

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 24, 2017 • Volume XIII, Number 2



County Executive Ike Leggett read a Proclamation of Achievement to commemorate Poolesville's 150th anniversary. See more pictures in Family Album on page 2.

Poolesville's History and Achievements Honored at Kickoff for 150th Anniversary of Town

By Link Hoewing

Over one hundred local, state, and county officials, local leaders, and members of families whose roots go deep in the town's history attended an event at Poolesville Town Hall on Monday, March 13 to kick off a year-long celebration for the town's incorporation 150 years ago.

Town hall was transformed into a museum of sorts with memorabilia from the town's past on display. Included were the wooden post office boxes used in the town decades ago, old implements and kitchen utensils from local farms, bullets, belt buckles and buttons from Civil War soldiers stationed in Poolesville, historical artifacts and documents from local churches stretching back to the late eighteenth century, and pictures and yearbooks from the past from local schools. A special emphasis focused on historical displays about the many African American communities in the area surrounding Poolesville founded by freed slaves after the Civil War.



Ray Hoewing provided a brief history of the Town of Poolesville at a town event to kick off its 150th anniversary celebrations.

The evening began with commission president Jim Brown noting the significance of the town's incorporation and its progress in the decades since. He highlighted two proclamations sent by Governor Hogan and Congressman Jim Delaney.

County Executive Ike Leggett recounted how he was born in a small town in Louisiana and moved to another small town "on the other side of the county from Poolesville," Burtonsville. He read the closing

Continued on page 8.



Thirty-four years on the same route—and still smiling. Read about Charles Regnier's last day in Local News on page 4.



Bob Mallasch of Bob's Bikes received a special award from Keith Oberg of Bikes of the World for recycling used bikes. Read more in Business Briefs on page 10.

Lincoln's Most Important Connection to Poolesville

By Suzanne Tallia with Rande Davis

As Poolesville celebrates its sesquicentennial (150th anniversary), we present a third Mystery History tale that ties our sixteenth president and one of the very greatest to our town. The first one was the story of Colonel and Senator Edward Baker, a friend so close to Lincoln, the president named his second son after him. Baker's body was brought to Poolesville after being killed in the Battle of Balls Bluff. The second recounted the story of a Poolesville slave named Uncle Watty Owens who had a horse that was mistakenly confiscated by Union troops while they garrisoned in Poolesville. The heartrending tale told how Uncle Watty reached out to Abe Lincoln who generously gave him a new horse. If you missed either story, you can read the

former in the January 27 issue and the latter in the February 10 Monocle, both are online at monocacymonocle.com.

Poolesville's Suzanne Tallia shares her family's ancestral history in the following article that perhaps connects Poolesville to Lincoln in a most important—perhaps very most important—way.

From Suzanne Tallia:

Samuel Lincoln was born in England in 1622, two years after the Mayflower landed at Plymouth. When he was fifteen and a weaver's apprentice, he immigrated to Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1637. He became a farmer and businessman and died in 1690 at sixty-seven years old. His successive generations were also successful, mostly farmers, and possessed the same wanderlust as their ancestor. They slowly moved south, into New



Suzanne Tallia as a baby held in the arms of her father; they share the most interesting of connections to Abe Lincoln.

Continued on page 11.



The crack of the bat is a great sound of spring. Read more about PHS spring sports on page 12.

Family Album

Photos by Terri Pitts
of Images by Terri.



Residents and members of the Sugarland Ethnohistory Project recalled the moving historical contribution of Poolesville's African American community.



Commission president Jim Brown, with Ray and Reva Hoewing.



Montgomery County presented the Town of Poolesville with a proclamation.



Town manager Wade Yost deferred to Jim Brown in cutting the cake.



Violinsanity, violinists Becky Ross and Dominique Agnew (not pictured), provided entertainment for the big event.



Joining Jim Brown are Ron Poole, Joseph Poole, and Ron's children, Christopher and Kara, whose ancestor John Poole, Jr. is the namesake of the town.



A dramatic display depicts the work of the Monocacy Cemetery project's registration and personal history of those buried where so many Poolesville ancestors rest.



Civil War artifacts at Poolesville Town Hall will be on display until April 13.

Town Government Commissioners Consider Hikes in Water/Sewer Rates

By Link Hoewing

At their March 20 meeting, the commissioners heard a report detailing the costs and revenues underpinning the water and sewer system. The upshot of the report from town manager Wade Yost was that the current rates for water usage set by the town do not cover the costs of operating the water and sewer systems. Yost proposed a new series of rates that would increase monthly charges for water use at all levels of usage.

Yost began his presentation by noting that the water system for the town was begun in the 1970s. Today, the system serves two thousand customers, has twenty-two miles of pipes of various sizes, includes two large water tanks for storage and distribution, and has eleven pumping stations that pull water from the town's aquifer.

The sewer system includes twenty-five miles of pipes, six sewage-pumping stations, and a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant that was built in the 1980s. Before that time, wastewater was stored in the lagoon, and simple bacterial action was allowed to clean the water before it was discharged. The new plant is computer controlled and includes treatment vats that use enhanced natural removal systems to clean waste out of the water.

Yost said that sewer and water systems are typically funded through what are called "enterprise funds," meaning that users pay fees that support the entire costs of these systems, from capital expenditures to employee salaries to operating expenses. When the users of these services do not cover the costs of these utility systems, local governments must use monies from general revenues (i.e., funds generated by property and incomes taxes, primarily) to make up the difference. This means that general taxpayers subsidize those using the systems.

In Poolesville, as in many municipalities, there are many challenges to ensuring that user fees cover the costs of utilities, including growing costs, for example: electricity to run the sewer plant, salaries and benefits of employees (that increase regularly), unpredictable usage levels (when usage levels of water drop, revenues

do as well), and the costs to maintain large and aging systems. Salaries and benefits for employees make up about half of the total costs of operating the sewer and water systems with electricity costs contributing another fourteen percent to the total. User fees cover only the operating costs of the systems. Capital expenditures and debts for loans to support these programs are covered by the General Fund in the budget.

Poolesville has done a lot to reduce costs for these systems including installing the solar array at the treatment plant (to reduce the costs of electricity), installing more-efficient equipment, and changing lighting to more-efficient LEDs, but even with all of these changes, the operating costs for these systems still remain almost \$90,000 higher than the annual revenues generated by water fees.

To make up this deficit, Yost proposed increases in the town's water fees. The current system is usage-based with those using up to 30,000 gallons per month paying the lowest fees and those using the most water—50,000 gallons and up—paying the highest fees. Part of the challenge for the town is that only a relative handful of customers use more than 50,000 gallons per month while those using less than 30,000 gallons make up more than ninety percent of all users.

Yost proposed fee increases that would raise the monthly charge for those using less than 10,000 gallons per month by \$1.80 while those using more than 50,000 gallons would see their bills go up by about \$47 a month. Even with these changes, Poolesville's water rates remain lower than other jurisdictions such as Rockville and Middletown, and are below those charged by the WSSC (based on a calculation using an average of 25,000 gallons per user).

In the discussion about the proposal, it was reiterated that Poolesville has continued to face, over the years, a challenge in aligning the operating costs of its water and sewer systems and the revenues from water usage fees used to support the systems. Commissioner Stump pointed out that the town had considered instituting an automatic mechanism to increase rates when needed to offset costs but had failed to move forward with the idea. Also, these problems plague many municipalities, and a part of the challenge has to do with the increased efficiency of home water systems and the unpredictability of water usage.

Continued on page 10.



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FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Water Department will be flushing hydrants during the month of April to reduce and remove the accumulation of rust and iron in the water mains. The flushing may cause discolored water from the loose sediment and we advise residents not to wash white clothes for 24 hours following the flushing.

- April 10 Eliz. Delight, Tama, Woods at Tama, Brightwell Crossing
- April 11 Westerly, Meadowlark Manor, Hunter's Run
- April 12 Fisher Avenue, Meadow Valley, Wootton Heights
- April 13 Wesmond
- April 14 Seneca Chase, Sumner Ridge, Stoney Spring

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Rande(m) Thoughts

Keeping Past Bad Things in the Past

By Rande Davis

March is an anniversary month for the *Monocle*. We proudly but very, very humbly begin our thirteenth year of publishing a newspaper that we hope has become an uplifting chronicle of the lives of all those living and working within the Poolesville vicinity. As many readers may recall, when we started, there were three other journalistic endeavors covering little ol' Poolesville: *The Bulletin*, *The Gazette*, and Ray Hoewing's *Poolesville Online*—four media for one town. Not bad, especially if compared to New York City that has four competing newsprint outlets: *The New York Times*, *The Daily News*, *The New York Post*, and *Newsday*. Today, as regards local print publications, we stand alone.

John Clayton and I joined together, determined to publish a newspaper worthy of its readers, not in being perfect but in its commitment to quality journalism and seriousness of information, and respect for who we are as a community of people of good character.

In thinking about our newspaper's start, I got to thinking about our small town, too. There is a lot of talk about growth destroying our small town. I believe small towns can be destroyed by more than an unacceptable rise in population. The size of the population is only one part. The character of the town and the goodwill of its people count as well. I have witnessed a couple of times when public dialogue here on "hot" issues has gotten particularly acerbic, sometimes downright mean-spirited. Small towns don't thrive on anger.

At the time of this paper's inception, dialogue on public matters was often colored by an acidic and divisive reporting by the *Bulletin*. Many can remember its ongoing onslaught of accusing the commissioners of being reckless and irresponsible, of a town headed to bankruptcy, of a commission making decisions which that newspaper considered "possibly illegal." Hardworking, dedicated people, volunteers all, were attacked week in and week out. None of those charges ever

were substantiated, and certainly all can see the town never went bankrupt. Such vitriolic negativity did nothing to advance the discussion. Any well-intended discussion does not need anger.

While I was in the army, I was put through an exercise on the value of group decision-making versus individual decision-making. Each person had to choose five items from a list of twenty items to take if he was isolated in the desert. We were then divided into small groups of five, and asked to collectively choose the five again. Overwhelmingly, each individual's list fell short while the overwhelming number of groups' lists scored very high.

As someone who spent twelve years attending nearly every single town meeting, there is one thing I can say with utmost confidence: The commissioners did not always agree nor did they always get it right, but the discussions, although rather poignant and at times with a touch of anger, were thorough, above board, and when the decisions were made, they were based on what each individual thought was best for the community. Each commissioner approached the discussion with his or her own individual perspective. Even when there was initial divergence of opinion, after extensive discussions, most votes were unanimous or nearly unanimous. This is not an example of blind-sightedness but the value of group-conclusions. Yes, groups don't always get it right, but open discussion and dialogue do go a long way to indemnify against unintended mistakes.

Why do I bring all this up? The expanding debate about the proposed Willshire Development has caused me some concern. While the public debate at town hall has, for the most part, stayed above board and respectful, there is an emerging scurrilous undercurrent flowing. This newspaper has heard of and read some very disturbing and defamatory charges that not only do not belong in this discussion but should not even be a part of a town that prides itself on being a place where there are people of good will and good character.

Unbridled anger in the form of charges of reckless, irresponsible, and possibly illegal actions did not serve us in the past, and it does not serve us today. Let us not have any part of it.

Local News

Delivering the Mail Since 1974

By John Clayton

In October 1974, Charles Regnier began serving the people of U.S. Postal Service Route 1 in Dickerson and Route 1 in Barnesville. He began as a substitute for six years, and then took over the routes as his own. His last day serving those same routes was on March 10, 2017, a run of forty-two and one-half years. While most of us, including his wife, would consider that quite an accomplishment, he seemed to shrug it off with a big smile.

Every morning, Regnier picked up Dickerson's mail at the Poolesville Post Office, ran it to Dickerson, and then delivered Dickerson and Barnesville's mail (which he picked up at the Barnesville Post Office), covering a wide portion of our part of the Upcounty. He said that when he started in 1974, there were two hundred boxes to serve, and on his last day this month, there are 422.

Regnier is a native to this area, having grown up in his parents' home on Thurston Road, to which they moved in the early sixties, and, since leaving



Charles Regnier made his rounds for one last time.

home, "has lived on the west side of Sugarloaf forever." He is married, and has four kids and eight grandchildren, with one more on the way. When asked what else had changed over the years, he offered one thing that hasn't: He can always monitor the weather by the knob on the mountain (Sugarloaf again), by watching the freeze line. He gave a lot of thought to the worst snowstorm he had experienced here and decided it was the back-to-back storms that hit us some five years ago.

He has had many good experiences over the years, but he really doesn't know the people on his route as well as you might think because he just

Continued on page 22.

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The Maryland State Flag was flown at half-staff on March 21 in honor of Edward Chow, Jr., the former Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs.



Tidbits

Neighbor in Need of Support

Family and friends of Elizabeth Renninger wish to support her and her family during their difficult time of dealing with stage four pancreatic cancer with financial assistance, prayers, and encouragement.

Donations are welcome to help her and her family of six, four of which are her teenage children. The donation will help with daily expenses and medical expenses that they will face while she is going through chemotherapy since she is no longer working as a teacher or real estate agent.

Elizabeth Renninger grew up in Frederick County with her three sisters and parents. She earned her teaching degree from Towson State University, married her high school sweetheart, and they started a beautiful family. She was a teacher in Montgomery County for four years and then began home-schooling her four children. Elizabeth went back to teaching in the classroom in 2012 at Saint Thomas More Academy in Middletown which her children also attended before entering Middletown High. Elizabeth is also a real estate agent with Keller Williams and has enjoyed helping her clients find the perfect forever home.

Elizabeth has a caring heart and is always giving to her family, students, and others. She is known for having a welcoming home with a door that is always open and a pure interest in the lives of those she meets.

She wishes to thank the following for their generosity, prayers, and support: Poolesville Vet, Martha Ward, Dr. Maryann VanDoorn, Jim Baker, Alice and John Holahan, Wade and Theresa Yost, Frank Jamison, Sr., Frank Jamison, Jr., Jones Premium Builders, Dave Lawrence and Susan Ferrara,

Washington Marble and Granite, T.W. Perry Building Supplies, Stan Munday, Andrew and Emily Cuga, Perry Carter, Gary Bowman, Greg Shutty, Mike and Rebecca Stonestreet, Poolesville Auto, Masterson Roofing LLC, and Poolesville Plumbing.

Donations can still be sent to Elizabeth Renninger, 22611 Old Hundred Road, Barnesville, Maryland 20838.



This unnamed mystery monkey squatted at the John Poole House. He won't be able to stay forever, and if he's missed, the forgetful owner might want to notify the Historic Medley District.

Mystery Ape Takes Over the John Poole House

When Maureen O'Connell, the schoolteacher for the Seneca Schoolhouse, came to the John Poole House offices recently, she was startled to find a huge stuffed monkey sitting on the back porch. She brought the stuffed animal into the house for safekeeping since it was raining at the time. A few days went by, but no one came forward seeking a lost monkey. Anyone missing a big monkey may claim it by contacting the Monocle or Historic Medley District.



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Things To Do

Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC) Events

Pickleball: Every Monday and Friday. Poolesville Baptist Church gym. 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

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

March 25

Monocacy Lions Community Project

Spring cleaning of the grounds and facilities of the John Poole House. Project sponsored by the Lions Club and its middle school affiliate, the Leo Club. Cub Scouts and others are also helping. 9:00 a.m. to noon.

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

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

March 30

Special JPMS Event: Protecting Youth from the Online World

Presentation by Sergeant Ken Sanger, Montgomery County Police, speaking frankly about what kids and predators do online. Learn how to set expectations and limits. JPMS All-Purpose Room. 7:00 p.m.

March 30 to April 1

St. Peter's Spring Rummage Sale

Donations accepted until March 27 (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.

PHS Midnight Players Present *Thoroughly Modern Millie*

A delightful and funny musical of a young 1920s girl making her way in New York City. \$8.00 for general admission and \$12.00 for reserved admission. PHS Auditorium. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening: 7:00 p.m.; Saturday matinée: 2:00 p.m.

April 1

Poolesville 150th Anniversary Special Event

The community is invited to participate in a photo shoot in Whalen Commons that will be an aerial picture of citizens forming the number 150 on the park. Refreshments and DJ. Participants need to arrive at 9:00 a.m.. Photo shoot scheduled between 9:30 and 9:45 a.m. Please be prompt.

Cugini's Open House Art Show

After the town's 150th Anniversary celebratory photo on Whalen Commons, come over to Cugini's for lots of great items to purchase as well as drink specials, mimosas, and Bloody Marys. 11:00 a.m.

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Annual Meeting

Attend SCA's Annual Meeting at Linden Farm for conversation, updates, and 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.

Poolesville Community Garden Spring Cleanup

All community residents are invited to help spruce up and prepare the vest pocket park next to Poolesville's Presbyterian Church. Bring garden tools. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

April 5

Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church Community Dinner

An evening of food, fun, and fellowship. Menu of chili, baked potato bar, tossed salad, and homemade dessert. Open and free to all. Need a ride? Call 240-994-8011. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

April 6

PACC Monthly Breakfast Networking Event

Great time to share information about your company and network with other PACC members. Town hall. 8:00 a.m.

April 7

UMCVFD Auxiliary Bingo

Featuring cash and gift cards: 20 games, specials, door prizes, and raffles. Refreshments are available for purchase. Please do not bring outside food or beverages. \$20. Located at the firehouse at 19801 Beallsville Road. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; games begin at 7:00 p.m.

Would you like to announce a meeting, club, or upcoming event in **Things To Do**?

Then let us know!

Send it along to editor@monocacymonocle.com

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

Stations of the Cross for Lent
Fridays 7:30 pm



Lenten Dinners
Fridays, 6:00 - 7:30 pm
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for more information



All are Welcome!



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or the
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POOLESVILLE NEEDS YOU FOR A PHOTO SHOOT!!

In celebration of Poolesville's sesquicentennial, the town is seeking a minimum of 150 people to pose for an aerial photograph in Whalen Commons of persons lined up to form the numerical 150.

Fun time for all with DJ and Food Vendor

Date: 4/1/17 - Please arrive by 9:00 a.m.

Photo shoot process begins at 9:30 a.m.

(Rain date 4/2/17 at 1:00 p.m.)

Please wear light-colored clothing for best results.

Instructions provided at the band stage.

For more information call 301 428 8927 or email catbupp@aol.com

Local News

Poolesville Community Garden-Park Gearing Up for the Spring Season

By Denise Graybill-Donohoe

Community Gardens are a growing amenity in North American neighborhoods. The American Community Gardening Association (ACGA) reports that more than 2,100 gardens are represented among their members in the U.S. and Canada; furthermore, in a 2015 survey among ACGA members, seventy-five percent of respondents “speak to how gardens change the neighborhood, including building stronger community connections, adding physical beauty, and creating a safe place for spiritual respite.” The



Poolesville Presbyterian Church sponsors the Community Garden-Park.

goals of the Poolesville Community Garden-Park are to do just that and, of course, to offer a place to grow food. The garden-park is open to everyone.

As we all know, growing crops for animal or human consumption in the Poolesville area is a way of life for many residents and businesses. After all, Poolesville is in the heart of the Agricultural Reserve, and the garden-park is a microcosm of the Reserve—beauty, food production, community spirit, and hard work. If you haven’t had the opportunity to visit the garden-park, please stop in to check it out. It is located on Elgin Road, just north of the main intersection in downtown Poolesville. This small garden-park, also known as a pocket park, was built on a vacant lot adjacent to the Poolesville Presbyterian Church. Through monetary and in-kind donations from green industry businesses and the hard work of volunteers, the garden-park was launched in 2012 with final design and construction in 2013. In October 2016, the six-thousand-square-foot garden-park received an Award of Excellence for Landscape Beautification from the Montgomery County Clean and Green Program.

In addition to providing beauty and a place to grow food, the garden-park was designed to be ecologically sustainable, meeting the goals originally conceived by the garden’s organizers. Twenty-four raised planters, which can be leased annually, provide the place to grow food. Lush perimeter planting beds add beauty to the Poolesville central business district, control stormwater run-off, support pollinators, and make the gardening experience more enjoyable. Wildlife that have been longing for native plants to sustain them and their offspring have flocked to the garden-park and found native blueberries, winterberry, serviceberries, viburnum, magnolia, butterfly weed, and columbine. These plants support the insects that birds need to feed their young. Likewise, nutritious berries from these native plants support birds and small mammals much better than their exotic cousins. Scientific and common plant name tags have been placed in front of each plant species, which helps gardeners and visitors learn the names of plants growing in their community.

Other features of the garden-park include a large shade tree which provides respite from the hot sun during summer gardening duties, large boulders excavated locally are used for sitting and playing, and a perimeter wood fence keeps out browsing deer while creating an intimate space for gardening in the middle of town. Future plans for the garden-park, which was designed by Dancing Grass Designs LLC, include raising funds to complete the installation of a drip irrigation system, improved seating, and maintenance of perimeter planting beds. To donate to the garden-park, please send a check to the Poolesville Community Garden, c/o Poolesville Presbyterian Church, PO Box 68, Poolesville, MD 20837.

Spring is rapidly approaching, and if you are planning to grow food this year, it’s time to start thinking about your garden. The committee is busy making plans to get the garden-park ready for springtime enjoyment. Volunteers are needed for the spring cleanup day on Saturday, April 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. SSL hours are available for students. To register for a raised planter, visit www.poolpres.com. Fees are \$55 and \$60 for the 4’ x 4’ and 4’ x 8’ foot beds, respectively; financial assistance is available. Planters are assigned on a first come, first serve basis. Please contact Pam Mattes (writedoc2003@yahoo.com) for more information.

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MARCH 25

OFF THE WALL BAND

8:30 p.m.



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Poolesville's History and Achievements Honored at Kickoff for 150th Anniversary of Town

paragraph from a special proclamation honoring the town: "Poolesville continues to thrive and provide its residents with a high quality of life as reflected in its schools, strong community organizations, and citizen-led government." He said he was proud of what the town has accomplished and how it reflects on the county itself.

A number of county councilors attended, as well, including: Craig Rice, Roger Berliner, Hans Riemer, and George Leventhal.

Ray Hoewing, a local area resident for many years, provided a brief overview of the history of Poolesville. He used his book, *Poolesville: 250 Years, from Indians to the Internet*, as the basis for his talk. He remarked that Poolesville has always been an economic center due to its farming community but said that with the demise of the C&O canal as a major transportation hub for the area, it remained small in terms of population until recent times. It was not until the 1970s, when the town established a viable water and sewer system, that it began to grow from a population of only a few hundred.

Hoewing placed special emphasis on the role and contribution of the many African American settlements around Poolesville, most of which consisted of farmers and craftspeople who supported the town economically. He concluded by saying that, in his opinion, five factors made Poolesville exceptional: "Its relative isolation; being surrounded by the Ag Reserve; having its 'own' school system; having its own local government; and the care, concern, and reaching out to others characteristic of the town."

The role of African American communities in the history of Poolesville—particularly Sugarland—was highlighted by two local residents, Phymeon Lyles and Skip Etheridge. Ms. Lyles leads the Sugarland Ethno History project, dedicated to highlighting and explaining the history of Sugarland. Etheridge's relatives were among the founders of Sugarland involved in the original purchase of land for the settlement from Richard Dawson, a former slave owner. Both pointed out the importance of Sugarland and the other settlements established by former slaves to the growth and success of Poolesville. They highlighted a number of "firsts" that happened in our area due to these settlements, including the first interracial marriage in Poolesville at St. Paul's Church in Sugarland and the first desegregated school in Maryland, Poolesville High School.

Brown then introduced members of the Poole family, who trace their lineage back to the founders of Poolesville, Ron and Joseph Poole and Ron's children, Christopher and Kara. Ron Poole continues to live in the area and is the current postmaster for the town.

The evening ended with a quick summation of upcoming events planned for the celebration of Poolesville's 150th anniversary including a special photo of town residents to be taken at Whalen Commons on April 1 and the burial of a time capsule during Poolesville Day. Displays of historical memorabilia about the town will also be on display during the year at town hall.

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Business Briefs

Bob's Bikes Recognized for Community Service

Bob Mallasch of Bob's Bikes in Poolesville recently received a recognition plaque for his continued service to Bikes of the World, a nonprofit group whose mission is to make quality used bicycles and parts affordable and available to lower income people and selected institutions in developing nations that enhance the lives and livelihood of their residents.

His shop has been a drop-off point for people who wish to donate their used bikes to make it possible for Bikes of the World to fulfill their mission. "We even save and donate used bicycle tubes to share. Along with the bikes, they send the tubes with extra patches to third world people. They especially covet American tubing for its quality. It's great that what we ordinarily would simply throw away can be used so well."

Bob has a history of being serious about recycling as demonstrated by



Richard Palak and Bob Mallasch of Bob's Bikes.

receiving a Montgomery County award a couple of years ago for the Individual Outstanding Achievement in Recycling Award.

If you haven't been in the shop lately, he recently renovated the store in preparation for the spring season with a more expansive and open space for his service counter. In June, he will begin his nineteenth year serving Poolesville and vicinity. His longevity as an owner-operated retailer serving our area ranks him third, following John Speelman's Poolesville Hardware (second) and Reva's Crafts-A-Plenty (first).

Accessible Home Health Care Wins Award

Accessible Home Health Care, located in Coral Springs, Florida, named its affiliate, Accessible Home Health Care of Frederick, as its Franchise Volunteer of the Year 2016 during the 11th Annual National Awards Banquet on February 18, 2017.

Mirella Salem, the franchisor and president of Accessible Home Health Care, awarded the winner of the Volunteer of the Year for 2016 to Carmen and David Kukor, the owners/operators of Accessible Home Health Care of Frederick and Hagerstown.

"Selecting the Kukors for this prestigious award was a difficult decision indeed, as there are many very deserving franchises in our system," explained Salem. "Through their volunteer work with the Alzheimer's Association, lobbying for more research funding and caregiver support, plus their chairing of the Memory Café luncheon/social programs throughout the year, Carmen and Dave have partnered with Home Depot to provide a free monthly activity to residents of local assisted living

and nursing home communities which allows the residents to still feel a part of the community in which they lived before needing more care. Carmen and Dave are big supporters of other community agencies by delivering meals, goods, and services to those seniors less fortunate and in need. They consistently provide their clients and other seniors in their area Compassionate Care from the Heart, a core value of our organization that sets us apart. We are honored to have this dedicated group as part of our organization."

Carmen said, "Our hard work over the past five years, coupled with support of the corporate team, has allowed us to grow our business tremendously. Pursuing the Accessible business model to its fullest extent allows us to serve all clients throughout their continuum of care. We understand the most important aspect of our success has been, and will always be, the excellent care provided to our clients by our caregivers."

Have an event you'd like to list here?
Email: editor@monocacymonocle.com

Continued from page 3.

Commissioners Consider Hikes in Water/Sewer Rates

Yost said that the next steps in the process of considering the rate changes would be to adopt a resolution supporting the changes and then to schedule a public hearing. The commissioners decided to consider a resolution at their next public meeting on April 3.

The commissioners also considered the reappointment of four sitting members of town boards to new terms. Patrick Trainor and Jeff McIntyre were approved for reappointment to the Parks Board. Michelle Roche was reappointed to a new term as a member of the Ethics Commission. Dennis Minor's reappointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals was deferred for further consideration.

The commissioners also considered a request for a grant of \$30,000 to install fire escapes at the Friendly Thrift Shop, located in the old town hall on West Willard Road. The building is owned by the town and "rented" to local churches who use it to provide used clothing for reduced prices. It is very old and likely has structural issues that need to be addressed. Installing a fire escape would trigger requirements regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act and other regulatory policies that might result in large expenditures on the building. The town needs to settle on a strategy for how to deal with the building, and the commissioners directed Yost and town engineer John Strong to come up with a report relating to what might be done with the building going forward.

Finally, the commissioners conducted an extensive discussion about the process for approving the use of the town's parks by organized sports teams. The Parks Board currently manages the process, but the commissioners expressed dissatisfaction with how that process is working. They decided that putting the management of the process into the hands of the town staff, under the policy guidance of the Parks Board, would help ensure a more seamless process. The idea of instituting fees for the use of parks by organized sports teams was also weighed, and it appears the notion will be considered for future use of parks. Yost and Commissioner Valaree Dickerson will discuss the next steps with the Parks Board.



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Continued from page 1

Lincoln's Most Important Connection to Poolesville

Jersey, then Pennsylvania. John Lincoln, the head of the fourth generation of American Lincolns, moved even further south, onto a 600-acre tract in the Shenandoah Valley in Rockingham County, Virginia. His son Abraham Lincoln, the future president's grandfather, was born in Pennsylvania in 1744 before moving to Virginia with his parents and his siblings, eventually eight in all.

Abraham Lincoln married Bathsheba Herring, the daughter of one of the leading families in Rockingham County in 1770. Five children were born to Abraham and Bathsheba: Mordecai born circa 1771, Josiah circa 1773, Mary circa 1775, Thomas born in 1778, and Nancy in 1780.

Abraham joined the Virginia Militia and became a captain in 1776, just as the American colonies went to war for their independence. Abraham served as a captain for Rockingham County and was in command of sixty of his neighbors, ready to be called upon by the governor of Virginia and marching wherever needed. He made a distinguished name for himself in the county and everyone knew him as Captain Lincoln.

In 1780, however, Captain Lincoln sold his land in the Shenandoah Valley and moved his family through difficult terrain to Kentucky territory. The family settled in Jefferson County, about twenty miles east of what is now Louisville. The Continental Congress established the Ohio River as a dividing line between Indians and settlers, but colonists still pushed north for more land, and the Indians retaliated with raids into Kentucky. For protection, the settlers lived near frontier forts, or stockades, to which they retreated when an alarm was sounded. Abraham Lincoln settled near Hughes' Station and began clearing land, planting corn, and building a cabin.

One afternoon in May of 1786, Captain Lincoln was working in his field planting corn with his three sons when a shot rang out from the nearby forest, and he fell to the ground. The eldest boy, fourteen-year-old Mordecai, ran to the cabin where a loaded gun was kept, while the middle son, Josiah, aged twelve, ran to the stockade for help. Thomas, the youngest at just six years old, stood in shock, sobbing by his dying father. An Indian warrior, most likely a Shawnee, came out of the forest and reached for Thomas, either to kill him or to kidnap him. From the cabin, Mordecai steadied his rifle, took aim, and shot the Indian in the chest, killing his father's assassin.

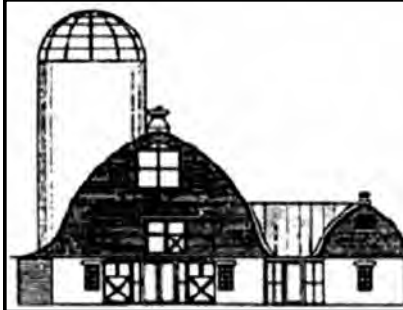
Thomas Lincoln grew up, and on June 12, 1806, married Nancy Hanks. Thomas sold his first farm and purchased another, south of Elizabethtown, Kentucky. It was there that his second child was born on February 12, 1809, whom he named Abraham in honor of his late father.

Mordecai, as the oldest son, inherited the property in Jefferson County that had been purchased by his father in 1780. He, too, grew up and, in 1792, he married Mary Mudd. He sold the inherited acreage in 1797 and purchased farm property in Springfield, Kentucky. The couple had six children, all born in Kentucky. Three sons were named Abraham, James, and Mordecai. One of their daughters was named Elizabeth, born in 1792. She married and had a daughter named Mary Loretta Mudd in 1819. Mary married and had a daughter named Olivia Ann Johnson. Olivia had a daughter named Mattie Alice Carter in 1877. When Mattie grew up she gave birth to a daughter she named Hazel Olivia Chatterton. Hazel had six children, the oldest of whom was Edward, born in 1930. Edward was my dad.

We are all here by an accident of birth, fate, or God's master plan. We don't choose our ancestors and can't predict where the successive generations will go. History, both personal family history and world events, can be fascinating. If my ancestor had not saved his younger brother's life, there would have been no President Abraham Lincoln. Who knows what the United States would look like today had we not had as our leader one of the greatest presidents our country has ever known at one of the most crucial points in our history.

As an adult at age forty-five, the president recounted the story of his grandfather's death to a relative and said, this "legend more strongly than all others imprinted upon my mind and memory." Mine, too.

Do you have an interesting story to share? Send it along to
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SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER March 2017

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Visit our Website: www.sugarloafcitizens.org

Dear Friends:

Spring is finally here—and it is time for Sugarloaf Citizens' Association's Annual Meeting! Hope you can join us Saturday morning (April 1st) at Linden Farm for conversation, updates, and a light breakfast. We are especially pleased that Caroline Hanson has agreed to 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 our keynote speaker and share updates on his work in opposition to the proposed GMC mega-church facility on Old Hundred Road as well as successful strategies to employ for winning land development campaigns.

Look forward to catching up on April 1st —No Kidding!!

Beth Daly, President

APRIL 1st ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

- 9:00 **Welcome/Get Acquainted**
- 9:30 **Greetings** and Introduction of Guests –
SCA President Beth Daly
Year in Review – SCA President Beth Daly & Board Members
- 9:55 **Election of 2017 Officers & Board Members** –
SCA VP, Steve Findlay
SCA Nominating Committee: Steve Findlay,
Nancy Rogers, Steve Vogel
- 10:05 **Piedmont Environmental Awards**, SCA Board Member & Past President, Jim Brown
- 10:20 **Royce Hanson Film Screening**—Caroline Hanson
- 10:35 **Keynote Speaker** – **Richard Klein**
- 11:00 **Questions from the Audience**
- 11:10 **Updates from Elected Officials**
- 11:20 **Community Announcements and Open Discussion**
Audience comments and questions
- 11:30 **Adjournment**

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Youth Sports

PHS Spring Teams Ready to Roll

By Jeff Stuart

"We have a lot of key players returning this year," said Poolesville High School's baseball coach, Steve Orsini. "Cooper Myers Mallinger will play the outfield and second base for us. Cooper will also pitch. Cole Carmack will play shortstop and pitch for us. Brady Pearre will pitch for us. We will have Matt Convers behind the plate. Ryan Haddaway will be at shortstop, and Colin Metz will be in center field. They all played for me last year, so that's pretty good. Cole and Cooper are good on the mound. Brady will have to work a bit, and we have a newcomer, Jimmy Dutton, a junior, who will give us some innings. Ryan will come in at relief at times. We have about six that we feel pretty good about. Dutton will play in the outfield. Zach Weidenhofer will take over at first base for Ryan D'Amelio. He will do a good job for us there."

"Our expectations are high," said Brady. "We should take the division this year...Just getting back out on the field and getting started will be great."

"I think we will be really good," said Cole. "We have a lot of good seniors and juniors. As for a personal goal, I want to have as few errors as possible."

"We have a solid group of kids," said Cooper. "I personally think we can make a run at the state championship and bring it back to Poolesville. I am looking forward to the Seneca Valley game to avenge our playoff loss last year and to Damascus, obviously." His favorite moment? "Just getting to play with Robbie Metz, Hunter Pearre, Thayer Seely, and Chris Convers in my freshman year. That was special."

Girls' Lacrosse

"Though I have been an assistant coach for the past two years, this is my first year as the head girls' varsity lacrosse coach," said Rachel Stream. "I am very much looking forward to it. We have some great athletes that are ready to work hard to have a great season. We have a big number of returning players from last year's varsity. We are looking to work hard and to take it a step further this year. I am going to push these girls mentally and physically so they are able to outlast their opponents in every game. I really want to give these girls (especially the seniors) a good year. I know they will give me everything they have, and that



Falcon baseball players: junior Brady Pearre, and seniors Cole Carmack and Cooper Myers Mallinger.

is all we can ask for. Some players to look out for: Sophia Mense (committed to play at St. Mary's College of Maryland), Haley Harkins (committed to playing at American), Hannah Bush."

Boys' Lacrosse

"It looks like this season is going to be interesting," said boys' lacrosse coach Stuart Orns. "We have some great senior leadership with our captains, Keegan Hemingway, Tim McIntyre, Dakota Grimsby, and Austin Nichols. They bring big game experience. Rounding out our senior class are Michael Chilla, Colin Fisher, Michael MacDonald, and Baharu Harris, all of whom add character and work ethic. With a core of younger players, we have a nice mix of youth and experience as we head into our schedule...Colin Hemingway is the only freshman to make the varsity, and we expect that he will have an impact right away. Sam Garrett and Stephen Fessenden are returning starters who are poised to make significant contributions this spring. We will live by the old cliché, 'one game at a time,' and stay focused on the details."

Softball

"Last year I graduated nine seniors," said softball coach Laurie Wohnhas. "This year, I have only one senior, Samantha Goldsborough at shortstop. Also returning are junior Kellie Dahlin, third base, and sophomore Ali Ransom at catcher. Sophomore Casandra Maier has some varsity experience and she will play OF. As you can see, it will be a rebuilding year with a lot of new faces. Sophomore Gwen Boe and freshman Holly Raines will share pitching duties. Sophomores Maddie Burdette, Clare Wilson, and junior Cassie Volkle all played on JV last year and have no varsity experience. Freshmen, Jenna

Stroud, Jess Convers, Alaina Shields, and Alyson Gotlewski, will see considerable playing time.

"It will take some time to develop team chemistry and decide upon where these young players will fit on the field in the lineup. The team is working hard and will only improve as the season goes on."

Boys' Tennis

"This spring season is sure to be a great one," said senior boys' tennis team captain Coleman Martinis. "There are fourteen players on the squad, and ten will play in each match. Again this year, I will be playing first singles. Samuel Zhou is due to play second singles, with Kartik Krishnan following closely behind in the position of third singles. Despite having

lost a few seniors since the previous year, PHS has seen an unprecedented influx of great new players and an astounding amount of improvement in the veterans on the team, especially in its doubles matchups. Deciding who will play in what doubles positions has posed a difficult challenge for Coach Dacek and Coach Johnson.

"We are looking forward to our upcoming Division 2 matches and should do quite well within our division. Our first match, against Division I B-CC High School, will undoubtedly pose a Challenge, but the tennis team will hopefully pull through. This year we hope to triumph against Quince Orchard...The Poolesville tennis team is ready to rock the black and gold and succeed to the greatest degree possible."

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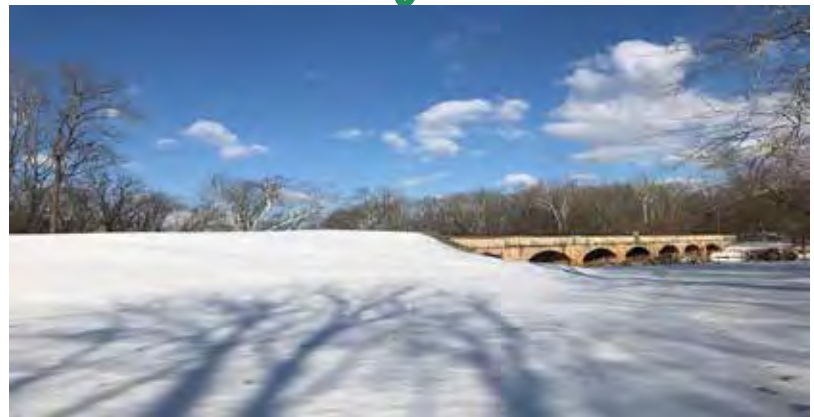
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(Photos by Jon Wolz)

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Garden Old Favorites

By Maureen O'Connell

In my last article, "Go Native," I spoke about the wonderful and varied benefits of planting native plants in your yard. When I make plant recommendations, I often look to my own gardens to see what does well in our Monocacy climate. I have two particular native plants that are both about twenty-five years old and are flourishing. As we enter the spring planting season, survey your land and see where you could plant these trusted performers.

Before the daffodils and snowdrops even think about getting out of bed, the pussy willow tree and its large, soft, fuzzy, silvery buds or catkins on bare stems are pointing the way to the arrival of spring. It is a bright spot in a sometimes blah landscape. It has become a ritual for me and my two Labs, Tom and Spencer, to visit the upper garden (the boys and I refer to it as the UG) in late February and mid-March to visit the pussy willow tree to see it in silvery bloom.

Pussy willow is a name given to the species of the genus *Salix*, willows and sallows. It includes the Goat willow, a small tree native to northern Europe and northwest Asia; Grey willow, native to northern Europe; and the American pussy willow, *Salix discolor*, native to North America. The latter you can find growing from Maine to Maryland, and it is the one growing in my garden. This ornamental tree can be grown as a specimen plant, hedge, or privacy screen. Its ultimate size depends upon how you prune it. I do not prune mine, except for dead or diseased branches, and it is a stately twenty feet tall with a graceful oval shape. This tree grows at a fast rate—about twenty-four inches per year—so if your space is limited, keep it pruned. The pussy willow tree is dioecious, meaning that the male and female catkins appear on separate trees. The catkins on the male tree usually appear earlier than those of the female; mine appear in mid-February, meaning it is a male. Leaves and small flowers emerge after the catkins; the grayish-green leaves cover the many branches well into October. The tree does best planted in full sun in an acidic, loamy, moist, rich, and well-drained soil. That said, my tree is a contradiction since he lives in no such conditions. My UG soil is what he got and he is okay with that. The pussy willow helps the environment and wildlife. The buds are the



Pussy willow catkins.

preferred food of many birds and small mammals. The tree's many intersecting branches are an important nesting site of the American goldfinch and other songbirds. Its thickets provide cover and protection to wildlife. At this time of the year, we need all the harbingers of spring that Mother Nature can provide. Plant a pussy willow.

The colorful sprigs of holly are synonymous with Christmastime cheer and decorations, but the holly tree has much more to offer and should be part of your landscape. There are many varieties of holly that grow in many parts of the United States and around the world. The one that thrives the best in our area is the American holly, *Ilex opaca*. It can be seen in woods in southern New England and down the coast to Georgia. It is an upright, pyramidal, evergreen tree that slowly matures to fifteen to thirty feet in cultivation. It is the only native U.S. holly with spiny green leaves and bright red berries. Hollies are dioecious. The male and female flowers are borne on separate plants. For the production of the beautiful red berries, you need both male and female plants of the same species. Besides being a beautiful specimen tree, its berries and flowers provide food for birds and small mammals throughout the year. Very often in the winter, I see deer and rabbits sheltering under its thick, dense branches. Once planted, it requires very little maintenance. It can thrive under many climatic and soil conditions. I have two very old trees and two that are about five years old. The old ones are in full sun in front of the house, but they receive the full effect of harsh winter winds whipping across the space. The youngsters are in a more protected spot, also in full sun. They do equally well.

The American holly has been popular since the beginning of American history. When the pilgrims landed in Massachusetts, they found it growing

Continued on page 22.

Monocacy Critters

Serendipitous Pet and Animal Pictures*



Bald eagles are gaining in population and visibility within the Poolesville area.

This picture was taken in Dickerson. We lost identification of the photographer, so if you took this photo, please let us know so we can give you proper credit.

*Do you have an unusual or funny picture of a pet or animal? Mail or email the picture to editor@monocacymonocle.com or P.O. Box 372, Barnesville, MD 20838



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School News

PHS Midnight Players Present Thoroughly Modern Millie

The talented students at PHS will be presenting the 1967 musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at the end of March in the school's auditorium.

This is a delightful story about Millie Dillmount who is just your average 1920s girl ready to take life by the horns. She has just arrived in New York City, ready to make her dreams come true. It doesn't take long, however, for Millie's adventure to get turned upside down. Her conniving landlady plots to kidnap her best friend; her wealthy boss seems entirely uninterested in her flirtations; and—worst of all—the man with whom she falls head over heels in love doesn't have a penny to his name. Can she “forget about the boy?” or will she be asking the world to “gimme gimme a thing called love?”

\$8.00 for general admission and \$12.00 for reserved admission. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening: 7:00 p.m.; Saturday matinée: 2:00 p.m.

PHS Senior Receives National Award for Volunteer Service

MacKenzie Gross, a student at Poolesville High School, has been honored for her exemplary volunteer service with a Certificate of Excellence from The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, and with a President's Volunteer Service Award granted by the program on behalf of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

Presented annually by Prudential Financial, in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honors young people across America for outstanding volunteer service. Certificates of Excellence are

granted to the top ten percent of all Prudential Spirit of Community Award applicants in each state and the District of Columbia.

Poolesville High School nominated MacKenzie for national honors this fall in recognition of her volunteer service. “Prudential is honored to celebrate the contributions of these remarkable young volunteers,” said Prudential Chairman and CEO John Strangfeld.

“By shining a spotlight on the difference they've made in their communities, we hope others are inspired to volunteer, too. These students have not only improved their communities through their exemplary volunteer service, but also set a fine example for their peers,” said JoAnn Bartoletti, executive director of NASSP. “Each of their stories is proof of the impact one young person can have when they decide to make a difference.”

Green Award Given to Barnesville School

The Green Schools Alliance recently announced that Barnesville School of Arts & Sciences won the 2017 Green Cup Challenge, a national award for energy savings and behavior change and education.

In its announcement, the Green Schools Alliance stated the following: “In 2014, Barnesville conducted an energy audit which led them to some important energy upgrades, including new windows and LED lighting fixtures throughout the school. Those upgrades were coupled with a school-wide education effort for teachers and students focused on personal actions for energy efficiency, such as turning off lights and computers and following guidelines for temperature set points. Barnesville School of Arts & Sciences reduced its electricity consumption by thirty-eight percent.”

“Students play an active role in earning and maintaining the school's status as a Green School, participating in environmental stewardship programs such as the Green Cup Challenge,” said Barnesville Assistant Head of School, Vickie Roos.

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Assault: 21000 block of Big Woods Road.

Burglary: 21500 block of Peach Tree Road, 20000 block of Westerly Avenue.

Past Crime

March 24, 1911 The Montgomery County grand jury was set to take up the murder case of Richard Allnut who had been arrested for the murder of his sister and serious wounding of his mother at their home in Dawsonville. Lawrence Allnut, brother of the accused, was scheduled to be the first to testify.

March 26, 1910 The March term of the grand jury ended with the jury returning twenty-two indictments. Among those indicted were Elizabeth Young who was charged with swindling several hundred dollars from farmers in the Clarksburg district. Leo Ganley was indicted for arson after being charged with burning down the house of Rueben Drew near Boyds.

March 26, 1911 Sheriff Vielt and a Baltimore detective spent a day in Gaithersburg investigating the fire that destroyed the Summit Heights Hotel. At the end of the day, they arrested Charles Saffel of Gaithersburg. After first denying that he had anything to do with the fire, he later admitted that he had set the fire because he liked to see people run. The hotel was owned by John Diamond and Ignatius Fulks and was worth \$10,000 but insured for \$5000. Within a week, Saffel was found guilty and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. Testimony showed that Saffel had always been "weak-minded" but did know the difference from right and wrong.

March 30, 1915 Passersby noticed Deputy Sheriff Charles Gray walk out of the front door of the courthouse in Rockville and stand on the front steps. Some waved, and Gray did not appear to be in any distress. Suddenly, he pulled a vial from his pants pocket and drank the contents. He immediately collapsed onto the steps. Two doctors were summoned, and they deduced that Gray had swallowed carbolic acid. Antidotes were given, and Gray was put on a train bound for Washington where he was admitted to the

Emergency Hospital. Rockville residents recalled that it had just been three weeks since Sheriff Peyton Whalen had attempted suicide in his office by firing a bullet into his head.

April 13, 1914 Manslaughter was the compromise verdict delivered by a Rockville jury in the case of Walter Belt of Laytonsville. It had been charged that Belt had murdered Jesse Everly, a farm laborer. The jury deliberated all night and, at 8:30 in the morning, announced that it had reached a verdict. Judge Worthington, in sentencing

Belt to eight years in the penitentiary, scolded him, saying that overindulgence in intoxicating liquor led to his downfall. Belt nodded his head in agreement. After the jury had been dismissed, some jurors stated that, in the middle of the night, six of them were in favor of an acquittal while the rest favored murder.

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

COMMISSIONERS OF POOLESVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on April 3, 2017 at 7:30 PM at Poolesville Town Hall, 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland. This public hearing is for the purpose of receiving public comment concerning Resolution 001-17, which proposes to change the existing quarterly graduated water and sewer rates schedule pursuant to Poolesville Code §16.51. Copies of the Resolution are available at Town Hall.

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Remembrances

Alice Duley Mills

Alice Duley Mills, 99, of Frederick, formerly of Poolesville, died on March 10, 2017.

She was the wife of the late Douglas E. Mills who died on June 23, 1980.

Born on May 30, 1917 and raised in Travilah, she was the daughter of the late John and Lula Bell (Bennett) Duley.

Alice attended Richard Montgomery High School and worked in a country store in Travilah after school and on Saturdays. When she was sixteen, she met her future husband Doug Mills on a blind date. Five years later, in 1938, they were married. Just before WWII, Alice and Doug had their "precious jewel," daughter Patricia.

During the war, while Doug was in the army, stationed in Europe, Alice worked as a supervisor at the Defense Plant in Silver Spring. While there, she was selected to represent the Defense Plant at Aberdeen Proving Grounds as a member of the Women's Army Corps.

After the war, Alice and Doug built their home in Rockville. Alice then began a twenty-two-year career as a receptionist and assistant for the medical firm of Drs. William Murphy, William Hall, and Stephen Cromwell. During this time, she also worked as a hostess for the Robert Pumphrey and Tyson Wheeler Funeral Homes in Rockville.

Throughout her life, Alice was an active member of the Travilah Baptist Church, serving as a Sunday school teacher for forty-five years and several times as principal of the church's Vacation Bible School. Alice was a member of the Intercessory Prayer Group established by bestselling author Catherine Marshall, wife of U.S. Senate Chaplain Dr. Peter Marshall.

She was a charter and honorary lifetime member of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary. During her service, she served as chaplain of the Maryland Ladies' Auxiliary. She was also an active member of the Pythian Sisters of Maryland.

After the death of her husband in 1980, Alice lived with her daughter and son-in-law in Poolesville. She later transferred her church membership to Poolesville Baptist Church and served there on numerous committees.

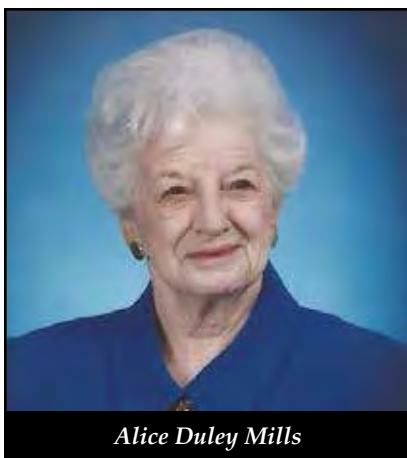
She generously gave of her time, visiting family and friends who were ill, hospitalized, or in nursing homes. This became her personal outreach ministry and one she pursued passionately for as long as her health allowed.

Surviving is her daughter Patricia E. Watkins and husband Lawrence; three grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Alice was preceded in death by two brothers, Thomas and Norman Duley, and four sisters, Thelma Hanson, Catherine Nicholson, Dorothy Nicewarner, and Edna Trail.

Alice is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and countless friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Alice's name to the Travilah Baptist Church (travilahbaptistchurch.com) or to the American Cancer Society (cancer.org).



Alice Duley Mills

Meredith Carrick Rinaldi

Meredith (Missy) Carrick Rinaldi, beloved wife of Will Rinaldi, died March 17 at Frederick Memorial Hospital.

Missy was born in 1947 in Decatur, Georgia. She was the daughter of the late Amelia Carrick Woods. She attended Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore and the Lovett School in Atlanta. She continued her education at Stratford College in Virginia where she received her B.A.

Missy began her career as a flight attendant with Northwest Airlines. In a career shift, she took a position as a buyer for the Smithsonian Institution's Gift Shop, where she utilized her eye for quality items. She later brought this talent to Nordstrom, where she managed the Nordstrom Gift Gallery. She retired in 2013.

Missy loved nature and animals, particularly the St. Bernard. In her younger days she was a ballet dancer and enjoyed sailing and skiing. She was an avid gardener and gourmet cook. She loved reading, radio shows and beautiful scents. Missy was loyal, compassionate and had a contagious laugh.

She is survived by her husband, Will, to whom she was married for thirty-seven years. She is also survived by her loving children, Patrick (Sara) and Elizabeth. She was preceded in death by her precious son Benjamin.

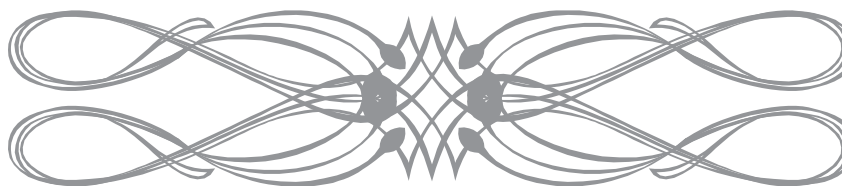
Memorial gifts may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital or the charity of your choice.



Meredith (Missy) Carrick Rinaldi

Christine Dorsett

Christine Dorsett passed away on March 16. During her life and illness, Christine touched many lives with her kind notes and words of encouragement that always seemed to come at just the right time. She was a prolific and gifted writer, and so many were blessed by her thoughtfulness and talent. She passed from this world with her mother Sally Hunter at her side. Memorials in Christine's name can be made to Montgomery Hospice.



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Continued from page 4

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drops off the mail and keeps going. He got to know some people a little when he knocked on their doors with a package, or if he needed a signature, but there were also people who wouldn't answer their doors for him. With that, and his interview with the *Monocle* completed, he took off to finish his last day on his route.

Continued from page 15

Old Favorites

everywhere. They found it similar to English ivy. It provided the Native Americans with wood for many different purposes, and the berries were used for buttons and barter. George Washington was particularly fond of this tree, and he planted many at his home in Mount Vernon. Some are still surviving. It is the State of Delaware's official tree.

The American holly tree is slow growing, but it is well worth the wait.

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Spring Planting: Keeping Your Pet Safe

Choosing safe plants and pesticides is a must for any pet household. What should be a fun, easy trip to the plant nursery often takes us over an hour as we carefully select plants that have minimal toxic effects. The number one plant that every dog household must avoid is the sago palm, as every single part of the plant can be fatal if ingested.

If you think your dog may have eaten sago palm, bring him to the nearest veterinarian immediately for medical treatment. Cat households should avoid planting any type of lily since these cause severe kidney damage.

When it comes to using pesticides in the garden, I like to avoid them. Slug poison is a serious neurotoxin and is not easily treatable once ingested. Instead, try cutting red Solo cups into thirds and placing them into the ground around the flower bed; fill those up with beer.

It will attract, trap, and kill the slugs, all without harming your pets if they ingest some. Before spraying the grass with an insect/flea/tick killer, I would check with your veterinarian on the exact chemical in the product you are using.

Unless necessary, do not place rat poisons or baits anywhere in the yard where pets may have access to them. None of them is safe for your pet despite what the pest control representative might say. A poison is a poison and will do its job regardless of who ingests it. If you must use one, please make sure to know the type.

When in doubt, a great resource to utilize is the ASPCA's website <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control>. There is also a Poison Control Center you can call at 888-426-4435 if you suspect your pet has ingested something toxic; it does cost \$65. They will guide you through what to do, and even give you a case number to give to your veterinarian should you need to seek medical attention.



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