

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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This young lady didn't shy away when confronted with a python. More pictures are in the Family Album on page 2.



First in line at the grand opening at Dollar General. Read about it in Tidbits on page 7.



Where and why are these people wading in the water? It's historical; see Local News on page 10.



Photograph by Hilary Schraab

These newlyweds paused to admire the roses. See who they are in Tidbits on page 11.

PHS New Building Update: Growing Pains Unrelieved Until 2023

By Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

Supporters of Poolesville High School (PHS), including the PHS Parent-Teacher-Student Association and the Poolesville Town Commissioners, say the time is now to advocate vigorously for a new school building, despite a 2023 construction date identified by the Montgomery County Board of Education (MCBOE).

The original modernization date was scheduled for 2012 and has been rescheduled multiple times, putting a new facility out of reach for the near future. Budget constraints and other issues associated with MCBOE's capital improvement plan (CIP) have contributed to the delay. In the meantime, the myriad needs of PHS's aging physical plant remain unmet. PHS advocates fear that without an



Will today's fifth graders get to enjoy PHS renovations?

energetic, visible, and vocal presence from all of PHS's community members, PHS renovation needs may slip again on the timeline.

According to Jerry Klobukowski, Poolesville Education Commissioner,

Continued on page 5.

Transition at Barnesville Baptist Church

By Rande Davis

As Pastor Randy Gilliam prepares to retire from his fourteen-year calling of leadership at Barnesville Baptist Church (BBC) and as Associate Pastor Danny Moore is preparing to take over at the church, both share more than a love of the Lord and BBC, they share a long-time, personal friendship that stretches back to their time together at Southern Baptist Theology Seminary extension center classes in Columbia, Maryland.

Pastor Randy began his ministry in 2001 at a time when BBC was facing some challenges. Through his devoted dedication and spiritual guidance, the congregation has expanded to 140 congregants while still maintaining its close-knit community feeling.

Deacon Lee Michael recently reflected on Pastor Randy's first day at the church in 2001 by recalling that the "church was much smaller back then. We had been without a pastor for almost a year by the summer of 2001. We had fewer people in the pews, not so many fellowships and activities, less giving, a smaller budget, infrequent

baptisms, and barely any new members joining—all the indicators that you might think of to gauge the vitality of a congregation."

He wrote on behalf of the congregation in thanking Pastor Randy and his wife Sandy "for stepping up when you could have stepped back. When our congregation needed continuity and a familiar face the most, you stayed on, carried burdens you didn't ask for, and walked through the storm with us. Thank you for setting us up for the future." The average pastorate is three and a half years, so the longevity of Gilliam's leadership has set the church with a stable foundation for the future.

The church is known throughout the local area for its summertime Vacation Bible School, annual pig pickin' and bluegrass concert (coming up again on Saturday, September 26, with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and bluegrass Gospel music concert at 7:00 p.m.), along with its community spirit.

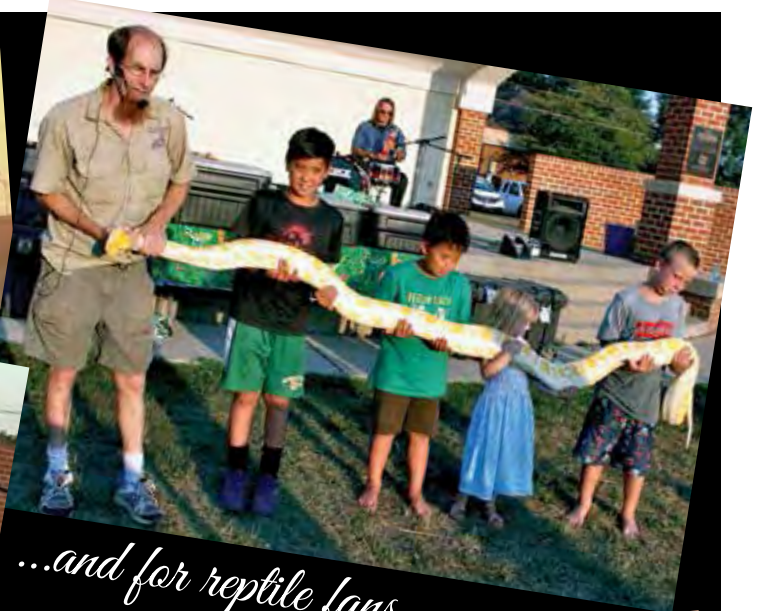
Although a smaller congregation, it has been recognized as a leader in its missions giving by the local and



Barnesville Baptist's Associate Pastor Danny Moore with Pastor Randy Gilliam.

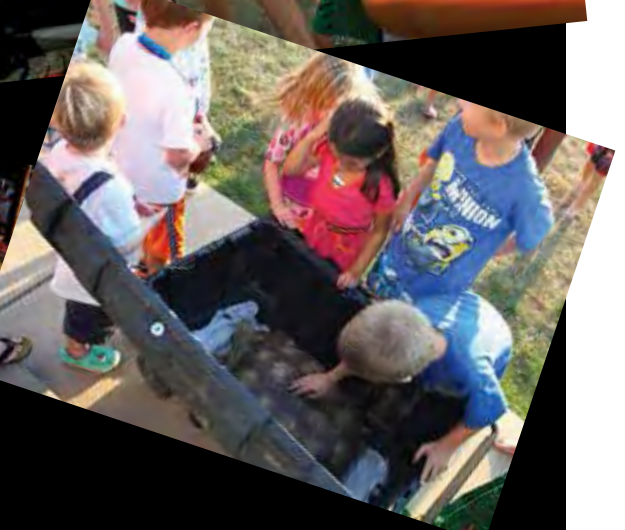
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Family Album



Wet and Wacky Friday was a great time for families...

...and for reptile fans.



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Town Government Report Light Agenda Leads to Big Debate About Spending

By Link Hoewing

The Town of Poolesville commissioners had a very light agenda at their August 17 meeting, but it led to a lengthy debate about spending and, in particular, funding for the already-approved dog park.

On the agenda for the meeting were two items: a request for a grant to support the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce 5K run (an annual request) and a report on the closeout for the FY2015 budget. The closeout is an overview of the final budget numbers for the just-ending fiscal year, including spending levels, revenues and receipts, and specific program expenditures. The town manager prepares the report, which the commissioners must approve so the auditors can go over the numbers and assess the town's fiscal controls and the management of its budget.

The chamber's request to support the 5K run was at the same level as in past years: \$100. It goes to help offset costs for the chamber's management of the 5K race including such things as printing special T-shirts. The request was approved with no dissenting votes.

The town manager then presented his closeout report for the FY2015 budget. The town's budget is comprised at a high level of two funds, General Support for ongoing operations and such things as salaries, and the Water and Wastewater fund supporting the sewer system and treatment plant and the water distribution and pumping system. In general terms, the General Operations budget operated at just over \$3 million for the 2015 fiscal year and the Water and Wastewater Fund came in at a level of just over \$1 million. The General Fund doesn't just include operating expenditures but capital spending as well. Overall, the budget closed out in the positive with just over \$53,000 in cash.

To support these expenditures, the town received revenue from a range of sources including property and income taxes (almost 75 percent of total revenues), highway user fees from the state (5 percent), revenue sharing from the state (7 percent), and fees from wireless companies who rent space on the town water tower for their cell transponders. The town generated more than \$3 million in revenue last fiscal year, 12 percent more than

anticipated. Much of the extra revenue came from a larger grant from the state in the form of highway funds and much larger levels of revenue in the form of property and income taxes. Income taxes were projected to be weak due to sluggish economic conditions, but Poolesville has one of the highest levels of average incomes in the state, and income taxes generated higher amounts of revenue than anticipated.

Once again, the Water and Waste Water Fund, which is supposed to be self-sustaining from revenues paid by residents for water and sewer services, required a grant from the General Fund to cover its operations. A significant part of the shortfall was due to payment problems from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission which pays the town to operate sewer services for homes in the Jerusalem Church area.

The town had a number of higher-than-anticipated expenditures in several categories of the budget. These included snow removal (where expenditures for salt last winter were higher than anticipated) and general engineering (where expenditures were higher due to a larger number of engineering projects related to development in town). The town manager also admitted that, at least in one case—the removal of sludge from the town sewer plant which is dried and trucked out for disposal—mistakes were made in scheduling the trucking of the waste resulting in higher costs.

Some unanticipated expenditures came about due to equipment failure, including the breakdown of water pumps in two town wells and the need for new screens in the town sewer plant. The town manager noted that while smaller items in routine operations can easily be covered by the existing budget, larger items that unexpectedly fail, such as major pumping equipment, are harder to fund, and the town should consider setting up an emergency-expenditures fund to support large, emergency, and unanticipated spending needs.

Overall, the town manager reported that the town's fiscal situation is sound and that Poolesville continues to maintain a large amount of funding (\$800,000) in its Unrestricted Funds account to support operations if there were ever to be major shortfalls in revenue.

The commissioners were generally pleased with the report and seemed to be supportive of the idea of creating an emergency expenditures account, but the discussion led to a focus on a few specific projects, specifically how much funding to provide for the proposed

Continued on page 9.

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Commentary

Beach Week

By John Clayton

When I write beach week, it does not mean the same thing as Beach Week which is a copyright-protected phrase owned by high school seniors across the known universe, or at least in the Eastern United States. For them, beach week conveys dreams of glories I barely imagine at this point. For me, beach week is primarily about not looking at email. I do this routinely for one or two days during a non-beach week and some level of havoc will occur from a lapse in some quadrant of my spheres of responsibility, such as they are. A week is great; I just let it fly and pick up the pieces when I return.

I am not a terribly exciting person at the beach. What I like to do is sit on the beach, use my iPod to tune out the rest of the world, and read. There may be slight variations on this theme, but that's about it. I did go in the water occasionally with various daughters nieces and nephews, notwithstanding media reports that sharks were hauling people out of Outer Banks waters at an alarming rate. There were no shark sightings that I know of.

Many years ago, back when I worked for a company that actually paid me a living wage, I would take a notebook and a pen to the beach in order to write down all the great ideas that came to me while I was broiling under the hot sun. I wrote a lot of drivel, most but not all of which was worthless, but I realized at the time that the exercise was more valuable than the written product. In fact, just thinking through various ideas in a relaxed setting was beneficial to a creative process, as Google and many other fine corporations have learned. I had some designs on this trip with writing a column on the beach instead of returning home to my usual deadline panic, but this was not to be. In fact, the notebook and pen may have travelled to the Outer Banks but did not make the trip to the beach. The notebook was used twice to take orders for carryout dinners, so it was not totally wasted.

I did manage to play golf one day at a local course. I do not play

golf very often, and my game shows it, and I knew that showing up at the course as a lone golfer meant I would be put in a group of strangers. I'm fine with this from a social standpoint, as playing eighteen holes of golf alone while on vacation did not seem remotely appealing, but I had hoped to be placed with golfers who were at least reasonably pathetic like me. This was not to be. I was placed with three guys (Philly/Jersey area) who all played quite well, and in fact, we teed off from the black tees, which are also called the back tees, which are as far away as you can be from the hole you are trying to reach. To try to put it in perspective, it's the difference between hoping you can hit over the scrub or water in front of you from the closer tees, and standing at the back tees hoping you can even reach the scrub or water, let alone clear it. Other lousy golfers will understand this I'm sure. As it turned out, they were very personable and I made sure they didn't have to wait too long for me to catch up, and we had a good time.

Getting back to the beach, I did manage some Great Thoughts while I was there; I considered the ramifications of a presidential race between Donald Trump and Joe Biden. I think this could be quite entertaining. For one thing, Biden is, for all his virtues, a gaffe machine, and Trump has put a certain panache into the Art of the Gaffe. As we have seen, the more we think he has conventionally screwed up, the higher his numbers go. Would Biden be able to say anything at all that was remotely deemed outrageous? Would this be a good thing for him or a bad thing? That's about as far as I got; my books were really good and I didn't want to waste too much time on nonsense. I did, however, realize what I wanted out of the Trump candidacy, short of his becoming president. I want him to start polling better against potential Democratic opponents. I want more Republicans to begin rationalizing that maybe he isn't so bad if he can at least keep a Democrat from winning. I want Republicans to say, Even though he embarrasses the heck out of us sometimes, we support him because he can beat those blankety-blank Democrats, and then I can say, Now you understand how we feel about Hillary Clinton!

And that's how I spent my summer vacation.

Rande(m) Thoughts

Poolesville Day – PC Gone Amok

By Rande Davis

It is very hard for me to realize as we close out this current issue that the Poolesville Day Guide Edition is next up on the agenda. It's not only our biggest issue of the year as a newspaper, but the festival is clearly the crown jewel of the community, consuming so much of our attention and time in preparation the entire year. It's a great day, for sure, but there is one thing about it that has been terribly wrong for all of its twenty-three years, and I think it is time to correct the oversight once and for all.

It is not nor ever really was Poolesville Day, rather it is Poolesville Area Day. Now I know that by my bringing this oversight up, my friend and business partner is rolling his eyes in disbelief that the thought is coming from me of all people. After all, I am especially guilty, maybe even more than most, of inadvertently referring to all things as Poolesville, when I often mean more than simply things or people within the town limits. In an era of excessive political correctness about every single thing, about offending others even

without intention, the rudeness of not "mentioning" the communities surrounding the town may be one more example of how to offend when not intending to do so. True rudeness comes from intention not by accident (take that you anti-Redskin stalwarts).

Sure we have the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Poolesville Area Senior Center, both of which sound much more encompassing of all the folks in and around the town, but the use is awkward at best. There are times, of course, when an issue or topic is truly just Poolesville, especially regarding specific town governmental issues or concerns. For the most part, however, when referring to Poolesville, we really mean those of you living in Barnesville, Boyds, Dickerson, Comus, Dawsonville—all the places that touch our borders, too. When we say, for example, Poolesville is a great place to live, we mean you, too, neighbors. When we self-congratulate ourselves about our schools, we mean all the students, not just those from Poolesville. When we proclaim that the people of Poolesville are so wonderful, we mean our friends from all those littler hamlets as well—so forgive us for using shorthand when celebrating Poolesville Day. Perhaps, from now on, we should get it right and make it right. Maybe we should make it Greater Poolesville Day.

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Have an event you would like to share with our readers? The Monocle welcomes your contribution. Send to editor@monocacymonocle.com

Op Ed Community Mobilization Gets Results

By Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

The Poolesville Cluster (Monocacy Elementary, Poolesville Elementary, John Poole Middle School, and Poolesville High School) has benefitted in the past from being a squeaky wheel.

John Poole Middle School (JPMS) was built after parents and community members advocated for a separate facility for middle school students on par with other county facilities: Prior to opening John Poole Middle School in 1997, seventh- and eighth-grade students attended PHS—the last school in the county to be designated as a junior-senior high school.

Advocates for a full-sized gymnasium common to other Montgomery County middle schools helped secure the construction of JPMS's spacious gym in 2001.

Monocacy Elementary parents and students mounted a tireless campaign to save their school after its enrollment was deemed too low to keep the school open.

It's a great feeling and a great learning experience to advocate for our community's educational needs. A new building for PHS is a priority. As PHS PTSA president, I hope everyone will contribute even just a small amount of their energy to help support our school's needs.

How to Advocate

Heed the call: Watch for announcements from Kevin Schramm, the Poolesville Cluster Coordinator, and from the PHS PTSA about specific actions and dates.

Testify: Consider testifying before the County Council about your experience at PHS and other cluster schools, and why a modernized PHS matters.

Bring on the students: Nothing moves elected officials better than student testimony. Encourage your student(s) to become advocates.

Write. Email. Be Present: Contact the County Council and the BOE and turn out at public hearings.

Stay active: MCPS funding is and will continue to be dire. Support for a new, modern PHS facility will be a multi-year effort.

Start now: Even if your child is in preschool! For more information, contact Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz: hrosvold@me.com.

Continued from page 1.

PHS New Building Update: Growing Pains Unrelieved until 2023

It's critical that all community members mobilize—those for whom PHS is their home school and those families who are enrolled in one or more of PHS's magnet programs and travel to attend PHS. Klobukowski has testified numerous times to highlight our community's unique needs. "Even community members with no kids headed to or enrolled at PHS should care about the value our school conveys to our town. It's time to have a facility that matches the excellence of our students, faculty, and staff," he says—and, it's beyond time, according to Klobukowski, that PHS students have facilities on par with students elsewhere in Montgomery County.

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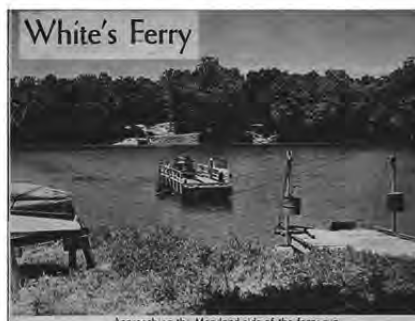


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White's Ferry around 1949

Things To Do

August 28

Friday on the Commons – PES PTA Summer Carnival

Family extravaganza of rides, multi-bounce and inflatable rides, and games. Food, crafters, farmers' market, and music! *Whalen Commons*. 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

August 29

House of Poolesville Event

Brian Jamison Band. *On the patio*. 4:30 p.m.

September 2

Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC) Special Event

Zumba Gold. 17750 W. Willard Rd., Poolesville. 1:00 p.m.

Community Dinner

Free community dinner at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 20100 Fisher Lane, Poolesville. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

September 4

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' tennis vs. Churchill. 3:45 p.m.

September 5

House of Poolesville Event

Crackinbush Band. *On the patio*. 4:30 p.m.

September 8

PHS Varsity Home Games

Cross country vs. Quince Orchard. 3:45 p.m.

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

Girls' volleyball vs. Richard Montgomery. 6:45 p.m.

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

September 9

PASC Special Event

T'ai chi. *Whalen Commons*. 10:30 a.m.

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' soccer vs. Magruder. 7:15 p.m.

Bassett's Special Event

Benefit for the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department. 10% of all food sales from lunch and dinner, dine-in or carryout, will be donated to UMCVFD.

September 10

PASC Special Event

Bingo. 17750 W. Willard Road. 1:00 p.m.

JPMS: Back to School Night

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

September 11

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' tennis vs. Wootton. 3:45 p.m.

Field hockey vs. Churchill. 7:15 p.m.

September 12

House of Poolesville Event

Bobby Lewis Band. *On the patio*. 4:30 p.m.

It's That Time Again!



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Tidbits

PACC 2015 5K Run/Walk To Honor the Dorsey Family

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce will be honoring Coach Kevin Dorsey's family at this year's annual Poolesville Day 5K run/walk on September 19. The community of Poolesville has rallied in various ways in support of Dorsey who has been diagnosed with ALS. In honoring the family,



The PACC will be honoring the entire Coach Kevin Dorsey family during its 5K on Poolesville Day.

the chamber will also provide the proceeds from this year's run/walk as a donation to a Patty Pollatos relief fund

established to help the family meet their bills. Participants in the 5K wishing to contribute to the family beyond their entry fee will be invited to make that donation on race day at a special Coach Dorsey Fund donation table.

Dollar General Holds Official Grand Opening



Commissioner Jim Brown cut the ribbon to officially welcome Dollar General to Poolesville.

Dollar General opened officially on August 15 as Commissioner Jim Brown cut the ribbon. Over seventy customers formed a long and winding line that stretched across the front of the building to the back of the parking lot on the west side. The first fifty customers received a \$10 gift certificate.



The long line at the Dollar General grand opening stretched all the way to the rear of the store.

Just before cutting the ribbon, Brown said, "On behalf of the Town of Poolesville, the entire Upcounty Region, I want to welcome our new friends and partner, thanking them for investing in our town. We are super happy you are here as another part of our new economic development efforts that have really taken hold. Welcome aboard and thank you for being here."

Nikolov Admitted to Maryland Bar

Congratulations to Miro Nikolov who was recently admitted to the Maryland Bar this past summer at the Maryland Court of Appeals in Annapolis.

Nikolov, a graduate of Poolesville High School, American University, the

University of Maryland Carey School of Law, and the law school of the Sorbonne in Paris, is currently work at the law offices of Alegi Anderson in Urbana.

Madison Fields's Fall Corn Maze to Open in Dickerson

Madison Fields, the therapeutic equestrian facility in the Ag Reserve owned by the Madison House Autism Foundation, is planning a grand opening for its Amazing Maze, an eight-acre corn maze, on September 4 to provide a fun and unique agri-experience for individuals of all ages and abilities.

Madison Fields is a four-hundred-acre farm property located in the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve that includes a state-of-the-art therapeutic riding center and is developing social, employment, and housing options for adults with special needs as well as the community-at-large. Proceeds from the Amazing Maze will go towards building these opportunities. The maze will be open each weekend until November 1. Hours will be from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Fridays, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturdays, and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$12.00 for those from fourteen and up, \$10.00 for

Continued on page 11.

23rd ANNUAL POOLESVILLE DAY

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 Skate Contest ♦ Pony Rides ♦ Historic Medley Showcase ♦ 150+ Artisans & Exhibitors
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Fisher Ave Dry Cleaners 10x12" oil on linen by James Erickson

School News

Year-Round Commitment to Academic Excellence By PHS Leadership Team Yields Results

By Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

Even during the summer, Poolesville High School's Leadership Team is hard at work studying student performance data, brainstorming creative ways to engage students, and collaborating across departments to identify best-practice strategies to strengthen student achievement and instructional goals.

It's this type of focused effort inside and out of PHS classrooms by students, faculty, staff, and parents that regularly skyrockets PHS to the top of national rankings. *Newsweek's* 2015 High School Rankings released on August 12 ranked PHS first in Maryland.

According to Katie Horan, PHS Staff Development teacher, the Leadership Team is a motivated, core group that drives the rigorous instruction at PHS. Success for all students is the team's goal. Resource teachers and department heads, parents, and administrators comprise the Leadership Team.

"Academic Conversations" is the Leadership Team's focus for 2015-2016. This focus was determined, says Horan, as a result of collecting and studying a series of different data points to determine what students need to be more successful in school. The instructional focus will help students move away from only looking to supply the correct answers, and instead explore examining broader meanings and approaches to problem solving.

Academic conversations also can help teachers hear what students are thinking and identify where instruction can be improved or redirected. This focus emphasizes process, a more rigorous and multidimensional approach to learning, rather than rote response or the frenzy to produce the correct answer without engagement.

"We are thrilled that PHS is ranked number one, but we don't rest on our laurels. We always strive to improve our instructional practices, challenge our students, and help them reach ever-higher levels. Our summer work is dedicated to evaluating our past year and planning for the next," says PHS principal Deena Levine.

The Leadership Team meets in June for five days of professional development and then bi-weekly during the school year, relying on each other's engagement and enthusiasm to ensure PHS students are getting optimal instruction from day one.



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Youth Sports

PHS Sports Teams Getting Ready for The Fall Season

By Jeff Stuart

Football

"We are looking at a very competitive schedule that we are excited about," said PHS Head Football Coach Dave Murray. "We are returning some solid starters on the offensive and defensive line including seniors Kyle Wilkins and Trevor Magaha. We will have depth at our skill positions. We have some returning starters including running back, Trey Willis and receivers Louis Potts, Alex Dahlen, and Jake Johnson. Our junior class looks to add some depth and compete for starting roles including our slot receiver, Colin Fisher, and running back Michael McDonald. A lot of our positions don't have a clearly defined starter. We have a lot of those same names returning on defense. We have more depth at defensive back including Jon Garagiola at cornerback and Alex Hsu at safety. I expect our team to compete at a high level this season and continue to build as a program. We look to establish ourselves as one of the toughest,

most physical, and disciplined football teams in the county and state. Obviously this will take time, but that is our goal."

"We are going to be smaller than other teams so we got to be quicker and smarter," said senior tight end Sam Pavlik. "Our mood is pretty good. We had a bigger number of people come out. We have a tough schedule. I am looking forward to the RM game and of course to Seneca Valley, day one, first game."

"I think we are all a little bit antsy moving up to 3A," said Willis. "But we have been working all summer preparing to move up. We have a smaller number of players than other teams. Conditioning is always a big part for us. We have to be able to play 60 minutes and ready to play on both sides of the ball. Another key is team work and staying together. We are a brotherhood. I am looking forward to Damascus. I want to go after the State Champions and see how that goes."

"We have a new head coach," said Wilkins. "We have a larger number of players than usual. We have got to go all out. I am looking forward to Seneca Valley and Damascus. Since we moved up they think they are going to run all over us. And we really want to prove them wrong."

Continued on page 10.

Continued from page 3.

Light Agenda Leads To Big Debate about Spending

dog park and how quickly to construct it. The park had been approved earlier by the commissioners but total funding for the park—approximately \$60,000—had not been allocated and, in the upcoming fiscal year, only \$5000 was set aside to begin to support the project.

Meanwhile, the town had received a grant to support repaving of the tennis courts and not all of the money would be needed to complete that job. As a result, money could be reallocated from the grant to fully fund the dog park and move it to completion in the next year. Commissioner Halbrook made a motion to reallocate the funds for this purpose, and the motion was then debated.

Commissioner Klobukowski expressed concern with this move since the town had a lot of unanticipated expenditures in the past fiscal year and, rather than rush more funding to the park, the commissioners should consider carefully the need for creating an emergency expenditures account and how much would be needed

for that fund. He also picked up on comments made by resident Bob Roit who suggested that it was his recollection that in approving the park, the commissioners had asked its supporters to help generate funding support.

Commission President Jim Brown said that was not an accurate view of what had happened. Instead, he said there was discussion about how to support the park, but the supporters were not asked to come up with funding but rather to be helpful in seeking additional funds (for example, in the form of grants) if there was a need for it.

In the end, the points raised in the discussion seemed to sway other commissioners and Commissioner Halbrook tabled his motion. This does not mean that the funding proposal is dead, but rather that more time is needed to study the gamut of issues—including the setting-up of the emergency expenditures fund and the grants the town is receiving—in order to best decide how to move forward. Brown closed by saying that the commissioners had already approved the dog park's construction, so the only issue on the table was timing and how to fund the project.



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Continued from page 9.

PHS Sports Teams Getting Ready for the Fall Season



PHS football's senior wide receiver and defensive back, Alex Dahlen; junior tight end and defensive end, Sam Pavlik; senior tailback and linebacker, Trey Willis; and senior offensive and defensive lineman, Kyle Wilkins.

"Coach Murray is new but he has been with us for the last couple of years so we are familiar with him," said Dahlen. "We lost Jon Bateky but Sam Pavlik has stepped up to fill Jon's role pretty well. We are one of the most disciplined teams in the county. Since we are the smallest team, we are a really tight, close knit group. I think that helps a lot especially when it gets tough in the 4th quarter. Everyone just comes together. We have a tough

schedule. You think of Seneca Valley and Damascus as powerhouses. We want to stay together and just go out and prove some people wrong."

Girls Soccer

"We have suffered some pre-season injuries to key players, but expect backups and role players to pick up the slack," said Head Girls Soccer Coach Justin Anderson. "We should be a strong ball possession team who can play the ball out of the back, and recognize when to be more direct. I expect Senior Karyn Comfort to lead us in scoring once again, and for our central midfield partnership of Seniors Alex Frost and Abby

Beeler to control the middle. 2014 All-Met Goal keeper Kristin Darragh will play mainly as a striker while she recovers from off season wrist surgery. I expect Alice Walker, our only sophomore on the roster to make significant contributions at the offensive end."

Boys Soccer

"One of the things I preach is that hard work in practice pays off," said Head Boys Soccer Coach Christos Nicholas. "They are working hard. I have never had so many top quality players at the same time. A lot of young guys who were on the JV last year are now varsity and they have improved so much. Our attacking team is so much stronger than it was last year. Key to that attack will be juniors Henry Heemskirk, Matthew Lee, and Filip Burnett. We have always had a strong defense. Now that we have a great wall to defend our goal we can focus more on attacking. It is too early to say who our leaders will be. But goalkeeper Christian Andrade, who was selected 2nd team *Washington Post* All-Met as a freshman last year, is one of them. A lot of teams we are playing this year have always been strong. We can't overlook anyone. I always believe in taking one game at a time. We will definitely improve with each passing game."

Field Hockey

The Falcons Field Hockey team was a semi-finalist in last year's 2A State Tournament. They graduated six starters. But new Head Coach Rachel Stream's goal is to maintain the programs high level of success.

"This year the team is looking pretty good," said Stream. We lost 7 seniors. Six of those were starters and made a huge impact on our season last year. But I think the seniors this year have really stepped up into filling those roles. We have a solid group of players. But they are very young. What we have is speed and we are trying to do our best to use it to our advantage. We don't have the powerful hitters like we used to. But these girls are smart about the game of hockey. They want to learn the skills and understand the game as a whole. With that I think we will have a very good season and we will do well. We have a challenging schedule. But these girls are ready to work hard. My Captains are: Casey Harkins, Christina Hilton, Carley Kenley, Jolee Raines and Sophia Mense.

The Falcons play traditional powers B-CC, Quince Orchard, Walter Johnson, Damascus and Blake. That competition should prepare them for postseason play.

Continued on page 11.

Local News

Annual Potomac River Crossing Held at Dickerson Conservation Park

On Saturday, August 23, 2015, members and guests of the Col. William Norris Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans held their seventeenth annual picnic and ceremonial river crossing at Dickerson Conservation Park located off of Martinsburg Road. Members and guests dressed in sturdy sneakers or water shoes, and made the trek across a wide, but shallow swath of the Potomac to commemorate the Army of Northern Virginia's crossing from Virginia into Maryland to start the Civil War campaign that took place September 4 to 6, 1862.

The site, known as White's Ford, was an important Potomac River crossing for Confederate troops between 1862 and 1864. In addition to the original campaign crossing, White's Ford was also the site of Major J.E.B.

Stuart's narrow escape across the river from Maryland into Virginia after his troop's successful raid of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania where they restocked about five thousand arms and twelve hundred horses. Federal troops had expected the Confederate forces to cross back over near the Mouth of the Monocacy and stationed their forces there.

Captain B.S. White, of Poolesville, successfully guided Stuart's troops to White's Ford where they narrowly escaped the Federal troops that were closing in from both sides of the crossing.

General Jubal Early also crossed the Potomac at White's Ford back into Virginia after his aborted attack on Washington in July of 1864.

Poolesville resident, Dave King, Jr, has been participating in the annual river crossing event ever since he returned to the area in 2001. King is a direct descendant of Col. Elijah



On August 23, members and guests of the Col. William Norris Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans crossed the Potomac River as their ancestors once did during the Civil War.

White, who was an important figure during the Civil War and hailed from the Poolesville area. Early on, when the annual crossings began in the late 1990s, there were three generations of the King family joining the commemorative crossing, including King's mother and grandmother.

White's Ford is located off a narrow trail that is a short hike up the towpath from the parking lot at Dickerson Conservation Park. Participants described the river bottom as

slippery and the water cool. Most of the crossing was between knee and waist deep, but some spots were almost chest deep.

Although this year's attendance was smaller than previous crossings, about a dozen participants showed up from all parts of the state. In previous years, some participants came from as far away as North Carolina to take part the event. After the crossing, members and guests enjoyed a picnic lunch of barbecued chicken and sides.






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Continued from page 7.

Tidbits: Madison Fields' Fall Corn Maze to Open in Dickerson

those seven to thirteen, and free for those under seven years of age.

The Madison House Autism Foundation is also sponsoring the Ed Trevisan Memorial "Reunion" Golf Tournament at Bretton Woods Country Club in Potomac on September 21, 2015.

The tournament enjoyed a ten-year run celebrating the life of Ed Trevisan, a successful investment advisor, avid golfer, and friend to the Montgomery County community. After a nine-year hiatus, the tournament is back by popular demand to benefit Madison Fields.

For details on both the maze and the golf tournament, visit madisonhouseautism.org online.

PHS Tops Newsweek Rankings

Five Montgomery County high schools made the list of the top five hundred high schools in the United States. High schools were ranked based on a college readiness score, graduation rates, and the percentage of

college-bound graduates. Poolesville High School, a whole-school magnet, was the highest-ranked school in the county, coming in at 110 in the country with 85.4 percent of its graduates college-bound, according to *Newsweek*.

UMCVFD Seeks Volunteers

The first responders of the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department are looking for new recruits to help them in their important mission of responding to emergencies, fighting fires, and helping the community in a variety of ways. They have an extensive training program for persons wanting to be an emergency medical technician or firefighter. Applications can be obtained at umcvfd.org.

Agnew and Wyne Wed

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Agnew of Boyds are pleased to announce the wedding of their daughter, Gisèle (PHS class of 2007), to Kevin Wyne, son of Scott and Debi Wyne, formerly of Damascus, Maryland. Gisèle is a graduate of Towson University, and Kevin graduated from Florida Atlantic University. The happy couple will make their home in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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Continued from page 10.

PHS Sports Teams Getting Ready for the Fall Season

Girls Volleyball

"This is my first year taking over the Poolesville program from my mother, Fran DuVall," said Head Girls Volleyball Coach Daniel DuVall. "I'm super excited to make my own mark and legacy on the program. My team is relatively young this season. But I have a lot of experience and range in some positions. I have 4 seniors, 6 juniors, 3 sophomores, and 1 freshman. I'm returning a lot of starters from last season including All Gazette Caroline Leng (Middle/Outside Hitter), who was just playing with the Youth National High Performance Team, Emily Benedict (Right Side Hitter), Christina Zhang (Outside Hitter), Yoon Hong (Libero), Edlia Foam (Middle Hitter) and Shirley Wolz (Middle Hitter). I have a freshman setter, Kristen Yee, who is a pleasant surprise this season and a real game changer for us. I am fortunate to have players that can play multiple positions and am hoping to utilize that strength during the season. I'm looking forward to a great season and preparing for a

Regional Title run." Junior Alexis Pak will share the setting duties this year.

Cross Country

Head Cross Country Coach Prasad Gerard's Cross Country team has lost outstanding Sophomore Ryan Lockett, a Milesplit Top 200 runner last season. He will attend Gonzaga this fall. And junior Stephen Lang wants to concentrate on Basketball. So Sophomore Andrew Lent who finished 22nd at the States last year will head up the boys effort. Senior Fiona Whitfield and juniors Theresa Nardone, Lia Ghozati and Alison Nichols will head up the Girls effort. "We have some promising freshman and sophomores," said head Cross Country Coach Prasad Gerard. "So we will see where that takes us."

Girls Tennis

First singles player Carley Pera. And third singles Amulya Uppala will head up Holley Dacek's girls tennis team, along with junior 2nd singles player Lydia Wang. 4th singles is sophomore Shefali Gupta. Returning doubles players are seniors Elena Lostoski, and Ankita Sharma, sophomore Bhuvana Pandalai, and juniors Shirley Quito and Sabrina Johnson.



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Youth Sports

UMAC's 10U Boys Of Summer Advance To Nationals

By Jeff Stuart

It is back to school for the members of the UMAC 10U baseball team—but what a summer! UMAC followed up its 10U 2014 State Championship by winning the region in Warrington, Pennsylvania on July 28. They beat Iron Horse of Northwestern, Pennsylvania, 13-1, in the final to advance to the Cal Ripken 10U World Series at Joe Mack Campbell stadium in Jonesboro, Arkansas on the campus of Arkansas State University.

At the world series, they won three of four games in the American Division pool, finishing second. They advanced to the single elevation tournament. They were eventually defeated in the quarterfinals by Kennewick.

UMAC's Noah Ashker recounted his experience at the region and world series. Noah hit the game winning two-run homerun over the 200-foot fence to beat Texas in the opening game of the WS and was the game MVP.

MM: What were the outstanding accomplishments by other players?

Ashker: Oliver Martin got player of the game and had a streak of hitting five doubles in a row. Luke Pearre had an amazing tournament. He got on base in every game. Tommy Roldan also hit an over-the-fence homer.

MM: How many games did you play in the region?

Ashker: My team played in four pool-play games to decide the seeding. Only the top three teams moved on. Because we were the first seed, we didn't have to play a quarterfinal game. We played in a semifinal, then a final.

MM: Recap the region championship game.

Ashker: We started out strong by posting four runs in the top of the first, but Iron Horse came back with a run in the bottom half of the inning. In the top of the second, we extended the lead to 7-1. With some strong pitching by Luke Boyd and good defense, we held them to zero runs in the bottom of the second. We picked up two more runs in the top of the third. Luke Boyd remained strong on the mound by shutting out Iron Horse again. In the top of the fourth, we picked up four more runs to put the mercy rule into effect. Tommy Roldan came in to close the game. He gave up a hit, but it was not enough to pull out the comeback. We



The Poolesville UMAC team won the state and the region to advance to the national World Series in Arkansas.

MM: What the most exciting moment of the World Series tournament for you?

Ashker: When I hit my first-ever over-the-fence homerun in a game. That homer put my team in the lead as well. Also, I got awarded MVP of my team by Cal Ripken League officials that game.

MM: What was the most exciting moment of the World Series tournament for the team?

Ashker: I believe it was making the playoffs and being one of the top five teams in the country.

(UMAC) pulled out the victory, 13-1. Our bats were absolutely unstoppable that game. Our team really came together and played a "beautiful" baseball game.

MM: Tell readers about the nationals and the Arkansas experience.

Ashker: The people of Jonesboro, Arkansas were very kind and welcoming. The town did a great job with setting up the banquet and the pool party. Arkansas State was cool to visit

Tidbits of The Past

By Jack Toomey

August 31, 1882 It was written that, despite reports to the contrary, there was no other spot within fifty miles of Rockville with symptoms of cholera. There were no more reports of cholera or typhoid than there was in the city. It was reported that the wife of a farmer, living three miles from Rockville, did die of cholera, and there were reports that two children in a village south of Rockville were suffering from a similar disease, but it was stressed that there was no "prevalence" of either disease in Rockville.

September 1, 1893 Senator Gorman introduced bills for citizens of Montgomery County whose property was occupied by Union troops during the war. Benjamin White claimed a loss of \$1725 while Charles Shreves filed a claim for \$1200. In addition, A.F. Hurley asked Senator Gorman to help compensate him for \$1150 for cattle furnished to the Utah Volunteers during the Utah Indian War of 1860.

September 2, 1878 The 265-acre farm of W. T. Talbot was sold to H. Offutt for \$20 an acre. Another nearby tract of 210 acres was sold to W. Griffith for \$14 an acre.

Henry McLesky, a boy of twelve, was drowned while swimming in the river at Seneca.

Daniel Roddy, a farmer of note, was thrown from his cart, and suffered broken ribs and a broken back.

At Offutt's Crossroads (Potomac), a man shot at a dog, missed, and struck another man in the shoulder.

September 2, 1895 A large and enthusiastic crowd was present at a meeting of the Ridgely Brown Camp of Confederate Veterans. Every battle in which the assembled had participated was roundly discussed. An appropriation of \$25 was made with the intent of erecting a statue at Grace Church in remembrance of the Confederate dead buried there. After, everyone adjourned to a large dinner at the Cochran Hotel in Rockville.

September 3, 1878 The primary election results were released, and George Peters had a majority of 408 votes. It was reported that the

probable candidate for Congress would be a Montgomery County man.

The B&O Railroad announced that it would give free tickets to fifteen nurses who were coming to the county to help with the yellow fever epidemic.

September 4, 1878 A sunken boat at Lock Six was blocking traffic on the C&O Canal. Efforts were being made to clear the canal.

Mrs. Hillary Offutt, a well-known Montgomery County woman, died at her home of apoplexy.

September 5, 1879 The Poolesville brass band, in a chariot drawn by six magnificent horses, provided the music at the county fair in Rockville. They were the envy of the many circus men who were present. Their music was heard all over the grounds unless other bands at the fair attempted to drown them out with loud music.

Material used in this column was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post.

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Continued from page 1.

Transition at Barnesville Baptist Church

state-level Baptist associations as well as the Southern Baptist Convention, with one third of its budget targeting missions giving.

As Pastor Randy and wife Sandy now head to their home in Delaware, Pastor Danny Moore told the Monocle that the Gilliams "will be sorely missed for their leadership and the love given" to the BBC community. Moore is well-known by the members of the church, as he has been a guest speaker on many occasions, filling in for Pastor Randy during his recent recovery from surgery. He has also headed up revivals

at BBC. "I came to help a friend, and the Lord called us to stay."

He is thrilled in the new assignment, especially since he sees BBC as "large enough to meet your needs, but small enough to care for you."

Moore comes to Barnesville from Beacon Baptist Church in White Marsh, Maryland. He is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute in 2007. He and his wife, Cindy, have many years of experience focusing on youth fellowship programs that emphasize blending fun with mission projects. He will seek to establish a relaxed ambience that begins with a "come-as-you-are welcoming spirit" that fosters a theme of "we need each other to be all just what God wants us to be."

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Musings by Mama Boe Eye-Popping Chapeau of Joy

By Pamela Boe

There is this ridiculous sparkly baseball hat I bought at the beach several years ago. I told people I bought it because it would make it easy for my little punks to spot me, but that was a bold-faced lie. It was worse than that, because I was using my children as a cover for my own eccentricities. It was a bold-faced, hairy-chinned, wart-nosed lie. A whopper. I bought more of those sparkly hats because I loved the sparkly in them. I loved the whimsy and celebration. The overt joy. And I've never stopped getting grief over them.

I've been told they're obnoxious. I've been told they're over-the-top. I've been told I'm too old to wear them. I've been told they make me look old. I can't win. So I just wore them at the beach, where the whole "It makes it easy for my kids to see me" routine was believable.

And then this week at the beach, while visiting with one of my oldest friends, even that was taken away from me. "You're not serious with that hat, are you?" she innocently asked. "I swear, you're such a cut-up!" she added. Crestfallen, I took off my sparkly chapeau-of-happiness, and proceeded to get sunburn.

Later that evening, My Captain and I were walking with the kids to get ice cream on the Boardwalk, my sunburned face in a scowl. The kids had run on ahead of us and I was left to contemplate the pros and cons of sore sand-rashed chubby thighs versus a Kohr Brothers frozen custard.

"Why didn't you wear your hat today? You're sporting quite the sunburn," My Captain grinned as he watched me brood.

I unleashed my frustration at how everyone, from my oldest friend, to my youngest child, had managed to dis my favorite hats to the point where I was afraid to wear them. I lamented the fact that I really loved those hats and wished I could strut about in them, in all of their sparkly, eye-popping glory.

"Since when is my fearless, self-aware woman concerned with what other people think?" he frowned.

"I'm human! I can only take so much disdain before I buckle!" I grumbled.

His eyebrows shot up. "You're a mother. You can't afford to be human."

"Oh, that's rich. If anything motherhood has been a humbling, horrifically human experience," I countered.

He stopped on the boardwalk and grabbed my hand. "Honey, your kids learn from your behavior. Are you really going to let them see you allow other people to dictate what you will or won't wear?"

He had a point. He had a really valid point. He had a really valid, eye-poppingly, sparkly-hatted point.

As I write this, in my pink sparkly, sun-bleached hat, listening to my children mock me, I feel good knowing that, giggle as they will at their mom's dorkiness, their mother is true to herself...which teaches them to be true to themselves.

So when you see me strutting down the street in Poolesville, or Dickerson, or Barnesville, or Beallsville, and you have to blink at the glory that is my wondrous glittering chapeau, remember this: I'm doing it for my kids.

At least, that's my current excuse.

Continued from page 13.

UMAC's 10U Boys of Summer Advance to Nationals.

as well. There was something about saying "I'm in the World Series" that I couldn't believe. It was a breathtaking experience. The opening ceremony was really cool, too. Before every game, they announced your batting position and your field position. I thought it was really neat.

MM: Describe how you feel about this season.

Ashker: I feel like I want this season never to end. I learned a lot. I also had some laughs, made some new best friends, and made a lot of memories. Not many people can say what we can say now. Something about this season felt awesome. I can't wait until next year. We will have played with each

other longer; we will have gotten faster, stronger, and gained more talent. To know that we're going to be better next year than this past year, I believe there are no limits on what we could accomplish. I'm super-excited for next year.

Centerfielder Luke Pearre had three hits against Iron Horse in the region. Luke Boyd had two walks.

"The coaches were great all season," said UMAC's Oliver Martin, who had three RBI in the region final. "Before the state tournament started, Coaches Jody Pearre and Doug Metz told us that it would be six games in three days and to never give up. The tournament was not about any individual, but was more about the UMAC All-Stars. Pick up your teammates. The coaches also told us that we were the hardest-working team in the state tournament."

Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Assaults: 19600 block of Wootton Avenue, 17600 block of Kohlhoss Road.

Theft from vehicle: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Disorderly conduct: 21800 block of Dickerson Road.

Drug use complaint: 19500 and 19900 blocks of Fisher Avenue.

Past Crime

August 28, 1894 A variety of cases were heard in the county at Rockville. Sandy Clark was charged with the larceny of two coats and a vest which he was wearing when arrested. He was sentenced to six months in jail. Roy Carter was in court after being arrested for stealing a watch from Julia Banks. He was fined \$20. Arthur Foreman was charged with stealing a quantity of tobacco. His trial was put off until the following week when it was learned that there were warrants for him charging him with several robberies.

August 28, 1895 A series of break-ins in the Rockville area were put to an end with the arrest of John Newell. It seems that Officer Murphy of the Washington mounted police arrested Newell as he was returning from selling some of the stolen property. Seeing that there was no case in Washington, he was turned over to Deputy Green of Montgomery County. Newell was described as a short, thick-set individual with a crippled arm, having been injured in a coal mining accident. Newell was responsible for the burglary of General Drumm's house on the Rockville Road where eatables and clothing were stolen. He also was wanted for the break-in at Mrs. Carroll's home at Chevy Chase where a number of hams were taken.

September 2, 1885 Robert Murphy, Charles Long, and Charles Harvey arrived in Rockville by train. They were recognized as common three-card Monte men. They were promptly arrested and admitted that their goal was to operate at the county fair which was in progress. They were photographed and put on the next train heading out of town.

September 3, 1895 Edward Bradley, a well-known gentleman from Offutt's Crossroads (Potomac), reported to the police in D.C. that he had lent his team of fine trotters to a stranger while both

were at the Cabin John Hotel. Bradley said that the man approached him and said that it was urgent that he return to the city. When the team was not returned by nightfall, Bradley took a room at the hotel. The next day he became fearful that his horses had been stolen, so he took up a position on the bridge in hopes of spotting the stranger. Meanwhile, Officer Passau saw the team being driven near the Aqueduct Bridge. He ordered the driver to turn around and report to the police station. There, the man, a gentleman from Prince George's County, told a completely different story. He was released without charges. Bradley came and retrieved his team.

September 7, 1898 Edward Dasau of Washington, Charles Howard of Baltimore, and Charles Lowry of Richmond appeared before Judge Scheler at the Rockville Courthouse. Two were charged with running a gambling table and the other of being a pickpocket. Judge Scheler ordered the men to leave the county and to never come back.

September 9, 1887 A parade of animals was held at the county fair. Horses, fat cows, lazy-looking hogs, and frightened sheep followed each other. Some sports, who were said to have been imbibing earlier, shouted ribald insults at the animals and their owners. It was necessary to summon the sheriff who instructed his deputies to escort the men from the premises.

September 9, 1898 Two brothers, who gave their name as Moses, were circulating through the county, fleecing residents out of their money. Their scheme was to visit a house, asked to be invited in, and then admire a portrait on the wall. The men would then offer to take the portrait and do a crayon drawing of it at their hotel. They would then return and ask for an exorbitant fee. When the homeowner refused, the men would not return the portrait and leave. There were said to be numerous warrants outstanding charging fraud against the pair.

September 10, 1895 A member of the county public school trustees apparently had too much to drink and was found sleeping on the sidewalk in Rockville. When he was taken to court, he told the judge that he suffered from "delirium tremens." The judge replied, "Five dollars."

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

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FLEAS: WHAT IS NEW AND WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Dr. Peter Eeg, DVM

Fleas are well-adapted for infesting in-home environments, barns, and any area where dogs, cats, and people spend consistent amounts of time. An environment can become seeded with overwhelming numbers of flea life stages (eggs-larvae-pupae-young adults-mature adults) over the course of a few weeks. It takes a minimum of four months and most often six months to completely remove a standing infestation. It takes less than 48 hours after feeding on their favorite host for flea mating and egg production to begin. Each female flea can fill the environment with hundreds to potentially thousands of eggs during a lifespan that can exceed 100 days. The eggs can hatch in as little as 2-3 weeks or remain dormant for up to 3 months. This is the main reason owners think their program is not working. They continue to see "new fleas". It is this delayed egg hatching that allows this effect to occur. When a constant production of young adults begins, they continue to look for their favorite host to feed and repeat the reproductive process.

Flea control and eradication management were revolutionized with the introduction of modern topical residual flea-adult killing compounds such as imidacloprid and fipronil in the mid-1990s. Additional products and coupling of several compounds over the last 25 years have further improved protection and removal programs. The greatest problem with these products is that application has specific time factors and application protocols, which, if not followed correctly, can reduce their effectiveness by up to 75%. It is also clear that failure to maintain a reapplication rate every 28 days is a problem in the great majority of households. As you see from the life-cycle description above, missing a dose by as little as 48 hours of the optimal time of reapplication can allow flea eggs to be produced and delivered into the environment. These products can also be rubbed off or washed off over a period of time. Applying immediately before or after a bath reduces the effective amount of the compound left on the skin by as much as 75%.

More recently, two oral formulations to prevent and remove infestations have become available as a prescription. **Nexgard**, a monthly oral chewable pill, and **Bravecto**, a once-every-three-months oral chewable pill, are now available through your veterinarian.

These products succeed in providing effective flea control in one of two ways: Providing rapid (within 12 hours) adult killing action that kills the female flea before she has an opportunity to lay eggs, and/or by negatively impacting the eggs' viability (ability to survive for even a short time in the environment).

Successful flea control and eradication requires a product that persistently kills newly-arriving adult fleas before egg laying begins and can last for an extended duration to continue to remove all new adults that hatch into the environment. These two oral medications provide both of these important factors. Additionally, they cannot be rubbed or washed off and have a very impressive safety profile.



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