

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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Cugini's, where Redskins and Steelers fans watched the Super Bowl. Oh, well. See more football fans in Family Album on page 2.



Poolesville grad making national news at Montgomery College. See who and why in Youth Sports on page 10.



Poolesville's lonely tree in the news—again. Details revealed in Monocacy Moment on page 19.



Move over vultures! There's a new bird in town. See Monocacy Critters on page 20.

New Grocery Store Planned for Fall Opening By Link Hoewing

At its regular meeting on February 5, Poolesville Commission President Jim Brown gave an update to his fellow commissioners about what he termed "one of my projects for the last six or seven years": convincing a grocery store owner or chain to locate in Poolesville. After talking to over twenty grocery store chains or smaller grocery store owners in the last year and "keeping the pressure on," the prospects of successfully attracting a grocer had "gotten super-hot" in the last two weeks.

One of the owners of a grocery store previously located in Chevy Chase had issued a press release suggesting that he and his partners were close to being ready to move ahead in building a new store. It would be located in what is now the playground for the Little Learners Child Care Center located next to Tractor Supply.

According to Jason Kirsch, founder of the Chevy Chase Supermarket and key investor in the proposed Poolesville Market, the new store "will



Proposed site for a new Poolesville grocery store next to Tractor Supply.

open its doors to the community this fall." He went on to say the store will "become part of the community by offering the highest-quality products and exceptional customer service. Organic, natural, and specialty foods along with allergen-free products will fill the shelves of the brand-new, 7,000-square-foot market."

While most of the basic work of coming up with an agreement on the new store has been completed, a few issues remain to be resolved. One of them is relocating the playground for the child care center to a satisfactory site or creating a new space for it. Indications are that this issue is being actively discussed.

Continued on page 3.

Traffic Circle under Consideration for Poolesville

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Planning Commission, which devoted a great deal of time to the now-denied Wilshire home development project, has been directed by the Board of Commissioners to go "back to the future" and complete its work on the town's Streetscape Plan, the program to redesign the look and ambience of Fisher Avenue, as outlined in its Master Plan.

The vision of the Poolesville in the Master Plan for the future is given in the appendix of that document, and work on that plan was essentially interrupted by the consideration of the Wilshire Community. The Streetscape Plan, the result of years of work by many commissioners and various panels, represents the collective thoughts as to what Poolesville should look like in the future.



A 100-foot-diameter roundabout is being considered as the new entranceway to Poolesville.

As a result, Poolesville's downtown has greatly changed over the past couple of decades with the most pronounced difference being its new shopping malls and the Town Hall built in 2008. Of course, in front of that building stands another dramatic change, Whalen Commons with its

bandstand, brick-like walkway, stone memorial monument, and lighted trees. A less noticeable change but still highly significant is the town-wide sidewalks with enhanced pedestrian crosswalks that improve access and safety. Now the town is making a

Continued on page 18.

Family Album



These hardy volunteers from Poolesville United Methodist Church put together a marvelous chili dinner for the community. Due to some heating problems at MUMC, St. Peter's opened its hall for the popular monthly event.



All family dinners include a kiddies' table. Our community dinner is no different!



Redskins fans at HOP were all smiles. They knew for a fact their team was not going to lose.



Fans at the House of Poolesville want you to know that Super Bowl revelry is not just for the boys!



Tom Kettler, Kathe Mooney, and John Speelman got ready for the Super Bowl at Bassett's.



Michael Huber, with Kit and Ted, enjoyed a community chili dinner.

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Town Government School Issues Remain Top Priority for Commissioners

By Link Hoewing

In the Open Forum segment of the February 5 Poolesville commissioners' meeting, Kevin Schramm, a PTSA officer who has been very involved in the effort to ensure Poolesville High School (PHS) is included on the list of schools to be renovated in the near future, thanked the commissioners for sponsoring the forum on January 22 at which Superintendent Jack Smith appeared to discuss Poolesville's schools and answer questions. One of the topics discussed at that meeting was the idea of looking at constructing a multi-purpose building that could house not only a modernized school facility but also a community center. The idea behind this concept is that it might attract more support from other parts of the county government and be a good fit for Poolesville given its distance from down county meeting facilities. It is thought that the county might more readily invest in such a project given that it serves multiple goals.

Schramm asked the commissioners to consider the idea of helping to fund a consultant to help create a concept plan for what a new multi-purpose facility might look like. He said it was a "fool's errand" to continue to believe that it is very likely that Poolesville would be included on the renovation list for high schools any time in the foreseeable future, despite the good dialog that had occurred with the superintendent. He wondered whether it might push along the possibility of renovating the high school if Poolesville was able to lay out a compelling vision for a new multi-purpose facility.

The commissioners seemed intrigued by the proposal. While they did not

approve the idea of awarding a consultant contract, they did seem to see the concept as worth exploring. Town staff was tasked with doing research on the concept of multi-purpose facilities, focusing on those that have been built in Montgomery County. Depending on the findings of the staff research, the commissioners left open the possibility of awarding a consultant contract to develop ideas for a facility in Poolesville that could be used in discussions with the county.

In his Town Manager's report, Wade Yost provided an overview of the town's sewer operations based on an annual review that must be submitted to the state. In his report, Yost noted that the average daily flow to the sewer plant had continued to decline over the past three years. This is important since it helps ensure the plant operates efficiently and the quality of water released from the plant is as high as possible. It also strongly suggests that the town's efforts to seal and reduce cracks and inflow into its sewer pipes and manholes over the years are working.

Based on the three-year rolling average of sewer flows, the plant is processing an average of just over 500,000 gallons per day. It has a permit from the state that would allow it to process up to 750,000 gallons per day. After deducting the impact on sewer capacity of all of the potential new houses that might come on line in the future—including an expansion of the Westerly development, continued building in the Brightwell development, and smaller numbers of houses to be constructed in various plots of land around town, there remains approximately 180,000 gallons per day of unused capacity.

The story is similar with respect to water use in the town. The town has a permit to draw 650,000 gallons per day of water, but after subtracting future taps from the three-year rolling average of water use of 477,000 gallons per day, 111,000 gallons of unused capacity remains.

allow him to update citizens about the new store but asked him to keep the information to himself until he had made the post.

The other commissioners were excited by the news, but several expressed misgivings about how the public announcement was made. Even so, the prospect of a seeing a grocery store come to Poolesville was greeted with appreciation and praise for the work that had been done to get to this point.

Continued from page 1.

New Grocery Store Planned for Fall Opening

President Brown acknowledged that he had posted a notice about the possibility of the new grocery store on Facebook without alerting the other commissioners ahead of time or consulting with them. He apologized and said the investors in the new store were willing to

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Rande(m) Thoughts Going in Circles, Literally

By Rande Davis

They say what goes around comes around. As a major topic of discussion regarding Poolesville's plans for a vibrant and attractive downtown landscape, a roundabout or, for you older readers like me, a traffic circle, is once again being brought up for consideration in Poolesville's Master Plan.

It's all part of what is called the Streetscape Plan. The Planning Commission has come a long way in developing a plan for the town for a pedestrian-friendly, quaint, hometown-like shopping experience, which will aid businesses and support critical needs in the town. Since the long-ago days of wooden sidewalks, which replaced mud at the turn of the century (early 1900s to be specific), the one-time Indian trail known as Fisher Avenue is now nearly completed. So much so, that one can now walk the full length of the town in comfort and safety, except for that historically, unchangeable, narrow pathway from the post office to the Poolesville Tire and Auto. Not much can be done there as the road rises into the center of town between two historic dwellings, but if you find yourself walking there, be sure to put your cellphone away and focus, really focus. With just a simple slight turn of the ankle, you might find yourself smack dab in the middle of oncoming traffic.

With our newly, extra-wide pathways elsewhere augmented by ADA-compliance curbing (which the state seems to break up and redo every few years), a major component of Streetscape is now complete. Of course, the most dramatic change to the landscape to beautify the town is Whalen Commons, a far cry from the hayfield that flooded so much in the spring that families of ducks would make the temporary six-inch pond their home. The flooding there is historic. Back around the 1840s, the old road into town (part of it is known today as Beall Street) flooded so much they moved the main road to higher ground south and named the new road for Fisher's Farm. They think

the Indians used that pathway originally since it stayed dry most of the year. The old main road into town, known as Coxen Road, would come in from Rockville, curve slowly until it came along the path where the new town hall now stands and then move in front of the John Poole House. Did you ever wonder why, when coming into town from Darnestown, the road, for no apparent reason, suddenly takes a near-ninety degree turn left into Poolesville? Now you know. The previous road extension from that point has long ago pretty much disappeared. The only thing left is about one hundred yards today known as Beall Street. I live on the road, I ought to know.

I must say I like most of the new plan with its trees, vehicle and walking safety improvements, and the new look with historic-like street lamps. I even like the thought of a roundabout; however, I do have some concerns I think the town needs to consider.

My traffic circle experience is limited to the very rural areas nearby in which they seem to work well. Are there studies that support traffic circles improving traffic flow in heavier traffic areas? Do roundabouts slow traffic as well as a four-way stop does? For traffic control and speed mitigation, which is better? Can the commissioners prove it will not hamper our farmers with their large combines or deter the huge eighteen-wheelers that must make deliveries to all the shops in town? They say its hundred-foot-diameter circumference will not hinder the farm equipment. Farmers, you better get involved now to make sure; don't wait until the last minute. What about the school kids walking to PES? The town says it will need more crossing guards. Are they absolutely certain the county will pay for them? Finally, we need to have a full disclosure of cost estimates including any costs to the town for additional guards. The beautiful entrance into town offered by a traffic circle may have some other downsides. We need to be sure it's the best option before putting our new welcome sign and commissioner statue in its center (just kidding about the statue).

If they get through all my questions above, I just could learn to love that traffic circle, er, roundabout.

Local News

UPN Brings Community Together To Discuss Teen Suicide

By Andie Devynck

On Thursday, January 25, at St. Peter's Parish, a group of over fifty Poolesville High School (PHS) students took part in a collaborative event designed to raise their awareness of teen suicide. Jointly sponsored by the Upcounty Prevention Network (UPN), EveryMind (formerly the Mental Health Association), Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention Program (ASAPP), and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), the gathering featured EveryMind's the BTheOne Campaign. BTheOne teaches teens constructive use of a plan to intervene if someone they know is considering suicide or taking drugs.

Because no teen can be expected to learn on an empty stomach, Chipotle kicked off the event with a donated lunch spread of make-your-own burritos, complemented by a table full of home-baked desserts provided by family and friends of the high schoolers. Afterwards, Lorraine Helferich, Manager of EveryMind's Crisis Prevention and Intervention Services, began her presentation detailing the steps for intervening using BTheOne's Five Steps: Ask (if you can help); Keep Them Safe; Be There; Help Them Connect; and Follow Up. Edward Morrell, the sponsor of SADD, and Andy Jillson of ASAPP (and a Montgomery County Human Services Specialist) followed, sparking a lively competition between the students using a Jeopardy-style quiz. The aim of the game was to increase their knowledge of terminology relating to substance abuse and negative coping actions versus healthy coping skills and self-care techniques to deal with stress, furthering the aim of reducing risk and promoting awareness and wellness.

The students then broke into small groups and were coached by Sue-Ann Siegel, Lead EveryMind Crisis Hotline Specialist, and James L., an EveryMind volunteer. The groups were each given hypothetical scenarios in which they practiced applying the Five Steps, getting the kids more comfortable asking hard



Continued on page 5.

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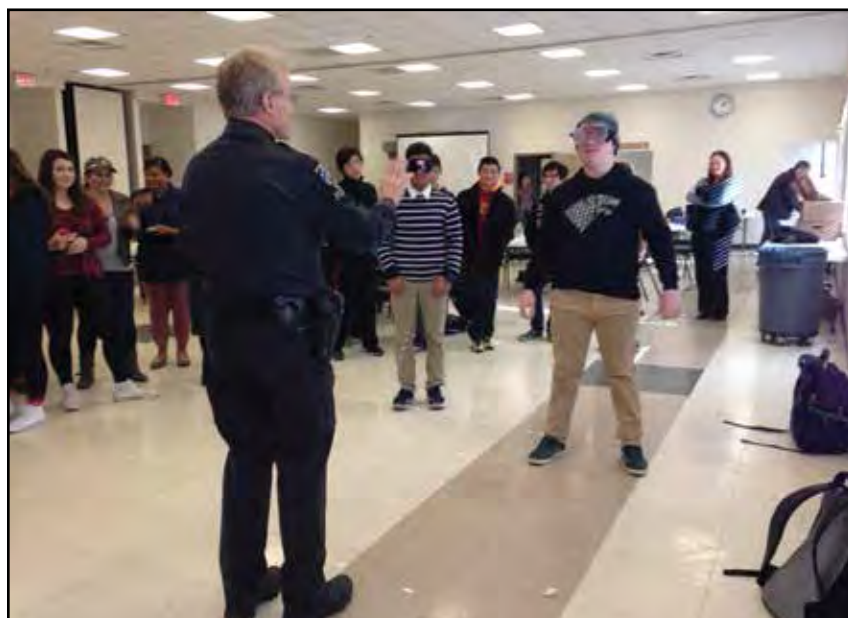
Continued from page 4.

UPN Brings Community Together to Discuss Teen Suicide

questions during difficult situations. For example, one group had to grapple with how best to deal with a friend from camp who posted on Snapchat that they wouldn't be around much longer, but did not specifically say anything about wanting to die. Another group discussed the possibility of a teen being at a party and bumping into a friend from school who is intoxicated and crying. When asked if she is okay, she replies that her boyfriend has just broken up with her and she doesn't want to live anymore.

After fifteen minutes of group discussions, a representative from each group stood and summarized what their table had discussed and what they learned through exploration and coaching. Connell Oberman, PHS senior and the president of the PHS chapter of SADD, was one of the student representatives. After the groups finished, Connell, flanked by SADD's vice president, Anshul Chatterlee, and its secretary, Juanita Jarmillo, spoke briefly about his decision to jump-start the PHS chapter, which had all but disbanded a few years ago. He recognized the need to revitalize the group (formerly known as Students Against Drunk Driving) because several teens from high schools around the area had died recently in a series of car crashes and from suicides.

Charlotte Boucher of UPN, and former principal of John Poole Middle School, commented on what a pleasure it was to work with Connell to bring the event together. She had worked with him before and, last year, had given a well-received meditation class, leading to an emphasis on self-care and relaxation techniques in this year's program. John Sparrow, head of PHS's Global Ecology Studies Program (GESP) also lauded Connell's work with GESP and SADD, noting with pride that Connell's and all the other students' work in both programs tended to be self-directed and that he didn't need to do much in the way of oversight—"I just need to sign papers!"




Upcounty Prevention Network joined other concerned groups in a seminar designed to prevent teen suicide. Over fifty students from the area participated.

While the topics of suicide and the prevention of tragic consequences from substance abuse are clearly serious topics, the mood was kept both focused and light throughout with lots of humor and games. The final presentation reflected this approach: Community Outreach Officer Doug Tressler got the kids on their feet and challenged them, one pair at a time, to put on the police "drunk" goggles and perform simple balance and movement tasks. The goggles are specifically designed to induce an experience of being intoxicated. The kids were asked to stand on one foot, walk heel-to-toe in a straight line towards and away from Officer Tressler, and to run and kick a ball (which most missed even after being given several tries at it). While some of them did better than others at the games, most were either seriously challenged to complete the tasks or completely incapable of doing so. Lastly, all the kids were encouraged to keep the lines of communication open—and to take home some cookies!

To see photos and videos of this event and/or for more information about this and other programs UPN, EveryMind, ASAPP and SADD have to offer, visit their very informative Facebook pages.

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Focus on Business

VCA Peachtree Animal Hospital Welcomes Dr. Melinda Spaar

By Susan Petro

In September 2017, Dr. Melinda Spaar joined the family-oriented staff of VCA Peachtree Animal Hospital as a full-time veterinarian and the medical director of the facility. She works alongside associate veterinarian, Dr. Katherine Breed, and a team of support staff. The entire team is excited to be part of the VCA network of veterinary facilities where they can offer many benefits associated with a network, while maintaining the same level of care that a small-town private practice offers.

Peachtree Animal Hospital was opened by Dr. Chet Anderson in the 1980s on a quiet wooded setting located across from Lewis Orchards, at 18620 Darnestown Road in Beallsville. When Anderson retired in 2012, the hospital was acquired by VCA. Tim Hartley, the hospital manager and veterinary technician who has been with the practice for about four years, said that some of Anderson's original clients were concerned that the practice would suffer under the umbrella of corporate medicine, "But they (VCA) allow us to work our magic, and a lot of our customers are coming back to us."

Dr. Spaar, a 2008 graduate of the Virginia-Maryland Veterinary School of Medicine, has a passion for preventative care, nutrition, and dental health and appreciates the many attributes associated with being a part of a larger network. "VCA has the benefit where they are all individual hospitals but supported by a larger network. We can offer services like wellness plans, which I absolutely love because it helps with preventative care," said Dr. Spaar.

As a lifelong lover of animals, Dr. Spaar remembers that even as far back as kindergarten she wanted to be a veterinarian. Unfortunately, as a child, she had allergies and couldn't have a dog or cat. Instead, she had fish, box turtles, and rabbits. When laws were enacted regarding box turtles, the family made sure to get the necessary permits. By the time Dr. Spaar was a young adult, she outgrew her allergies and adopted her first cat on her way to veterinary school. She got her first dog, a now-senior golden retriever, after she married.

One of the benefits Dr. Spaar likes about the wellness care plans is that it helps pet owners budget for the annual expenses. Routine annual vaccines, heartworm tests, annual bloodwork, fecal tests, and the exam can cost hundreds of dollars in just one visit. With the wellness plans, the costs are charged on a monthly basis instead. In addition to covering annual preventative and wellness expenses, the plans also provide discounts for other services that are not covered. Illnesses like cancer and injuries are not covered under the wellness plans.

Although VCA Peachtree does not sell health insurance plans for pets, Dr. Spaar encourages her clients to be well-informed on the different health insurance plans that are available and to purchase a plan well before a medical need arises. "For my dog, I put him on a plan for illness and accidents that would cover cancer, hit by car, or anything like that. Then the wellness plan takes care of the rest of the services," said Dr. Spaar. She chose a plan that covered certain orthopedic conditions like hip-dysplasia which is prevalent in golden retrievers.

Additional benefits of the wellness plans include a downloadable app that provides twenty-four-hour-a-day telephone access to a VCA veterinarian who can give advice such as whether a pet needs to be seen right away at an emergency center or can wait until regular office hours for care. Prepaid VISA cards are given to clients who spend a certain amount of money as another incentive to purchase the plans.

Good nutrition is another aspect of wellness care that Dr. Spaar encourages. She recommends a base of high-quality pet food based on scientific research. "A lot of what my clients and family see on TV is more marketing than research



VCA's hospital manager Tim Hartley and medical director and veterinarian Dr. Melinda Spaar.

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Continued on page 8.

School News

PHS Students Recognized for Their Art and Writing Talents

The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers announced its nominees for the 2018 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards (SAWA). The alliance looks for work that demonstrates originality, technical skill, and emergence of a personal voice or vision. Public, private, or home-school students in the U.S., Canada, or American schools abroad enrolled in grades seven through twelve are eligible to participate in the SAWA.

The nominees' work is judged by its originality, work that breaks from convention, blurs the boundaries between genres, technical skill, submissions that use technique to advance an original perspective or a personal vision or voice, and show skills being utilized to create something unique, powerful, and innovative.

National Awards will be announced in March.

Students being considered from PHS are:

Gold Key Winner: Katya Scott—Personal Essay/Memoir, "A Flower in my Heart."

Silver Key Winner: Emillia Medina—Flash Fiction, "The Rabbit by the Window," and Brenn Hardaway—Personal Essay/Memoir, "And a Half."

Honorable Mention Winners: Saloni Maskey—Poetry; Amanda Chu—Poetry, "Backwards" and Personal Essay/Memoir, "Immortal"; and Racheal Ssentongo—Personal Essay/Memoir, "Sanyu Babie's Home."

Congratulations also due for fifteen other PHS SAWA winners and their outstanding teachers and mentors: Shannon Heaton, Nora Schaefer, and Cam Petke! These students—from all four houses—brought home a total of twenty-five distinguished awards from the hundreds of thousands of entries.

Gold Key Winners: Sofia Bzhilyanskaya—Digital Art, *Dark Sand*; Elise Evans—Digital Art, *No Fear of Becoming Like Mom*; Victoria Naumov—Digital Art, *Star Whales* and Digital Art, *Looming Shadows*.

Silver Key Winners: Elise Evans—Digital Art, *Holly*; Carol Lee—Photography, *Rain Colored Glasses*; Joyce Ma—Drawing & Illustration, *Marsh*; Amanda Mossman—Photography, *Silent Sunday*; Victoria Naumov—Art Portfolio, Character Concept Art and Design, *Pantheons of Kreas*, Digital Art, *Pantheons of Kreas*

and Digital Art, *Fin*; Jessica Pavelle—Photography, *The Chemical Hunter*; Julia Pavlick—Drawing & Illustration, *The Beginning*; and Jennifer Stoughton—Digital Art, *Cielo (Dreamscape)*.

Honorable Mention Winners:

Navya Chintala—Drawing & Illustration, *Light pollution*

Julia Corfman—Photography, *Continuous*

Theresa Dollar—Photography, *Stars and Stripes*

Victoria Gruber—Drawing & Illustration, *Infection*

Chloe Insalaco—Painting, Tyler and Painting, *Adam*

Carol Lee—Painting, *New Year's Day*

Joyce Ma—Drawing & Illustration, *Island Girl*, Drawing & Illustration, *Eagle*, and Painting, *Annapolis*

Julia Pavlick—Drawing & Illustration, *June Twenty Fifth*

Manchun Xiao—Painting, *Lemonade*

MES Superbowl Food Drive

It was a win-win activity! Students had a great time participating in the Monocacy Elementary School Annual SGA Superbowl Food Drive, and they collected a lot of food for WUMCO. Students have collected over one ton of food in the last three years.

Students, staff, and families put their food in the box of the team that they think will win the Super Bowl. For two weeks, the SGA officers update the score of cans—it gets very exciting in the last two days and has always been a close contest. This year, the score was: Eagles, 415 cans, to Patriots, 413 cans!

SGA officers delivered the food to WUMCO and learned how it helps our community. The SGA officers are: Payton Short, President; Sutton Wetcher, Vice President; Brooke Bieberich, (absent) Secretary; and Olivia Lawrence, Treasurer. Teacher Amy Soderstrum is the SGA sponsor.



Sutton Wetcher, Olivia Lawrence, Payton Short, and Amy Soderstrum (SGA sponsor) made a big delivery to WUMCO.

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Tidbits

Maggie Nightingale's Love of Reading Keeps on Giving

Most of the citizens of Poolesville and the surrounding area are aware of the labors undertaken by Maggie Nightingale to establish a library in our town. What most don't know is that Maggie was also an avid reader and collector of all types of books, especially cookbooks. Many of the books were library books, but, over the course of her adult life, she purchased or was gifted some 1,500 books and small pamphlets.

Beginning on February 14, the first installment of her collection will be made available to the public during Library Lovers' Month. It is the hope of her family that you may share her love of books – mostly cookbooks, but other books from her collection as well. The books will be offered free of charge, but if you feel inspired to make a small donation to benefit the Maggie Nightingale Library, I am sure that she would understand.

Dates for Kindergarten Orientation Announced

If you have a child turning five by September 1, 2018 and live in the Poolesville Cluster, you are invited to consider Monocacy Elementary as your school of choice. The annual orientation is coming up in April. We will remind you again but thought that letting you know early could help you plan. Remember, you can call 301-972-7990 for more information and to schedule an appointment for orientation.



Governor Larry Hogan ordered the Maryland State Flag lowered to half-staff effective at sunrise, Saturday, January 27, 2018 and returned to full-staff at sunset, Saturday, January 27, 2018. This action was in honor of former Maryland Congresswoman Marjorie Holt, who passed away on January 7, 2018.

Continued from page 6.

VCA Peachtree Animal Hospital welcomes Dr. Melinda Spaar

data. I feel really strongly that we can prevent a lot of disease by feeding an adequate diet that is highly nutritious," said Dr. Spaar. Her preferences vary depending on the life-stage of the animal and whether there is any disease process going on. "There are special foods that can be helpful in different diseases where they wouldn't need medications that may be needed without it," said Spaar, who recommends Hill's Science Diet or Royal Canin when prescription diets are necessary. "You won't see a lot of commercials for those two products because they pour all those funds into research," said Dr. Spaar.

In regards to feeding pets people food, Spaar recommends clients save the skinless chicken breast bites or other healthy human food for only special occasions. "People food is hard because there are a lot of toxic foods like raisins, grapes, and macadamia nuts that are harmful," said Dr. Spaar. "Certain foods that our grandparents and parents fed their pets are really not good, like marrow bones and steak. They are high in fat and can cause pancreatitis." Dr. Spaar adds that when pets are regularly fed even healthier human food, it can be difficult to get them off of it if they develop an illness or condition, such as kidney disease, where they need to eat a prescription diet to limit their protein.

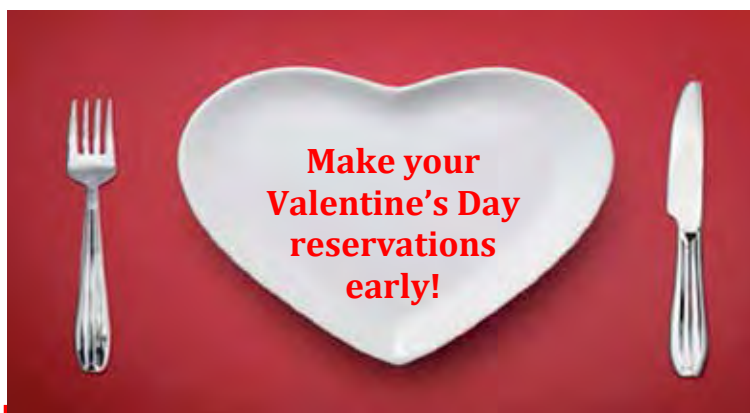
Spaar believes that good preventative dental healthcare is one more way to improve the health and longevity of pets. "We feel strongly that keeping the teeth strong and healthy can help in so many different ways; not just the kissability of the dog," said Dr. Spaar. The clinic offers dental x-rays—not available at many practices. Currently, VCA Peachtree is offering a twenty-percent-off dental special for a limited time.

When Dr. Spaar is not busy taking care of her furry charges, she is spending time with her husband and son at their home in nearby Frederick County.

To learn more about VCA Peachtree Animal Hospital and their staff and services offered, visit their website at vcahospitals.com/peachtree-md/hospital or give them a call at 301-972-7010.



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Valentine's Day Weekend Specials

Wednesday, February 14th through Sunday, February 18th

APPETIZER:

Sweetheart Shrimp: 6 large marinated shrimp, skewered in the form of a heart, served over mixed greens with cherry tomatoes, drizzled with our honey sherry vinaigrette

ENTRÉES:

Pan-Seared Scallops: Seared sea scallops served with Greek couscous, drizzled with a Thai chili sauce and the vegetable of the day

Marinated Lamb Chops: Tender lamb chops marinated in garlic and herbs, drizzled with a rich demi-glace; served with a cheesy risotto and the vegetable of the day

Filet Oscar: Filet of beef tenderloin grilled to perfection, topped with jumbo lump crab meat, and béarnaise sauce; served with baked potato and a crisp house salad

DESSERT SPECIAL:

Cherry Pie: House-baked cherry pie

Garden

2018: New Year, New Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

Welcome to 2018! A full calendar lies before us with new events, and new possibilities and potential. A garden is a vibrant, forward-thinking project. You might be a new homeowner with a non-existing garden or a seasoned gardener looking for some changes to your established garden. In my last column in December, I spoke about the chronology of delights and chores of our home gardens: the anticipation of spring's new growth, the full bloom of summer, nature's slowing down in autumn, and the dormant, not dead, days of winter. The beginning of the new year is a good time to dream about making resolutions for your garden while you take an honest and unfiltered evaluation of the landscape around your home. Look out your window and see what you like and what you would like to change or add. Undistracted by leaf-covered trees and shrubs and flower blooms exploding in brilliant colors, the winter garden sits in its skeletal form—a blank slate—ready to be dressed in colors, shapes, textures, and scents. There is no limit to your imagination.

Geoffrey Jellicoe, a renowned twentieth century landscape architect, said in one of his books that the essential elements of a landscape design are form and content. One without the other ends in a formless jumble. There can also be too much form and not enough content, or vice versa.

A proper landscape includes flowers, shade- and sun-loving trees and shrubs, a focal point or a series of focal points, scale and pacing, and four seasons of interest. Good garden design covers shape, form, texture, and rhythm. In my resolve to be more of a minimalist gardener, I don't need a demanding flower border a half-mile long arranged in blocks of color of every flower God created. The garden is not my full-time job.

Today, let us begin our new garden journey and look at some trees and shrubs that can do well in our Monocacy gardens. As usual, I only recommend plants that have thrived in my garden. Over the years, I have learned what can survive in our climatic conditions. First, you should consider the purpose of your plantings. Trees can add beauty and value to your landscape; provide food and shelter for wildlife; help reduce carbon in the atmosphere; hide an eyesore view; provide a windscreen; and offer four seasons of interest in your outdoor rooms. What trees are suitable for your landscape? Do your research. Visit your local garden centers and seek out the advice of knowledgeable horticulturists. Ask the experts at the University of Maryland Extension Service and the Montgomery County Extension office.

You want to select disease- and insect-resistant varieties, so you don't have to rely on insecticides and the other garden 'cides. Don't settle for a drug-addicted yard. Consider the size of the plant in ten or twenty years, or at maturity. I have seen many trees and shrubs planted so close to a house that I know that they will eventually have to be removed. Pick your planting site carefully; not all trees transplant well. Go native. These plants will tolerate local conditions without extra fertilizers and excessive amounts of water. Over time, they have adapted to handle the drought, heat, humidity, and pests that come with our Monocacy summers.

Continued on page 21.



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Youth Sports

Poolesville's Collin Turner National JUCO Leader in Scoring for Montgomery College

By Jeff Stuart

In March of 2013, Collin Turner played his last basketball game for the Falcons, scoring seventeen points as Poolesville fell to Oakdale in the region final. A lot has happened to Collin since then.

On Saturday, January 27 at Montgomery College, Turner, a sophomore, led the 17-5 MC Raptors to a 96-87 win over Howard Community College (HCC), scoring thirty points, and hitting six out of nine attempted three pointers. He put a dagger in a late game rally by HCC, hitting a particularly deep three with the announcer intoning, "CT-three!" in reference to Collin's basket and jersey number.



Falcon Pride and Raptor Pride in Collin Turner are strong but not as strong as Mom Pride. That's Collin with his greatest fan, mom Vita Riggs.

"Collin is a big part of our program," said Raptors coach Keith Byrd. "He is the leading scorer in the country, but the thing that's overlooked is that he gets steals as well. He plays on both sides of the ball. He's a special young man."

Collin has sixty-three steals, ninety-five total rebounds, and eight blocks. He is shooting 52.5 percent from the field and hitting 44 percent of his three point attempts.

His 30.8-points-per-game average is currently second only to Devon Palmer's 31.9 for Quincy College in Massachusetts among all Division III scorers. He has been atop the leader board for much of the season.

"I came to MC a year after high school. I took a year off due to medical reasons. I had surgery on my neck. I came back the following semester and tried out for the team. I actually got cut. That was Coach Byrd's first year, and he had a lot of returning sophomores, experienced players. I came back the next year and made the team and averaged 17.5 points a game. I sat out a season and came back this year, and I'm averaging 30.9 points a game.

"I have developed my game a whole lot since high school. I think I am a lot better player. The competition is definitely more intense, and it is a faster-paced game, but I have upped my game and adjusted. I think my best game was against Cecil College in November. I scored a season-high forty-seven points. It was a tough game. They are a good team. We were behind at the half, but I just had

Continued on page 19.

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**Ash Wednesday
February 14**

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All are Welcome!

Things To Do

Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC Events – Poolesville Baptist Church)

Pickleball: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Zumba Gold: Wednesday in gym at 1:00 p.m.

February 9

PHS Varsity Sports Home Games

Basketball. Gaithersburg. Girls: 5:15 p.m.; boys: 7:15 p.m.

Valentine's Ballroom Lesson Fundraiser

Hope Garden Ballet Academy and Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre cordially invite all to a Valentine's dance lesson. Learn some ballroom moves as a couple to prepare for the big night (on February 10). \$60/couple. 19710-E Fisher Ave. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

February 10

3rd Annual Valentine Dinner Dance and Fundraiser

PASC Special Event

A community event to benefit PASC. Cash bar, silent auction, meal catered by Simply Fresh. Semi-formal event. The \$60.00 per person ticket to be purchased by February 2. Must be 21 years of age. For tickets, call *St. Peter's Parish Hall*. 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

February 11

SCA's Potluck Dinner

The Sugarloaf Citizens' Association will hold its Annual Member Potluck, a fun opportunity for old members to reconnect and for new and prospective members to see what we are about—not to mention to sample some first-rate fried chicken! Admission: A dish or drink of your choosing. *Gothic Barn at Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Rd., Dickerson*. 5:30 p.m.

February 14

Poolesville Planning Commission Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

February 15

Special Library Event: Family Storytime

These 25-30-minute programs are designed to delight children of all ages. Filled with diverse stories and activities that promote and develop language skills and imagination. These programs encourage children to develop a lifelong love of reading and learning, and to introduce them to the culture of reading. 10:30 a.m.

February 15

Maggie Nightingale Library Senior Book Discussion

Enjoy and discuss *Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk* by Kathleen Rooney. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. Copies will be available at the Circulation Desk. 7:00 p.m.

February 16

PHS Varsity Sports Home Games

Basketball. Kennedy: Girls at 5:15 p.m., boys at 7:15 p.m.

February 17

Annual St. Mary's Antique Show and Sale

Buy, sell, or get appraisals for your antiques or collectibles. Admission: \$5.00. *St. Mary's Pavilion, Barnesville*. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Special Library Event: Fools for Love—A Romantic Journey Through Jazz

Jazz vocalist Christiana Drapkin and her group celebrate the ups and downs of love in song. Well-known D.C. jazz pianist Robert Redd is on keys partnering with Bob Shann on bass. They romp through standards by George and Ira Gershwin, Rodgers & Hart, and Irving Berlin. They get a bit moody with Thelonious Monk, Charlie Parker, and Kurt Weill. They indulge in lighthearted flirtations to soulful blues numbers by Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen, and Fats Waller—and why not top it off with some Shakespeare in Jazz? Come celebrate “old love, new love, anything but true love” and other fabulous kiss-offs, as only the Bard and maybe Cole Porter could write them. In celebration of Library Lovers' Month. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 4:00 p.m.

February 18

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association 7th Annual Midwinter Garden Dreams

All manner of gardener—whether vegetable, flower, shrub or tree—is welcome to join. We will share garden wisdom, troubleshoot your thorniest problems, and reveal the best tomato/bean/pepper/etc. species for local gardens. Bring along plant, seed, and tool catalogs, favorite books or tools, or surplus pots and starter trays if you are so inclined. Warm drinks and yummy snacks provided. All real or would-be gardeners welcome! *Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson*. 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

February 20

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

February 24

MCPL Expeditions: An Adventure Awaits You

Take a virtual trip from Selma to Montgomery. We will be using a Google Expedition Kit to “travel” to the locations and memorials that bear witness to the Civil Rights struggle in Selma and the road to Montgomery. Virtual reality viewers will allow us to see and learn about exciting new locations. We will learn about some of the men and women who were involved

with the campaign and why the march was so important. Following the expedition, we will have a screening of the film, *Selma*. This program is in celebration of Black History Month. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 3:00 p.m.

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Yeas and Neighs

When Arabians Were King...

By Andie Devynck

...and their home was a pre-Beltway swath along the River Road of 1940s and 1950s' Potomac, and, later, at Conoy and the corner of Barnesville and Peachtree Roads in the sixties up through the mid-seventies, Bazy Tankersley was their Queen. For those of you with deep roots in and around Poolesville, you will likely recall the time when upper Montgomery County was home to the largest Arabian breeding center in the U.S. Bazy Tankersley and Al-Marah Arabians live on in the minds of many who knew her as a larger-than-life figure—a woman as kind and generous as she was focused and directive. While there is scant overt evidence of her influence here now, back in the day, the workings of Bazy were everywhere around here, and those who were in her orbit often found themselves drawn into service—one way or another—towards the achievement of her goals. On the fifth anniversary of her death on February 5, 2013, at age 91, two longtime friends—of each other and of Bazy—remember her fondly as a mentor and a patron saint of sorts, coming to their aid and touching their lives in a myriad of ways.

Jean Findlay, a longtime Dickerson resident, moved as a young woman in 1969 from her native New Mexico and arrived in Maryland with a letter of introduction in hand from Ruth Simms, Bazy's relative. Al-Marah was in full swing at Conoy (now the Sugarloaf Riding Center) and Bazy immediately put Jean to work on weekends mucking out stalls in exchange for riding lessons. Jean would drive out from her home in Bethesda (where she worked a full-time job during the week at the National Center for Health Statistics in Rockville) and join the many apprentices working for Bazy at both Conoy and the property up the hill and across the way at the corner of Barnesville and Peachtree Roads.

Bazy divided her apprentices between the two properties, assigning the boys and men to the upper property, while the girls and women attended to the Conoy horses, many of which were boarded there by private owners. Jean met one of Bazy's step-children almost immediately, Anne Sturm, who still resides on the Peachtree property, and formed a friendship that continues to this day.

Jean brought with her from New Mexico an Arabian (not of Al-Marah stock) named Fadalan, a beloved bay whom she showed in several of the Al-Marah events. Just a few years after meeting and working with Bazy, Jean became the president of the Blue Ridge Arabian Horse Association (BRAHA), another of the Bazy legacies, and it was Bazy who encouraged her to run for the position.

Jean remembers Bazy as being a "kind of behind-the-scenes" person who definitely had her ideas of what she wanted to accomplish, but who was a sincerely generous, inclusive benefactor and supporter of those around her who shared her dreams. One of BRAHA's bigger events, the Annual Blue Ridge All Arabian Horse Show, was held every summer, and the local community turned out for the three-day celebration of the breed which gave exhibitors over seventy classes in which to show off their horses. Even half-Arabians had their time to shine in ten classes devoted just to them.

One of Jean Findlay's most cherished memories of a Bazy Tankersley extravaganza is the time she collected around fifty of her gray Arabians (the most common color of the breed) at the top of the Conoy hill during a promotional event, and, with the music from "Born Free" blasting from speakers in the background, had them race down the hill at liberty towards the crowd gathered at the show ring below. Unsurprisingly, these events brought in Arabian admirers from around the country and resulted in the sales of much of the young stock, spreading the bloodline across time zones. Jean also keenly remembers elaborate BRAHA belt buckles given not only to those who rode in the shows but also to those who donated their time to work for the club.

Sara Lee Greenhalgh, a native Virginian, met Bazy in 1957 in Potomac. Sara Lee and her family were searching for a top-notch school for her preschooler, Kay (now Katherine). She heard that the Primary Day School in Bethesda had a wonderful reading program for children of Kay's age. The school had recently moved onto Bazy's property, and she helped Sara find a place for Kay there. The family eventually became part of the riding community in Potomac and deepened their friendship with Bazy and her family. When it became apparent to Bazy that young Kay had a flair for riding, Bazy lent Kay her daughter Kristie's pony, a wonderful 14.2 Anglo-Arab jumper named Indy Mac to ride. Indy Mac was progeny of Indruff, the foundation



Program cover for historic Arabian Horse show.

sire of Bazy's entire breeding program. Sarah Lee to this day cannot speak highly enough about the generosity shown and help given to her by Bazy in settling her family into her Maryland home and life.

Best of all, it was through Bazy that Jean and Sarah Lee met and began their lifelong friendship. Sara Lee recalls a party that Bazy threw in



Sara Lee Greenhalgh and Jean Findlay

order to introduce her new in-house veterinarian to the horse community. At that party, Jean and Sara Lee began to talk, and, finding they had so much in common, bonded instantly. At that time, Sara Lee's husband, Bill, was less

Continued on page 13.

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Continued from page 12.

When Arabians Were King...

interested in horses and horse-people parties than she was and threatened to leave without her if she didn't stop talking to Jean. Their friendship blossomed and prevailed, however. Eventually Sara Lee and Bill moved onto

the property off Partnership Road they had purchased in 1970 (although it took them ten years to do it), and Sarah Lee still lives there today. Jean and Sarah Lee rode together at Bazy's events, long after Bazy had moved her farm to Tucson, Arizona in the mid-eighties. Thanks to Bazy, they have been the best of friends ever since.

Want more background on Bazy Tankersley?
Read Maureen O'Connell's tribute:
www.monocacymonocle.net/2013/2013-02-22/Articles/Remembrance-Tankersley.docx

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Business Briefs

Beallsville's Patriot Chesapeake Farmhouse Bringing History and Local Products Together

Dickerson's Joe Brown has been renewing the shopping experience of Beallsville's historic Darby Store for just over a year now and much of his vision is finally coming together. Founded with the values of the Patriot family of companies, Patriot's "Chesapeake Farmhouse" pays homage to the historic Maryland mercantile stores that once dotted the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Brown explained, "We have created and curated this unique experience as an outlet to share our passion for local history, heritage, natural resources, and agriculture with our customers."

As is typical for entrepreneurs with a unique vision, the path forward has had its ups and downs, but Brown follows the advice of Winston Churchill, who knew something about overcoming challenges when he stated, "Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm."

For Brown, his inspiration was his father, Clark, who had been a "constant pillar of enthusiasm and fortitude no matter the struggle."

The store delightfully displays items for the kitchen, home and wall décor, body and bath products, rustic furniture, and more. With new items coming in all the time, they will have something new each and every visit. Joining the recent addition of meats from their farm, they now have also added artisan bread from Frederick's Stone Hearth Bakery. If you haven't stopped by to visit the store, you will be delighted with an array of wonderful and vintage décor as well as great gift items. Store manager Tiffany Corl and her staff look forward to your visit. They are open Monday and Tuesday from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m.

Historic 1785 House Once Again Becomes Law Office

Poolesville's Roger Hayden, attorney-at-law, has also been busy restoring a historic site. The white brick building across from the Liberty gas station, known as the 1785 House, once the law office of the late William Roberts, has gotten a wonderful makeover and is now used for Hayden's law practice, specializing in wills and estates, real estate, litigation, and conflict resolution.

Bretton Woods Offering a Unique Summer Camp Experience

You know about Bretton Woods, the golf course on River Road, but did you know they have an extensive summer camp program for youth from ages 5 to 17? Scheduled to open right at the close of school on June 18, the various camps will be offered through August 24.

The camps—safe, outdoors, and kid-friendly—are offered in its country club setting. While their Junior Golf Academy for ages from 7 and up is to be expected, they also offer a tennis and soccer camp as well. Want to know more? Email camp@bwrc.org.

Their Adventure Camp combines environmental education embedded in a safe but challenging week of zip lines, giant swing, hiking, canoeing, fishing, rapid swimming, tubing, nature crafts, and primitive skills. Similarly offered is its Summer Day Camp for ages 5 to 15, which will also have arts, archery, and more.

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF PUBLIC HEARING

Change in Method of Operations at the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility— Increased Production of Bagged Material

The Public Hearing originally scheduled for 7:00 pm on Monday, February 12, 2018, to discuss the proposed modification of operations at the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility ("Composting Facility") to increase annual bagging operations of compost material to a maximum annual limit of 650,000 bags, beginning with FY 2018., has been cancelled.

Questions regarding this matter can be directed to Mr. Bill Broglie, Acting Chief, Division of Solid Waste Services, Department of Environmental Protection, at william.broglie@montgomerycountymd.gov.



DAVID
BLAIR
DEMOCRAT
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

"Please join us on February 20th at 7:30pm for the Poolesville Town Commissioners meeting. I look forward to connecting with Upcounty residents and hearing your ideas for our future."
—David

For more info BlairForMontgomery.com

Authorized by: Friends of David Blair, Treasurer, Janica Kyriacopoulos

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Youth Sports

For the Poolesville Boys' Basketball Team, the Best Comes Last

By Jeff Stuart

On Tuesday, January 23, the Poolesville High School boys' basketball team beat rival Damascus, 71-44, before a noisy and appreciative crowd. It moved their record to 6-9. The Falcons jumped out to a 20-5 lead after one period and never looked back.

"It was great. We executed every play," said senior guard Ryan Haddaway. "We had a great game plan and played a great game. Offensively and all around it was one of the best games we had all year... We wanted to sweep Damascus. We are playing pretty good basketball now, but we always aim to do better and try to get better every time we walk in the gym." Haddaway, who scored fourteen against the Hornets, leads the team with a 14.9-points-per-game average. He scored twenty-nine against Northwood and thirty against McLean.

"The Damascus game was one of one of our best games," said senior forward Jack Tyler. "We hadn't scored seventy points in a long time. It felt good putting it up against our rival. My best game of the year was against Blake... A shout out to senior Travis Zinn. He has been playing really well for us." Zinn scored eighteen points against Seneca Valley.

"It started out rough," said senior guard Pete Barry. "We played a lot of tough teams in the beginning, but we are getting into a groove now. We have gotten into a little winning streak.

Everybody is contributing. Absolutely we are playing our best basketball. My best game personally was against Damascus. I played good defense. I also felt I played well against Seneca Valley. I held their top scorer to two points. He had been averaging twenty a game. My favorite moment was dunking against Seneca Valley on a fast break... I'd like to give a shout out to James Lang, a junior. He has gotten me a lot of assists this year." Lang scored fifteen points against Damascus.

"We have won four of our last six games," said coach Kenny Kramek. "We were behind Rockville, 16-0, in the first quarter and came back and almost tied that game. We spotted Seneca a 20-5 lead before we started playing. If you take away those two quarters, we have played pretty sound basketball the last month or so.

"We have nine seniors on the team, but really only Jack and Ryan had much playing time last year, and they were role players. Pete, James, and Travis and our sophomores, Nick Zehne and Colin Hammett, had never played varsity basketball before. I think the speed of the game was a little bit too much for us early on. We were trying to play way too fast and turning the ball over twenty times a game, but once we started to eliminate that, we found ourselves in close games in the fourth quarter. I think we execute well enough that we can win a majority of those games, and we have during the last month. Anytime you get a home game against Damascus, they are always ready for it. It's a big game—but we don't really care who our opponent is. We are looking at ourselves. That was a game where we didn't try to do much. We kept everything simple. We stuck within our game plan and took good-quality, high-percentage shots. We hit some of



Falcon seniors Ryan Haddaway, Pete Barry, and Jack Tyler.

those shots and executed defensively. When we do that, we are a tough team to beat. The crowd is always into it against Damascus. When you start winning basketball games, people start showing up."

Other seniors are Trevor McFall, Jimmy Dutton, Marcus Herron, Michael Basehore, and George Chen. Other juniors are Eric Palmer, Jimmy Dutton, Andrew Taurus, and Kenneth Xu.

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Field of Dreams

Dear Friends,

Do you remember "If you build it, they will come," that great line from *Field of Dreams*? That's a little how we here at Sugarloaf feel regarding the campaign to close down the Dickerson Incinerator. Instead of building, we just started talking; we started just talking about that Covanta contract coming up for renewal in 2021 and how we ought to do something to stop that from happening.

We kept talking—to neighbors and friends both up and down county—to other citizens' group, faith-based groups, environmental groups. Then we started talking to our county council representatives and our state delegates and senators, and you know what? Most have agreed: The time has come. The only people digging their heels in are, ironically, the county employees at the Department of Environmental Protection—the same people whose salaries are paid by our tax dollars and whose job it is to *protect our environment*. They want the incinerator to continue to burn our trash and contaminate our air *ad infinitum*. The DEP recently asked Sugarloaf for permission to start bringing 10,000 tons of residential food waste up to the Yard Waste Composting Facility to compost. Now, wanting to be a good neighbor, but also wanting to protect the interests of our community, we said we'd consider it if they would make a plan to phase out the incinerator. The folks there basically said, "No way." So now we are at an impasse and may well end up in court in the very near future.

The good news is that just about everybody else is with us. Council members unanimously adopted two resolutions to support this; three more resolutions and one bill are in the works and all have sponsors. I am getting calls and emails from people I have never heard of saying, "How can we help?" There are ordinary citizens making appointments with County Council members to say: "Time's up!" (to borrow another timely and apt phrase). Even Ike Leggett went on record the other day to say the incinerator needs to be shut down—and he's the one who gave the green light for it to be built twenty-five years ago. We started building our Field of Dreams (a.k.a.: talking about the closing of the incinerator) and, lo and behold, people are stepping up in droves. We have a long way to go but we are truly heartened and amazed by this outpouring of support. This is an idea whose time has unequivocally come.

Stay tuned for future updates and a look at the Road Map to Zero Waste that we commissioned to help guide the county. It should be released any day now.

Stay warm and safe out there,

Lauren Greenberger

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Assault: 17500 block of W. Willard Road.

Burglary: 19600 block of Bruner Way, 17000 block of Hughes Road.

Theft from Auto: 17300 block of Fletchall Road, 19500 block of Fisher Avenue.

Overdose: 19600 block of Dowden Circle.

Drug Arrest: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Past Crime: 1923

After a week of investigation, Montgomery County authorities announced that the investigation into the death of Eppa Reed would likely remain a mystery. Reed was found floating in the Potomac River above Great Falls. Five men remained in the Rockville jail, not as suspects, but as

material witnesses. The autopsy on the body revealed that Reed had not drowned, but there were no other signs of trauma on the body. States Attorney Dawson concluded his announcement by saying that he was baffled by Reed's death.

Two clubs on the Conduit Road (now MacArthur Boulevard) were raided by the county police. The two clubs targeted were the Rock Spring and River View. When the officers entered the River View Club, they found the place deserted even though fires were burning. At Rock Springs, whiskey and brandy were found, and the owner, Joseph Kane of Washington, was arrested and taken to Rockville. Those participating in the raids were Police Chief Cooley, Officers Clagertt, Burdine, Jones, and Rodgers, which made up seventy percent of the department.

Kenton Hays of Barnesville admitted in Rockville Court that he had sold liquor in violation of the local option

laws. Hays happened to come to trial after William Hamilton had been found guilty of selling liquor to three Dickerson High School boys, one of whom was Hays. The sheriff took note and went to Barnesville and arrested Hays. Judge Riggs gave Hays the minimum sentence after learning that his reputation was excellent and that he had been taking care of his invalid mother.

Jesse Diggins, who had only one arm, and Courtney Diggins, who was described as "crippled," were found guilty of assaulting their father at his home near Poolesville. Judge Riggs sentenced them to a short term in the Rockville jail. On the same day, Judge Riggs ordered Clarence Brooks, age 16, held in the Rockville jail pending a preliminary hearing. Brooks had been charged with assaulting Thelma Harris, the daughter of Deputy Harris.

Judge Riggs had another busy day in court. His first case involved Prince Rice who was charged with

shooting Raymond Miles at a dance in Bethesda on the previous Saturday. The shooting had been preceded by an argument. The bullet lodged near Miles's heart and no attempt had been made to retrieve it. Rice was also charged with carrying a concealed weapon (the gun). Judge Riggs sentenced Miles to three years in the House of Corrections. Then came a line of motorists who had been charged with various traffic offenses; they were fined from between \$7.50 and \$12.00.

Two house fires in Potomac resulted in the total destruction of the home of Edna Burroughs and damage to the home of Walter Myers. Citizens formed a bucket brigade and were able to extinguish the fire before it caused great damage.

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

Continued from page 1.

Traffic Circle under Consideration for Poolesville

major push to complete the goals of its Streetscape Plan.

Convening an open forum with public input, Chairman Cal Sneed initiated the charrette, a planning work session to facilitate the final stages of Streetscape. He welcomed comments from the attendees after a presentation by consulting civil engineers from the Arro Group, the firm contracted to assist in the design of a new main street for Poolesville.

Highlights of the changes presented by Arro's Brian Hopkins and Jennifer Williams include prominent gateway entrances at both ends of town. From the down-county east side approach, the long-sought, 100-foot roundabout (traffic circle) at the corner of Wootton and Fisher is designed to slow traffic coming into town and will include inviting and welcoming signage. Other highlights in the proposal include historic-like streetlamps, improved pedestrian crosswalks, and many more trees and vegetation to soften the look of the town. They also propose to augment environmental stewardship with the addition of more bio-retention areas.

Planning Commission chair, Cal Sneed, led the open-discussion planning work-session on the Streetscape Plan at town hall on January 31, inviting the attendees to offer their opinions and other ideas on a new look being considered for Poolesville.

Other items in the design include bike paths through town, the shortening of pedestrian crosswalks, improving their look and effectiveness by introducing traffic islands and bump outs, curbing designed to slow traffic. The plan calls for new streetlamps similar in design to the lampposts surrounding Whalen Commons.

Jim Brown attended the open-to-the-public work session to hear directly from the audience. After the meeting, he observed, "Our citizens brought a lot of brain power to the meeting. Getting their input is not only valuable from a meaningful contribution standpoint, it also vests them in the process. I'm sure we'll channel many of their good suggestions into future drafts as our various boards hone down the plan which has been a work in progress for years.

"We'll be moving expeditiously over the next few months as we try to gain control of our roads (from the state) in order to facilitate a welcoming and aesthetically-pleasing commercial zone. Channeling traffic responsibly and, above all, pedestrian safety, are our absolute most important short- and long-term priorities.

"I'm also convinced our partners at the Arro Group have the right resources to help us deliver what will essentially be a thirty-to-fifty-year plan."

The commissioners voiced support for the town's decision to take over ownership of Fisher Avenue from the state, which would make it easier and much more efficient for the

town to move on desired changes in the street design.

Concern was raised about the impact of the roundabout on agricultural vehicles such as large combines and how it might impact students who walk to Poolesville Elementary School. It was reported that the farming community is aware of and approves the proposed, large, and re-enforced traffic circle, which is designed to withstand heavy traffic riding over sections of the circle curbing. It was also stated that the handling of traffic control during the school hours would require additional crossing guards, but that is not considered a deal breaker.

Gail Lee, president of the Poolesville Chamber of Commerce, opined that the design provides a more appealing downtown experience, which in turn, would be welcomed by the business community. Joyce Breiner, of Poolesville Green, voiced appreciation for the designers' consideration of enhanced bio-retention areas and increase in attractive plants and trees along the way.

Other suggestions from the attendees included flashing lights at crosswalks when someone is about to enter the roadway, more vegetation about town, including a small, vest-pocket park in front of Anytime Fitness. One proposal to close parts of Fisher making it a dead-end street by diverting traffic from the west side through Wootton was acknowledged but not considered since this work session was only for discussion on changes to Fisher Avenue.

The cost of the new landscape design for the town has not been estimated at this stage of development and won't be until all ideas and concerns have been reviewed. Once a design has been approved, an intense initiative to gain county, state, and additional grants to offset any costs will be undertaken. All financial cost estimates will be duly considered prior to moving forward on the project.

Chairman Sneed reflected on the meeting, "The Arro folks did a great job of building in all of the streetscape ideas that the board mentioned during the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, which included crosswalks and pedestrian safety; increasing green space; aquifer recharge; and speed bumps for traffic calming. The board has struggled with bike lanes in both directions on Fisher Avenue, so the idea of using Wootton Avenue in one direction for bike traffic may provide a solution.

"Arro reportedly took away much useful information from the meeting, including items such as the need to keep speed bumps subtle after a citizen's comment about not interfering with fire and rescue vehicles, and combining left-turn lane concepts that include islands with planters to aid in pedestrian crossings. It was great to get the streetscape design back on track, which will serve the community well when completed."

Of course, there will be more of such planning work sessions as the Streetscape Plan becomes more refined in the months to come.

A Monocacy Moment



The Monocle's Susan Petro captured a super moon seemingly resting on the Poolesville tree. Her picture was featured on Fox 5 news.

Continued from page 10.

Poolesville's Collin Turner National JUCO Leader in Scoring for Montgomery College

to take over. I had to go off and help my team win. I think we won eventually by six points.

"Academically, I am planning to graduate this spring. I go to class every day. I sit in the front and ask questions when I need help. I try to get help when I need it. Last semester, I came out with a 3.0. I am trying to keep my GPA up. That will make me more attractive to Division I and Division II schools. I have had some offers. After the season I am going to take time and talk with my coaches and make my decision as to where I want to go." He is a business major.

"I loved playing at Poolesville: Small town, close community, great school, very supportive fans. It was great playing there."

Turner was a Maryland Junior College Athletic Conference Student Athlete of the Month for December 2017, the second time he has received this honor. Twice this season he has been selected National Junior College Athletic Association Division III Men's Basketball Player of the Week.

"It's been very exciting to follow Collin this year," said PHS coach Kenny Kramek. "He's obviously a tremendous basketball talent, and we're just thrilled he's getting and taking advantage of the opportunity to put those talents on display for Montgomery College as one of the top JUCO players in the area. Every game he plays seems to be better than the last, and we continue to wish him the best of luck."

Coach Kramek also commented on 2017 Poolesville basketball alumnus, Stephen Lang: "After not seeing much playing time early in the season, Stephen has worked himself into the starting lineup the last few games for McDaniel College. Against Gettysburg he had a team (and career) high twelve points...from three to lead the Green Terriers to a 50-46 win."

In the women's game preceding the men's game, the Raptors defeated HCC, 95-27. Poolesville 2017 graduate Kenydi Cross plays point guard for the Raptors. On November 18 of last year, she scored eighteen points against Pennsylvania Highlands Community College. At Poolesville, one of her stated goals as a senior was to score more than six points a game.

Remembrances

Jeanne Schaeffer

Jeanne Schaeffer passed away on January 30. She was born in New Castle, Pennsylvania and grew up in Youngstown, Ohio. She was predeceased by her beloved husband of sixty-two years, Donald Schaeffer, her son Stewart Schaeffer, and her daughter Marionlee Schaeffer.

Jeanne is survived by her son Donald Schaeffer, Jr. and her daughter Barbara Payne, and was very close with her eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent in Jeanne's honor to Project Echo in Prince Frederick, Maryland (www.projectecho.net).



Jeanne Schaeffer

Gertrude Ganley White

Gertrude Ganley White, 97, of Boyds, died January 22 at the Wilson Health Care Center in Gaithersburg. She was the wife of the late Donald C. White.

Born on June 27, 1920, she was the daughter of the late Joseph M. and Nettie V. Ganley.

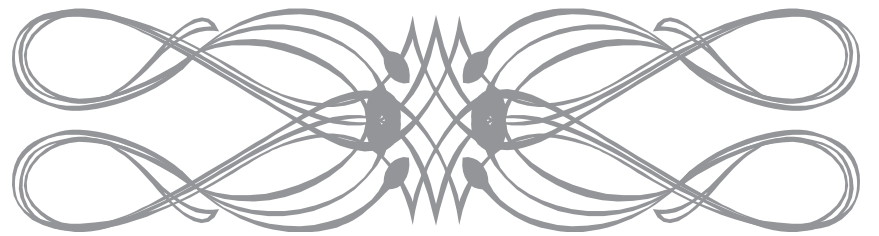
Gertrude was a lifelong resident of Germantown and the Boyds area and a well-known, lifelong and respected parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Barnesville. Her faith was an important foundation of her life. She helped clean the church and played an active role in all church events.

Surviving are her daughter, Anna Marie Perry; three grandchildren, Michelle Federline, Nicole Cohen, and David Perry; and seven great-grandchildren.

Gertrude was preceded in death by her eight siblings.



Gertrude Ganley White



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Celebrating 50 Years of Service

by R. Adam DeBaugh, Assistant Executive Director

Drivers Needed

One of the services WUMCO Help provides for its clients is rides to doctors' appointments, etc. The need for transportation has increased significantly over the past year, and we need additional volunteer drivers. Link Hoewing is our Transportation Coordinator, and he does an amazing job. He sends a spreadsheet to all the volunteer drivers a couple of times a week as needed, with the list of rides needed, the town in which the client lives, the town in which the appointment is, and the time of the appointment. Drivers sign up for rides they can take, and Link contacts the driver with the details of the ride. Please go to www.wumcohelp.org/Volunteer to sign up as a driver. Thank you.

Second Annual Membership Campaign

So many of you are responding to our second annual membership campaign mailing, and we are so grateful. We have received a whole crop of new members along with a lot of renewals from current members. Thank you for all who joined and renewed. Please join WUMCO if you haven't already! \$50 to become a Feeder Member, Driver Members start at \$100, House Warmer Members are at least \$200, Sustainer Members are at least \$400, and Jane Stearns Circle Members are at least \$600 a year.

Celebrating Our 50th Year

Throughout our Anniversary Year, this column will be featuring the services that WUMCO Help provides to people in need in Poolesville, Dickerson, Barnesville, Beallsville, and Boyds. We are best known for our food pantry, located with our office in the Family Life Center at Poolesville Baptist Church. Last year, we distributed over 21,000 pounds of food! Each of our clients is eligible for up to 130 pounds of food each month. In addition to non-perishable food, we often have fresh produce, bread, milk, and frozen meats. Special thanks to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry and KS Cuts butcher in Damascus, we recently picked up 620 pounds of ground venison. Almost every day we have donations of food from individuals, schools, churches, and organizations. Thank you for your support!

Visit our webpage and follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

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Questions? Please write Adam DeBaugh at wumco2@gmail.com if you have any questions, comments, or ideas for this column.

Monocacy Critters

Serendipitous Pet and Animal Pictures*



Martin Radigan's sharp eye and camera caught these beautiful eagles at rest in the Poolesville Tree on the east side of town.

*Do you have an unusual or funny picture of an pet or animal?
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Continued from page 9.

2018: New Year, New Garden

Trees are the overhead statement in a garden. They lend atmosphere and give the landscape height and color in autumn and winter. Which trees and shrubs grow and thrive in my thirty-seven-year-old garden? Let's take a walk. On both sides of my gradually-sloping driveway are twelve magnificent Norway Spruce trees. When we moved to Barnesville in 1980, we planted these twelve-inch saplings for their beauty and hardiness and as an eventual windscreen for the adjacent horse fields. Today they stand tall and stately, reaching over fifty feet. If you have the room for several or just one as a specimen tree, you will not be disappointed with this magnificent, low-maintenance evergreen tree. In the left corner of the front yard, the focal point is the medium-sized deciduous tree, the Pin Oak. This native has a relatively-fast growth pattern and is pollution tolerant. It is thirty-seven years old and is very healthy and maintenance free. Along the fence line of the horse field to the right of the driveway is a stand of Tulip Poplar trees. They are the tallest of eastern hardwood trees and have a life expectancy of three hundred years, if grown under optimal conditions. I suspect that, as hardy as they are, they will be growing here in Barnesville long after I am gone. In the middle of the front yard is the beautiful native American Holly tree. Holly sprigs are known as the everlasting symbol of Christmas cheer, but the tree offers much more as it lends unique beauty to the landscape all year long. It is a welcome refuge for birds, rabbits, and deer in the cold, windy days of winter. It is an evergreen and it keeps its foliage year-round. One of my favorite medium-sized trees in the back yard is the River Birch, *Betula nigra*. It is one of the few heat-tolerant birches in the family. It is both a shade tree and an ornamental tree. It sports glossy green leaves and produces brown and green catkins in April and May. What I love most about it is its graceful drooping limbs and its warm-to-the-touch, cinnamon-pink curling bark which gradually peels off to reveal the smooth beige undersurface. In the right corner of the upper garden stands a wonderful pussy willow tree, *Salix discolor*. No plant heralds spring quite like this beauty. In mid-winter, large flower buds burst open to expose the familiar silky, silvery-gray, furry catkins, while most plants are dormant. My thirty-year-old willow is now covered in these delights.

I would like to mention two small shrubs that have grown over the years exceptionally well: the Korean Boxwood and the Willow Leaf cotoneaster. I have several American Boxwoods and English Boxwoods scattered around the gardens, but, depending upon the severity of the winter, they often suffer winter leaf burn. I also could not figure out what was damaging them in the summer. The answer: English Boxwoods have a difficult time with dog urine. For some unknown reason, my two Labs Tomas and Spencer head straight for the English Boxwoods to relieve themselves. Much to my delight, the Korean Boxwoods are not damaged by dog pee. Problem solved. Do you have a slope or hard-to-mow area? Cotoneaster makes a good ground cover, especially for erosion control. Pink summer blossoms are followed by small, red berries in the fall. The fall foliage turns a bronzy shade of red which lasts throughout the winter. This shrub grows two-to-three feet tall with a spread of up to six feet.

These are some of my favorite trees and shrubs that might work in your garden. Take a walk around your garden today and see where you can create some new ambitious plans this spring to bring beauty and enjoyment to your landscape.



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Celebrating 30 Years of Service

Saving the Family Sofa from the Scratching Cat

Adapted by Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

Sofas all over the world are suffering at the paws and claws of one of their best friends, the family feline. Cats scratch to identify territory and ownership of things. We are lucky that cats show ownership of us by rubbing their head against our legs, arms, and face. Sorry, you thought they loved you, didn't you? Well, they do, but they show you that by sleeping on your face, head, neck, and other body parts at night.

When cats live with other cats, small children, the annoying dog, or other environmental stressors they have a tendency to scratch more often and harder. Here are some tips you can use now to help your cat love its life and your sofa survive.

1. If you have scratching posts, great. You will need one scratching post per cat, and it should be the rope-wrapped type. Cats like the rope wrapped on 50% better. You can put the posts near the Sofa they are scratching to divert them from the Sofa.
2. Rub the cat scratch post with catnip or a small amount of tuna juice (yum, smells great).
3. You can also get a new product called Feliscratch to apply to the post.
4. Be sure the posts are as tall as your cats when they are stretched out. This allows them to extend fully which really relaxes them, just like it does for us.
5. Give them resting areas up high. Do not put the posts or resting areas in the basement. It is often their least favorite place.
6. Give the cats their own room free from the dogs and kids when you are gone so they do not have to deal with that noise.
7. Be sure you follow the one litter box (cleaned daily) per cat plus one box rule.
8. Have multiple feeding stations up higher than the dog and kids can reach. Cats really do not like to share food or water bowls.
9. Provide new toys weekly—yeah, they get bored just as we do.
10. Spend time with your cats. Petting and rubbing them makes them calmer and is a stress reliever for you.

Scratching is a natural behavior. Trying to change a natural behavior with force or aggression towards your cat (water gun, throwing empty cans, giving them a stern talking to) is doomed.

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