

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

April 13, 2018 • Volume XIV, Number 2



Enjoying a real treat before bedtime: Nyah Huang, Jade Tieman, and Iris Huang. See other fun pictures in Family Album on page 2.



John Wolz, leading a crew to clean up around the C&O Canal, ended the day tired, to say the least. Details on page 5.



Historical mural to grace local building. Where? When? Find out in Tidbits on page 9.



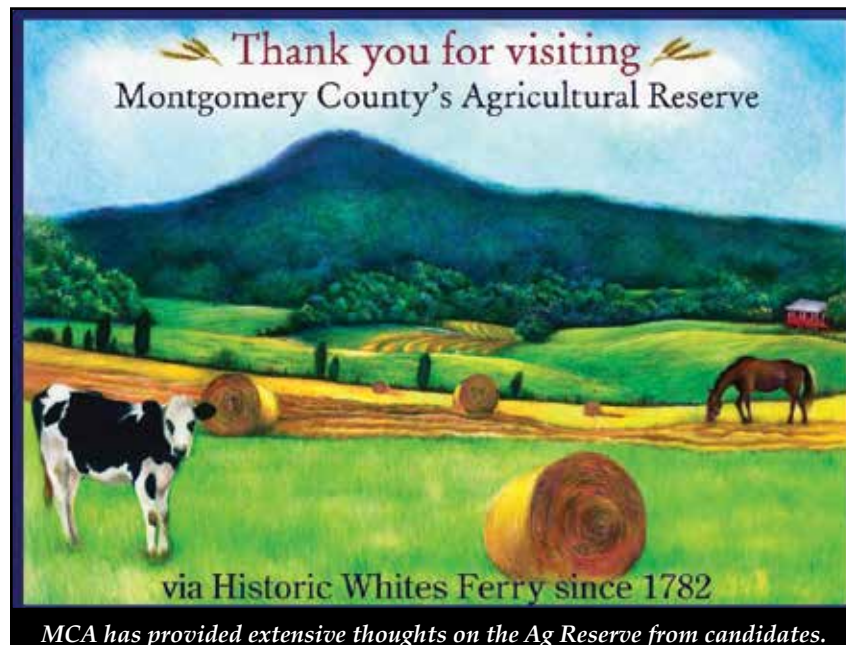
Batter up, the call of spring sports! See PHS sport preview on page 13.

Field of Candidates Weighs In on Agricultural and Open Space

By Rande Davis

Montgomery Countryside Alliance (MCA), the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2001 to promote and protect Montgomery County's 106,000-acre, thirty-eight-year-old Agricultural Reserve, has just released the results of the 2018 Candidates' Questionnaire. The questionnaire was sent to all candidates for County Council, County Executive, and all state legislators representing Montgomery County (Districts 14 through 20 and 39), an expansion from 2014 when the questionnaire only included the council and executive races. The questionnaire consists of nine open-ended questions, allowing each candidate to express his/her vision for the Ag Reserve, ag education, rural businesses, solid waste management, countywide transit, zoning, and water quality. Candidates were given a week and a half to submit their responses electronically.

The questionnaire is an attempt to collect candidates' views on a part of the county that is generally overlooked.



Ginny Barnes, county resident and president of the West Montgomery Civic Association observed, "Surprisingly,

many residents still don't know what the Ag Reserve is or where to find it.

Continued on page 21.

Bone Marrow Recipient and Donor Meet for First Time

By Rande Davis

National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP)[®]/Be the Match[®], which operates the nation's registry of potential adult volunteer marrow donors and donated umbilical cord blood units, held an awareness briefing celebrating the successful transplant pairing and first-time meeting of donor, Kyndess Eaggleston, and recipient, Kate Jauch, of Poolesville. Both women shared their experiences with the Be the Match program, underscoring the importance of advocacy, program funding, and access to transplant for Americans with blood cancer and other blood disorders.

At the age of thirty-two, Jauch, a mother of three, was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) in 2010 and, after receiving an initial bone marrow transplant, she learned a

second procedure was her only hope for survival. Once Eaggleston, a mother herself, discovered that she was a match, she did not hesitate to donate knowing that she could potentially save a life. On March 8, 2016, Jauch received her second transplant from Eaggleston. Jauch and Eaggleston met for the first time this week in Washington, D.C.

"It was very moving to meet Kate in person and know that this is someone I will forever be bonded to through the Be the Match Registry," said Eaggleston. "I encourage anybody eligible to sign up to be a donor. They make the process easy, and knowing you could potentially save a life is incredible."

For the thousands of people diagnosed every year with life-threatening blood cancers like leukemia and lymphoma, transplants are made



Bone marrow donor Kyndess Eaggleston with recipient Kate Jauch.

Continued on page 3.

Family Album



Wearing their pajamas to get a free ice cream are: Natalie McElheny, Taylor Hanson, Kylie McElheny, Micah McElheny, and Sydney Hanson.



Attending the Monocacy Lions Club meeting were Cahlen Cheatham, FAA Regional Vice President, Gail Lee (president of PACC), Dale Nestor (last ag teacher at PHS), and David Miller from the Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation.



Springtime on the river means logs on the river. The crew of White's Ferry knows exactly how to extricate itself from the peril.



Five generations living right here in the Boyds-Barnesville area! Pictured here are: great-great-grandmother, Edith June Luhn; great-grandmother, Sandra Kay Luhn/Oden; grandfather Michael Todd Oden, Sr.; mother, Sara Virginia Oden, and daughter, Virginia Rose Markham.



Handling the morning announcements at JPMS are future broadcasters: Sophia Brandt, Abigail Rowe, Claudia Colon, and Angelina Kolomiers.

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Continued from page 1.

Bone Marrow Recipient and Donor Meet for First Time

possible through the national bone marrow donor registry, part of the CW Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program. Despite the continued connections it provides for transplant recipients, increased funding is needed to optimize access and outcomes, particularly for Americans who might have difficulty finding a match or for patients where a transplant is their only chance for a cure.

"I am extremely grateful to my two donors for their generosity and selflessness in donating and allowing me to continue my life," said Jauch. "I was fortunate to have found a match, and we must continue to grow the registry for those who will need a transplant in the future. This is why we are urging policymakers to protect access to transplants through increased program funding."

For Medicare beneficiaries, in particular, funding for bone marrow transplants falls short of the actual costs of care. Advocates are urging Congress to act swiftly to pass H.R. 4215, legislation to ensure that future Medicare payments for cellular transplants reflect the true costs of treatment, including cell acquisition, transplant, and recovery for older Americans diagnosed with blood cancers or other disorders. The legislation will reform reimbursement to hospitals for the cell acquisition costs using a methodology similar to that used for solid organs. This policy would have a very small impact on Medicare's total spending but would ensure patient access to lifesaving care.

National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP)/Be the Match is the global leader in providing a cure to patients with life-threatening blood and marrow cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma, as well as other diseases. The nonprofit organization manages the world's largest registry of potential marrow donors and cord blood units, connects patients to their donor match for a lifesaving marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant, educates healthcare professionals, and conducts research through its research program, CIBMTR® (Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research®), so more lives can be saved. NMDP/Be the Match also provides patient support and enlists the community to join the Be the Match Registry®, contribute financially and volunteer.

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Saturday, May 5th

10:00 am: Continental Breakfast

10:30 am: Time of Worship

Noon: Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall.

1:00 pm: Worship with the Southern Gospel Quartet Damascus Road Trio.

Sunday, May 6th

10:45 am: Worship

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Rande(m) Thoughts School Safety: Harsh Realities When Everything Else Is Not Enough

By Rande Davis

On April 17, representatives of the Montgomery County Police Department will be on hand at the Poolesville High School PTA meeting to discuss student safety relating to issues raised by the school shootings in Florida. I hope all concerned parents and residents will attend.

There is no issue of greater concern to the school administration, parents, and community than that of finding ways to safeguard our children from such a horrendous occurrence. While others may have heated discussions on gun control issues nationally, here in our town, the focus should be on what we can do right now, right here, to protect our kids.

Everyone is greatly grieved by the unimaginable pain caused by the Florida shooter. Lest we forget, he is the culprit of this madness. While the circumstances of his life are sad and now made tragic, there are countless others with similar or even worse life experiences who have not made the choices he did.

Waiting on others to discuss, debate, and delay on broad solutions doesn't work for me. Again and again after these horrific incidents, we cry out for preventive solutions. Here is what I regrettably believe is the harsh and stark reality. It's going to happen again somewhere. What then?

Here's another harsh observation: The cascading and systematic failures involved in the Florida shooting were astounding and make the tragedy even more frightening. The event was like Murphy's Law on steroids. Hear something, say something fell through the cracks at multiple levels. Adoptive parents taking in discarded children was not enough. Not enough was done to stop brothers and others who bullied. Even having armed police in the school building was not enough to protect or even minimize the death toll. There is no accounting in advance for courage. Courage either comes when needed or it does not. Heroes earn the title for a reason.

The trained administration, guidance staff, and teachers were not enough to see the danger within the perpetrator or, even worse, saw it but failed to do enough to prevent him. So many people around the killer including friends, family, and just some acquaintances saw the danger and reported the danger to the local police and FBI, and still that was not enough.

Another harsh reality is that even banning the AR-15 will not be enough. The existing supply is nearly endless, the black market is too big, and the alternative weapons too many.

I return to the original proposition: Before the next shooting begins, what can we do now to better keep our kids safe?

For me, I have come to the sad realization that we have to be willing to at least have an honest and open discussion about hardening our schools as targets. Many will be disturbed by this notion. We now have our local resource officer sitting in the lobby of the high school as a visible warning to anyone within the school contemplating such lunacy. Locked entryways are only a start and, by itself, in reality, an exercise in feel-good mentality. It's like expecting the burglar to ring the doorbell.

I don't know how others feel, but I think we need to consider having a voluntarily-trained, professionally-qualified, deputized, and licensed armed personnel within the school ready to respond immediately to an attack. This does not include any teacher or person unwilling for such duty. As a parent, I would be more comforted knowing that a trained and skilled support team is already in the building, responding even before outside forces can arrive. This team approach guards against the failure of any individual while minimizing deaths and injuries. It comes with its own set of problems. This is a very regrettable solution. It may also be all we have in the final analysis.

I have often thought that we really don't choose solutions, we choose problems. My point is that every new solution we come up will result in other new, perhaps, unseen problems. If the new solution, however, results in better, more preferable problems, then progress is made. Minimizing the numbers of killed or injured is not the goal or a solution. It may, however, be all we have. We may collectively decide not to go in this direction, but the issue is too great, the reality too harsh not to at least open the discussion.

Local News

Monocacy Lions Express Strong Support for Ag Science Studies For PHS

By Rande Davis

Following a presentation to the Monocacy Lions Club on March 26 by David Miller, from the Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation, on the merits and benefit of an agricultural science program for Poolesville High School, members expressed wide support for the newly-launched initiative. The dynamic program sponsored by FAA is entitled Curriculum of Agricultural Science Education (CASE).

David Miller, a former assistant superintendent for Computer Sciences and Technology for Frederick County Public Schools, is also a retired Montgomery County Public Schools teacher. His message to the Lions focused on the breadth of the CASE program in reaching students with an exciting school experience for students with differing educational goals, from high school diploma to those with plans to pursue post-graduate studies. In particular, he noted the high success rate for those ag science students enrolled in any of the CASE program's educational pathways such as Agricultural Production—Animals, Plant Systems, Food and Fiber Processing, Environmental Services, or Natural Resources.

Joining Mr. Miller before the Lions was Cahlen Cheatham, a 2017 graduate from Frederick County's Oakdale High School, where he studied Agricultural



David Miller, of the Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation; Cahlen Cheatham, regional vice president of the FAA; King Lion Milton Andrews; Montgomery County University of Maryland Extension 4-H director, David Gordon; Jeremy Criss, Montgomery County director of agriculture; and Lion Bill Jamison.

Continued on page 18.

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In Our Own Backyard

Cleanup Day at the Canal Successful

By Jon Wolz

I'm glad to report that we had a highly-successful cleanup day along the canal on April 6. I'm thankful to the many volunteers along with the support the Alice Ferguson Foundation, the C&O Canal Trust, the C&O Canal Association, and the *Monocacy Monocle* newspaper. Also, the National Park Service provided a dumpster at the site.



A dedicated crew cleaned up the C&O Canal.

The volunteers returning from last year included Pattie Wolz, Scott Wolz, and Linda Dellinger. Among the new volunteers were two volunteers from the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary of Montgomery County and one Poolesville High junior along with his father. My friend Steve Horvath helped me scout for trash in February, and he led a group from the aqueduct down to the mouth of the Little Monocacy River.

We had fourteen volunteers this year and collected more trash than in 2017. The volunteers picked up trash on both sides of the mouth of the Monocacy River and from the mouth of the Monocacy down to the mouth of the Little Monocacy River. Trash was picked up along both sides of the Little Monocacy River up to Culvert 69 and from the mouth of the Little Monocacy all the way down to Culvert 68. My brother Scott commented afterwards that "this is now the cleanest stretch of river."

Scott and volunteer Greg pushed and rolled a hot water heater about seventy-five yards to the towpath by Lockhouse 27. Pattie, with the help of a passing cyclist, loaded it onto a wheel barrow. She then pushed it down the towpath to the parking lot.

Volunteers removed six tires (five of them even had rims) and a steel cattle gate. In the end, we filled fifty-one bags of trash, including twenty yellow trash bags and thirty-one blue recycling bags.

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Garden

Alluring Agapanthus

By Maureen O'Connell

Several years ago, while visiting the Cape of Good Hope, a rocky headland on the Atlantic coast of the Cape Peninsula, South Africa, I noticed a plant growing naturally that I had never seen before. It was tall with grass-like foliage and funnel-shaped umbels of dark, violet-blue flowers. It grew on the flat, rocky edges of the windy cliff tops and between rocks and even in depressions on sheets of sandstone rock. I learned that it was *Agapanthus*, a flowering plant native to South Africa. I also saw many of them in the greenhouses of the internationally-acclaimed Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, an amazing place of plants and birds on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain in Cape Town, South Africa. Last summer, when I was in the charming seaside village of Carmel, California, I saw them again blooming in public and private gardens. I had to try to grow this beautiful, exotic plant in Barnesville.



Lavender Agapanthus – Spring!

Agapanthus is also known as African Lily or Lily of the Nile, but as I just mentioned, it comes from nowhere near the Nile River. It is the only genus of the subfamily Agapanthoideae of the flowering plant family Amaryllidaceae. The name is derived from the Greek word *agape*, meaning love, and *anthos* meaning flower, translating broadly as the flower of love. They are perennials with fleshy, rhizomatous rootstocks, and they are of two types: deciduous and evergreen. Within these categories, they can range from fully hardy to half hardy, depending upon the climate in which they grow. The evergreen varieties are generally the most tender, as they originate mainly from areas with winter or year-round rainfall, such as the East or West Cape. Deciduous species grow mainly in areas with dry winters and moist summers. They enjoy lots of sunshine, are naturally resistant to wind, and thrive in areas of good drainage as they naturally grow in rocky nooks and crannies. These climatic conditions seem to describe very well where they are native plants: the Cape of Good Hope and Cape Town, South Africa—so how could I see them flourishing in Carmel and also in the Andes mountains in northern Argentina? They were introduced into Europe at the close of the seventeenth century and can be found today growing in many countries. How? As with many other plants, they change and adapt to their conditions. That is not always successful. That is the challenge.

You are probably asking yourself, why does she want to bother trying to grow this "location-demanding" plant in Barnesville? I like the challenge, and I love this beautiful flower, so this summer is my time to experiment. I have ordered from White Flower Farm and Wayside Gardens nine agapanthus: three 'Midnight Blue,' three 'Black Buddha,' and three white 'Twister.' They are all deciduous varieties, so they will need heavy winter protection with a dry mulch of sand or straw, or they can be grown in containers and moved to a frost-free greenhouse or shed with temperatures of forty to fifty degrees and dry for the winter. To find the best growing location, I shall grow half in containers and half in the ground. My past experience with dahlias has not been successful. I left some in the ground to overwinter and dried others and moved them to the basement; they all rotted.

Agapanthus, supposedly, are easy to grow but tricky to flower; now that is even under the best conditions. They prefer fertile, well-drained, but moisture-retentive soil in full sun. Avoid planting in the shade as plants will either grow poorly or develop a mass of foliage at the expense of flowers. Our Monocacy summers are usually very hot, very humid, and prone to drought—a new set of demanding conditions for this Lily of the Nile.

Agapanthus are grown for their showy flowers, commonly in shades of blue and purple, but also white and pink. My selections are in the blue-violet and white range. 'Midnight Blue' has rounded heads of the deepest, darkest blue flowers on tall stalks above clumps of strap-like green leaves, growing three to

Continued on page 15.

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Focus on Business

Life Experience from The Mountain Top

By Rande Davis

When one lives a dream, life can seem as if you are at the mountain top. Today, Dickerson's David Ritter, officially the director of team building and outdoor education at the Bretton Woods Recreation Center and director of the Outdoor Adventure summer camp, couldn't be more thrilled to be living life "on top of the world."

For David Ritter, it's more than a dream; it's real. Even as a youngster, David has always been an "outdoor kind of guy" or better described by his mother as "always building forts up in the woods, making things like tree houses and zip lines out of clotheslines." As he ventured into adulthood, his interest became high-altitude mountaineering and hiking. Getting out into the open space called to him. It eventually became his avocation. As he overcame the challenge of dyslexia in his childhood, he found climbing rocks seemed to give him the kind of immediate rewards he craved. One of his favorite parts of being outdoors so much is being so physically engaged that it "makes mac and cheese the best food ever, simply from the cravings that come from hard activity."

His personal adventures found him leading group trips to places like Mount McKinley and to peaks in Argentina and Mexico. It included such experiences as vertical sleeping on the side of cliffs. Asked how he could succeed at all that, his wry response was that the key is to "not die;" however, after getting into his favorite thing of all, being a dad, he turned from the high risk to safe adventure.

His personal favorite reward from his job is staff development and simply working with the kids. The expressions of appreciation at the end of summer camp from staffers and campers mean everything to him. Essential to his success is enjoying the hard work aspects of outdoor adventure. "If you don't like working hard, you will hate it, but for those into it, there is nothing better." A subtle advantage for the camp counselors, unlike other summertime work, is that they don't spend the money earned. "You're too tired to go out." Staff—like campers—come from all walks of life, yet, end up building lasting friendships.

He turned his youthful love into work by starting his own camp he called Outer Quest, and then in 2005, he joined Calleva and stayed with them until 2016, when he came to Bretton Woods.

The Bretton Woods Recreation Center has offered various summer camp programs for nearly forty years, including junior golf, tennis, and soccer for young folks. They even have had a summer day camp. The adventure camp features three high rope stations and has over seventy available activities to thrill everyone, those who come for one week as well as others who camp even longer.

Through it all, the camp features leadership skills, technical skills, primitive skills like fire building, canoeing, rapids swimming, and even some local history based on some Civil War events.

David's specialty of all-for-one, one-for-all group activities gets the adrenaline flowing with a wide range of activities, including swimming, hiking, archery, field games, and fun challenges specifically designed to teach team spirit and team leadership.

The focus in the outdoor camp is a multi-level ropes challenge designed to meet the needs of all youth, from those who hardly leave the computer to the more experienced. The weekly programs run from June 18 into late August, feature exciting all day outdoor experiences, and, while emphasizing team and leadership development, provide excellent environmental and nature lessons.

While the zip line at the top of Anderson Hill seems to be everyone's favorite experience, each challenge station is uniquely created to have constant group involvement; there is no standing around in lines here. The counseling staff works with each camper with understanding of the limitations and needs of each.



Dickerson's David Ritter,
Director of the Summer Adventure
Camp at Bretton Woods.

Continued on page 17.

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

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Free Form Movement: Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in Rm 129.

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

Mahjong: Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the café.

April 14

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Annual Member Meeting

Meet and greet includes a continental breakfast. Guest speak Senator Brian Feldman. Presentation by Piedmont Environmental Trust grant award recipients. Update by SCA president on current projects and major issues. Complimentary compost bin. *Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson.* 9:00 a.m.

PHS Varsity Home Games

Baseball and softball. Seneca Valley. 2:30 p.m.

Haiti Festival

All are invited for our tenth annual festival to aid our twinning parish of St. Joseph in Carcasse, featuring, dinner, live music by Jim Clark and Friends, raffles, and a silent auction. Reservations recommended: Call St. Mary's Rectory at 301-972-8660 or email jcr57@aol.com. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. *St. Mary's Pavilion.* 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

April 15

UMCVFD Recruitment Day

Maryland statewide recruitment for administrative members, emergency response members, and fundraising members for UMCVFD. Goal is to recruit members for a variety of positions. Joining as a member is not limited to firefighters or EMTs. There are many non-emergency positions available. Learn how you can join and count as a contributor to public safety. *Beallsville Fire Hall.* Noon to 4:00 p.m.

April 16

PHS Varsity Home Games

Tennis. Quince Orchard. 3:30 p.m.
Baseball and softball. Blake. 3:45 p.m.
Boys' lacrosse. Seneca Valley. 7:15 p.m.

April 17

Save a Life: Montgomery County's Opioid and Substance Abuse Community Forum

Montgomery College, Theater Arts Building,

51 Manakee, Rockville. 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

School Safety Forum

Montgomery County Police presentation for a joint PHS and JPMS PTA meeting. Discussion on school safety in relation to school shootings. *PHS Media Center.* 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

PASC Special Event: Movie Night

Special viewing of Wonder. Dinner included. *Poolesville Baptist Church.* 6:00 p.m.

PHS Varsity Home Game

Girls' lacrosse. Seneca Valley. 7:00 p.m.

April 19

Senior Book Discussion

Enjoy and discuss *Lily and the Octopus* by Steven Rowley. Copies will be available at the Circulation Desk. *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 7:00 p.m.

Parents' Forum on Teen Depression

Fisher Lane Conference Center, Rockville. 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Family Storytime:

El Día de Los Niños

This 25-30-minute program is designed to delight children of all ages. Filled with diverse stories and activities that promote and develop language skills and imagination, this program encourages children to develop a lifelong love of reading and learning, and introduces them to the culture of reading. We will be celebrating Día de los Niños (The Month of the Young Child) which focuses on diversity and multiculturalism. *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 10:30 a.m.

April 19, 20, and 21

PHS Midnight Players Spring Production: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*

PHS auditorium. Thursday and Friday at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

April 20

PHS Varsity Home Game

Tennis. Quince Orchard. 3:30 p.m.

April 20 to 22

Countryside Artisans Studio Tour

Spend a day in the country visiting eighteen art studios. For details, visit www.countrysideartisans.com

The Blue Hearth Market Weekend

Friday: noon to 8:00 p.m., Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

April 22

MCPS-MCCPTA Mental Health and Wellness Forum

Presentation and seminars on student

mental health issues. *Gaithersburg High School.* 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Earth Day at the Blue Hearth

The Common Ground Market (with the Blue Hearth) will hold an Earth Day Celebration and Plant Sale, featuring: garden plants, perennials, farmers' and artisan market, lunch from Watershed Café, live music, face painting, bounce house and crafts. *The Blue Hearth, 19964 Fisher Avenue.* Noon to 3:00 p.m.

April 23

PHS Varsity Home Games

Tennis. Northwest. 3:30 p.m.

Baseball and softball. Damascus. 3:45 p.m.

Financial Planning Workshop

Maggie Nightingale Library and Abundant Life Financial present a financial wellness seminar geared toward helping you navigate personal finances and how to be debt free, plan what's right for your family, and become financially independent. The first workshop will be focusing on getting ready for the next phase. Whether it's college or beyond, presenters will be breaking down how to accumulate wealth, college savings, and planning for the future with general knowledge of how investing works. No registration required. *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 7:00 p.m.

April 26

Tweens Eat Books

This month's book selection, *Charlie and the C. Maggie Nightingale Library.* 7:00 p.m.

April 26, 27, and 28

St. Peter's Annual Spring Rummage Sale

Tons of great used and cared for items for home and individuals. Donations accepted from April 14 to 22. Thursday: 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Family Storytime:

El Día de Los Niños

This 25-30-minute program is designed to delight children of all ages. Filled with diverse stories and activities that promote and develop language skills and imagination, this program encourages children to develop a lifelong love of reading and learning, and introduces them to the culture of reading. We will be celebrating Día de los Niños (The Month of the Young Child) which focuses on diversity and multiculturalism. *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 10:30 a.m.

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APRIL MARKET WEEKENDS

April 20, 21, & 22

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SUN: Noon to 5:00 p.m.



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Tidbits

New Mural on Bassett's to Commemorate Favorite Area Sites

Some volunteers, led by Tom Kettler, proposed an initiative to get an historical mural painted as Public Art on the exterior wall of Bassett's Restaurant facing Elgin Road. The Town of Poolesville has committed some funds as has the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce.



This pastoral view of Sugarloaf Mountain is one of three mural pictures to be painted on the side of Bassett's.

For a fundraiser, Tom Kettler, of Kettler Forlines Homes, has agreed to be a guest bartender on April 20 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Bassett's Bar. It should prove to be very interesting if not downright entertaining as Tom reports his bartending talents are limited pretty much to opening a beer bottle and uncorking a bottle of wine. George Virkus promises to have some "experienced" staff with him to assist in a pinch. Tom will donate all his tips and other donations collected that night to the mural project. Karen Kouneski, who painted the mural in the town hall meeting room, will be painting the murals. Some of the mockups of the possible pictures are included with this article. During the event, there will be a suggestion box for attendees to offer ideas of what they would like to see in the mural.

UPN Update

UPN announced that a seminar on Opioid and Substance Abuse Community Forum entitled "Save A Life Montgomery" will be held on April 17 at Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee Street, Theater Arts Building, in Rockville. The event is from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The focus will be to learn about the facts of substance and alcohol abuse in the county and find out what residents and communities can do to keep the community safe.

Additionally, UPN reports another gathering at Gaithersburg High School on April 22 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This mental health forum will include a report by Ann Mazur, CEO, of Every Mind, and Matt Post, student member of the MC Board of Education.

Breakout sessions will include multiple topics: Coping with anxiety and stress, ending the silence, mindfulness, physical exercises for healthy minds, keeping kids safe, and child abuse and neglect.

Gearing Up for Poolesville Day 2018

The Poolesville Day Committee is now in full gear getting ready for another spectacular day for the grand marshal parade, scores of vendors, tons of food vendors, and an absolutely wild and wonderful lineup of entertainment. Returning vendors will want to take full advantage of discounts by signing up early.

PACC president Gail Lee has put out a notice that the Lions Club will once again join the chamber to assist in its annual Poolesville Day 5K walk/race event. Leadership of the event transitions from Rande Davis and Kathy Mihm to Lions Heidi Rosvold-Brenholz and Roger Brenholz. Any chamber members wanting to help the chamber with this event should email Gail Lee soon as they will be setting up organizational meetings later this month. The most helpful thing sponsors from last year can do is to reply early to the chamber's upcoming email to renew their sponsorships for 2018. That way, if they need to replace a sponsor, they will have the most time possible in which to do so.


Poolesville High Girls' Basketball Team #8 in Region

USA Today published its Northeast Region girls' basketball rankings, and in the twelve-state Northeast Region, our Falcons were ranked eighth. The region consists of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, District of Columbia, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Maine.

The rankings were:

1. St. John's College, Washington, D.C. (32-2)
2. Baldwin, N.Y. (26-1)
3. Christ the King, Middle Village, N.Y. (29-1)
4. Riverdale Baptist, Upper Marlboro, Md. (23-5)
5. Manasquan, N.J. (32-2)
6. St. Frances Academy, Baltimore (24-4)


Continued on page 12.




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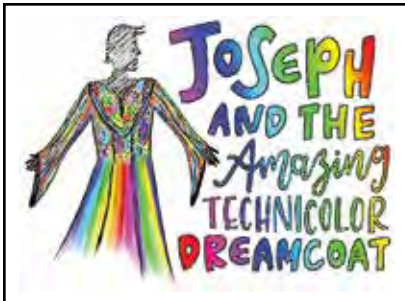
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School News

Spring Performance By Midnight Players

The Poolesville High School Midnight Players will present *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* from April 19 to 21. More than ninety students will participate as actors, orchestra, stage crew, or technical assistants.



The PHS Midnight Players' spring musical.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is a musical with lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. The story is based on the "coat of many colors" story of Joseph from the Bible's Book of Genesis. This was

the first Lloyd Webber and Rice musical to be performed publicly.

Its family-friendly story, familiar themes, and catchy music have resulted in numerous stagings. *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* is presented by arrangement with the Musical Company, LP.

Shows are scheduled for April 19, 20, and 21 at 7:00 p.m., and April 21 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the door or in advance at the PHS online store. Admission is \$10, or \$15 for reserved seating.

Butler School Received Green Award from Bethesda Magazine

The Hands On! Arts & Activities Day scheduled for April 21 at the Butler Montessori School in Darnestown is an engaging program-based event geared towards living out the school's mission of purposeful enrichment. Proceeds from last year's Hands On! Arts & Activities Day supported the school's "Better the Backyard" green education initiative which included adding outdoor classroom decking, playground structure enhancements, and classroom gardens. Because of these improvements, Butler Montessori received *Bethesda Magazine's* Green Award, and the students have

Continued on page 20.

House of Poolesville

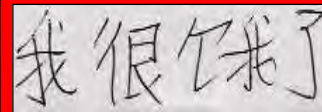


Entertainment Schedule
DJ Entertainment every Friday



April 13: Semi Hollow

April 28: PHS Multi-Class Reunion - noon to 5:00 p.m.



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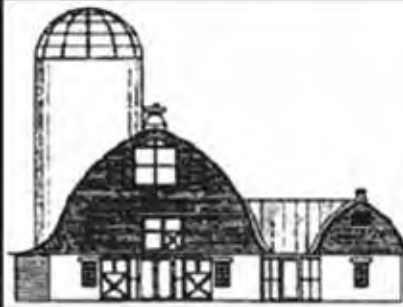
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Which is Worse: Landfill or Incinerator?

Environmentalists have long understood that, as bad as landfills are, trash incineration (and landfilling the toxic ash) is even worse. Currently, we burn Montgomery County's trash here in Dickerson and send toxic ash by rail to landfills in Virginia. For every one hundred tons burned, thirty tons of ash go to landfill and the other seventy tons become air pollution released in our community. Sugarloaf Citizens' Association has been advocating for a third path, which replaces incineration by reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting, then stabilizing the residuals so that the waste we landfill in Virginia isn't as toxic, voluminous, or as likely to produce gas and odors.

The industry's own data affirm that incineration is more expensive than land-filling. The Energy Information Administration has published data showing that incineration is the most expensive source of energy. EPA data, as well as state comparisons in MD and NY, show that incineration is much more polluting than coal, even with the extra pollution controls they use.

However, the main question persists: Is incineration really worse for the environment than direct landfilling? The perception that landfills are worse has kept our county officials thinking that we dare not stop incinerating when the contract ends on April 1, 2021, unless we reach a certain level in the county's waste reduction, recycling, and composting efforts.

This is rubbish, so to speak. In fact, it's better to switch to direct landfilling as soon as possible, regardless of our level of recycling and composting, because incineration is indeed far worse than landfills for our health and our environment.

In a 2017 life cycle analysis conducted to evaluate Washington, D.C.'s waste options, ten different environmental measures were examined comparing Covanta's incinerator in Lorton, Virginia to trucking waste to landfills that are two to four times as far from D.C. On a majority of the measures evaluated, incineration turned out to be worse than landfilling—worse when it comes to global warming pollution, and pollution from nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, toxic chemical releases, acid gases, and smog.

Furthermore, burning trash creates new toxic chemicals and makes existing toxins in products more available to leach out when rainwater contacts ash in a landfill. Since it's the toxicity, not the volume, of waste that harms health, it's better to send stabilized, unburned trash than incinerator ash to landfill.

Best of all, of course, is a truly Zero Waste plan that focuses on reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting. This is what we are fighting for, but in the meantime, the sooner we as a county can get out of that contract with Covanta and stop burning our trash, the better. As we work towards Zero Waste, there are existing well-operated landfills in Virginia that are open for business, have plenty of space, and are accessible by rail from the Shady Grove Transfer Station.

We think this is a no-brainer. We hope you do, too. Please feel free to reach out to us if you'd like more information on this critical issue.

Lauren Greenberger

Continued from page 9.

Tidbits

- 7. Bishop McNamara, Forestville, Md. (21-7)
- 8. Poolesville, Md. (27-0)
- 9. Upper Dublin, Fort Washington, Pa. (26-5)
- 10. Central Bucks South, Warrington, Pa. (28-4)

GOP Women Announce Scholarship Plans

The Rural Women’s Republican Club is offering a \$1,500 scholarship to a senior from one of the following Upcounty high schools: Poolesville, Northwest, Seneca Valley, Clarksburg, or Damascus. Applications can be picked up in the guidance/college counselors’ offices at the schools. The deadline for accepting the completed applications and essays is Friday, May 11, 2018.

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Youth Sports

Returning State Baseball Champs Lead PHS Athletics Into Spring

By Jeff Stuart

Baseball

Winners of eighteen games, five straight playoff games, and the 2017 3A State Championship last season, the Poolesville baseball team returns confident but facing new challenges. "We have seven seniors back," said coach Steve Orsini. "I expect that we will be right in the thick of things. That is what I am hoping. We will see what happens. Every position is open for competition. We have a couple of young kids. Max Fisher [a sophomore] will probably earn the second base position.

"With Matt Convers behind the plate, people are going to have trouble stealing off of him. With Brady Pearre on the mound, we are solid at pitching. Zach Widenhofer didn't pitch for us last year, but he is looking pretty good



The 2018 PHS varsity baseball team has a tough act to follow after last year's team won the state championship. We think they're up to it.

so far. Luke Trythall is looking pretty good, too. Due to pitch count limits, I need to find the right combination of kids to come in and be effective. Damascus will be tough among teams in the region...We have a really tough schedule. I think every week will be tough, and we will have our hands full. We will play solid defense. It will come down to our pitching performing up to expectations."

The Falcons are back in the 2A Division this spring making a sectional confrontation with defending 2A State Champion Middletown a playoff

possibility. They play Damascus at home on April 23. On March 24, the Falcons won their home opener, 8-1, behind Pearre in a game played at Richard Montgomery due to wet field conditions in Poolesville. Brady had two hits. In the bottom of the first, he doubled with two out, stole third, and scored on an errant throw by the catcher. That tied the score. He singled and stole second in the fourth inning and scored the go-ahead run on a booming triple to right by Trythall. Jimmy Dutton scored Trythall with a two-out single to right.

Coed Volleyball

"We have five returners, junior Kyle Stevens-Donati, senior Anthony Sheehi, senior Robert Queen, senior Amirah Paksima, and sophomore Lauren Penn," said coach Megan Kenneweg of the returning county champs. "Robert has worked extremely hard over this past year and has improved tremendously. He is a great team impact on and off the court. Robert and Amirah are the captains; they are vocal leaders. We have added two boy swimmers on the team that have been fast learners, adapting to the new sport. Kevin Song was competing in the nationals in Florida all last week, so he will have to hit the ground running in preparation for our first match. Losing Cal, Alexis, and Eamon has been tough because their impact was so great. Eamon and Alexis gave us ball control, and Cal had the ability to swing and was a great presence at the net. That's what I love about coed volleyball, though, every year is different.

"The ladies have experience playing girls' in the fall, but coed is a different dynamic with the boys. They have had to make adjustments to their serving and hitting but have quickly adapted."

Continued on page 17.



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Yeas and Neighs Have Trailer, Will Travel – Part One

By Andie Devynck

Itching to find new places to ride and camp with your horse? Got cabin fever from this last blast of cold weather? It's time to get the trailer cleaned out, checked out, and ready to go in time for the horse vacation seasons: spring, summer, and fall.

First things first: Is your truck in hauling condition? When was the last time you had your mechanic give it a good looking-over and a tuneup? Hooray for you if you're a do-it-yourselfer, but most of us need to take our vehicles in for work, so that's at the top of the list.



Horse, truck, and trailer: Ready for spring.

Next, the trailer: When was the last time you had a thorough examination of the electrical system and lights, wheels, loading ramp (if you have one), and floorboards? Did you clean out the whole rig at the end of last fall, or do you need to clear out all the bedding and even the tack room (if you have one) before you bring it in for servicing?

Then there's your horse: Have you been able to get a few trail-riding miles under your belt before you load up and go for an adventure that's more than just a local haul away? How is your trail-riding tack looking these days? It might be time to repair or replace what you need for your horses' riding and camping comfort—and, while we're at it, your own riding and camping gear.

Now, where to go: For planning ease, let's divide these destinations into shorter (under five hours' drive) and longer (over five hours) trips. When work and school give most of us less access to free time during the

spring and fall, spending less of it on the roads and more of it on the trails makes sense, so here's a list of places to discover that offers a 360-degree range of options in the counties and states surrounding Poolesville and the Ag Reserve.

Under Five Hours:

In Maryland, for a stay-cation, **Little Bennett Park** is just twenty minutes away in nearby Clarksburg and has several horse camping spots adjacent to the trailer parking near the golf course clubhouse. Be sure to check ahead in the fall to see if the park is closed for managed deer hunts (look online on the county website). Slightly further afield, **Patapsco State Park's McKeldin Area** hosts horse camping just an hour's drive away, and if you have an in with someone at the League of Maryland Horsemen's site nearby,

you have another option for boarding and trail access. Two hours on the road can put you in either **Fair Hill** or **Cedarville State Forest**, both lovely landscapes of rolling hills, woods, and streams, with horse camping spots, although the former boasts stall boarding and far more acreage (with jumps!) to explore.

Just over the line into Pennsylvania, **Artillery Ridge & Gettysburg National Horse Park** combines camping with Civil War history at Gettysburg—just one and a half hours north. Further to the west, and a two-hour drive, **Big Elk Lick Horse Camp** offers plenty of camping sites along with easy access to the Thunder Mountain Equestrian Trail. **Lakeview Stables** in Hollidaysburg also links to the Equine Trail, but add another forty-five minutes west to get there. In Delaware, **Blackbird State Forest** and **Lums Pond State Park** are two standouts that can be reached in less than two and a half hours. Both

Continued on page 22.

RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday,	April 26	5pm to 8pm
Friday,	April 27	9am to 8pm
Saturday,	April 28	9am to Noon



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Continued from page 6.

Alluring Agapanthus

four feet from June to August. 'Black Buddha' has blue-purple flowers atop three-foot black stalks, flowering mid to late summer. 'Twister,' sporting pale white buds that open into a delicate trumpet with a deep blue throat, will create a dramatic color contrast to the dark blues of 'Midnight Blue' and 'Black Buddha.' It is a bit shorter at eighteen to twenty inches tall. *Agapanthus* can be shy to flower the first year or if subjected to drought conditions following flowering. It is mistakenly thought that they flower better when pot-bound. They might like to be cozy in the pot, but they flower poorly if over-potted or over-divided.

Well, this will certainly be my experimental year with the delicious-looking plant *Agapanthus*. I will let you know in September if the Nile Lily misses the Cape. Add some adventure to your flower garden this year and join me.

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Continued from page 7.

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David resides in Dickerson with his wife, Julie, and their two children, daughter Vivian, nearly seven, and three-and-a-half-year-old son, Robbie.

Continued from page 13.

Returning State Baseball Champs Lead PHS Athletics into Spring

Rounding out the roster are: Joyce Ma, Bryanna Sellers, Anislee Barger, Megan Nee, Olivia Paksima, Katarina Lechner, and Minsu Kim.

Tennis

“The Poolesville boys' tennis team returns ten starters from last year's squad,” said coach Andy Johnson, “and we have added three underclassmen. Senior co-captains Ryan Vinh and Rohit Chari are part of an experienced team, which includes top-singles player Sam Zhou, Patrick Rodriguez, Alexei Mozolin, and Surya Padmanabhan. Our singles players and doubles teams are strong across the board, and we should challenge for the top of our county division.”

Softball

“Our returning juniors are Gwen Boe, Maddie Burdette, Alison Ransom, Clare Wilson, and Meghan Dower,” said softball coach Laurie Wohnhas. “Junior Casandra Maier is back from an ACL knee injury that prevented her from playing last year. Returning sophomores are Jenna Stroud, Holly Raines, Alaina Shields, and Jess Convers. They have all worked hard in the off-season and have improved from last year. Catie Galant, Ainsley Hagen, and Helen Matia are new to the team. The freshmen will give us added depth and should help with competition for playing time. We have a new two-year schedule which is difficult. It should help us grow and learn from the games and help us prepare for the playoffs.”

Boys' Lacrosse

“Boys' lacrosse is getting ready for the season and working hard practicing through the cold weather,” said coach Stuart Orns. “Defense and goal-tending are our strength as we aim to keep up our recent history of ten wins per season... We always want to continue and carry forward our identity as a ‘tough team to play’ by winning the battles for ground balls and playing our best late in games because of superior conditioning.”

Returning starters are Michael Basehore, Sam Garrett, Pete Barry, Stephen Fessenden, Clarke Trone, William Field, and Colin Hemingway.

Girls' Lacrosse

“We will be very young this year,” said coach Rachel Stream, “but we have a lot of athletic ability. We have seven returning seniors, five juniors, nine sophomores, and one freshman. We are looking to rebuild our defensive side of the game with fresh players since losing the majority of our defenders from last year. We have a very strong midfield line with Hannah Bush, Haley Harkins, and Cubby Schmidt leading. We have a very tough and demanding schedule...but the girls are looking forward to the competition and putting in hard work to get where they need to be to have a successful season.”

**Have an event you'd like to
list in the Monocle?**

Email: editor@monocacymonocle.com

Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Assault: 21000 block of Big Woods Road, 17400 block of Hughes Road.

Theft: Unit block of Jonesville Court.

Past Crime: 1927

Montgomery County Police searched for Minnie Ryman of Barnesville who was reported to be missing by her family. It was said that Ms. Ryman left the family home without telling anyone and had not been heard from since. She was described as being 5'-8", 160 pounds, with dark hair. She was wearing a white dress and slippers. Officers Bodmer and Orme had been assigned to the case and scoured the county for her.

The owners of hundreds of dogs were due in court to answer charges that they had not paid what was known as the dog tax. Of 6,500 dogs in the county, owners of 1,000 of them had failed to pay the tax; thus, their dogs did not have tags. Chief Moxley said that fifty warrants were brought to him for service, and fifty more were expected the next day. Male dogs were taxed at \$2 while female dogs were taxed \$1.

County police were investigating the murder of an elderly watchman on lower Wisconsin. The man, a resident of the Old Soldiers Home, had been bludgeoned to death while standing guard in his watchman's shack. Montgomery Police asked the D.C. Police to be on the lookout for a certain individual who had been seen

prowling around the area. The case was never solved.

Police received information that Edward Faithful was going to be driving to the Catonsville area of Baltimore in order to purchase a large quantity of liquor. When Mr. Faithful drove into Rockville on his return, officers Bodmer, Darby, and Merson were waiting for him. Inside the car, they found several gallons of corn whiskey and a large number of half-pint containers of liquor. Faithful was conveyed to the Rockville jail and held under a \$500 bond.

Harold Mansfield, a sixteen-year-old resident of Transformer Station, reported to the police that he was walking home from Sunday School when he came upon a suspicious situation in the rear of the Villa Roma restaurant on the Rockville Pike. Harold said that he saw a man standing next to a car containing a young woman. Suddenly, the man drew a gun and shot at the woman four times, causing her to slump down in the car. The man then got into the driver's seat and drove away. Harold then ran home and reported this to his parents who called the police. Since it was a Sunday, several officials were called from home and spent the day secretly investigating the case. States Attorney Peter announced at the end of the day that they were baffled by the case and that the man possibly could have driven away to a lonely place and discarded the body of the woman.

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

Continued from page 4.

Monocacy Lions Express Strong Support for Ag Science Studies for PHS

Sciences. He is a current regional vice president for FAA, an organization that makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

Cheatham has traveled throughout the U.S., attending and speaking at many conventions, including the national convention in California this past October which had over sixty thousand ag science attendees. Cahlen spoke of his personal fulfillment and enjoyment of the educational process in ag sciences, with its specialized internships and beyond-classroom study experience, but he also emphasized the soft educational training within the program that advances study in business management, leadership, public speaking skills, marketing and promotion, and other skill sets so important to future employers.

Jeremy V. Criss, Director, Office of Agriculture for Montgomery County, added his department's support of agricultural education and its supportive role for farmers and farming in the county. Also emphasizing the strong support for agricultural education at the meeting was David Gordon of the University of Maryland Extension Service, Montgomery County 4-H program. He pointed out that the participation of youth in 4-H in the county exceeds eight hundred, a significant metric for the level of potential participation of high schoolers in the county in an ag science program.

A Monocacy Moment



Garrett Gularson, Michael Morgan, and Luke Lightcap celebrated the first day of spring 2018 by putting this masterpiece together.



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Make Some
Family Memories
Today

Continued from page 10.

School News

had the unique opportunity to immerse themselves in hands-on environmental and outdoor education programs around campus.

This family-friendly community event features a variety of parent-child and child-only workshops and classes, including outdoor exploration and art-centered options. Hands On! provides an opportunity to gather, explore the school's beautiful twenty-two-acre campus, and experience hands-on learning at its best. This year's classes include yoga, archery, geocaching, bush skills, nature-trail treks, cupcake decorating, bracelet making, and much more.

This year, Hands On! proceeds will support the purchase of a multi-use pickup truck, which will save time and money by moving critical tasks in-house. It will support all Butler Montessori students through key programs such as outdoor education, equestrian, and the intermediate farm.

PHS Student Wins Photo Contest

Dani Truland took top honors for her photograph, *Chameleon*, in



*Dani Truland, Poolesville HS,
Rani Powell, Poolesville HS,
Sydney Rourke, Quince Orchard HS,
Ana Guitierrez Covarrubias,
Churchill HS, and Yulong Jones,
Northwest HS.*

the third annual Johns Hopkins University Montgomery County Campus photography show.

Truland, a senior at Poolesville High School, is taking AP Photography and plans to study industrial design in college. Her winning photograph was taken during a class trip to the Hirshorn Museum.

Students from twelve Montgomery County public high schools participated this year and now have their works on exhibit at the Johns Hopkins University Montgomery County Campus through May 11. The exhibit, called Transitions, is free and open to the public.

Of the 299 works submitted, jurors selected fifty-two to be showcased. Six students won prizes.

An opening reception for the exhibit was held on campus in March. Parents, students, and community residents gathered to view the art and to hear the winners announced.

The exhibit is one of JHU's programs designed to get young people excited about STEAM education. The A in STEAM is for "art," an important component of a

well-rounded student's education. STEAM is an acronym for Science-Technology-Engineering-Art-Mathematics. Plaza Artist Materials donated the canvases.

The judges were local professional photographers, Laura-Leigh Palmer and Carlo Pizarro.

2nd Place: *New Americana* by Rani Powell of Poolesville High School.

3rd Place: *Made of Many* by Sydney Rourke of Quince Orchard High School.

Remembrance

Lisa J. Bethel

Lisa J. Bethel, 47, of Boyds, suddenly passed away on Saturday, April 7, 2018. Beloved wife of David Fraser-Hidalgo; mother of Samantha Mae Fraser and Scott Peter Fraser; daughter of John and Alice Bethel; sister of Suzanne Bethel, Lisa was a loving mother who was always planning creative adventures and special days and moments for the family to share. She worked at Booz Allen Hamilton as a consultant for close to fifteen years. In her spare time, she volunteered with various organizations and helped her husband David on the campaign trail. Relatives and friends are invited to gather at BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, on Saturday, April 14 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. with a memorial service that will begin at 1:30 p.m. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family will honor Lisa with contributions to BlackRock Center for the Arts.



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Celebrating 50 Years of Service

by R. Adam DeBaugh, Assistant Executive Director

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. While we are best known for our food pantry, we are also a financial assistance program. Last year, we distributed over \$60,800 in financial assistance to people in need in our service area. Financial assistance comes in three broad categories: housing/auto, **medical**, and heating oil/propane.

In terms of the second category, **medical assistance**, we assist clients by paying for prescriptions (at the CVS in Poolesville), doctors' appointments, medical procedures, medical equipment, lab work, and medical insurance. Clients can call the WUMCO Help offices at 301/972-8481 and press 2 for financial assistance with medical costs.

We couldn't provide this help for the neediest in our community without your help and generous contributions. Thank you for your support!

WUMCO at Watershed!

On Thursday, April 12, all who dine at the Watershed Café, 19639 Fisher Ave., Poolesville, will also be contributing to helping those in need. Watershed will give 10% of its income that day—breakfast, lunch, and dinner, dine in or carry out—to WUMCO Help. Please mark your calendars and join WUMCO at the Watershed Café on April 12th.

Visit our Web page and follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

www.wumcohelp.org * WUMCO Help Inc * @WUMCOHelp * 301/972-8481
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Questions?

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

Continued from page 1.

Field of Candidates Weighs In on Agricultural and Open Space

Focusing on questions specifically about this unique treasure helps us all understand how the Agricultural Reserve benefits each of us and fits into a balanced land use strategy. Rural, low-density, residential 'green wedges' buffer and protect the Reserve, creating a transition from our urban core. Beyond the vital economy it represents, the Reserve offers local fresh food and farm products, a living tie to county history, and a place to refresh the soul."

Candidates were asked to propose solutions to challenges faced by local farmers, but also to provide their ideas on bringing the benefits of the Reserve to all county residents. "We were pleased to see so many thoughtful and candid answers. Many people, for example, are keenly interested in candidates' expressed positions on topics such as an outer beltway and protection of Montgomery County's rural schools—very illuminating," said Caroline Taylor, MCA's executive director.

MCA will make the candidate questionnaire a continuing initiative in forthcoming election years, according to MCA board co-president, Gene Kingsbury. "Montgomery County's nationally-lauded Agricultural Reserve and our local food system have grown in importance to the residents of the county and the region. We've had voters asking when the survey will come out this year. In a crowded field of candidates, it is important that voters know where the candidates stand, and we were happy to see both voters and candidates engage on these important issues."

The questionnaire results are available at Montgomerycountyalliance.org, listed by each candidate's name.

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Continued from page 14.

Have Trailer, Will Travel – Part One

offer primitive camping sites and riding trails mostly in and around agricultural areas. The small state's unique feature is the close proximity of its many riding areas, and local riders post "park hopping" plans online that enable riders to take in two to three different spots in a weekend.

Virginia's Shenandoah is home to the **Skyline Ranch Resort** in Front Royal, with access to the gloriously-wild George Washington National Forest and over a hundred miles of trails while **Fort Valley Stables** invites both horse and mule owners to camp and ride the trails that make up the famous Annual Old Dominion Endurance Ride. The resort and stables are one-and-a-half- and two-hour drives, respectively. Last, but certainly not least, is Graves Mountain Resort, in Syria, at which one can find stall boarding and, for the two-leggeds, historic cabins, and old Virginia communal dining room dinners, replete with

long wooden tables and benches, and even holiday meals such as their renowned Thanksgiving dinner.

A note of caution: Before you embark on your adventure, remember to assess the difficulty of the drive and the trails. Will your truck make it up, or perhaps more dire a notion, be able to keep from plunging down the mountain road inclines and declines? Is your horse fit enough for steep climbs and longer distances? Does your mount need shoes in front, or all around, or none at all? Is there a cancellation policy if you've made reservations and the weather threatens to make the trip hazardous? Of course, check online for reviews before you book, and call before you embark to make sure they are ready for you and your crew.

If any of these locations pique your interest, you can find out more about them on their websites. If they don't have one, you can track them down for information at equitrekking.com, horseandtravel.com, and horsetrailandirectory.com. Best of luck finding your perfect spring getaway, and stay tuned for the **Over-Five-Hours Summer Trips** listing.

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Celebrating 30 Years of Service

70 Million Nice Dogs—but Any Dog Can Bite

Here are some valuable thoughts to consider.

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

National Dog Bite Prevention Week® AVMA takes place during the second full week of April each year, and focuses on educating people about preventing dog bites. With an estimated population of 70 million dogs living in U.S. households, millions of people—most of them children—are bitten by dogs every year. The majority of these bites, if not all, are preventable with some common sense action.

Any dog can bite: big or small, male or female, young or old. Even the cuddliest, fuzziest, sweetest pet can bite if provoked. Remember, it is not a dog's breed that determines whether it will bite, but rather the dog's individual history and behavior.

Any dog can bite if provoked. They can bite as a reaction to something, if they're startled, are scared, aren't feeling well, or are engaged in play. Socialization and education are keys to dog bite prevention. Find out more about why dogs bite and what you can do to prevent dog bites here:

www.avma.org/public/Pages/Dog-Bite-Prevention.aspx

Most dog bites affecting kids occur during everyday activities and while interacting w/familiar dogs: <http://bit.ly/1rXfMgY> #preventedogbites

Why do dogs bite?

Dogs bite for a variety of reasons, but most commonly as a reaction to something. If the dog finds itself in a stressful situation, it may bite to defend itself or its territory. Dogs can bite because they are scared or have been startled. They can bite because they feel threatened. They can bite to protect something that is valuable to them, like their puppies, their food, or a toy.

Dogs might bite because they aren't feeling well. They could be sick or sore due to injury or illness and might want to be left alone. Dogs also might nip and bite during play. Even though nipping during play might be fun for the dog, it can be dangerous for people. It's a good idea to avoid wrestling or playing tug-of-war with your dog. These types of activities can make your dog overly excited, which may lead to a nip or a bite.

What you can do to prevent dog bites?

Socialization

Socialization is a good way to help prevent your dog from biting. Socializing your pet helps your dog feel at ease in different situations. By introducing your dog to people and other animals while it's a puppy, it feels more comfortable in different situations as it gets older. It's also important to use a leash in public to make sure that you are able to control your dog.

Responsible Pet Ownership

Responsible pet ownership builds a solid foundation for dog bite prevention. Basics of responsible dog ownership that can help reduce the risk of dog bites include carefully selecting the dog that's right for your family, proper training, regular exercise, and neutering or spaying your pet.

Education

Educate yourself and your children about how—or whether—to approach a dog.

Avoid Risky Situations

It's important to know how to avoid escalating risky situations and to understand when you should and should not approach a dog:

- If the dog is not with its owner
- If the dog is with its owner but the owner does not give permission to pet the dog
- If the dog is on the other side of a fence; don't reach through or over a fence to pet a dog
- If a dog is sleeping or eating
- If a dog is sick or injured
- If a dog is resting with her puppies or seems very protective of her puppies and anxious about your presence
- If a dog is playing with a toy or other dog(s)
- If a dog is growling or barking
- If a dog appears to be hiding or seeking time alone

Pay Attention to Body Language

Reading a dog's body language also can be helpful. Just like people, dogs rely on body gestures, postures, and vocalizations to express themselves and communicate. While we can't always read a dog's body language accurately, it can give us helpful clues as to whether a dog is feeling stressed, frightened, or threatened.



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