

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Monthly Newspaper

April 2024 • Volume XX, Number 2



These fine folks enjoyed a great bowl of soup and made a donation to the hungry all at the same time. Family Album has more details and photos on page 2.



These happy folks are in a famous place in town. The photo is taken from an unusual vantage point. Details are in Tidbits on page 5.



This Poolesville resident is in training for a trans-Atlantic crossing in her cardboard boat. She may want to consider crossing only the English Channel. More details are on page 5.



Poolesville's Walsh family went someplace special to see something special! The destination is revealed on page 16.

Town Politics for 2024: A Chicken in Every Pot!

By Link Hoewing

Chickens, cannabis, and budget discussions dominated the Town of Poolesville March meetings. The commissioners once again grappled with the chicken ordinance and discussed proposed zoning rules governing the siting of any cannabis retailers who might decide to locate to the Town of Poolesville. They also agreed to schedule the draft FY2025 budget for a public hearing on April 8. This is the last stage in the adoption of a final budget for the coming year.

At the March 4 meeting, the commissioners discussed a request from residents to revisit the ordinance allowing chickens to be raised in residential backyards in town. The ordinance was adopted last February, so the commissioners felt there had been adequate time to review its implementation.

Assistant Town Manager Niles Anderegg said that eight permits to

keep chickens had been approved. Two complaints came up in the past year due to homeowners not being able to meet the requirements of the ordinance. Several citizens testified.

The first said that a few small adjustments could make the ordinance fairer and allow for more homeowners to raise chickens. She said that the number of chickens that can be kept should be raised from six to twelve birds because only two to three eggs are produced by six hens per day, not enough for most families. She also said the ordinance does not provide for a large enough pen for chickens, and the setbacks are too large, making it difficult for many with odd-shaped or smaller properties to qualify for a permit.

Another resident said that more chicken raising could be a part of our "sustainable Poolesville" movement since it will help our residents grow more of their own food. Chickens also

eat food scraps, she added, reducing the amount of food thrown out by residents and reducing the demand for the landfill and incinerator.

Two residents testified that, in their cases, the size or shape of their properties made it impossible to qualify for a permit. Niles Anderegg said he had tried to help one of the residents, but it was impossible to make the chicken coop fit within the guidelines.

The commissioners listened and agreed to take back the input and consider whether the ordinance needed to be changed.

The final step in the approval of the so-called "Fishpool" or Willard development, the approval of the Public Improvements Plan or PIA, was okayed by the commissioners. Town Manager Wade Yost noted that, in the final plan, the Willards did not meet the smaller square foot per house target needed to allow the town to lower

Continued on page 22.

Poolesville Swim Boys Claim 11th State Title; Girls Place Third

By Jeff Stuart

The Poolesville High School boys' swim team won its eleventh Class 3A/2A/1A State Title at the 2024 MPSSAA Swimming and Diving State Championships on February 24 at the University of Maryland's Epley Recreation Center.

The Falcons finished with 325 points to 247.5 for second place Rockville, who broke Poolesville's streak of ten straight titles by claiming the title last year. The girls finished in third place with 231 points behind Northern-Cal with 307 and Damascus with 257.

In all, the Poolesville swimmers took home ten total medals: one gold, four silver, and five bronze.

The Poolesville boys finished first in their last event of the day, the 400-yard freestyle relay.



It's true that POO is the abbreviation used for PHS at swim meets; the other truth is that when POO hits the pool, everybody else had better get out! Meet your 2024 State Champions!

Sophomore Ethan Lee, senior Daniel Zamaray, junior Jaden Hou, and senior William Sheeran were the swimmers. In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Lee,

sophomore Ferrara, Sheeran, and Hou finished second; and in the first event of the day, the Falcons 200-yard medley

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Family Album



Bernie Mihm, Jim Brown, Congressman David Trone, Martin Radigan, and Ed Reed.



Crafters and vendors held an outdoor market at Bassett's in March.



Supporters chose a bowl during a fundraiser at Locals on behalf of the Back Pack Bites, a program to help students in need in the Ag Reserve. The event was sponsored by WUMCO, KPC Buddhist Relief, and Poolesville Little Pantry.



Dr. Tim Pike, Hilary Schwab, Laura Davis, Olivia Murphy, Jeff Eck, and Lisa Sanders.



Alex Jamison, Cheryl Kenly, Diane Hayden, Linda Howard, and Denise Jackson.



Bernie Mihm, Ed Reed, Jennifer Singh, Jeff Stempler, and Jonathan Harris.

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Local News

1989 PHS Graduate Heads Air Drop Operation to Help Feed Gaza Population

By Rande Davis

Brigadier Gen. Sean Paul Davis, a 1989 Poolesville High School graduate, commands the 13th Armored Corps Command which was tasked with the operation to deliver emergency MREs (Meal, Ready-to-Eat) to help feed the people in the Gaza Strip. Stars and Stripes, a daily American military newspaper, reported the following story in its March 18 issue:

Work has been going on around the clock since the beginning of this month at the largest U.S. base in the Middle East as soldiers and airmen scurry to assemble aid pallets for airdrops to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

On the Al Udeid flightline Saturday, servicemembers loaded two U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III cargo planes with more than 28,800 military rations and 34,500 bottles of water. The planes took off from the base the following day, on their way to the U.S. military's thirteenth airdrop of aid into northern Gaza, a U.S. Central Command statement said Sunday. Brigadier Gen. Sean Davis, head of the Army's 13th Armored Corps Sustainment Command, said the provision of aid by various means could end up resembling a very different operation—the Berlin Airlift. For fifteen months between June 1948 and September 1949, that operation delivered more than 2.3 million tons of cargo to Berlin residents after the Soviet Union imposed a blockade. "The entire base has mobilized for this," Davis said Sunday.

The U.S. and Jordanian air forces have dropped 318,912 meals and 144,000 bottles of water, according to Central Command statements since March 2. Pallets from Al Udeid are filled with Meal, Ready-to-Eat rations, which have about 1,300 calories each and include an entrée, snacks, and a heater. The rations come from other U.S. bases in the region and do not contain pork, in accordance with Islamic dietary rules, air force officials said.

The war that began October 7, after a Hamas terrorist attack killed 1,200 people in Israel, has created an acute crisis for residents of Gaza.

Airdrops alone don't provide sufficient supplies, aid organizations argue. The air routes are part of a larger undertaking that includes a sea route and efforts to send aid by land, which is seen as the fastest, most efficient method, Davis said.

The sea route refers to plans to deliver aid via a temporary pier, which U.S. officials say could provide as many as two million meals a day. The land route, Davis said, could involve the U.S. providing food to contractors who bring the aid into Gaza. Should the sea and land routes ramp up, the air bridge can wind down, he added.

Earlier this month, the U.S., along with nations in the Persian Gulf and Europe, began a surge of aid into Gaza, where almost 2.2 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian relief, according to the United Nations and nonprofit relief groups. Military food inspectors at the base check the condition of the rations, which are then prepared for airdrop by soldiers with the help of some eighty air force volunteers on base. The pallets of food plus a parachute weigh 1,200 pounds, and the ones carrying water bottles weigh more than a ton. Soldiers attaching parachutes on top of each pallet said they are aware of the damage these pallets could do if the rigging malfunctions.

"We do everything in our power to ensure these bundles go down to the ground safely," said army Staff Sgt. Jacob Engstrom, a parachute rigger from the 165th Quartermaster Company. One parachute malfunctioned March 8, killing five Palestinians and wounding several others, CNN reported. A CENTCOM statement said that that errant airdrop was not a U.S. operation.

Soldiers at Al Udeid said they use a different kind of parachute than the one shown in the video of the fatal airdrop. These low-velocity parachutes are



Brig. Gen. Sean Paul Davis,
PHS Class of 1989.

Continued on page 14.



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Rande(m) Thoughts Top 15 List of Truly Rande(m) Thoughts

Since lists are all the rage on the internet, here is my list:

- Nothing binds our humanity more than sharing another person's rapturous laughter or witnessing their soul draining tears.
- I love how a little snow on the ground makes it so easy to sit and do nothing.
- I would love, just one more time, to have my grandma's soft, date-filled sugar cookies. We have a recipe, but her "filling of love" is missing.
- The world would be a better place if we got one last number one hit from Neil Diamond.
- Whenever I think of my mom, I always smile. That was her effect on others. Her smile was infectious. Her favorite goodbye was: "Love you, always and all ways!" At least, that was the favorite for her children.
- Oh, what a wonderful feeling, when I first lie down in my bed, stretch my legs full out, and feel my entire body melt into the mattress. It gets even better as I get older.
- How can one measure the anticipatory thrill one gets as the long putt begins a sweeping curve, crawling assuredly toward and then finally dropping into the hole—or the disappointment when it stops a half ball short.
- I never felt more secure than the time when, as a tyke sitting in the middle of the front bench seat (no seat belts back then) of the family car, I reached over with my small hand and held my father's big fingers in mine.
- One of the sweetest words I may have ever heard came from my daughter Mieke when she was only about four years old. While sitting next to me on the couch, she looked up with those beautiful innocent eyes and said, "My good ol' buddy, pal, Dad."
- Nothing stabbed my heart as a kid more or made me stronger than not making a team.
- No choral arrangement was ever so joyous or exhilarating as when my football teammates and I would sing together in the locker room, "There she was just a-walkin' down the street, singin', 'Do wah diddy diddy dum diddy do!'" Every time I hear that song, the camaraderie with my teammates returns to fill my spirit.
- I still can recall so perfectly the memorable aroma in grandfather's unheated barn of his champion gladiola bulbs lying dormant over the winter in wooden bins, sorted by color, slumbering until spring. That's why I still grow gladiolas even today.
- Has my hair ever been more soaked by sweat than from dancing shoeless in the hot, non-air-conditioned gym at a junior high sock hop as the DJ joked while spinning the 45s?
- As a Commanders fan, I am exhausted from having the pre-season the only hopeful part of my season. The annual collapse is sure to come. When the collapse comes early, I am spared from those rare moments when a string of early wins fools me into thinking, Maybe this year. (Then again, Maybe this year...)
- Have you ever watched one of those YouTube videos of an incredibly-talented street singer? What amazes me is how so many people can just walk by and not stop to listen for even a second. Dear Lord, may I always be one who stops to listen to the music.

Thinking of singers or musicians, I have always had a great regret that I never learned to play an instrument until my mother-in-law assuaged that feeling by noting that it is the role of the listener that gives the performance meaning and fulfillment. Without the listener, is there still music?

By the way, my career as a singer began and ended in third grade. I soloed with my rendition of the 1925 hit, "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue (Has Anybody Seen My Gal?)" in front of the whole school. I finally experienced the musician's joy when a classmate of mine from those early days saw me for the first time after fifty some years and immediately recalled how well she still remembered my performance. Wow, imagine that!

Local News

NPS Seeking Tips About Attacker

By Rande Davis

The National Park Service (NPS) is continuing to seek tips from the public to aid in the ongoing investigation of an aggravated assault that occurred in the evening of March 6, 2024 and a related incident that occurred in the afternoon of March 10, 2024.

On March 10, 2024, at approximately 12:20 p.m., NPS law enforcement officers, Maryland Natural Resources Police, and Maryland State Police responded to a report of a suspect chasing a woman on the Canal Towpath Trail near the Nolands Ferry parking area. The incident occurred approximately one mile upstream from the Nolands Ferry parking area

heading towards the Point of Rocks parking area.

The suspect in both the March 6 and March 10 incidents is described as a white man, approximately 40 years old, medium to heavy build, 6' to 6'1" in height, with red or strawberry blonde light beard. The suspect was wearing a stocking style hat, dark "Carhartt-like" jacket, and blue jeans during the March 10 incident. The suspect may have driven to the Nolands Ferry parking area in a gray four-door sedan, possibly a Honda Accord.

Information from other visitors is often very helpful to investigators. Please contact us if you have any information that could help. You don't have to tell us who you are, but please tell us what you know.

CALL the NPS Tip Line: 888-653-0009

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— Annette Wynne

The Monocacy MONOCLE

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Tidbits

Photo Contest Winners Selected

The return of one of the Historic Medley District's most popular special events, the photo contest of the natural beauty of our region, was held on March 10. The newly-renovated interior of the Old Town Hall Bank Museum was the perfect venue to display more than sixty photographs. A special treat was having the former bank manager's upstairs office restored and now open to the public. At one time, the Town of Poolesville held its town government meetings upstairs with the floor extending over the entire length of the building. Today the interior is laid out as it was during the building's banking history with the inside of the vault newly painted which better showcases the gilded door with an artistic rendering prominently displayed on the front.

On display are more than sixty gorgeous and diverse photos taken by amateur photographers of the Upcounty, depicting the vistas, historic sites, animals, and flora of the Ag Reserve, from Seneca to Sugarloaf Mountain. The photos were judged

by Poolesville's own professional photographers, Martin Radigan and Hilary Schwab.

The winning entrants were:

First place: Ashlynn Stearns

Second place: Jon Wolz

Third place: Larry Shapiro

Fourth place: Julie Shapiro

Fifth place: Darina Callear

Sixth place: Jon Wolz

Other participants were Amanda Cather, Sylvia Johnson, Knight Kiplinger, Gail Lee, Maureen O'Connell, Micah Singh, and Mark Walter.

HMD is currently arranging to have the display open to the public on weekends. They are seeking volunteers to docent those showings. Anyone willing to do so may contact Maureen O'Connell at mafoconnell@msn.com.

Poolesville Seniors

Make a Big Splash!

On March 14, 2024, the Poolesville Seniors entered their first county-sponsored cardboard boat regatta. By rule, teams entered boats constructed only of cardboard, duct tape, and plastic bags. Boats are paddled a total

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First place: Ashlynn Stearns



Second place: Jon Wolz



Third place: Larry Shapiro



Fourth place: Julie Shapiro



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Family Ice Cream Outing
Saturday, April 20**



- 22919 Dickerson Rd
- Saturday, April 20th from 11AM
- Public is welcome. Newly opened Ice cream stand
- Sign up at Poolesvillechamber.com.
- The first 20 Chamber members who sign up get free small ice cream compliments of PACC. (2 free ice creams per family)

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, or call 301-875-7701 to register for a wide variety of virtual and in person events. Most in-person events are located at Speer Hall at Poolesville Presbyterian Church, 17800 Elgin Road (Route 109).

April 1

Pop-Up Walk: Paw Paw Tunnel and Tunnel Hill Trail

Join Jon Wolz for a hike around and through the Paw Paw Tunnel and walk through this 3,118-foot tunnel to Lock 66 and then on to Lock 62 and return up the towpath through the tunnel, a three-mile hike. If you are interested in carpooling for this trip, please meet at the parking lot at Our Lady of the Presentation Church (17200 Tom Fox Avenue, Poolesville) at 8:45 a.m. For the hike, meet at the Paw Paw Tunnel Trailhead parking area (*Oldtown Road SE at the Paw Paw Campground*). 11:00 a.m.

April 3

Digital Skills Series w/Jessica Wallach of Story Tapestries

Register for this free eight-class series on Digital Skills. Every Wednesday until May 22. Improve or learn digital skills to use your cell phone, iPad, or laptop. *Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church*. 2:00 p.m.

April 4

Medicare: An Overview

Join a representative from the Montgomery County State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for a two-hour seminar of expert, unbiased information about your

options before enrolling in Medicare. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. Registration required. 6:00 p.m.

April 11

Trail Hike: Bucklodge Conservation Park to Ten Mile Creek Conservation Park

Join Gwen Haney and Karen Dansby for a 5.7-mile trail hike in the Barnesville area starting at the *Bucklodge Conservation Park Trailhead on Slidell Road*. See registration for more details and directions. 9:30 a.m.

Rally for Rangers Documentary

Tom Medema of the National Park Service presents the film, *A Rally for Rangers*, which follows the Rally for Rangers movement and its work providing new motorcycles and equipment that empower the under-equipped and often underappreciated frontline conservation heroes: park rangers around the world. *Speer Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

April 15

Book Club: *Horse*

Join the discussion of *Horse*, a 2022 novel by Geraldine Brooks. The novel, set in 2019, 1954, and the mid-1800s, follows the story of a nineteenth-century portrait of a racehorse named Lexington and the fascinating world of American horseracing. *Virtual*. 7:00 p.m.

April 18

Frontier Living Presentation by Mark Gochnour

Enjoy a multi-faceted look at pioneer living with longtime historical reenactor, Mark Gochnour. Come see Mark's eighteenth century handsewn clothing, furs, traps, and other gear, along with his stories and information about life on the frontier. *Speer Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

April 19

Movie Night: *The Color Purple*

Experience the musical film adaptation of Alice Walker's novel *The Color Purple*. It tells the story of Celie, an

African American woman dealing with the hardships of living with an abusive husband and living in the American South during the early 1900s. *Speer Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

April 22

Rustic Route Coffee Tasting

Join Robin Snider of Rustic Route Coffee, a Barnesville-based, small-batch coffee roaster, who will provide a variety of four coffees (single origin and blends) for a morning coffee tasting. Learn more about the flavor profiles of the beans and roast level differences. *Speer Hall*. 10:30 a.m.

April 26

Crystal Grottoes Caverns

Meet in Boonesboro to explore the Crystal Grottoes Caverns, Maryland's only public show cave. With ceilings ranging from six feet to forty feet high, most passages are lined or covered by formations, delicate drape-like stalactites and stalagmites, bacon rinds, and stout columns. The entrance fee of \$18 each (group rate) should be paid when you register. More information at registration. 10:00 a.m.

Line Dancing

Join Ashley Kelch for an evening of line dancing. If you've never tried it,

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Continued from page 1.

Poolesville Swim Boys Claim 11th State Title; Girls Place Third

team of sophomores, Justin Jarczynski and Eli Ferrara, junior Ethan Qian, and freshman Isaac Soles, finished third.

Second place finishes in individual events went to Hou in the 100 freestyle and Sheeran in the 500 freestyle. Third place finishes went to Sheeran in the 200 freestyle, to Lee in the 50 freestyle, and to Jarczynski in the 500 freestyle. Fourth place finishes went to Jarczynski in the 300 freestyle, to Jarczynski in the 200 freestyle, and to Hou in the 100 backstroke.

The highest finish for the Falcon girls was second in the 100 freestyle for sophomore Sophie Huang. They took third in the 400 freestyle relay: Huang, sophomore Anabel Sha, junior Chelsea Zand, and freshman Christine Wang were the swimmers. Sha, Wand, sophomore Lilian Congdon, and freshman Veronica Mitin finished fourth in the 200 medley relay. Huanu, senior Lydia Wong, sophomore Lilian Congdon, and Mitin were fourth in the 200 freestyle relay.

“The weekend jumped out to a celebration as Gabe Hermann finished eighth at diving on Friday night,” said Coach Jonathan Leong. “His twists, flips, and dives were spectacular. After breaking the school record two weeks ago, we tried to tweak the dive list slightly and think we have finally got a great combination of dives. Next year, we intend to jump even higher.

“The boys had a mission to bring the state title back to Poolesville and set off to accomplish the task. Showing consistent performances across the pool, the boys took control of first place and kept a steady distance in front of Rockville throughout the meet. Led by a dialed in performance by Liam Sheeran, who medaled in two events, no boy finished outside of the top ten all evening. The boys broke it open after the 200 free relay (narrowly missing a school record) and were determined to walk out of the natatorium with at least one gold medal which they earned in the 400 free relay.

“The girls knew they had two challengers to overcome but put up a great fight the entire evening. The only girl to individually medal was Sophie Huang, receiving second place in the 100 free. Surprising swims came from the young core of the team in 50 free, 100 fly, and 100 breast. We may have finished third and outside the championship and finalist podiums, but the future looks very bright for our girls, and we are already working on the lineup to get back on that podium.”

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Focus on Business

Kuhlman Lawn Service: A Story of the Great American Family Business

By Rande Davis

The phrase “all in the family” is taken seriously at Kuhlman Lawn Service, the landscape company owned by J.D. and Julie Kuhlman. The partnership of this happy couple extends beyond marriage: She is the business office manager and is literally the woman behind the man, seeing the potential in him right from the beginning. In the Kuhlman family, there is a role for nearly everyone. Julie’s mother, Rose, helps in the office, and J.D.’s dad, Eddie (longtime town commissioner and president of the commission) helped in the earlier days and is still always willing to help if the need arises. J.D.’s mom is always an inspiration for them to follow their dreams and make it happen.



Tucker, Julie, Jasmine, and J.D. Kuhlman.

Starting with a few dollars in their pockets, lots of energy, and big dreams, they owe their start to many: the long-term friends considered family like the Jamisons who helped in so many ways by helping to provide their first home together, a shop facility, and were always available for mentorship; Rinnie Magaha and Donnie Lemarr were great teachers and inspirations, they taught the Kuhlman the skills needed and the responsibility that comes with business ownership; and Keith Dorsey, from the school of hard knocks, gave lessons that stuck.

The couple met on a first date that was set up by friends. For Julie, it was her first time at a dance club, and J.D. showed up in a really bright, white shirt. “He just glowed!” she said, giving a clue to the secret of success for their nineteen years of marriage. Julie tells us she looks forward to renewing their vows, so they may have the honeymoon they never got. Right after their marriage, they went back to work, and she found herself spreading mulch instead of going on the traditional getaway.

They have two children, both homeschooled. Tucker, at fourteen, is already involved in the business, coming to work and helping where he can, especially in screening the topsoil and other fundamentals. He especially likes it when winter brings out their snowplowing service, although that has been limited by lack of snow; this past year he finally got to experience the real work when the snow started to fall. The youngest is Jasmine, eleven years old and anxiously awaiting her title and job, so she can contribute to the family business.

Now in its twenty-second year, it was the entrepreneurial spirit within him early in life that got it all started. J.D. mowed his first lawns as a teenager, just wanting to make some extra money. He liked being outdoors and really enjoyed the satisfaction from making things look nice. Like a copy editor who can’t help but edit the menu of a restaurant, J.D. finds himself picking up the trash everywhere he goes.

A strength of the company is that the sense of family goes beyond relatives and includes the employees, with half of the twenty-two workers having worked for him for more than ten years. The result is strong customer loyalty, which even includes the very first lawn customer he had as a teenager.

The firm operates from their home property in Poolesville where their office and shop are located, and the array of lawn equipment is maintained and repaired.

Asked what they consider to be their strength as a company, they first cite their communication with customers, with a 24/7 service to their customers being key. A full-time office staff and constant monitoring of emails and phone calls to make sure everyone has their inquiries answered in a very timely basis is a distinctive quality they offer. They make a practice of staying in constant communication with their customers. Julie finds it important to communicate with customers, not just provide a basic service but to keep a strong hometown family feeling when working with the company. She has been very busy these days, explaining the ins and outs of all the new fertilizer regulations in the county to customers.

Continued on page 27.




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Continued from page 6.

Senior News

this is your gentle introduction. If you've line danced before, come and have some fun! Join the fun and meet new people. Registration is limited. *Speer Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

Weekly Events

Mondays

Ping Pong Afternoon. *Speer Hall*. 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Walking Club. Meet at *Whalen Commons Flagpole*. 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

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

Tuesdays

Tai-Chi with Maureen Ivusic. *Speer Hall* and virtual. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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

Wednesdays

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

Trivia Game Night

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

Thursdays

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

Fridays

Walking Club. Meet at *Whalen Commons Flagpole*. 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Did you know that you can join the Zoom presentations without a computer by using your smartphone or just listen in using a local telephone number from Zoom with the Poolesville Seniors meeting ID and password? Call or text 301-875-7701 or email info@poolesvilleseniors.org to learn how. For more information or to register for any of the programs listed here visit the Poolesville Seniors website: poolesvilleseniors.org.

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

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Ag News

Governor Moore Inducts the Willard Family Into Governor's Hall of Fame

By Rande Davis

Poolesville's Willard family was recently inducted into the Governor's Agriculture Hall of Fame during the annual Taste of Maryland Agriculture event, held at Maryland Live! Casino and Hotel. William F. Willard, Sr. and William F. Willard, Jr. accepted the honor on behalf of their family, making the family the fifty-fourth recipient to receive this prestigious recognition.

"Agriculture is Maryland's largest commercial industry, contributing billions to our state's economy," said Governor Moore. "The Willard family stands as a pillar of the ag community, demonstrating what it takes to be a successful farm family."

"It is an honor to welcome the Willard family into the Governor's Agriculture Hall of Fame," said Secretary Atticks. "The legacy of this farm family is truly admirable, from their conservation practices to their strong business sense."

"The Willard family has a long and storied history of conservation excellence, and they serve as exemplary stewards of the lands that they both own and operate across the region. They are both initiators and innovators when it comes to adopting new technologies and practices that help to promote the conservation of soil and water resources while balancing the environmental benefits with the economic viability of their farming enterprises," said district manager for the Montgomery Soil Conservation District, John Zawitoski.

Beginning in 1871, Dewalt J. Willard (1843-1932) and Charles F. M. Willard relocated from Frederick County, Maryland, to purchase 675.5 acres near the Potomac River, south of Poolesville. In 1888, upon the death of Charles Willard, his widow sold Charles's share of the farm to Dewalt Willard (this Dewalt is today's De Willard's great-grandfather).

This portion of the Willard family farm was eventually sold out of the family and is now the present-day Izaak Walton League property (north of the retained



Billy Willard, representing the Willard family, accepted the certification of induction into the Maryland Governor's Agriculture Hall of Fame. Willard is standing to Gov. Wes Moore's right.

parcel). The original farming operation was a diversified crop and livestock farm, as were most of the farms in those days. Dewalt's original parcel, approximately three hundred acres, remains intact today and is still owned by the Willard Family.

Around 1965, the invention of the no-till planter and the development of the chemical paraquat (and other crop protectants) became a "game changer" for farming in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Willard Farms was one of the first to implement no-till planting. Soil conservation and the protection of local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay have always been a top priority for the Willard family.

Today, the day-to-day operations are run by Scot Poffenberger, Billy Willard, Jr., and Joe Sayer. Each year, approximately nine hundred acres of corn, six hundred acres of full season beans, four hundred acres of sorghum, and six hundred acres of wheat followed by double crop beans are grown. All grain is transported to a modern grain system which can dry up to a thousand bushels per hour. Their total grain storage capacity is 210,000 bushels.



12th Annual SpringFest

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midatlanticantiquesfestival.com

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May 4 & 5, 2024

Saturday 10 -5 & Sunday 10 -4

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oldlinemarket.net



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Local History

Tribute to Local Black History

By Rande Davis

James "Skip" Etheridge, a resident of Poolesville whose family roots extend to the legendary Sugarland Forest, was the guest speaker at a Poolesville Seniors special tribute to the historical contributions coming from our local African American heritage. Sugarland Forest is one of six communities in our area with historical roots owing their beginnings to freed slaves. The others were Jerusalem, Jonesville, Martinsburg, Big Woods, and Mt. Ephraim.

Skip observed that much of his presentation is benefited by the Sugarland Ethno-History Project (SEHP), which is centered at St. Paul's Church and is the publisher of the outstanding book, *On the Road to Canaan*, covering the life and culture of our African American heritage. Etheridge spoke about the importance and contribution of SEHP that has preserved so much of our Black history, much of which came from oral history.

St. Paul's Community Church on Sugarland Road, founded by freed slaves, William Taylor, Patrick Hebron, Jr., and John Diggs, was the center of life of the thriving little township. Built in 1876, the land was purchased for \$25.00 with the requirement that it be used only for religious worship and as a burial site for persons of African descent.

Some intriguing history of the church is that there was a secret passageway in the basement to escape any possible intrusion by the KKK. In 1966, St. Paul's performed the first mixed marriage in Maryland. Finally, in the movie *Philomena*, nominated in 2014 for Best Picture and for Best Actress in a Lead Role, the church was used in scenes filmed for a depiction to a visit to a rural church.

Jerusalem as a settlement extends back to the winter of 1861 and 1862. It was then that the community, under the protection of Union General Stone, found its origin. It became a safe haven for sojourners traveling the Underground Railroad to points north and freedom.

Another community, Jonesville, begun in 1874 on nine acres, became a thriving community by the turn of the twentieth century. It was founded by Erasmus and



Skip Etheridge presented a discussion on local African history to the Poolesville Seniors group at the Poolesville Presbyterian Church.

Richard Jones, who were presumably brothers. The historical Jones-Sims-Hall House, a two-level residence, was disassembled and was taken to the National Museum of African American History and Culture where it was reassembled and is now on display on the second floor.

The African American community in Martinsburg was centered at the corner of White's Ferry and Martinsburg Roads. While there is little left of the community, the church is still there and its Charity Hall, a center of life and activity, has been completely restored to its original state, with just parts of the interior left to finish. It is on this land that Pastor Chuck Copeland of Hosanna Worship and his family have their roots.

The second oldest African American community is Big Woods, and several of its residents living there today can trace their family lineage all the way back to its origin.

The oldest of all the black communities was Mt. Ephraim, which was founded by David Moody, a freedman, who purchased the land in 1814. He was a

Continued on page 14.

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Center Stage

Mentorship in the Arts

By Elisa Goldstein

With all the stressors that surround us, it's no wonder that both students and parents are looking for more balance amid the hustle and bustle. During the last few years, the arts have taken center stage in our community. We are extremely fortunate that our unique locale encourages this balance. Our fabric consists of artists, chefs, dancers, and musicians enticing us and offering to wine, dine, and/or connect us with nature and creativity. If you are living in this area, you can typically find the zen you desire.

A performance hub that provides dynamic experiences is Riverworks Art Center. Riverworks creates meaningful, fulfilling, and healing community engagement through the arts, drawing inspiration from Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve, an area rich in beauty, history, and heritage. Mentorship flourishes through classes, workshops, performances, and events. "When people take hold of the arts, it brings courage, hope, and fullness to their lives. Helping others find that is why we're here," says co-founder Sandy Wright.

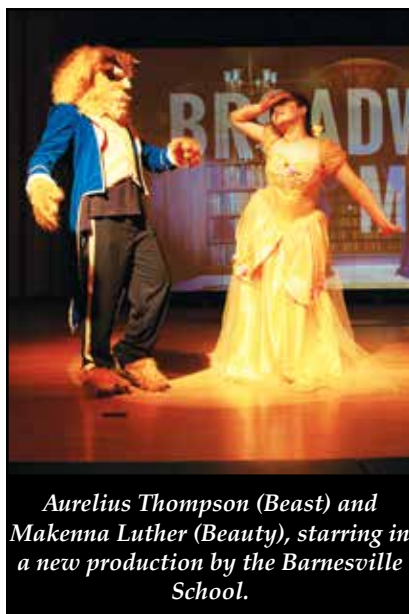
One school in our area that aims to empower children through discovery in the arts is the Barnesville School of Arts and Sciences. Built on a foundation of joy, the school offers mentorships through both clubs and the Barnesville Buddy Program, solidifying a child's strengths while fostering their needs. Older students have genuine opportunities to be role models and leaders while younger children know they have special friends looking out for them.

Dipping my toes back into my musical roots (as the hat I typically wear is a contract speech and language pathologist), I have been co-directing students from the Barnesville Theater Club, along with Mary Kolb, for their upcoming production of *Beauty and the Beast Broadway Junior*. This community-based project has been an exceptional example of how the arts move students to express themselves, take chances they never knew they could, and to feel a sense of genuine belonging. Further, by allowing students to coach each other and to direct small portions of scenes, this provides young thespians the opportunities to lead, to create, and to marvel in their personal artistic endeavors.

Student Council President, Aurelius Thompson, is an eighth grader at the Barnesville School. He was named as a Theater Ambassador and will be playing the Beast. When asked about this theatrical experience, Aurelius stated, "It's amazing when you look back and see the growth of the students you work with. At first, it's, 'What's your next line?' Then it's about teaching some improv and helping them get the general idea. The creative aspect of improvisation can take the shy right out of young actors. Then, suddenly, they have a big presence on stage and at the end, you can have some pride like, 'Yes! That's my boy!' (referring to his understudy, Sammy Salem)."

Theater Ambassador Makenna Luther is a sixth grader at the school and plays Belle in the production. Makenna has pondered about "how important it is to look at the perspective of the people you are working with. Like, how they say their lines and what you would like them to do...not everything I teach them works...or perhaps they don't agree...and so I try and help people put emotions into their words and to look at the tones of their voices and to help them get that into their lines and body movements. I am also proud of Ellsie (understudy, Ellsie Kolb) who is doing a great job and is working hard."

Gaston, an iconic character, is played by seventh grader John Strom, vice president of the school's student council. John was named a theater coach for this production and noted that he most appreciated "developing the choreography for the 'Gaston (Reprise)'. He stated, "It's been so much fun working with Ryan (Ryan Carr, playing Lefou). It was so great to make up our own dance, and it has been exciting to watch the show progress from the start and now, adding technical aspects. I'm also a big fan of prop design, and so to have the chance to come up with ideas and help people is a big deal for me."



Aurelius Thompson (Beast) and Makenna Luther (Beauty), starring in a new production by the Barnesville School.

Continued on page 15.



Rural Women's Republican Club (RWRC) to offer \$3,500 scholarship for a vocational, trade school, or certification program, including a certification from a community college during the 2023-2024 academic year.

This scholarship is intended for students attending Poolesville High School, Damascus High School, Clarksburg High School, Gaithersburg High School, Seneca High School, and Northwest High School. Students about to complete their senior year of high school, students already enrolled in a trade school, and non-traditional students under the age of 21 are eligible to apply. The student will need to complete an essay question as part of the application process. All inquiries, as well as any questions regarding the application or essay, may be directed to the following e-mail: hgballet@aol.com

For more information, call/text (301) 466-1906. Applications and essays must be received by Friday, April 28, 2023.

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Continued from page 3.

1989 PHS Graduate Heads Air Drop Operation to Help Feed Gaza Population

sixty-four feet in diameter and come down relatively slowly, at 28.4 feet per second or less, Engstrom said. Each pallet also has an inch-thick layer of cardboard to blunt the force of the fall, he said.

The drops are monitored through drone feeds and evaluated for issues with the landing, military officials said. The post-drop assessments and videos show that the pallets are surrounded as soon as they hit the ground, Davis added.

“These people are starving, and they need this food,” he said, showing a photo of a Palestinian girl holding an MRE, a screenshot from a newscast that he had in his wallet. “It’s an honor to get it to them and alleviate any human suffering that we can.”

Continued from page 12.

Tribute to Local Black History

charcoal burner, who supplied charcoal for an iron furnace operating on Sugarloaf Mountain. There remains very little of Mt. Ephraim today.

Etheridge noted the uniqueness of Poolesville’s African American communities where the residents owned their own land and rather than the more prevalent tenant- farmer. As private property owners, they were more incentivized to make improvements and additions to their homes leading to a more long-lasting connection to the area. Many descendants from the early days still live in these areas.

Skip also talked about the historical Rosenwald school who’s the edifice still stands at the site of county’s beauty spot (euphemism for the dump). The African American school was one of thousands sponsored and built by Julius Rosenwald, who was the president of Sears, Roebuck Co. whose foundation had a mission to build one school in every rural county in the South. Of the nearly 5,000 such schools built, Maryland had 292, and Montgomery County had fifteen. The Rosenwald program was unusually successful in that while the foundation paid for half of each school, the citizens were required to raise the funds for the remaining part. This indemnification was source of endearing pride of accomplishment that proved to be one of the most profound causes for its success.

PASSION WEEK AT PBC

**March 29
GOOD FRIDAY
7PM
TENEBRAE SERVICE**

**March 31
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JESUS: GOD’S BLESSING FOR ALL PEOPLE

Continued from page 5.

Tidbits

of fifty yards in an indoor pool. Winning categories were fastest time, best design, most spectacular sink, and team spirit.

This year, eight county senior centers competed. The event was held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Aquatics Center in White Oak. This is the second year the county has sponsored this event for seniors, age 55 and over.

The Poolesville boat was constructed by ten of our Poolesville Seniors members, and christened NOMEDS by the boat building crew. We are grateful to Courtney and Eric Ives, owners of Nomad Farm and Poolesville Seniors supporters, for hosting the building crew for the eight-week building process. They very bravely turned their basement over to the team for the duration.

The worthy vessel was captained by Poolesville's own Lori Kocur. Poolesville had the fifth fastest time, despite an equipment failure with the oar. Lori improvised and hand paddled the boat to the finish line.

With a cheering section of twenty Poolesville Seniors, NOMEDS represented our community well, winning the Team Spirit award.

Scouts Clean Up Canal



Scouts cleaned up the area near the Monocacy Aqueduct.

On March 10, 2024, about thirty scouts and adults from across Montgomery County, under the leadership of Bill Totten, the White Oak District Chair, gathered at the Monocacy Aqueduct area to pick up trash along the Monocacy and Potomac Rivers. Despite high water, high winds, and even snow flurries, they collected fourteen trash bags, thirteen recycling bags, and a few other odd pieces of trash. The event scheduled for March 9 for White's Ferry and the Dickerson Conservation Park along the canal and river was postponed because of rain. There were over eighty people who signed up for that Saturday. The makeup date for the White's Ferry/Dickerson areas will be November 16, 2024.

Gravestone Placed for Walter Brothers of C&O Canal

Brothers John and James Walter were lock tenders along the C&O Canal at Lock 27 at different times during the nineteenth century. They are two of the twenty-five known C&O Canal workers who are buried at the Monocacy Cemetery. They were two of the ten children of Thomas and Elizabeth Walter.

These two brothers most likely were born in Lockhouse 27. John helped his father Thomas operate the lock, according to the 1850 Federal census. There is no other paper trail of his life other than appearing in the records of the Monocacy Cemetery as being buried in December 1892. James Walter most likely took over lock tender duties from his father in the late 1860s and served through the early 1880s, being replaced by another brother George Benjamin Franklin Walter who served from 1884 through at least 1889. James married Harriet L. Reed Walter,



County Rec representative, Lori Kocur, and Claire Gunster-Kirby.

and together they had seven children. All of these children most likely were born in Lockhouse 27. James died in October 1900.

Both John and James were buried without gravestones. Their exact grave location in the Walter family plot was not accurately documented, so it was agreed to put both of their names onto one stone. Through donations made by Glenn Wallace, William Bauman, Rod Mackler, Tom Mears, Rusty Smith, and Jon Wolz, a stone was obtained through Sugarloaf Monuments. On March 23, the gravestone was placed in the Walter family plot. Afterwards, some of those in attendance for the gravestone placement visited the gravesites of other C&O Canal workers.



Rusty Smith, Glenn Wallace, Rod Mackler, Susan VanHaften, William Bauman, and Jon Wolz.

Continued from page 13.

Mentorship in the Arts

Giving students personal experiences and allowing them to be guided by their own peers, and then, as they mature, allowing them to lead, to create together, to come together as a community—this is the balanced life—this is what we need and why it is imperative for our children to continue to embark on artistic journeys. All of this is crucial during and after school for our students and for their personal growth. Let's all continue to work towards bringing the arts and our students together in real-life contexts within our community where they can thrive.

The Barnesville School of Arts and Science's production of *Beauty and the Beast Broadway Junior* will have tickets available with limited seating soon. Show dates are April 26 and April 27.

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School News

PES PTA Seeks Funds for Water Infiltration and Maintenance

The Poolesville Elementary School PTA has initiated a fundraiser to cover the cost to abate elevated lead levels in the water at the school. Lead has been detected in the PES pipes for years, but the county does not pay for its filtration.

Water test report results links are accessible through the school and Principal Robbins. Eleven of twenty-nine water outlets did not pass inspection and had to go through a variety of remedial efforts. The filtering systems do not remove the lead, but they do reduce it to a safe level for consumption.

MCPS has not adequately addressed the issue of replacement of pipes or coolers. This has forced the PTA to come up with the funds to make the water safe to drink. To do this, the PTA graciously purchased water filtration systems throughout the hallways to ensure that the students had safe drinking water. Again, this was initially funded by the PTA and the annual upkeep of it since its inception approximately ten years ago has continued to be funded by the PTA.

The PTA has been asked to raise the money so that funds designated for other programs do not have to be used.

A Picture Too Wonderful to Miss



WUMCO Help accepted food donations from MES students.

We reported in the March issue on the success of the MES food drive to benefit WUMCO but mistakenly left out the wonderful picture of students delivering the food. The drive was done by students collecting their donations in a box marked by their prediction for the Super Bowl winner. While the Chiefs won the Super Bowl, San Francisco fans won the day with the most food donated. You can see those proud and beautiful smiles right here.

MoCoCom Festival Entrants on Display at Library

The Poolesville Elementary School's artistic entrants into the 2024 MoComCon Festival are on display at the Maggie Nightingale Library. The annual festival, sponsored by the county libraries, features art, essays, and cosplay (costume design) centered on the participants' favorite characters from any fandom, book, television show, movie, or game, or they can invent their own original character. The art contest was divided into three age groups: Child (5-12), Teen (13-17), and Adult (18+).

Third grader, Sahana Penchala, won an honorable mention award in the MoComCon Festival Essay Contest. The essay part of the contest was for those between eight and fourteen years of age and the essay was between three hundred and five hundred words.

PES SGA Raises Funds to Help Local Animal Sanctuary

The Poolesville Elementary School Student Government Association (PES SGA)

completed a raffle fundraiser at the PES Staff vs. Parent Basketball Game. They raised \$401. The SGA voted to donate the money raised to a local animal sanctuary in Boyds. The SGA officers met with the owner of Star Gazing Farm Animal Sanctuary, Anne Shroeder, on March 15 to present the check and to meet the animals!

JPMS History Buffs Advance to National Finals!

This past March, kids from John Poole Middle School went to the region competition in the Great History Challenge, a national competition. Six of our students qualified to advance to the finals which will be held in Chicago. Congrats to Joshua Miller, Micah Singh, Asher Smith, Scott Doto, Sawyer Hickey, and Eric Lewis. Stay tuned for results!



Clair Ketchum, SGA advisor, SGA president Ciera Layne, SGA vice president Ian Sprout, SGA secretary Ava Baker, SGA treasurer Austin Elliott; (back row) owner of Star Gazing Farm Animal Sanctuary, Anne Shroeder.



Headed to Chicago are: Joshua Miller (eighth grade), Micah Singh (eighth grade), Asher Smith (eighth grade), Scott Doto (eighth grade), Sawyer Hickey (seventh Grade), and Eric Lewis (sixth grade).



Holy Week

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Palm Sunday March 24
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms
& Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday March 28
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
with Foot-Washing & Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday March 29
12:00 p.m. Stations of St. Peter
7:00 p.m. The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday

Easter Sunday March 31
8:00 a.m. Easter Festival Eucharist with hymns
10:30 a.m. Easter Festival Eucharist with
brass and choir

EASTER EGG HUNT
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In Your Own Backyard

Once There Were Ferries on the C&O Canal

By Jon Wolz

The construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal began in 1828 and was completed in 1850. It is 184.5 miles long from Georgetown in Washington, D.C. to Cumberland, Maryland. Construction of the canal cut off people for the most part from either side of the canal and either side of the Potomac River. The canal prism is six feet deep and is generally sixty feet across at water level with occasional wider boat basins. The solution to cross the prism by people on foot, horseback, or horse and wagon for the Canal Company was to build large culverts for travel beneath the canal where needed, to build bridges across the canal, or to use a canal ferry.

The last known canal ferry operation was in the 1920s operated by Mrs. Mary Troup at 4521 Canal Road in Georgetown, which was claimed to be the shortest operating ferry in the world at the time. Her line of boats crossed the C&O Canal, traveling a distance of little more than fifty-five feet, and her route was the most direct to the summer camps along the Potomac River. She made an average of one hundred trips each day, carrying campers, canoeists, and fishermen. Mary lived with her husband Harry who was the Georgetown Section Supervisor for the C&O Canal.

In the Upcounty, there were two canal ferries that operated in the early 1830s to get from one side of the canal to the other. One was at Lock 25 and the other near Lock 26. At Edwards Ferry (Lock 25, Mile 30.84), there was a ferry that crossed the large basin above the lock. The lock is sixteen feet deep and fifteen feet wide. In the beginning of canal operations, there was a 150-foot square basin dug into the berm bank that is opposite the riverbank where a Canal Company scow (a flat-bottomed boat) was used to transport people from one side of the canal to the other side. The outline of the large grassy basin can still be seen today. The scow proved to be slow and unsatisfactory and was replaced shortly after the canal opened at Edwards Ferry by a pivot bridge that pivoted on the berm side of the lock. By 1839, the bridge had decayed and was deemed unfit for use. This bridge was replaced by a small pivot bridge on the river side of the lock that could accommodate foot traffic or horses, but wagons had to make a detour of four miles upstream to go through Culvert 49 at Mile 34.82 near Conrad's (White's) Ferry to cross the canal. Edwards Ferry got a more usable pivot bridge in 1850 that was damaged during the Civil War and rebuilt. Today, there is a temporary bridge at Edwards Ferry that will be replaced with a permanent modern bridge later in 2024 or 2025. Access to the parking lot at Edwards Ferry has been closed since August 2023. The new bridge construction has been delayed because the historic pivot bridge footers were discovered and the new concrete footers need to be moved so as to not damage the historic footers.

White's Ferry got a usable bridge in 1871 at Mile 35.8 to cross the canal.

Another canal ferry operation occurred near Lock 26. On May 28, 1830, the Canal Company entered into an agreement with David Trundle who owned lands on both sides of the canal at Lock 26 in Dickerson. The agreement read, "It is agreed between the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company and David Trundle that the said David Trundle and his heirs and assignees shall hereafter have the right to make a ferry and keep a ferry boat for the purpose of crossing the canal and to make the company basin and causeway from and to the same and said Ferry may be fixed at any point most convenient to said Trundle land and this agreement is to be annexed to this in question taken to day on the land of the said David Trundle." Signed by "Clement Leon," Attorney and Agent C&O Canal Company, and "David Trundle."

In 1831, the C&O Canal Company Board of Directors voted to authorize the construction of pivot bridges over Locks 26 and 27. Construction of the Monocacy Aqueduct would not be completed until 1833, and people from Maryland and Virginia would be cut off by the opening of the canal along this section in 1834. After the canal was opened and the pivot bridge was built, people discovered they had an option of going beneath the canal under the first arch of the Monocacy Aqueduct. 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.

In 1834, David Trundle requested from the C&O Canal Company's Board for the company to erect a pivot bridge over Lock 26, "in lieu of the ferry way" to

Continued on page 25.

Come Worship—

All are Welcome

The Season
of
Lent

Sunday School 9:15-10:15 am

Adult—In-Person & Zoom/Child & Youth—In-Person

Nursery (6 mo-4 yr olds) 10:15-11:45 am

Worship Service 10:30 am

In-Person & YouTube

Holy Week & Easter Sunday



Palm Sunday, Mar. 24

10:30 am—Worship Service—In-Person & YouTube

Holy Thursday, Mar. 28

7 pm—Tenebrae Service w/Communion

In-Person & YouTube

Easter Sunday, Mar. 31

10:30 am—Worship Service w/Communion

In-Person & YouTube

Vacation Bible School

Sunday, June 23-Thursday, June 27; 6-8pm

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Protect the Ag Reserve

Ongoing and new challenges to our area's environment, farms, and open space require persistent vigilance.



- **Lodging on farms.** A zoning proposal before the Montgomery County Council would allow landowners in the Ag Reserve to construct dwellings for overnight stays. This undermines basic tenets of and practices in the Ag Reserve. We oppose the proposal and urge the Council to reject it.
- **Data Centers.** Proposals to build large-scale data centers in Montgomery and Frederick Counties are advancing. One site is in Dickerson. The plans for such facilities need to be complete and transparent—and thoroughly scrutinized.
- **Waste management.** Montgomery County plans a major overhaul of its waste disposal and recycling processes to make them environmentally cleaner. This is a welcome initiative. We are asking the County to shut down the Dickerson incinerator, a major source of pollution, as one element of the plan.

SCA INITIATIVES

- ✓ Promoting regenerative agriculture and table crop farming
- ✓ Preventing commercial development near Sugarloaf Mountain
- ✓ Supporting the judicious expansion of solar energy
- ✓ Fostering community dialogue on key Ag Reserve issues

SAVE THE DATE

SCA will celebrate its 50th year on June 2 from 1 to 4pm at Linden Farm in Dickerson. Lunch, music and a raffle for local goods and services. More details to come.

Help us advocate on behalf of the Ag Reserve. Consider becoming an SCA member and supporter. For more information, visit sugarloafcitizens.org or email us at info@sugarloafcitizens.org



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 218, DICKERSON, MD 20842

Things to Do

April 3

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' Tennis vs. Springbrook. 3:30 p.m.

Girls' Lacrosse vs. Watkins Mill. 7:00 p.m.

Coed Volleyball vs. Northwood. 5:30 p.m.

Boys' Volleyball vs. Northwood. 7:00 p.m.

April 4

PHS Varsity Home Games

Boys' Tennis vs. Blake. 3:30 p.m.

Baseball vs. Damascus. 3:45 p.m.

Softball vs. Damascus. 3:45 p.m.

April 5

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls Tennis vs. Winston Churchill. 3:30 p.m.

Boys' Lacrosse vs. Watkins Mill. 7:00 p.m.

April 6

PHS Varsity Home Games

Baseball vs. Northwood. 2:00 p.m.

Softball vs. Northwest. 2:00 p.m.

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:00 p.m.

April 8

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:00 p.m.

PHS Varsity Home Game

Boys' Tennis vs. Sherwood. 3:30 p.m.

April 9

PHS Varsity Home Games

Baseball vs. Rockville. 3:45 p.m.

Softball vs. Rockville. 3:45 p.m.

April 10

PHS Varsity Home Games

Boys' Tennis vs. Blair. 4:00 p.m.

Coed Volleyball vs. Damascus. 5:30 p.m.

Boys' Volleyball vs. Damascus. 7:00 p.m.

April 11

PHS Varsity Home Games

Boys' Lacrosse vs. Magruder. 7:15 p.m.

Girls' Tennis vs. Quince Orchard. 3:30 p.m.

April 12

PHS Varsity Home Game

Girls' Tennis vs. Quince Orchard. 3:30 p.m.

April 13

PHS Varsity Home Games

Baseball vs. Wootton. 2:30 p.m.

Softball vs. Seneca Valley. 2:00 p.m.

Girls' Lacrosse vs. Rockville. 2:30 p.m.

April 15

PHS Varsity Home Games

Boys' Tennis vs B-CC. 3:30 p.m.

Boys' Volleyball vs. Seneca Valley. 5:30 p.m.

Coed Volleyball vs. Seneca Valley. 7:00 p.m.

Girls' Lacrosse vs Whitman. 7:00 p.m.

April 17

PHS Varsity Home Games

Boys' Tennis vs. Walter Johnson. 3:30 p.m.

Boys' Lacrosse vs. Winston Churchill. 7:15 p.m.

April 19

PHS Varsity Home Game

Girls' Tennis vs. Northwest. 3:30 p.m.

April 21

Boys Negro School Open to Visitors

The historic, rural school educated African American students from 1895

to 1936 and is the only one-room African American school in Montgomery County. The school will be open every third Sunday of the month to October. 19510 White Ground Rd., Boyds. 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 22

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:00 p.m.

April 27 and 28

Mid-Atlantic Antiques Festival

Featuring over sixty nationally-known fine antiques dealers, showcasing eighteenth and nineteenth century furniture, folk art, Americana, garden décor, architectural, fine art, estate and vintage jewelry, prints, advertising, and quilts. For more details, visit midatlantic-antiquesfestival.com *Historic Aix-la-Chapelle Farm, 19120 Jerusalem Rd., Poolesville.* Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Montgomery County GreenFest

Leap into action this year and join us at GreenFest 2024 where people of all ages come together to celebrate, learn, and start or continue their journey to improving our community and the

Continued on page 24

Adults Getting Together



EVERY FIRST SATURDAY 9 a.m.–Noon

When: First Saturday each month from 9 a.m. – Noon

Where: Vail Christian Education Bldg.

19821 White Ground Road, Boyds, MD 20841

The Boyds Presbyterian Church (BPC) is hosting a monthly 'Adults Getting Together' for those interested in meeting, socializing, and sharing like interests.

Bring your favorite morning non-alcoholic beverage, needlework, puzzles, cards, coloring/drawing medium, books, etc. to reacquaint with long-time friends and make some new ones.

If you have any questions, please contact Marie Allnutt at mallnutt@hotmail.com or call 301-385-3503.

Please join us and nurture your personal faith journey on Sunday mornings at 10am, in-person or on Zoom at: <https://bit.ly/3h8917D>.

All are welcome. Fellowship immediately follows the service.



Poolesville Green

April Showers Bring May Flowers— To Green Roofs

By K.L. Kyde

April weather brings out the inner gardener in many of us. By now, dedicated earth tillers already have potatoes and peas planted in their vegetable beds and have cut back last year's perennial stalks, which the overwintering insects and birds no longer need for shelter. Even those of us who don't have piles of garden catalogs stacked up are thinking of putting a few planters out on the deck or are checking out the azalea selection at local nurseries.

Can your imagination stretch to planting a garden on your roof? Not a collection of plants in pots, but a roof completely covered with vegetation? Widely used in Europe and Japan, green roofs, also called living roofs, are increasingly showing up on buildings in the U.S. Green roofs are fully vegetated spaces on top of human-made structures. Generally, they are built of several layers: roof decking, insulation, a waterproof membrane, a lightweight (non-soil) growing medium, and drought-tolerant plants. Additional layers like root barriers and drainage mats are sometimes included.

Living roofs are divided into two types, intensive and extensive. Intensive green roofs are generally built on large commercial buildings like corporate headquarters or hotels. The planting medium for intensive roofs is deeper (six to twelve inches) than for extensive roofs, and the plants can include shrubs and even full-grown trees. Buildings with intensive roofs are specially-engineered structures designed to support this additional weight. These roofs often have a recreational use, with pathways and benches for people, in addition to their economic and environmental benefits.

Extensive green roofs are a better fit for smaller buildings and private homes, although they often are installed on large commercial buildings. For example, Ford Motor Company's Dearborn, Michigan truck assembly plant has a ten-acre green roof. The University of Maryland at College Park has living roofs on

multiple campus buildings. Extensive living roofs are typically planted with low-growing, drought-tolerant, sun-loving sedum (stonecrop) plants in three to four inches of growing medium. Although the most widely-used plants are native to Europe or Asia, designers are using more and more shallow-rooted native perennials. Once these plants are established, they are perfectly happy living ten or twelve feet above the ground, in a planting medium that collects sufficient water to support them. Sedums are succulents; they hold and use water very effectively. Planted closely, they spread out to cover a roof area, keeping out weeds.

Living roofs provide significant benefits to the people who live under them, as well as to the public. They extend the life of roofing membranes that can be degraded by direct sunlight. They insulate the space underneath them and reduce the amount of energy needed, especially for cooling. Research shows that summer heat flow through a green roof can be eighty percent less than through a conventional roof, with energy costs up to sixteen less. One study in Canada found the demand for air conditioning in summer was reduced by seventy-five in structures with green roofs.

Continued on page 30

Sixty-two years of tradition lives on...

*Sugarloaf Mountain Easter Sunrise Service
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Continued from page 1.

Town Politics for 2024: A Chicken in Every Pot!

the impact or connection fee levied on each home. The commissioners unanimously approved the PIA. Jim Clifford, representing the Willards, has clarified the size limitations to the Monocle, "All the homes will be built at or below two thousand square feet living space above grade."

The commissioners then set a public hearing date of March 18 for the proposed cannabis retailers zoning rules. They also discussed again the proposed framework for grants for public groups. The draft guidelines would establish three types of grant requests: mini-grants, which would require minimal approval, up to major capital grants that would be for amounts between \$25,000 and \$50,000 per request. The capital grant would require the applicant to spend their own money upfront before seeking reimbursement. After discussing the framework, the commissioners decided to consider it for possible approval after their budget meeting on March 16.

At their March 18 hearing, the commissioners held a public hearing on the draft cannabis retailers zoning ordinance required by state law. No resident signed up to testify, but the record was held open for written comments by Friday, March 22.

While no one testified about the draft ordinance during the public hearing, a resident did come forward to ask questions about it during the public comment period. She asked whether the town is "mandated" to adopt zoning rules, and the town attorney, Jay Gullo, responded affirmatively. The zoning ordinance is a state law, and the draft zoning rules allow the town to set its own guidelines to control where cannabis retailers may locate.

She then asked whether any retailers had applied to locate in town, and staff responded that no requests have been received. Finally, she asked for a list of areas where cannabis stores can locate. The staff said only in commercial zones. No stores can be located within five hundred feet of a school, daycare center, library, church or place of worship, or public park.

Staff then provided an overview of the draft FY2025 budget. Both property tax rates and water rates will be increased under the proposed budget. Tax rates would increase by seventy-nine cents from 17.81¢/\$100 of assessed value to

18.59¢/\$100 of assessed value. This would mean that for a typical house of \$300,000 in value, the average annual tax of \$534 would increase to \$558 annually. Approximately \$130,000 will be generated by the tax increase. Water rates are set to increase by two percent under the proposed budget.

In discussing the proposed tax increases, staff explained that the town had to address a number of challenges this past year that have led to more costs. These include a new trash contract which increased annual expenditures from \$580,000 to \$790,000; the hiring of the assistant manager and restructuring administrative personnel; funding matching requirement for grant projects, Streetscape, and the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrades; restructuring of employee salaries and benefits; addressing PFAS in the drinking water which includes the costs of new filtration systems and media in the wells affected and replacement of filtration media replacement in existing wells that have systems to eliminate isotopes in the water; the hiring of two additional personnel this year; and a proposed 3.2% increase in salaries this year.

The overall projected revenue in the budget is \$5,312,993 with total expenditures estimated to be at \$5,304,405, leaving just over \$8,000 in the annual balance. The town still maintains 17.5 percent of the total budget in a rainy day fund in case of unexpected revenue or spending problems, but the budget is very tight by historic standards. It includes not only many capital spending projects that are needed to repave roads and upgrade the sewer plant, but it also includes some money to put towards key projects for the future, including enclosing the pool in a year-round "bubble" and help in funding the proposed co-op. While the county will ultimately pay for much of the pool project if funding can be secured, the town's willingness to chip in can help persuade the county to move forward.

The commissioners then turned to the chicken ordinance to consider changes that had been proposed by citizens at the March 4 meeting. They elected to reduce the setback from one hundred feet to fifty feet and to allow up to ten chickens on properties more than one acre in size. The proposals go back to the Planning Commission for review.

Finally, the commissioners adopted the new proposed guidelines for grants. In the end, they eliminated the "major grant" category which would have been for grants from \$25,000 to \$50,000. They decided that such grants require a much more extensive review and should not be considered a "routine" part of the town's grant policy. While projects of this size could be considered in the future, they would have to be submitted as a separate program proposal with extensive background and detailed plans and goals, possibly including a white paper and report.

The language in the proposed grant policy would require that all projects be located within the town's boundaries; however, Commissioner Martin Radigan asked if the commissioners would agree with language that would allow for projects that would result in substantial benefits to the town even if they are not located exclusively within its limits. He argued that "some wiggle room" on this matter might be helpful because there may well be projects that benefit the town substantially but are not wholly or are only partially located within the town boundaries. The commissioners agreed to the proposal, and staff was tasked with drafting appropriate language.

Clarification on Willard Property In March Issue

In our March front page article, we reported that, in the development of the Willard property next to Poolesville Town Hall, "the Willards originally planned to build houses with a smaller footprint of 1,800 to 2,000 square feet in size. The town had said it would reduce the fee to connect each house to the town's water and sewer to help support these smaller homes; however, due to market conditions, it appears this goal will not be met, and the houses will be larger than this target, possibly around 2,200 square feet."

Jim Clifford, representing the Willards, has clarified that report in the *Monocle* and said, "All the homes will be built at or below 2,000 square feet of living space above grade."



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Join us for Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, March 24

Mass Saturday at 5 pm

Sunday at 8:30 & 10:30 am

Holy Thursday, March 28

Morning Prayer at 9 am

Mass of the Last Supper at 7:30 pm

Adoration 8:30 - 11 pm

Good Friday, March 29

Morning Prayer at 9 am

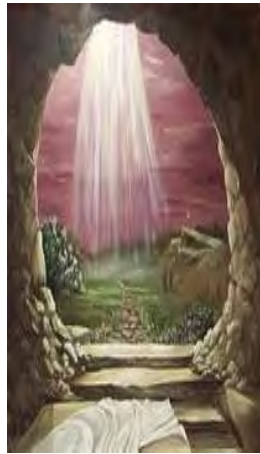
Confession at Noon

Stations of the Cross at 3 pm

Service of the Lord's Passion at 7:30 pm

Holy Saturday, March 30

Easter Vigil at 8 pm



Easter Sunday, March 31

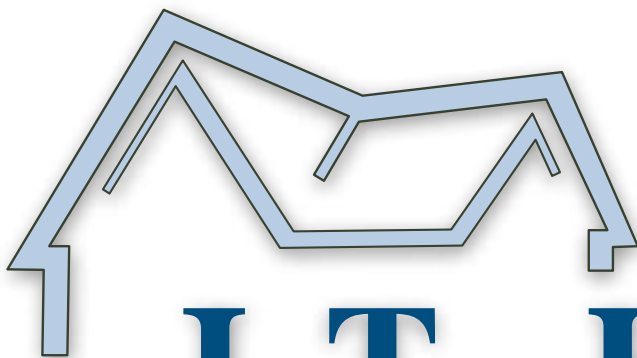
Sunrise Mass at 6:30 am

8:30 & 10:30 am - Mass

Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 am

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Local Arts

Riverworks Events

Local arts events take place at: **Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms, 19215 Beallsville Rd., Beallsville; Locals Farm Market, 19929 Fisher Ave., Poolesville; and Riverworks Outdoor Stage at the Old Methodist Church, 17617 West Willard Rd, Poolesville.**

Learn more at www.riverworksart.org.

Ongoing and Free:

Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays

Open Studio

Need studio space, a change of scenery, or the company of other artists to nurture your creativity? Work on your project with fellow creatives during open studio time. *Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms.* Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Fridays 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and Sundays, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Wednesdays

The Reserve Wind Ensemble

If you've ever played a wind instrument at least at a high-school level, join our community band! This program is led by Michelle Palmer of Yunique Music School. *Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms.* 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Jam Sessions

Bring your instrument and voice and join Brian Jamison as he leads these jam sessions. Jam sessions are back starting April 5 and are held outside, depending on the weather. *Locals Farm Market.* 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Made-in-Studio

Made-in-Studio workshops require no experience and are held on the First Friday and Second Saturday every month at the *Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms.* Sponsored by the Butz Foundation. \$20.

April 5

Cyanotype

Join associate artist Betsy Casaleno for an afternoon of experimentation with cyanotype printing, an almost 200-year-old technique of photographic printing that takes advantage of a light sensitive chemical process. Capture the silhouettes of objects to create striking images in bright Prussian blue! \$20. Open hours: 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 13

Photo Collage

Explore the world of making your own surreal photo collage! Join arts programming assistant Ian Parsons for

an afternoon of collage making. Experiment with your own surreal photo collage to make something mysterious and evocative. \$20. Open hours: 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monthly Concert Series

The Riverworks 2024 Monthly Concert Series kicks off this month at the *Riverworks Outdoor Stage at the Old Methodist Church.* Sit on the grass (bring a blanket or chair) and enjoy the spring weather with music in the air. Tickets and info at RiverworksArt.org/events.

April 6

Dear Someone Duo

The musical duo of Cheryl Gendron and Mark Glaudemans call themselves: Dear Someone. Multi-instrumentalist musicians, playing Americana, folk, soft and rocking acoustic sounds with a focus on harmonies, heartbreak, and joy. \$10. *Riverworks Outdoor Stage.* 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

April Artist-in-the-House Gallery

Exhibits are held in the upstairs gallery at Locals Farm Market (accessible only by stairs). Sponsored by Walter Matia, Curlew Castings.

Until April 7

Sarah Hood Salomon, "Scratched"

The trees in Sarah Hood Salomon's black-and-white photography impress the viewer with their stark beauty, but there is an unnerving tone of foreboding: When she photographed them, all of these trees were on the verge of being cleared for development. Now most of them are gone.

April 10 to June 9

Wib Middleton, "Momentary Meditations"

Middleton's images evoke a reverence for nature's quiet splendor in moments of observation, inspiration, and gratitude.

April 21

Artist Reception

Meet the artist, Wib Middleton. *Locals Farm Market.* 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Continued from page 20.

Things to Do

environment! *BlackRock Center for the Arts, Germantown.* 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Gas and Steam Engine Show

Gas engines and tractors, live music, antique cars and trucks, pony rides, craft show, hayrides, wood carvers, prizes. Leashed pets welcome. *18400 Muncaster Road, Derwood.* Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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Continued from page 18.

Once There Were Ferries on the C&O Canal

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 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. There is a stone wall that once served as a dock along the canal upstream from Lock 26 on the berm side that may have been the loading and landing location of the Trundle ferry boat. There is no documentation indicating how long the Trundle ferry was in operation. Today, there is an earthen dam with a path that leads from the Dickerson Park parking lot passing near Culvert 65 to the towpath.

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

Falcons Break Out the Bats on Opening Day

By Jeff Stuart

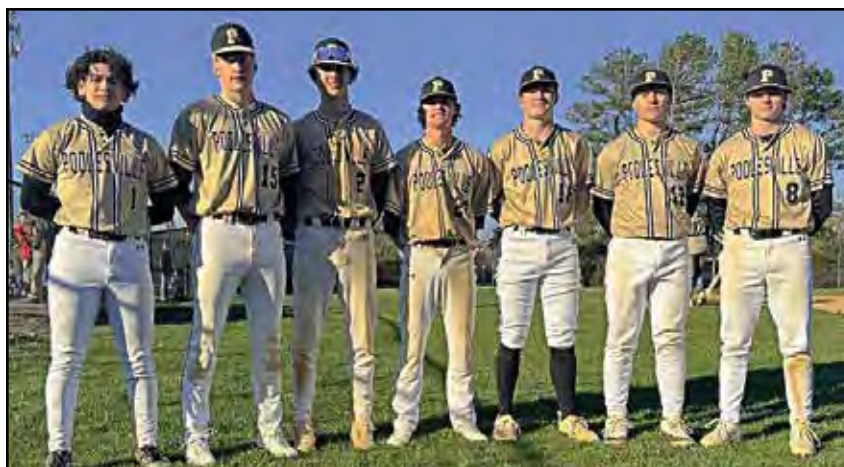
March 22 was opening day for the Poolesville High School baseball team. On a clear but chilly and windy day, the PHS Falcons defeated the Rockville Rams, 20-8, to win their season and home opener. Rockville had only five hits but made the most of those in the early going. Trailing, 7-1, going into the bottom of the second, the Falcon offense exploded, racing past the Rams. Leading by ten after the top of the fifth, the Falcons ended the game early. They collected eighteen hits in just four innings.

Andrew Brill was 3-4 with a double and two runs scored. Freshman Reid Kimball had an impressive debut, going 3-3 with four RBIs. Leftfielder Luke Pearre led off the game with a double and scored on a wild pitch. He was 3-3 with two doubles, four runs, and a triple. Leo Szego hit the Falcons' first homer of the year. He went 2-3 with three RBIs.

Tanner Ivusic pitched three innings, allowing no earned runs and striking out four. He was also 2-4 with a triple and two RBIs.

Freshman Tristan Yarrington pitched two innings in his varsity debut, collecting his first high school strikeout. He contributed a hit and finished the game at shortstop. Freshman Caleb Davis also made his varsity debut.

"We have a lot of returning players," said Coach Scott Davis. "We have seven or eight seniors. We are senior dominant, but I have three young freshmen that are very good. They will get a lot of playing time. We will have some good arms on the mound this year. I have four or five kids that can throw and three solid pitchers. Luke Pearre is one of the better pitchers in the county—he is my ace—and Tanner Ivusic, a lefty, can throw in the low eighties. A freshman, Tristan Yarrington, is our third pitcher. He will improve as he gets experience going forward. We beat Middletown, 6-5, in a scrimmage that was a good test for us. They are ranked number one in Class 2A. We have great senior leadership, and we are ready to go."



Victor Velasquez, Leo Szego, Ryan Griffith, Luke Pearre, Parker Pearre, Tanner Ivusic, and Andrew Brill, of the 2024 PHS baseball team.

"I am looking forward to being competitive and winning some games with my friends and hopefully making a deep run in the playoffs," said senior Parker Pearre, a middle infielder. "The freshmen, Reid and Caleb, have been swinging the bat well. Tristan really looks good. Looking forward to seeing them play in the next couple of years. I am looking forward to the Damascus game because they are rivals, and to the Magruder game because we walked them off at home last year. It was a great game. I have been on the team since my freshman year, so I am looking forward to getting after it one last time with the rest of the seniors and other teammates."

"We are a really good team this year," said senior Luke Pearre. "We have a lot of seniors. We have all been playing our whole lives. We are looking forward to it. We expect to make a long run in the playoffs. I always look forward to playing Damascus. That is always a battle. It is always a good game. Magruder also has a lot of seniors and is a very good team this year. That should be a fun game."

Continued on page 27.

Our Lady of the Presentation Parish 2024 Lent, Triduum, and Easter Schedule

Palm (Passion) Sunday, March 24

- Masses will follow the regular weekend schedule
- Saturday vigil 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Thursday, March 28

- No morning Mass
- **8:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper**
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday, March 29

- No morning Mass
- 12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- Confessions following Stations of the Cross
- **8:00 p.m. Service of the Lord's Passion and Veneration of the Cross**

Holy Saturday, March 30

- No morning Mass
- 11:00 a.m. Easter Basket Blessing
- 11:30 a.m. Confessions
- **8:00 p.m. the Solemn Easter Vigil**

Easter Sunday, March 31

- 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
- 1:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7

- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 10:45 a.m. Mass
- 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Confessions
- 3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Solemn Reposition following the Divine Mercy Chaplet

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Mass Schedule

- Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Weekday Masses

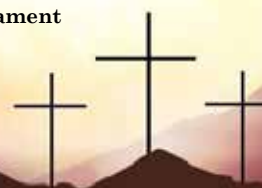
- Monday 8:30 a.m.
- Tuesday 8:30 a.m.
- Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday 8:30 a.m.
- Friday 8:30 a.m.
- Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.
- Saturdays 4:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

- Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.



Continued from page 8.

Kuhlman Lawn Service: A Story of the Great American Family Business

Over the years, they have centralized their customer base nearer to Poolesville and not going down county as much as they did in the beginning. In addition to their basic service of lawn mowing, lawn maintenance, cleanups, and snowplowing, still their bread and butter, they now do more landscape design, grading, and hardscapes than in their earliest days.

J.D. is very grateful to everyone in Poolesville who has supported him and has special thanks to his customer base for supporting him in making his and the next generation's dreams come true.

For J.D. and family, the workday starts early and ends late, and all he wants at the end is for the customers to be pleased to have a property that "just glows."

Continued from page 26.

Falcons Break Out the Bats on Opening Day

Hopefully, we run up against Middletown again in the playoffs. That should be a good game."

"We have a lot of seniors and a lot of guys that have played together for a long time," said senior Andrew Brill, a centerfielder. "It should be a fun season for us. Last season, Damascus got the best of us, shutting us out, 7-0, here, so I am looking forward to getting some redemption and beating them. I have known Luke Pearre for a long time, Leo Szego too. I played with him in the Rockville Baseball Association at the fields on Avery Road."

Other seniors are Ryan Griffith, Victor Velasquez, Matthew Singh, and Andrew Kim. Jacob Smith, Russell Kimball, and Ian Harper are juniors. Sam Lewis is a sophomore.

Correction Regarding the Story about the Closing for Renovations of the Gym at PHS

A story in the article about the closing of the PHS gym reported on a 1982 region game lost by PHS against Walkersville at the gym. In the article, it was reported that PHS lost due to a half-court shot by Walkersville that fell short and, in trying to block the shot, it was accidentally knocked into the basket by the PHS center. Andre Johnson, who played in the game, offered a correction from the original report.

That was a favorite moment for Andre Johnson, a senior who was on that 1982 team who contributed two points in this last game. "That year, we lost to Walkersville in the regionals by one point. A Walkersville player shot the ball from about half court, from the left side, as time was running out. It fell short, but the ball went to another Walkersville player who hit a five-foot shot to beat us. The shot was uncontested because Randy Hackett, our center, was boxing out and facing the basket instead of his man anticipating a rebound. Walkersville was coached by our old coach, Dave Miller, so that really hurt."

We are glad the loss of the region game turned out not to be due to a PHS player accidentally scoring points for the other team. We are also glad to have the story corrected.

National Capital Velo Club will be hosting the 28th edition of the Poolesville Road Race on April 27, 2024. Races will be taking place throughout the day from approximately 8:00 a.m.

to 6:00 p.m. All races will be staged from the Poolesville Baptist Church at 17550 West Willard Avenue and will run in a circuit in a clockwise direction with a finish line near the intersection of Westerly Rd. and W. Willard Ave. The affected roads include W. Willard Rd. between Wootton Ave. and W. Offut Rd.; W. Offut Rd. between W. Willard and Edwards Ferry Roads; Edwards Ferry Road between W. Offut and River Roads; River Rd. between Edwards Ferry and Elmer School Roads; Elmer School Rd between River and Club Hollow Roads; Club Hollow Rd. between Elmer School and Edwards Ferry Roads; Edwards Ferry Rd. between Club Hollow and Westerly Roads; and Westerly Rd. between Edwards Ferry and W. Willard Roads. Roads will remain open to traffic, but Montgomery County Police and members of our club will be monitoring intersections and creating rolling enclosures to protect the athletes as they proceed along the course. We are once again incredibly grateful to the Town of Poolesville for hosting us, and we hope to see some of you over the course of the day. This race would not be possible without your gracious support. For more information and a course map, please visit

www.bikereg.com/poolesvillerr.

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Thank you!

Remembrances

Rebecca Lillard Umstead



Rebecca Lillard Umstead

Rebecca Lillard Umstead, 101, passed away Sunday, March 17, 2024. She was born on April 2, 1922, in Sellman to the late James Robert Lillard, Sr. and Stella Renn Lillard. She was the wife of the late Stanley L. Umstead.

She grew up in Barnesville, graduated from Richard Montgomery High School, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Maryland School of Nursing. She was an emergency room nurse at University Hospital, Baltimore, for seven years. She married Stanley in 1952 and resided in Beallsville for over fifty years. She enjoyed being a homemaker and a loving mother to her two children, Barbara and Lee.

She enjoyed making beautiful quilts for family and friends. She instilled her love of reading in her daughter, and she enjoyed all types of sports, especially the Baltimore Orioles and the University of Maryland Girls' Basketball Team. She was a lifelong member of the Barnesville Baptist Church. She will be remembered for her kindness and help to neighbors and friends, and her joyful smile and laugh when something stuck her as funny.

She is survived by her daughter Barbara Hamilton (Joseph) of Coos Bay, Oregon; three grandchildren, Amy Barr, Katie Umstead, and Austin Umstead; two great-grandchildren, Andrew Barr and Avery Barr; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was predeceased by husband, Stanley L. Umstead; son Stanley "Lee" Umstead; two brothers, Ernest Lillard and J. Robert Lillard, Jr.; and one sister, Mary Ellen Lillard.

Donations in her name may be made to the Barnesville Baptist Church, P.O. Box 69, Barnesville, MD 20838 or to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Barbara Lynne Allnut Cushman



Barbara Lynne Allnut Cushman

Barbara Lynne Allnut Cushman passed away on March 21 surrounded by her family after a lengthy illness.

Barbara was born December 6, 1942, in Frederick, and grew up attending schools in Poolesville, where she forged lifelong friendships with her classmates—a unique bond, that even now, sixty-four years later, remains strong. She attended Washington School for Secretaries in Washington, D.C. and moved to Maine in 1967.

Barbara held several administrative positions in which she could exercise her speedy typing skills and organizational acumen, and share her enthusiastic and fun spirit. Of all the positions she held, you would most often hear stories from her time at Lake Region Middle School, whose principal was Larry Thompson. She got a kick out of making him laugh, and the kids were the highlight of her day. Barbara's warmth, kindness, great sense of humor, and free spirit are just a few of the many things we loved about her. She will be deeply missed by her family and her many friends.

She is survived by her daughters, Robin and Tracy (Jeff); her four "perfect" grandchildren, Emily, Darby, Zackery, and Christopher; her "boyfriend" Ray; her brother Lewis (Kathy); nieces, Christie, Julia, and Kate; godchildren, Scott and Kellie; her first husband Tom, father of her children, and his wonderful wife Mary; and many cousins. Barbara was predeceased by her parents, Lewis and Evelyn Allnut, and her best friend Janet Spates Hagan.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Northern Light Home Care & Hospice or any cause near and dear to your heart.



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Remembrances

Betty J. (Warren) Rayburn



Betty J. (Warren) Rayburn

Betty Rayburn entered her eternal rest on February 11, 2024. She was 95.

Betty was born on December 23, 1928 in Urbana, Ohio to Alvin and Hazel Smith. She lived her entire life in Urbana until 2013 when she moved to Maryland to live with her daughter and son-in-law. She was the first thirty-year employee to retire from Siemens Manufacturing Company.

Betty was preceded in death by first husband Ellis Warren in 1975 and their son Kim Alan in 1974.

Betty's second husband, William Rayburn, passed away in 2002. Left to cherish their memories is daughter Lisa Warren McCoy of Poolesville. Betty is also survived by two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, all nearby in Maryland.

She was known for her beautifully-manicured landscaped yard. She often was stopped by admirers giving compliments and asking the names of her plantings.

She also received some awards from the town for her beautiful streetscapes. She loved gardening and did it strictly for her own enjoyment.

Dr. Joan Barth Urban



Dr. Joan Barth Urban

Dr. Joan Barth Urban, leading expert in Communist studies and retired Catholic Uni-versity of America Professor Emeritus in the Department of Political Science, died on December 10. She was 89.

Dr. Urban was famous for her knowledge of politics in Russia, Italy, and China. Due to various political changes, she eventually focused solely on Russia. Her students got to know Russia well through her lectures where she would show pictures of her family on trips to Moscow, political conferences, and pictures of current events she had attended. She was adored by her students for her compassion and for the stories she would re-count about her travels. She wrote several books, including Moscow and the Italian Communist Party: From Togliatti to Berlinguer and Russia's Communists at the Crossroads.

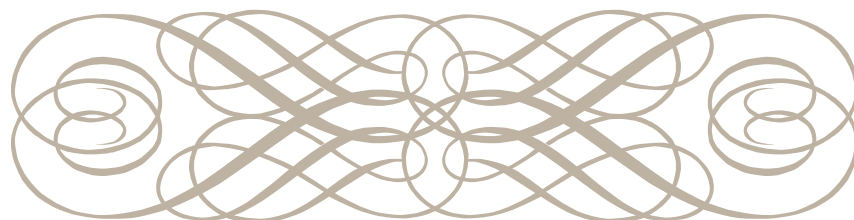
Dr. Urban's interest in Russia started at a young age. She was able to travel to Moscow as a graduate student when she joined a trip encouraging American kitchen appliances. In Moscow, she was arrested and held—threatened with being a spy. She appeared in newspapers all over the world. She was eventually released and returned to the U.S.

Dr. Urban was a native of Garden City in Long Island, New York. She adored Montauk, Long Island, New York, and her parents eventually owned a house there.

Dr. Urban earned the rank of valedictorian at Northwestern University before earning her master of arts in Russian Studies from Harvard in 1959 and her Ph.D. in Government Studies from Harvard in 1967.

Dr. Urban was a professor of political science at MIT. There she met a teaching assistant, a recent immigrant from Hungary, Laszlo Karl Urban. They married in December 1963.

Dr. Urban retired from the Catholic University of America in 2009.



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Continued from page 21.

April Showers Bring May Flowers—To Green Roofs

Green roofs insulate from noise, too, especially of low-frequency noise—think traffic here—in one study lowering the inside noise level by forty decibels. For comparison, normal human speech is fifty-five to sixty-five decibels.

The thermal mass of a green roof helps stabilize building temperatures, so structures absorb less heat in the summer and lose less in the winter.

The benefits of a green roof go further than the roof it's built on. The plantings capture and store carbon. They reduce carbon emissions directly but also indirectly through reductions in fossil fuel use for building energy systems. They reduce the "heat island" effect that occurs in densely-populated areas, by absorbing rather than reflecting solar rays. They store water, acting like giant sponges, storing and slowly releasing rainwater. Only about half of the rain that falls on a living roof makes it to ground level, and when it does, it is cooler and cleaner.

This helps our stormwater management systems and, even more importantly, the health of our streams and rivers.

Living roofs provide wildlife habitat and support biodiversity. Pollinators and birds use the "habitat patches" that roofs can provide, particularly if there are multiple green roofs in one area, and even more if a variety of native plants are used in the roof composition. As urban development continues and wild habitats decrease or vanish, green roofs can help support bees and other insects we, and other critters, rely on.

On top of all that, green roofs are beautiful. Sedums flower in many colors, and native plants like Maryland's state plant, the black-eyed Susan, give a pop of bright golden yellow. Many sedums are evergreen, so even in winter they show up on a roof as a green carpet. We are lucky to have one of the country's premier roof plant growers right here in Maryland, Ed Snodgrass of Emory Knoll Farms.

If you have a flat or low-slope roof that needs replacing, it's a great time to consider replacing it not with new shingles, but with plants!

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Important New Understanding of Leptospirosis, Where It Lives, and How You and Your Pets Can Contract It in the Environment

Peter H. Eeg, DVM

As a client, you have heard your veterinarians talking about the importance of Leptospirosis vaccine to help protect your furry canine buddies and yourself from this potentially dangerous organism.

All dogs are at risk of leptospirosis, no matter where they live, their breed or age, whether they mostly stay indoors, or the time of year, according to the most recent guidance on the disease. Given that every dog is at risk, an expert panel has recommended that all dogs be vaccinated for leptospirosis annually rather than every three years.

Leptospirosis continues to be prevalent in dogs, including in small breed dogs from urban areas, puppies as young as eleven weeks of age, geriatric dogs, dogs in rural areas, and dogs that have been inadequately vaccinated for leptospirosis.

Rodents are the most important reservoir for *Leptospira* spp, especially rats; however, they are not the only source of infection. It is also spread through the urine or body fluid of an infected animal. This can be foxes, racoons, skunks, or other small woodland creatures in the area. **The bacteria can survive in water or soil for weeks to months, this is why a vaccination is so important.** Infections occur when *Leptospira* bacteria are brought into contact with skin abrasions or mucous membranes of humans and animals, such as following ingestion of contaminated water catching mice/rats.

Experts have determined that it does replicate in the environment, especially water-logged soil, and that is important to its ability to persist in the environment. The bacteria can survive freezing.

Outbreaks of leptospirosis cluster infections in dogs have been reported in regions with a large variety of climate conditions, including Arizona, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Wyoming. The recent appearance of outbreaks in association with boarding facilities has raised concern for dog-to-dog transmission.

Leptospirosis is most commonly seen in the fall in the Northeast, wintertime or early spring in California, and year-round in the South. All dogs are at risk of leptospirosis, regardless of signalment, geographic location, lifestyle, and the time of year.

There is widespread evidence that cats can be infected by *Leptospira* spp., but cats are considered disease resistant when compared with other animal species. There is no vaccine for cats, but because of their natural resistance, it is not considered indicated at this time.

That said, evidence suggests that getting leptospirosis from an infected dog is low as they don't shed many organisms. For example, an investigation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that examined people heavily exposed to dogs with leptospirosis during an outbreak in Arizona found no evidence of seroconversion. It is still a very good idea to have your dogs protected with an annual vaccination at the same time they get their Lyme vaccination.



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