

MONOCLE

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Bill Jamison and his grandsons enjoyed the day at St. Mary's Ham and Turkey dinner. See pictures in Family Album on page 2.



Commissioner elections are held at the Poolesville Town Hall. Read candidate statements on page 3.



Preston King, Director of Parks for Poolesville, returned from a Canadian trip during which he got his first moose. Read more in Tidbits on page 7.



WUMCO's annual fall festival brought out the kids in their favorite Halloween costumes. See more of the festival on page 11.

Commissioner Debate Reveals Positions on Key Questions

By Link Hoewing

The candidates for town commissioner participated in a debate sponsored by the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce on Sunday evening, October 30, revealing few major differences on key policy questions. Incumbents, Valaree Dickerson, Jerry Klobukowski, and Brice Halbbrook, appeared along with newcomer Martin Radigan and answered questions posed by the audience for over two hours. Chamber of Commerce member and *Monocacy Monocle* publisher Rande Davis acted as moderator for the event.

In opening statements, Commissioner Halbbrook said that he is running to "complete the important work" that the commission has undertaken during his tenure. He said that in 2011, his first year in office, the commission had to cope with the lingering effects of the economic recession. Just a year later, the town lost its only grocery store, and local businesses were not doing well in many instances. The commission undertook to reach out to attract more businesses and to



Eleanor Bateman, vice president of PACC, had the duty to keep the candidates' speeches and answers within specified time limits. Candidates: Martin Radigan, Jerry Klobukowski, Brice Halbbrook, and Val Dickerson.

promote economic growth, and he felt it important that this work continue.

Commissioner Klobukowski said that he grew up in a small town and knows how small communities can get caught up in sprawl and explosive growth. He said that people come to Poolesville because of its small-town character and because of the high-quality schools in

our area. In his view, the town government is proactive and welcomes input and ideas from citizens. He wants to continue his emphasis on protecting the town's small-town character and ensure that the high school is rebuilt into a "twenty-first century facility."

Continued on page 18.

Town Planning Commissioners' First Review Of Willshire Community

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Planning Commission's October 26 was dominated by discussion and review of the plans previously published by Miller & Smith for the ninety-six-home "community within a community" concept next to town hall called Willshire.

The level of community interest in this initial discussion was reflected in the more than eighty people in attendance, which is far above normal attendance at planning meetings.

Planning Commission Chair, Calvin Sneed, opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and outlining an agenda that first provided a timeline of events which led to the meeting that night. Despite the project being widely discussed on Facebook and elsewhere within the community since April, this



It was standing-room only at the Poolesville Town Hall during the Planning Commission's first look at the newly-proposed Willshire project.

meeting was the first time the Planning Commission had officially addressed the planned project noting that the developer, Miller & Smith, had

not come to the planning commission before offering its plan to the county for

Continued on page 20.

Family Album



Andrea Johnson, with her wolf hat, won the prize for best-wrapped mummy at the Lions Club Halloween Party at St. Mary's Pavillion.



Bee (Charlotte Vogel) and Snow White (Sydney Emery) won Best Costume first and second prizes, respectively, older kid division, at the Lions Halloween Party.



Monster of Ceremonies, Peter Gimbriere, and Lady in the Purple Hat, Heidi Brenholtz, led the Lions at the club's Halloween Party at St. Mary's Pavillion.



Gary and Jan Burdette with master chef Bill Lynch at the St. Mary's Ham and Turkey Dinner.



PACC helped sponsor Poolesville Day. Attending the committee's thank you dinner were Monica Molina (treasurer), Eleanor Bateman (vice president), Gail Lee (president), and Joyce Breiner (BOD member).



Hailee Williams, Dean Depasquale, and Nick, Dean, and Anthony Depasquale alongside Jason Williams's 550-lb. Mr. Pumpkin Head.



Family and friends enjoyed the annual St. Mary's Ham and Turkey Dinner.



The hard-working kitchen crew at St. Mary's Ham and Turkey Dinner.

Commissioner Candidates

Valaree Dickerson

In the town I grew up in lives a community of residents whose love and passion for a small-town village is as alive today as it was in 1969 when my family moved here.

For those of you who know me, you know my commitment to this town is one hundred percent. My interest in the process, procedures, and "Protecting Our Poolesville" has always been My Mission. I have been attending commissioner meetings for twenty-four years. I ran for election during two terms between 1994 and 2002, and both times, I lost. My third attempt, four years ago, was my win! I was very fortunate to have been given this amazing opportunity. We raised our four children in this community, and I have volunteered in every aspect of making the community what it was then, what it is today, and hopefully what it will become in the future.

Starting in 1992, I have served in a volunteer capacity in every way possible: as commissioner, PTA president, vice president, staff appreciation leader, cheerleading coach for PAA for four years, an originator of the holiday toy program, twenty-four-year WUMCO volunteer, sole originator of Certified Sustainable Maryland (with the help of my fellow commissioners/volunteers we became certified in 2016), advocate in helping to create a thriving program for our senior citizens, six-year volunteer on the original Poolesville Day Committee, sole originator of the holiday light parade involving children and traditions which led to the Holiday Lighting Festival today! I reorganized and created the new and improved Friday on the Commons Committee after seeing that our community needs consistent family events.

Election means more than voicing opinions based on current issues. It means dedicating yourself to understanding the process of a municipality, parks, zoning, planning, budgeting, streetscapes, water and waste water; creating relationships with county/state officials; attending meetings, conventions, and rallies in Annapolis. It's a learning process that takes years to begin to understand. It takes a dedication and willingness to be a part of these things—and endless conversations with residents about their feelings and concerns for our community.

My wish is to continue this path, and I would appreciate your support during the upcoming election. I have provided a level of consistency for twenty-four years and plan to continue! Please stop

by Town Hall on November 8 and cast a vote for me as I continue what I started in "Protecting Our Poolesville."

Proud to be *Your* Commissioner—*Again!*

Brice Halbrook

I am running for reelection to the commission to finish some of the important work our current group of commissioners has begun. Many initiatives—from economic development, the town takeover of Fisher Avenue, and implementing the rest of the streetscape plan—deserve time and attention and experience. I feel I can offer all of this to the town.

In 2011, my first year as a commissioner, we were digging out from a financial crisis and a deep recession. A year later, we lost our grocery store of sixty-five years and were battling fifty percent vacancy rates in our business sector.

I am very proud to say that this team of commissioners took the action in reaching out to our local businesses, landlords, and landowners to get everyone working towards the same goal. We've had some very good outcomes with new businesses and a more vibrant downtown area, something of which I am very proud.

I grew up in a rural area near Havre de Grace, Maryland, so when my family and I moved here almost seventeen years ago, Poolesville felt right. Michelle and I have never regretted our decision, and I have loved the past ten years of giving back. For five years, I co-chaired and expanded Poolesville Day, and I now serve as a commissioner. I am also on the Parks and Street Board and serve on the Upcounty Prevention Network, a newly-formed organization assessing the need for a Federal drug prevention program in the community (find us on Facebook as UPN).

All three of our children have been educated in the Poolesville schools, and I believe they have a real small-town connection with their friends that you don't find just anywhere. This is a special community where people care about each other and also about preserving our wonderful sense of place.

I care deeply about keeping the small-town quality of the town, particularly with future development. I believe that the planning commission, an excellent group of people, will strike just the right balance with the new Willshire proposal, and I look forward to reviewing their work when it is completed. Remember, it is still a work in progress not a final plan!

Thank you again for taking the time to read this. I would appreciate your vote in the coming election.

Continued on page 17.

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Commentary

Glad it's Over

By John Clayton

I voted early on Tuesday, a full week before Election Day. I drive through Germantown frequently, so swinging into the Germantown Community Recreation Center on Kingsview Road was no big deal. It's easy to find, right off Clopper Road—you can see the cool slides by the swimming pool from Clopper.

I was amazed that the parking lot was almost full. There was a line inside, and again, this was mid-afternoon, around 3:00 p.m., and it was a full week before Election Day. There were lots of volunteers handling the process, and, line or no line, there was practically no wait at all. Do not be dissuaded from voting by fears of crowds—it was being handled. Election Day might be very busy.

There weren't many decisions left for me as far as the voting went—I knew for whom and for what I wanted to vote. I gave some thought to the term limit proposal, an idea I have always opposed, but which I temporarily reconsidered. Without rehashing the issue (again), I have decided, with apologies to our Boyds neighbor Robin Ficker, that if we don't like our elected representatives, we can vote them out. We don't need a new law that arbitrarily sets limits. I do remain concerned that incumbency offers electoral advantages, and term limits might address this somewhat, but that's not enough. Another concern of many is that elected positions were not meant to be careers, but an opportunity to serve for a period of time and then return to private life. I'm not sure where this assumption originated, I'm pretty sure it isn't in the constitution, but many capable public officials have had long careers, beginning locally and advancing up the ladder as skilled legislators. There is something to be said for experience, and while I realize many feel that careerist representatives are the problem, and some of them certainly are, a solution remains available: Vote them out of office.

The desire for term limits is often motivated by anger, anger at specific votes or at politicians in general. For some people, it doesn't matter who

gets elected, just make sure they get replaced as soon as possible, and we'll hate the new people, too. What's the point of that? I don't agree with all of the council's (or county executive's) decisions, but I do respect the fact that they have to balance a lot of factors and constituencies, and if they're not making the tough calls, then they're not doing their jobs. This council is on the hot seat for raising taxes and fees to pay for things people want, and to cover a shortfall in education funding from a state Supreme Court decision, and they are also under fire for reducing already-negotiated pay increases for various county or school board employees because they felt other priorities were more important. These are difficult decisions to make and to live with. If you don't like the decisions, vote for someone else.

A slight irony this year is that term limits, if enacted, won't have much effect. County Executive Ike Leggett has decided not to run for a fourth term, and I believe almost all of the veteran councilmembers who would be affected by term limits are thinking of leaving the council to contend for his vacated seat.

With the election just a few days away, a word on the national contest is in order. I have really tried not to tread too heavily on this appalling national election. This is a local paper and should be a refuge from all that, at least most of the time. I hope I have pointed out some ironies on both sides and made both serious and humorous points, but I have to say something about the Republican Party's nomination and support of Donald J. Trump for President of the United States. I respect the Republican Party, and I have utmost respect and admiration for numerous GOP members that I know in my personal and professional lives. Trump doesn't deserve to represent any of them—or anyone else for that matter. With a few exceptions, I know very few Republicans who will support him, at least outwardly. I think a strong, responsible, and moral conservative party will endure; I just don't know what it will be called. The Republicans have a serious stain on their party for selecting and supporting Trump, and they will have to rebuild in spite of it.

Back to local issues: Please vote—whether you vote for a president or not.

Rande(m) Thoughts

The Stay-at-Home Voters

By Rande Davis

As we finally approach the election date, I have been thinking about the stay-at-home non-voter, those who do not care one way or the other. For those who are politically apathetic, oblivious to the political debate that surrounds them, or simply too busy or happy with the world in which they live to even notice there is an election, thank you for not voting. Congratulations. If you have not invested any time or effort to weigh options, rest assured, your not voting is the right thing to do—I might even add—the responsible thing to do.

I cannot remember any time in my life at which I have so yearned for the end of the campaign season. For sure, my candidate did not win in the primaries. I missed the excitement and thrill of the campaign when the candidate of my choosing wins the primary.

While I will vote for a new direction and hope for the best, a president who is a source of unity is not something I happen to see on the horizon. Politics have become the surreal fractured fairy tale of our time. My bewilderment

regarding this year's political landscape is almost beyond measure. Hey, forget "almost," it is beyond measure; nevertheless, I will vote out of an obligatory sense of duty. I am a veteran and my family is military family. The Friday after Election Day is Veterans Day. I will vote no matter what because there have been millions of men and women who died or were wounded so that I might be able to do so. If we mean it when we proclaim that these great patriots should not have died in vain, then we must be responsible, informed voters, no matter our reluctance.

As an aside, it would also be nice if you would carve out fifteen minutes of your busy schedule to come to Whalen Commons on November 11 at 11:00 a.m. to give honor to all those who served in our military. Poolesville's American Legion Post 247 welcomes you to its humble reflection that starts precisely at that time, which is also the very moment at which the armistice of World War I was signed.

This election year, I think we have come to the absolute opposite point of my first presidential campaign. I was eight years old when I put an "I Like Ike" sticker on my red Rollsfast bicycle's rear bumper. Ike was a great unifier. The general who won World War II was desired by both parties to be

Continued on page 10.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

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Have an announcement?

Send it along to editor@monocacymonocle.com

Local News

The 2016 Royce Hanson Award

By Maureen O'Connell

On Sunday, October 23, the Montgomery Countryside Alliance (MCA) presented its 2016 Royce Hanson Award to Anne and Jay Cinque for their decades of time and work protecting both land and water in Boyds and in all parts of the Agricultural Reserve (Ag Reserve). MCA co-president Gene Kingsbury welcomed the many people to the ceremony. He spoke of the many years his family and ancestors have worked the land that we have fought so hard to protect and preserve. Fittingly, the beauty of the Reserve was in full abundance at Black Hill Regional Park in Boyds with the hundreds of trees ablaze in brilliant shades of red, gold, and orange, and the glistening lake filled with park visitors in kayaks, canoes, and rowboats. This award was inaugurated in 2005 by the MCA, and the original recipient was Royce Hanson. He was the chairman of the Montgomery County Planning Board from 1972 to 1981 and is considered the architect of the 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, strip malls, and no land-eating Premium Outlets.

Dolores Milmo of MCA introduced Anne and Jay to the many state and county officials, preservation group members, friends, and family who gathered to honor them. They did not need an introduction as their years of untiring work to protect the landscape of our beloved upper Montgomery County land are well-known to many. Since moving to Boyds in 1973, they have fought and won battles with Potomac Edison, the Public Service Commission, and Rockville Crushed Stone. Jay served as president of the Boyds Civic Association from 1975 to 1980. Both Anne and Jay passionately believe in the importance of community-environmental activism; they have spent countless hours at Park and Planning and County Council hearings. From 1983 to 1987, Jay was the president of the Sugarloaf Citizens'



Jay and Anne Cinque are the 2016 recipients of the 2016 Royce Hanson award.

Association, and Anne was an active board member. For the past five years, Jay has served as the treasurer of the Sugarloaf Land Conservancy in its efforts to assist private landowners who want to place their land into conservation. Recently, Anne and Jay have been involved in the creation of a new organization, the Friends of Ten Mile Creek and Little Seneca Reservoir, which is working to minimize the impact of development along Ten Mile Creek. Anne expressed her and Jay's love of the Ag Reserve in these words: "The soul can beautifully flourish in this space that the Agricultural Reserve protects."

Royce Hanson and several other speakers reminded the audience of the many ways in which we can help protect our treasured open land. Do not be complacent and take what we have worked so hard to preserve for granted. There is no going back. Once the land is gone, it is gone forever. Royce also praised Peg Coleman of Boyds as a longtime community activist. She died on October 7, 2016.

Ellen Letourneau of MCA presented the 2016 MCA Volunteer of the Year Award to Josh and Allie Goldman. They are the children of MCA Executive Director Caroline Taylor. For many years, they have helped their mother in many community projects.

On behalf of Historic Medley District, Inc., its president Maureen O'Connell presented a photograph by Poolesville photographer Martin Radigan to Anne and Jay. The beautiful photo of the Seneca sandstone barn and surrounding landscape at the Woodstock Equestrian Special Park in Beallsville highlights extremely well the varied beauty of this land that we call the Agricultural Reserve.



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Things To Do

November 4, 5, and 6

The Blue Hearth

November Market Weekend

Where old-fashioned love meets new-fashioned detail. Wonderful repurposed, renovated, and renewed items for home and garden and just about everywhere. Corned Beef King will be on the premises. Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

November 4

Book signing by local author Dr. Carroll James

Featuring *I Swear to Tell the Tooth* and *The Whole Tooth*. Barnes and Noble at Francis Scott Key Mall. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

November 5

Library Event: Video Game Reviews Via Video

Got game? Got opinions? Let the creators of Randomocity Reviews introduce you to a program that is aimed to show you what it takes to conceptualize, record, and create a video related to the gaming industry. See the different types of equipment needed to record and edit video game footage as well as how a full gaming video comes together. It's sure to be a fun and interesting learning experience. This program is in conjunction with the Maryland STEM Festival. *Poolesville Library*. 1:00 p.m.

November 9

Upcounty Writers' Group

November is National Novel Writing Month. Trying to get that novel started or written? Join other aspiring authors. *Poolesville Presbyterian Church*. 7:30 p.m.

November 10

Celebrate the 241st Birthday of the U. S. Marine Corps.

All Marines, friends, and family are invited. *Cugini's*. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

November 11

Veterans Day Memorial

Sponsored by Poolesville's American Legion Post 247. *Whalen Commons*. 11:00 a.m.

November 12

Book signing by local author Dr. Carroll James

Featuring *I Swear to Tell the Tooth* and *The Whole Tooth*. Barnes and Noble at *Washingtonian Center, Gaithersburg*. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

November 13

Potluck Party in the Barn

Bring your favorite dish to share. Soft drinks provided, beer and wine for sale. Please come to celebrate good food and friendship. Hosted by Sugarloaf Citizens' Association. 20900 *Martinsburg Road, Dickerson*. 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

November 14

Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

November 16

Planning Commission Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

November 17

Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC) Event: Lunch followed by bingo. *St. Peter's Church*. 11:30 a.m.

PASC Event

Book Club, Poolesville Library. 7:00 p.m.

November 18 and 19

St. Peter's Christmas Attic Sale

1000s of seasonal items, both new and old, including: ornaments, decorations, lights, jewelry, linens, artificial trees, and much more. Bake sale, too. Friday: noon to 6:00 p.m. Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Have an event you'd like to list in Things To Do? Email the details to editor@monocacymonocle.com.



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- Jesus (Matt. 11:28)

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- Nov 2nd @ 7pm, Bible Study Group meets to continue discussing Acts of the Apostles.
- Nov 4th thru 5th starting @ 7pm to 8:15am, Come visit Jesus in Holy Adoration in the Church.
- Nov 5th is Hospitality Sunday - Get to know parishioners while enjoying Coffee, juice and homemade treats!
- Nov 5th @ 9am, The Catechist Group topic will be "Power of the Word of God" for details see bulletin.
- Nov 5th starts the OLP Clothing Drive - Bring warm coats, socks, shoes, hats & gloves for men and women for drop-off in vestibule after Mass.

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
- Galatians 5:14

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Tidbits

Fran Ichijo Receives High Honor

Congratulations to Fran Ichijo, the owner and executive director of Poolesville's Hope Garden Ballet Academy, for being awarded the Arts and Humanities Council's lifetime impact award as part of the County Executive's Awards for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities Program. This award is the most prestigious honor conferred by Montgomery County on individual artists, scholars, organizations, and cultural patrons.

Now in its fifteenth year, these Executive's Awards allow the county to pay tribute to individuals and organizations that have made a difference in Montgomery County through the arts and humanities.

The Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, in partnership with the community, cultivates and supports excellence in the arts and humanities, expands access to cultural expression, and contributes to economic vitality in the region.

Wilderness Living

If truly living in the wilds is nature's spiritual church, then town parks director, Preston King, just returned from its cathedral. Preston traveled north to Ontario to the Opatatika River wilderness for a two-week hunting trip where humanity consisted of him and three other blokes. There was simply no remnant of civilization within miles unless you count a makeshift, single-hole outdoor toilet.

For Preston, being forty miles off the beaten path with the nearest town another twenty miles from that point is getting away from it all. "It was as though I was a pioneer, like the first person to ever see this land." The primary goal of the trip was to cross off an item from his bucket list, to harvest a Canadian moose. Accompanied by a more senior hunter who has tagged over twenty moose in his lifetime, the dream came true for Preston as he was the only member of the four-member group to bag a moose.

He reports that the unimaginable solitude, extreme lack of modern amenities, freshness of the river drinking water, and the wild, natural food of mostly grouse (like prime chicken white meat) are an astoundingly effective yet very natural way to rejuvenate one's spirit. Welcome home, Preston. Now, back to work.

WUMCO Is Writing You a Letter

WUMCO Help!, Inc. is launching a new program to help support the worthy goals of the organization in helping others within the Upcounty with food, medical,



Artistic director and owner of Hope Garden Ballet Academy, Fran Ichijo, shown here with her husband Yoshi, was recently honored with a Lifetime Impact Award by Montgomery County's Arts and Humanities Council.



Volunteers for WUMCO were busy putting out a mailing to area residents asking them to become members of the organization.

transportation, heating, and other areas of assistance for persons in need. Those living in the *Monocle's* circulation area will be receiving a letter soon to invite the

Continued on page 15.

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Musing By Mama Boe The Sweater Down My Rear, and Other Truth Bombs

By Pamela Boe

My son started a new school this fall, and our entire family was excited to get involved and support him as he began at The Friends Meeting School in Ijamsville. I showed up on the first meeting of the FCC (it's like a PTA, only less formal) wearing my favorite long duster sweater and most comfortable non-yoga-looking yoga pants, had actually brushed my hair, applied a modicum of eyeliner, and was generally rocking my Mama-hood. I swooshed into the meeting room with an air of "I got this" when their school Administrative Assistant, Jolanda, (a woman so kind and real, she is surpassed only by Sarah Ogden at JPMS), stopped me, and whispered, "Pull your sweater down!"

It was then I realized that, when I had hastily gone to the bathroom before the meeting, I managed to tuck my sweater into the back of my non-yoga-looking yoga pants. For those of you who know me, that was not a small mistake, if you get my meaning. Yup, day one at the new school, and Mama has already made the family's first impression.

Now you know why our family motto is "Keeping it Real." (Our family war cry is, "Not in the face! Not in the face!" But that's a different story altogether.)

You'll be pleased to know that the meeting progressed well, and I was able to keep my wits and my sweater about me. Please don't tell my son about this little episode. It'll be our little secret.

After the meeting ended, and everyone was walking out to the parking lot, the general conversation steered to politics and the current presidential race. It was very clear that I was in the minority of their opinions, so I deemed it wise to keep my thoughts to myself.

Oh, believe me, I am as passionate as the next red-blooded American, but I had already pulled the "sweater down my pants" stunt, and needed only to add to it by saying, "Nuh-HUN!" to their political statements.

Later that evening at the dinner table, I boasted about my individual victory—being able to keep my opinion to myself—and was in the midst of slapping myself on the back, when my Varmint blew me away with a simple yet genius truth bomb that defined our country's current societal conundrum as it pertains to politics.

She quietly pondered why is it that neither of the two main political parties see where each other is coming from, when it is obvious that the majority of both parties want the same thing?

Jaw open, I asked what in the Sam Hell could we possibly have in common?

"You both want a better world for your family to live in. You just go about it differently," she shrugged.

I tell you, that kid has a future in politics, she does. A unifier if ever there was one. A finder of the Common Ground.

She must get that from Grandma Jane, because I'm fairly certain I ran out of patience and empathy soon after I birthed my second whelp.

The point to this article, my friends, is twofold: First: When getting testy with the 'Other Side of the Aisle' remember that we are all trying to make our world a better place for our loved ones. It eases the tension. Oh, sure, the other side, whatever you deem it to be, is still WRONG, but at least we can sympathize with their intentions. And second: Always check to make sure your sweater is not tucked into your butt when making a first impression. Oh, sure, it might be an accurate impression, but you can at least try to delay the inevitable for a little while for your kids' sakes.

See you at the voting booth! (I'll be the one with the sweater down my pants.)

Love, Mama



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Tribute

Memories of Growing Up in Poolesville

By Rande Davis

Saturday, October 29 was the ninety-seventh birthday of Poolesville's Dots Elgin. She is a remarkable, delightful, no-nonsense kind of woman who can still muster a pretty robust laugh on occasion and who has been witness to life in Poolesville for all those many decades. We enjoy hand-delivering the *Monocle* to her each issue just so we can have a brief chat and catch up on things in town. This town changed little in population from the Civil War until the 1960s, so when people today talk of Poolesville being a quaint, small town, they cannot really envision the Poolesville in which Dots grew up. In tribute to her impressive birthday, we have chosen to rerun the following article of her story of what life was like for this woman born in 1919 shortly after World War I, and with the Great Depression, World War II, and all that followed on the horizon.

When we first sat down with Dots to hear about some of the social side of Poolesville in the first half of the twentieth century, she was ninety-one, but she rattled off the stories as if they had happened only yesterday. We think you will be as intrigued as we were.

She grew up on a farm in Dickerson, and while today it is considered very close to Poolesville, back in the 1930s, she would have been thought of as an out-of-towner. She remembers going to the Dickerson School by stick buggy (open-topped horse buggy) and that the school had a stable nearby where the horses could be kept. Her brother would join her on the buggy from the farm to the school but then took a train to school in Rockville.

While attending Poolesville High School, when a heavy snowstorm hit the area, she had to stay in town at Dr. Elijah White's house, which is the farm home situated in the middle of Elizabeth's Delight. Through the deep snow, she would ride her horse to the bus stop. Before hopping on the bus, she would "rein up" the horse and send him back riderless to the farm.

As you can imagine, much of their social entertainment came from their own creativity. She and her girlfriends banded together in a small club they called the Prissies. Asked why the name, it was like the way we use the word "bad" for "good" today. "We were far from prissy." Much of their free time included board games, cards, house parties, and roller skating often down the middle of White's Ferry Road reaching the best speeds on the slope just after the entrance to where the county pool is today. Today, we have movies in the park, back then,



Two of the secrets of (on left) Dots Elgin's longevity: laughter and bridge.

Poolesville actually had a movie theater. One of the most popular things to do was to attend the silent movies in Hempstone Hall, which today is Poolesville Hardware. Dances were a very big thing back then, especially since dance instructors were PHS senior boys.

Dots witnessed the many changes and relocations of the telephone company in town. She still remembers her original phone number: 9-F-22. To dial, one had to "crank up" the number to make a call. To call home meant cranking (dialing) two longs and two shorts.

Church was central to life in Poolesville. She was baptized, confirmed, and married at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Unlike the customary Thanksgiving family dinners of today, a community Thanksgiving dinner at St. Peter's was

Continued on page 10.



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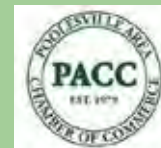
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Continued from page 4.

The Stay-at-Home Voters

their nominee. He ended up choosing the GOP. Poor Adlai Stevenson, he was the twofold designated sacrificial lamb. My uncle used to drive me crazy by calling me "Adlai" just to see my outraged response. I wanted to throw a shoe with a hole in its sole at him to get even. One reason Ike remained popular was that he didn't have to go negative. He used Nixon for that, setting the stage for a lifetime of vitriolic reaction by Democrats to the man who became possibly the most dominant American political presence in the second half of the twentieth century.

For sure it could be argued that as far as presidential politics, voting for president in Maryland doesn't matter

much. Practically all of us, Republican and Democratic alike could stay home and the result would be the same, but who wants to leave it up to two old ladies and a want-to-be hippie in Takoma Park to have the deciding voice? So we will vote. The question in Maryland is not so much whether your vote will really matter but more whether you as a voter will matter. This much I can tell you: All concerned voters matter.

I remind the voters in Poolesville that your vote may be critical this year. I had a friend in the 1970s, I cannot recall the exact year, who decided to stay home. Two commissioners ended up in a tie with 219 votes each. In the runoff a couple of weeks later, her candidate lost. Remember, elections for commissioner of Poolesville are at the town hall, not with the general elections.

Continued from page 9.

Growing Up in Poolesville

normal. Most people did not cook Thanksgiving dinner at home. "We would all pitch in and cook the dinner for all to share at St. Peter's, although it was for the whole community not just the congregants."

Dots was eleven years old when the Poolesville National Bank collapsed in 1930. She still remembers losing all of her \$32.40 savings which she had transferred from a piggy bank. "People lost everything. They couldn't even afford a loaf of bread, but we helped each other out and eventually got by.

Poolesville didn't have as many events in the park as we do now, but in the old days, they had a three-day event of even bigger proportions. They had the Radcliffe Chautauqua, a traveling tent show offering a number of serious educational lectures and seminars in the morning with entertainment shows later in the day. The tent would be set where the Poolesville Baptist Church is now located. After the professors finished their public speaking, the audience would be entertained by a variety show of male quartets, dancing girls, and unique instrumental solos with lyre and hand bell to name but a few. Perhaps the most popular features of the Chautauqua were one-act dramatic and humorous plays.

Dots graduated from Poolesville High School in 1937 in a class of eighteen. She went to Baltimore to become a registered nurse and was married, as she affectionately states, "fifty-five and half years" to husband Charles, Sr., a former mayor of Poolesville. Dots is considered by many as a sort of First Lady of Poolesville. Perhaps this is so because she was the wife of a longtime

mayor, but more likely because she remains first in the hearts of so many.

We cannot be sure of her secret to longevity, but a positive and hopeful outlook has to be at the top. When she turned ninety, she began to hold on to the following poem of hope and aging.

A Birthday Prayer

Today, dear Lord, I'm 90 and so much I haven't done.

I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 91.

But, then if I haven't finished all that I want to do,

Would you let me stay awhile, until I'm 92?

So many places I want to go, so very much to see.

Do you think you could manage to get me to 93?

The world is changing very fast, there is so much in store.

I'd like very much to live until I'm 94.

And, if by then, I'm still alive,

I'd love to stay 'til 95.

More planes will be up in the air, so I'd really like to stick

And see what happens to this world, when I'm 96.

I know, dear Lord, it's much to ask, and it must be nice in heaven,

But really I would like to stay until 97.

I know by then I won't be fast and sometimes very late,

But it would be pleasant to be around at 98.

I will have seen so many things and had a wonderful time

So I'm sure I'll be willing to leave at 99.

Oh, Lord, we know Dots isn't asking for too much glee or too much fun

But we'd be very happy if you could make it to at least 101.

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School News

Leng Awarded Wendy's High School Heisman Award

There are some students who set the bar. They work harder, show more passion, and lead by example, in the classroom, on the field, and within the community. Wendy's has recognized Caroline Leng from Poolesville High School for her dedication to never cutting corners by naming her a High School Winner of its national High School Heisman award. Since 1994, Wendy's and the Heisman Trophy Trust have been running the same play to perfection: honoring more than 600,000 of the nation's most esteemed students.

"These students are known by their teachers and friends for their commitment to excellence. We are excited and honored that a program like Wendy's High School Heisman is also recognizing their hard work," said Mrs. Levine, principal of Poolesville High School.

Students Organized 'Help Haiti' Fundraiser to Aid Hurricane Relief Efforts

Mary of Nazareth School in Darnestown is living out its mission to serve God and neighbor through a student-led Help Haiti campaign, spearheaded by eighth grade student, Stevie Orsini. The aim is to support Haitian relief efforts following the devastation of Hurricane Matthew. Orsini and his peers, with the help of school administrators, designated October 19 as an out-of-uniform day for all students making donations to the Help Haiti campaign. The entire student body assembled that morning outside of the school's athletic building and created a living image of the Haitian flag. The \$2,600 raised will be used to benefit the Haitian mission churches of two of the school's sponsoring parishes: St. Joseph of Carcasse (mission church of St. Mary's Parish and Shrine, Barnesville) and Our Lady of the Visitation Gonaives (mission church of Our Lady of the Visitation Parish, Darnestown). A portion of the proceeds will also be used to purchase school supplies for ten Haitian children at Christmas through Life Connection Mission.

Butler Montessori Receives Award of Excellence for Conservation Landscape

Butler Montessori has received an Award of Excellence for its conservation landscape from the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection and Transportation as part of the county's thirtieth annual Landscape Beautification Awards competition. Butler installed conservation landscaping between its main school building and the new Art Center to minimize the negative effects of stormwater runoff to the Great Seneca Creek watershed. Butler's entry was designed by alumni parent David Therriault of Alden Farms and incorporates boulders, rocks, check dams, and native plants and trees in a natural setting to slow and filter runoff. This design improves water quality, preserving native species, and providing for wildlife habitat.

Butler Montessori was also awarded a \$10,000 rebate for its conservation landscape from Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection as part of its RainScapes Rewards Rebate Program.

Timberwolf Ambassadors Show Appreciation for Military Serving in Iraq

The Timberwolf Ambassadors of John Poole Middle School are sponsoring a project to show appreciation for our military serving in Iraq. Specifically, they have adopted the 3rd Battalion, 321st Field Artillery Regiment, whose 2nd Lieutenant Keegan Alldredge is the son of Ms. Dacek, social studies teacher at Poolesville High School. The ambassadors are very excited about this project and have volunteered for various jobs to ensure its success. All students in TAP classes will adopt one soldier, write cards, and send personal items to their adoptee. We hope the JPMS community will support the students in this important project, where they learn the benefit of giving to those who protect our country under difficult and dangerous circumstances, away from family and friends.



The student body of St. Mary's of Nazareth formed the flag of Haiti as a symbol of solidarity with the Haitians suffering from the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew.

Students will begin bringing items into their TAP classes from October 19 through November 18. The goal is to send the items before the Thanksgiving break so they may arrive in time for the holidays. In addition to these items, donations to defray the costs of postage may also be made. Please contact Ms. Orrence, Assistant Principal, at Jacqueline_L_Orrance@mcpsmd.org for further details.

The following is a list of general items requested by the 3rd Battalion: baby wipes, granola, cinnamon, holiday cookies, fruit rollups, hot sauce, Old Bay seasoning, dried herbs, fruit bites, bug spray, lip balm, lotions, sunflower seeds, peanuts, pop tarts, red licorice, Hostess pies, and skittles.

Barnesville School Hosted Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce Event

Barnesville School of Arts & Sciences recently hosted a networking event on behalf of the Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce. They also provided tours of the school for members of the organization as well as visiting members of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce.



Barnesville School hosted a reception for the Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce. Members of Poolesville Area Chamber joined in.

Little Learners Childcare Held Halloween Parade

Little Learners Childcare took advantage of a beautiful Halloween day and brought many of the students and kids to Whalen Commons for a Halloween parade.

Youth Sports

PHS Football

'I Wouldn't Trade These Guys for Anything'

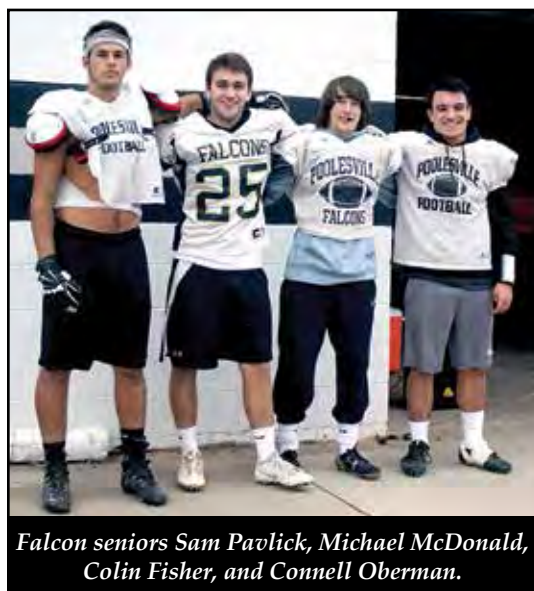
By Jeff Stuart

In the shadows on the practice field on October 26, the Poolesville football players gathered together and stood to honor flag and country as the National Anthem played at the start of a field hockey playoff game under the bright lights of the stadium. It was a nice moment and symbolic of their solidarity.

This season has been frustrating for Falcon coaches, players, and fans. There have been three agonizing close defeats, but they never quit and never surrendered.

Their effort and camaraderie earned them the recognition of Eric Goldwein of the *Washington Post*. The October 24 edition featured an article on the team titled, "Playing for Pride." It focused on their first home win of the season, against Rockville, and the way the Falcons handled adversity.

"I wouldn't trade these guys for anything," said senior safety Colin Fisher. "They are all my brothers. We have been together through it all. We are very tight.



Falcon seniors Sam Pavlick, Michael McDonald, Colin Fisher, and Connell Oberman.

Beating Rockville was the best moment for me, and in our third game of the season against Winters Mill, Ethan Gaddis faced fourth and twenty with three minutes left in the game and threw the ball to me for a touchdown. We beat Winters Mill, 19-13, for our first win, so that was a personal and team highlight. Now we just want to finish strong as a team"

"The best moment of the season by far was that rivalry game win over Rockville," said senior Sam Pavlick. "Connell Oberman ran for 212 rushing yards behind our offensive line that was dominant, opening up the holes. That made it easier for him. He averaged seven yards a carry. Our offense came out and won us a game. They really came to play last Friday. Our defense has been pretty good all season. We have two quarterbacks. Daniel Cho has been a little banged up, but Ethan Gaddis has really stepped up and knows the plays as well as Daniel does.

"Some of the losses were frustrating, but you look at the mistakes you made, strap it up, and go fix it...Against B-CC, we lost in triple overtime. Maybe they wanted it just it more than us, but morale is not really a problem for us. We are a tight-knit group. We are brothers. We don't get down on each other. Honestly, there have only been a few instances all year where I have seen any yelling and bickering with each other."

"We haven't won a lot of games," said Michael McDonald, "so I can't really say I had a great game or individual performance...We have lost a lot of close games: to Wheaton by a point and to Watkins Mill by a point, and then to B-CC in triple overtime. Those are three games we really should have won. We all think we should be 5-3 right now. I am looking forward to senior night, but I am kind of not, too, because it is our last game here, so there are mixed feelings, but I would much rather go out winning."

"Honestly, against Rockville, the offense came out on fire," said Oberman. "We came out and we wanted to win—and with the season we had so far, we really needed to win. The offensive line performed to the best of their ability and just opening up holes. Everyone did their job. That's what led to the win. It was the most enjoyable game for me. We were all really fired up. We were ready to go. We weren't going to take anything from anyone."

"Our team is much better than our record shows," said Coach Dave Murray. "We've lost some close games and struggled to really put together four quarters of football that represent what we are really capable of. This group has some of the best leaders and most committed football players that we've ever had. As a coach, I decided a while ago that I don't want to be defined by my wins and

losses; I want to be defined by my impact on the lives of young men, and these guys are great, hard-working young men of strong moral character. I will never say that this season was not a successful one because we have a losing record. The players know that our goal is to field a competitive program and to use football as a way to develop young men who embody our program ideals: character, trust, effort. We did that this season. We competed and I'm sending a great group of seventeen men off to college and the work force with great life lessons that they learned through the game of football."

Other seniors are Daniel Cho, Dakota Grimsby, Jordan Belski, Baharu Harris, Keegan Hemingway, Parker Nockett, Anthony Mahshigian, Nic Kilian, Hunter Riegert, Tyler Harris, James Klimkiewicz, Wilson Walter, and Michael Huff.

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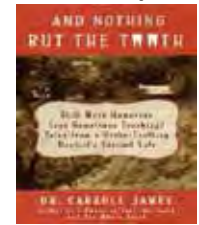
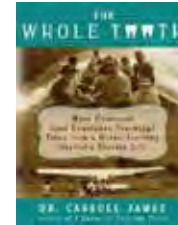
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To the residents of the greater Poolesville area

Many readers will remember a news story and ad in previous issues of the Monocacy Monocle concerning plans for WUMCO's first-ever region-wide fundraising effort, including a brand new membership program.

The program will commence this week with a mailing to all patrons in the five zip codes that WUMCO serves—Poolesville, Barnesville, Beallsville, Dickerson, and Boyds (about 6500 mailboxes).

The most innovative feature will be the opportunity for residents to join now as members through 2017 with meaningful benefits, particularly discounts from many local businesses for member card holders.

Look in your mailbox in coming days for all the details, including a flyer that explains thoroughly the reasons for this effort and all options for joining by mail or online.

And take a moment to look at WUMCO's totally reconfigured website at www.wumcohelp.org that was finished just this week.

Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Burglary: 13000 block of Riley's Lock Road.

Assault: 15400 block of Barnesville Road.

Theft: 15800 block of Barnesville Road, 21500 block of Beallsville Road.

Past Crime

November 6, 1918 Hartley Fellows, age 17, son of Mrs. Winfield Fellows, had the misfortune of falling off of a truck on the Rockville-Poolesville Road and suffering a broken leg. Fellows and a group of young men had been on the way to attend a football game when the mishap occurred. He was taken to the Emergency Hospital at Washington.

November 6, 1919 The Montgomery County grand jury indicted five people for murder. James Jones was indicted for the murder of his wife Dorothy at their residence near Olney. Robert Askins was indicted for shooting and killing Rueben Washington at Rockville, and Clarence Cothron, Grace Cothorn, and William Landers were charged with killing Homer Jones near Burtonsville.

The grand jury also recommended that a five-person board, made up of three men and two women, be formed to look after the affairs of the County Almshouse. In the past, the board had been made up of all men. It also recommended the appointment of a matron and a farm superintendent to live on the property.

November 7, 1919 Governor Harrington granted clemency to a young man who had been awaiting execution at the Rockville jail. After receiving many letters and visits, the governor was influenced and decided to save the life of the young man. Clifton Hopkins had been on the way home from church in an intoxicated condition and had shot and killed Osborne Hill near Sandy Spring. Upon the governor's action, Hopkins was taken to the penitentiary to begin his life sentence.

November 15, 1919 Deputy Game Warden J. Floyd Whipp had a busy day by arresting ten men for hunting on property without permission and hunting without a license. Hunters were required to carry written permission to hunt on private property. All were taken before Judge W. Frank Gaither where they were fined \$15 except for the fellow who had no license who was fined an additional \$15.

November 17, 1919 Agnes Gaither was accidentally shot and killed by her husband at their home at Mount Zion. An investigation by the sheriff revealed that James Gaither had been carrying his rifle through the house when it accidentally discharged killing his wife. An inquest over the body was

immediately called and it was decided that the death was accidental and that no charges would be placed against Gaither.

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

Continued from page 7.

Tidbits: WUMCO Is Writing You a Letter

recipient to become a member of the organization. Watch for your letter and be sure to respond as best you can.

Upcounty Writers' Group

Have you ever wanted to write something, but haven't found the time or been able to get around to it? That novel? That memoir? That collection of short stories? November is National Novel Writing Month. Anyone attempting to write his or her book this November is welcome to join us on Wednesdays this month (November 9, 23, and 30) at Poolesville Presbyterian Church (17800 Elgin Road) at 7:30 p.m. We'll be discussing the challenges of writing, commiserating about writer's block, talking about our stories and the creative process, working with editors, finding and working with a publisher, and all that other fun writery stuff.

For more details about participation in National Novel Writing Month (and wonderful free tools to help organize your efforts), check the website at nanowrimo.org. If you have any questions, feel free to email David Williams at belovedspear@gmail.com. In addition to being the pastor at Poolesville Presbyterian, David's a four-time NaNoWriMo participant whose 2013 NaNoWriMo manuscript landed both a literary agent and a book contract. His debut novel, *When the English Fall*, will be published in July of 2017 by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill.

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Continued from page 3.

Commissioner Candidates

Jerry Klobukowski

Having grown up in a small town of nine hundred, I know what small-town character means. It is a place where lasting friendships are formed, new arrivals are celebrated; and when people need help, the response is overwhelming. Poolesville has all of these qualities. These reasons—along with our excellent schools—are why people come to Poolesville. Our town proves bigger is not better. They also appreciate the fact that we control our own destiny; that our government's business is conducted and decisions made openly for the betterment of all, and that the town is fiscally responsible and strong. These encapsulate my guiding principles of quality, value, and service. Principles taught me by parents who ran a successful small business for twenty-five years.

As the Educational Liaison Commissioner, I have proven that I am one hundred percent committed to ensuring our cluster students have the best facilities, equipment, and programs to prepare our children for their future academic endeavors and a successful future. We have won some victories over the years like the establishment of the Global Ecology Studies Program and Whole School Magnet being sited at PHS, a middle school which MCPS did not want to build, keeping Monocacy Elementary School open, and facility improvements at all of our cluster schools. Many were directly the result of community activism and volunteers making it happen. We have experienced a setback with PHS's modernization being delayed, but working together, we will overcome these. We need to continue the efforts to bring about a twenty-first century PHS, the actions of our students have proven they deserve one.

In 1999, *Washingtonian* magazine designated Poolesville as the "Best Place to Raise a Family" in the Washington-metro area, and in my book, it still is. I am just as passionate today about this town and as optimistic about its future as I was twenty years ago when I was first elected to the office of commissioner. I will continue to support sensible growth, in keeping

with the scale of existing neighborhoods and our historic town center.

Together, we have accomplished a lot, and we can do even more for all of our current residents and succeeding generations.

Martin Radigan

A little over two years ago, my wife, Abby, and I moved to Poolesville with our daughter. We left the busyness of Northern Virginia for the small-town lifestyle of Poolesville and the surrounding open space and beauty of the Ag Reserve.

Like so many of you, Abby and I were disappointed to learn of the proposed Willshire development. With the help of many neighbors, we created Protect Our Poolesville, a community group with the mission "to preserve the unique historic and rural qualities of our small town...and [promote] organized participation in local governance to protect the village ideal and our small-town character." After learning as much as I could about the Willshire project, the Village Overlay Zone, and our own town's Master Plan, two things became apparent: one, town residents are overwhelmingly opposed to ultra-dense development; and, two, our town needs elected officials who adamantly oppose this type of growth.

As a commissioner, I will work to make sure our town government is representing the interests of residents and adhering to the Town Master Plan; amend or rewrite the Village Overlay Zoning to include a reasonable maximum density requirement; limit growth and protect our limited water supply; improve transparency in town government; ensure that the forthcoming changes to our town streetscape are not only tasteful, but emphasize our town's rich history and our small-town charm; and find ways to market the unique historical assets of our small-town (along with the beauty and allure of the Ag Reserve) so that we can become a destination-place for visitors.

A lot is at stake—once our small-town charm is gone, we can't get it back. I realize that I'm new to town—and that I'm running against three popular incumbents, but I'll give it my best shot to win a seat on our Town Commission and serve our small town.

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Continued from page 1.

Commissioner Debate

Martin Radigan said that he first came to town two years ago from Northern Virginia and was attracted to it in part because of its rural, uncrowded character. He was motivated to become involved in town politics in large measure due to the Willshire Development, which he believes is “overwhelmingly” opposed by town residents. He helped start Protect Our Poolesville to provide a forum for residents to develop ideas and a strategy on development issues like Willshire. He said that the Streetscape plan the town is working on to enhance and improve Fisher Avenue should reflect the town’s history and character and believes that more can be done to promote the town’s historical assets.

Commissioner Dickerson noted that she and her family first came to Poolesville nearly four decades ago, and she raised her children in the town. The small-town nature of Poolesville was a major attraction to her and her family. She is not running to get her views implemented or those of “any one group” but instead to try to implement the views of the majority of Poolesville residents. She recounted her many volunteer activities, especially her involvement in the PTAs, and said that she helped launch a number of initiatives—like the annual Christmas parade and her involvement in helping establish a seniors’ group in town—demonstrating her commitment to Poolesville.

In the question-and-answer segment of the debate, one of the issues was whether the candidates support the idea of the town “taking control” of Fisher Avenue, the main road through town, from the state. This initiative is one that has been actively pursued by the current commission although no final commitments have been made as negotiations with the state continue.

Commissioner Klobukowski said that he is not in favor of the initiative “at this time.” He needs to “see the numbers” regarding the costs of maintaining the roadway which includes repaving it at some point within the next fifteen years or so. An estimate has put the cost of repaving at around \$875,000, which the town would have to shoulder.

Radigan said that he would be in favor of the project, particularly if it can make the road safer. He too indicated concerns about the costs of upkeep regarding the road but suggested that if the town’s control of Fisher Avenue would allow it to make improvements that could not only make it safer but more attractive to visitors, it would be worth serious consideration.

Both Commissioners Halbrook and Dickerson indicated that they supported the town’s efforts to negotiate a transfer of the control of Fisher Avenue from the state to the town government.

In a question relating to the current population of the town, it was put forth that there are indications that current census survey data appear to be inaccurate. Commissioner Halbrook remarked that the 2010 Census results “surprised us” coming in with a population figure far below 5,000 people. All of the candidates indicated that as a result of possible inaccuracies, a special population survey would be worthwhile. Mr. Radigan said that given current developments in process—and possible additions to the town’s population due to a future Willshire development—the town’s population could at some stage well exceed 6,000 people. Commissioner Dickerson proposed, however, that the mix of residents has changed, and it may be that smaller family sizes are the norm.

A question regarding the source and quality of Poolesville’s aquifer-based water supply drew mixed responses. Radigan said it is his understanding that the town’s aquifer may be susceptible to drought. He pointed to a recent study that suggested that the Potomac River and its tributaries may receive far less rainfall in the not-too-distant future, something he is concerned about regarding town water. Halbrook said that the town has worked closely with the Maryland Department of the Environment in monitoring its water resources and that the town actually has the capacity to pump far more water from its wells than currently permitted by the state. Klobukowski added that the town totally revamped its management system for its wells and does a much better job of pumping water today than it ever has. He also reminded that the town adopted a well-head protection plan in recent years to protect against dumping dangerous chemicals or spills that could damage the town’s aquifers. Dickerson agreed that the town is doing a good job of managing its water system and said that residents should not “live in fear” that we have a water problem.

In response to a question about the appropriateness of the current population target for the town of 6,500 residents contained in the Master Plan, all of the candidates seemed to agree that the target figure is on track. Halbrook said that the town’s wastewater treatment plant can only handle a population of about that size but said in an aside that at that level of population, no grocery stores have indicated a desire to move to town. Radigan believes the 6,500 target is a “good number”

and efforts to increase water capacity to accommodate a larger target—by, for example, connecting to WSSC’s pipes—is far too expensive. Dickerson agreed with the 6,500 target and suggested that moving towards that goal can help businesses become healthier.

In response to a variety of questions regarding the proposed Willshire Development, none of the candidates opposed outright the development of the Willard property. All are opposed to the initial proposal made by Miller and Smith based largely on the density and number of homes it contained. Klobukowski said that he was “horrificed” when he first saw the proposal. He also said he does not want to see townhouses on the property. Dickerson said she did not want to see townhouses along the Fisher Avenue street front where the new development will be located. Radigan agreed that he did not want to see townhomes in the new development. When asked what an appropriate number of homes would be for the new development, answers varied, but all candidates suggested that a number far less than what was included in the original proposal would need to be proposed. Radigan suggested that thirty to forty homes is an appropriate number. Klobukowski said he would like to see what comes out of the process but suggested that thirty to fifty homes might be a better fit. Halbrook agreed with Klobukowski but said he also wants to see how a new plan fits with the town’s Streetscape Master Plan for Fisher Avenue. Commissioner Dickerson agreed that a lower number needs to be proposed but stressed that the types of housing proposed—especially with regard to meeting the needs of senior citizens—is important to her.

The town’s overlay regulations—that allow for developers in the Central Business District to propose residential or commercial developments that may offer new amenities or more housing or building units in exchange for

negotiating with the town government for features or amenities it and its citizens may want—was discussed during the forum. Candidates were asked whether they supported the overlay provisions or wanted them changed. None of the three incumbents supported changes in the overlay rules and suggested that in the right circumstances they have merit. Radigan said he did not support eliminating the regulations but thought they needed to be amended to include limits on density.

One issue that drew significant audience attention concerns potential “conflicts of interest,” especially with regard to the Willshire Development. All three sitting commissioners said that they have to complete—under state mandate and under the auspices of the town’s Ethics Commission—conflict-of-interest statements that require them to list such things as whether they have any immediate family members who are affiliated with firms that do business with the town and whether they have such affiliations, including any investments in such firms. Halbrook said that while he is a mortgage broker, he has not solicited business from local developers such as Kettler-Forlines and has no relationship with Miller and Smith. Some audience comments suggested that the commissioners should recuse themselves even in a case where approving the construction of new homes would simply create the potential for new clients or customers for a commissioner owning a business (i.e., new homeowners might purchase the services offered by a firm a commissioner owned after the development was completed and occupied). None of the commissioners agreed with this point of view, and Mr. Radigan, while noting that the issue of “potential conflicts of interest” had arisen in discussions among residents recently, also suggested that only where a direct financial interest is apparent would recusal be necessary.



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Continued from page 1.

First Review of Willshire Community

stormwater management approval of plans in April. The county's legally-required notification to downstream residents of such a proposal resulted in residents learning of the proposal in April even before the planning commissioners or other town officials.

In November of 2015, the town approved a zoning ordinance that changed various parcels in town from commercial to a Village Overlay Zone. According to the ordinance, the purpose of the new zone designation was to create and maintain a more mixed-use environment in the center of town that would bolster commerce for businesses that would "provide walkable neighborhoods containing a range of housing in an attractive, relevant downtown commercial setting." In allowing a more mixed and dense use of the land, the tradeoff was providing town planners greater leverage in setting an "attractive design that projects a desired positive image that attracts users to the downtown area and would contribute to the vitality and economic success of Poolesville's service providers, retailers, and restaurants."

Town Manager Wade Yost presented a broad review of the proposed Willshire development concept, after which, board members raised their questions and voiced their reactions to the plan. Following the extended board discussion period, the meeting was open to questions and comments from attendees.

Following Yost was the town's consulting engineer John Strong, from Nobis Engineering Inc., who discussed stormwater management issues of the project.

After a lengthy discussion among the commissioners, who raised their questions, concerns, and offered opinions, those in attendance were then offered an opportunity to ask questions/voice their opinions.

Overwhelmingly, of those in attendance, the primary objections were in density and traffic patterns. A large number of residents from the Tama I development directly behind Town Hall objected to the extension of Glass Road into the Willshire community via Fyfe Road, preferring it to remain a pedestrian pathway. Fyfe Road is on the west side of the Town Hall and contains a parking lot for the hall.

After nearly three hours of discussion, inquiry, and hearing from attendees, the board began to summarize an outline of some very preliminary recommendations for adjustment to the proposed community. This initial review process was only the very first

official town action on the Willshire proposal, which requires the Planning Commission to finalize its conclusions and recommendations before they present them to the town commissioners for that panel's review, discussions, public hearings, and final vote.

The following are some of the first draft and possible recommendations that the Planning Commission is currently considering:

Fisher Avenue Frontage:

- Add turn lanes and match Whalen Commons setback and curb line.
- All homes at the south end must face Fisher Avenue.
- Overhead utilities on subject property are to be buried.

Fyfe Road Frontage:

- Front buildings should have a maximum 25' setback.
- All homes must face Fyfe Road.

Parklands:

- A requirement of a ten percent minimum dedication of usable recreational parkland.
- Consideration given to creating a transition into the development from the John Poole House and not having backyards abutting the adjacent historic properties.
- Acknowledgement that further park issues will go through the Parks Board.

Townhomes:

- Townhomes located on internal, low-visibility lots only.
- Townhome height limited to thirty-five feet as measured from ground level at the front of the building.

Variances:

- Some homes shown exceed the maximum floor area.
- Garage size and setback.

Pedestrian Greenways:

- Connectivity from Beall Street to the John Poole House.
- Connectivity from Fyffe Road and Glass Road.

Roadways and Alleyways:

- Roads minimum of 24' still allowing for 8' parking bump outs.
- Alleyways to conform to a minimum of 20' paving.
- All entrance and turning radii must accommodate a fire department ladder truck.

Forest Conservation:

- Alternative methods should be proposed as a fee-in-lieu not to be allowed.

Senior Accommodations:

- The plan should incorporate an independent senior living component.

Miscellaneous:

- The community should have a homeowners' association so burden of maintenance is not on the town.
- Each unit will be required to pay a water/sewer connection fee of \$12,117 for single family homes and \$8,165 for townhouses to offset sewer repair debt.

The evening's planning commission previously had heard from representatives of the J. Donegan Company about a draft proposal that could potentially bring a new retailer or restaurant to the lot near the CVS; however, it is a project that the developer prefers to put on hold if allowed to as prospects for renters is currently at a low ebb. The town has required holders of water tap rights who have not developed and utilized their tap to present plans for such development by early next year or potentially lose their water tap rights.

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Garden

Wildlife, Woodlands, and Open Space

By Maureen O'Connell

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Izaak Walton League of America (B-CC IWLA) recently won three awards in recognition of its outstanding reforestation program: The Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) State Division Award and two IWLA National Awards. One of the national awards, James Lawton Childs Award, is a chapter award that recognizes outstanding conservation programs; the other two awards are in recognition of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to conservation.

The IWLA was founded in 1922 in Chicago, Illinois by a group of sportsmen who wished to protect fishing opportunities for future generations. It was named after the English writer and fishing enthusiast Izaak Walton (1593-1683). He is best known as the author of *The Compleat Angler*. The IWLA was the first conservation organization with a mass membership. Today, it is a diverse group of fifty thousand men and women in chapters all over the country dedicated to protecting our nation's soil, air, woods, waters, and wildlife. Its activities span the spectrum of outdoor recreation and conservation, from angling and birding to stream monitoring, wildlife photography, skeet and trap, rifle and pistol shooting, hunting, and hunter safety.

The B-CC IWLA awards were specifically concentrated on its Reforestation Program of four different fields covering 18.2 acres on its 623-acre farm on Izaak Walton Way in Poolesville.

What was the goal of this project? Our forefathers cleared the fields of trees to plant agricultural crops, but today, "The cash crop of the B-CC IWLA is not bushels of grain but rather the healthy ecological attitude and comprehension

of our natural resources by our membership," according to the B-CC IWLA website. Three- to five-acre fields are too small to produce a productive agriculture crop. You face problems with erosion, deer damage, invasive exotic species, and loss of habitat for wildlife, but how do you reforest a neglected field? It takes extensive research to find the questions involved and to find the answers. First you must clear out the invasive exotic species that so quickly take over and spread in untilled fields. What species of trees do you plant and how many per acre? How do you protect the young seedlings and mature trees from deer browsing? What is the best season for planting? What types of tools are needed? How much will it cost? Last, but not least, who is going to do all the work of planting and maintenance? The chapter found the answers, work began in 2010, and the planting was completed in 2013; maintenance continues to this day.

Phase I was the planting of one thousand trees in B4 and B5 fields in April 2012. Over one hundred B-CC members and their families gathered to plant twelve varieties of native trees in these former agricultural fields. Phase II was the restoration of the C3 field and its transformation into a prime, sustained, multipurpose wildlife habitat. The long-neglected field was cleared of invasive plant species, and overgrown and aged ornamental trees and shrubs. Members planted over 1,100 native hardwood and evergreen trees in the former agricultural field. Phase III was the clearing and tree planting in the B1 field with a similar mix of native trees. Once established, these trees will offer optimum wildlife habitat and will achieve the conservation goal for the B-CC IWLA Conservation Farm.

This tree-planting project qualified for a program called Forestation Mitigation and the chapter created a Forestation Mitigation Bank with the Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission. This reforestation project is the most successful project B-CC IWLA has ever conducted in respect to the number of children that were involved. "A beautiful sound, 'Dad can we go to the field and check on my tree?'"

Congratulations to this chapter's leadership and to their dedicated, hardworking members.

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LIQUID GOLD

Dr. Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF, FALSMS

That's the nickname for urine I was taught in veterinary medical school. We learned urine could provide us with such valuable insight into a patient's health that it was worth its weight in gold. We also learned that the color and consistency of urine, from light yellow to black and clear to cloudy, signaled health or illness. If you've ever pondered what your dog's pee color meant, here's a description of your dog's urine spectrum.

What is normal urine color for dogs?

The normal color of urine from a healthy dog or cat is transparent yellow. Veterinarians sometimes refer to this color as "straw yellow," "pale gold," "amber," or "clear yellow." The most accurate way to assess urine color is to examine it in a clear plastic or glass container against a white background. Urine is made as a normal result of metabolism and removal of cellular wastes. Normal urine is sterile and the color can vary depending on what your pet has recently eaten or drunk. If you're wondering why urine is yellow, it's due to the presence of a substance called urochrome which is excreted by the kidneys.

What do different shades of yellow mean?

The intensity of yellow color in normal, clear urine indicates the concentration or dilution of urine. In simplest terms, dilute urine is associated with increased water excretion and concentrated urine correlates with less water. Dilute urine will be almost colorless while highly-concentrated urine is bright yellow, amber, or honey-colored. Minor daily variations in yellow shouldn't alarm you. Persistent color changes lasting more than a couple of days should be brought to your veterinarian's attention. Colorless or bright-yellow urine can also be associated with certain medical conditions.

What if my dog's urine is dark yellow?

It's not unusual for a dog's urine color to be dark yellow; however, if your dog has dark or bright yellow urine, especially after a long day outdoors, it could signal a need to consume more water.

What if my dog's urine is dark enough to look orange?

Dark yellow is typically normal in most pets. If the urine is more orange, it may be associated with a condition known as icterus or jaundice. Orange urine may be the result of:

- Damaged red blood cells
- Liver disease
- Severe dehydration
- Bile duct problems
- Gallbladder problems
- Pancreatic problems

If your pet has orange-colored pee, additional blood and urine tests need to be performed immediately.

What if my dog's urine is red, pink, red/brown, or red/orange?

Red or pink urine is often caused by a urinary tract infection. Many times you will also notice the urine is cloudy or turbid. Other reasons for reddish urine include feline lower urinary tract disorder, cystitis, bleeding or clotting diseases, trauma and cancer. Red urine clearly indicates your dog needs additional diagnostic tests to determine the cause of color change.

What if my dog's urine is brown to black?

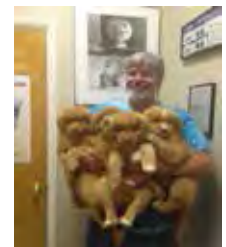
Brown to black urine can signal something serious has happened. The dark color can be due to blood cell damage releasing hemoglobin, muscle damage from trauma, or toxins such as onions, garlic, zinc, or acetaminophen ([Tylenol®](#)).

If your dog's urine changes color, seek veterinary help.

If your dog's urine changes hue, call your veterinarian. A simple urinalysis will determine if your dog requires additional tests, and appropriate treatment. You're most likely to observe color changes associated with uncomfortable urinary tract infections (UTIs) and painful cystitis. The sooner you treat, the less discomfort your loved one will suffer.



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