



These people walked for a good cause. More pictures are in the Family Album on page 2.



Guest Peter Murray and host Jonathan Warner at a celebration and benefit you can read about in the Pulse on page 14.



He has a road named after him. Read more in Mystery History on page 20.



This bottle was found in an unexpected place. Read about it in Tidbits on page 11.

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

October 25, 2013

Volume X, Number 15

## Planning Commission Rezoning Recommendations Spark Public Comments

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Planning Commission, which has been reviewing the town's zoning ordinance, held a public hearing on its preliminary report for proposed changes on October 16. Residents filled the hearing room to learn more about the proposal with nine persons coming forward to ask questions and voicing their concerns over the impact the changes will have on them.

The Planning Commission's complete 105-page report is available on the town's website.

The primary objective of the commission's revisions is to encourage infill development in the town's commercial zone and to create additional residential zones in the existing

Rural Density Transfer Zones (RDTZ) on lots that are too small for successful farming but too large for standard residential development.

The report submitted on the ordinance used the recently-revised Master Plan as its guidepost. Both the new ordinances and Master Plan seek to control, through a deliberative process, the overall expansion in town population from its current five thousand to the targeted sixty-five hundred specified in the Master Plan. This is a reduction from the seventy-five hundred cap on population from previous plans.



The public hearing on zoning changes in Poolesville drew more attendees than normal.

In the residential zone section, the commission recommends the addition of two-acre residential lots on property within the town currently designated as RDTZ and are parcels of less than twenty-five acres.

The town's Commercial

**-Continued on Page 10.**

## The Day Ethel Flew the Coop

By Jack Toomey

Ethel came to live at the Campbell residence on Hoskinson Road about seventeen years ago. As far as can be determined, she just moved in like some eccentric relative and made herself comfortable. Ethel had no interest in school or getting a job, so she sat around all day watching television, playing with the dogs, and having the run of the house. She even danced when there was music playing. To the dismay of the family dogs, she sometimes

chased them up the stairs.

The Thompsons never had her evaluated, but her vocabulary was limited to "Hi, Ethel," "Moo moo," and occasionally barking like a dog. Her favorite television programs were those that showed animals, and she loved to eat french fries from McDonald's.

One day in early October, Cassandra Campbell, an eighth grader, was playing with Ethel in the backyard. A delivery truck pulled up, and the loud noise startled Ethel, an umbrella cockatoo, sometimes called a parrot. She flew off despite

**-Continued on Page 22.**



Cassandra Campbell and her mischievous cockatoo Ethel had a close call.

# Family Album

The PHS classes of the 1980s got together at Black Rock State Park for a reunion during Homecoming Weekend. How many can you name?



Delores Allnutt Covey, Virginia Byrd Beitzel, and Marilyn Allnutt Stream joined in the 1950s to 1980s PHS class reunion at Cugini's.



The PHS volleyball teams raised \$5,000 to benefit cancer research.



PHS reunion revelers: Dot "Columbo" Bodmer Himelright, Joe "Doc" Dronenburg, John "JB" Bowles, John "Bud" Baumbaugh, Mary Elgin Conlon. The banner on the wall was provided by Debe Meyers of Sign In Signs Studio.



Anne Marie Thomas, Any Art Studio, Anne Shroeder of Language Works, Karen Wilson of Blue Hearth, Theresa Daly of Vanity Fair Events and Jessica Lindenfelser, with Xpress Dance Classes enjoyed the PACC network event at Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards.



This fearsome foursome was part of the annual Monocacy Lions Club Charity Golf Tournament fundraiser. Brian Jeffers, David Jeffers, Charlie Glass, and Ted Roth.

## Business Briefs

### Sugarloaf on Top Again

For the second year in a row, Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard has topped the list as best vineyard in the annual "Best Of" issue published by *The Washington Post Express* on October 17. Conducted through a region-wide nominating and voting process with thousands of participants, the issue presents "the best of everything D.C. has to offer": restaurants, bars, attractions, people, and, of course, vineyards. "We'd like to thank our loyal customers and the voting public for this honor," says an SMV spokesperson. "With this honor, SMV continues to show the excellence of Maryland wineries." Check out all of the wines, events, and accolades at the Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards web page.

### New Preschool to Open in Poolesville

Lakisha Reid has decided to take the next step in her ongoing development in preschool education. She has been working with and educating three-to-five-year-old children for nearly twenty years, and this November, she will open Discovery Early Learning Center in the building across from the Poolesville Post Office, formerly Finders Keepers.

Lakisha is a wife and mother of three children (Joseph, Emani, and Jada) living in Frederick. She

is an adherent to the educational theory that child's play is an act of discovery and learning, and when children play, they optimize their ability to learn. "We follow the child's interest through hands-on, touching experiences and experimentation." This year, the preschoolers planned a garden from beginning to end starting with building a framed area, selecting the plants, planting and watering them, and finally harvesting them. At such a young age, children learn at different paces, and her goal is to support them where they are by playing with a purpose.

She has two assistant teachers and has Monday-Wednesday-Friday as well as Tuesday-Thursday classes. Some children come every day.

### That's a Lot of Pumpkins, That's a Lot of Dough

Lewis Orchards held its annual pumpkin chunkin' charity fundraiser earlier this month. Linda and Robert Lewis bring in a customized pumpkin cannon that shoots pumpkins into a pond about four hundred yards behind their farmers' market. This year, visitors fired over nine hundred pumpkins, thereby raising \$2,436.62 to benefit the Fisher House Foundation and Mansfield K. Kaseman Health Clinic, a Rockville facility providing healthcare to persons without health insurance.



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**October 31**  
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**November 5**  
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## Mystery History Photo

Do you know this family?  
Do you know where this photo was taken?



This is the Richard Poole family on the front porch of their home. The home? It is now the stucco covered house on Fisher Avenue next to Bassett's Restaurant.

Front: Richard and Florence Priscilla (Poole) Poole  
Left to Right Back Row: Unknown, Reverend Walter and Anna Cost (Poole) Williams, William White and Frances Eleanor (Poole) Williams, Louie and Mary Douglas (Poole) Hankins  
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# Commentary

## Still Looking for The Middle

By John Clayton

There's been a lot of talk about the middle these days, the middle being a range of political preferences bracketed by the far right-wing Tea Party on one side and the left-wing European-style socialists on the other. This all came about from the recent federal government shutdown. I'm sure you know what I am referring to—it was in all the papers—and I'm sure you had plenty of time to read about it during that time they told you not to go to work.

I am not wading in to the entire shutdown/debt limit miniseries that ran on all the news stations recently. What's left to be said? We all know what happened, we all know why it happened, we all know how we feel about it, and the ratings (opinion poll results) are in. Actually, perhaps it was more like a sporting event than a miniseries, because people will buy a miniseries on DVD so they can watch it straight through. That's not happening here—we don't want any reruns.

So as a middle person, admittedly center-left for the most part, in a center-right country, I have a lot of concern about whether the middle will ever really have an opportunity to once again be the focal point of the political process, where the final deals are struck and policy solutions put into practice. There is a lot of talk about this now, and the extremist brand may be at its lowest point in recent memory, which for a middle-of-the-road type like me, is a good thing; however, from what I have read, the middle is a pretty dicey place to be if you're a congressman. For all our umbrella at the extremists, they seem to occupy safe congressional seats in districts that approve of their activities. My fear is that we're locked in this cycle where the two parties trade their moderates back

and forth election to election like so many baseball cards while the fanatics on both sides stay put. It is unfortunate that the moderates, who embrace reason, will pay, on a partisan party basis, for the excesses of the dogmatic.

Part of this is due to all those gerrymandered districts tailor-made for either a Republican or Democratic candidate, so that winning one's primary is the only obstacle to staying in Congress, regardless of the quality of your work. Gerrymandered districts are remarkably common across the country, but especially in those states that are dominated by one party and run like so many banana republics for the convenience of the party perennially in power—states like Texas or Maryland, for example.

My depressing scenario is as follows: In the next election, consistent with current polls, the Republican brand is so tarnished that many Republican incumbents get replaced by Democrats. Again, the irony is that these will predominantly be the more moderate Republicans, not the extremists in their safe districts, and the wrong Republicans will get punished for the shutdown. These now-powerful Democrats will, if history is a guide, overreach in their legislative efforts, banning guns, coal, trans fats, smoking outside, anything that might offend anyone else, and the designated hitter (hey, I can dream) and require that contraceptive devices be included in school lunches, like cigarettes in a World War II field ration. Then they get replaced again, the Republicans will overreach, and we repeat until something changes, and it almost certainly will.

There is an opportunity here, folks, and neither party has a lock on it. Talk to us as adults. Believe it or not, we know where the problems are, and we know there will be some shared sacrifice required to get our economy and our future on a steadier course. We're smarter than you seem to think we are, and we pray that you are smarter than you've been.

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## Rande(m) Thoughts

### Zoning in to Rezoning

By Rande Davis

Some topics have a way of lingering in the news for extended periods of time, so much so that sometimes I nearly hate having to write one more story about them. The stories on wind turbine zoning changes and building a solar array come to mind as topics that went on for nearly two years before being resolved. Even then, no wind turbines seem to have popped up in Poolesville anyway.

Now comes the Planning Commission's new report making recommendations to changes in the town's zoning ordinance. I won't offer any specifics on this topic in this column since our front page story does that. Besides, you are going to get much more information on the proposed zoning changes in the months (possibly

many months) ahead, and I look for this to be one of those stories that hangs around for a while. What I have been thinking about is the way we talk about these issues. The conversation could be depicted as the merry-go-round style of communicating that is so prevalent today—and so frustrating to boot. I refer to a merry-go-round since any extended community discussion that revolves around one topic has different people joining in or departing the conversation over and over like the riders coming and going on the amusement ride. Each time someone comes aboard, you almost have to start over just to keep everyone up to speed.

One of the best things about changing my workspace from New York City to Poolesville was the change in the pace of

-Continued on Page 17.

# Letters to the Editor

## Roy Selby Elementary School?

I have what I think may be an unusual request: I would like to recommend that Poolesville Elementary School be renamed Roy L. Selby Elementary School.

Mr. Selby was a lifelong member of the Poolesville community who recently passed away. Mr. Selby was born, educated, and lived his entire life in the Poolesville community, attending and graduating from Poolesville High School in 1959. He stayed in the community that raised him in order to serve. He was a member of the volunteer fire department, he was a member of the town council, and perhaps the reason most people would remember him is because he operated the only grocery store in town, Selby's Market, for over half a century.

If you have ever lived in a small town, you know the importance of the town doctor, mechanic, teachers, and grocer. In much of Montgomery County, many people would not even know some of the most important community helpers who serve them daily—not so in Poolesville. Mr. Selby and his entire family not only literally fed the town but nurtured it as well. Many young people learned the merits of hard work and honesty while working at Selby's. Many adults

knew that in hard times, an IOU was as good as cash when food was needed for a hungry family. In times of "thick and thin" Roy Selby was there to help and to serve his neighbors.

If you've ever been to Poolesville on a weekend and happened by Selby's, you may have been asked to buy Scout Cookies, Help a Vet, purchase fruit for charity, or just meet the friend you hadn't seen in ages. It cannot be overstated how important a compassionate business person is in a small town, and one who's been that way for fifty years.

We have honored a wide and diverse segment of this country's men and women over the years by remembering them with schools named for their outstanding gifts, achievements, and sacrifices. It is in that vein that I recommend that Poolesville Elementary School be renamed not only in honor of an outstanding member of the Poolesville Community, but in the recognition of those attitudes we hold dear: honesty, human compassion, respect, hard work, self-sacrifice, and commitment to family and community.

Thank you for your consideration.

*William Kraegel*

## From the Selby Family with Gratitude

Words cannot express how much we appreciate all the cards, flowers, food, and other acts of kindness after the death of Roy. I always knew he was a good man, but never knew quite how good until we heard story after story from members of our community and beyond. Our local communities are amazing. Always at the ready when anyone is in need with food, running errands or just a shoulder, they rally around. The attendance at the candlelight remembrance, the viewing, and the funeral was overwhelming and heartfelt. We thank each and every one of you.

*The Selby Family*



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## Remembrance

### John F. Wolfrey

John F. Wolfrey, 81, of Poolesville, died on October 13, 2013. Born on March 29, 1932, he was the husband of Catherine E. Wolfrey for fifty-eight years and the son of the late Bert and Leonia Wolfrey.

John retired from the Montgomery County Board of Education where he was a painter and crew chief and supervised the painting of many schools throughout the county. He especially enjoyed the friendship of all his fellow workers. John enjoyed plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, auto repair, and lawn maintenance and was known by many as Mr. Fixit. A great sports fan, he loved the Redskins and the Orioles. He was a lover of animals, especially his dogs Vaky and Shadie and cat Oliver. John was a self-taught musician and could play the guitar, organ, and harmonica.

A veteran, John served his country in the United States Army in the Anti-Aircraft Division. In lieu of flowers, the family recommends donations in his honor to WUMCO Help, Inc., P.O. Box 247, Poolesville, MD 20837 or Second Chance Wildlife (scwc.org).



John F. Wolfrey

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## Town of Poolesville

### Poolesville Military Support Group Makes \$10,000 Donation

By Rande Davis

The town government meeting on October 22 welcomed the presentation of a \$10,000 donation to the Fisher House Foundation by the Poolesville Military Support Group (PMSG). Each year PMSG organizes an afternoon outing for wounded warriors from Walter Reed Military Medical Center in Bethesda consisting of a barbecue picnic, music, fishing, and camaraderie. The festive event has served to raise funds for Fisher House, and, with the success of this year's event, the total over the years has now reached over \$80,000.

Carl Hobbs, one of the founders, thanked key sponsors, particularly Edwin and Winsome S. Brown Foundation, Mary Lou and Don Hoffacker, Ft. Detrick Electrical Shop, White's Ferry, and House of Poolesville for their support over the years. He also recognized the town commissioners for their continued support.

On behalf of the Fisher House Foundation, Inc., Brian G. Gawne, Vice President of Operations, was present to thank the commissioners for the town's \$1,000 donation. He stated, "It was overwhelming to see the level of impact a small town like Poolesville can have."

He provided a brief overview of the history and impact of the Fisher House Foundation, Inc. which began in 1990 by Zach Fisher who, through his own personal expense, built twenty houses to host members of families of wounded military personnel so they could be near their loved ones during recovery. He



Members of the Poolesville Military Support Group present a \$10,000 donation to Brian Gawne of the Fisher House Foundation. Left to Right: Cheryl and Tom Wright, Mary Lou and Don Hoffacker, Carl Hobbs, Larry Neal, Brian Gawne, Paul Kelly, Mike Turley, Cherry Huff, Bubby Pollend, Valaree Dickerson, and Richard Macknight.

did it because "family is the best medicine for those in recovery." Fisher House Foundation now has sixty houses with two more being built. Today, from coast to coast, Fisher House Foundation serves twenty thousand families who stay from one night up to an entire year. He pointed out that the Poolesville community's \$10,000 donation would pay for a thousand nights

at Fisher House.

In enlightening the attendees about the many things they do besides provide the housing, he noted that the houses serve not only the wounded warriors but also military spouses or children receiving medical care.

-Continued on Page 12.

# The Gathering Place

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# Youth Sports

## PHS Boys' Soccer Looking for A Few Good Bounces

By Jeff Stuart

On Friday, October 4, the Poolesville boys' soccer team lost a 1-0 game at home to rival Damascus (4-3-1). The Hornets scored with just twenty-seven seconds left in overtime. "We had more time of possession of the ball. We had more successful connecting passes, and we outshot them," said Head Coach Christos Nicholas. "We dominated the game completely. We outshot them in the second half. We were definitely the stronger team."

The team has managed just two wins so far, against seven losses, but until they lost, 4-1, at

Watkins Mill on October 9, no team had beaten them by more than one goal. "I am very happy with the team in spite of what the numbers say," said the coach. "We are a very strong team. Kert Mease, the soccer coach at Northwest High School (6-3-1) told me after they won in double overtime, 'We underestimated Poolesville.' It shows that Northwest, a big school, has respect for us, a small school. It is just one of those things. Sometimes things don't go your way even though you do everything right. If we had won against Damascus, it would have put us in first place in the division." There are two more divisional games against Wheaton and Seneca Valley. "We need to win the rest of the divisional games in order to have a chance to take first place," added Coach Christos.

Local players make up the bulk of the talent on the team: Danny Martinez, Tony Ventura, and Jonathan Hart. These three seniors plus junior Brian Galfond, all freshman starters, are the



PHS boys' varsity soccer Coach Nicholas, with players Jonathan Hart, Tony Ventura, and Danny Martinez.

-Continued on Page 9.

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**"PHS Boys' Soccer"  
Continued From Page 8.**

team captains. "I expected them to stand out, and they did. They have lived up to my expectations," said Christos. "This year, we have two freshmen: Filip Burnett and Shane Geisler. They have made a great addition to our squad. Our youth and experience are a good combination."

"The close losses have been frustrating," says right mid Martinez. "Our best performance was against Einstein because we had the ball most of the time." His favorite moment came in a west region semifinal game his sophomore year against Carroll County's Liberty High School. "We tied the score at the very end of the game, and Kai Meredith scored the game-winner in overtime." Martinez was playing defense and passed the ball when it was needed.

"We definitely have been playing well," said center mid Ventura. "It's just that the results haven't been going our way. There are some adjustments we need to make, some plays we need to make. I still think we can make a run through the division." His favorite moment is also the win over Liberty.

"I thought we played well enough against Damascus," said defender Hart. "The loss did not really show how we played. We had difficulty scoring and finishing the ball, so that affected the outcome of the game. I expect us to improve upon our scoring, and to make a run. We have to win all our division games." Hart's most important memory was making the varsity team as a freshman.

Senior Anthony Jones has been a solid defender for the Falcons with a strong leg and good speed. Senior defenders Kevin Beliveau and Justin Lee have played well. Senior forwards David Jorge and Jerson Ortiz have helped the offense. Junior Mateo Zapata has been very strong in goal for Poolesville.

Other juniors are Xavier Benjamin (F), Ron Domingo (F/M), David Frenlich (F), James Huber (GK), Joseph Kelly (M), Doug

**Police Blotter: Past and Present**

By Jack Toomey

**Present Crime**

**Assault:** 20600 block of White's Ferry Road.

**Theft:** 20600 block of Bucklodge Road.

**Theft from vehicle:** 15100 block of Barnesville Road.

**Drug use complaint:** Stevens Park.

**Past Crime**

**October 26, 1962** Montgomery County Police investigated a burglary on Dobbins Drive in Potomac and called a K-9 unit to the scene. Officer DeVries wrote in his report that his K-9 dog picked up a scent and followed it several blocks to a vacant house where the dog became entangled with a skunk that sprayed the dog. As a result, the dog lost the trail and DeVries took the dog to a veterinarian for a disinfectant bath.

**October 26, 1960** Hundreds of people rushed to Wheaton Plaza after fire and police officials set off smoke pots and loud explosions

to simulate a nuclear attack on Wheaton. People were unaware that the drill was in progress even though it had been announced in advance and police on loudspeakers instructed people to stay away. Over one hundred pieces of fire and police equipment raced to the scene and "victims" were taken to nearby hospitals.

**October 27, 1961** A defiant county bookstore owner was arrested for selling a copy of the controversial book *Tropic of Cancer* to a Montgomery County detective. Two weeks before, States Attorney Kardy had warned shopkeepers that he would prosecute anyone who sold the book because he deemed it objectionable. When detectives went to the bookstore, they purchased a copy and returned later with a warrant.

**November 1, 1961** Police arrested four Wheaton High School students for painting obscenities on the walls of Montgomery Blair High before the football game

between the two schools. An hour before the vandalism was discovered, police had responded to Blair where they found about two hundred teenagers preparing to engage in a gang fight.

**November 2, 1961** A long series of thefts from Upcounty farms ended with the arrests of seven young men. They had stolen tires, rims, tractor batteries, and other items in their months-long spree.

**November 7, 1960** A state trooper's bullet put an end to a fast chase up Route 240 (now called 270) that extended from Georgetown to Urbana. Montgomery Police were alerted to the speeding car, which was stolen, by D.C. Police and chased it up Wisconsin Avenue onto 240 where a state trooper took over the chase all the way into Frederick County. Finally, a bullet fired into the car's windshield brought the chase to a halt. The seventeen-year-old driver told police, "I just gotta drive."

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

Pugh (M), Jack Weaver (F/M), and Andrew White (D).

Poolesville has played competitive games with several of the strongest teams in the county and is overdue for a few good bounces. They could be a real tough team to take out in the playoffs. "This team reminds me of the first team I coached here." The Falcons lost some close games early in the season, then made a run to the state championship game before losing to Pocomoke in double overtime. Nicholas is hoping for a repeat this year.

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**“Rezoning” Continued From Page 1.**

Business District has been eliminated and has been merged into one Commercial Zone, which spans approximately from CVS to the Liberty Gas Station. The purpose of the new commercial zone as stated in the ordinance is to “create a town center that serves as a social magnet for residents and visitors to walk, shop, dine, live, and interact.” Commission Chair George Coakley emphasized that the commission’s fundamental objective is to maintain the small town ambience within a framework of restricted growth. The changes will be in a measured manner and will come piece by piece in the years to come.

The plan allows for the development of apartments and townhomes in the center of town, which is designed to encourage young families and provide a housing alternative for seniors now living in single-family homes. The plan could, for example, allow for construction of retail space on the ground floor with residential space on the second level. The ordinance does not allow construction of three floors or more.

Of those persons making comments, the majority voiced concerns over the impact of the plan on their property and to gain clarification from the commission. A number of residents from the Tama I development came forward with specific concerns about the usage of the open field next to the town hall.

Bob Jamison requested that the town consider accepting his ninety-acre property on Budd Road for inclusion in the two-acre

zoning because “its Triassic soil minimalizes its use and makes it marginally productive at best for farming. We are not preserving something for posterity that has great farming use, and changing to two-acre zoning is the best use of the site for the posterity of the town.”

Frank Jamison asked the town to rethink its plan as to the other RDT zoning (more than twenty-five acres) and to change that to two-acre zoning as well. He offered that by doing so, a greater cause could be served of making sure, due to expanded potential population growth, the county would maintain the current high school in town.

Former Planning Commissioner and Town Commissioner Gary Hartz sought to reassure others in attendance about any immediate impact on their property since such development in Poolesville has a long history of being slow and deliberative. He recalled the many times the town has had to fight the county to maintain our schools or gain a middle school and concurred with Jamison that the down county “bean-counters” will take potential growth into consideration when making decisions that affect our schools. He supported the plan and also voiced support for expansion of the two-acre zoning throughout all the current town RDTZ sites.

The Planning Commission will provide a final recommendation to the town commissioners and an additional public hearing will be scheduled prior to any final decisions.

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## Tidbits

### Hope Is the Color of Pink

When members of the Poolesville High School class of 1996 gathered for the football homecoming game on October 12 for some fun and memories, there was someone special who couldn't be there to share the night, and they wanted to give a shout out to her. Joanne Clark Gross, now living in Virginia, couldn't join them for the event as she had recently been diagnosed with breast cancer and was not up to making the trip to

bottles that they guess were put there around 1900, a date they deduced through some astute sleuthing about the bottles. Ten of the bottles were quite simple to figure out as they were clearly marked Guinness Foreign Extra Stout and, judging from their shape, had apparently been hand-blown.

Imprinted on another was Melling's Food Free Sample containing a black tar-like substance. Susan's research indicates this was likely a baby food product. Another was labeled J.E. Pyles, Drugs and Notions, Poolesville,

The rest of the label is missing or unreadable.

It is our best guess that the bottles made their way into the wall of the manse around 1900 and remained there until 2013 when the hole in the wall became more visible. The church does not currently have plans to auction the bottles, but would like to know more about them, hoping to have them appraised and authenticated. The congregants are anxious to find out more about them as it may add more information to their understanding of Poolesville's history. Of course, if the secret of a one-minute cure to a cough really works, they might really be on to something big.

### A Dream Comes True for Some Small Animals

Nine-year-old Caeley Lynch had made up her mind a couple of years ago after watching an ASPCA commercial: She wanted to host a fundraiser to help animals, pure and simple. She begged her mother Jennifer to let her do it to benefit Star Gazing Farm, a small farm animal sanctuary that provides safe haven to abused, stray, and neglected small farm animals.

Eventually, her mother agreed, on one condition: Caeley had to organize it herself. Caeley quickly recruited her five-year-old brother Seamus, and the two

of them were off and running. They figured out their budget, made flyers, recruited other classmates, designed games, baked for the bake sale, and secured prizes, all with minimal supervision.

On October 20, she held the event on a picture-perfect day with fifty to sixty people from the community in attendance. The day ended as a success with Caeley and her brother raising \$100 (including a few additional generous donations).

When talking about the busy day right after the event, Caeley just beamed and said, "You know, doing that was what I always wished for."



*PHS 1996 graduate Joanne Clark Gross received messages of love and hope from her classmates.*

Poolesville. Joanne was class treasurer and her friends wanted her to know that they missed not having her there but looked forward to the next reunion. Through the picture of them in pink, they sent her their best wishes with a lot of love, prayers, and messages of hope, courage, and strength.

### The Mystery of a Miracle Cure for the Common Cough

Susan Hanna and some other folks at Poolesville Presbyterian Church had planned a basic day of clean up of the old manse, a home that was originally built to provide a home for pastors. What they planned for was not exactly what they got or, we could say, found. As Susan was cleaning around a utility sink, she noticed a crack that seemed to be holding (or hiding) something. To her surprise, she found some very old

Maryland. The back of the bottle is printed with the word "Cameron." Dick Hanna, Susan's father, researched this and found that James Pyles lived in Poolesville and was recorded on the 1900 census. His occupation on the census is listed as Druggist and Notions.

Another more mysterious bottle had only the following on the label: "\_\_\_ogen \_\_\_ules \_\_\_ Capsules after \_\_\_meal \_\_\_nnan Co. \_\_\_ts \_\_\_n, D.C. \_\_\_ Food and Drugs \_\_\_906" One person commented on Facebook that he/she believed the bottle came from Solway Annan Co., a druggist located at 14th and Vermont Avenue in the early 1900s.

There was a bottle labeled as "One Minute Cough Cure" and another gave an indecipherable percentage of chloroform.



*Monocacy Elementary students joined together to help a good cause.*

**"Town Government"**  
Continued from page 7. **Things to Do**

The foundation provides over eight hundred plane tickets per month from donated frequent flyer miles.

They also provide, through their Tragedy Assistance Program, plane fare for Gold Star families (those who have lost a loved one) to attend the Memorial National Conference. Additionally, Fisher House awards scholarships to family members of wounded warriors, of which sixty-three went to children of fallen warriors.

In summation, Mr. Gawne said, "We are only able to help out families or do the things like we were able to do last week in assisting with death gratuities because of folks just like you—everyone sitting here in this room and the rest of the members of your community who took this to heart and wanted to show those who sacrificed so much on our behalf that they are loved, cared for—and we all feel they are all our greatest national treasure. So, on behalf of Ken Fisher, our CEO and all of us at the foundation, and the dedicated staff of the sixty-plus houses out there that look after our service men and women and their families, thank you very much."

Commissioner Jim Brown thanked Mr. Gawne and members of PMSG and the sponsors of the fundraiser for the presentation. "You have our utmost thanks for all you do, the presentation was amazing and very enlightening. Thank you to all those involved, the heroes and the unsung heroes. We are really proud to have the Town of Poolesville associated with all you do."

Commissioner Valaree Dickerson, who has volunteered her DJ services to the outing since its inception, noted, "We could not be prouder than Paul Kelly and what he stands for in our community." She thanked Carl Hobbs, Richard Macknight, and Mary Lou and Don Hoffacker, in particular, for all that they do. Dickerson also thanked Bubby Pollend for his work in getting over two hundred motorcycle organizations involved to provide the escort to White's Ferry and to

**Wednesdays in October:**

Café Connection, coffee, chat, and computer help. Poolesville Presbyterian. 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Enroll Now!** Montgomery County Master Gardeners are seeking applicants for their upcoming training class. Class size is limited and filled on a first-come, first-served basis. To be placed on the application list, or for more information, call 301-590-2836.

October 25  
**JPMS Phantom Players Host Seneca Schoolhouse**

The middle school drama club has prepared a short play that demonstrates one-room-school education. The students will be in period dress. Great time for families to visit the Seneca Schoolhouse at the corner of River Road and Partnership Road. Noon to 3:00 p.m.

attend the event. She summed it up by stating, "It started out as a simple picnic and some fishing and now has turned out into something so much more. It just shows what a small town can do."

October 26  
**Annual WUMCO Walk and Fall Festival**

This wonderful family extravaganza features not only a walk-a-thon to benefit WUMCO Help, but also Halloween-themed events, including pumpkin carving and scarecrow making. 11:30 a.m. – Registration for walk 12:00 p.m. – Walk 1:00 p.m. – Dog costume contest 1:30 p.m. – Kids' parade around the park and costume contest 3:00 p.m. – Kids' pumpkin and scarecrow contest judging Come see the fabulous display of twenty-five scarecrows and vote for your favorite!

**Art and Craft Show in Urbana**  
The Urbana Indoor Art & Craft Show will be held at the Urbana Fire Hall located at 3602 Urbana Pike, Urbana. Sixty-five artists and crafters with over eighty-five tables will sell their original handiwork. A wide variety of items will be for sale such as woodworking, floral design, jewelry, textiles, soap, stained glass,

candies, crocheted and knitted items, photography, artwork in several media, as well as seasonal and holiday items. A large breakfast and lunch menu and a bake sale will be available. Free admission and parking. [www.wesleychapelinurbana.com](http://www.wesleychapelinurbana.com). 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**St. Mary's 84th Annual Ham and Turkey Dinner**

Offering mashed potatoes with gravy, stuffing, green beans, sauerkraut, rolls. Come and enjoy the crafts, baked goods, pumpkins, country store, Christmas store, and free hayrides. Adults - \$14.00, dining room guests ten and under – free. St. Mary's Pavilion. Noon to 7:00 p.m.

October 26 and 27  
**Barnesville Basement**

A giant indoor community yard sale at the Barnesville School of Arts and Sciences. Books, clothes for kids and adults, housewares, toys, music, electronics, sporting

-Continued on Page 13.

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**"Things to Do" Continued  
From Page 12.**

goods, furniture, baby equipment, luxury items, and more. The school is located at 21830 Peach Tree Road, Dickerson. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

November 1  
**PHS Varsity Home Game**  
Football: Boonesboro, 6:30 p.m.

November 4  
**Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting**  
Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

November 7  
**PACC Monthly Business Breakfast Forum: Businesses Helping Businesses**

Local businesses are invited to a network and discussion group. Guest speaker and question and answer session. The Blue Hearth – Thomas Poole House, across from Poolesville Hardware. Refreshments provided. 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**Tidbits of the Past**

By Jack Toomey

**October 7, 1954** The County Medical Society met at its annual meeting. Dr. Bird of Olney recollected the day in 1911 when a physician was censured for only charging fifty cents for an office visit and a dollar for a home call. He said that the society still used the rates set in 1948 of three dollars for an office visit and five dollars for visiting a patient at home.

**October 9, 1954** Councilwoman Stella Warner predicted that statewide compulsory auto inspection would happen before the "end of the year." She also called for the inspection of school buses and camps.

**October 10, 1954** An inspection of the Poolesville School (the old building) revealed that the second floor was unsafe. Three classes were being held on this floor and, due to structural weakness, the county fire marshal ordered that only one class and smaller groups of students be allowed on

the floor at any given time. He also found that open stairways and oil-soaked floors were a fire hazard. Fire Marshall Howe also noted that no fire escape extended to the second floor. The proposal for a new building had been held up because of squabbling over the size of the new school.

**October 13, 1954** The county school board ruled that all schools would use the same standardized report card. High school students would receive six report cards a year while junior high and elementary students would get four. Before this time, individual schools could maintain their own scale of grading.

**October 12, 1954** A two-month-long drought had county residents anxious. Reports of farm lakes drying up, cattle without water, and dry wells were all a concern. County Farm Agent O. W. Anderson said that he had received reports of wells running dry and springs that were down to a trickle.

**October 18, 1954** Charles H. Jamison of Poolesville, running for

county council in the third district, proposed that the Upper Montgomery County Planning Commission be abolished.

**October 20, 1954** Montgomery County reported sixty-nine cases of polio so far that year. A five-year-old county boy died. He was the seventh area child to die of polio during the year.

**October 21, 1954** Montgomery County's civil defense preparedness was called the worst in the state. A group of citizens met in Rockville and formed a committee to work on changes. One of the first proposals was to hold regular air raid drills in each community.

**October 26, 1954** An attorney charged that county police officers were working under a quota system and were promoted based on how many tickets they wrote. Chief Orme vigorously denied the charged and said that his officers were allowed to write as many tickets as they wished.

*Material for this column was obtained from the archives of The Washington Post.*



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# The Pulse

## South African Assistance Charity Celebrates Another Year

By John Clayton

Hope in South Africa, a charity with local origins but global aspirations, observed another year with their annual Sundowners celebration at the Dickerson farm of the organization's founder, Jonathan Warner. Following a traditional rugby match, around three hundred revelers joined in the festivities to enjoy live music, food, beverages, hay rides, a moon bounce, and the beauty of the Maryland Upcountry countryside on an overcast but pleasant afternoon.

Hope in South Africa (HISA) began in 2005 when Warner

resolved to create an organization that would assist people in need in the remote Kalahari Desert town of Richmond in the central Karoo region of the Northern Cape Province of South Africa, about halfway between Johannesburg and Cape Town. Warner was encouraged and assisted by Rev. Stephen Hayward of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville, which to this day has maintained an active relationship with HISA. Rev. Tom Purdy, a subsequent and now former rector at St. Peter's, also encouraged support of HISA, and his wife Donna is a member of the board of directors.

Over the years, approximately twenty St. Peter's parishioners have travelled to South Africa on behalf of HISA, many two or more times, and over a hundred people from St. Peter's, Rotary Clubs, and other churches have gone there in total. Poolesville resident Joel Tjornehoj, who serves as president of the board of directors, has been involved in the development and

management of HISA from the very first meeting at St Peter's in 2005, which included Warner, Hayward, and church members Jane Bupp, and Bill and Theresa Kraegel, some of whom participated in the first trip to Richmond that year. St. Peter's has sent groups to Richmond several times a year since then. Tjornehoj and his wife Gail (HISA treasurer), and daughters Rachel and Abigail have made a combined sixteen trips to South Africa over those years.

The project began with the creation of a soup kitchen to feed local children, and over the eight years of its existence, the kitchen has grown to feed one



Jack Shawver towed the hay ride at the Sundowners event.

hundred and fifty children per day, five days a week. A garden started by HISA has become a significant supplier of food not only to the kitchen, but to a

-Continued on Page 19.



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# Local News

## The Future Is Now?

By Rande Davis

Dr. David Ivan of Michigan State University Extension was invited by the town commissioners to speak at town hall on October 17. He told a room full of citizens that the future of Poolesville can be very bright and promising. He's a man worth listening to as he has researched over three hundred small towns in twenty states and commands the ear of the commissioners.

Based in St. Johns, Michigan, Ivan is a frequent guest lecturer on small town success with state municipal associations and other regional small town conferences. He has conducted previous research on community sustainability, including a 2002 USDA Fund for Rural America project

entitled "Small Town Success Strategies," and a 2005 MSU Land Policy study entitled "Can Small Towns Be Cool?" Ivan serves as a member of the Michigan State economic development, community development, and land use area of expertise teams. His seminar topics have included community sustainability, downtown development strategies, and community entrepreneurship strategies.

Since hearing him speak at the Maryland Municipal League's convention last summer, the town commissioners have formulated much of their thinking regarding change and economic development on his research and recommendations.

Dr. Ivan offered five pillars of success for small towns: supporting innovation and entrepreneurship, providing quality living space, investing in human resources (particularly from youth), developing strong social networking, and understanding and exploiting regional strengths.

Those in attendance came to

hear his presentation to obtain insight on the mindset of the commissioners and to gain insight as to where the town may be headed in the coming years. The commissioners had the presentation filmed and soon it will be available on the town website for everyone to see and hear.



Dr. David Ivan of Michigan State University provided research results on successful small towns at a town meeting. Welcoming Dr. Ivan are Chuck Stump, Jerry Klobukowski, Jim Brown, and Brice Halbrook.

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## In the Garden

### Holiday Blooms

By Maureen O'Connell

It is almost the end of October, so it is time for me to order my paperwhites and amaryllis bulbs for holiday bloom. I can almost smell their heady perfume now. We will soon be in the cold, dark months of winter, but it is easy to bring a hint of spring into your homes with the planting now of paperwhites, amaryllis, hyacinths, tulips, and grape hyacinths. This technique, called forcing, is a trick that gardeners can use to keeping blooming flowers in their homes all through the winter.

Forcing plants to grow out of their normal season dates back to the Roman Empire, where records show that cucumbers were grown in a greenhouse for the emperor. The forcing of flower bulbs out of season is recorded as early as the mid-1700s.

Potted bulbs are a welcome holiday gift, especially for older people who are house-bound or in nursing homes. At Christmas time, I like to give them as hostess gifts at holiday dinners and parties. This is a great holiday project for children, as well as a learning experience. Give your children their own bulbs to plant, water, and observe their growth. If you are using soil as a planting medium, lay out many sheets of newspapers to catch any soil escaping its chosen container.

The easiest bulbs to force are paperwhites. They are an all-inclusive term for a variety of different members of the daffodil family. The varieties have in common small, cupped, extremely fragrant yellow or white flowers. Most bulbs for forcing must be pre-chilled or exposed to low temperatures for several months. This way you trick the flower into thinking it has finished its winter hibernation, and it is spring and now time to bloom. Most of the bulbs you buy through a garden

catalog or in a garden center have already been pre-chilled by the bulbs' grower. With the addition of soil or pebbles, water, a good location, and patience, they are ready to bloom.

In buying bulbs, be choosy; you get what you pay for. Look for big, firm bulbs that have been kept in a cool spot. I avoid buying them at grocery stores, hardware stores, or big box stores. You will usually be disappointed with the size and number of flowers. I always buy mine from White Flower Farm in Litchfield, Connecticut.

What do you need to get started? I will use paperwhites as an example, since they are the easiest and most reliable of all the flowering bulbs. They will grow in either potting soil or water and stones. Garden centers usually sell a selection of colored pebbles or beach glass. I use both methods, depending upon the container. Paperwhites can grow up to twelve to eighteen inches tall and are notoriously floppy. Ten-inch

hurricane vases look quite attractive and hold the delicate stems upright. If you use a shorter pot, you can use bamboo supports, set in place when the bulb shoots are about eight to ten inches tall. Insert the bamboo legs at regular intervals along the inside edge of the container. If they need more support, I tie red or green ribbons halfway up the shoots.

To plant your bulbs using water, place a two-to-three-inch layer of stones or beach glass on the bottom of the vase. Next place the bulbs close to each other, with the roots facing down. Add water until the level reaches just below the base of the bulbs, no higher. Do not cover with water or the bulbs will rot. If you are using a potting soil mix, place it in a plastic bag and thoroughly moisten it. Remove from the bag and add the mix to your container until it's about three fourths full. Set the bulbs, pointed side up, on top of the soil, spacing them until they

-Continued on Page 19.



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**“Rande(m) Thoughts”  
Continued From Page 4.**

dialogue. Man, can New Yorkers talk fast. They can blurt out three questions before you even finished answering the first one. If you don't know what I am talking about, go on Facebook (I am not surprised to learn that Mark Zuckerberg, founder of Facebook, is a New Yorker). Conversation there reminds me of the kind I used to have with friends as we hustled to catch the Hudson Harlem line north, afraid that if we went too slowly we wouldn't catch the express line and would have to ride the local all the way to Beacon. There are a lot of ways to describe Facebook conversation, but deliberative and thoughtful (not to be confused with thought-provoking) are not adjectives that come to mind. In fact, I sometimes I think a good description of Facebook conversation is that it is the art of speaking before one thinks. It's the wonderkind of the merry-go-round conversation. Any conversation

more than three threads (meaning a few minutes for those not familiar with the term) means anyone coming aboard may ask a question raised two times before or already answered a while back. My thoughts, though, are not so much on the frustration of the gossipy, clothesline conversation quality of Facebook as they are on the preference of some people to leave the tough decisions to someone else and never come to a town meeting to find out for themselves. Firsthand is always your best source. We try our best to bring you reports from each town meeting so you can at least stay on top of the key issues being discussed. Once in a while, discussions pop up that are much more significant than others. One of those topics that deserve your full attention is the current rezoning and direction of the town. If you can spend a couple of hours on Facebook, then you can spend two hours at the town meeting, and when you do, I promise you will never look at Facebook the same way again.

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## Musings from Mama Boe

### Death March

By Pamela Boe

I've got to lose weight. Several doctors have told me this recently. Personally, I think it's a conspiracy. They're trying to keep the big girls down because we're so dagnab loveable; they need some way to even out the playing field for the poor skinny ladies. Oh yes, I *am* on to them. But, I'll just go along with it, if it makes them happy, and try to diminish my impressive stature. It's very grand of me, frankly.

Eating less? Of course. Sprinkling Sensa on my food? Yes. Staying away from simple carbs as much as possible? You bet. Exercising? ... Exercising? ... Exercising?

(Crickets chirping.)

I don't *want* to.

I figure like any other machine, my body is only good for

so many miles. Why would I want to hurry the end along?

My family is not in agreement with this particular philosophy.

Picture My Captain, grabbing me by the scruff of the neck and forcing me on a death march today while barking, "You vill valk until you drop!" And he then he jabs me in the hiney with an electric cattle prod. And cracks the whip. *And* cruelly pokes my back fat. (He has a lot of hands.)

Critter and Varmint, in an effort to support this plan of "*reducing Mama Boe*", came along, and we renamed it a "family hike." From our house, we traipsed 1.5 miles downhill to a nearby train station, looked around for flattened pennies, and then we crawled 1.5 miles back up-freaking-hill. Why couldn't we live on the low ground? Who was the genius who put the cottage uphill?

People just don't think, I tell you.

It's a good thing my babies came along, because they provided me distraction from the pain in my knees, hips, back, and neck. (The neck, from having its scruff yanked.) Each in their own way. Varmint, with her witty banter, and by linking her arm through mine so I could not bolt back to the house. (Oh THAT is funny! Can you imagine me *bolt-ing*? Bwaaahaha-hahahahahaha-haha! hic.)

And Critter, who brought his Ranger Rick binoculars to study and point out anything he could get his focus to work on. (That's not much with a Ranger Rick set of binoculars.)

But then, he spied the moon ... in a beautiful crescent ... in the afternoon ... in a perfectly blue sky ... on a sunny day. The kids thought this was MARVELOUS! It stopped Critter in his tracks ... (for which I sent up a prayer of thanks for the respite.) And I watched my baby in his moment of wonder.

My heart melted. All pain faded into the background. It left a warm fuzzy feeling in me about the whole experience. All was right with the world.

Back home, after I desperately and dramatically flopped down on the couch, I promised them I would exercise again.... *if* we could all be together like that every time.

I figured I'm safe with that promise. Getting this motley crew out all at the same time is a difficult as me walking away



*Amazed by a daytime moon. Life is not always wasted on the young.*

from a plate of warm cinnamon rolls. It's not likely to happen.

So, I've got that going for me, which is nice.

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**"Holiday Blooms"**  
Continued From Page 16.

almost touch. Then add more mix, covering the bulbs almost to their necks. Water thoroughly.

Rooting and care. Place your vases or baskets in a cool (50 to 60 degrees F. is ideal) spot away from direct sunlight. Now you wait for the bulbs to start to send out roots. Check about once a week to see if there are roots by gently tugging on the bulbs. If you meet some resistance, the bulbs are producing roots. This takes about two to three weeks. Now move the container to a sunny window. Check the water level every couple of days. If you want flowers spread out throughout the winter, stagger their planting.

Amaryllis is another beautiful flower that can be forced into blooming with the same method as the paperwhite. It takes a bit longer to bloom, but it is worth the wait.

The most common and reliable of the paperwhites is 'Ziva.' It

produces loads of snowy white flowers with a heavy, musky scent. Other varieties to look for are: 'Grand Soleil d'Or,' 'Chinese Sacred Lily,' 'Winter Solace,' 'Winter Sun,' and 'Ariel.' There are many varieties of amaryllis in many shades. I usually grow several in shades of bright red, pink, and white.

I am sorry to say that after your bulbs finish blooming, throw them out. As they have exerted all their energy in early blooming, they will not bloom again indoors or outdoors.

If you want your bulbs to be in bloom for the holidays, plant them now. One year, I was a little late, and the amaryllis didn't bloom until St. Patrick's Day.

**"Hope in South Africa"**  
Continued From Page 14.

nearby squatters' camp where the homeless and transient are fed. HISA has also concentrated on HIV education, and more recently on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) education through a variety of initiatives geared towards children and adults. In 2013, HISA worked with several other organizations dedicated to combatting FAS and helped spearhead a regional FAS Conference where community leaders and experts in the field discussed strategies to further enhance awareness and promote education.

Warner also got the Rotary Club of Frederick involved, and today there are four different Rotary Clubs in Frederick County supporting the organization's efforts. With the assistance of the Rotary partners, HISA expanded into the neighboring communities of Colesberg and De Aar, and has provided successful initiatives in community development, health,

sanitation, education, and job development.

One of HISA's most successful and innovative programs has been Grassroot Soccer, which uses soccer as a vehicle to engage children and provide education on life skills and healthy behavior. One of the signature events of a HISA expedition leaving for Africa is a group of travelers and their supporters meeting at St. Peter's to pack for the trip, which includes deflating soccer balls for packing.

Abbot McCartney, a guest at the Sundowner event who serves on the Southern Africa Partnership Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, said that in addition to St. Peter's in Poolesville, a number of other churches in the Washington Diocese were pursuing missions in South Africa. These churches include St. John's Lafayette Square, Christ Church Georgetown, St. Columbus, Ascension Sligo Parish, and Christ Church Rockville. McCartney noted that several of these churches have specific ministries similar to HISA.

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## Mystery History

### The Old Town Hall Is Banking on a Future

The new town commissioner was very pleased with himself. The installation of the town's new four-foot-wide sidewalk costing between \$1000.00 and \$1200.00 gave him much pride, and the best part was that the sidewalks were all paid for with no outstanding debt. Sidewalks for less than a couple grand? Yes, if the year is 1912. The "new sidewalk" ran through downtown Poolesville on the opposite side of the street from the building that was then known as the Poolesville National Bank, but today is referred to as the Old Town Hall Bank Museum.

Who was the commissioner with so much pride? It was H. W. Spurrier who not only owned the town's leading mercantile house

across the street, but was also named the first president of the local bank. The new sidewalks replaced old wooden plank sidewalks, which in their time had provided welcome relief from an often muddy, dirt road that ran right through the center of town (see the picture of 1909).

Mr. Spurrier was an important merchant among many important merchants in the bustling town of Poolesville. His two-story 4,400-square-foot establishment offered consumers ready-made clothing, boots, shoes, hats, underwear, furniture, floor coverings, chinaware, and novelties—but he was not the only merchant in town.

Back then, the town had three other general merchandise stores. They were Wootton and Elgin, Fletchall Hall's, and Thomas Hoskinson's stores. Additionally, Mr. J. E. Pyles had the drug store, and E. D. Cruitt specialized in harnesses. Isaac Fyfe was the town's butcher, and C. W. Mor-



The Poolesville National Bank in 1912 shortly after the new town sidewalks (right) replaced wooden ones.

rison sold tin and hardware. Just as an aside, some bottles from the Pyles store were found two weeks ago in the walls of Poolesville's Presbyterian Church.

With so much enterprise in the town, the twenty-mile trip to Rockville to do banking was an undesired burden on the many merchants and businessmen in

town. Additionally, the small safes in each store did not adequately safeguard the capital of each merchant. Through the leadership of Mr. Spurrier, the business community joined together to charter the bank.

- Continued on page 21.

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**“Old Town Hall” Continued  
From Page 20.**

Along with Spurrier, James Darby, Dr. Walling, William Griffith, John Jones, Furr White, and D. J. Willard made up the first Board of Directors of the Poolesville National Bank. Any drive through Poolesville will take you onto streets named after these gentlemen.

Chartered on December 9, 1907 with just \$25,000 in capital, the Poolesville National Bank served stockholders who all just happened to live within a five-mile radius of Poolesville. At the time, the bank paid four percent interest on savings accounts, which, except for just one other bank, was the highest paid out in the county. By September 1908, resources versus liabilities netted \$89,595.95. By June of 1912, financial success reached \$125,843.12.

Despite careful and prudent management in the early days, the Poolesville National Bank faced its own challenges. While

much money was, indeed, lost during the Depression, the Board of Directors eventually was able to pay out twenty-three cents on the dollar and, through commitment and dedication, the bank was able to reopen its doors. It was *A Wonderful Life* right here in Poolesville. Eventually, the bank became the First National Bank of Maryland and continued to serve the community for another fifty-four years. It wasn't until December of 1966 that the building's vault doors were officially closed for the last time.

You may wonder if the bank was ever robbed. The old bank building was never robbed, but in 1971, armed gunmen robbed the bank in its other location, taking \$6,604.00. One robber had a sawed-off shotgun while the other brandished a pistol. While no one was hurt, one shot was fired, possibly by accident. The entire event took just five to six minutes.

The bank building eventually became Poolesville's Town Hall until the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed and, lacking adequate handicapped access to the second floor, the commissioners could no longer hold public meetings. The town commissioners met at times in St. Peter's Church then settled at a retail location next to Kick's Karate. All told, there are four old town halls since the Thrift Shop on West Willard Road held the honor for most of the town's history.

Today, the building serves as Historic Medley District's Civil War Museum and Exhibit Hall. In the last year or so, the bank has hosted art and photo contests, tributes to the military and our African-American heritage, a writers' symposium, and has hosted such community civic groups as the Poolesville American Legion, PACC, and the Gathering Place's board of directors.

This iconic symbol of the

town along with HMD's other venue, John Poole House, are in need of major repairs if both are to be safeguarded for the future. The John Poole House will have to have a new roof in 2014 and the bank will be needing repair to its façade, a fresh coat of exterior paint, and plaster replacement and repair on the inside. The Historic Medley District plans a capital campaign right after the first of the year.

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**"Ethel Flew the Coop"  
Continued From Page 1.**

Cassandra's efforts to catch her. Tammy Campbell took to the Poolesville Community Facebook Group and posted a photo of Ethel and asked for help finding her. At least ten neighbors fanned

out across neighboring streets, looking in trees and in backyards.

The next day, husband Ken had just gotten home from work and spotted Ethel on a neighbor's back porch. He had to use a ladder to retrieve her, and in a few minutes, she was back inside her

house.

Tammy said that Ethel was not punished or put on restriction. Her reward for being a good parrot was a large helping of McDonald's fries.

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# Ticks Again?

Peter H. Eeg DVM  
Poolesville Veterinary Clinic

So you thought it was safe to go out into the woods, or meadows, or trails again with your best furry friend, well unfortunately the ticks are back. It is not a special event or due to Global Climate Change, but a very normal part of their life cycle.

Ticks, much to everyone's displeasure, have a two-year life cycle (yes two years). This means that they can overwinter and re-emerge in the spring to continue reproducing. Extreme weather conditions will reduce tick populations, but the tick is a very hearty parasite and has been shown in laboratory studies to be very resistant to cold and heat.

This area of the United States has 5 types of ticks. The most common are the Deer (Lyme) Tick, American Dog Tick, and Brown Dog Tick. Adults feed on a variety of warm-blooded hosts including man. They have two reproductive periods during the year. The first is from March to June and the second is from September to December. The adult female can lay upwards of 3000 eggs per cycle. The eggs are laid in areas where mice, rabbits, and other smaller mammals inhabit. The larvae that hatch out from the egg feed on the small mammals and mature into a nymph stage. This stage of tick can be specifically identified because the nymph only has 6 legs (adults have 8 legs). It is during this period that Lyme ticks pick up Lyme disease (it is not the deer, so give them a break). Mice are the primary reservoir for Lyme disease. Once the nymph has fed, it migrates out to low hanging leaves and grass and matures into adults that are ready to feed on larger mammals including man. Females are larger by 50 to 100% over males. Male ticks are particularly difficult to see when on a pet or human. In over 95% of cases where ticks have fed on people or pets, there was no knowledge the bite had taken place. Ticks usually feed for 24 to 48 hours before completing their reproduction and falling off to lay eggs.

Protecting your pet effectively against the tick can be done by using any one of the currently available preventatives on the market. When selecting a preventative/killing compound check with your veterinarian first. Some animals do better with collars, some with topical medications, and some with sprays. Your specific animal's habits and environment will affect which type of preventative will be most effective. Since this area of the country has a very high prevalence of Lyme disease, it is important to select a tick protection that can also inhibit the ticks from staying on your pet before they bite. Not all preventatives have this ability. Another way to reduce tick populations is to spray some cotton balls with tick spray and place them at a location close to where mice may frequent. The mice will carry the cotton balls back to their nest and the tick killing spray will kill the larvae and nymphs before they can become infected with Lyme disease and mature into adults.

Year round protection for your pets is highly recommended. It is also important to apply the protection every 21-28 days. Longer periods cause some ticks to be able to survive. You should also not apply topical products on your pet if they have had a bath within 72 hours of the application.



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