

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

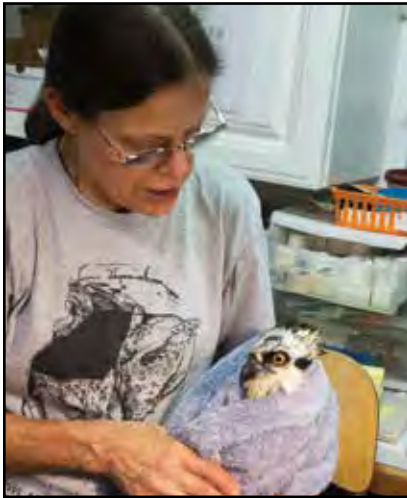
August 24, 2018 • Volume XIV, Number 12



Gina Beck rocks out on the Commons. See more Family Album photos on page 2



Sam Hardwick was a big hit. Find out how and why in Tidbits on page 4.



Suzanne Shoemaker with one-eyed osprey in need of care. Read more about this in AgNews on page 5.



New PHS football coach Justin Sickeri discussed the new season in Youth Sports on page 6.

Commissioners Review Completed Draft of Streetscape Plan

By Link Hoewing

At their August 20 meeting, the Town of Poolesville's commissioners heard a presentation regarding the now-completed draft of a plan to revamp the town's "main street" known as Fisher Avenue. The plan, called the Streetscape, was presented by Jennifer Williams, an engineer with the design and planning consulting firm, ARRO. The proposed plan includes a range of changes to the road and its rights-of-way designed to improve pedestrian safety, enhance the beauty of the town, and improve traffic flows.

The Streetscape concept has been evolving since the late 1990s when the idea was first developed by the town's planners. The general concepts around the plan have been included in the town's Master Plans over the years, and improvements in Fisher Avenue—including the installation of sidewalks along the roadway and pedestrian crosswalks—are a direct result of these concepts.



Will a new streetscape plan ameliorate dangerous pedestrian crossings like the one between BB&T and McDonald's?

Williams said the new plan included a range of new features starting with "Architectural Gateway Structures" highlighting to travelers that they are

entering Poolesville on the west end of Fisher Avenue and extending all the way to a proposed roundabout at the
Continued on page 13.

Poolesville Day Announces Grand Marshal Selection for 2018

By Rande Davis

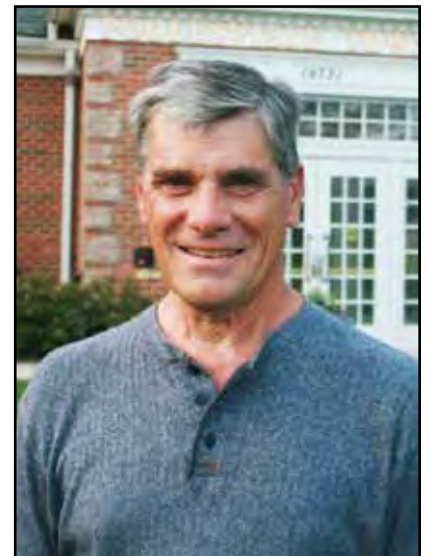
Link Hoewing has been selected to be the Grand Marshal for the 2018 Poolesville Day festival and parade. Link has served for over twenty-seven years in the Town of Poolesville's government: on the planning commission, parks board, and as a town commissioner. He sponsored the legislation creating the first town events coordinator and the Community and Economic Development Council leading to today's Friday on the Commons events. He has been on the planning commission that developed the master plan for the four quadrants park system we have today.

He has been a past PTSA officer and president of the high school and elementary school PTSAs. He has been on the leadership committee that pushed

for the successful opening of the John Poole Middle School. He is a Maryland Life Member of the PTSA, serving twenty-two years as a PTSA leader.

He has been president of the Jaycees in Poolesville for two years, helping to promote leadership among young men.

Link promoted and supported numerous charities in the area. He served as transportation manager for WUMCO, helping to arrange rides for needy and disabled clients in the Upcounty to doctors, dentists, and social services appointments (hundreds of folks are grateful for this service). He led Christmas in April that became Helping Hands in Poolesville, helping to rebuild and repair dozens of homes in this area. He has been a
Continued on page 6.



2018 Poolesville Day Grand Marshal: Link Hoewing.

Family Album



Sometimes when it comes to sunflowers, size is as important as quantity.



Looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow? It's in Poolesville, duh! Eventgoers at the Friday on the Commons all got their gold.



Gina's Soul Party included a tribute to Aretha Franklin.



The kids never tire from all the fun games at the park.



As the sun sets, the beauty of a dimming skyline can be awe-inspiring.



Chrissie Hardwick Carter with mom, Vickie, enjoyed riding the ponies.



Arts and crafts are a big part of the family fun on the Commons.



Kids sharing a fun time with our local police officers.

Photo by Terri Pitts

Photo by Terri Pitts

Photo by Terri Pitts

Photo by Terri Pitts

Garden

A Forgotten American And a Lost Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

This past June, a book review in *The New York Times* caught my attention; it was about the newly-published book, *American Eden* by Victoria Johnson. In the opening paragraph, the reviewer referred to Lin-Manuel Miranda's play *Hamilton* and remarked that most people who saw the play might remember the tall man in a black frock coat with a small black bag entering the stage before the deadly duel in 1804 between Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton. He was David Hosack, Hamilton's family physician and Burr's close friend, and he attended to Hamilton's fatal injuries. I had just seen the play at the Kennedy Center and specifically remembered this moment. A brilliant surgeon and world-class botanist would become known for this small role in history. This excellent, groundbreaking biography unearths the life of a man lost in the fog of history and shows him as a pioneering thinker who shaped a young nation.

David Hosack was born in New York City in 1769. He was educated at Princeton University and medical schools in America and Europe. His name probably is not on most lists of famous New Yorkers, but it should be. He was the reason that New York became, in his generation, the premier city for the arts and sciences. While visiting his family's homeland of Scotland, he discovered the symbiotic relationship between gardens and the medical profession, and he was fascinated by how his love of medicine and plants could intertwine. While attending medical school in America, plants were found mostly in apothecary shops, but not in actual medical practice. Europe was years ahead of his country, as he discovered that the continent was blanketed in botanical gardens, which for European doctors and medical professors were laboratories, classrooms, and encyclopedias all wrapped into one. London alone was home to the world-renowned Chelsea Physic Garden, established in 1673, and Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, founded in 1759. He returned home to New York passionate about his newfound knowledge and a love for botany. He had an obsession for discovering new plants that could be used in the medical field to treat and cure the many diseases killing his countrymen. As a practicing surgeon, he performed surgeries never before documented on American soil. He advocated, against the fears of many people, the small pox vaccination. He encouraged the use of the stethoscope in the U.S. shortly after its invention in France. He published numerous medical studies on breast cancer, anthrax, tetanus, obstetrics, the care of surgical wounds, and many other subjects. In the book, Johnson cites this tribute: "...there is perhaps no one person in the nineteenth century to whom New York medicine is more deeply or widely indebted than to this learned, faithful, generous, liberal man." His medical achievements to this day are still groundbreaking.

As he observed in Europe, he wanted to establish a network of botanical gardens devoted to collecting plants from all over the world and to thereby create an understanding of the ecosystems around the world which he believed was an important key to mankind's quality of life and survival. Hosack was the founder and first president of the New York Horticultural Society, the first such organization in America. Among its honorary members were John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and the Marquis de Lafayette, all passionate botanists. In 1801, he created the Elgin Botanic Garden, named after his father's birthplace Elgin, Scotland. It was the first public botanical garden in the U.S. It wasn't America's first botanical garden, that honor goes to William Bertram's garden in Philadelphia. His garden had a commercial interest; it supported



The heart medication drug *Digitalis* is derived from the foxglove plant.

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Rande(m) Thoughts Holding the Future In Our Hands

By Rande Davis

Day-to-day matters facing a township can seem so mundane. Still, so much of importance affecting the quality of the life and experience for all of us living in and near Poolesville is decided primarily by the five town commissioners who serve us with distinction. It's an awesome responsibility, one which I can say each and every commissioner takes very seriously.

There is a reason so many decisions made by them often have a unanimous vote. Votes are not capricious, they happen after much discussion, much public comment, and the commissioners usually take a solid amount of time to ruminate before casting a vote. After such a serious effort, consensus arrives with most objections mollified.

I use the town's skateboard park as my favorite example of the value of such public discussion. When first proposed, I was strongly against it. I saw a potential eyesore, something that would be seldom used, with problems and possible lawsuits, to boot. Cost was a big part of my concern and reservation. After months of deliberation during various meetings, hearing from so many citizens, pro and con, and particularly from those parents whose kids—not into team sports and clubs—loved skateboarding, the commissioners voted in favor of the skate park.

Through many discussions on the prospect of the skateboard park, what emerged is a vision for the future which, overall, was an excellent decision by the commissioners. Cost? The

state offered to cover most of its construction. Use? It turns out to be used more than other court parks like basketball and tennis. Problems? Sure, but minimal and sporadic, kids still will be kids. Added value to the town? You bet! Parents of young people looking to move here take note of how we make sure our kids are suitably considered in town plans. What finally did it for me was my personal enjoyment of roller skating as a kid. I loved it, although ice skating was more my style. Skateboarders are today's roller skaters, so after long discussions and hearings, I would have joined the strong majority in voting for the skate park. The whole process was a fine example of democracy, deliberation, and public service in action.

Today's headline presents the results of a study for a proposed Streetscape, one that will define Poolesville visually for decades to come. The commissioners hold that future in their hands. I look forward to the process of hearing the pros and cons. We hope, by reading the *Monocle* or attending the meetings, that you will, too. Plan to "follow the town" on this one. Attend some meetings, let yourself be heard, knowing whatever decision the commissioners make about this new proposed change to Poolesville, they will make another valuable decision through extended thought and hearings, and most likely, it will be result in a strongly-supported decision.

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

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Tidbits

Now Batting: Sam Hardwick

Local resident and renowned sports and Falcon fan Sam "The Man" Hardwick once again participated in the baseball Special Olympics at Harry Byrd Stadium in Frederick earlier this August. We caught the video of our slugger swinging for the fences on the first pitch only to catch air, but on the second pitch, he pounded a grounder down the third baseline for a crowd-pleasing solid base hit.

In a twist of and with a happier ending than the original "Casey at the Bat," the *Monocle* paraphrases:

Oh, everywhere in this Poolesville land, the sun is shining bright,
The band is playing somewhere, and everywhere all hearts are light;
And everywhere men are laughing, and everywhere children shout,
As there is joy in Poolesville—mighty Sammy did not strike out!

You da man, Sammy!

Introducing Our Very Own Poolesville Terrapin—Really!

First came the Poolesville Bear with its sleuth-like nightly visits. Then came the Poolesville Eagle with is soaring



The mystery of the Poolesville Terrapin joins the ranks of the other grand Poolesville animals, the Poolesville Bear and the Poolesville Eagle.

entrance captured on digital film by Terri Pitts, and at rest by Martin Radigan. Now we have the mystery of the Poolesville Terrapin which made a grand if not slothful entrance onto the scene. From August 15 until August 20, Facebook lit up with the discovery of a thirty-five-pound tortoise, with all indications it was a pet. Thirty viewers piped up with many good ideas as to its identity or possible owners. Wonderfully, the owners were notified, and the big girl found her way home. We're not exactly sure how a turtle makes a quick getaway, but everyone is pleased to know that she is safe

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AgNews

Owl Moon Raptor Center

By Susan Petro

There is no shortage of need for the rescue and rehabilitation of Maryland's birds of prey. A record number of nine ospreys are currently receiving care at founder Suzanne Shoemaker's home-based, licensed Owl Moon Raptor Center located on Bucklodge Road in Boyds. In addition to the osprey, the facility currently has an array of hawks and owls under its care. The calls for care come in daily, sometimes three or four calls per day.

Shoemaker has been interested in animals and animal welfare since her early childhood. In college, Shoemaker trained as an animal scientist and in wildlife biology. She is a licensed master wildlife rehabilitator and licensed falconer. Shoemaker currently serves as the president of the Maryland Wildlife Rehabilitation Association.

Shoemaker volunteered her services at Second Chance Wildlife Center before opening her own facility in 2002 where she decided to focus solely on birds of prey. The Owl Moon Raptor Center became a licensed nonprofit in 2014. Initially, Shoemaker volunteered part-time while raising her children who grew up learning the value of being good stewards of the environment. Once her children were grown, Shoemaker began volunteering full-time, caring for birds of prey.



Director Suzanne Shoemaker and intern Nico Johnson with osprey in need of care.

Spring can be especially busy when nestlings inadvertently fall from their nests. Some of these birds can be safely returned. Others need care first, but the ultimate goal at the center is to treat and return the birds to the wild, usually in the same location at which they were found.

There are many reasons why these birds of prey need human intervention. Injuries often occur from car strikes. Entanglements can occur from fishing line left dangling over bodies of water or netting from construction sites. Poisoning occurs when the raptors ingest carrion killed from poisonous chemicals or lead bullets and fishing weights. Some raptors, especially fledglings learning the ropes of hunting, don't survive their first year on their own. Others succumb to illnesses such as West Nile Virus. Places like Owl Moon Raptor Center help to increase the survival rate.

Shoemaker maintains a falconry permit and provides a permanent home for a few of the non-releasable birds of prey; however, she emphasizes that most rescued birds of prey do not usually do well in captivity.

Continued on page 7.

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Youth Sports

Meet Justin Sickeri, New Football Coach at PHS

By Jeff Stuart

Justin Sickeri takes over as varsity football coach at Poolesville High School this fall, coming from Northwest High School where he was the varsity offensive coordinator and JV coach for one year before that.

"At Northwest, we had one-way players," said Sickeri. "We had guys that only played defense and guys that played only offense. That allowed us to play an up-tempo pace on offense. At a smaller school, most of the guys are going to have to play two ways, so we are not going to be able to play as fast as we did at Northwest. We are going to have to be more deliberate. We are going to slow things down so that players can play on both offense and defense and not get tired. The goal is to have something left in the tank in the fourth quarter and to finish games. The only way to do that is to conserve players throughout the game. That is a challenge and a change in philosophy for me."

"Right now, I am just getting a feel for the program and for the kids. Ultimately, my job is to prepare young boys to become men and to be successful in life. That is how I measure success: by teaching them how to be disciplined and to work hard, the things that it takes to be successful in life. The wins on the field will come as a result of that."

Sickeri is bringing some of his contacts and players with him to PHS. Scott Pierce, a former defensive coordinator, after a brief hiatus, is returning to coaching with Sickeri at Poolesville. A number of Sickeri's former players who have graduated from college are joining his as assistant coaches; they "are ready to give back." There will be many familiar faces on the coaching staff, such as Reggie Cross and Curtess Belcher. "Coach Belcher helped out with the transition. He ran the weight room and other stuff during the hiring process." Former coach, Dave Murray, also helped to create a smooth transition.

Not only is Sickeri hoping to have an impact on the high school program, he also hopes to bring a youth football program back to Poolesville. "A youth program is huge for us. That is one of my primary goals."

"I played college football at Clarion University, a D II school in western Pennsylvania. When I graduated from there, I coached a year at Frederick High School. Then I went back and got my master's degree in administration. Since 2010, I have been at Northwest either as JV head coach or varsity offensive coordinator."

"Poolesville is similar to where I grew up. I grew up in western Pennsylvania with small-town football and the Friday Night Lights. The whole town showed up. I look forward to building a program here and coaching kids all the way through high school."

Continued from page 1.

Poolesville Day Announces Grand Marshal Selection for 2018

member of Helping Hands for the last decade, doing repairs on houses on a regular basis (most have seen their work). He is a leader of St. Mary's men's group, the Holy Name Society, and served as president for three terms.

He has been an active member of the Poolesville Day Committee for the last ten years: announcing the parade; helping to manage the planning for the layout on the commons for the event; and leading the committee that sponsors and selects the grand marshal.

He is a member of the choir for Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church and helps manage the free community dinners sponsored by the church.

He has been a reporter for the *Monocacy Monocle* newspaper, covering local town commissioners' meetings for the last three years.

In making the selection, the Poolesville Day Committee stated, "In short, Link has given his time, energy, and expertise, for decades, to the betterment of the Poolesville community."

Hoewing accepted the honor in saying, "I never felt that being involved in the Poolesville community deserved any special recognition. So many in our town do so much with no notice. That is what makes it such a wonderful community. Knowing that so many work every day to make Poolesville a better place makes me very humble about being selected. I hope all of those who volunteer and are involved in our community know that my hat is off to all of them, and I honor them for what they do."

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Continued from page 5.

Owl Moon Raptor Center

Shoemaker relies on a steady stream of volunteers and interns to keep her facility running smoothly. The responsibilities range from feeding, treatment, and reconditioning the birds, to cleaning, laundry, and administrative duties. Of course, the most rewarding part of the job is to re-nest or release the rehabilitated charges back to where they can live out their lives wild and free.

In addition to onsite volunteers, the center relies on a network of others to carry out their mission. Tree service workers are especially important when it comes to safely returning nestlings to their parents or sometimes surrogate parents, often high up in a tree.

Although the facility is not open to the public to avoid causing undue stress to the birds, Shoemaker and her volunteers offer educational programs to interested parties. Shoemaker has taught nature and science classes independently and through the National Zoo, Montgomery County Public Schools, and the Audubon Naturalist Society.

A recent visit to the center to learn more about the facility showed a well-oiled, hectic, and busy atmosphere with Shoemaker and four volunteers carrying out a myriad of tasks. One volunteer held a beautiful osprey as Shoemaker administered medication; another volunteer was busy cleaning out cages; an intern was preparing to bring the next osprey in for treatment; and a fourth volunteer began distributing the day's chopped fish to the hungry patients. During the rush of activity, the patients, a variety of hawks, osprey, and owls who arrived from many different locations around the state, remained surprisingly calm. They seemed to know that the people were there to help them.

Shoemaker stayed busy, directing each volunteer, administering medications, and examining a one-eyed osprey to try to determine the best placement for a bird of prey who cannot be returned to the wild. In the middle of the activities, the phone rang. A concerned hiker had spotted an obviously-distressed hawk on the C&O Canal. The bird could not fly and was sitting in about six inches of water in the canal. As the hiker described the location, I quickly realized that the location was on a part of the canal with which I was intimately familiar. Two of the volunteers dropped what they were doing, took down the coordinates, and grabbed rescue gear. They were completely unfamiliar with the location. As I ended my interview with questions still unanswered, I volunteered to lead the way to the injured hawk.

I watched in awe as volunteer, Nicole Burns, traipsed through the watery muck to the injured hawk, as the other volunteer, Vaxo Xojamia, prepared the box and helped Burns back up the embankment with the carefully-secured hawk in hand. After a preliminary exam, the hawk was secured for transportation to the facility for emergency care. It was already late afternoon, but this rescue group was clearly not watching the clock. Wildlife rescue is a 24/7 job.

As the pair left with the hawk, less than an hour after the rescue received the initial call, I felt an immense sense of pride knowing that there are people willing to dedicate their lives to make our slice of the world a better place to live—and willing to drop everything on a moment's notice to help a creature that cannot help itself.

To learn more about the Owl Moon Raptor Center, visit their website at owlmoon.org.




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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.

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

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

August 24

Friday on the Commons: Bark in the Park

Inflatables, DJ, farmers' market, rescue groups, and food trucks, including Tasty Grill, Dogs on the Run, and Rosie's Kitchen. *Whalen Commons*. 6:00 p.m.

Second Annual American Legion Barn Dance

This fundraiser benefits Poolesville's Daniel-Jeffers Post 247 American Legion. Come out for an old-fashioned, family good time. The dance caller makes it easy to square dance. Fun prizes for: Best Western Dress, Best Dressed Couples, Best Cowboy Boots. Adults: \$15.00, couples: \$25.00, ages ten and under: free. *Calleva Barn, 19120 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson*. 7:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

August 25

Annual Poolesville Flea Market

12x12 booths still available for \$20. Sign up on Town of Poolesville website. *Whalen Commons*. 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

August 31

PHS Varsity Home Game

Football. Walter Johnson. 6:30 p.m.

September 4

PHS Varsity Home Game

Boys' soccer. Wootton. 5:30 p.m.

September 5

PHS Varsity Home Game

Girls' volleyball. Magruder. 6:30 p.m.

September 6

PACC Businesses Helping Business Breakfast Meeting

Network event with featured speaker, Catherine Beliveau of WUMCO Help, Inc. Morning refreshments. *Poolesville Baptist Church*. 8:00 a.m.

Poolesville American Legion Post 247 Meeting

Monthly meeting to discuss upcoming events, community, and vet assistance programs. Area vets invited. *Old Town Hall Bank Museum*. 7:30 p.m.

September 5

Community Dinner

Free. *St. Peter's Church, Poolesville*. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

September 7

UMCVFD Bingo Night

The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary sponsors bingo: featuring cash and gift prizes. Refreshments available for purchase only. \$20. Doors open: 5:30 p.m.; games: 7:00 p.m. *UMCVFD Firehouse, 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville*.

Would you like to announce a meeting, club, or upcoming event in **Things To Do**? Then let us know!

Send it along to editor@monocacymonocle.com

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Continued from page 3.

A Forgotten American and a Lost Garden

nurseries in the business of selling plants. Hosack's was a public garden with educational objectives. The garden was established with Hosack's own money with the purchase of twenty acres of rural land on the outskirts of New York City, three-and-a-half miles from what was then the city limits. Most of the medicines familiar to late eighteenth-century doctors came from the plant world. There were hundreds of plant-based medicines known to European doctors, but in Hosack's nascent nation, this was unknown territory to American medicine, so he began his plant collections to begin a systematic research into the chemical properties of medicinal plants. He grew poppies to study opiates—a vital subject today. He grew willows and *Spiraea*, two specimens with painkilling and anti-inflammatory properties, which we now know as aspirin. Madagascar periwinkle is now used to make anticancer drugs. A chemical in the poisonous plant, *Digitalis purpurea*, commonly known as foxglove, gave us the lifesaving drug Digitalis, which is used to treat heart problems. From the Pacific yew, Paclitaxel was isolated and "Taxol" was created, a life-saving chemotherapy drug. There are hundreds more drugs today on the market that owe their existence to plants.

Hosack had insufficient funds to support his beloved botanical garden indefinitely. It was eventually given to Columbia University, but the university had no interest in supporting it. It was abandoned and fell into decay. Columbia ultimately leased the land to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. in 1920 for the construction of Rockefeller Center. The next time you are in New York City at the Radio City Music Hall and its outdoor skating rink, remember that buried beneath you is America's first public, educational botanical garden. On one of the low walls lining the Channel Gardens, facing toward the old Middle Road, hangs a plaque that is easily overlooked by the crush of tourists from around the world:

In Memory of David Hosack
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MARTIN RALIGAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Yeas and Neighs

Where the Grass Really Is Greener

By Andie Devynck

These lazy days of summer find horses cooling under rows of in-stall fans and tail-swishing their evenings away in fields of green-cum-brown, while their owners and riders are deep into best-selling novels, no-cook meals, and lap-swimming pools. This is a time for letting go, leaving town, winding down. No one wants to think about what's right around the corner, but we all feel the days incrementally shortening, turning at least some of our thoughts to the eventual return to work or school, and everything that revolves around them.



Photo by Sirel White

There are many viable options for your horse's golden years in our area.

A cliché though it may be, but the laid-back month of August also offers a time to ponder the larger picture, to step back and look at where we are in the span of our lives. Do you see yourself in your life's spring, summer, fall, or winter? The same goes for the horses in our care: Where are they in the seasons of their lives? Which brings us to this: If they are entering the summer's end of their working days, what thoughts do you have regarding what lies ahead in the autumn and winter of their lives?

Planning for our own retirements requires years of evolving focus as our wants, needs, and assets mature, shift, and (hopefully) grow. If our horses are lucky, they are included in these plans, and places for their retirement are explored, evaluated, and short-listed. Perhaps this is not a topic you need to address right now if you and yours are in the spring or summer of your lives. File this subject away in the back of your mind, and it will be there for you to consider when the moment is right.

For those of us who realize the future is not here but near, we might begin by examining the equine retirement facilities around us. While our horses may have led wildly different working lives, their needs in retirement will likely be similar in the end: ample and nutritious food, clean water, adequate shelter, space to roam, amiable companionship, and medical care when warranted. What it comes down to, then, may be setting and proximity. What follows is a list of farms, from closest to further afield, whose sole purpose is to provide the kind of environment for your beloved horse that will set your mind at ease.

Maryland:

Airy Hill Stables—A multi-use facility located in Chestertown (Kent County), retirees are field-boarded in small groups and receive individual attention. Owners receive monthly updates and a photo. Email them at cheryl121459@yahoo.com for information on prices and availability.

Badger's Retreat—An eighty-acre farm in Churchton (Anne Arundel County), this boarding and training facility devotes a small portion of its property to retirement horses. Contact the manager at younce@starpower.net for information about this suburban property's offerings for equine retirees.

Playland Equestrian Center—Located in nearby Union Bridge (Frederick County): This dressage and eventing training facility offers retirement boarding as well on its 160-plus acres. A basic retirement plan can be supplemented with extra services if necessary. Contact Playlandequestriancenter.com for more details.

Traveller's Rest—A smaller facility than most, the thirty-four-acre farm substitutes a detailed menu of equine care for rambling property. The focus

Continued on page 17.

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Continued from page 4.

Tidbits

and sound. We would love to host the newly-deemed town mascot at our booth on Poolesville Day—if not us, someone else perhaps. If the owners would contact us, we promise to take special care.

Oh, Say, Did You See People Filming a Video in Poolesville?

On Thursday, August 16, people passing by the Poolesville Town Hall or Poolesville High School would have seen community members engaged in a video shoot. Local residents were participating in a short film being made to promote the need for a new Poolesville High School Multi-Use Facility. Commission president Jim Brown led the charge at town hall and was later joined by Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski. Other town activists and school advocates, along with fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students, participated in the filming in front of PHS. Galvanized for success, the community has come together to make sure our needs are not forgotten by elected officials.

Are You Ready for the Great Day?

With only three weeks to go, the anticipation of another fantastic



Cheering for a new school: Adelaide Kessler, Rebecca Munster, Ainsley Walton, Jack Stokes, Jair Saud, Kerri Cook, Alaira Walker, Jerry Klobukowski, Maddie Munster, Elizabeth Reed, Maraya Grimsby, Noah Naing, Lin Naing, and Daniel Reed.

Poolesville Day begins to build with excitement. The headline band this year is one of Frederick's most popular bands, The Reagan Years, a troupe celebrating the music of the 1980s. With a near-record vendor list already set, another fabulous parade, and an entertainment schedule bursting with fun, it is a sure bet for a wonderful day. Many of us will be participating in one way or the other, but there is still a special way for all of us, no

matter how busy, to make this a better day. Sign up as a Volunteer for the Day with the Poolesville Day Committee. You can still do all you want, from marching, hosting a booth, or visiting all the great sites, and be able to put in a couple of hours as a volunteer. Email PDCvolunteers@gmail.com to sign up.

Visit the *Monocle* online at www.monocacymonocle.com



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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walla Walla Onions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zucchini	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cherry tomatoes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cucumbers: Slicing & Pickling		
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Continued from page 1.

Commissioners Review Completed Draft of Streetscape Plan

intersection of Wootton and Fisher Avenues at the eastern end of town. One of the major new enhancements is a proposed sidewalk that would loop behind the Old Town Hall Bank Museum and continue past the John Poole House all the way to Whalen Commons. Williams said this new feature was especially focused on enhancing the safety of pedestrians who must now navigate a very narrow sidewalk that runs along Fisher Avenue where it passes by the Old Town Hall Bank Museum.

A key new feature in the plan is proposed center turn lanes that would run along many segments of Fisher Avenue, particularly in front of Whalen Commons. This would be designed both to enhance traffic flows and improve safety. Currently, there are right turn or left turn lanes at dedicated spots along the road. Cars often try to pass on the right side to get by cars stopped to turn into places like McDonald's. Many near accidents have occurred as pedestrians are caught in the middle of the walkways when cars speed to get around cars that are stopped for turns.

The plan also includes proposals for special rumble features that would

alert drivers to pedestrian crossings, and it suggests that new crosswalk warning signs with built-in flashing lights might be installed, as well. In addition, "bump outs" from the curb sides would help slow traffic.

Much of the discussion concerning the new plan focused on the roundabout at the Wootton Avenue/Fisher Avenue intersection. Williams estimated the costs of the new roundabout at about \$250,000. Total costs for the Streetscape proposal would be in the neighborhood of \$2.6 million.

Commissioners expressed general support for the plan and that extensive consultation has already occurred with the public as the Planning Commission has worked to develop the proposal. For example, a special "truck ramp" was designed into the roundabout to facilitate the passage of farm vehicles and tractors. This was done expressly to address farmers' concerns. It was also reinforced that the plan was a detailed guide as to what Fisher Avenue could look like, but nothing is set in stone. Much depends on further input and on budget resources. The plan may be considered at the next commission meeting in mid-September, and it could be voted on at that time.

The commissioners also heard a presentation from Matthew Wade of

the Electric Vehicle Institute regarding the installation of a new, more powerful "Level 3" vehicle charger somewhere in town. The town currently has less capable "Level 2" chargers located at the edge of Whalen Commons, but the new charger could well attract many new drivers since it can supply power to cars much more quickly.

Wade said that EVI had championed a grant to the town from the state's Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Program, and it was approved. This is a major development since most of the grants went to populated areas and along major roadways.

In response to questions, he said that he would work with the town regarding how to site the new charging station. The power requirements for the charger are different than those of the existing charger, so it will require some planning to determine where the best location would be. Wade Yost, the town manager, said that over 8000 kilowatts of power have been dispensed by the existing charger since it was installed more than a year ago. It is not possible to know how many cars this might represent, but the amount of power used suggests it is attracting a fair number of cars.

Yost, in his town manager's report, said that the town now has a good idea of the provisions and language the state would like to see in an agreement to transfer ownership and control of Fisher Avenue to the town. He said, however, that in light of the town's near completion of a Streetscape plan, it might be wise to propose to the state that it make some or many of the

improvements contained in the proposed plan before ownership is transferred. New Market was able to convince the state to make a number of improvements when it negotiated a transfer. The commissioners agreed with this approach.

Finally, during the open session, two citizens appeared to discuss issues. Jeff Yarmas spoke about the expanded number of events on the Commons that include alcohol. He also pointed to the increased number of bars in town, many with outdoor venues. He worried that the increased presence of alcohol at public events and in private bars sends bad signals to children in particular and worried that incidents might occur due to drunkenness.

The commissioners remarked that less than half of all events on the Commons included alcohol and that not one significant incident of bad behavior had occurred during any of the town's events. Several also pointed out that they regularly make visits to local restaurants with bars and have never witnessed any problems.

Betty Ritorto appeared during the open session to express again her concerns about speeding traffic in front of her home on Fisher Avenue. She also said that, on a number of occasions, she has seen cars pass on the right to get around turning vehicles and worries about accidents. Commission president Brown thanked her for continuing to monitor this issue and said that the draft Streetscape plan includes proposals for center turn lanes and highlighted pedestrian crossings that should help to address Ritorto's concerns.

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Fun Fact...

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Remembrances

Gerald E. Morningstar

Gerald E. Morningstar, 85, of Poolesville passed away on Wednesday, August 15.

He was the loving and devoted husband of Peggy Morningstar. They shared a life of unconditional love and devotion for nearly sixty years together.

Born in 1933, he was the loving father of Sharon Ann Wright and son-in-law Aaron of Woodbridge, Virginia and Steven Edward Morningstar and daughter-in-law RaNae of Poolesville. He was the grandfather (affectionately called Dad-Dad) of Jamie Jamison and Steven, Jr. and Tyler Morningstar as well as the great-grandfather of his precious and loving Addie Girl (Addison Jamison).

Gerry was the brother to Dorothy Hightman (deceased), Elizabeth Morningstar (deceased), and his brother and best friend Dick Morningstar (deceased), and Dick's loving and devoted wife Nancy Morningstar.

He served his country for seven years as a proud and dedicated member of the United States Air Force.

Gerry was an engineer for the City of Rockville for over thirty-seven years, where he was honored with numerous employee awards and dedications while helping to improve the City of Rockville. He also spent many, many hours working with his brother Dick and his much-loved nephew Patrick at the family welding shop, Morningstar Welding, in Poolesville and was very involved for years in local politics and even served as president of the town commission of Poolesville.

Gerry was an outstanding private pilot and airplane enthusiast who owned, worked on, and flew numerous planes throughout his life, many times with his good friend Charles Davis, and he was always so happy and excited when taking his family on plane rides, vacations, and family trips all over the United States in his private planes.

Gerry also enjoyed working on cars, home improvement projects, spending time working with and helping his brother Dick at Morningstar Welding, which their father Murrel ran before them, and he built his own home in Poolesville. He was a self-taught master craftsman and mechanic who could repair or build literally anything.

Gerry loved animals of all kinds; his favorite animal was the American Eagle. He loved visiting farms, Assateague Island to see the ponies and other wildlife, going to the zoo with his children and grandchildren, and, above all, he loved taking care of and playing with his pet dogs and cat through the years, Daj, Tinkerbelle, Peanut, and Gilly.

Gerry was a humble, loving, caring man who was much loved by his family, friends, and his special community of Poolesville. It was once said in a service award ceremony to honor Gerry's forty-seven years of service to his country and his work, "I never met a person who didn't sincerely respect, admire, like, and appreciate Gerry Morningstar."



Gerald E. Morningstar

Christian Kyle Schmidt

Christian Kyle Schmidt, 21, of Frederick, passed away August 9. He was born February 24, 1997 in Gaithersburg. Kyle graduated from Catocin High School and played football for the Avalon School. He was currently working as an electrician's apprentice for Bowen Electric Services, Inc.

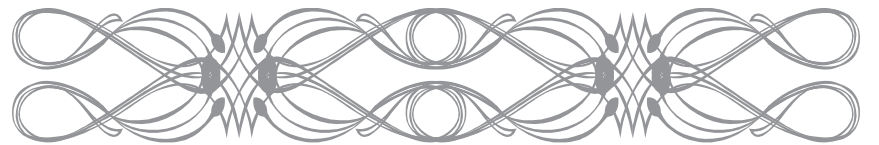
Kyle is survived by his parents Karla and Christian Schmidt; his maternal grandparents, Sandy and Kent Poole, paternal grandmother Donna Curtis;

Christian Alain Schmidt; aunts and uncles, Kimberly and Paul Delgado, Vivian and Robert MacLeod, Aunt Liz, David and Teri Schmidt, Robbie Schmidt, Jake and Brandy Shattuck, Ian and Heidi Shattuck, Gary and Linda Conley, Wilma Boston, and Patricia and Don Parrella; cousins, Heather, Skylar, Devin, Trevor, Jordyn, Leyla, Steven, Bre, Milee, Kaleb, and Kaylee; and other aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by paternal grandfather, Warner Thomas Curtis (aka "Pop").



Christian Kyle Schmidt



A Monocacy Moment



The Wave Swinger was a time-honored favorite at the 2018 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair.

Photo by Terri Pitts.

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Assault: 22100 block of Dickerson Road, 22600 block of White's Ferry Road.

Burglary: 17500 block of W. Willard Road.

Past Crime: 1936

Elwood Matthews, an elderly farmer who lived alone in a shack at Burnt Mills, was found murdered in the creek that was part of the Northwest Branch park on Columbia Pike. Matthews had been missing for several days and every day visited a general store at Columbia Pike and New Hampshire Avenue. A group of Boy Scouts on a hike found Matthews. Police immediately suspected a hold-up gang that was centered in the Four Corners area of the county.

Montgomery County Police announced that they would continue their efforts to make sure that every resident of the county owning an automobile would comply with the law and display Maryland tags on their car. A recent drive in the lower section of the county resulted in two hundred people being ticketed for having District license plates while living in Montgomery County. The reason that people preferred to buy and display D.C. tags was because D.C. tags were much cheaper.

Montgomery County officers were on the way to Cambridge, Massachusetts to pick up Richard Stockton who was wanted for the armed robbery of a cab driver at Burnt Mills. Stockton was also suspected as being part of the gang that murdered elderly farmer Elwood Matthews. Up to that time, only Joseph Kirby had been charged with murder in that case.

Three men were sentenced to terms in the House of Corrections for stealing chickens from the henhouses of police commissioner Frank Karn. Ellsworth Crutchfield and Richard Williams each were sentenced to ninety days. Leon Martin was sentenced to sixty days because Judge Smith said that "he told the truth."

Police spent nearly the entire afternoon searching for a two-year-old boy who had wandered off from his home in Bethesda. The parents of Robert Ross noticed him missing and first searched the house before calling police. Neighbors, firemen, and the whole Bethesda force searched backyards, wooded areas, and the neighborhood. Just as the search was winding down, a lady living a mile away phoned the station and said she had a little boy on her front lawn who only knew his name as Robert. Sure enough, it was the missing boy.

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

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Continued from page 10.

Where the Grass Really Is Greener

of the management is to provide specialized care for those retirees requiring it, including end-of-life arrangements. Located in Hughesville (Charles County), the site is just one hour south of Washington, D.C. Contact them at Travellersfarm.com for availability and specifics on customized care.

Virginia:

Caveland Farm—This horse retirement facility sits on two hundred acres in the Shenandoah Valley town of Boyce, just over the mountain from the horse country of Upperville and Middleburg. Their webpage offers the history of the estate and the owners, as well as a photo gallery and testimonials. Contact them at Horseretirementva.com to find out more about their multifaceted services.

Five Spring Farms—An all-rounder, this equine facility on 135 acres offers regular boarding as well as a small retirement herd in Rice ("The Heart of Virginia"). They prefer catering to smaller bands of compatible horses rather than field-boarding retirees in mass turnout. They began with Boer goats in 2006 but moved on to horses and hound dogs. To see photos of the horses and the farm, as well as general information, check out their website at Fivespringboergoats.com.

Painted Oaks Retirement Horse Boarding—This fifty-five-acre establishment's motto is: "Natural Boarding for a Healthy Mind, Body, and Spirit." Located fifteen miles from I-95 in DeWitt (mid-state), they offer lay-ups for post-op horses and layovers for those mid-travel, as well as off-season boarding for performance horses. Visit Paintedoaksboarding.com for photos and more information.

Virginia Horse Retirement—A family-owned and -run facility in the hunt country just outside of Middleburg, the farm offers both a standard retirement plan and more hands-on, customized plans in order to accommodate any horse's specific needs. With over eight hundred acres of field board, horses are free to roam but given daily attention to ensure their wellbeing. Check them out on their Facebook page or at vahorseretirement.com.

Welbourne Farm—A small, family-owned and -run facility in Middleburg, the farm itself is a two-century-old estate cradled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in northwestern Virginia. It offers 530 open acres with a mix of pastures, rolling hills, forests, and creeks through which eighty-five to a hundred permanent residents move about at will. A caveat: Their wait list is long, but they ask that all those interested in the farm in 2019 and beyond contact them, and then check back frequently for updates and openings. Contact them at Welbournefarm.com for prices and availability.

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Celebrating 30 Years of Service

The Secret Lives of Cats

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

Cats have been thought of as mysterious, secretive creatures since they first started to interact with man some 30,000 years ago. They are not primary pack animals and often are solitary in nature. It is very important to know that cats will often hide discomfort and negative changes to their normal health. Sometimes the delay in identification of a potential medical issue can lead to permanent decline.

Below are some simple pointers to better identify subtle changes in your cat that may indicate a more serious medical issue. People become unknowingly very well trained by their cats, so when you suddenly feel that there is a change in how you are interacting with your cat, it may be that they are trying to show you they are not feeling well.

Dental Disease Signs:

Difficulty eating, eating on one side of the mouth, chronic bad breath, small tinges of blood in the saliva, and/or swollen, red gums can all be indications that the oral health of your feline friend needs professional attention.

Diabetes Signs:

An increasing problem in cats is onset of diabetes. Look carefully for any of the following changes, such as: increased thirst and urination (litter box suddenly much fuller between cleanings), change in appetite, weight loss, inappropriate elimination.

Kidney Disease Signs:

Kidney disease in cats often goes undiagnosed until permanent damage has been done to the kidneys. Look for these signs and contact your veterinarian quickly for an examination: Increased thirst and urination, weight loss, decreased appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, or change in the form of food they prefer.

Urinary Tract Infection Signs:

This condition is often identified early as people are very particular where their feline friends urinate. Simple changes in urination habits, location, and frequency can be indicators of infection. In more severe cases, lethargy and blood in the urine can be clinical signs.

Poolesville Veterinary Clinic



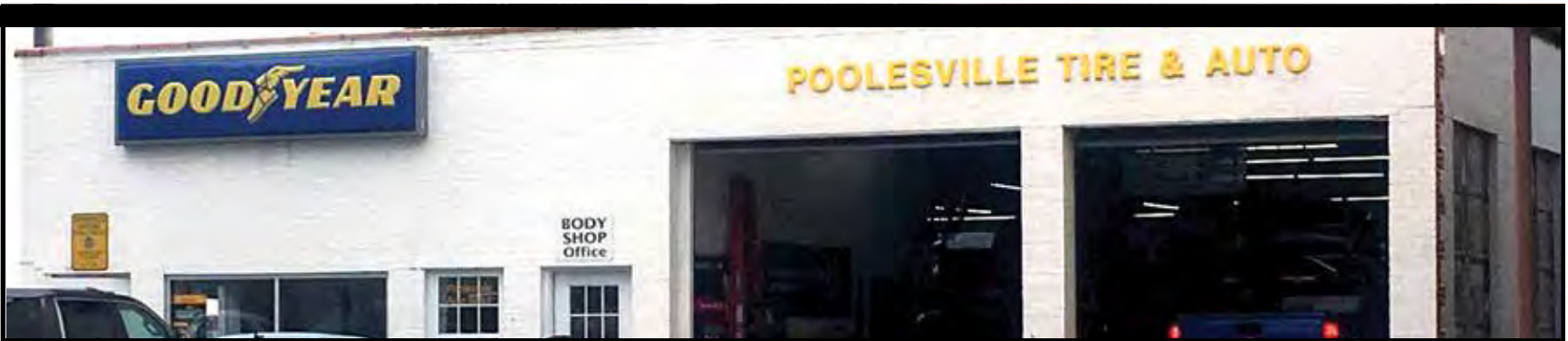
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