I saw the skewed stones on the ceiling of the culvert, and the "1832" stone. There is tree debris collecting at the entrance that should be removed by the park. Removing the debris will permit the normal flow of water. On the berm side of the culvert, Chiswell's Run has silted up over the decades, and the inflow of water to the culvert has changed. The stream should be realigned at the entrance to allow for a straight flow of water into the culvert. At the exit of the culvert, some stones have fallen from the arch into the water. On top of the culvert, there are two sinkholes that collect water when there are heavy rains. The water runs through the stone ceiling of the culvert at the sinkholes and falls into the stream below. The C&O Canal National Historical Park is in the process of evaluating the condition of all of the culverts in the park with the goal of repairing selected culverts. Hopefully, the park will give attention to the stabilization, repair, and restoration of historic Culvert 65.

Continued from page 11.

**Boys' Lacrosse Win Over Damascus Highlights PHS Spring Sport Season**

"It has been a good year for me," said Hopkins. "The team is looking great. Last night, we had some errors. Two weeks ago, against Northwest, we really played well. We are looking forward to playing like that for the rest of the season. I'd like to give our shoutout to our big defenders, Sean, Ethan, and Ian. They have really stepped it up. I am looking forward to playing Quince Orchard and Wootton. I think we can really give them a run for their money."

"I appreciate all my teammates," said Bocek. "It is absolutely a team effort... Shoutout to senior Ryan Soskin. He only started playing in high school, so he is impressive. He scored a very good goal in the Damascus game, and Jack Feys is one of the best defenders in the county. Once he comes back, it will help us a lot."

Other seniors are Mason Bean, Stefan Rich, Landon Fiery, Alex Incao, Ian Rodriguez, Ashton Gaddis, Liam Brennen, Zach Ranson, and Owen Dean.

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# Youth Sports

## PHS Girls' Lacrosse Team Off to a Good Start

By Jeff Stuart

"I think we have a lot more intensity this year," said senior captain and midfielder Phoebe Snelson. "Offensively and defensively, we have really improved since last season. I don't really know what changed. We just have more experience. I think our best game was against Northwest. Even though we lost, 10-9, we played a good game. We had great chemistry and were upbeat the whole game. I like to give a shout to our other two senior captains: Gabby Tuwiner has been good at directing the defense, and Cienna Stowers has been equally as good at setting up the offense. As for newcomers, even though she was on the team last year, Kristin Lang, a sophomore, is already very good. Once she gets to be a senior, she is going to be unstoppable. I am excited to see that happen. One play against Clarksburg stands out. I set a pick for Laynie Sofelkanik, a sophomore. Kate Dacanay, another sophomore, set another pick for her. It made it an easier scoring chance for her. She scored. It really helped us come back. We were tied with Clarksburg at the half, 8-8."

Clarksburg has only lost one game this season.

"I think our team chemistry is really good this year," said senior attack Cienna Stowers. "We are doing a good job communicating. We are doing a really good job of cutting and getting open. My shoutout goes to Kristin Lang. She is really helping our offense. Northwest was a hard loss. I think our team really wanted to win that one. We put a lot of effort into it."

"Like the other two captains have said, our team chemistry has been really good," said senior defense Gabi Tuwiner. "We will have to see over the course of the whole season, but through the four games we have had so far, I think we have done well. I think that the Northwest game was one of our best games, but I think the Seneca Valley Game, which we won, 15-1, was good for us. It was one of our first games. It helped us work on our fundamentals like passing and catching and was our second win of the season. I want to give a shoutout to Laynie. She is



Lauren Anderson, Ella Burdick, Gabi Tuwiner, Jenna Rothenberg, Cienna Stowers, and Phoebe Snelson.

a very fast and skilled player, and our goalie, senior Ella Burdick, has done well this year. She has done a good job of reading all the clears and finding who is open, and our backs are helping her out. Our overall defense has been strong."

Continued on page 15.

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Continued from page 14.

**PHS Girls' Lacrosse Team Off to a Good Start**

"Our season is still pretty young," said coach Sean Foster, who is coaching his second season and has a strong lacrosse background and stresses fundamentals, "but it is going well. Girls are jelling. We are really learning. There has been a lot of growth for all of us. This year, I have an assistant coach, a co-coach, Alana Rivas. She is a goalie coach and defense coach. She was goalie for Penn State, graduating in 2019. She played for Central Bucks High School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, and coached at Pennsbury High School in Fairless Hills.

"All my seniors have done an awesome job. They have really stepped up. My underclassmen have impressed me as well. Kristin Lang has stood out as a shooter.

Kate Dacanay and Laynie Sofelkanik have stepped up. I think, as a whole, the game against Northwest was probably the most solid game we had, but even though the final score did not show it, we played well. We had just come back from Easter break, so we got a little gassed in the second half, but in that first half, we really showed what we can do.

"The turnout this year is double what we had last year, so I think the interest is there. It will take a little while to get up to speed and learn the skills that we need, but overall, I think we are moving in the right direction."

Other seniors are Jenna Rothenberg on defense and Lauren Anderson on offense. Juniors are Dani Polson on defense and Allie Webster at midfield. Other sophomores are Mia Pappano, Sophie Kafetz, Ellen Lui, Valeria Castro Dugarte, and Neema Aldowa on defense, and Olivia Kwon on attack. Can Sosna, on attack, is a freshman.

The last home game is against Quince Orchard at 5:30 p.m. on May 5.

**Fun Fact...**

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Native Americans are the ones who invented the game of lacrosse, yet the details about how it was played originally remain a mystery. The rules were created in 1794, when a game between the Seneca and Mohawks (tribes) was played. The first women's lacrosse game was played in Scotland in 1890.

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#### May 1

##### PHS Varsity Home Game

Girls' tennis vs. Churchill. 5:15 p.m.

##### Town Commissioners' Meeting

*Poolesville Town Hall.* 7:00 p.m.

#### May 3

##### PHS Varsity Home Games

Baseball vs. Whitman. 5:15 p.m.

Softball vs. Whitman. 5:15 p.m.

#### May 4

##### American Legion Post 247

Monthly meeting. *Calleva offices, Poolesville.* 7:00 p.m.

#### May 5

##### UMCVFD Auxiliary Bingo

Featuring cash and gift cards with door prizes. Refreshments available for purchase; no outside food and/or beverages. Admission is \$20 which includes a game card and three chances to win in each game. *UMCVFD Fire Hall, 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville.* Doors open: 5:30 p.m., Games start: 7:00 p.m.

##### PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' Lacrosse vs. Quince Orchard. 5:15 p.m.

Boys' Lacrosse vs. Quince Orchard. 7:15 p.m.

#### May 6

##### 11th Annual Poolesville SpringFest

Beer-and-wine-tasting tent. More than nineteen breweries. \$30 advance ticket sales, \$40 day-of tickets, \$20 after 5:00 p.m. Entertainment: Hard

Swimmin' Fish, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; New Blue Soul, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. *Whalen Commons.* 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

#### May 10

##### Planning Commission Meeting

*Poolesville Town Hall.* 7:00 p.m.

#### May 13

##### Richard S. McKernon Youth Fishing Tournament

All youths between the ages of six and sixteen. Cost: \$1. Rain or shine. Prizes awarded by age category. *Stevens Park.* 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### May 15

##### Town Commissioners' Meeting

*Poolesville Town Hall.* 7:00 p.m.

#### May 19

##### Remembering a Lynching

A conversation about the George Peck historical marker. Hosted by: The Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project (MoCoLMP) and Riverworks Art Center. Panelists: Maria Briançon, president, Poolesville Seniors; Chuck Copeland, pastor, Hosanna Community Church; Kenny Sholes, local historian and Historic Medley District board member; and Feh Gana, student, Poolesville High School. Complimentary light refreshments and drinks for purchase. *Locals Farm Market— outdoors, 19929 Fisher Ave., Poolesville.* 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

#### May 20

##### UMCVFD Pork and Beef BBQ and Bake Sale

*Firehouse, 19801 Beallsville Road.* 11:00 a.m. until the pork is all gone!

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Continued from page 10.

**Essence Studios, Dance and Performing Arts:  
Not Just Dance and Not Just Ballet**

school performances, something that, as Jeff noted, is “very motivating to the actors and performers in enhancing their personal love of theater.”

In 2009, Hope Garden Children’s Ballet Theatre was established as a nonprofit 501(c)3, and both parents were right there as members of the board and involved in not just supervising the creation of stage sets but in helping with fundraising. With an initial production budget of \$9,000, the programs have grown to \$20,000 for the upcoming holiday performance. Beth remains confident in the people of our region and businesses of the Poolesville area once again coming through as they always have done through the years in helping to raise those funds.

Many area individuals have made very impressive personal donations to their mission while the commercial sector has been strong in support as sponsors and advertising in the playbill.

Today, Beth feels very fortunate to piggyback with Riverworks Performing Arts on June 10 in using its space at the emerging new performance venue in the Old Methodist Church on West Willard Road for a silent auction, where performances will be held on a new specialized dance floor/stage.

Essence Studios and Riverworks Art Center have joined in a journey to bring a powerful economic revitalization engine as the centerpiece of our new dynamic cultural role in Montgomery County.

Jeff Jones has observed that while this economic impact is important, it is the studio’s effect on our youth that defines its most important role. “Dance (like sports) takes a great deal of discipline, teamwork, cooperation, and coordination in pursuing a goal (dance). It brings immeasurable value in life. It teaches understanding on how to be patient, enhances a healthy and inquisitive mind, and brings out an effort you don’t often see in kids. When we introduce the performers by their age, it so often blows people away as our dancers act a lot more mature than their public counterparts. Patience and willingness to listen put these kids light years ahead, that’s what dance provides.”

Be sure to visit their website and Facebook page to learn even more about this incredible future and ways by which you can be a part of it and support them.



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## Business Briefs

### The Market at Deere Valley Farm Opening Soon

Deere Valley Farm in Dickerson is looking forward to expanding its operation to include a farm market this summer. The Market at Deere Valley will be focused on selling their farm-raised beef and pork as well as lamb and chicken. The Baker family is pleased to provide the community with quality meats and other locally-raised seasonal products. More information about the farm and market opening can be found on their Facebook (Deere valley farm) and Instagram (@dvh\_md) pages as well as at deerevalleyfarms.com

### Mother's Day in Poolesville

There are many ways to show your mother how much you love her right here in town, from restaurants to special gifts. Bassett's has a fantastic Sunday morning brunch with complementary mimosas and Bloody Marys. Of course, Locals has many unique breakfast menu selections along with fresh-baked breads and cookies. Does your favorite woman in the world have an affinity for the finer things in life? Luxurious Thistle Thickets goat milk soaps can be found at Calleva Farm Store and Poolesville Hardware. Fresh flowers from Stephanie's Secret Garden are another surefire way to please the senses. The Sweet Lemon has many great gift ideas, too. It's not hard to keep Mom happy in Poolesville.

## Fun Fact...

[townandcountrymag.com](http://townandcountrymag.com)

The history of American Mother's Day starts with peacemaker Ann Jarvis. During and following the Civil War, Ann Jarvis made a concerted effort to foster friendship and community between the mothers on both sides of the war. She started a committee in 1868 which established the beginnings of today's holiday, called "Mother's Friendship Day." Ann's daughter, Anna Reeves Jarvis, sought to honor her own mother by establishing an intimate day of observance that is the basis of today's holiday. The very first Mother's Day was celebrated in 1908.

Continued from page 3.

### Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Annual Meeting

is tied to the health of the soil. Healthy soil allows plants to grow to their maximum productivity without disease and pests and without a need for off-farm supplements. Soil is the foundation.

Healthy soil is teeming with bacteria, fungi, algae, protozoa, nematodes, and other tiny creatures. They all play a vital role in the health of the plants that live there.

Typically, soil consists of approximately forty-five percent minerals, five percent organic matter, twenty to thirty percent water, and twenty to thirty percent air. Soil has a fixed structure of aggregates that glue small parts of soil together. Carbon is stored in the soil.

Soil performs many functions. Water holds everything in the soil together. If the soil does not have enough aggregates, the water goes straight through the soil as runoff; it is wasted. Plants decompose and nourish other plants. Topsoil provides a home for deep-rooted plants. As topsoil breaks down and eventually disappears, there is erosion of the soil, and nothing can grow there. Large farming machines compress the soil, which adds to the problem.

How can we protect the soil and keep it healthy? There are several techniques. Practice no-till farming; this allows the farmer to grow crops or pasture without disturbing the soil through tillage. It also decreases the amount of soil erosion. Plant cover crops such as alfalfa or soybeans when the fields are not in active use. Crop rotation is the practice of planting different crops sequentially on the same plot of land to improve soil health, to optimize nutrients in the soil, and to combat pest and weed pressure. Cover your gardens' soil with leaf mulch. Limit chemical disturbance from pesticides, fungicides, insecticides and excess fertilizers. "Better living through chemistry" is not necessarily the best practice in agriculture or gardening.

Dr. Via provides free educational webinars on climate change and how you can help the environment in which we live. Risk management of the environment is everyone's responsibility.

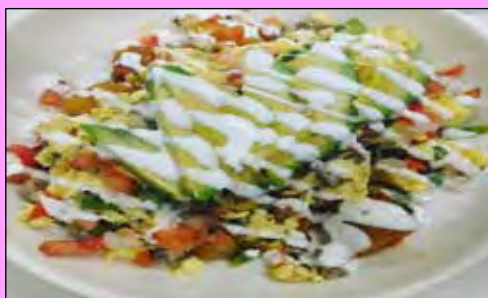


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**Smoked Salmon Eggs Benedict**  
Served with home fries and fruit

**Bottomless Brunch**  
**Mimosas & Bloody Marys**



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### MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND SPECIALS

**Appetizer**  
Coconut Shrimp or Baked Brie

**Entrées**  
Filet Mignon  
Chicken cordon bleu  
Shrimp strawberries salad  
Pistachio-Crusted Rockfish

**Dessert**  
Strawberry Shortcake

**Drink**  
Watermelon Mojito

301 972 7443



Continued from page 1.

**Commissioners Hold Hearing on FY24 Budget, Pass Renewable Energy Resolution, and Discuss Chickens Once Again**

the goal. The resolution was set for final consideration at the April 17 commissioners' meeting.

A large segment of the time at the April 17 commissioners' meeting was taken up with a discussion about the town's recently-passed ordinance regulating the raising of chickens in backyards. The discussion centered on the concerns of a local citizen, Elizabeth Carpenter, who had applied for a permit to raise chickens and found that she could not satisfy the setback requirements that are included in the new ordinance. It provides, among other things, that a chicken coop with enclosed "run" be set up in the backyard of an applicant, and it must be one hundred feet from the property lines.

Yost was asked how many homes might be affected by the problem Carpenter encountered. He replied that it would mostly be in homes that are zoned for one-third-acre lots. Even in those cases, only a portion of those homes would be affected because of the configuration of their backyards.

Town President Jim Brown said that while he understood Carpenter's disappointment, the town had spent "hundreds of hours discussing the ordinance" in both the Planning Commission and at the commission level. While many supported the idea of allowing chickens to be raised in town, there was also "very strong opposition" to the idea. He explained that the commissioners had worked hard to come up with an ordinance that balanced the interests of all sides and still allowed citizens to raise chickens if they wished to do so.

When asked about the number of permits that have been requested so far, Assistant Town Manager Niles Anderegg said that four applications have been submitted and only one, Carpenter's, had been denied.

It was pointed out during the discussion that the town has a Board of Zoning Appeals where applicants can appeal a decision made by the Planning Commission or town staff. Yost said, however, that appeals must be based on a demonstration that the applicant has suffered a "hardship." In Carpenter's case, the unusual configuration of her property might be the basis of such an appeal. During the discussion, the cost of an appeal, \$650—which approximates, according to Anderegg, the cost of staff time involved in processing an appeal—was mentioned as a possible barrier to applying.

During the discussion on the issue, it was brought up that setback standards vary a great deal across jurisdictions, but most are set at levels far lower than the hundred-foot requirement in the town's ordinance. Commissioners asked about the idea of lowering the setback standard, but Brown pushed back, saying the ordinance had only just been put into place and that, so far, all but one of the applications had been approved.

Commissioner Sarah Paksima said she personally "didn't see any need for regulations at all" and wondered whether the small number of applications the town had so far received was due to the stringency of the new ordinance's requirements. Commissioner Ed Reed said he wanted to hear "other voices" before any changes are considered because there were both supporters and opponents of the ordinance. Commissioner Martin Radigan was sympathetic to Carpenter's plight. In response to a proposal from Brown that the commission allow a "cooling off period of six months" to elapse before considering whether any changes are warranted, he said that he did not think that further discussion should necessarily be put off during that time frame if it became evident before then that more work needed to be done on the ordinance. Commissioner Jeff Eck agreed with Brown that the cooling off period made sense. In the end, the commissioners agreed to wait for a period of time to see how the new ordinance works before considering whether or not to make any changes.

In the "new business" segment of the meeting, the commissioners unanimously passed the Renewable Energy Resolution. They next moved to vehicles speeding along the town's "main road," Fisher Avenue. In response to complaints from citizens, town staff reached out to the Montgomery County Police Department and secured use of a speed tracking device that can operate in "ghost mode," meaning it measures and records the speeds of cars but does not display the speed. They also mentioned to police the need for more enforcement.

A number of actions were discussed if high levels of speed are recorded consistently, including new signage, a social media campaign, and possibly hiring an off-duty police officer as Barnesville does to periodically track speeds and issue tickets. It was added that the new Streetscape plan would help reduce speeds because it includes traffic-calming structures such as curb bump outs,

pedestrian islands in some areas, and new turning lanes. Yost mentioned, however, that, despite the town winning a more-than \$1.45 million grant, the process for securing the money is extremely ponderous, and it may take many months for the town to receive funds.

**Of Poetry and Prose**

poets.org

**Near the End of April**

Near the end of April  
On the verge of May—  
And o my heart, the woods were dusk  
At the close of day.

Half a word was spoken  
Out of half a dream,  
And God looked in my soul and saw  
A dawn rise and gleam.

Near the end of April  
Twenty Mays have met,  
And half a word and half a dream  
Remember and forget.

— William Stanley Braithwaite  
1878-1962

**May Day**

A delicate fabric of bird song  
Floats in the air,  
The smell of wet wild earth  
Is everywhere.

Red small leaves of the maple  
Are clenched like a hand,  
Like girls at their first communion  
The pear trees stand.

Oh I must pass nothing by  
Without loving it much,  
The raindrop try with my lips,  
The grass with my touch;

For how can I be sure  
I shall see again  
The world on the first of May  
Shining after the rain?

— Sara Teasdale  
1884-1933



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donation for  
WUMCO!





## Remembrance

### Elwood King, Jr.

On April 10, 2023, Elwood “Woody” King, Jr. passed away quietly while at home, in Poolesville, just shy of his sixty-eighth birthday.

Known as “Woody” to his family and friends, Elwood, Jr. was born on April 29, 1955, in Olney, to Elwood King, Sr., and Emma Powell. He is the sibling of Marcus Dorsey, Carroll Powell, Brenda Cooper, Cheryl Riggs, Charles “Chuck” Dorsey (deceased), and Deborah Kinney (deceased). Elwood attended Sherwood High School in Sandy Spring.

Elwood is survived by his children, Denzel King, Anthony King, Danielle King, Daeshell King, Kesha Gaither, and Stephen Christian (prior to his marriage); stepson, Wamwega Christopher Jihad Shaw; daughter-in-law, Dr. Shelby Shaw; and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

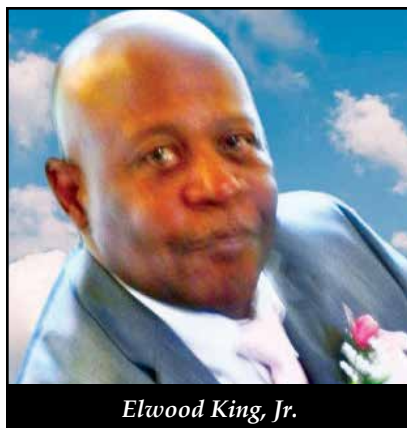
Elwood was a retired plumber, mechanic, and heavy machine operator. He drove trucks and heavy equipment for various companies in Montgomery County for more than forty years and was never late or missed a day. To Woody, being on time was late—you needed to be at work fifteen to thirty minutes early! Woody took pride in his work, and it showed because, even though retired, he would often be called upon for odd jobs or to train or guide younger workers by his former employers.

Woody was a Dallas Cowboys fan and football fanatic, and he could be heard many Mondays, Thursdays, and Sundays with his siblings, family members, and friends talking smack on the phone about their teams. When the Cowboys lost, he would be miserable, but when they won, heaven help you if the Cowboys beat your team, he had no problem calling you to rub it in your face!

Woody valued his connection to his family and friends as precious gifts. He loved spending time with his siblings and would often invite friends or family over to watch football or just share a good meal. A country boy and meat-and-potatoes man at heart, this time of year would find Woody getting his smoker and grill ready so that everyone could have a good time and enjoy themselves.

Woody loved sports, fishing, car racing, hunting shows, and westerns. He also loved music, gospel, R&B, and oldies. There was not a Sunday morning spent without listening to morning gospel on WHUR or a day when you did not hear him bopping to R&B and classics in his car.

Woody was not a complicated man. He expected people to work hard, be honest, respect one another, and, as often as possible, get together to laugh and enjoy life with friends and family! Elwood “Woody” King, Jr. had a big impact and made a positive difference in people’s lives in ways he may have not always realized, but those of us who received that blessing—his smile, his warmth—we know, and we will never forget!



Elwood King, Jr.

**The Sweet Lemon**  
Gifts with a Twist

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Moms, Dads, and Grads!**  
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## Of Poetry and Prose

[discoverpoetry.org](http://discoverpoetry.org)

### Home Pictures in May

The sunshine bathes in clouds of many hues  
And morning's feet are gemmed with early dews,  
Warm daffodils about the garden beds  
Peep through their pale slim leaves their golden heads,  
Sweet earthly nuns of Spring; the gosling broods  
In coats of sunny green about the road  
Waddle in extasy; and in rich moods  
The old hen leads her flickering chicks abroad,

Oft scuttling 'neath her wings to see the kite  
Hang wavering o'er them in the spring's blue light.  
The sparrows round their new nests chirp with glee  
And sweet the robin Spring's young luxury shares  
Tootling its song in feathery gooseberry tree  
While watching worms the gardener's spade unbares.

— John Clare

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Continued from page 5.

#### Toasting Poolesville's Peter's Forest

The intrigue about Thomas is only one part of the story about the Plater Family. It really began with his father. You see, the little house at the end of Beall Street was owned by the son of one of the participants in our nation's Constitutional Convention. His father was George Plater, and students of Maryland history would know of him for something else. He was the state's governor from 1791 to 1792. Was this a one-year term? No. An untimely death cut short his time as governor.

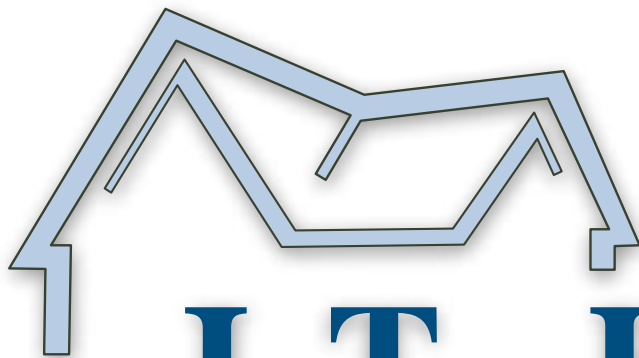
Of course, there are other tidbits of information from the family of the owners of this house. One of Thomas Plater's daughters, Jane Williams, was quite a character in her own right. Her first husband was old enough to be her father, and her second husband, Mr. Pleasants, was young enough to be her son. She wasn't shy about defending her reputation. In her personal notes, she recorded that she wanted it known that her second husband was not to be confused with a Mr. Basil Pleasants. Seems that that gentleman was "infamous in the area" for his painful and unsuccessful attempts to fly! She just wanted to clarify to everyone that she did not marry "that flying Pleasants" (sure sounds like some more Mystery History to us!).

In 1850, the house became known as the Cator Home after its owner, Samuel Cator (sometimes spelled as Cater). Mr. Cator's granddaughter, Anna Mary, reported an incident we found interesting: During the Civil War, some Union soldiers came to the home to demand dinner. While the troops were fed by the Cators, it was duly noted that they never "remunerated the Cator family" for the meal. Damn Yankees!

Later, the home once again became a tavern for a time. Richard P. Spates (a blacksmith by trade) also ran the hotel/tavern that was near the triangular property where the Old Town Hall and Bank Museum is now located.

In 1950, Rinery's Tavern underwent extensive restoration. Today, for those of you who visit Whalen Commons, be sure to peek to the east behind the shopping center where you will see for yourself Poolesville's very first watering hole.

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Continued from page 4.

**Rugosa Rose: What's Not to Love?**

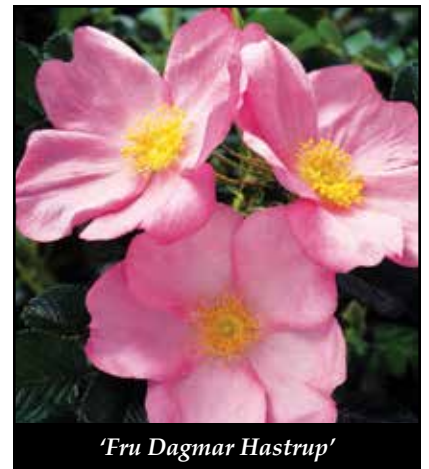
them being invasive. I have four of them planted in their own bed. I prune them in early spring to keep them within their boundaries.

Today, there is renewed discussion on native versus non-native plants. Sustainability is not a black-and-white topic; there are many factors to consider. There is widespread belief that native plants are superior to non-native plants because of their adaptation to local environmental conditions. Many think that non-native plants are harmful to biodiversity. This is not the complete truth. Research suggests that non-native plants can provide for richer biodiversity and benefits to our local ecosystem. Some studies show that certain non-native plants can attract a greater abundance of pollinators than their native counterparts in a time when pollinating populations are in decline. Butterflies, birds, and bees love rugosa roses. An interesting fact is that the popular Knockout roses do not attract bees. These roses are hybridized and do not produce high levels of nectar which the bees need. Non-native plants can mitigate pests and reduce use of agrochemicals for nature to take care of our pest problems. We need to create an environment in the garden where beneficial insects will visit. In May 2019, researchers at Indiana University Environmental Institute published a study that revealed that warmer temperatures affect non-native plants differently than native plants. Non-native plants may be better at shifting their flowering time compared to native species. The ability to flower is very important because it determines whether the plant will produce seeds and survive. Over the years, I have had many native plants die due to changing climate conditions. My rugosas have survived and bloomed very well for forty-three years. What is there not to like about rugosa roses?

Now, I hope that I have convinced you to plant some rugosas in your garden this spring. Here are some suggested varieties: 'Thérèse Bugnet,' 'Roseraie de L'Hay,' 'Hansa,' 'Blanc Double de Coubert,' 'Fru Dagmar Hastrup,' 'Alba,' and 'F.J. Grootendorst.' Finally, I must not forget to mention: These roses have the most amazing fragrance!



'Blanc Double de Coubert'



'Fru Dagmar Hastrup'



'Hansa'



'Thérèse Bugnet'

Photos from heirloomroses.com

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## Remembrances

### Bonnie Jane Pullis Anthony

Bonnie Jane Pullis Anthony was born to Hampton and Amelia (Bonawitz) Pullis in Kingston, Pennsylvania. She was the first of three children (Hampton, Jr. and Lura). She is a graduate of Wilson High School in West Lawn, Pennsylvania, and the Reading Hospital School of Nursing in Reading, Pennsylvania. She served as an RN at the Reading Hospital until 1946.

She married Gilbert C. Anthony in 1946, shortly after he graduated from the United States Military Academy, West Point. During their fifty-seven-year marriage, they lived in Heidelberg, Germany; State College, Pennsylvania; Ellicott City; Owego, New York; Potomac; and Mendham, New Jersey; before finally settling in Barnesville in 1974.

Bonnie was very active in church, garden club, and several bridge groups. She served two terms as the president of the Rural Women's Republican Club and, for many years, served as a poll judge. Bonnie also worked on the Jean Roesser state senate and Ellen Sauerbrey gubernatorial campaigns. An avid gardener, Bonnie twice served as the Monocacy Garden Club president. Bonnie's true passion was bridge. She was a true master of the game and would play any time anyone asked her.

Bonnie is survived by her sister, Lura Zeswitz of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; her son, David Anthony of Barnesville; her daughter, Carol Morgan of Woodbine; and her five grandchildren, James, Matthew, and Elizabeth Morgan of Woodbine, and Parker and Benton Anthony of Barnesville.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in her memory to Gilchrist Hospice Care of Howard County.



Bonnie Jane Pullis Anthony

### Patricia Ann Roof

Patricia Ann Roof lost her valiant, nine-year battle against colon cancer on April 13, 2023 at the age of seventy-two. She was surrounded by her family in the comfort of her home and will be forever remembered for her infectious laugh and purest of hearts.

Patricia is survived by her daughter Laura Friedman (Adam); son Scott Roof (father James Roof); granddaughters, Josephine and Grace Friedman; sister, Bonnie Henry Cohen (Rob Cohen); nieces, Alyssa Cohen and niece Angela Case (Michael); great-niece, Casden Case; great-nephew, Sawyer Case; and the family of her late nephew, Richard L. Donato II (Gail), great-niece Juliana Donato and great-nephews Richard L. Donato, III and Chase Donato.

To honor Patricia, a Celebration of her "Fabulous" Life will be held on Wednesday, May 10 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Windridge Vineyards in Darnestown. All who knew and loved her are welcome to attend.

Please join Patricia's family as they continue her fight against colon cancer by either donating to her personal fundraising page [donate.coloncancercoalition.org/fundraise-your-way-honor/Pattysfabulousforce](https://www.gofundme.com/f/fundraise-your-way-honor/Pattysfabulousforce) or join our walking team for the 2023 Get Your Rear in Gear 5K on October 15 in Baltimore.



Patricia Ann Roof

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](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com)



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## Yard Sale

Saturday, May 20th, 2023

8:00am - 12:00pm inside the Gym

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Get great deals on household goods, tools, clothes, toys, furniture & many more.



All proceeds will benefit the students going to M-Fuge Summer Camp 2023 & Youth events @ PBC.

For More Information:

[www.facebook.com/poolesvillebaptistchurch](https://www.facebook.com/poolesvillebaptistchurch)  
[www.poolesvillebaptistchurch.org](https://www.poolesvillebaptistchurch.org)

We are collecting items in good condition May 1st-18th, from 4:30pm-6:30pm. Please contact us prior to drop-off.



## Remembrances

### Roy Raymond Bohr, Jr.

Roy Raymond Bohr, Jr., 67, of Poolesville passed away on April 3, 2023 after a long battle with AFTD (dementia).

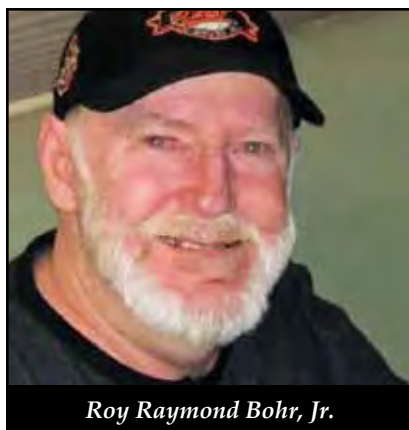
Roy was the loving husband of 49 years of Patti Bohr.

Born on September 17, 1955 in Florida, he was the son of the late Roy Raymond, Sr. and Virginia (Mason) Bohr.

Roy is survived by his wife Patricia; his two children, Amy Bohr and Michael Bohr (Andrea); two sisters, Dorothy Diaz and Virginia Bowie; five grandchildren, Melissa, Eric, Sean, Josh, and Catalina; and two great-grandchildren, Andrina and Freya.

He was preceded in death by one son, Joshua Bohr; and one sister, Helen Chaney.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in his memory to the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration ([www.theaftd.org](http://www.theaftd.org)).



Roy Raymond Bohr, Jr.

### John William Flude

John William Flude of Darnestown, died suddenly on Tuesday, April 4, 2023. John was born on February 27, 1944 in Columbus, Mississippi, the son of the late John W. Flude, Sr. and Effie LaFleur Flude. John was also preceded in death by his sister, Cecile Flude Hardin.

He is survived by his loving wife of thirty-nine years, Lorraine Flude; his son, Andrew of Darnestown; his sister, Susan Flude Moore of Dallas, Texas; nieces, Felicia Lindau of Westport, Connecticut and Andrea Jensen of Beaverton, Oregon; three great-nephews, one great-niece; and numerous cousins in Louisiana and Texas.

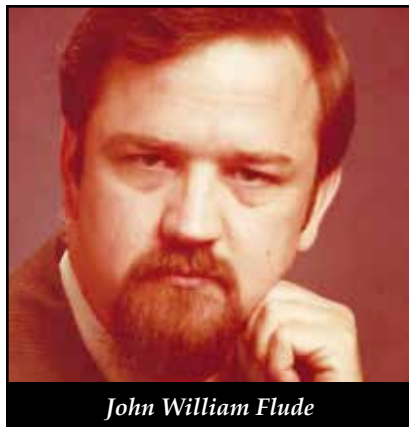
John graduated from the Kincaid School (1961) and received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Tulane University (1966) in New Orleans, Louisiana. He participated in the Naval ROTC in college.

After graduation, John served in the United States Navy as an officer aboard submarines and surface ships. He received numerous medals and awards during his military service. John retired as a commander from the navy after twenty years of service on active and reserve duty. He also worked for Naval Sea Systems Command in Arlington, Virginia as a systems engineer traveling to U.S. Naval bases in Scotland and Spain while with NAVSEA. He co-authored the *Predictive Maintenance Primer* for the Electric Power Research Institute as well as writing several articles on predictive maintenance and presented several papers at symposia. He was a licensed professional engineer and proud of it!

John loved to scuba dive and was an assistant instructor with the National Association of Underwater Instructors. He enjoyed traveling and taking photos with his Nikon camera and many lenses. He even set up a home darkroom to develop his own film. John also participated with Toastmasters and was a member of Mensa.

John's professional activities included being president and director of the Potomac Chapter of the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers and president of the D.C. Council of Engineering and Architectural Societies.

Services with military honors will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.



John William Flude

### Compton Seth Jones, Jr.

Compton Seth Jones, Jr., 63, of Poolesville, passed away on April 2, 2023.

Compton was the loving husband of Penny Jones.

Born on May 2, 1959 in Washington, D.C., he was the son of the late Compton Seth and Ruth (Barton) Jones.

Compton was an avid fisherman who loved spending time on the water with his friends; he also loved being outdoors. He enjoyed taking drives through Poolesville and capturing photos of the wildlife and beautiful sunsets.

Compton is survived by his wife; his son, Ryan Compton Jones; one sister, Caroline Acker; his mother; father-in-law; sisters-in-law; brothers-in-law; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in his memory to the Save the Bay Foundation or to the Upper Montgomery County Fire Department, 19801 Beallsville Rd, Beallsville, MD 20839.



Compton Seth Jones, Jr.

### Ethel Shannon

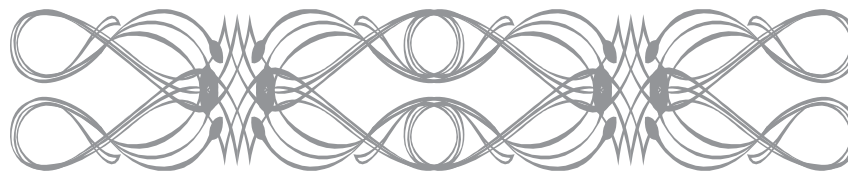
Ethel Shannon of Frederick, and formerly of Arlington, Virginia and Poolesville, died at Homewood at Frederick on February 8, 2023.

Ethel was a true people person and always on the go. Bowling and bridge with her friends continued into her early eighties. She went to Beautician School at age forty and practiced her skills until age seventy-five.

She volunteered at Arlington Hospital and belonged to the Arlington Forest UMC. She also volunteered at Homewood. She loved going to the beach and was a lifetime Redskins football fan.

She is survived by daughter, Linda Roof (Phil); son, Dan (Nancy); three step-grandsons, Kevin, Steve, and Danny Roof; granddaughter Cassie; two granddaughters, Brenna and Emerson; six great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by husband, Adam (Pete) Shannon in 1985; parents, Harry and Betty Grubb; three brothers; and two sisters.



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Continued from page 1.

### The True History of White's Ferry and the Virginia Landing

The court order directed both parties to lay out the ferry landing "at White's Ferry." They reported back to the court that they had laid out the landing in the presence of the overseer for the Rust farm (now Rockland Farm). The condemnation order confirming the location of the landing stated that there was no objection by the owner to the establishment of the landing in the location selected. The order also recites the amount that the landowner was to be paid for the land. County records show that the payment was made.

All available evidence is that the landing continued from 1871 to until recently without any objection. In 1932, the landing and the road from Route 15 to the edge of the river were taken into the State Secondary Highway System by the Byrd Act. In 2003, when the flood waters from a hurricane damaged the landing and the retaining wall, the owner of the ferry built a new concrete retaining wall. The current owners of the land, descendants of the original Rust family, filed a suit to contest the location of the wall, claiming that it was outside of the original landing. In the suit, they also contested—for the very first time ever—the legality of the original 1871 condemnation on the grounds that a plat of the condemnation area was not filed in the case as required by statute. It should be noted that other cases decided under the same statute have held that the absence of a plat is not fatal if there is evidence that the parties had agreed to the location or if too much time had passed without objection.

It was argued that the overwhelming evidence established that the ferry had been in the same location for over two hundred years, the Rust family had been

paid for the landing, the parties had originally agreed on the location, in the over-150 years since the condemnation, the landowner had never objected to the location and, finally, for approximately ninety years, the road and landing had been part of the State Highway System. There was no credible evidence that the condemned ferry landing had ever been in some other location. In spite of all of the compelling evidence, in 2020, the Loudoun County court erroneously ruled that, without an 1871 plat, it could not determine where the ferry landing was legally located. There are two surveys of record from the early 1900s that show the landing approximately where it is today. The court did not find them conclusive on exactly where the condemned landing was originally located.

In summary, the record clearly shows that the original owners of the Virginia land, the Rust family, were paid, and they agreed without contention to the public landing as it exists today. The recent legal dispute that settled in favor of the Devlin family did not alter these facts. That case was settled in favor of the Devlins on a completely separate issue that determined that the Browns had inadvertently built a retention wall for the safety of the ferry riders on what was partially the Devlin farm. The court, in making that ruling, offered the Browns the option of tearing down the wall or paying Rockland \$100,000 to keep it in place. The Browns made the choice to pay the court settlement fee rather than lose the safety and security of the retention wall. The court also ruled that, since the error in the placement of the landing was clearly not intentional by the Browns, the Devlins' request that the Browns pay the Devlins' court costs was denied.

It is clear the ancestors of the current owners of Rockland Farm were paid an agreed-upon fee for the use of the landing. The dispute of today attempts to nullify those court proceedings and to rewrite history.

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Peter H. Eeg, DVM

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Normal urine in a healthy dog or cat is transparent yellow, also known as straw yellow or pale gold. To check the color of your pet's urine, collect it in a clear plastic cup or on a white plate. Be sure the cup or plate are clean.

Different shades of yellow other than the pale gold can be an indicator of potential health abnormalities. If the urine is very pale or colorless, it could indicate that excessive water intake or retention is occurring, so persistent increased water intake and clear, colorless urine output that lasts for more than a couple of days should be brought to your veterinarian's attention as soon as possible. Additional tests on the urine can be done to look for glucose (diabetes), or kidney/liver changes.

Urine that is very dark yellow could indicate a lack of adequate water intake or access to water. Water is the most critical nutrient to which we and our animals must have ready access on a daily basis. Long term water deprivation can produce kidney, liver, heart, and other organ dysfunction. Be sure that clean, fresh, and safe water is always available to your friends.

Urine that has an orange, brown, or black appearance is an important sign of a potentially-dangerous metabolic change in your pet. It can indicate liver, bile duct, gallbladder, pancreatic, red blood cell, or kidney damage. You should bring your pet to your veterinarian as soon as possible if you see this color urine.

Reddish urine is an indication that there may be free blood in the bladder or kidneys. You should not wait to see if it clears, but bring your pet to your veterinarian as soon as possible. This color change could indicate a bacterial, viral, or, in rare cases, parasitic infection. In many cases, the urine color returns to more normal as the disease progresses, so normal color after a red color is not always an indication of return to normal.

If you have any concerns about how your pet is urinating, take a video to share with your veterinarian and collect some urine as indicated above. Be sure the urine is fresh and not frozen. Do not let it sit for more than an hour before submitting it to your veterinarian. You may also wait and have your veterinarian and staff collect the urine for you.

Every animal pees, and it is a goldmine of information for you and your veterinarian about your pet's health and happiness.



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