

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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Animals got a special blessing. More pictures are in the Family Album on page 2.



Sometimes the helper needs help, too. Details in Local News on page 9.



A couple of Poolesville military people at a very special occasion. Find out what in Tidbits page 9.



PHS girls' volleyball rises to the occasion. See Youth Sports on page 11.

Police Arrest Boyds Burglar

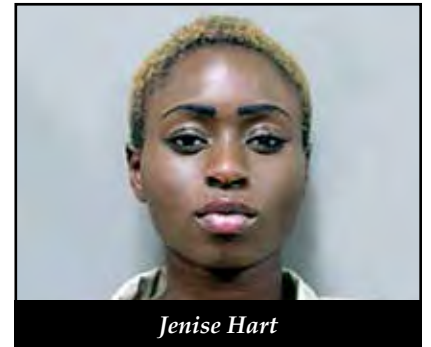
By Jack Toomey

On September 15, a homeowner discovered a thief inside her home on Gate Dancer Lane in Boyds. She confronted the woman and managed to take two photos of her with her cell-phone.

Police detectives released the photos of the suspect to the public, and a

caller to Crime Solvers provided the name of the suspect. Police then arrested Jenise Hart of the 13500 block of Demetrias Way in Germantown. She was charged with burglary and being a fugitive from justice in another case.

The tipster is now eligible for a reward and is being asked to recall Crime Solvers at 866-411-8477.



Jenise Hart

Anne Sturm Presented with The 2015 Royce Hanson Award

By Maureen O'Connell

On Sunday, October 18, the Montgomery Countryside Alliance (MCA) presented its 2015 Royce Hanson Award to Anne Sturm in the authentically-restored bank barn at the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association's (SCA) Linden Farm in Dickerson. The award is given each year to an individual in recognition of outstanding commitment toward the protection of Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve (Ag Reserve). Fittingly for Anne, the beauty of the Ag Reserve was in full abundance with the areas of open, well-tended farmland; the blazing display of reds, yellows, and golds in the woodlands; the cattle and horses silently grazing; the bright blue sky; and, of course, the bluebirds nesting in their boxes from Anne.

This award was inaugurated in 2005, and the original recipient was Royce Hanson. He was chairman of the Montgomery County Planning Board from 1972 to 1981 and is considered the architect of the Ag Reserve which was created in 1980. Thanks to his efforts, 93,000 acres of farmland and rural space have been saved from the bulldozer; in this area, there will be no sprawling housing developments and strip malls.

The 2013 Royce Hanson Award winner Jim Brown introduced Anne to the many county officials, preservation group members, friends, and family who gathered to honor her

for her decades of untiring work to protect the landscape of our beloved upper Montgomery County land. In the 1970s, she was present at the creation of three preservation groups that continue today: Historic Medley District, Sugarloaf Regional trails, and SCA. Jim Brown aptly described Anne in these words: "Anne reminds me of this guardian angel who hovers over the Ag Reserve constantly defending and protecting this amazing natural resource for our and future generations." Anne reminded us all that we must continue to guard the open spaces; sometimes we take what we have been blessed with for granted. Several years ago, Royce Hanson spoke about the ongoing need for land preservation: There is no going back. Once the land is gone, it is gone forever.

Caroline Taylor, executive director of MCA, announced a new MCA award, the Volunteer of the Year. This year, it was given to the entire Cao family for their many years of helping whenever they were needed for MCA events.

Royce Hanson and the 2012 Royce Hanson awardee Chet Anderson spoke about the many ways that we can help protect our treasured open land: Support our local, county, and state preservation groups. The Maryland Environmental Trust Property Easement Program can help you give your land permanent protection and



Ann Sturm (left) with Royce Hanson and Caroline Taylor.

at the same time, give you a tax break. You can do something to make a difference. Beth Daly, president of SCA, in her closing remarks, said it was wonderful to have the chance to honor Anne.

Our land needs more guardian angels like Anne.

Anne, the entire community congratulates and thanks you all your work—oh, and the bluebirds do, too.

Family Album



The popular folk-rock group Gold Heart at Barnesville Baptist's recent Pig Pickin' Dinner.



Parishioners of St. Mary's brought their pets to church for a special blessing.



Dean Wroth, Kathy Jamison, Joyce Brown, and Jackie Ward at the recent Lions Golf tournament.



Dick Franklin, Tom Conlon (second on right) and Ben Daughtry got their fill at the annual Monocacy Lions Club crab (and shrimp) feast.



Families and friends of Barnesville Baptist in fellowship during their annual Pig Pickin' Dinner.



The putting contest is always a big hit at the Monocacy Lions golf tournament.



PHS drummers kept the beat during lunchtime at the Liberty Gas Station.



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Town Government Report New Town Ordinances And Code Revisions Feature in October Commissioner Meetings

By Link Hoewing

In their two October meetings, the commissioners considered or adopted a number of new town ordinances or revisions to the town code.

In its October 5, meeting, the commission opened the floor for public comment about the proposed new sewer and water allocation process that the Planning Commission has been considering for some months and recently forwarded to the commissioners for their review and approval. The water and sewer allocation program has long been a part of the town's development process going back historically several decades when the town faced limits on available sewer capacity and water taps. The allocation process is designed to provide an equitable means to award available water taps to proposed developments while ensuring that the town has adequate water and sewer capacity to meet all of its needs, including emergencies.

No one signed up to speak about the proposed allocation process, and the record for written comments closed on Friday, October 9.

Following the public hearing, Ms. Joy Tieman appeared to make a request for a grant on behalf of her daughter who could not attend the meeting. On frequent walks in Whelan Commons, she and her daughter noticed that town signs and structures in the park had little in the way of plantings or flowers to enhance them and the park. Tieman's daughter wanted to plant flowers in Whelan Commons, and the mother-daughter team decided that they would consult a landscaping expert to help them determine what types of flower bulbs would be most attractive in the park. The Tiemans requested a \$165 grant, and the commissioners unanimously approved the proposal. They noted in doing so that Ms. Tieman and her daughter showed a lot of initiative and community spirit in coming forward with their idea.

Town manager Wade Yost next outlined a new proposed ordinance that the Planning Commission had been considering. Ordinance 205 would create a "Village Overlay Zone" in Poolesville's Central Business District or CBD. The CBD is included in the town's master plan and is incorporated in its zoning ordinances.

It includes the main shopping centers and businesses in the town and is designed to encourage the location of shops and stores in the center of town.

The new ordinance would alter the zoning provisions so that high-density residential structures could be located in the CBD as well. The new zoning provisions would be accompanied by a design manual that would help guide how new residential buildings would "look and feel" in an attempt to ensure that any new facilities would fit in with the small-town character of Poolesville. The ordinance was set for a public hearing on October 19.

The commissioners also gave final approval to Ordinance 204 which sets new standards for the maintenance and use of trash facilities in the town. The ordinance is aimed at minimizing the amount of easily-accessible trash or open trashcans that it is believed have helped to attract a large number of vultures to town.

In a final segment of the meeting, the commissioners discussed a Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) hearing that considered a request by the owners of the Liberty filling station to allow them to have the flexibility to open their facility for twenty-four hours each day. The owners, the Jamisons, did not specifically commit to remaining opening twenty-four hours for every day of the week, but they did ask for approval to allow them to determine how long they would remain open each day. Currently, their operating permit does not allow the station to remain open twenty-four hours a day.

Only one witness before the BZA expressed concerns about the request and even she said she would not oppose having the pumps open for gas dispensing all day, every day. Her main concern was noise and disruptive activity she said had sometimes occurred at the station which is right across the street from her home. The commissioners pointed out that those incidents happened under the previous owners, and they highlighted the fact that the Jamisons had moved quickly to curb loitering and had opened their station using generators when power failures or severe weather occurred so that local residents and farmers could fuel up their vehicles. They lauded these actions and said it showed the owners were responsible and community focused.

At their October 19 meeting, the commissioners held a public hearing on the Village Overlay Ordinance they had considered at the previous commission meeting. The public was invited to testify on the ordinance, but no

Continued on page 13.

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Commentary

Once More Into the Abyss

By John Clayton

Reflecting on the Democratic Presidential Debate, I had to wonder: Who spiked the organic granola in the green room before the show? The new left was in full throttle, and it was all I could do not to rummage in my closet for a pair of Birkenstocks and some sensible garments of fair trade, Earth-friendly hemp.

Free college for everybody! Lower taxes for us and higher taxes for them. Jail the bankers. More socialism, but we're not socialists. Less capitalism, but we love capitalism. Revolution, but we're not revolutionaries. Universal background checks and more gun controls (no, they did not say "ban all guns"). Do something in the Middle East that Obama didn't do, but we're not quite sure what that is or if it will work (they achieved parity with the Republicans on that one). You voted for the Iraqi invasion—Repent!

Hey, bring back John Kerry and Mike Dukakis while you're at it. Nothing wins the presidency like a lefty from New England or New York. If the Democrats stay too heavy on this particular theme, they will need a really big turnout from all those non-white-male constituencies they count on, and they'll need some white males, too. Of course, the nominated candidate won't stay entirely on that track; he or she will move back towards the middle, hoping to be supported by his/her base as the lesser of the two remaining evils, just like the Republican candidate will. I would be a lot happier if a lot of people moved close to the middle, but that sort of thing happens when you get older and increasingly out of touch.

The most fascinating development that came out of the debate was the willingness to embrace the gun topic. We have indeed reached a tipping point where those who would

favor increased background checks are showing some significance in the polls. There appears to be a consensus that this could become a favorable issue as a societal sea change of sorts takes place, similar to that of the general-but-far-from-universal acceptance of gay marriage and Obamacare (just kidding about Obamacare).

Once again, this shift will be for naught if it doesn't result in concerted turnout at the polls for the Democrats because it will almost certainly boost turnout against any candidate espousing tightened gun laws. This is a very high-risk bet, and may be emboldened by the dysfunction in the Republican race, where the real estate baron and the surgeon are dominating the serious career politicians by playing to the extreme elements of their political base. If and when (we all know it's when, don't we?) the bottom falls out of Major Trump's amateur hour (get it? Major Bowes?) and dysfunction is replaced by Bush/Rubio/Kasich/Christie, will this still be a winning bet?

How prominent an issue will this be in the general election, and which side will want to keep it prominent? Are the Democrats hoisting their standard on the background checks issue and wagering that they can mobilize a wave of voters underneath it, or are they going to keep it under wraps as just one of those things people say in primaries? Will the Republicans let them keep it under wraps, or will they keep reminding us that "they" are coming for your guns? Will it even matter? Maybe the people who really hate background checks are all decided voters anyway and it won't make a significant difference. Then again, it might not make a difference in the presidential election, but what will be the effect on 435 local congressional candidates? In the end, this issue is a matter of conscience, and it is a reaction to the appalling violence we appear to accept, and for many a chance to do something that might make a difference. I'm confident that expanded background checks will occur in time, but is this the time? It's a very big bet.

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Center Stage

Capturing the Past

By Dominique Agnew

Many of us dream about what we will do after we retire: Travel, spend time with family and friends, or maybe write that book that has been percolating in the backs of our minds for years. Upon his retirement in 2005, Dr. Robert J. Kapsch had ideas for not one but two books that he planned to write. "My goal for retirement was to write two books, *Canals* and *History of the C&O Canal*. At this writing, Kapsch has written six books, and *History of the C&O Canal* remains unwritten. Inspired by his career as a civil engineer, Kapsch's works are architectural engineering books mostly about the canal systems of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries of the East Coast. Thorough, concise, well-written, accessible to the layman and to the engineer, and based almost exclusively on primary sources, these histories of the technology of our country should be in every household's library.

Having worked as Special Assistant to the Deputy Director of the National Park Service in the late 1990s where he was project manager on the rehabilitation of, among other projects, the Conococheague and the Monocacy Aqueducts, both on the C&O Canal, gave Bob a keen insight into the planning and building of engineering projects during the early years of United States history. Bob's first book, *Canals*, was published in 2004 by Norton in association with the Library of Congress. The dust jacket sums it up pretty well: "A richly-illustrated history of America's first transportation network,



Bob Kapsch at the builder's plaque on the Monocacy Aqueduct.

Canals describes the heyday of American canals, their development, and the varied structures they engendered, from locks and lockhouses to aqueducts, bridges, dams, and tunnels, as well as canal construction and engineering, life on and alongside the canals, and fascinating machinery of canal operation."

The Monocacy Aqueduct on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, co-authored with his wife, Elizabeth Perry Kapsch, and published in conjunction with the Center for Historic Engineering and Architecture Research in Poolesville, was written to coincide with the reopening of the Monocacy Aqueduct in 2005 after a thorough restoration. Bob was the project engineer for the rather complicated task of restoring the Monocacy aqueduct, a bridge that conveyed the canal over the Monocacy River, originally constructed from 1828 to 1833. Project managers everywhere might wish to hire Bob as a consultant as he managed to oversee the completion of the project which was budgeted for \$32 million for \$7 million.

In 2007, *The Potomac Canal: George Washington and the Waterway to the West*

Continued on page 8.



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Correction

In the October 8 edition of the *Monocacy Monocle*, the caption from "John Poole House Fall Cleanup" shows PHS teacher Dan Savino on the right.

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Things To Do

Weekends in October

Markoff's Haunted Forest

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The Amazing Corn Maze at Madison Fields

Benefit Madison House Autism Foundation. 21355 Big Woods Road, Dickerson. For more information, directions, or tickets, visit madisonhouseautism.org.

October 23

UMCVFD Auxiliary Bingo Night

Featuring cash, Longaberger baskets, and Vera Bradley bags; 20 games, specials, door prizes, and raffles.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; games begin at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$20. Refreshments are available for purchase. **Please, do not bring outside food or beverages.** Firehouse, 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville.

Poolesville Green Special Presentation

"What's it All About—Montgomery County's Resource Recovery Facility in Dickerson." Covanta's Mark Freedman will be discussing Montgomery County's Energy from Waste Program. Poolesville Town Hall. 7:00 p.m.

Cugini's Special Event

Join with other local residents in watching Poolesville's Jacob Poss in his first nationally-televised kickboxing fight. Broadcast begins at 10:00 p.m.

October 24 and 25

A Pleasant Diversion At Fort Frederick

Experience military life at Fort Frederick during the French and Indian War as members of the recreated Joshua Beall's Company and Alexander Beall's Company garrison the fort. Visitors party in some of the ways people in the eighteenth century had fun and will have the very rare opportunity to visit the fort after dark by candlelight. Great family fun includes puppet shows in the morning and afternoon, old-fashioned children's foot races, funniest face smiles contest, and period musical performance.

After dark festivities from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. include a bonfire. Then visit the fort to take part in an evening of candlelight merrymaking that

includes period songs, games, dancing, and illuminations. Food, gift, and souvenir items will be available for sale at Captain Wort's Sutler Shop. Fort Frederick is located off of Route 70 exit 12 at State Route 56, Big Pool, Maryland. There is a \$3.00 per car service charge.

October 24

St. Mary's 86th Annual Ham and Turkey Dinner

Featuring mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, green beans, sauerkraut, and rolls. Entertainment includes free hayride, crafts, baked goods, pumpkins, Country Store, and Christmas Shop. Adults and dine-in guests eight years or under eat free. Dine-in and carry-out: \$16.00. Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Poetry and Prose Open Mic Potluck

Autumn/pre-Halloween open mic potluck. Hyattstown Mill Arts Project. All are welcome: poets, storytellers, singers, musicians, and good listeners. Come hear and be heard. 14920 Hyattstown Mill Road, Hyattstown, 7:00 p.m.

October 25

Attention Craft Vendors:

Boyd's Fall Festival to benefit the Boyd's Historical Society has openings for vendor tables. Cost is \$20. It will be held at the Boyd's Negro School from noon to 4:00 p.m. and will feature local artists, stained glass, crochet, ceramics, artwork, jewelry, photography, face painting, and more. Interested vendors may contact Fran Asbeck at 301-972-0511.

Free Screening

Growing Legacy, about farming in our area, produced by Montgomery Countryside Alliance at the Arts Barn in Kentlands at 6:15 p.m.

October 26

Monocacy Lions Dinner Meeting

Prospective members and persons thinking about joining the Lions Club are invited to attend this dinner meeting at 7:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Church, 20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville. For more information, contact president and King Lion, Josh Maisel at jmaisel@verizon.net.

October 28

Poolesville Area Senior Center Special Event

PASC: *Zumba Gold*. 17750 W. Willard Road (in gym). 1:00 p.m.

October 29

PASC Special Event

Estate planning seminar by Thomas M. McCartin. Poolesville Town Hall. 7:00 p.m.

Cugini's Special Event

Escutcheon (from Westchester, Virginia) Tap Takeover. Sample some of the finest offerings from Virginia's finest new breweries. 8:00 p.m.

October 31

Annual WUMCO

Walk and Oktoberfest

Family fun to benefit WUMCO Help. Registration for the WUMCO walk begins at 11:30 a.m.; walk starts at noon. Festivities continue until 6:00 p.m., featuring costume contests for kids and dogs, scarecrow- and pumpkin-decoration contests with costume parade and contest at 5:00 p.m.

Entertainment includes DJ Val and Edelweiss (Oktoberfest band), beer and wine tent, and German food available. Children activities cost \$5.00 for a wristband or free with walk registration. Whalen Commons.

Monocacy Lions Halloween Party

All treats and no tricks at the annual Monocacy Lions Community Halloween Party at St. Mary's Pavilion, 18230 Barnesville Road, Barnesville. Bring your kids, grandkids, and the neighbors' kids to a safe and fun-filled Halloween evening. Get in the Halloween spirit and come dressed in costume. There will be a costume competition, games, refreshments, and prizes. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Halloween Adult Costume Parties

At Cugini's and Asian House of Poolesville.

November 4

PASC Special Event

Tai chi. 17750 W. Willard Road in café. 10:30 a.m.

Community Dinner at St. Peter's

Eat Breakfast for Dinner at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville. There is no charge for dinner. All are welcome. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

November 5

Businesses Helping Businesses Grow—A PACC network breakfast event.

Guest speaker is Poolesville's Susan Bierly, a nationally-recognized network consultant. All business owners and managers are welcome. Poolesville Town Hall. 8:00 a.m.

PASC Special Event

Craft Day. 17750 W. Willard Road in café. 2:00 p.m.

November 6, 7, and 9

The Blue Hearth Market Weekend

Featuring vintage home and garden, revitalized furnishings, and unique décor. 19964 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville. Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5:00 p.m.



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Local News

Celebrate the Season By Helping WUMCO

Ah, autumn is my favorite season: Warm, comfortable days; crisp, cool nights; the mosaics of color on the trees; the sounds of football wafting over town on Friday night; the smell of turning leaves; hot cider by the fireplace; pumpkin everything; and the scarecrows (yes, the scarecrows!)—What's not to love? It is a time to celebrate the bounty of summer and prepare ourselves for the coming winter. It is a season to be thankful for what we have and where we live.

In Poolesville, we have a special way to celebrate fall that has become a town tradition. For the past five years, the WUMCO Walk and Fall Festival has been a way for local families to gather on Whalen Commons and celebrate the season, get some exercise, play games, create fall decorations, show off their Halloween costumes, and vote for their favorite scarecrow. This annual event helps our community show its appreciation for their good fortune by contributing to a great cause while celebrating the season.

Not only is the event fun, but it has a great purpose: to raise money for local charity WUMCO Help. WUMCO is a social services agency which provides emergency financial and food assistance to local families in need. This fundraiser is an important source of funds for WUMCO, usually providing more than five percent of the organization's annual revenue. This year, the planning committee hopes to raise more.

To help make that happen, the event has been expanded and the name changed. This year, the WUMCO Walk and Oktoberfest will be on October 31, from noon to 6:00. In addition to the old favorites, there will be a beer and wine tent, German food, and an Oktoberfest band (Edelweiss). This festival is popular with the younger set because for just five dollars, they can enjoy activities including scarecrow stuffing, pumpkin painting, moon bounce, games with prizes, and a costume contest for kids. It also attracts the older youth and adults with a rock wall, basket auction, a costume contest for dogs, volunteer opportunities, and craft and food vendors.

The fun begins with a one-mile miniwalk, which starts and ends on Whalen Commons. After that, the

festivities continue with the Preschool Dash at 12:45, dog costume contest at 1:00, Kid Scarecrow and Pumpkin Contest judging at 4:30, Kid Costume parade and contest at 5:00, and the announcement of the Community Scarecrow Contest winners at 5:30. In-person voting will be held during the festival, with the winner dubbed "Best of the Fest."

The music will start with DJ Val followed by an Oktoberfest band, Edelweiss, at 2:00. DJ Val comes back at 5:00 to help us boogie through the kids' costume contest and get ready for trick or treating. The beer tent will open at noon and will serve (by the glass): Catocin Clear Lager, Francis Scott Key IPA, Jack O'Lager Pumpkin, and Gerste und Hopfen Oktoberfest. There will also be wine and plenty of non-alcoholic beverages available. The food vendors will be serving Bratwurst, sauerkraut, and other German favorites, as well as kid-friendly American food.

This festival gives us all a chance to celebrate the season, be thankful for all we have, and support those who are less fortunate, so bring your kids, bring your dogs, bring your appetite for Oktoberfest fare, and we will see you on Whalen Commons!

Musings by Mama Boe Rub It In

By Pamela Boe

When I nearly ran over a jogger crossing Fischer Avenue last week, as I was distracted, trying to wipe the McDonald's Special Sauce off of my steering wheel, it occurred to me that I might need to tweak some of my less healthy habits. Just a tad.

I've stopped making grandiose vows to live *entirely* healthier for several reasons. First of all, it's too much pressure. Second, I don't even know how to keep up with the ever-changing health fads. No sooner do I start to follow one healthy lifestyle philosophy, then it is debunked and I'm left with a room full of mats, closets full of spandex, and pantry shelves full of ginkgo, ginseng, and Chai Tea extract. And third, I've come to a point where I love myself enough to stop lying to myself about what I can realistically achieve. I've stopped telling myself I'm going to make some kind of *drastic* change in my life.

Continued on page 12.

Whalen Commons * Saturday * October 31 * Noon to 6 p.m.
Costume Contests: Kids & Dogs * Games * Crafts * Rock Wall * Moon Bounce

WUMCO WALK
&
OKTOBERFEST



Walk Registration at 11:30, Walk starts at Noon
Beer Tent * Music (DJ Val) and Edelweiss (Oktoberfest Band) * German Food
Wristbands: \$5.00 for all kids' activities and contests * Proceeds benefit WUMCO

Continued from page 5.

Capturing the Past

was published by the West Virginia University Press. Before the C&O Canal was constructed, there was the Potomac Canal which linked West Virginia and vicinity to the eastern cities and ports. The Potomac Canal, begun in 1785 by George Washington as the first president of the Potomac Company, was then absorbed into the C&O Canal in 1828. The book details the history and effects of one of the nation's first canals on agricultural and economic development.

For his fourth book, Kapsch headed south to South Carolina for *Historic Canals and Waterways of South Carolina* published by the University of South Carolina Press in 2010. South Carolina had an extensive canal system tying the north to the south along the coast (now incorporated into the Intracoastal Waterway), and bringing the crops of the piedmont, initially rice then cotton, to the coast. Kapsch had come across a book self-published in the 1930s by a canal engineer for the state of South Carolina full of reproductions of reports. "That book got me excited," explained Kapsch. After the canal era, the rivers were bought up by power companies during the twentieth

century, and the canals disappeared. Most Carolinians don't even know of their existence. Once, when Kapsch gave a presentation about the South Carolina canals, an archaeologist stood up and said, "I did a dig right next to the canal, and I never knew there was a canal there." Kapsch donated all the primary source material that he had acquired to the South Carolina Historical Society in Charleston. "They were very excited to get it," Kapsch said.

Over the Alleghenies: Early Canals and Railroads of Pennsylvania was published in 2013 by the West Virginia University Press in 2013. In this day and age of trains, trucks, and planes, it's difficult to fathom the wonder of canal systems and what they meant to economies, development, and even technology (such that it was in the nineteenth century). In Pennsylvania, canals created such passion and hope, investment in them seemed like a guarantee of success. Begun in 1826, the Pennsylvania canal system eventually ran over one thousand miles and linked Pittsburgh and the land to the west of the Allegheny Mountains with Philadelphia and the East Coast. Part of this system was the Allegheny Portage Railroad. As Kapsch wrote, "This railroad astounded one and all as it hauled canal boats—complete with

passengers, crew, and cargo—over the mountains." The Philadelphia-Pittsburgh Main Line (a canal-railroad combination) proved a great financial success. "At one time [people] thought canals would be the solution to everything," explained Kapsch. In *Over the Alleghenies*, he wrote: "So great was the optimism that most believed these canals and railroads would yield profits so large that there would not be any future need for state taxes." Europeans also invested heavily in American canals—until the Panic of 1837, "similar to 2008," said Kapsch, it signaled "the demise of Pennsylvania's canals and railroads."

Kapsch's sixth book, *Building Washington: Engineering and Construction of a New Federal City, 1790-1840*, a history of the development of the city, is still under peer review at a university press. Then it will have to gain approval by a publication committee. Unlike trade publications, university publications require extensive review and approval. Like his first five books, *Building Washington* goes into great depth about not only the engineering history, but also the desires of the developers of the time, and the effects, usually economic, the construction would have on the citizens. "George Washington wanted the city to be a

commercial center as well as government," explained Kapsch, but the area presented "tremendous engineering problems making it into a federal city." The first Long Bridge (now the 14th Street Bridge) was the longest bridge ever built at the time; furthermore, there were no engineers in the nascent republic; they all came from Europe, including military engineers.

While working for the Park Service on the renovation of the Monocacy Aqueduct, Kapsch kept finding things wrong with the history. "The Park Service had the history wrong," he said. "I couldn't rely on the histories that we had...it gave me the idea of writing histories on primary records." In his office, he has boxes of original records; many of them found on—who would have thought it—eBay. At one point, he had over five hundred historical maps which he donated three years ago to the Geography and Maps Division of the Library of Congress. He has books of engineers' records from the 1800s. "It takes a lot of time to do these books," he said. Kapsch, with a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Maryland, a Ph.D. in Engineering and Architecture from Catholic University, and two Master's

Continued on page 12.



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Local News

Helping One Who Helps Others

By Rande Davis

Carl Menagh, a nurse with Anchor Healthcare Services, has been Jeanette Taylor's nurse for many years. Jeanette was born with a congenital heart defect, Ebstein's Anomaly of the Tricuspid Valve. Complications over the first five months of her life led to further disabilities: cerebral palsy, mental impairment, and additional medical frailties. Consequently, Jeanette will always require twenty-four-hour care. Thankfully, she is eligible for home care services and has thrived being at home.

The family moved to Poolesville in 1997, when Jeanette was five years

young. Carl came into their lives a few years later and has become Jeanette's best friend and a member of her family. He commutes daily from Leesburg. Without Carl in her life, Jeanette would not have evolved into the social butterfly she is today.

Now it is Carl who needs help. He was diagnosed with an advanced stage of cancer in July. He is in the process of taking treatment right now and desperately trying to work as much as possible, though feeling very ill and weak. He is in danger of not making his mortgage payment. The family is asking for help for someone who has made Jeanette's life exponentially better by introducing her to our community. A Gofundme account has been set up to help Carl in his time of need: <https://www.gofundme.com/jf64q6ur>.

Anything helps—and the Taylors and Menaghs thank you in advance for anything you can contribute.

Tidbits

Dowdy-Rice Wedding

Hannah Marie Dowdy, a 2010 graduate of Poolesville High School, and Ronald David Rice of Greene, New York were married on October 10 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Ron and Hannah currently reside in Watertown, New York. He is a Petty Officer 2nd Class in the United States Coast Guard and stationed at Alexandria Bay, New York.

Hannah's parents are Nancy and Tom Dowdy of Poolesville, and Michael Dowdy is her brother. Tom Purdy, Ann Ritonia, and Greg Syler of St. Georges Valley Lee presided over the service.

Robert Fales Completes Command

Captain Robert C. Fales successfully completed command of the 65th Military Police Company (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Robert was born in Poolesville in 1986, graduated from Poolesville High School and later attended Lock Haven University in Pennsylvania. He is married to Lindsay Fales of Norwich, New York and has one son, Anderson. Captain Fales is the son of John and Karen Fales of Pasadena, Maryland and the grandson of Col. (retired) Pat and Lee Miller of Leesburg, Virginia. Captain Fales next takes command of the Recruiting Company in Mitchellville, Maryland.

Girl Scout Troop 5946 Launches Laundromat Literacy Project

Gently-used children's books needed! Girl Scout Troop 5946 seniors Ellen Beal, Gretchen Hundertmark, and Anna Morrison are collecting children's books and helping the Literacy Council of Frederick County launch a new "Laundromat Literacy" initiative to encourage children at laundromats to read while they are waiting with their parents. Information about free Literacy Council programs will be available for parents who are struggling to read and speak English. Collection boxes are located at CVS (until October 26), the Poolesville Library, and Poolesville Athletic Club (until November 2). This take-action project is part of the seniors' Girltopia Journey requirements. Contact: 240-620-1425 or blhundertmark@msn.com.



Rev. Greg Syler of St. George's, Valley Lee, Maryland, Rev. Tom Purdy, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Rice, and St. Peter's Rev. Ann Ritonia. The two girls are Callie and Eva Purdy.

Local News

Young Life and WyldLife Kick-Off The 2015 School Year With a Blast

Young Life is back in full swing in Poolesville this year. The last week in September marked the beginning of an incredible year that is full of changes. For starters, Young Life has a new staff member, Devin Baver, who will be focused on ministry at Poolesville High School and John Poole Middle School. Devin is a recent graduate of Virginia Tech with a Bachelor's of Science in mathematics. Originally from the western suburbs of Philadelphia, Devin is very excited to begin the next chapter of his life here in Poolesville.

For those unfamiliar to Young Life, it is a non-denominational Christian outreach ministry. Young Life's founder Jim Rayburn once said, "It's a sin to bore a kid with the Gospel" and that is an integral part of PHS Young Life. Weekly club meetings consist of crazy games and skits often leaving students in awe, saying, "I can't believe they did that!" A few weeks ago at the 4th Annual Donut Olympics, the festivities began with a donut-eating competition wherein donuts were suspended from a fishing line across the room.

Young Life's vision is that every kid, everywhere, should have the



Donuts on a string? New diet scheme or just plain fun.

chance to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ from a trusted friend. This happens through forming lifelong friendships by going where kids are. Young Life leaders in Poolesville can be seen at sporting events, school plays, and other competitions, all with the intent that students would personally get the chance to respond to the Gospel in a non-threatening environment.



The local Young Life group at a recent fun night.

For more information about Young Life in Poolesville or to read about Young Life's Winter Weekend Camp experience, visit www.westmoco.younglife.org.

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Youth Sports

A Roller Coaster Season

By Jeff Stuart

Starting with a hard-fought five-set victory over visiting Richard Montgomery in the season opener, the Poolesville High School girls' volleyball season under new coach Daniel DuVall has unfolded like a roller coaster. The Falcons (7-3) took care of business in the first game of that match with a 25-16 win, but a scrappy RM squad, who won their first two rounds of the playoffs last year, won the next two matches, 27-25, and 25-23. In both games, there were some remarkable long rallies, but Poolesville rode back up again, winning game four, 25-12, and the tie breaker, 15-11. Then there were losses to quality 4A opponents, Wootton and Churchill. Neither swept the Falcons, however. On October 2, the Falcons traveled to Magruder, and the roller coaster nature of the season was again apparent. The net result was again a five-set win. "We needed that," said Coach DuVall. PHS won the first set, 25-14. The Colonels took the next, 25-17. Poolesville was up again in the third set, winning again, 25-19, but MHS responded with a convincing, 25-11, win in game four. The pendulum swung again and Poolesville won the tie breaker, 15-10. This was a battle for second place in the division standings.

"I really enjoyed the Magruder match," said senior outside hitter Emily Benedict. "I'm glad we came out on top. We fought really hard. Sometimes we stumbled a little bit, but it is good that we could regain our composure and come out on top. When they would hit the ball down and we would dig it up and kill it back on them, it was good to hear their fans stop cheering. I enjoyed that. It was one of our best matches because it showed how far we have come this season. It showed that we could finish matches and that we have the ability to come back. We have a new freshman setter, Kirsten Yee, and it is great to have a new face. It makes for new team chemistry.We do a lot of off-the-court bonding,



Seniors Yoon Hong, Lauren Whittaker, Shirley Wolz, and Emily Benedict

and that has helped us become more cohesive on the court."

"The Magruder match was definitely a mental game," said senior libero (back row defensive specialist) Yoon Hong. "Skill-wise, we were pretty evenly matched. We started out very strong, but we seem to fluctuate in between our strong moments. I think pressure plays a part. Our coach mentioned that that happens sometimes. We talked about how to maintain our focus and momentum, but we fought for it. In the tie breaker we stumbled for the first few points, but we told ourselves, 'This is it; this is where we need to pick it up.'

"Junior Christina Zhang hit some good serves and led us on a several-point run. She is a good hitter and plays defense well. We pushed and pushed and got in their heads... Junior Caroline Leng is our primary hitter and is also very good playing defense. She is in there every game, every set, and every point, and Emily is very good in the back court. She was actually our libero last year, but we need her as a hitter this year. We can utilize her talent more that way."

Typically a libero wears a reverse color jersey from her teammates, and that jersey usually bears the number one or two, but Yoon, number twenty-seven, chose not to wear the libero jersey since the number one had already been assigned to junior Alexis Pak, and the number two to setter Yee when the team picture was taken.

Leng was a first-team all-Gazette selection last season, and earned honorable mention in the *Washington Post*.

"I think the Magruder match mirrored our season as a whole," said senior outside hitter Lauren Whittaker, "because we would play really well and then fade a bit. It has kind of been like that. We need to be consistent and really fight the whole time and not just when it is convenient. My favorite moment was when Christina was hitting outside and the set was a little off, and she hit it with her left and we got the point. She is actually a righty."

"I think we played a good match against Magruder," said senior middle hitter Shirley Wolz. "It demonstrated how well we can play and how sometimes we don't play so well. In the one game we won against Damascus (the division leader); the difference was that we didn't let them get on a run after we got a lead. We tried really hard to just keep the ball in play. Churchill is definitely the best team we have played. They are a very strong defensive team, and it was hard to put the ball down."

The Falcons won three straight matches following the Magruder match.

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Continued from page 8.

Capturing the Past

degrees from George Washington University, one in Historic Preservation and the other in Management of Research and Development, said that he uses an American Studies approach to history which is "heavy on illustrations and other materials that traditional histories don't include: newspaper clippings, tables, diaries, etc." They're "not meant to be picture books," he said, "but one photo has a lot of history." Also, to write an

engineering and architecture book that can also be read by the non-engineer, "you have to have a lot of illustrations," said Kapsch. "You have to show people while explaining." Readers can't always have a technological vocabulary. "You have to deliver to them," explained Kapsch, "you can't expect them to come to you."

A good history book always needs a great introduction to capture the reader's attention, and Kapsch relies on the writing talents of his wife, Perry, to write introductions and conclusions. "She has a better writing

style than I have." All of his books are dedicated to Perry, as well. A good architectural engineering history book also needs a good book designer. Kapsch turned to Robert L. Wiser of Silver Spring for the design of *The Potomac Canal* and *Over the Alleghenies*, both of which won substantial awards. "Architects are big book buyers, but they won't buy an ugly book," said Kapsch. "You need to have something very attractive, as well as scholarly."

Kapsch was influenced at a young age by his trips to colonial

Williamsburg with his mother. "My mother was very interested in American history," he reminisced. "She loved Williamsburg." After earning his Bachelor's of Science in Civil Engineering from Rutgers in 1964, Kapsch did two tours of duty in Vietnam in 1965 and 1966 where, as an engineer, he was involved in the design and construction of hospitals and casualty staging units. "I learned a lot in a hurry," he said. "I had more responsibility there than I had the rest of my life."

Building Washington should see publication in autumn of 2016.

Continued from page 7.

Rub It In

Baby steps I can manage. Ginormous leaps into the realm of carb-free, exercise-full worlds, I can't. Not if I want to keep it real. And if there was only one strength I could call my own, it would be the ability to keep it real.

In this spirit, I thought about what I love. I love long, stress-free walks in the woods. Sugarloaf Mountain is five minutes away. My son, Critter, loves to run the mountain trail up and over from the Eastside Overlook to the Westside Overlook. My daughter, Varmint, loves to have mother-daughter talks undistracted by TVs, computers, cellphones, etc., which we

sometimes do walking as Critter runs the mountaintop. Clearly a doable, small-but-healthy change in my life would be for Varmint and me to make this kind of walking Sugarloaf while Critter runs it more of a habit. Easy Peasy.

I'm not talking walking up and over like Critter runs. I'm talking walking the perfectly horizontal, well-paved driveway that is the road between the two overlooks. In the ten minutes it takes me to meander from one parking lot to the other, Critter runs up and over, and meets Varmint and me on the West side. When I have hiked the actual trail (and by hiked, I mean crawled) up and over, that Critter runs, it takes

me between thirty and forty minutes, at least two Albuteral inhaler doses, and several pauses to make sure I haven't left a lung somewhere on the rocks. Critter does it on average in ten minutes.

Yesterday, the little bugger did it in eight. Eight stinkin' minutes to run up and over the treacherous mountain rock scramble that is that trail. And when he finished it, and met me on the west side, he said, "Mom, I'll just run back over, and meet you on the east side instead of walking back with you on the road."

And he did. In Crocs. Not tennis shoes. Not fancy schmancy running shoes. Not super-spiffy cross-country, toed, neoprene shoe/socks. Nope, he

did it in florescent green crocs, that frankly, are a size or two too big.

Here I am, all "Gee, I feel good about not spilling special sauce on my minivan steering wheel today," and he's all "I'll meet you on the other side of the mountain, if you can make it, you sorry excuse for a sea-slug." (I'm paraphrasing.)

Let me promise you that I DID make it. And my *new* baby-step goal is to beat him to the west side in the near future. I'm not saying there won't be a Segway involved, but, by golly, Critter won't be able to rub it in like that much longer! This special-sauce smeared, determined, chronically imperfect Mama is On. The. Move.

Pray for me.



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All are Welcome!

Continued from page 3.

**New Town Ordinances
 and Code Revisions**

citizen signed up to offer comments. The ordinance remains open for written comments up until 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 23.

In the open forum segment of the meeting, Commissioner Valaree Dickerson mentioned that she had been contacted by a local family whose elementary school-aged daughter has a rare form of cancer. The young girl is receiving treatment and can only infrequently attend classes. New technologies have been created that incorporate wireless communications with robotics and video/audio systems to allow remote-controlled robots to attend classes for children who cannot physically do so. The robots are under the control of the child from home or in the hospital and they allow the child to see and hear what is going on in the classroom and even to participate in many ways. For example, the robot can "raise its hand" so the child can ask questions, and it can be moved to various locations in the classroom.

The family, Commissioner Dickerson, and the PTSA at Poolesville Elementary School have been working to secure the robot for the child's

use, and Dickerson mentioned that it would soon be operational. This will be the first use of such a robot in Maryland as far as is known, although such robots are in use now in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

In the old business segment of the meeting, the commissioners voted unanimously to adopt (Commissioner Brice Halbrook was absent) the new water allocation regulations that were prepared by the Planning Commission and considered at a public hearing earlier in the month of October.

Town Manager Wade Yost mentioned in his report that the Parks and Streets Board had created a subcommittee to survey all streetlights in the town, looking at such issues as coverage, location, and spacing. A report on the subcommittee's findings will be forwarded to the Parks Board in the future for eventual transmission to the commission.

Finally, Poolesville's application to become a Sustainable Maryland Town was officially approved. The certification recognizes the many projects and programs in the town devoted to preserving the environment, such as the solar array at the sewer treatment plant and the permeable parking surface at town hall that allows water to drain into the aquifer.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

- Assault:** 17400 block of Anita Court.
- Burglary:** 19500 block and 20000 block of Fisher Avenue.
- Theft from vehicle:** 20100 block of Fisher Avenue.
- Drug use:** 18700 block of Jerusalem Church Road.

Past Crime

October 24, 1906 County law enforcement officials were looking for Howard Downs, a resident of the Darnestown district, who was wanted for assault with intent to murder. It was reported that he attacked Alexander Broome, one of the most well-known residents of Darnestown, giving him a terrible beating. Downs told friends that he beat Broome because Broome had talked about him. Broome told deputies that Downs had lain in wait for him and attacked when he entered the gate of his farm.

October 15, 1906 A man who was wanted for murder in Alexandria City was said to be hiding out in Rockville. Montgomery County Deputy Greene arrested a man answering the description of the wanted man. Alexandria Chief Goods traveled to Rockville only to find that it was not the wanted man. The Alexandria City Council was very critical of the city police department and called Goods's trip a "wild goose chase."

October 17, 1906 A man who gave his name as Dick Burriss was arrested by Deputy Cross and charged with

hunting without a license. Burriss claimed to be from Tennyaltown. He was taken before Magistrate Redding who fined him \$25.

October 28, 1906 A prizefight between Bobby Baker and George Talbert, both welter weights, was held at the Rock Spring Hotel. A large crowd was said to have been in attendance. States Attorney Peter had previously said that prizefights were illegal and had banned them in Montgomery County. Upon hearing of this match, he pledged to bring all participants to justice and to prosecute all of them.

October 29, 1904 The prestigious Chevy Chase Club on Connecticut Avenue was raided by a team of Montgomery County sheriff deputies who were in search of illegal intoxicating liquors that were alleged to be on the property (at the time, Montgomery County had its own option law which prohibited sales and possession of intoxicants). The deputies were treated courteously and hauled away about \$2000 worth of liquor; however, it appeared that they missed many more crates of liquor that were in the basement. When night fell and the officers had departed, several large teams of drays showed up at the club, and the liquor was transported across the state line into Washington.

In the meantime, Sheriff Williams was investigating reports that golf was being played at the club on Sundays in violation of the state blue laws. He promised to watch the golf course on the coming Sunday to see if any caddies were being employed which would have been illegal.

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




*It's all happening at the Cug
I do believe it, I do believe it's true!*

Cugini's Entertainment Events

October 23
Join us in watching and cheering on Poolesville's Jacob Poss in his first nationally televised fight!

October 29
Escutcheon Tap Takeover
Sample some of the finest from one of Virginia's newest breweries.

October 31
Cugini's Halloweenie Bash
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Garden

Preparing for Winter in the Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

Now is the middle of the fall season and it is seventy-five degrees outside as I write this article, but don't think that your garden chores are over. You don't want to squander or diminish all the work you did this past summer keeping your gardens healthy and flourishing by neglecting them now. If your plants struggled with July's and August's heat and drought conditions, and you nursed them back to health, don't throw away those efforts now. As I said in my last column, the winter before the spring can significantly affect the health of our spring and summer plants. Likewise, the strain of summer weather can weaken a tree, shrub, or plant and make it difficult to withstand the rigors of winter, so let's take a walk around your garden and see what you can do now to help it survive the cold winds, ice, and snows of our coming winter season.

The windstorms of July and August severely damaged many of the trees in our area. They were localized. I had major damage to four very large maple trees, four white pines trees, and a beautiful, old pin oak tree. Inspect the trees in your yard now. Even small limb breaks can set a tree up for further damage in winter storms. Many of my damaged trees will have to be cut down to keep them from falling on my house, car, or fence line in a winter storm. If it is a medium- or large-sized tree, get professional help. If you planted any new trees this spring or fall, water them very well before the first frost. It will make a big difference.

Hydrangeas (H) had a rough last two years. Subzero temperatures killed many developing flower buds, so they were late in blooming. Pruning methods depend upon the type of hydrangea you have: *H. paniculata*, *H. macrophylla*, *H. arborescens*; and *H. quercifolia*. Older varieties used to bloom either on old wood or new wood, meaning that if the developing buds were killed by freezing temperatures, you might not have any blossoms come spring. On newer varieties, flowering occurs on both old and new wood, assuring flowers even after a severe winter.

To tell you the truth, I don't follow any hard rules regarding pruning. I basically leave pruning until the spring. Cut dead or struggling stalks down to the ground if needs be; they will survive. I will add that my all-time two favorite hydrangeas are: *H. macrophylla* 'Endless Summer' and *H. quercifolia* 'Snow Queen.' They are the Best.

Perennials: Let me start with my wonderful herbs. I mentioned last year that I replanted many of my dead rose beds with herbs. I also scattered several among my perennial flower beds. They are a great success: low maintenance, fragrant, pest-free, and useful in the kitchen. The best performing one is sage, six varieties in various colors and textures. Most sage plants last through some pretty cold weather. Rosemary for remembrance—I love this plant. I have not had much hardiness problems with this herb until about three cold winters ago. He was beautiful—bushy, tall, fragrant, a lovely dark bluish-green color, and about twelve years old—I thought he would live forever. The cold winds were too much for him. I now wrap my much smaller rosemary plants in burlap after the first hard frost. Thyme, oregano, marjoram, and tarragon (sometimes) are pretty tough and come back every spring, even after a hard winter.

Flowers: There are several schools of thought about cutting back perennial flowers after the first frost—it removes dead or diseased plants from the garden; it removes pest eggs and disease spores from plant stems; it shapes an overgrown specimen; and it generally helps tidy up the garden area—but is it necessary? Outside of spreading disease, it depends upon the look you want in the garden scene all winter. I don't like to see my garden beds plucked clean down to the soil line. There is no height, no textures, no muted colors, and no architecture. I leave my tall, blue-gray and hairy stalks of Russian Sage; the gradually fading blue-green leaves and rosy-pink blooms of 'Autumn Joy' sedum; the fuzzy Lamb's Ears; the hydrangea 'Endless Summer's' very pale pinkish, greenish, and brown flower heads, and *Rudbeckia* 'Goldsturm's' big flower heads. They will surrender to winter when they want. Oh, and the birds: you cannot deprive the birds of the luscious rose hips of the Rugosa roses, 'Roseaie de l'hay' and 'Blanc Double de Coubert,' and the fat and tasty seeds in the large cones of *Echinacea* 'Magnus' and 'Cheyenne Spirit.' Now I have not asked a bird if he likes the seeds of the wild indigo plant *Baptisia australis*, but I have heard that he does. I have six planted behind my hydrangeas, and they are covered with long, oblong, black seed pods just bursting with seeds, a treasure trove of eats for birds for a good part of the winter.

Roses: A few words for you gardeners who have not given up on roses (Knockouts don't count). As you know, I used to have ninety (I kept count) and now I have six David Austin roses.

Continued on page 16.



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Continued from page 15.

Preparing for Winter in the Garden

I watched over them all summer and used no harsh chemicals. I used Neem oil, fed them every month, and kept them well watered. They are doing very well. Part of their success goes to this summer's lack of Japanese beetles. I can take no credit for that, but it did make a tremendous difference. To protect my roses from this winter's fury, I shall continue to water them until the first frost. I shall then

mound up mulch or Leafgro around the bud union to insulate them from the cold winds. Then, it is all up to Mr. Winter.

I love Leafgro. It is a very good soil conditioner and mulch. You don't have to buy it if you have leaves scattered across your grass areas. Mow the lawn and rake the chopped leaves into a pile. After the first frost, spread it over delicate plants and poor soil areas. It is gold for the garden, and it is free.

May Mr. Winter be kind to our gardens this year.

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Remembrances

Peggy J. Kingsbury

By Rande Davis

Peggy J. Kingsbury, 81, of Dickerson, died on Wednesday, October 14, 2015. She and her late husband Roland E. Kingsbury, Sr. were the owners of Kingsbury's Orchard on Peachtree Road.

Peggy was born on January 30, 1934 in Boyds and was the daughter



Peggy J. Kingsbury

of the late Douglas and Emma (White) Horine.

Surviving Peggy are her daughter, Susan Ketron and husband Larry of Union Bridge, and Roland "Gene" E. Kingsbury, Jr. and wife Julie of Dickerson.

For Peggy, everything was her family and her farm. As a farming woman, one could say she lived the old adage, "You never really own your farm, your farm owns you." Vacations and time away from the farm always included family. Wherever she and Roland, Sr. went, her children went, too. Peggy also loved her pets dearly, with Jack the donkey perhaps her favorite, but Buddy the goat and Bootsy the cat came very close.

Her son Gene noted that the love of farming never subsided in her, even until very recently, "She loved to mow her some grass." She always kept the lawn very pristine and was seen often on her zero-turn lawn mower.

Peggy was further remembered for the love of her garden and flowers, especially her roses, of which many visitors to the orchard would stand in awe, visually taking in all their great splendor at the front of the orchard shop.

Her warm and perpetual smile was a gift to all she encountered, and

her humor never waned. In her final days, knowing that her time was near, she still shared stories and laughter and her humor. While sitting with Gene in the dark, she kept repeatedly asking him what time it was when he finally asked what time she wanted it to be, and her reply was true Peggy: She opened her eyes and said, "Fifty years ago."

Every Mother's Day, Gene would paste a poem inside his card to her, so in remembrance of her, he chose to present his tribute to her through a poem.

The Last Rose



As winter's fury gave way to spring

And roses showed their first shades of green,

The warm sun drew buds from their slumber

With the best crop we had ever seen.

While the garden was soon full of color,

One rose stood out among all the rest.

It was vibrant red with highlights of white—

The colors I always liked the best.

The rose enjoyed its days in the sun

And stood strong when dark clouds came its way.

Many took pleasure in all the beauty

The rose brought to us every day.

But a rose cannot live forever,

No matter where on this Earth it's grown.

When the last petal fell from the last rose,

The Lord knew it was time to bring it home.

Today we find ourselves in mourning

For a rose taken from us too soon.

Today a new light shines in heaven,

Where the last rose will forever bloom.



In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Patty Pollatos Fund: www.ppfinc.org.

William A. Morrison, Jr.

William A. Morrison, Jr., 77, of Dickerson, went to be with the Lord on October 12, 2015. He was the beloved husband of Sharon L. Morrison, his wife of fifty-one years. Born on September 4, 1938 in Bethesda, he was the son of the late William A. and Margaret L. (Brown) Morrison, Sr. William served his country in the United States Army and was a member of the Barnesville Baptist Church. Surviving besides his wife is one son, William A. Morrison, III and wife Virginia; one brother, Robert A. Morrison and wife Patricia; and one grandson, Christopher J. Dimig and wife Ashley. He was preceded in death by one sister, Lois M. "Mitzi" Johnson and one brother, James W. Morrison. In lieu of flowers, donations may be



William A. Morrison, Jr.

made to the Barnesville Baptist Church, P.O. Box 69, Barnesville, MD 20838.

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Inappropriate Litter Box Behavior and Your Cat: Part II

Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF, FASLMS

This is our second article in the series related to Changes in Litter Box Behavior and the reasons that may be creating these changes. Last time we reviewed dirty litter, change of litter, and litter box guarding/exclusivity. Today we will be discussing some specific behavior components that your cat may be considering about his or her litter box that you may not have thought about with respect to changes in litter box use or activity. As always, it is a good idea to see your regular veterinarian if you feel the changes you are making in their bathroom facilities are not producing the normalization of effects that you are expecting.

4. One Size Does Not Fit All!

A litter box that feels too large or too small to a cat might dissuade him/her from feeling comfortable using it. Too small and he might feel cramped, or sense that there's not enough litter to effectively bury their urine or feces. Too large and waste buildup and odor could turn her off. If the lip of the litter box is too high, especially for older cats with arthritis, they won't be able to comfortably get in or out. It is a good rule of thumb to opt for a litter box at least one-and-a-half to two times their length and at least as wide as they are long. Many boxes available in pet stores are smaller than this, so be sure to shop carefully. Avoid boxes with entries higher than four inches, especially for an older cat.

5. To Cover or Not to Cover?

Applying your own sense of privacy for your bathroom needs to your cat can be a positive or negative idea depending on the other factors we have discussed. If your cat has been using an uncovered box regularly for a long time and only recently has begun to avoid the box, covering the box may have a further negative effect. Cats that are used to an open box may find a cover confining or even threatening. While inside, they may feel vulnerable due to an inability to see what or who is going on around them. Remember that in the wild, felines are most at risk from predators while eliminating, so they like to see what is going on around them. Covering the box could also entrap odors, doubling the odds that your cat will object. If you have recently placed a cover or gotten a new covered litter box and are now having problems with your cats peeing or pooping outside the box, take the cover off and see if the solution is this easy and allowing your cats to see the world while doing their business.

6. Privacy, Please!

Cats want to eliminate in a quiet, sheltered area and not a high traffic, noise-filled busy area. Place a litter box in a hallway or in a room with lots of activity and your cat may avoid it. If your cat is eliminating in quiet, out-of-the-way places, they are telling you that their litter box is too exposed and they don't like it. Don't leave it by a furnace, washer or dryer, television, or other noise-generating device. Instead, choose a laundry room, guest bathroom, or some other secluded spot. Be sure to not play find-the-litter-box with your cat. Once you have moved it and it is working, leave it there.



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