

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

*Keeping an Eye on Local News*

*A Biweekly Newspaper*

November 17, 2017 • Volume XIII, Number 18



*PHS to be fully modernized. More pictures of town events in Family Album on page 2.*



*A great Poolesville tradition! The full story on page 5.*



*Jeff Walsh shared the story of a ship named after Hood College. See Tidbits on page 6.*



*Alica Walker (top left) and Haley Harkins (center) celebrated with friends. Check out School News on page 8 to find out the occasion.*

## *PHS Advocates Urge MCPS BOE to Keep School Modernization Date*

By Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

Approximately one hundred Poolesville High School (PHS) supporters, donning black (with a bit of gold), attended the Montgomery County Board of Education’s (BOE) Capital Improvement Priorities (CIP) hearing on Wednesday, November 8 at the Carver Educational Services Center, in Rockville to protest MCPS Superintendent Dr. Jack R. Smith’s recent CIP recommendations—which do not include much-postponed PHS modernization plans slated for 2023 and long-awaited by the community. Dr. Smith has proposed a new approach to CIP planning that will affect how schools are evaluated for capital improvements—from renovations to rebuilding and other improvements. A building date for PHS is now unknown.

The community was well organized and energized for the November 8 hearing. A newly created webpage, Protect Poolesville High School, ([www.protectourpoolesville.com/highschool](http://www.protectourpoolesville.com/highschool)) highlighted the

superintendent’s proposed changes to CIP planning and its potential impact on PHS and issued a call to action. Calleva Outdoor Adventures donated one of its buses to transport forty PHS advocates to the hearing. The bus arrived to chants of “PHS, PHS, PHS,” from PHS advocates waiting with signs demanding the BOE keep PHS in the queue for modernization. Shomari Stone, an NBC4 reporter, and camera crew, followed the crowd into the hearing and afterwards interviewed several community members. The story appeared on the 11:00 p.m. news broadcast.

Testifying in support of PHS’s most recent projected modernization date were Poolesville commissioner Jerome Klobukowski, PHS PTSA president Jane Lehrman, junior Angela Wang, and Poolesville Cluster Schools coordinator Donna Lowell. Ms. Lowell’s testimony was assisted by a team of young students with high school graduation dates ranging from 2025 to 2031, including Madeline Munster,



*The future of PHS and nearly another 100 concerned citizens came to the BOE meeting to be heard.*

Will Loftus, David Kinney, Daniel Butler, Rebekah Longbrake, Leonie Lueddeke, and Emilene Munster. Each testimony urged the BOE to consider

**Continued on page 11.**

## *Alisa Ogden: A Jewel among Us*

By Rande Davis

Poolesville’s Alisa Ogden is a very special person in the community and recently, the Maryland Special Olympics published in its newsletter a delightful article by Hannah B. Boudreau about Alisa, her ingenuity, and loving entrepreneurship that we excerpt here. It is a story of being thankful and is proudly published as a gift to our readers for this coming Thanksgiving Day.

Last March, Poolesville’s Alisa Ogden decided she wanted to spread love, raise awareness, and encourage acceptance for persons with Down Syndrome. Today, Alisa’s mission has touched people from all over the country. How did she achieve this? By starting her own company.

**Continued on page 16.**



*Coree and Alisa Ogden have been very busy spreading a lot of love while helping the Special Olympics, too.*



# Family Album

Lions photos by Rob Jones



King Lion Milt Andrews presented Anne Sturm with the club's 2017 Humanitarian Award, presented to deserving non-members.



Poolesville American Legion Daniel-Jeffers Post 247 Commander John Robinson addressed members and guests at its annual Veterans Day remembrance on Whalen Commons.



Walt Pritchard received the Lions Club's 2017 Legacy Award for his enduring service and dedication to Lionism.



Garland Johnson received the Lions Club's 2017 Lion of the Year Award.



The Monocacy Lions Club's annual Charter Night festivities were held at Dutch's Daughter this year.



MES students, Penelope and Micah Singh, with grandfather John Peterson, Jr., Ret. U.S. Army.



PACC president Gail Lee presented the chamber's \$1,500 donation to the Monocacy Lions to King Lion Milt Andrews. Both groups partner with the 5K run/walk on Poolesville Day to raise funds for many local charitable and worthy organizations.



Julien Singh did the time-honored practice of giving the first piece of the ceremonial cake to the oldest marine, and then the youngest. Good news for Julien, he wasn't the former; bad news, he wasn't the latter either.



Barnesville had an apple bake off. Pictured are Audrey Morris, commissioner; Mildred Callear, president of the Barnesville commissioners; Robin Snyder, judge; Aramin Davidson, judge; Marsha VonDurckheim, judge; and Holly Larish, Barnesville commissioner.



## Town Government

### Town Commissioners Discuss Actions To Deal with "Blight" in Town

By Link Hoewing

At their November 6 meeting, the Town of Poolesville's commissioners explained actions they have taken to deal with what some have characterized as "blighted" buildings in Poolesville, principally in the Central Business District or older part of town. Before that discussion, the commissioners heard from a candidate for county council running for the District 1 seat that includes Poolesville and considered a grant request.

Before considering any business, however, the commissioners took a moment to express their sorrow about the sudden passing of long-time local activist and resident Conrad Potemra. Town President Jim Brown spoke for many when he said, "We would be negligent if we did not recognize the impact Conrad had on the town and on the government." Brown added, "While we did not always agree, he was without question a person who added to the town and drove us to be better and smarter."

Local resident Deborah Behrend asked the commission for a grant to support a program sponsored by Wildsafe.org called Stop the Bleed. Perhaps as a sign of the times, the program promotes training for citizens to help them minister to and aid people who have traumatic bleeding caused by any number of incidents ranging from traffic accidents to shootings. Mrs. Behrend said the training would be held at Poolesville Elementary School and would allow up to three hundred individuals to attend. Because of graphic images that are used in the training, only those thirteen years and older are eligible to participate. There is no cost for those wishing to attend.

A grant of \$300 was requested to fund the rental of the school's all-purpose room for the program. Those wishing to attend can go to the website Wildsafe.org and click on Stop the Bleed. Training events are scheduled for December 19, March 14, and May 3 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The request was granted on a unanimous vote.

The commissioners turned then to a request from town manager Wade Yost to approve a budget amendment to fund the moving of a utility pole on Fisher Avenue so curbing can be installed to help deal with flooding and to ensure a proper turn lane for businesses in that area. The pole sits out from others along Fisher Avenue and is located almost directly across from the flagpoles on Whalen Commons. The requested amendment to repurpose a little over \$4,000 was approved unanimously.

Finally, the commissioners discussed actions taken since they last met to deal with what some have called "blighted buildings" in town. At the last meeting, town attorney Jay Gullo laid out a series of thoughts regarding what actions the town could consider dealing with so-called blight. In essence, though, he said that the town really could not order building owners to fix up their facilities, and tax incentives are limited in their impact. He noted that the town did have an existing code enforcement process used primarily on residential properties. The code focuses on instances of "public safety" violations or homes that are in such disrepair that they could be considered a "public nuisance." In these cases, the town has sent letters requesting that fixes be made to address the problems and has even issued fines, in some cases settling cases before going to court. Commissioner Brown and Jerry Klobukowski both said that they would rather avoid using "clubs" such as going to court, and would seek to use the letters as a means of engaging in a dialog leading to improvements, but if that failed, other actions could be considered.

The commissioners elected to follow a similar code enforcement process for three commercial buildings in the Central Business District considered to be in poor physical condition: the Frederick Poole House owned by Linda Moyalem, the old Williams Store, only very recently purchased by Alex Markoff located across from the Old Town Hall Bank Museum, and a house on the corner of Wootton Avenue and Norris Road owned by Charlie Kohlhoss. A meeting has already been held with Moyalem, and Brown remarked that, while she clearly was not happy with receiving the letter, she has hired a local contractor to make repairs. He said that "we will keep on top of it" and the "name of the game will be vigilance." Alex Markoff admitted, "We agree the building belongs on the Town Blight list. When we are done with it, it will be on the Town Beautiful list. We are starting with an interior remodel, then siding and windows this spring. Until then, we appreciate everyone's patience."

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## Commentary

### Time to Offer Thanks

By John Clayton

I'm thankful I live where I do. Planet, country, state, county, street, you name it, I'm grateful to be here.

I'm thankful I'm a citizen of the United States of America, and a patriotic citizen at that. Of course, as our president more or less pointed out during his Asian trip, everyone should be a patriot for his own country. That suggests I'm no better than a Russian or a Turkish patriot when you get right down to it, but I'm pretty sure I'm more fortunate.

I'm thankful I live in a country where protest is allowed. You can criticize pretty much anything in any way and the government can't (shouldn't) do a thing about it. Even when we don't like a form of protest, like NFL players trying to make a statement by not standing during the national anthem, our tolerance of individual freedoms allows it. Of course, there are prices to pay when other people don't like what you do, but no one said freedom was easy. One of those prices has been that practically no one is talking about the topic of the protest: racial injustice; everyone is instead talking about the form of the protest, which has been received as an attack on the flag and war veterans. I'm thankful they have the opportunity to raise their issue, but even more thankful that the flag won.

A side note: I was on Facebook reading about the NFL controversy and someone asked, rhetorically, I assume, "What gives them the right to disrespect our flag?" Give up? The Constitution of the United States of America gives us that right.

I am also thankful that we have people in our government and society that call our president to account for his lack of appreciation for our system of checks and balances. In his own words: "You know, the saddest thing is that because I'm the president of the United States, I am not supposed to be involved with the Justice Department. I am not supposed to be involved with the F.B.I. I'm not supposed to be doing the kinds of things that I would love to be doing—and I'm very frustrated by it."

I am indeed thankful and hopeful he is restrained from "doing the kinds of things [he] would love to be doing." The jury may not be out on this, as the Justice Department is considering

legal actions against Trump's political opponents. The specters of a president who has openly threatened to prosecute his defeated political adversary, and of an attorney general, already operating under an ethical cloud, considering such actions are chilling for our democracy. I am thankful many Republicans and Democrats have protested the impropriety and danger of this approach.

I'm thankful there is a second amendment to the U.S. Constitution and that people can own firearms, but I'm also thankful that there may be some progress on sensible restraints on weaponry. The Texas shooter expended 450 rounds of ammunition in killing twenty-six people. The Las Vegas shooter expended hundreds of rounds during his longer, sustained assault. He fired two hundred bullets into a hallway during a brief encounter with a security guard, so one can only imagine what went out the window during his ten-minute fully-automatic barrage. This begs the question: What legitimate purpose is there for being able to unload this much ammunition in such short periods of time? How does that purpose stand up in comparison to enabling mass murder?

I am thankful that a private citizen with his own assault rifle chased off and shot the assailant which surely must have reduced the death toll. I note that he did not require 450 rounds to accomplish this.

I am thankful that there are people who resist the despoiling of our planet by those with short-term, commercial interests in mind. This battle will never end.

I am thankful we have men and women who willingly place themselves in harm's way, in combat all over the world, to protect our freedoms and even project the opportunity of such freedoms to the rest of the world. I am thankful for those everywhere who stand up to tyranny, even as our international commitment to basic human rights declines.

I am thankful for those in the press and media who continue to report the truth as they can best discern it, even as they are under attack from above as being scum, slime, and dishonest. I am thankful for the First Amendment to the Constitution. I'm thankful for America's experiment in individual freedom.

Last but not least, I am thankful for the opportunity to publish the *Monocacy Monocle* for all these years. I offer the greatest thanks to our staff, our readers, and our advertisers.

## Rande(m) Thoughts

### A Personal Note From a Grand Old And Glorious Friend

By Rande Davis

From up here, America looks so much different than from ground level.

From my perch, I see the busy hustle and bustle, the to and fro, the give and take in the daily living of life. Most of the time, "down there" reminds me of a Norman Rockwell painting. The view is an astounding and joyous mixture of life's basic normality combined with things great and amazingly wonderful. Sometimes, though, the scene below is quite somber, at times hauntingly serious, and, far too often, downright fearful.

Every once in a while, those sounds from below, although indiscernible to me from way up here, are sounds I perceive to be like singing. It is obvious at that moment that the personal concerns of life that divide fade into a shared moment of pride mixed with thanksgiving.

Surprisingly, as the people move about, I have noticed that on occasion many stop what they are doing, crowd

around in groups, large and small, look up my way, and uniformly say something that often turns into a music-like vibration. From my panorama, it is truly a breathtaking vision of peace and harmony with shared purpose and dreams, and, based on the expression shown on their faces, most look happy. On a few faces, I see despair, but for some others, I even see tears of appreciation running down their cheeks. As they look up most often with pride at me, I wave back with hope. I have been waving back for a very long time, on good days and horrible days, in the dark and in the light, on heartwarming days and days of bitter and bone-chilling coldheartedness. From up here, down there seems harmonious. Far too often, though, it is anything but.

I am the American Flag.

I wasn't there the moment it all began, too much had to be worked out at first. In the earliest days, the people fought hard, many dying and losing the very fortunes they had pledged to give up so that I could one day fly above them. It was then, in 1777, during that hard-fought time of flowing red blood, in a cause driven by a sense of purpose as pure as the fresh, white snow that we were united one to

Continued on page 17.

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## Local News

### Hope Garden Children's Ballet: A Nutcracker in Its Eighth Year

By Suzanne Creedon

Every September, around seventy dancers between the ages of four and fifty-five begin preparing for one of Poolesville's biggest annual holiday traditions, *A Christmas Carol*, performed by Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre. The company is in its eighth year of performing the classic under the direction of artistic director Fran Ichijo.

Eight years ago, Mme Ichijo wanted to do a Christmas dance show, but she didn't want to confine to the normality of the *Nutcracker*. "I was trying to think of good Christmas stories and Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* came right to mind."

Set in eighteenth century England with music by Claude Debussy, the story of the ballet follows Ebenezer Scrooge through a spiritual journey led by the Spirits of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. In 2015, D.C. Metro Theater Arts named the production one of the DMV's "Best Children's Theatre Productions" of the year.

At the beginning of each school year, Ichijo begins the process of creating the show by casting dancers in the roles of the ballet. Each year, she tries to bring in local professional artists to show her students examples of people currently working in the professional dance field. This year, Dustin Kimball from Bowen McCauley Dance will be joining HGCBT for the fifth time as Ebenezer Scrooge. Along with Kimball are guest artists Alan Obuzor, from Texture Contemporary Ballet, and former student Claire Jones who's currently with Bowen McCauley Dance.

After seven years of this show, Mme Ichijo has had the crucial time to fine tune the production to be everything she wants it to be. Each year, she changes things up a bit for the returners in the audience. This year, the young children in the show will be gingerbreads and lemon drops, instead of prior years' characters such as peppermints or elves. One of the recurring roles you can always count on seeing in the show are the spirits.

Along with the talented youngsters are the adult volunteers that give up their time to dance in the Party Scene of the ballet at the beginning of the second act. Most of the volunteers are parents of current students of Hope Garden Ballet, but some are just interested citizens of Poolesville, eager to dance under the stage lights.

Come experience the classic Christmas tale through movement and emotion in this special ballet. Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 25. Shows are at 1:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville, Maryland. Tickets are on sale now online at [fscottfitzgerald.showare.com](http://fscottfitzgerald.showare.com) and will also be available at the door. For members of the Poolesville Area Senior Center, PASC is arranging a bus to allow seniors to share transportation, and Hope Ballet is graciously donating some tickets so all may be able to attend.

There is no better way to enter into the holiday spirit than by seeing the annual Poolesville tradition of *A Christmas Carol*.



Returning in time for the Holiday Season: HGCBT's eighth annual performance of *A Christmas Carol*.

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## Tidbits

### Fulfilling a Promise

Jeff Walsh of Poolesville lives in the red big home right behind the Old Town Hall Bank Museum in Poolesville which has been a big part of his family's personal history. History truly runs in his veins. When twelve years ago he uncovered evidence of a long-forgotten WWII Victory ship named the SS Hood Victory, which was launched in 1945 and was named after Frederick's college where he works, as a World War II enthusiast and historian, he promised to himself to do more research to give a talk someday to his peers and students at Hood. This past Veteran's Day, as part of Hood's 125th anniversary, he finally fulfilled his promise, dressing up in full period uniform and telling of the good ship Hood that sailed in service from 1945 as a wartime troop carrier until the mid-1960s. The ship had the glorious task of transporting European theater vets home. Hooah, Jeff, hooah!

### And the Winner is...

Fine Earth Landscaping! So says the National Association of Landscape

Professionals, a national trade association representing nearly 100,000 landscape industry professionals in the United States, Canada, and overseas.

Landscape companies from around the country enter their most beautiful and most difficult projects to be judged for awards. Fine Earth Landscape of Poolesville captured three of only

nine awards given in the residential installation category.

The scope of the three projects, all in Montgomery County, highlighted the wide-ranging expertise of Fine Earth's landscape architects and designers. The three awards include some designs of a swimming pool, spa, waterfall, pergola, fireplace, wall, patios, drainage, landscape lighting,

and, of course, beautiful plantings. The design style ranged from natural with boulders to more formal hedges.

Joel Haffner and Bernie Mihm of Fine Earth Landscape have served the region for over forty years and have been located in Poolesville for almost all of those years.

### M&T Bank Awards Poolesville's American Legion with Donation



*M&T Bank made a wonderful donation to Poolesville's American Legion Post 247. Commander John Robinson, member Drew McKone, and chaplain/treasurer Steve Gibson.*



*President of Fine Earth Landscaping, Joel Hafner (fourth from the left), at award ceremony at the National Association of Landscape Professionals' convention.*

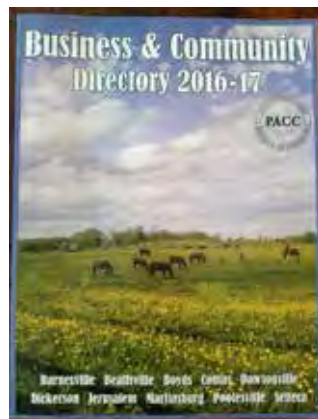
Continued on page 13.

## Poolesville Area Residents and Business Owners DON'T BE LEFT OUT!

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- Call us at 240-994-3406



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## Garden

### Embrace the Changing of Seasons

By Maureen O'Connell

As I write this article, the warmth and sunny days of summer still linger, but I know that colder weather is lurking around the corner, waiting to take center stage. There is an anonymous saying: Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go. As a gardener, I look forward to autumn; I like its garden almost as much as spring's. The first frosts and shortening days bring with them a shift of mood. The high expectations of a new spring garden are gone, and the garden breathes out and falls into repose. We see the world of the garden with a different take. I too can relax into autumn; there is no rush to weed, prune, mulch, plant new flowers, and tidy up everything. I will get around to winterizing the garden in my own good time; no lasting harm will come to my perennials if I am a little negligent and lazy. I will just have more work to do in the spring. No, now is the time that Tom, Spencer, and I sit back and enjoy the garden as "it is in October."

The Algerian-French author and philosopher Albert Camus said: "Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower." Well said, indeed. The trees with their autumnal leaves in brilliant shades of red, gold, yellow, pink, and purple are the star actors—but there is also beauty in the slowly dying perennials. Some, however, don't go quickly into the night. Just last week, I discovered, in the Upper Garden, one white spring iris who decided to bloom again. I also found a small standing of white cosmos. This is surprising since I have not seen this annual since I planted it there two years ago. My hydrangea 'Endless Summer' had a poor showing this spring and summer thanks to a mid-March heavy frost that killed most of the emerging flower buds. Well, he thought he would go for a last hurrah in September and October with a small, but beautiful, display of large, cornflower blue flowerheads. Other plants are still lingering on the summer stage: lavender, lantana, the Russian sage *Perovskia*, and the hardy geranium, Cranesbill 'Rozanne.' The hardy herbs parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme are alive and well, hoping to be around to flavor the Thanksgiving turkey, which they usually do.

My black-eyed Susans and coneflowers have gone to bed, but their blackened seed heads will nourish the birds well into December. My five blue false indigo plants, *Baptisia australis*, have turned purple black, but they are heavily pregnant with hundreds of seeds that will feed the birds and reappear as new plants next spring. Hope springs eternal in the garden.

As I have often said, a garden lives in a state of evolution which is spread over four seasons. None could exist without the other. That is a garden's balance. Embrace each season. Look to nature to give us clues in the garden, and, I might add, elsewhere. It is not only the seasons that change the garden; a responsible gardener can also do that. Without change, the garden would be without its vital spark, and no doubt, so would we.

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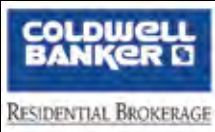


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## School News

### Six PHS Athletes Sign Letters of Commitment

By Jeff Stuart

On November 8, Poolesville High School held an NCAA D1 and D2 Senior Signing Ceremony in the PHS Media Center celebrating the scholarship commitments of six student-athletes, four juniors and two seniors.

Brady Pearre, a junior, has committed to play baseball at High Point University after he graduates in 2019. Brady, a right-handed hitting shortstop for the Falcons, was a member of the 2017 3A State Championship team and was named to the 2017 Washington Post All-Met Second team and USA Today Maryland first team. The versatile Pearre was a 2016 and 2017 Montgomery County Baseball All-Division 3A First Team selection and MVP pitcher. He posted a .400 batting average and an ERA of 1.98, winning seven games.

Brady's teammate on that State Championship team, Ryan Haddaway, also a junior, committed to play for Mt. Saint Mary's in 2019. Also, a right-hander, he batted .318. while playing

third base on defense. He was selected on the first first team All District Baseball, second team All County Baseball, first team All Division Baseball, 3A Region Champions Baseball, and 3A State Championship Baseball.

Two members of the Falcons girls' lacrosse team were honored at the ceremony: Hannah Bush committed to the University of Tampa, and Haley Harkins will play for American University next spring. Bush scored thirty-seven goals for the Falcons this past 2017 season. An outstanding lacrosse player, she was chosen as mid-fielder Mid-County and Division and also selected to the 2017 team MVP. Harkins scored thirty-one. As a junior, she was a first team All County and All Division selection. She has chosen a pre-med major and will attend medical school after graduation. Haley is a National Honor Society student graduating with a 4.0 and as a member of both the National Honor Society and the National Math Honor Society. She played all four years on the field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse teams. A team captain on the field hockey team, she received the Playmaker Award.

Soccer forward Alice Walker excelled at Poolesville and for the Washington Spirit club team. A twice-selected team MVP, she has committed

Continued on page 22.



Athletic scholarship winners: Hannah Bush, Haley Harkins, Ryan Haddaway, Ryan Lockett, Brady Pearre, and Alice Walker.

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## Youth Sports

### PHS Fall Playoff Wrap

By Jeff Stuart

The girls' soccer team was the last of the fall field teams standing. They lost to Winters Mill, 3-1, in the region final. They were ranked the number twelve team overall in the state. Sarah Mullikin scored for PHS at 9:28 in the second half.

"We had a tough test at Winters Mill," said coach Rod Nubgaard. "The girls gave it their level best as always. I am proud of their accomplishments this season. Only one team wins state. That is not my measure of success. They worked hard all this season. We finished 11-6-1 overall and have scored fifty-four goals while only conceding twenty-eight. We have had eight different goal scorers and narrowly missed having a ninth, a testament to the team attitude this season characterized by this group.

"We earned a number two seed and a first round bye in the sectional, and we had hard-fought wins against Walkersville (1-0) and Middletown (2-1). Both matches required a strong team performance despite a couple key injuries."

Playoff goals were scored by Sabrina Edwards and Rachel Onderko. Defenders were Zoe Welch, Kelliann Lee, Killian Carney, Sammie Thomas, Jessica Volkle, Saran Kaur, and Lauren Penn. Their strong performance gave offensive opportunities to the scorers. Midfielders, helping both the defense and the offense, were Heather Robinson, Sabrina Edwards, Maria Phelps, Sarah Mullikin, Rachel Macairan, Ashwini Thirukkonda, and Ali Markoff. Three JV players played a role in the solid playoff run: Abby Gordon, Tess Insalaco, and Julianna Hitchcock.

The field hockey team reached the 2A West Section II final, losing, 2-1, to Oakdale. The Falcons got a first half goal by Hannah Bush with an assist by Haley Harkins. The road to the final included a win against Linganore, 2-1, with a goal by Shivani Levine and the game winner by Juanita Jaramillo with just thirty-four seconds left.

On October 26, the resurgent boys' soccer team lost at Walkersville, 1-0, in a hard-fought contest.

Continued on page 22.



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*On behalf of the entire Monocacy Monocle ownership and staff, we want to thank our wonderful readers for their support this past year and would especially like to give our thanks to all those who advertised with us in 2017. Without them, we could not publish the paper, and we trust our readers share our appreciation, too.*

**Memorial United Methodist Church**  
 wishes the entire community a  
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**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

8:30-9am - Communion Service  
*(1st Sunday of Month)*  
 9:15-10:15am - Sunday School  
 10:30-11:30am - Worship Service

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dec 6 - Community Dinner 5:30-7pm  
 Dec 16 - Live Nativity, 6-8pm

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Continued from page 1.

**PHS Advocates Urge MCPS BOE to Keep School Modernization Date**

PHS's deteriorating physical plant and modernization needs for a new building worthy of the school's academic excellence.

Jane Lehrman noted one "deliverable" in response to her testimony. "During board comments, Board Member Patricia O'Neill said that the county would investigate and address one ADA compliance issue that I highlighted. The closest entrance from the main building to the science building has many steps, creating a problem for students with disabilities or injuries." Lehrman is PHS's delegate for the Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, in addition to her role as PHS PTSA president. A different board member asked that the PHS sprinkler system be investigated because it also was identified as an issue in another testimony.

According to Kevin Schramm, Poolesville School Cluster Coordinator, the Board of Education will release the Fiscal Year 2019-2024 CIP on Monday, November 27, 2017. "The complete modernization of Poolesville High School may or may not be included in this plan. If the complete modernization of PHS is not in the plan, it does not mean that our advocacy efforts were for naught. The strong and consistent advocacy efforts from the Poolesville area ensure that PHS will be at the forefront of discussion during the development of the new CIP policy process."

The webcast of the November 8 hearing is available on the MCPS website: [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org).

Do you or someone you know have a special announcement, or milestone you would like to share with our readers?

The *Monocle* welcomes your contribution. Send to [editor@monocacymonocle.com](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com)



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## Things To Do

### Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC) Events

**Pickleball:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Game Day:** Tuesdays: 1:00 p.m. Poolesville Baptist Church

**Zumba Gold:** Every Wednesday in gym, 1:00 p.m.

### November 17 and 18

#### Annual Christmas Attic Sale at St. Peter's Church

Thousands of items, both old and new: Ornaments, decorations, jewelry, linens, stuffies, artificial greens, lights, handcrafted items, and more. Baked goods and pecans for sale. Friday: noon to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### PHS Midnight Players

##### Present: Romeo and Juliet

PHS Auditorium. General admission: \$7.00, reserved: \$11.00. Friday: 7:00 p.m.; Saturday: 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

### November 17, 18, and 19

#### The Blue Hearth Special Bonus Market Weekend

The holidays are a special time; get your home ready and plan ahead. We can help make your holiday décor unique and your gift giving extra special this year. 19964 Fisher Avenue. Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

### November 20

#### Meet Amie Hoerber

Special meet and greet sponsored by the Rural Women's Republican Club featuring Congressional candidate Amie Hoerber. Old Town Hall Bank Museum at 10:30 a.m.

### November 22

#### Thanksgiving Mass

St. Mary's. 10:00 a.m.

#### Annual Thanksgiving Eve Bash

Special Event at Cugini's. 5:00 p.m.

#### Thanksgiving Worship Service

Barnesville Baptist Church. 7:00 p.m.

### December 1

#### Annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony

Whalen Commons turns into a virtual winter wonderland. Join in the family fun with Santa Claus there to take gift requests (he arrives at 6:30 p.m.), ride the holiday kiddie train, see ice sculpturing, festive music, refreshments available, gingerbread decorating at the Old Town Hall Bank Museum. Enjoy the Victorian Strolling Caroler Group. Bring a new unwrapped toy for WUMCO. Park lights lit at 7:00 p.m.

### PACC First Friday Holiday Night

Many shops and businesses will be open, including: Crafts-A-Plenty, Historic Medley's Old Town Hall Bank Museum with gingerbread decorating for the kids, the Blue Hearth, and more along the way. Ride the Poolesville Polar Express sponsored by Calleva from Whalen Commons to the old center of town. Visit the Old Town Hall for gingerbread decorating and the New Town Hall for the JPMS Christmas tree, musicians, and singers.

### December 1, 2, and 3

#### Countryside Artisans Annual Holiday Tour

Give the wonderful gift of art this Christmas. Visit twelve artisans and crafter studios representing over forty artists and an award-winning vineyard for a self-guided tour. Get official brochure and maps at www.countrysideartisans.com. Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

### December 2

#### UMCVFD Santa Breakfast

All you can eat: Juice, pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, coffee, and fruit salad. Bring kids early to have time to see the model train layout and to watch the movie *Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town*. Contributions to Toys for Tots welcome. Cost: 12 and over: \$8.00; 3-11: \$6.00; and under 3 is free. UMCVFD Fire Hall in Beallsville. 8:00 a.m. to noon.

### IOOF Christmas Dinner

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Poolesville Lodge 97, annual Christmas dinner for seniors on December 2. If you have plans to attend, please RSVP by November 24 to Richard Norwood at 301-943-6845 or Spencer Schmidt at 301-349-2057. Memorial United Methodist Church. 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### December 7

#### Community Dinner

Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, and homemade desserts. Memorial United Methodist Church. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### PACC Networking Breakfast

Guest speaker: The Piedmont Group. Poolesville Town Hall. 8:00 a.m.

### Annual PACC Holiday Party and Silent Auction

Ticket includes appetizers, buffet-style dinner, dessert, music, door prizes. Cash Bar. If you would like to donate an item for the silent auction, please contact secretary@poolesvillechamber.com. \$45 per member and \$45 for first guest, \$55 for other guests. Bretton Woods Country Club. 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

## The Rural Women's Republican Club

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# Pulpit

## St. Peter's Welcomes New Priest

By Rande Davis

St. Peter's Episcopal Church welcomed its new rector on November 12 by celebrating with a parish-wide breakfast between services in its social hall. The Rev. Ann Ritonia departed the church this past summer to accept a new pastor call in Ellicott City.

Rev. Emily Phillips Lloyd comes to Poolesville directly from the Church of St. Luke in the Field in New York City where she was associate priest and school chaplain at its St. Luke's School for grades up to eighth grade. Her duties included the oversight of its outreach and family ministries as well as participating in all of the parish's leadership work. Prior to that assignment, she was at Calvary Church in Stonington, Connecticut as curate/assistant, which is the second clergy person, splitting her work between parish and youth and family ministry. Her calling in New York also included a summer internship at Trinity Episcopal Church, the iconic church near Wall Street and the site of the World Trade Center.

Her study includes a Master of Divinity from Yale Divinity School, Diploma in Anglican Studies from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, and a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and English with a minor in drama from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

She told the congregation in her first sermon, "Moving to Poolesville and walking through the doors of the sanctuary here at St. Peter's has been like coming home for my family. My husband, Steve, and, baby, Will, and I have been overwhelmed by the loving welcome we have experienced. Thank you so much for all that you all have done in preparation for our arrival. We are so touched. As we embark on this new chapter, we need all of us to work together and give generously of ourselves. Because of all you have done together in the past few years, St. Peter's is now at an exciting moment in its history. Every day, St. Peter's is more and more a vital part of Poolesville's greater community. From the



St. Peter's new priest Emily Phillips Lloyd with husband Steve and son, Will.

moment I moved in next door, I have been amazed by how busy this place is. So many wonderful ministries and community events happen here every day. It is an exciting time to be here at St. Peter's."

In making a light-hearted comparison of her first service with the oft-feared blind date, she closed with, "Now friends, about our blind date... so even if it turns out that sometimes I am not the greatest preacher in the world and maybe sometimes you're not the greatest church in the world, it will all be okay because the greatest God in the world has promised to be with us and to create something incredible right here in this congregation."

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Continued from page 6.

### M&T Bank Awards Poolesville's American Legion with Donations

Poolesville's Daniel-Jeffers Post 247 American Legion recently received a \$1,000 donation from M&T Bank in conjunction with the post's recent square dance fundraiser. The donation was presented at a recent meeting of the local veterans' group which meets monthly at the iconic Old Town Hall Bank Museum. Funds to the American Legion are used to assist the group in its mission to promote veteran affairs and needs, provide aid to local and national vets through various military disability groups, contribute to local causes, place memorial American flags on local gravesites of veterans, and other miscellaneous actions to ensure the brotherhood and sisterhood of military service are never forgotten. They recently held a memorial service at Whalen Commons on Veterans Day, pictures of which are in the Family Album this issue.

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## Yeas and Neighs

### Deck the Horse and Plows in Folly

By Andie Devynck

What could be more dress-up fun than a moving holiday party you create with riders and farmers on their equines and equipment, respectively, and take to the streets? If you've never been to the Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade, you should dress warmly, grab the kids (or just bring your inner child), and go check it out. This year's celebration is on Saturday, December 9 at noon. Perhaps it will inspire to you join the crowd on horse- or tractor-back next year.

According to Alice Settle-Raskin of Alice's AgriMaryland, whose task it is to promote the yearly parade, what started as a way to put the historic town of Lisbon (a rural town tucked in the far western corner of Howard County) back on the map is now an annual holiday tradition. Alice asserts it's one of the most attended small-town Christmas parades in the state. She says it's also one of the few events in which the local equine and agricultural communities gather to take part in one of Maryland's biggest fundraisers to feed the hungry.

Ms. Settle-Raskin explains that the parade highlights the true meaning of community. "The spirit of people from all walks of life will fuel a gathering where all will enjoy the delights of the season and also give to those in need. Thousands of people will come together on December 9 to take part in or watch



Is Poolesville inclined toward another parade in town?

the parade along a one-mile swath of a historic national road, watching beautiful horses and tractors (with lots of horse power) stroll or motor down Frederick Road, Lisbon's 'Main Street.'"

Now in its seventh year, the parade has brought in well over \$50,000 in donations to the local food banks—Howard County Food Bank and Carroll County Food Sunday—plus Farmers and Hunters Feed the Hungry (FHFH) and the Lisbon Volunteer Fire Company (LVFC)(which is conducting a fundraising campaign to build a new facility to be completed in 2019).

More than \$13,000 were raised at the 2016 Lisbon Christmas Parade through the generous support of parade participants, sponsors, and spectators. These

**Continued on page 20.**

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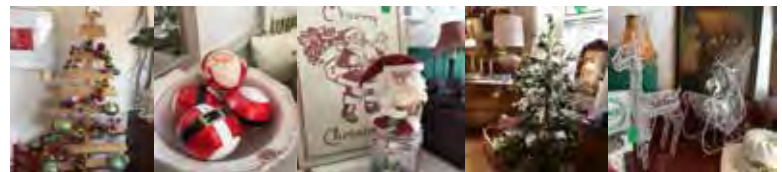
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November 17, 18, & 19

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Sunday, Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> : 10am to 8pm	Saturday, Dec 9 <sup>th</sup> : 10am to 8pm
	Sunday, Dec 10 <sup>th</sup> : 10am to 8pm
	Friday, Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> : 4pm to 8pm
	Saturday, Dec 16 <sup>th</sup> : 10am to 8pm
	Sunday, Dec 17 <sup>th</sup> : 10am to 8pm

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Continued from page 1.

### Alisa Ogden: A Jewel among Us

Alisa, a thirty-seven-year-old woman with Down Syndrome and athlete for the Special Olympics, named her venture From the Heart, a company that creates unique necklaces that symbolize individuality and love inside, but there is something unique about the shape of each pendant. Each heart is asymmetrical, representing and celebrating that everyone is different. "We had this place in Oregon that would make our charms for us, and he sent them back with a circle around [the Special Olympics logo]," said Coree Ogden, Alisa's mother. "[Alisa] looked at it and said, 'I don't want a circle, I want a heart.'" After some final adjustments, the charm designer came up with a pendant that was slightly different on each side. "It's different because everyone is beautiful," said Alisa.

Alisa has sold necklaces all over the country and is getting a map to hang on her wall to track all the places in the world where she has made sales. "I want to sell even to Hollywood stars!" Alisa says excitedly when talking about the future of From the Heart. When asked about her absolute dream sale, Alisa answered: "I think definitely [someone from the show] Glee!"

Coree says that Alisa is very service oriented, making From the Heart the perfect name for Alisa's company. "She is the one who gives out tissues at church when she notices someone is shedding a tear. She is the one who writes a get-well, sympathy, or cheer-you-up card when there is a need. She is the one who bakes cookies and takes them to her neighbors or someone she wants to cheer up." These quality traits are the same ones that make Alisa so successful in her business endeavors.

In addition to being incredibly loving and caring, Alisa is responsible and organized, which has proven to be a huge advantage when managing her business. Coree typically supervises orders received and then relays them to Alisa who puts together the necklace and places it in a small red box with a handwritten note. Together, Alisa and Coree take the necklaces to the post office to be shipped.

"At first, I was hesitant, I just thought [the company was] another one of her ideas, but I've learned with Alisa that she's always setting goals... I've learned she always finds a way to reach her goals," says Coree, when speaking about the start of From the Heart.

One of Alisa's biggest influences for the start of her company was her grandfather who was a very special person to her. He passed away at the age of ninety after battling several heart bypass surgeries and severe arthritis. Although he lived in a lot of pain, he walked every day and never complained. Coree says she thinks this helped give Alisa and her grandfather a special connection because he could relate to her disability. Alisa has also received extreme amounts of support from her other family members, especially her brother Ben. "He is a very special brother to her and she loves him very much," Coree says.

Alisa is also motivated by her religion and faith. "I feel in my heart it is the right thing to do," she explains. Alisa is Mormon and says that she prays every day. She says that her business has helped her to have more faith than ever.


Not only is Alisa's jewelry beautiful, but for every necklace sold, she donates five dollars to the Special Olympics. Alisa competes in rhythmic gymnastics, golf, and bowling, but says bowling is her favorite. She even traveled to the national games in 2010 to compete in bowling where Coree says she was impressed by the level of sportsmanship she saw there. Just like Alisa, the Special Olympics organization as a whole radiates unconditional love.

This touching moment is just one of many that shows what Special Olympics is all about. "Wherever we are, Special Olympics is a big, huge family," says Alisa. Alisa even met her boyfriend of five years, Chris, through Special Olympics. Not only that, but she was provided the opportunity to become a Global Messenger where she was able to speak in front of many people at the Gallup building in Washington, D.C., meet President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, and connect with Joe Flacco during the filming of a commercial for the annual Polar Bear Plunge.



For Alisa, making this jewelry not only gives money back to the Special Olympics, which has provided her with so many opportunities, but also helps show people around the world what the organization is all about. Alisa's necklaces show love, acceptance, and individuality, but most importantly, they are a representation of Alisa and all other Special Olympic athletes' bravery.

The amount of courage it took for Alisa to pursue her dreams and overcome the challenges associated with running a business from home is pretty huge. Alisa has taught those around her that, in the words of Coree, "No matter who you are, you can always have a goal, and you can always reach that goal, it might just be in a different way."

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**MONOCLE MYSTERY PHOTO**

Do you know this woman?

1. Might be called the First Lady of Poolesville.
2. Picture was taken about 1866
3. Her husband built their home in 1793.

John Poole, Jr.  
Priscilla, wife of

Continued from page 4.

**A Personal Note from a Grand Old and Glorious Friend**

another as if joined by the stars in the blue heaven above. It was only then that I was created to become your flag.

Every time you were threatened by others, I was there to wave you on to victory. How proud I am to wave over you now knowing you went to war not to conquer but to safeguard your land or to liberate others. There were many times that were distressingly tough, frighteningly violent, and, even more often, frustratingly unfair—some might even say unjust. For me, though, the very worst days were those times you had great hatred for each other. You let your divisions overwhelm you. Even during that horrendous time of civil war, I still waved harder than ever in all my glory, wanting to scream out for you to stop; often fluttering with ragged edges and with bullet holes, throughout, I still wanted to shout, “Stop! You are brothers and sisters! Hallelujah!”

I want to remind you that in those times, all of mankind, not just you, was emerging from a great darkness that engulfed the whole world and had existed for thousands of years. That dark malevolence was the ugly underbelly of what then was a normative process of life that extended all the way back to nearly the beginning of time. That evil was what we now call the scourge of our nation, but it existed not simply here but throughout the entire world. Its name was slavery. Here, white people enslaved blacks from a distant land. In Africa, it was blacks who often enslaved other blacks, and Egyptians who enslaved Jews. From the Ottoman Empire to the Holy Roman Empire, within most of the Asian dynasties, and the Aztec civilization, too, the victors of war often enslaved the defeated. Finally, for us, on the first day of January in 1863 it all came to an end. After the Civil War, my listless wave welcomed a new light of reasoning, often previously too dim for some people to see, taking still more decades to fully illuminate the whole landscape. Sadly, there is more to achieve, but when you do, it will be done together not in division; nevertheless, remember that your light so shines before mankind that the beacon of democracy continues to advance, while, totalitarianism is diminishing.

As you matured, the slaves were freed and women got the right to vote. That it took too long is part of human growth. Regrettably, perfection, in its perpetual tease, has not even been achieved to this very moment. Like a lightning bolt, the path to full justice has been erratic. You must always remember that when I flew into battle to inspire you to win, I did so precisely so you could be free to disagree in open debate not in blind resistance and to challenge one another during peace time, but never did I fly so you could be free to hate each other.

Today, when I look down, I often see a time that reminds me too much of our worst days, not our best. While I cannot speak words to you, you always seemed in the past to understand my message: A message of brotherhood. You must always stay united for some of the people you hate today are the very people you used to love the most. Today, I wave as if in a hurricane, frantically warning you to stop. I don't demand or require you to stand before me—that's not my style—but you should stand, not to obscure the faults within each of you, but to acknowledge and pledge, under me, that your humble common humanity is blessed by our all-too-rare freedom with opportunity. Other countries have one but not the other. Thank God, we have both. That, my dear people below, is what is worth standing for, and, for far too many, it is what has been worth dying for.

Less than a week before Thanksgiving Day, a distinctively American celebration, I wave to herald your great uniqueness of cultural and racial diversity but remind you also of your great strength expressed since 1786 in the Latin phrase, E Pluribus Unum, out of many, one.

Justice Clarence Thomas recently asked you to answer a simple question: “What do we all have in common anymore? As a kid, even with laws that held us apart, there were things that we all held dear, things we all had in common. Where is the E Pluribus Unum? We have the pluribus, but where is our Unum?” We so badly need to get our Unum back.

I promise you, if you stand before me, grateful for being American, united in the purpose of improving ourselves, the road ahead will continue to bless us even more, and I will continue to symbolize, not perfection, but what we together truly are and always have been, the single best hope for all of mankind.

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## Police Blotter from the Past 1921

By Jack Toomey

J.A. Shanholtz of Glen Echo was fatally injured when he fell from a car on the scenic railway at Glen Echo Park. Witnesses said that the man stood up in his car and was waving to those on the ground when the train went around a curve, causing Shanholtz to fall out of his car. It was said that there would be no inquest since the details were rather clear.

During the fierce thunderstorm that raced through the county, a bolt of lightning struck the home of Catherine Case on her farm near Germantown. The entire house was destroyed. Lightning also hit the home of Harry Watkins near Cedar Grove, badly damaging it.

James Shipley was indicted by the county grand jury for bigamy. It was charged that, in July of 1919, he

married Ruby Long of Washington in that city. Then, almost a year later, he came to Rockville and married Gertrude Payne, knowing that he was still married to the other woman.

Deputy Sheriff Gingell led a half dozen deputies to Laytonsville where they raided the home of W. L. Frederick. Upon approach, the house emptied, and many people were seen running through the woods. The officers seized several tubs of mash from which peach brandy was being made. Frederick and Eliza Dawson were arrested and taken to Rockville.

"The throwing of dead cats underneath the homes of residents must stop," announced Doctor Robert Johnson. He said that a reward of \$25 would be paid to the person who provided information on the identity of whoever had deposited four dead cats under the home of Forrest Dickey.

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

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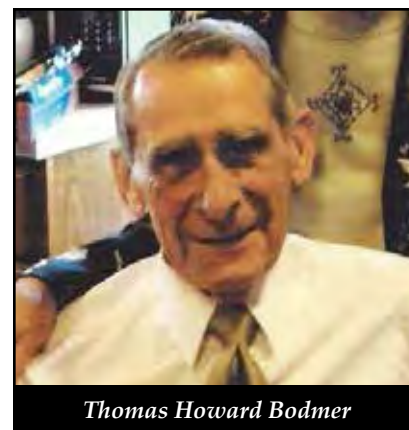
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And when he had said this, he breathed on them  
and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose  
sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins  
you retain are retained." - John 20:22

## Remembrance

### Thomas Howard Bodmer



Thomas Howard Bodmer

Thomas Howard Bodmer, 89, of Beallsville, died peacefully at his residence on November 3, surrounded by family.

Born on June 2, 1928 in Poolesville, he was the son of the late Roy and Mollie (Cubitt) Bodmer.

Howard served his country in the U.S. Air Force from 1950 to 1954 during the Korean War and worked for navy personnel until retirement. He then took a job at Giant Food until his second retirement.

Howard was past president of Monocacy Cemetery, where he also served on the board of directors. He was an avid cook, and loved to garden and watch the Washington Redskins.

He is survived by his two sons, Thomas (Tad) Bodmer and wife Lynne of Poolesville, Troy Bodmer of Beallsville; and two granddaughters, Jocelyn and Mollie Bodmer, both of Poolesville.

Howard was preceded in death by five brothers and three sisters.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Monocacy Cemetery, P.O. Box 81, Beallsville, MD 20839.

### Conrad Paul Potemra

By Rande Davis



Conrad Paul Potemra

Conrad Paul Potemra, 68, of Poolesville, died on November 5. Born on March 2, 1949, in Ohio, he was the son of the late Paul Thomas Potemra and Sylvia Barbara Luric. Conrad was a loving husband to his wife Susan A. Potemra.

Conrad will be remembered as an ardent concerned citizen and passionate advocate for a better Poolesville. He also was one of the founders of UMAC, the youth baseball league, and its success as a great youth program owes a lot to his contribution of service. Through the years, there have been only a few dedicated persons who consistently offered a great deal of their personal time by attending town meetings regularly, doing extensive "homework," and making their voices heard, not just for the short-lived hot issues that come up occasionally, but over the long haul. Conrad was one of them. His passion was deep and admirable.

Link Hoewing, former Town of Poolesville commissioner who interacted with Conrad on town matters over many years, observed, "I learned to listen to his ideas and thoughts because he often was onto something. Many improvements in town—including in our water system—were due to Conrad's constant pressure. He not only pressured us to be better as commissioners, he did so using good facts and a careful analysis of the underlying issues. He knew what he was talking about on many issues, and he helped lead us on many occasions to better policies. I will miss Conrad's presence and his obvious love of and commitment to making Poolesville better."

Surviving along with his wife are their four children: Colan Potemra (Courtney) of Raleigh, North Carolina, Corey Potemra of Charleston, South Carolina, Meghan Potemra of Poolesville, and Paul Potemra of Minneapolis, Minnesota; one sister, Cathy Carrier of Lyndhurst, Ohio; two brothers, Paul Potemra, David Potemra; and two grandchildren, Kennedy and Mackenzie.



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Continued from page 14.

**Deck the Horse and Plows in Folly**

funds were presented to the beneficiaries at the April 13 Howard County Farm Bureau's Annual Legislative Dinner. Both food banks received \$5,000, while \$1,500 were presented to both LVFC and FHFH. In addition, thanks to community support, over eight hundred pounds of non-perishable food were collected at the 2016 parade and were split between the Howard County Food Bank and Carroll County Food Sunday.

There are several ways to participate in the parade other than being an enthusiastic spectator. The options range from entering horses and tractors into the parade to being a vendor at the Christmas Village on the grounds of the future LVFC facility and to funding the parade as a sponsor, hero, or helper; however, as a spectator, you can also contribute to the food drive that will accompany the parade.

If you decide to attend the event this year, take note of the following: The parade begins at noon; arrive early to secure parking and the best spot along the parade route; Route 144 and nearby roads along the parade route will be closed at 11:30; the Lisbon Christmas Village (open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) presents a great opportunity to find holiday gifts for your friends and loved ones and is where you'll find pony rides, music, and more; and you won't go hungry if you remember to eat at the LVFC's Chicken and Ham Dinner starting after the parade at 1:00 p.m. at the Lisbon Fire Hall.

In the charitable spirit of the holidays, Settle-Raskin reminds us that locals go hungry every day—and to remember to support our local food banks. Learn more about how to alleviate hunger at [www.mdfoodbank.org](http://www.mdfoodbank.org). To reach Alice, email her at [alices.agrimaryland@gmail.com](mailto:alices.agrimaryland@gmail.com). To learn more about contributing and what's planned for this year's parade, visit [www.LisbonChristmasParade.com](http://www.LisbonChristmasParade.com). Lastly, if you are inspired and are an equestrian and/or in the agriculture business in or around the Monocacy Monocle readership area, and you'd like to promote or participate in a holiday horse parade of our own making in downtown Poolesville in the near future, contact Andie Devynck at [andie@frederickhealingarts.net](mailto:andie@frederickhealingarts.net).

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Continued from page 8.

**Six PHS Athletes Sign Letters of Commitment**

to play at the University of North Carolina at Asheville where she plans to major in Health and Wellness Promotion. The team leader in goals for the past two years, she is also a member of the National Honor Society and the National Science Honor Society.

Senior distance runner Ryan Lockett had many offers from which to choose, but he finally committed to the University of Virginia. Lockett won the boys' state championships in cross country in 2016 and 2017 and in both the indoor and outdoor 1600m and 3200m in 2017.

Continued from page 9.

**PHS Fall Playoff Wrap**

In girls' volleyball, the Falcons won their first playoff game, sweeping Walkersville at home. In the second round they lost at Williamsport, 25-14, 25-15, and 25-15.

On November 2, at Liberty High School, in the 2A West Region Cross Country Championships, the girls finished second, getting a first-place

finish from Nandini Satsangi and a fifth place finish from Logan Rohde. The boys finished fifth, with a first-place finish from Ryan Lockett.

On November 11, at the MPSSAA 2A State Championships at Hereford High, Lockett ran his second straight state title with a time of 16:16.55, eight seconds better than runner-up Justin Diehl of Calvert High. As usual, Ryan pulled away at the end. On the girls' side, Logan Rohde finished seventh.

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## Celebrating 30 Years of Service

### Getting Yourself and Your Pet Protected for the Winter Wonderland

Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

While the holidays can be the most wonderful time of year for people, it can be *one of the most dangerous* for pets. Pet owners should be aware of the health and safety hazards that are lurking in their homes during the holiday season.

#### Xylitol

In addition to the obvious things to never feed your animal like grapes, dairy, and chocolate, an ingredient called Xylitol can be fatal, even in small doses. Xylitol is becoming more and more of an issue because it's good for human dental health and it's an artificial sweetener. In less than 24 hours, Xylitol can result in liver failure. The ingredient is becoming more popular in foods like peanut butter and sugar-free candies and gums.

#### Antifreeze

The cold weather can expose your pet to a life-threatening chemical you may not even know is there. Leaking cars can leave antifreeze lingering on your driveway, where dogs often sniff or lick. It's one of the dangerous things about it, and it's a very toxic substance, so a very small amount can be fatal.

#### Tinsel

When you decorate your tree, keep the tinsel off branches that are close to the ground, where your cat can easily grab. Cats have barbs on their tongues that point backwards, so if they get a piece of string or tinsel on their tongue, they kind of have to swallow it. It can't come back out.

#### Relatives and friends

We're all guilty of sneaking a treat or two under the table, but keep in mind that a small portion for us can be a calorie overload for your animal. Very small amounts are fine. The problem is when everybody wants to give that animal a small amount at family gatherings, and you know everyone wants to give the animal a treat ... it's all cumulative and adds up. Gastric upset will be a real holiday bummer.

Keep an extra eye on your pet after you have company over and, if they're acting abnormally, it may be a sign they were exposed to something toxic or given lots of extra treats.

Remember that your pets may not be very happy about an army of new humans entering their home, so be aware of how your pet handles Uncle Fred or Cousin Jaime. Sometimes letting them be safe in their own room with a view is the best way to go.

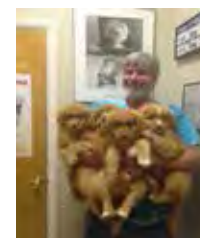
If your pet needs emergency care during a holiday when your vet is closed, you can call the ASPCA at (888) 426-4425 or the Pet Poison Helpline at (855) 764-7661.



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