

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 10, 2017 • Volume XIII, Number 1



William Price auctioned off a lot of fun items at the Lions Club auction. See more pictures in Family Album on page 2.



This wingless Gulfstream II has found a new home. Where can it be? Let's ask Tidbits on page 4.



The Old Town Hall Bank Museum got a new sign. Wondering what it says? See more in Tidbits on page 5.



Brian Truppo set school records with 136 wins. Other athletes also set the pace in the Youth Sports winter recap on page 14.

PHS Students Selected as Finalists For National Invention Competition

By Rande Davis

A team of students from the Poolesville High School STEM program has been accepted as one of just fifteen finalists in a national competition to find technological solutions to real-world problems. Each team comes up with its own unique invention. The winning team will receive \$15,000 and assistance in patenting the invention.

The high school competition is sponsored by a Lemelson-MIT Program which celebrates outstanding inventors and inspires young people to pursue creative lives and careers through a team concept to inventing. Each group of inventors is designated as Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams.

Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams are selected as representing emerging inventors whose creations could impact important sectors of the global economy, and the competition honors inventors with a prestigious cash prize. They also encourage youths to invent and develop their hands-on skills in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) through two national



PHS InvenTeam 2017 is headed to the National Competition at MIT in June.

grants initiatives for grades seven through twelve.

The Poolesville High School InvenTeam is a group of creative and innovative individuals with a passion for building things to make the world a better place. The dynamic team of PHS students, under the guidance of teacher Jack Stansbury, consists of programming gurus, talented artists, environmental enthusiasts, and others

with each member bringing a unique talent to the table.

The PHS team received an \$8,000 grant from Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam initiative to turn its proposal into reality. They are currently working on a project to create an invention that will help the 22.5 million persons in America with blindness or other visual impairment manage the challenging

Continued on page 16.

PHS Swimmers Repeat at State— Still Faster Than the Rest

By Jeff Stuart

Soon there will be ten State Championship Swimming Banners hanging high on the left wall as you enter the Poolesville High School Gym. On Saturday, February 25 at the University of Maryland's Eppley Center, the Falcons repeated as 3A/2A/1A champions: the boys' sixth championship in a row and the girls' fourth in six years (third in a row). The boys out-paced runner up Middletown 347.5 to 220. The girls dominated runner up Easton High School 363.2 to 233.

The Falcons took the early lead in the competition as both the boys and girls won in the first two events, the 200-yard medley relay. Swimming for the boys' team were: seniors Justin Kim and Benjamin Kaplan, junior

Kevin Song, and sophomore Jisu Kim. The girls' team was made up of: freshmen Moshelle Borjigin and Helena Narisu, junior Katarina Lechner, and senior Theresa Nardone.

The boys and girls also swept the 200-yard freestyle relay event: boys, senior Conner Dunathan, Justin Kim, Song, and senior Theodore Jagodits; girls, Borjigin, junior Julia Wang, senior Fanny Wu, and Nardone. The girls also won the 400-yard freestyle relay (Wang, Wu, senior Arona Baigal, and senior Emma Bentz).

Boys' individual titles went to Justin Kim in the 200-yard freestyle and Jagodits in the 100-yard freestyle. Girls' individual titles went to Lechner in the 500-yard freestyle and Borjigin in the 100-yard backstroke.



2017 Falcon Swim Team— State Champs Again!

The Falcon swimmers placed fourth or better in all twenty-two events. The boys finished second in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Jagodits placed second in the 50-yard freestyle. Kaplan was third in the 200-yard IM, and Justin Kim was third in the 100-yard backstroke. Junior Zachary Nachod placed fourth in the 500-yard freestyle, and Dunathan fourth in the 50-yard freestyle.

Continued on page 18.

Family Album

Photos by Rob Jones

Monocacy Lions Club Annual Auction Night



Town Government A Study in the Nitty Gritty

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville town government meeting on March 6 was a back-to-basics event that focused on the town's progress in repairing manholes, preparing for the state to once again replace sidewalks and curbs, and signing a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the county regarding the use of speed cameras in the town.


Town consulting engineer of Nobis, John Strong, presented a scintillating slideshow of the nitty gritty involved in the process of repairing and relining forty-one town manholes in need of maintenance. While not exactly as frightening as the 1950s film, The Creatures of the Black Lagoon, it did provide an effective visual appreciation for the work of town employees tasked with plugging leaks, replacing gaskets, and spin-spraying the sides of the holes to make them like new again. All kidding aside, such work will

result in the town saving thousands of dollars from having to replace destroyed manholes or unnecessarily treating rainwater because of the inflow and infiltration coming from the leaks.


Strong also announced to the commissioners that the State Highway Administration plans to redo town sidewalks and curbing to ensure adherence with new requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you were surprised to learn the state is planning to do this again since they seemed to do exactly that only a few years ago, you would be right. Actually, they even did this four or five years before the last "repair" of a few years ago. The plans are to upgrade sidewalks and curbing from Elgin Road all the way through town to Hersperger Lane. The process is due to start within the coming weeks, and the town will be making announcements so residents and businesses can be aware of when the work will impact them.

The commissioners did approve a new Memorandum of Understanding with the state regarding the revenue sharing from speed cameras in the town. Revenue from them has dropped off dramatically in recent years.



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Commentary

Personal Accountability

By John Clayton

The much-anticipated healthcare rollout is upon us. I was personally sorry to see Trump's "insurance for everybody" pledge go by the wayside (promises, promises), but that was probably too much to hope for. He recently referred to providing "access to health insurance," which means it's there if you can afford it, and if you can't, how is that our fault? This is in line with the views of his new BFFs in the Republican leadership.

Otherwise, he is providing much of what he promised: Keep a few of the popular provisions, such as coverage for preexisting conditions, and coverage for dependents up to the age of twenty-six, and cut out the unpopular tax provisions that provide supporting revenues. Subsidies are replaced by tax credits which may be less beneficial to low-income families but which are more available to middle-income families up to a certain income. Some have said that tax credits are unfair because people have to buy the insurance at full cost and await a tax refund, but I have also read that this is not the case and that the credit will be factored into the upfront premium as it is now, so I guess we will see. Keeping to a general Paul Ryan-esque theme, there is also a significant curtailment of recent Medicaid expansion. Of course, the primary objection from the right wing is—wait for it—that we're still doing too much for low-income people, that this is just another entitlement. They want to kill Obamacare outright, as they tried to do for six years, throw it all back into an unregulated free market, and let a thousand flowers bloom.

Much of the debate about health policy comes down to one's perception of personal accountability. Many moons ago, some Republicans (not all, by any means) pushed for a plan that included a personal mandate to buy health insurance. Mitt Romney's Massachusetts plan also featured this, as does Obamacare. There are two primary principles behind a mandate to buy health insurance. One, insurance works when one group subsidizes another because almost everyone buys insurance. In that way, those who do not have car accidents pay to repair the cars of those that do, houses that burn down are rebuilt by those that don't,

the heirs of those that die young are compensated by those that pay premiums for many years, and the healthy pay to tend to the sick. The second is that people that can't afford or choose not to buy health insurance just go to the emergency room where someone still has to help them. Who pays for this? The rest of us—anyone who buys health insurance or pays taxes. One of the rallying calls of Romneycare was: We don't allow people to drive cars without insurance, why do we let people walk around without health insurance? It was about personal accountability, and I am sad that this was lost in the energetic demonization of Obamacare.

So where is the real Donald Trump on all of this? He said before and after the election that he wanted insurance for everybody, that the government would pay for it, and that he would take his lumps politically. He has at various times promised a plan that would be Great, Terrific, and Fantastic. This plan isn't any of those. It is, as others have said, a cheap Obamacare knockoff that retains just enough features to prevent an open riot, and we'll probably get that anyway, somewhere.

Trump has conservative and Libertarian members of his own party screaming bloody murder about Obamacare Lite, and it would only take a few such senators to block passage—so which way will he go? He could kowtow to the right wing and keep all his senators in the fold, adding the Freedom Caucus in the House, and pass the bill with one hundred percent Republican support, and zero Democratic support, perfectly mirroring the way Obamacare was passed. Maybe this is just the way it has to be, and we'll keep swinging back and forth on the whims of the most recent election and never really solve anything. Then again, he could defy his congressional leadership, make Trumpcare his very own by making it more acceptable to centrist Democrats, and pass a bipartisan bill with the support of moderate Republicans and Democrats, while leaving the far right and the far left screaming and rending their garments. The Democrats might trade something to keep Planned Parenthood alive, especially when haggling with a top dealmaker. A president who stands up to criticism from both sides and negotiates a solution embraced by elements of both parties would be taking a pretty bold step towards historic leadership. Could The Donald truly be that man? Stay tuned.

Next issue, why the Easter Bunny will bring me winning lottery tickets.

Tidbits

Your Flight Has Been Canceled

Flights on the Gulfstream II jet, pictured on the front page, have been canceled due to a lack of wings. Currently resting on the front lawn of Terry Land on Park Mill Road in Urbana, the formerly-elite plane was once owned by the Gillette Corporation and is said to have been used by George H. W. Bush when he ran in the primary against Ronald Reagan.

Land pulled the plane behind a tractor trailer from the Hagerstown airport on Routes 81, 70, and 270. The trip on Park Mill Road was a bit tighter. Land paid the scrap value of \$3,000.00 for the plane that at one time would have sold for more than a million dollars.

Land, a pilot himself, has a dream that is sure to be the envy of every man: The 1968 aircraft is to become the ultimate Man Cave. Don't know if he is selling tickets to next year's Super Bowl Jet Party, but if he did, it would probably sell out quickly.

Miss Poolesville

Dating back to 1999, the annual Poolesville High School Miss Poolesville contest has been a fun-filled competition to alleviate the mid-year blues. This year's contestants were:



Alexis Pak (second runner up), MacKenzie Gross (first runner up), Aja Drain (Miss Poolesville 2017), Ellie Creedon, and Michela Dwyer.

Nina Agrawal, Ellie Creedon, Aja Drain, Michela Dwyer, Mackinzie Gross, Alison Huber, Hailey Khalil, Alessandra Molina, Samme Mullikin, Theresa Nardone, Alexis Pak, and Emily Yin. This year's winner, who performed a musical video, was Aja Drain.

No Shuffleboard for These Active Seniors

Normally, getting oneself in a pickle is not something anyone, especially a senior citizen, prefers to do—yet, for the members of Poolesville Area Senior Center, they are doing just that every Monday and Friday at the Poolesville Baptist Church. Members of PASC have become so hooked by pickleball, a sport started in 1965 that is a cross between tennis, badminton, and table tennis, that four netted courts take up the whole gym in the church life center.

Continued on page 5.

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Tidbits

A relaxing sport for all ages, pickleball has become a highly-popular pastime for today's active seniors. Played with a large paddle as a racquet hitting a wiffle ball back and forth, the rules are like those in tennis. Play involves singles as well as doubles, and based on watching the players' smiles through a game filled with friendly banter, the sport offers seniors a fun way to stay healthy and limber.



Maureen Dahlen, getting ready to hit the ball, heads up the PASC's pickleball league.

New Sign for the Old Town Hall Bank Museum

Thanks to the generosity of the Town of Poolesville, a new sign above the Old Town Hall Bank Museum and Exhibit Center was recently installed. Accomplished through the volunteer guidance of Tom Kettler from Forlines Homes, the sign reads: Poolesville. Previously, the sign heralded the

building as the Poolesville National Bank, but since it housed town hall for a short time and is often referred to as the Old Town Hall, the new sign is a way to honor both. For those who may not know, Poolesville has a number of Old Town Halls. The first is now the home of the Poolesville Friendly Thrift Shop on West Willard Road. Another could be St. Peter's Church since it served as the town hall at one time as well. The retail space last occupied by Mooney's Frozen Yogurt was the last location of a town hall prior to the construction of the present-day town hall in 2008.

Congratulations on Grand Opening

Anytimes Fitness had a rousing grand opening complete with superheroes, refreshments, and plenty of demonstrations and personal consulting. Staff, members, and other friends joined in the ribbon-cutting ceremony, marking a great new addition to town services.



Grand Opening ribbon cutting ceremony for Anytime Fitness on February 25.

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Things To Do

Poolesville Area Senior Center Events

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Game Day: Every Tuesday. Poolesville Baptist Church. 10:30 a.m.

March 11

Open House: Artisan Sewing and Fashion Academy

Visit crochet, knitting, quilting, and sewing classes, refreshments, 15134-A Barnesville Road, Boyds. 10:00 am. to 4:00 p.m.

March 15

PASC Event

Zumba Gold. Poolesville Baptist Church. 1:00 p.m.

Poolesville Planning Commission Meeting

Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

March 16

PASC Book Discussion Group

Featuring *Defending Jacob*. Poolesville Library. 7:00 p.m.

March 17

St. Patrick's Day

Remember to wear your green. Celebrate at Bassett's, Cugini's, or Asian House of Poolesville—or make the rounds.

March 17, 18, 19

Blue Hearth Market Weekend

Great springtime and Easter home décor items. Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

March 21

PASC Event

Acupuncture Presentation. Town Hall. 7:00 p.m.

PHS Varsity Home Games

Boys' lacrosse. Damascus. 7:15 p.m.

Boys' tennis. Richard Montgomery. 3:30 p.m.

Co-Ed volleyball. Walt Whitman. 5:30 p.m.

Boys' volleyball. Walt Whitman. 7:15 p.m.

March 22

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

March 23

PHS Varsity Home Games

Baseball. Walt Whitman. 3:45 p.m.

Softball. Walt Whitman. 3:45 p.m.

March 14

PHS Varsity Home Game

Girls' lacrosse. Magruder. 7:00 p.m.

March 25

St. Mary's 9th Annual St. Patrick's Day Party

Featuring Irish dinner and beer, live Irish Band, Ceili Dance, and other Irish entertainment. Cost: \$15.00 per person, \$35.00 per family. St. Mary's Pavilion. 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

March 30 to April 1

St. Peter's Spring Rummage Sale

Donations accepted starting Saturday, March 18 (no furniture, please). Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon.

April 1

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Annual Meeting

Attend SCA's Annual Meeting at Linden Farm for conversation, updates, and a light breakfast. Caroline Hanson will screen her ten-minute short film highlighting the work of her grandfather, Royce Hanson, architect of our Ag Reserve. Richard Klein, a noted environmentalist and land use strategist, will serve as keynote speaker. Leafgro will be available for purchase. Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson. 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

St. Mary's Catholic Church
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Rev. Kevin P. O'Reilly, Pastor
Rev. David Cahoon, Deacon

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday at 5 pm / Sunday at 8, 9:30, and 11 am

Confession Saturday at 4:15 pm

"Leave the Light on" Confessions
Fridays 7:00 pm
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Fridays 7:30 pm



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March Market
Weekend:

March 17, 18, & 19

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Local News

Historic White's Ferry Takes Ownership of a Confederate Monument

By Rande Davis

County Executive Ike Leggett announced that the ownership of a statue of a Confederate cavalryman, located next to the Old Red Brick Courthouse in downtown Rockville, has been transferred to Historic White's Ferry, a privately-owned property and enterprise.

The statue, the only statue of a veteran in Montgomery County, was donated to the county by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1913, and placed in Rockville to honor county residents who served in the Confederate States Army (CSA) during the Civil War. An inscription on the monument reads, "To Our Heroes of Montgomery County, Maryland: That We through Life May Not Forget to Love the Thin Gray Line."

Leggett observed the historical nature of the statue in stating, "I fully understand that the statue reflects a piece of county history and that many county residents are proud of the sacrifices and bravery shown by their ancestors; nonetheless, as originally enacted, it was not, and is not, part of the heritage of all our residents. When originally constructed and placed on county property, it failed to reflect both sides of this unfortunate struggle in our history. That is why I strongly opposed keeping this statue on county property and wanted to move it to another location in the county that would be accessible to county residents."

The county executive initially approved a recommendation to move the statue to the grounds of the pre-Civil War Beall-Dawson House in downtown Rockville. That relocation, however, was rejected by the Rockville City Council in June of 2016.

The new location is particularly suitable as the ferry, which predates the Civil War, was originally known as Conrad's Ferry and was purchased by Elijah Viers White, who as a colonel and commander of the 35th Virginia Cavalry, recruited primarily Montgomery County men from Poolesville and Frederick to fill the ranks of his equestrian unit heralded as the Comanches.

The monument will be placed on the southern side of White's Ferry near the Potomac River facing west toward Virginia and will be visible and accessible to the public who use White's Ferry crossing services for its picnic and boating services.

The intention to find a new location resulted from an act of vandalism on July 27, 2015 when it was spray-painted. The county cleaned the statue, added an anti-graffiti coating, and built a box to house and protect it from further desecration. At the time, Leggett denounced the vandalism as a "despicable act" and was "not in keeping with the county's long history of civil discourse," and that the vandalism dishonored county veterans.

Continued on page 8.



Ninety-six year old Edwin Brown, attorney and owner of White's Ferry in his Peachtree Road office chose to accept the county's request to host a statue honoring veterans.



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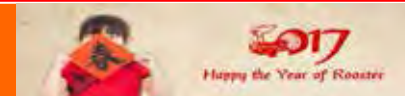
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Continued from page 7

Historic White's Ferry Takes Ownership of a Confederate Monument

White's Ferry owner, attorney Edwin Brown, who purchased the ferry in 1946, noted that he would be "happy to provide a place for the statue so that for those who wish to visit it will be able to do just that." White's Ferry's cable-boat is already historically named after Confederate general Jubal Early. Like so many persons in the Upcounty, Brown has ancestors who served honorably in the Confederate Army. Phillip Johnson, an African-American slave from Poolesville served in the CSA, and it should be noted that this monument also honors and recognizes his service as well all others' from the county.

The county has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for bids to move the sixteen-foot high, 25,000-pound statue. Cost of transferring and installing the statue will be covered by the county.

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 Sunday: 8 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.
 Wed.: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (during Lent)

March 13th - March for Life , visit www.marylandmarchforlife.org for more details.
 Confession heard Wednesdays between 6:30pm to 8:00pm during Lent.
 Soup, Bread & Fellowship at 6:00PM every Friday during Lent in the rectory with Stations following at 7:00PM in the chapel.
 Adoration Holy Hour Thursdays at 8pm in the Chapel.
 Daily 3 minute Homily from Catholic Priests around the World: www.migrate.usccb.org/bible/reflections

"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive your sins" - Mark 11:25

Local News

Emerald Ash Borer

By Susan Petro

What's good news for local hungry woodpeckers turns out to be devastating news for surrounding neighborhood trees and forests. Along the footpaths through many neighborhood parks and woodlands in and around Poolesville, woodpeckers can be seen busily stripping large swaths of bark off of local ash trees in order to eat the larvae of the highly-invasive and deadly Emerald Ash Borer, *Agrilus planipennis*, (EAB), a non-native iridescent green beetle that was first detected on trees in Detroit, Michigan in 2002.

On the path between Stevens Park and the Collier Circle pond, an almost surreal vision of dozens of stripped trees creates a haunting image of the forest to come as dozens of trees succumb to a tiny monster wreaking havoc on the trees' ability to survive. The woodpeckers are thriving as they can be seen rapidly throwing piece after piece of tree bark to the forest below, stripping some trees almost completely bare in search of the hidden larvae; however, it is not the woodpeckers who have doomed the tree; it is the buried EAB larvae that feed on the inner bark and disrupt the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients needed to survive.

The beetles, originating from Asia, have spread to over twenty mostly northeastern states of the U.S. and parts of Canada and have killed hundreds of millions of trees. According to the montgomeryparks.org website, the beetle was confirmed in Maryland in 2003 and in Montgomery County in 2013. The Emerald Ash Borer FAQ page found on the park's website states: "This destructive beetle is expected to take down all ash trees in the county in as few as three years. As a result, the county is proactively addressing the issue."

The Town of Poolesville staff have also taken numerous steps to try to save as many of the ash trees as possible that line many neighborhood streets. According to the Director of Streets, Preston King, trees along Spates Hill Road, Campbell Farm Road, Munger Road, and Spurrier Avenue have been treated for the EAB. Treatments are expensive and must be repeated every other year. The staff will revisit the plan in two years to determine whether to keep treating the trees. It is not yet known if last year's treatment came in time to save the trees which suffered added stress due to last year's long, dry summer.

Additionally, the town staff removed between eighty and ninety trees that were beyond saving. Trees that cannot be saved are being replaced with red maple trees.

Due to the high cost of treating the trees and the sheer volume of ash trees

that make up local woodlands and forests, the town and county have no plans to treat affected trees in those areas. All three types of ash trees, green, white, and black, are susceptible to the EAB. The town staff will monitor affected trees located within the town limits to determine whether to let them fall naturally or to cut them down if they pose a safety hazard. King said the woods will naturally fill in with new-growth trees as the ashes die out. Dead and fallen trees provide important nutrients and habitat for native wildlife.

Newly-infected trees can be hard to diagnose or detect if the borer is present. Residents who are concerned about ash trees on their property should call a local tree expert with a certified arborist to determine whether treatment or removal is advisable. Unfortunately, it is difficult to tell if a tree is infested until it is too late to save it, so early intervention is critical if saving the tree is desired. According to the Montgomery Parks EAB FAQ sheet, "When symptoms start to appear, they include woodpecker feeding on larvae in the tree trunks, D-shaped exit holes from emerging adult beetles in branches and trunks, and serpentine galleries filled with frass when bark is removed on infested trees. As the infestation begins to kill the tree, wilting foliage, dead branches, and canopy dieback will take place."

King advises residents who are aware of infected ash trees on town



Tree infested with the evil Emerald Ash Borer.

property that may pose a safety hazard to call or stop by Town Hall to report the concern. Residents are responsible for trees located on their own property.

Trees that have been cut down in residential yards can be used for firewood and mulch or can be taken away for disposal; however, the wood cannot be taken across state lines to avoid spreading the infestation. EAB is confirmed throughout Maryland, so there are no restrictions on transporting the wood within the state. King said that trees cut down by Poolesville staff are chipped and disposed of.

A special website has been created for concerned citizens to learn more about EAB: www.emeraldashborer.info.

Visit the Monocle online at www.monocacymonocle.com

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Youth Sports

Young PHS Poms Dance in Division I

By Jeff Stuart

"We had over 140 practices," said Poolesville pompons coach Tanya Ventura. "Entering the season, I knew this would be a rebuilding year. We lost a lot of seniors last year, and this was the most freshmen I have ever had on the squad, but I was excited for the challenge. Overall, I was satisfied with the competition. This is only our second year in Division I. Although we have not placed in the county championship, we have been able to place in the top three during the earlier invitational competitions. At the county, we actually tied for third with Magruder, but they needed to break the tie and so we fell in fourth place. Because we had the youngest team at the county championship (seven freshmen, five sophomores, three juniors, two seniors), I am very pleased with the results. I believe we had a strong, dynamic, refreshing routine this year. The girls worked tremendously hard all year long, and I'm extremely proud of the continual growth and progress made by each individual member and the team as a unit.

"For next year, we want to improve both team and individual techniques. This will require girls to continue taking dance lessons, especially ballet, and to continue building on their fundamental dance skills. Our supportive Poolesville community and our dedicated and motivated young ladies contributed to our success this year. We have a strong selfless leadership team (senior Olivia Romano, juniors Camille Awono and Chloe Insalaco,

and sophomore Tiara Ventura) that bring out the best in each of the girls."

At the Damascus Hornets pompon competition on January 7, the Falcons took second place, spirit award, and captain Chloe Insalaco won second place. At the Northwest Jaguar competition on January 14, the Falcons also took second place and the spirit award. Captain Camille Awono won second place. At Blake on January 28, PHS took fourth place. Captain Tiara Ventura placed fourth. At the county championship at Richard Montgomery on February 14, PHS tied for third with Magruder and ended up fourth after the tie breaker. Captain Olivia Romano placed fourth.

To see the Falcons' routine at the county meet, go to:

phsboosterclub.wordpress.com/schedules/cheerleaders_poms.

Performances are graded by a panel of six judges based on choreography, technical ability, group execution, and overall presentation. The captain's award is decided by one judge who watches the captains dance during the performance and decides who has the best overall cheering skill. The spirit award is given to the school in each division which best represents the overall essence of the competition. It is largely driven by the support of the school's followers.

In addition to the competitions, the pompon squad performs at halftimes of football and basketball games, pep rallies, Poolesville Day, and other events.

Thanushree Manjunath is a senior. Katie Morrow is a junior. Other sophomores are Amy Zhu, Julia Quart, Izzi Gibbs, and Taylor Ramirez. Freshmen are Kaeli Potts, Ashley Kraekel, Brianna Hobbs, Aly Gotlewski, Madison Repass, Elizabeth Perelshteyn, and Holly Raines.



Top row: Chloe Insalaco, Aly Gotlewski, Tiara Ventura, Amy Zhu, Izzi Gibbs, Camille Awono, Kaeli Potts, Thanushree Manjunath, Taylor Ramirez.
Bottom row: Katie Morrow, Olivia Romano, Holly Raines, Coach Tanya, Elizabeth Perelshteyn, Ashley Kraekel, Madison Repass, Julia Quart.

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Assault: 19600 block of Wootton Avenue, 15500 block of White's Ferry Road.

Burglary: 21500 block of Peach Tree Road.

Theft from vehicle: 19200 block of Wootton Avenue.

Past Crime

March 10, 1916 James Rabbitt, of Rockville, was in Washington City on business when he discovered that his pocketbook containing ten dollars had been stolen from his person. He reported the theft to the local police.

March 10, 1920 Tragedy struck at the Conroy farm outside of Rockville. Michael Conroy was out felling trees for the following year's firewood when he did not return at nightfall. His sons set out to find their father only to come across his dead body crushed by a tree.

March 11, 1917 After the legislature reduced the bounty paid to officers for tickets issued from 75 cents to 25 cents, there was a big drop off in traffic enforcement. Motor Vehicle

Commissioner Baughn visited Rockville to "take a look around." Within a few hours, he had cited several milk truck drivers for speeding, issued a summons to Susan McGraw for allowing a boy under eighteen to operate a truck, two summonses for displaying fictitious tags, and one ticket for using a counterfeit license. They were all taken before Judge Henderson who set a low bond.

March 17, 1917 A game of craps erupted into gunfire at Sandy Springs. It was said that Frank Carter and Walter Tremble had argued, and Carter had produced a pistol. He fired a shot at Tremble's head, but all that happened was that Tremble's hair was creased and that he was not seriously injured. Deputy Dailey was called to the scene and arrested Carter for assault with intent to murder and placed a charge of playing craps against both men.

March 19, 1919 Deputy Peddicord arrested farmhand Edward Jackson of Rockville and charged him with arson. Jackson confessed to burning down the barn of Charles Veirs on his farm west of Rockville.

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



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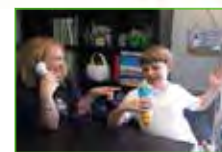
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Garden

Go Native

By Maureen O'Connell

In the past decade, there has been an increased interest nationwide in the use of native plants in home and community landscaping. Starting over the past century, we have witnessed urbanization that has taken land that was ecologically productive and transformed it into dense housing developments, sprawling shopping malls, and miles and miles of eight-lane highways choked with cars. Homeowners became obsessed with manicured "perfect" lawns and gardens of exotic ornamental plants. As our local environment is disturbed by these activities, non-native and invasive plants and animals change the character of our landscape. There are many ways to help protect the environment; one small but ecologically important step would be to plant native trees, shrubs, and flowers in our home gardens.

What is a native plant? Simply put, it is a species that originates or occurs naturally in a particular region. In Maryland, these species existed when the European settlers arrived. All living things, including plants, are native to somewhere. Each adapted and evolved to the particular environment: its climate and soil, predators, parasites, pollinators, fire, wind, nutrient availability, and other factors that threatened its existence.

Life depends upon plants, especially native ones. We would have no food if pollinators, including hummingbirds, native bees, butterflies, moths, and bats did not have a source of nectar. Entomologist Doug Tallamy has done extensive research that has shown that native oak trees support over five hundred species of caterpillars; whereas the ginkgo, a commonly-planted tree from Asia, hosts only five species of caterpillars. What difference does that make? When it takes over six thousand caterpillars to raise one brood of chickadees, that is a significant difference. The canopy of trees and shrubs provides shelter to birds and small mammals. These plants' native nuts, seeds, and fruits provide essential foods for all forms of wildlife. As native plants have weathered the test of time, they are more disease resistant. This reduces the need for synthetic chemical pesticides and herbicides.

Native plants are low maintenance. They can survive without your pampering—something you can appreciate when it's one hundred degrees in the shade and your back is killing you.

Once established, leave them alone.

Native plants create a healthy place for you, your family, and your community. No need for artificial garden products. Walk into any garden center or big box store and you will notice aisle after aisle of fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, and fungicides to wage war on the environment.

Native plants help the climate. Many native species are effective at storing the greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide.

Native plants conserve water, as they have adapted to local environmental conditions. This is especially important as each summer we are experiencing more periods of drought.

Two local organizations have been active in promoting native plants: the Bethesda-Chevy Chase chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America and Historic Medley District, (HMD) Inc. The B-CC IWLA Conservation Farm in Poolesville conducted a four-field survey of the area plants from 2008 to 2011. From this research, they developed an extensive list of plants that are native to our area. This can provide the homeowner a good resource for recommended plants. Tucked away from the main street in Poolesville, behind the log and frame John Poole House, is a garden that time and people have forgotten, the Edward L. Stock, Jr. Memorial Arboretum. This collection of shrubs, trees, herbs, and perennials indigenous to western Montgomery County before 1850 was started in 1976 by nurseryman and landscape designer Edward L. Stock, Jr. Unfortunately, it had been neglected for many years, and many of the original plants have been lost. HMD is in the process of reestablishing this beautiful garden for all to visit.

What are some good and easy-to-grow native plants for our area? There are many on the market, but I shall list some of my favorites that have done well in my garden.

Baptisia australis (Blue False Indigo) is a very healthy and long-lived perennial that loves the sun and can tolerate our poor clay soil. It grows to about three feet and comes in shades of blue, yellow, and dark pink.

Monarda is a magnet for butterflies, but many years ago I stopped growing it as it was highly susceptible to powdery mildew. Recently, horticulturists developed ones that had excellent resistance to powdery mildew: 'Pink Lace,' 'Raspberry Wine,' and *Monarda fistulosa*.

Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm,' the Black-eyed Susan, is one tough, prodigious bloomer. It provides big, bright golden yellow flowers from July to October.

Coreopsis 'Moonbeam' has been growing in my upper gardens for

years, and it never disappoints. The bees and I love it.

Other proven native plant winners that love my garden are: *Dicentra* 'Alba,' white bleeding heart; all coral bells; *Lobelia cardinalis*, Cardinal Flower; *Aquilegia canadensis*, Native Columbine (it was one of Thomas Jefferson's favorite flowers at Monticello); Virginia Bluebells; *Hemerocallis fulva*; *Tradescantia virginiana*, Spiderwort (can be a little invasive); and *Polygonatum biflorum*, Solomon's Seal.

As we soon begin a new season in our gardens, give a little more thought to what you plant and what is best for us, the birds, wildlife, and our environment. A thick green lawn and hundreds of demanding plants is not the best answer.



The arboretum at John Poole House.



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Youth Sports

PHS Post-Season Wrap

By Jeff Stuart

At the Maryland State Indoor Track Championship on February 21 at the Prince George's Sports Center, Ryan Lockett was a double state champion. Lockett and teammate Andrew Lent started the evening with the 1600m. That race was tight until the last 200m when Ryan broke away to win by three seconds in 4:23. Andrew was sixth with a time of 4:30. Both times were personal bests. A few hours later, both runners raced again in the 3200m. With Andrew working the pace and in the lead, Ryan used his signature "late kick," sprinting the last 200 yards and breaking away again. He won by four seconds in 9:41 with Andrew in third with a dramatic finish in 9:51. The boys' team placed fourth in the state, not bad for having just the two runners qualify. Ryan honored his teammate in an article in the Washington Post by crediting him with pushing and inspiring him throughout the season.

The girls' basketball team finished 21-4. After winning a home playoff game against Urbana, they traveled to Damascus on February 27 where they beat their rivals in a thoroughly-convincing fashion, 46-32. Center Erin Green led the Falcons with fourteen points. Kelliann Lee had nine. Allie Haddaway and Julia Hobbs each had seven.

The win at Damascus was a satisfying consolation prize, but the girls lost in the sectional final to undefeated Manchester Valley, 53-34. Lee led the Falcons with ten points.

At the county wrestling tournament on February 18 at Gaithersburg High School, Alex Carbonell took second in the 106-pound weight class. Poolesville dominated the consolation round. Colin Savage placed third at 126. Brian Truppo (120), Paul Szafranski (152), and Dillon Trent (195) placed fifth; and Ray Kinzie placed sixth at 145.

Savage, a freshman, won the region championship on February 25 at Sherwood High School. Carbonell placed second, and Truppo fourth. Truppo won two matches at the state meet on March 4 at Show Place Arena

in Upper Marlboro, ending his career with a school record 138 wins. Savage was fifth, and Carbonell sixth.

The boys' basketball team led 24-17 at the half on February 24 in its first playoff game at Urbana, scoring fourteen first-quarter points to just five for Urbana, but Urbana pulled away in the second half, scoring twenty-two points in the final eight minutes of play to win, 55-48. Stephen Lang gave the Falcons an early lead with a three-pointer. It was the final game for outstanding seniors, Lang, Jake Drissel, and David Esser.



PHS wrestling state finalists:
 Brian Truppo, Coach Tim Tao,
 Colin Savage (region champ),
 volunteer coach Steve Dahlin, Alex
 Carbonell, and Coach Kevin Dorsey.

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Remembrances

David Andrew Poulos

David Andrew Poulos, 51, of Beallsville, died peacefully on February 20, 2017 at his residence. He was the loving husband of Kimberley Poulos. Born on March 27, 1965 in Port Jefferson, New York, he was the youngest of six children born to the late Steven and Ena Marie (Mavrofilipos) Poulos.

David was a volunteer firefighter with the Setauket Fire Department Engine Company #1 for twenty years. He continued his life of public service in Maryland, joining the Montgomery County Department of Police in 1999, until his untimely death. Among his many passions, David lived his life enjoying the outdoors: running, riding his motorcycle, horseback riding, playing with his rescue dogs, and spending as much quality time as he could with the love of his life, Kimberley. David was known for his creativity and ingenuity, always looking for the challenge of building or rebuilding anything he could get his hands on. He was probably best known for his mechanical robots that entertained many at various fire and police department functions.

Left to cherish his memory, besides his wife, are sisters, Betty Poulos and Carol Ann (Poulos) Lyon, and his brother Steven, all of New York; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

David is also predeceased by his sisters Karen Poulos and Nancy Poulos-Drevitson.

A celebration of David's life was held at Montgomery County Police Headquarters in Gaithersburg on Saturday, March 4. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in David's name to Friends of Homeless Animals, P.O. Box 415, Aldie, VA 20105 (foha.org) or to the Setauket Fire Department Benevolent Association, PO Box 271, East Setauket, NY 11733.



David Andrew Poulos

Anita Nelson Simmons

Anita Nelson Simmons, 70, passed away on February 24, 2017 at her home in Crawfordville, Florida. She was the wife of Troy Simmons, and, together, they shared forty-eight years of marriage.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, she was the daughter of Ralph and Lois Fields Nelson. She attended Montgomery College and graduated with an AA in General Studies in May 1998. She worked thirty-one years for the National Geographic Society in Darnestown as a Supervisor in Remittance Control.

Anita was a longtime resident of Poolesville where she was a congregant at St. Peter's Episcopal Church and a member of its choir. She was remembered as an exceptional and highly-dedicated teacher-volunteer at the Seneca School House living history program, one of the Historic Medley District's museums in Poolesville. She and Troy retired first to Franklin, West Virginia and finally to Crawfordville, Florida. She enjoyed reading, crafting, and traveling, but, most of all, spending time with her two granddaughters, Skyler Marie Hamm and Brooke McKenzie Hamm.

In addition to her husband and granddaughters, Anita is survived by her daughter Tara Simmons of Dickerson, and brother Earl Nelson of Franklin, West Virginia.

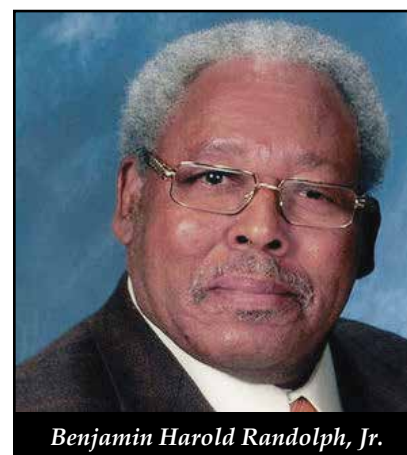
In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100, Rockville, MD 20850.



Anita Nelson Simmons

Benjamin Harold Randolph, Jr.

Benjamin Randolph, Jr. of Poolesville passed away on February 20, 2017. He was born on September 5, 1937. Funeral services were held at Poolesville Baptist Church, and he was buried at the Mt. Zion-Warren Church.



Benjamin Harold Randolph, Jr.



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Continued from page 1

PHS Students Selected as Finalists for National Invention Competition

task of handling currency during ordinary business or retail transactions. Having visual impairment opens such individuals to fraud from consumers as they now have to rely on the integrity of others for identifying currency values. The PHS InvenTeam invention, designed to be about the size of a standard cellphone, will not only assist persons with vision challenges to independently identify the currency by denomination but will also help organize the money so they can accurately handle a regular retail, business, or personal transaction.

Jerome H. Lemelson, one of U.S. history's most prolific inventors, and his wife Dorothy founded the Lemelson-MIT Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1994. It is funded by the Lemelson Foundation and administered by MIT's School of Engineering. Based in Portland, the Lemelson Foundation uses the power of invention to improve lives. Inspired by the belief that invention can solve many of the biggest economic and social challenges of our time, the foundation helps the next generation of inventors and invention-based businesses flourish.

To date, the foundation has made grants totaling over \$200 million in support of its mission.

The PHS InvenTeam recently held its own public presentation at the school, showcasing the process used to develop the currency identification invention with its sorting and storing system. The team is planning to finish the prototype invention in time for the competition this coming June at MIT to present its prototype at EurekaFest 2017. Of particular need now is for the members to raise the funds needed to support their trip to MIT and the costs associated with staying at the college for a few days.

To make a deductible contribution or provide expert assistance as an engineer or person with a visual disability, please visit phsinventeam.com and then click on How to Help.

The PHS InvenTeam members are: Faculty supervisor, Jack Stansbury; lead administrator, Sahil Mayenkar; technical staff, Kartik Krishman, Jessica Yin, Cole Schneider, Kevin Manakkunnel, Wally Niu, Jessica Bhattacharyya, Kashif Rahman, Raymond Cheng, Kahlil Greene; sustainability staff, Grace Tang, Grace Kim; communications staff, Ritvik Jain, Colin Park, Marisa Casay, Anthony Sheehi; and financial staff, Sreya Vansgara and Na Hye Kim.

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Dr. D. Timothy Pike is an Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (www.AAID-implant.org)

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Continued from page 1

PHS Swimmers Repeat at State Still Faster Than the Rest

Borjigin was second in the girls' 200-yard freestyle. Imus was second in the 100-yard butterfly, and Narisu second in the 100-yard breaststroke. Julia Wang placed third in the 100-yard freestyle, and sophomore Autumn Wang placed third in the 100-yard backstroke. Nardone was fourth in the 50-yard freestyle.

Depth has been particularly important to the Poolesville success in region and state meets. The first sixteen finishers in each event are awarded points.

Do you have an interesting story to share? Send it along to editor@monocacymonocle.com



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GARDENING SEASON IS HERE!

Gardening season is here! Plant bulbs are just as excited to break through the ground to add some color to our yards as we are to see some greenery! That said, we need to be aware of the potential dangers spring plants can pose for our pets. Here is a list of some of the most common spring plants and their toxicities... so you know how to pet-proof your garden and keep your pet safe!

Tulips and Hyacinths - Tulips contain allergenic lactones while hyacinths contain similar alkaloids. The toxic principle of these plants is very concentrated in the bulbs (versus the leaf or flower), so make sure your dog isn't digging up the bulbs in the garden. When the plant parts or bulbs are chewed or ingested, it can result in tissue irritation to the mouth and esophagus. Typical signs include profuse drooling, vomiting, or even diarrhea, depending on the amount consumed. There's no specific antidote, but with supportive care from the veterinarian (including rinsing the mouth, anti-vomiting medication, and possibly subcutaneous fluids), animals do quite well. With large ingestions of the bulb, more severe symptoms such as an increase in heart rate and changes in respiration can be seen, and should be treated by a veterinarian. These more severe signs are seen in cattle or our overzealous, chowhound Labradors.

Daffodils - These flowers contain lycorine, an alkaloid with strong emetic properties (something that triggers vomiting). Ingestion of the bulb, plant, or flower can cause severe vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and even possible cardiac arrhythmias or respiratory depression. Crystals are found in the outer layer of the bulbs, similar to hyacinths, which cause severe tissue irritation and secondary drooling. Daffodil ingestions can result in more severe symptoms, so if an exposure is witnessed or symptoms are seen, we recommend seeking veterinary care.

Lilies - There are dangerous and benign lilies out there, and it's important to know the difference. Peace, Peruvian, and Calla lilies contain oxalate crystals that cause minor signs, such as tissue irritation to the mouth, tongue, pharynx, and esophagus—this results in minor drooling. The more dangerous, potentially-fatal lilies are true lilies, and these include Tiger, Day, Asiatic, Easter, and Japanese Show lilies—all of which are highly toxic to cats! Even small ingestions (such as 2-3 petals or leaves) can result in severe kidney failure. If your cat is seen consuming any part of a lily, bring your cat (and the plant) immediately to a veterinarian for medical care. The sooner you bring in your cat, the better and more efficiently we can treat the poisoning. Decontamination (like inducing vomiting and giving binders like activated charcoal) are imperative in the early toxic stage, while aggressive intravenous fluid therapy, kidney function monitoring tests, and supportive care, can greatly improve the prognosis.

Crocus - There are two Crocus plants: one that blooms in the spring (Crocus species) and the other in the autumn (*Colchicum autumnale*). The spring plants are more common and are part of the Iridaceae family. These ingestions can cause general gastrointestinal upset including vomiting and diarrhea. These should not be mistaken for Autumn Crocus, part of the Liliaceae family, which contain colchicine. The Autumn Crocus is highly toxic and can cause severe vomiting, gastrointestinal bleeding, liver and kidney damage, and respiratory failure. If you're not sure what plant it is, bring your pet to his veterinarian immediately for care. Signs may be seen immediately but can be delayed for days.

Lily of the Valley - The *Convallaria majalis* plant contains cardiac glycosides which will cause symptoms similar to digitalis (foxglove) ingestion. These symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, a drop in heart rate, severe cardiac arrhythmias, and possibly seizures. Pets with any known exposure to this plant should be examined and evaluated by a veterinarian and treated symptomatically.

In addition...Fertilizers

As we gardeners work on our rose gardens, be aware of those fertilizers. While most are not very toxic (resulting in minor gastrointestinal irritation when consumed), some fertilizers can be fatal without treatment. Here are a few ingredients to be aware of so you know what toxins and symptoms to watch out for.

- **Blood meal** – This is dried, ground, and flash-frozen blood and contains 12% nitrogen. While it's a great organic fertilizer, if ingested, it can cause vomiting (of some other poor animal's blood) and diarrhea. More importantly, it can result in severe pancreatitis, which is inflammation of the pancreas. Some types of blood meal are also fortified with iron, resulting in iron toxicity, so make sure to know what's in your bag of blood!
- **Bone Meal** – This is made up of defatted, dried, and flash-frozen animal bones that are ground to a powder. This "bone" is also what makes it so palatable to your dog, so make sure to keep your pet from digging in it and ingesting the soil. While this also makes a great organic fertilizer, it can become a problem when consumed as the bone meal forms a large cement-like bone ball in the stomach—which can cause an obstruction in the gastrointestinal tract, resulting in possible surgery to remove it!
- **Rose and plant fertilizers** – Some of these fertilizers contain disulfoton or other types of organophosphates (OP). As little as 1 teaspoon of 1% disulfoton can kill a 55 lb dog, so be careful! Organophosphates, while less commonly used, can result in severe symptoms, including SLUD signs (which abbreviate for salivation, lacrimation, urination, and defecation), seizures, difficulty breathing, hyperthermia, etc. In some cases, it can be fatal!
- **Pesticides/Insecticides** – Most pesticides or insecticides (typically those that come in a spray can) are basic irritants to the pet and are usually not a huge concern unless a pet's symptoms become persistent. Some may contain an organophosphate which can be life threatening when consumed in large quantities. It is always best to speak to a trained medical professional if there are any questions.
- **Iron** – This is commonly added to fertilizers and can result in iron toxicity (from ingestion of elemental iron). This is different from "total" iron ingestion, and can be confusing to differentiate. When in doubt, have a medical professional at Pet Poison Helpline assist you with finding out if the amount ingested was toxic or not. Large ingestions can result in vomiting, bloody diarrhea, and potential cardiac and liver effects.

The best thing any pet owner can do is to be educated on the household toxins (both inside the house and out in the garden!)—that way you make sure how to pet proof your house appropriately. Make sure to keep all these products in labeled, tightly-sealed containers out of your pet's reach. When in doubt, please feel free to call Pet Poison Helpline at 1-800-213-6680 with any questions or concerns if you're worried that your pet could have inadvertently gotten into anything!



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