



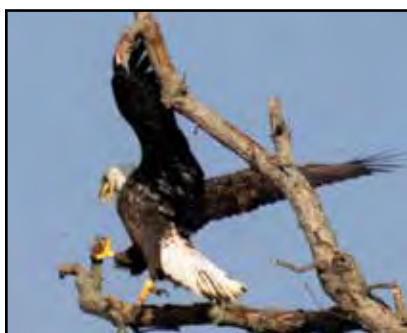
Angels from on high came to Poolesville. There are more holiday-spirited pictures in Family Album on page 2.



Willis Van Devanter had a celebration recently. His friends share it with you in Tidbits on page 3.



This distinguished gentleman will be speaking via Zoom at an upcoming Poolesville Seniors seminar. Find out who and when in Senior News on page 6.



Read about the coming and goings of the town eagle at the Poolesville Tree on page 8.

## For the Community's Sake, Brown Family Hopes For Resolution

By Rande Davis

When I met with White's Ferry's family representative, Herb Brown, on January 2, the first thing he wanted to make clear to the public is their preference for the ferry operation to reopen. "Frankly, we see only one reason to reopen the ferry, and it is for the benefit of the community, not for the Brown family. We don't need the aggravation."

However, in recognizing the public outcry and in respect to their father's seven-decade dedication and passion to the ferry for the "convenience and pleasure of the public," the Browns remain open but skeptical to the possibility of a settlement. So far, terms provided have been thoroughly unacceptable to the Browns as being entirely too excessive for the financial

Continued on page 15.



White's Ferry is anchored at the dock as it remains closed. The community has rallied in support of getting it back to the ramp side.

## New Proposal for Willard Property Receives Enthusiastic Reaction from the Planning Commission

By Link Hoewing

The Willard family appeared once again before the Town of Poolesville Planning Commission to offer an initial concept plan for the property they own adjacent to Whalen Commons. They had submitted a different concept plan a few years ago that was rejected by the town.

The plan presented on December 16 is by no means final but was intended to gain the approval of the planners to recommend to the town commissioners that the Village Overlay Rules be applied to this proposal. If the commissioners approve the use of the Overlay Rules, the plan will then go back to the Planning Commission which will work through the proposal

Continued on page 13.



Concept Plan	
1.4+/- Ac. Parkland	• Willard Commons - 42,800+/- SF
	• Multi-Age Playground - 13,000+/- SF
	• P/O Parcel E - 3,800+/- (or more) SF
3.2+/- Ac. Additional Open Space	
1/3 of site in Open Space	
2.1+/- Ac. Forest and Landscape Areas	
62 Single Family Homes	
Retention of Willard House	

A new development plan for the Willard in-town property boasts startup homes for the young and master bedrooms on the first level for downsizing seniors. The smaller-than-average home square footage ranges from 1,690 to 2,000.

# Family Album



Santa's helper, MCPD Commander Hattenburg, visited Poolesville to spread good cheer!



It seems only yesterday that our town tree was only a bit more than a sapling. Now it's a grownup Christmas tree.



The spirit of the season was once again beautifully portrayed in a live nativity at Poolesville's Memorial United Methodist Church.



Just like Rudolph, Officer Tara Bond got in the spirit of the day as she helped guide Santa's sleigh (firetruck) around town.



The Poolesville Moms' group joined in a festive holiday cookie swap. Must be great to be a mom.



Santa gave a robust and jolly cheer to the children of the area. Rumor has it he made the special early visit here as one of his BFFs is Commissioner Jeff Eck.



Who'd a thunk it! A family night out at a drive-in movie in December at Bassett's. It only proves that when it comes to shutting-in for COVID-19, we can look pretty near for our opportunities! The next one is January 23.

## Tidbits

### Township Receives Historic Map



On hand for the map presentation to the town were Jon Wolz, Kerri Cook, Bob Holdsworth, Seth Rivard, and Maureen O'Connell.

Bill Holdsworth, president of the C&O Canal Association, presented a large map of the C&O Canal National Historical Park to Poolesville's Town Manager Seth Rivard. Bill also presented an 1840 \$5.00 C&O Canal note to Maureen O'Connell, president of the Historic Medley District. The map and note were donated by C&O Canal Association members Jack and Karen Forster. Town manager Seth Rivard says the map will be proudly displayed in the Poolesville Town Hall, and Maureen O'Connell said the note will be displayed in the Historic Medley District Bank and Old Town Hall building.

### Bob Levey to Speak to Poolesville Seniors

Bob Levey, a prize-winning journalist who has covered the Washington scene since the Johnson Administration, will be the guest speaker for the Poolesville Senior event held via Zoom on January 14 (see Senior News for details).

For twenty-three years, he wrote a daily column, "Bob Levey's Washington," for The Washington Post. The column looked at all aspects of life in the nation's capital. It won major awards from the Society of Professional Journalists and the Washington Journalism Review. Currently, he writes a monthly column for Senior Beacon Newspapers.

In 1999, Bob Levey was named a Washingtonian of the Year by Washingtonian magazine in recognition of his community service through his column and as a hands-on volunteer.

Bob Levey has also had an extensive career in electronic media. Over the course of more than twenty years, he worked for nine radio stations, four TV stations, and one popular internet site as a commentator and talk show host. His online chats for washingtonpost.com, called "Levey Live," won consistently high ratings.

### Friends Celebrate Willis Van Devanter's 90th Birthday

Willis Van Devanter recently turned ninety years old, and a small group of friends were determined to honor him even in a time of pandemic. They held the celebration outside at the Poolesville Presbyterian Church's community gardens in a socially-distant manner. A stalwart longtime member of St. Peter's Church, Willis is highly regarded as one of America's leading antiquity accessors who has had the privilege of working for many estates of some of the country's great leaders, including a number of U.S. presidents. We cannot be sure what his secret to long life is, but his biking around Poolesville during warmer seasons certainly provides a clue. His positive nature and commitment to a lifelong love of personal study may be even more important to his success.

Continued on page 7.



YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERTS SINCE 1950



### JUST LISTED

**17231 HUGHES ROAD POOLESVILLE, MD**

SOUGHT AFTER ONE-LEVEL LIVING IN A GREAT LOCATION.

UPDATED THROUGHOUT, MOVE IN AND ENJOY!

CALL FRANK JAMISON JR FOR MORE DETAILS

**240-793-4309**



19939 Fisher Avenue  
Poolesville, MD 20837  
Broker/Office 301-428-8200



**Pike & Valega, DDS**  
Exceptional dentistry for healthy, beautiful smiles

19601 Fisher Avenue  
Poolesville, MD 20837



**Dr. D. Timothy Pike**  
Honored Fellow of the  
American Academy of  
Implant Dentistry and  
recipient of the Paul  
Johnson Service Award  
(www.AAID-implant.org)

Caring for your friends and neighbors since 1988.  
Innovation and exceptional care is our standard.  
We invite you to join our family of patients and  
experience commitment to excellent patient care.

**CALL US TODAY!**

**(301) 972-7000**



**Dr. Margaret A. Valega**  
Dean's Faculty at the  
University of Maryland  
School of Dentistry

- Dental Implants
- Teeth Whitening
- Crowns and Bridges
- Tooth-Colored Fillings
- Porcelain Veneers
- Laughing Gas Available
- Mouthguards for Sports or Teeth Grinding
- Accepting Insurance
- Financing Options
- 7:00 am Appointments Available
- Over 100+ 5-Star Reviews on Healthgrades.com

[www.PoolesvilleDDS.com](http://www.PoolesvilleDDS.com)

## Rande(m) Thoughts I Can See Our Future, and It May Not Be Pretty

By Rande Davis

Sometimes, changes in our world that are so profound come at one moment in time, and life itself will never be the same. The front page of this issue speaks to such a moment. The end results of both stories will determine our future.

The closure of White's Ferry caught us as if we'd been asleep, having never even imagined the possibility of the closure of the ferry, assuming that the ferry was ours and would always be there for us. The public reaction was immediate and wide and came from our shock of coming face to face with a reality of what the loss of White's Ferry could mean to our area. Like everything else, each person responded to the news from a personal perspective, "How does this impact me?"

The businesses are worried. Our commercial sector lives on the edge even in times of normalcy. The impact of the pandemic has brought many businesses, especially restaurants, to a borderline moment. The loss of revenue from the ferry traffic, while perhaps somewhat marginal, may be just enough to put them under. For others, at first glance, some reacted that the reduced traffic might be beneficial to the Ag Reserve, until they realized that such an event may shift the prospect of an Upcounty bridge over the Potomac River into a reality. Just for the record, such a bridge, if built, would never be where White's Ferry is now.

There is an economic admonition from the past that may apply here: "As GM (General Motors) goes, so goes the nation." Can it be that as White's Ferry goes, so goes Poolesville? The ferry is more to us than a means to an end, just another pathway. The ferry is our history, our culture, our way of life. Rural, relaxed, convenient, and downright pleasurable, it is one of the major aspects of our life that makes living here so wonderfully unique. Local residents take visitors on it as a "thing to do" in our area, like hiking Sugarloaf Mountain. Its loss will change Poolesville forever in ways that will be profound, known and unknown.

Without it, a bridge will not be a potential, it will be a reality. It may take twenty years to build, but it will be built. Marylanders cannot allow our future to be determined by the preferences of Virginia. We hope a new agreement may be reached to open the ferry as soon as possible, but we can only hope our elected county and state officials recognize that this is their moment to act—perhaps as their last chance to prevent the bridge. If the ferry closes, the bridge question will not be if, but when.

Like the White's Ferry story, our second front page article also provides a glimpse of our future, a future that will similarly be set by decisions made by us today. Small towns, like living beings, do not thrive like a set on a stage in a play, seemingly frozen in time, with no change, only the shuffling of items on the stage-set between acts.

The proposal for the Willard property next to town hall is now just coming into view.

The family has been studiously listening to residents in the area for the last few years. The plan's culmination is a reflection of our desires, if something is to be built on that lot. The Willards are not like other developers, only interested in squeezing out every inch of profit. Billy Willard said it clearly: "We are not developers since our family has been farming in the area since 1871. The Willard family home will remain on the thirteen-acre property, and we want a project we can look back on in a decade from now and be proud. It is not our intent to squeeze every dollar out of the property."

It will feature small homes (1,500 to 2,000 square feet) targeted to young people just starting out or seniors wanting to downsize and remain here. We may never get another chance to work with someone with such deep roots and love for Poolesville, fully grounded in our rural and farming roots. I am sure a final plan will have changes to it once public discourse scrutinizes it, and suggestions are offered. Whether this is the right plan may be up for discussion, but we must understand that working directly with the Willards will be our best hope for Poolesville. We need a future with a financial foundation strong enough to carry us ahead without destroying what we want most, a small, loving, and caring community that can withstand the pressures that lead to unbridled growth.

## Letter to the Editor Cluster Principals Thank Jerry Klubokowski

The Poolesville Cluster principals wish to publicly thank Mr. Jerry Klubokowski for his years of service to the Poolesville Cluster of schools. Throughout our collective time serving as principals in this community, we have seen Jerry's commitment and dedication to the children of Poolesville. We have seen him attend and present at MCPS Board of Education meetings and at Montgomery County Council meetings, as well as, organizing and leading community meetings to address school system concerns. We have observed Jerry at our local PTA meetings presenting on his efforts of advocacy, and we have seen him meeting with and celebrating the accomplishments of our students.

When each of us arrived in our current position at our individual schools, Jerry was among the first to

welcome us as he delivered a "town gift" and presented us with documents detailing the history of Poolesville. Through the years, Jerry sought our input on our views of education and always offered support to our schools. While Jerry may have had an opinion or belief on a variety of educational issues, he always listened to our perspectives and sought to learn more so that he could further develop his platform.

As principals, we always knew that Jerry was there. Jerry was present. Jerry was ready to tackle any issue that might confront our students and community. Jerry was going to fight for our schools.

Mr. Klubokowski, thank you for your advocacy, thank you for your humor, thank you for your care, and, most of all, thank you for dedicating your years as town commissioner to supporting the students of the Poolesville Community.

*Respectfully,*

Ms. Kristin Alban, Mr. Mark Carothers, Mr. Jon Green, and Mr. Douglas Robbins

Place your ad in the next issue of the *Monocle*.

Call Rande Davis at 301-509-9232

### The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

Published and Edited by  
John Clayton and Rande Davis

John Clayton  
Production  
Financial  
301.349.0071  
jclayton@monocacymonocle.com

Rande Davis  
Advertising  
Circulation  
301.509.9232  
rdavis@monocacymonocle.com

Dominique Agnew  
Copyediting  
dqagnew@gmail.com

editor@monocacymonocle.com  
advertising@monocacymonocle.com  
www.monocacymonocle.com

**Monocacy Press, LLC**  
John Clayton, President  
Rande Davis, Vice President  
P.O. Box 372  
Barnesville, MD 20838-0372  
301.349.0071

#### Contributing Writers

Link Hoewing  
linkhoe@aol.com  
Maureen O'Connell  
mafoconnell@msn.com  
Tor Ofsthun  
torofsthun@yahoo.com  
Susan Petro  
bsusan424@gmail.com  
Kenny Sholes  
kcs7110@gmail.com  
Jeffrey S. Stuart  
sark10@juno.com  
Jack Toomey  
jackt21262@aol.com  
Jon Wolz  
wolzjon@hotmail.com  
Andrew Sojka  
Student Reporter, PHS News  
andrewsojka2021@gmail.com

#### Contributing Photographer

Terri Pitts  
terri.pitts@gmail.com

#### Layout and Graphics

AnyArt Solutions LLC  
sales@AnyArtSolutions.com

#### Fun Facts Contributor

Laura Muncy  
laura@AnyArtSolutions.com

The *Monocacy Monocle* is a publication of Monocacy Press, LLC which is solely responsible for its content. Monocacy Press, LLC does not espouse any specific political viewpoint, and any opinions expressed in the *Monocle* are those of the author unless otherwise indicated. The *Monocle* does not endorse any product or service and is not responsible for any claims by advertisers. Articles and letters submitted for publication must be signed and may be edited for length or content. The *Monocle* is not responsible for unsolicited material. All contents of this publication are protected by copyright and may not be reproduced in whole or in part for any reason without prior consent of Monocacy Press, LLC.

Visit the *Monocle* online at [www.monocacymonocle.com](http://www.monocacymonocle.com)

## Call to Action— Support for White's Ferry

The owners of White's Ferry announced that they have closed their operations permanently after years of negotiations with a landowner on the Virginia side of the Potomac and as a result of a recent unfavorable court decision. Almost a quarter million cars use the ferry each year, and it is an important commuter route for many who live in the Upcounty. It also serves as a gateway for tourists coming to see the many beautiful historic sites and parks in this part of Montgomery County. It provides a means for many in Virginia to cross the Potomac, passing through Poolesville and other towns in the Upcounty. The use of the ferry helps boost spending in restaurants, gas stations, and other businesses located in our region. Without question, White's Ferry plays an important role in the economic health of the area, and it ties our area to our neighboring communities in Leesburg, Sterling, and West Virginia.

While this dispute is between two private parties, the services provided by the ferry are a major public benefit to both Loudoun and Montgomery Counties. Leaders in both jurisdictions recognize the importance of finding a way to reopen the ferry as soon as possible.

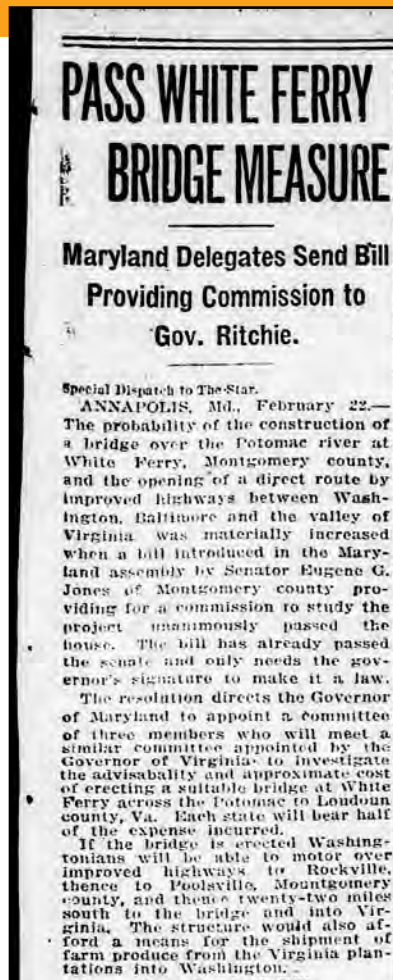
The Fair Access Committee (FAC) has been working to increase the visibility of key issues facing Upcounty residents for over three years. By signing up to receive updates from the FAC, you can, not only stay informed, but help ensure that our voices are not lost to our public officials. The fate of White's Ferry is just one example of the kinds of issues we work on for the benefit of all who live in the Upcounty.

More more information, go to <https://poolesvillemd.gov/your-government/boards/fair-access/>.

## Fun Fact...

An article in the 1924 *Washington Evening Star*, at right, discussed plans for the Maryland State government to appoint a committee to review and consider a bridge crossing at the current site of White's Ferry. Since the late 1800s, many attempts have been made to secure funding and approval to build a bridge on this site or nearby, with several Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia jurisdictions weighing in on the importance a bridge would be to travel and commerce. So far, no attempts have been successful.

*The Washington Star*, previously known as the *Washington Star-News* and the *Washington Evening Star*, was a daily afternoon newspaper published in Washington, D.C. between 1852 and 1981. The Sunday edition was known as the *Sunday Star*. For most of that time, it was the city's newspaper of record. On August 7, 1981, after 128 years, the *Washington Star* ceased publication and filed for bankruptcy. In the bankruptcy sale, *The Washington Post* purchased the land and buildings owned by the *Star*, including its printing presses.



### THE MOST PROFESSIONAL SERVICE!

**“Moving out of the area was a lot of work but Jim made it easy for us. The vendors he works with were total pros, too, and they got our house into great shape for selling. We miss Poolesville but we LOVED working with Jim Brown (as well as the buyers he brought us!).”**

-George and Molly Hemsworth  
17912 Hickman Street  
Elizabeth's Delight

**BUY OR SELL WITH ME, USE MY TRUCK FOR Free!**

**CALL OR TEXT JIM 301-221-1988**

The Hardest Working Man in Local Real Estate and *top* SELLING TOO!

BROKER 301.831.8232

## KUHLMAN LAWN SERVICE

CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE  
FALL AERATION, OVERSEEDING,  
LEAF REMOVAL, AND FALL CLEANUPS

301-407-0202

Lawn mowing	Landscape design and installation
Edging and mulching	Fertilization and weed control
Spring and Fall cleanup	Weeding mulch beds
Core aeration and overseeding	Pruning trees and shrubs
Leaf removal	Clearing and brush removal

Poolesville, MD MHIC 128570 MDA 28831 J.D. Kuhlman

## Senior News

### Poolesville Seniors Sponsor Diverse Virtual Programs

Join Poolesville Seniors in January for a variety of virtual programs that stimulate the intellect, tone the body, and renew the spirit. All events are open to the entire community. For more information or to register for these Zoom programs, visit the Poolesville Seniors website, [poolesvilleseniors.org](http://poolesvilleseniors.org).

#### Mondays

**Tai-Chi** with Maureen Ivusic, 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

#### Wednesdays

**Chair Yoga** with Twyla Insalaco. 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Zumba Gold** with Karen McPhatter. 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### January 7

##### Treasures of the Library

Sharat Buddhavarapu, from the Maggie Nightingale Library, will present a program on the information and services that are available free of charge through the library website. 7:00 p.m.

#### January 12

##### 2nd Tuesday Lunch Bunch

This is a friendly group that meets virtually, eats (if you wish), and chats about a chosen topic. This month's

topic will be: Getting Back on Track in the New Year. What can we do to make ourselves healthier and to help us stick to our New Year's resolutions? 12:00 p.m.

#### January 14

##### Bob Levey: The Golden Era of the Washington Post

Former *Washington Post* columnist, Bob Levey, will talk about his time as a journalist here in the nation's capital. He'll also discuss his novel, Larry Felder, Candidate, about a famous Washington columnist who abandons journalism to run for Congress. 7:00 p.m.

#### January 21

##### Historic Properties of the Ag Reserve

Presented by Kenny Sholes. To date, Kenny has familiarized us with many historic structures, including homes, barns, farms, and cemeteries, some of which are no longer in existence. Join in to learn what new information Kenny will offer. 7:00 p.m.

#### January 26

##### Craft Event: Make a No-Knit Scarf

Chris Rickert and Annette Rosanelli of Needlepointers.com return with a winter craft. Attendees will follow along the demonstrated steps to make a no-knit wool scarf. A small fee is charged for this class. Materials will be delivered contact free to each participant's door the day before this event. 1:00 p.m.

Continued on page 15.

# COLONY

## SUPPLY CENTER INC.

***We've Got You Covered!***

Quality Landscape Products Since 1980

MULCHES	FIREWOOD	TOP SOIL
LEAF GRO	STONE PRODUCTS	WOOD CHIPS

WE DELIVER! 301.972.7666 BULK & BAGGED

19800 Darnestown Road      Beallsville, MD

Go to [www.colonysupplycenter.com](http://www.colonysupplycenter.com) or [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/colonysupplycenter) for seasonal hours

Do you have a garden-related topic you would like to read about?

The Monocle welcomes your suggestions.

Send to [editor@monocacymonocle.com](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com)

## HILL'S HOME & Hearth PLUMBING & HEATING

PLUMBING SERVICES PROVIDED:

Repair or Replace Faucets, Sinks, Toilets, Garbage Disposals, Sump Pumps, Water Heaters, and Outside Faucets.

INSTALLATION OF  
WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS:

Water Softeners, UV Light Systems, and Neutralizers.

Sales, Service, and Repair  
of Gas Fireplaces

ALL MAJOR CREDITS CARDS ACCEPTED

**JAMES HILL      301-788-0445**

Master Plumber/Gasfitter      Licensed & Insured

Here's wishing you all a very happy and healthy 2021!

## ANYART

### Solutions LLC

business.art.technology



DESIGNING FOR  
PRINT & WEB

— your Design Team  
for the Monocle

301.602.4367 ■ [sales@anyartsolutions.com](mailto:sales@anyartsolutions.com) ■ [www.anyartsolutions.com](http://www.anyartsolutions.com)

### Poolesville Plumbing & Heating Co., INC.

- Kitchen and bath remodeling
- New construction
- Repairs
- Toilet and faucet repair replacements
- Water heaters
- Gas piping
- Water and sewer replacements



W.S.S.C. 464

20015 Wootton Ave., Poolesville, Maryland 20837

(301)972-7309
Fax (301)407-0742

Continued from page 3.

**Tidbits**

**Winners of the 2020 Holiday Lighting Contest**

All homeowners and merchants in the Poolesville town limits were invited once again this year to “deck their halls” and show their holiday spirit.

For homeowners, there were three categories of homes: Contemporary, Townhouse, and Traditional. One business was also chosen as most appreciated.

The judges this year were Paul and Chrissie Harney on the Wesmond side of Fisher and Christina Micioni on the Westerly side.

**Contemporary**

Dan and Kathy Savino –  
19200 Munger Farm Road  
Jimmy and Angela Dyke –  
17000 Tom Fox Avenue

**Townhouses**

Richard and Chrystal Scheetz –  
17632 Kohlhoss Road  
Mark and Katie Woods –  
19582 Fisher Avenue

**Traditional**

Dean and Sandra Wolverton –  
17218 Spates Hill Road  
Donald and Denise Habib –  
19514 Fisher Avenue

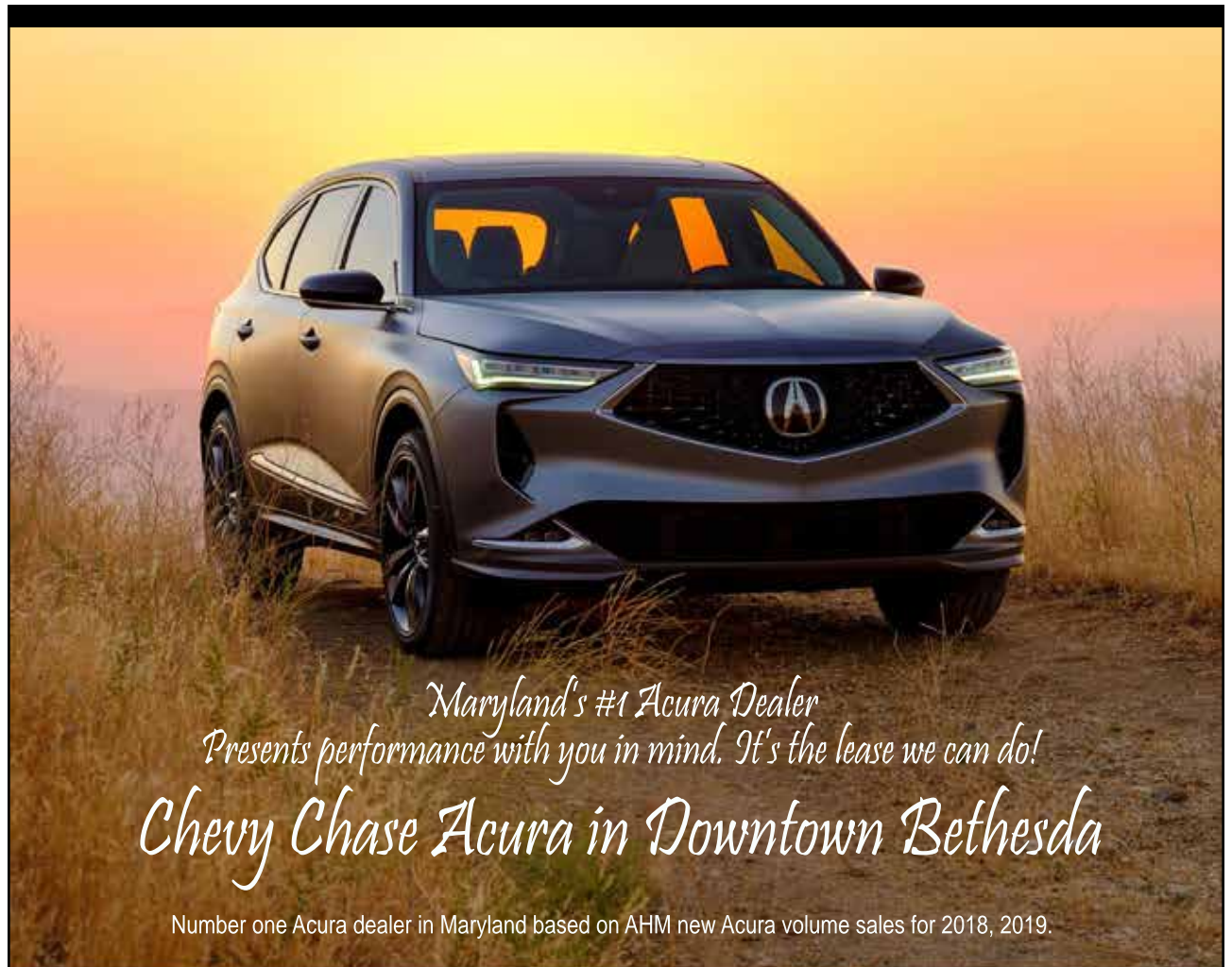
**Business**

Drs. Pike and Valega

**Fun Fact...**

On January first of every year, many countries around the world celebrate the beginning of a new year. Festivals and celebrations marking the beginning of the calendar have been around for thousands of years. While some festivities were simply a chance to drink and be merry, many other New Year celebrations were linked to agricultural or astronomical events. In Egypt, the year began with the annual flooding of the Nile, which coincided with the rising of the star Sirius. The Phoenicians and Persians began their new years with the spring equinox, and the Greeks celebrated it on the winter solstice. The first day of the Chinese New Year, meanwhile, occurred with the second new moon after the winter solstice.

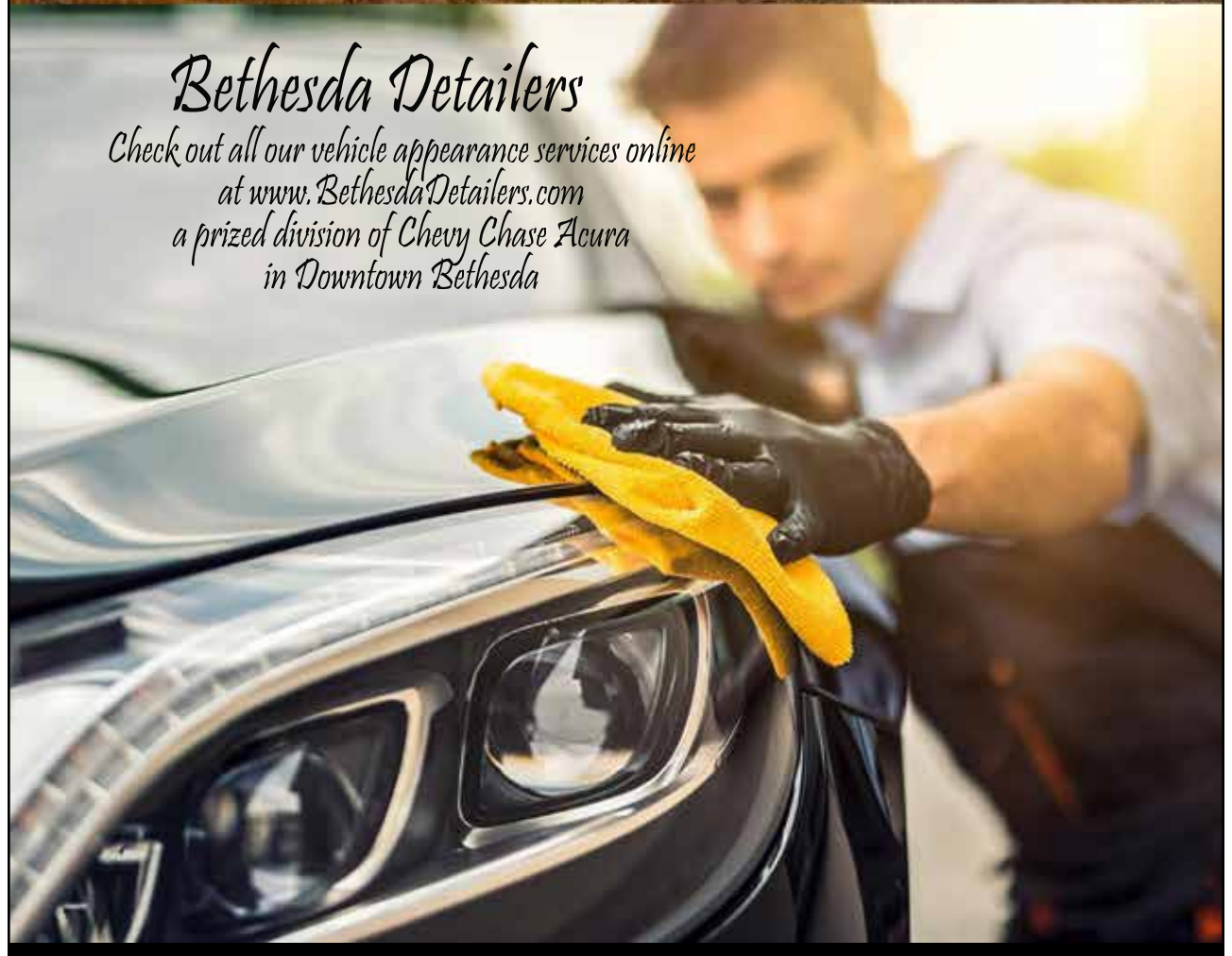
[www.ancient-origins.net](http://www.ancient-origins.net), April Holloway



Maryland's #1 Acura Dealer  
Presents performance with you in mind. It's the lease we can do!

*Chevy Chase Acura in Downtown Bethesda*

Number one Acura dealer in Maryland based on AHM new Acura volume sales for 2018, 2019.



*Bethesda Detailers*  
Check out all our vehicle appearance services online  
at [www.BethesdaDetailers.com](http://www.BethesdaDetailers.com)  
a prized division of Chevy Chase Acura  
in Downtown Bethesda

## Monocacy Nature and Wildlife

### Eagle Antics at the Poolesville Tree

By Susan Petro

Technically, there is no such tree officially designated as the Poolesville Tree; however, many locals, especially photographers, have affectionally applied that moniker to a stately bur oak that stands alone in a farm field on Route 107 just before entering the Town of Poolesville, like a beacon welcoming visitors and residents as they arrive.



Photo by Susan Petro.

The Poolesville eagle, soaring low in town.

The tree is not just a popular photography subject but also a stopping point for area bald eagles. Recent regular sightings include a pair of adult bald eagles, and an occasional juvenile. Juvenile bald eagles lack the distinctive white plumage of the head and tailfeathers of adults. It takes about five years for a bald eagle to fully mature.

Most interestingly, at least one of the adults was seen swooping down and grabbing talons full of hay on its way back into the nearby woods. Late fall into early winter is the time of year for building new nests or for fortifying existing nests in preparation for laying eggs and rearing offspring when they hatch in the spring. Both the male and female bald eagles take turns preparing the nest and incubating the eggs.

The location of the nest remains a mystery. A previous nest located on a horse farm near Edwards Ferry was lost when storm damage caused the tree to fall, luckily after the baby was successfully fledged. Other nests have been seen around Little Seneca Lake in Boyds and in various spots along the Potomac and Monocacy Rivers. Fish and waterfowl are major dietary sources for the eagles, but they are opportunistic feeders that eat other prey and carrion.

While bald eagles are still a rare sight, they have made amazing strides in their comeback after they almost disappeared entirely from the effects of DDT pesticide usage. Other poisons are still a major concern for the eagle and other birds of prey population. If they eat carrion that was killed by poison, they may also die. Additionally, lead from bullets left behind in carcasses or in fishing tackle is a major threat to the eagle's survival when ingested.

Of utmost importance for humans is also to look out for wildlife when driving area roadways. Most often, one will see vultures cleaning up deer and other carcasses. Occasionally, bald eagles will also be feeding on the carcasses; some are inadvertently killed by cars.

Keep your eyes peeled as you travel our area roads for bald eagles soaring overhead, or perhaps sitting in a field, or in a tree like our beloved Poolesville Tree.

As more and more bald eagles discover what residents and visitors already know—what a wonderful, bountiful resource our surrounding Agricultural Reserve and protected Wildlife Management Areas is—the more we will be blessed with sightings of these magnificent creatures as they make our home their home, too.

**POOLESVILLE**  
**SMALL ENGINE REPAIR**

A Division of Colony Supply Center, Inc.

19800 Darnestown Rd Beallsville, MD 20839  
301.972.1116 www.poolesvillesmallengine.com

A Full Service Chimney Company Dedicated to Safe & Energy Efficient Chimney Systems Since 1980

**Sugarloaf Chimney Restoration**

Chimney Experts to our Nation's White House and Your House  
Lining & Restoration, Cleaning, Draft & Venting Problems, Masonry Repair & Waterproofing, Exhaust Fans, Smoke & Odor Problems, Animal Removal  
sugarloafchimney.com

**JERRY C. NEAL**  
President  
301-972-8558

**Monocacy Equine Veterinary Associates, P.A.**

Richard J. Foria, DVM, DABVP  
Peter J. O'Halloran, DVM

**Complete 24 hr Equine Health Care:**

- Hospital Facility
- Digital Radiology & Lameness Exams
- Emergency & Intensive Care
- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Complete Reproductive Services
- Pre-Purchase Examinations
- In-house Farrier Service (therapeutic shoeing)
- Preventative Health Care (vaccinations & dentistry)

301-607-4025 www.monocacyequine.com

**S&S IMPROVMENTS "PLUS" INC.**

**NO JOB TOO SMALL  
HANDY MAN SERVICES**

**301-748-2670**

Bathroom and kitchen remodeling, replacement windows and doors, replace rotten trim, light plumbing, toilets, shower doors, & much more  
**LICENSED AND INSURED MHIC 67678**



*Don Hoffacker's Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.*

**"We have been top rated by a local, prominent consumer group"**

**Residential Sales & Services**



Medal of Excellence for 2007

- Free estimates
- Quality service
- Prompt service
- Family operated since 1977

**SUPER SERVICE AWARD WINNER 2007-2015!**

<http://www.angieslist.com>



19703 Waters Road  
Germantown, MD 20874

**301-972-0017**

<http://www.donhoffacker.com>



**John Clayton, REALTOR®**

301-461-8840

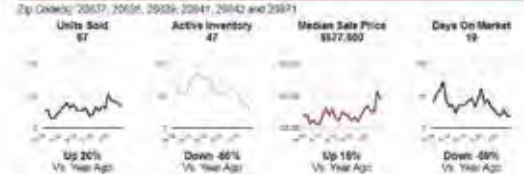
John.Clayton@LNF.com

[www.jclaytonhomes.com](http://www.jclaytonhomes.com)

*Inventory is low, and mortgage interest rates remain low.*  
As the graph shows, homes came off the market at the end of the year to wait out the holidays. That is over, and the new year is here. Plenty of homes will be coming on the market this month. If you want to sell your house, or you need to find a house to buy, give me a call at 301-461-8840 for a free market analysis.



Focus On: Poolesville, Dickerson, and Northwestern Montgomery County Housing Market November 2020



What is your home worth in today's market? Give me a call so we can start planning your next move. I'm licensed in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Follow me online:  
Twitter: @JClaytonHomes  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/jclaytonhomes](http://www.facebook.com/jclaytonhomes)  
LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/jclaytonhomes](http://www.linkedin.com/in/jclaytonhomes)

**Helping you make real estate decisions with confidence.**



**Long and Foster Real Estate, Inc.**

12500 Park Potomac Avenue  
Potomac, MD 20854  
301-469-4700 (Office)



**Additions — Kitchens  
Baths — Decks — Porches**



Relentless Service Since 1979

**301-831-8776**



*Design* & HOME RENOVATIONS  
DGLiuContractor.com  
25400 Old Hundred Road ~ Dickerson, MD 20842



MHIC: 6812

## Youth Sports

### The Spirits of PHS Winter Sports Past

By Jeff Stuart

Looking back at past winter seasons at PHS, there are a lot of highlights. The obvious one that comes to mind is the 2018 Girls' Basketball Championship. It was an event that captured the attention of the community in a major way. Those who could not get to the game watched on TV screens at Bassett's and Cugini's.

On March 10 of that year, the girls, coached by Fred Swick, totally dominated Queen Anne's, 63-23, finishing the season with a perfect 27-0 record. Erin Green had twenty-one points. Julia Hobbs had eight rebounds. Kelliann Lee had twenty-three points in the semi-final victory, 61-49, over Gwynn Park. To get to the final four, the Falcons had to survive in a thrilling 62-60 win over a twenty-win Middletown team in front of a completely packed gym at Poolesville on March 3. The game was live streamed over the internet. Maddie Thompson matched the Knight's star Saylor Poffenbarger three-pointer for three-pointer in a crucial third period when Middletown, which had led 36-33 at the half, threatened to pull away. She finished with a team high nineteen points. As it was, the Falcons trailed 51-47 after three periods, but they held the Knights to just seven points in the last quarter and took the lead halfway through the period. Lee had fifteen points for the Falcons, Allie Haddaway had six.

There was another remarkable girls' basketball playoff game in Poolesville on March 6, 2014. It was the 2A West section final, and it went to three overtimes. The girls trailed by thirteen with four minutes to go in regulation, but they forced eight turnovers and, in a nearly impossible comeback, forced overtime. Anna Murgia and Whitney Carmack each hit three-pointers in the final minute, and Carmack tied the score at forty-eight, making the first of two free throws with 3.1 seconds left. She missed the second.

Century led by seven with just nine seconds to go in the final overtime, but the Falcons staged another dramatic rally, hitting a couple of three-pointers. An exhausted Carmack, who finished with twenty-nine points, drove the lane and drew contact as time expired, but no foul was called. Century won it, 64-63. Rosie Barry had fourteen points. The team finished 18-6.

2014 was also a good year for the boys' basketball team. Coach Kenny Kramek's team also finished 18-6 and also lost to Century in the section final. They finished first in the region for the second year in a row, after finishing 19-7 in 2013. Andy Baker, Stephen Morningstar, Hunter Pearre, Trevor Stottlemyer, Anthony Papagjika, Kirby Carmack, Thomas Wolz, Collin Turner, John Bateky, and Andrew Wang were among the contributors to those two seasons.

On March 4, 2010, the number four seed Walkersville Lions eliminated the number one seed Poolesville at home in front of a capacity crowd, 74-67. It was the region final. Poolesville held the lead at the half, 31-23, and maintained that lead through the middle of the fourth, but the Lions tied the game at fifty-five. With 1:45 remaining, the Falcons ran down the clock but failed to score. Poolesville's Kevin Baker, who scored twenty-nine points, hit a three for the lead, 63-62, with twenty seconds left in the first overtime, but he fouled Lions guard Scott Morris. Morris missed one free throw, forcing another overtime. Walkersville took a quick five-point lead in that second overtime and sealed the victory.

"We ended the first overtime with the ball in the hands of our best player (Baker)," said Falcons coach Tom Lang. "We came up short."

Senior Alex Carbonell already had 171 wins, the most in Poolesville history, when he walked onto the mat for the 120 State Championship match at the Maryland Class 2A/1A State Wrestling Championships at Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro on March 2, 2019, but his 1-0 victory over Loch Raven senior Marquis Kemp capped off his stellar career. He knew, going into the match, that it was going to be an extremely tough match. "In the second period, I knew I had to escape, and I did," said Alex. "I knew that I had to ride him out in order to win. That third period was probably the longest two minutes of my entire life." Another state title came quickly. On March 7, 2020 at Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Poolesville senior Xavier Kresslein earned overtime, sudden victory, 6-4, over top-seeded Dustin MacDonald of Mountain Ridge in the 170-pound class to win his first state title. Colin Savage never got his state title, but last season he became the winningest wrestler in Montgomery County history.

On February 25, 2012, the PHS swimmers, both girls and boys, won their first state titles. The boys won eight more through February 20, 2020. The girls won

Continued on page 18.



**BATEMAN**  
LANDSCAPING, LLC

**Maintenance & Installation**

☎ 240-994-6674

🌐 [www.batemanlandscaping.com](http://www.batemanlandscaping.com)



Serving our  
community  
since 2006



**MALLOW CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
*CUSTOM BUILDING & REMODELING!*

<p>CUSTOM CABINETS KITCHEN &amp; BASEMENT RENOVATIONS</p>	<p>NEW HOMES ADDITIONS DECKS</p>
---	--

Local Builder of the Bodmer Home on Elgin Road and  
the new Koeser home on Whalen Commons!

MHIC #121368    CALL 301-366-4107

Open Daily: Mon-Fri, 11 a.m. Sat-Sun, 9 a.m.  
19950 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville, MD 20837



**Help us celebrate the  
holiday season with a  
family-approved drive-in movie!!!**

January 23rd, Bassett's Parking Lot  
Movie times: 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
\$40 per car. To purchase tickets:

[www.eventbrite.com/e/  
poolesville-drive-in-movie-night-  
tickets-131425875331](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/poolesville-drive-in-movie-night-tickets-131425875331)



*A portion of all ticket sales proceeds will be  
donated to WUMCO to help our communities  
recover and thrive in these uncertain times.*

**A New Winter Menu Coming Soon!**  
**Delivery every Friday and Saturday night,  
starting at 4pm**

**[www.bassettsrestaurant.net](http://www.bassettsrestaurant.net) • 301-972-7443**



**It's all happening at the Cug!**



**SEASON GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!**  
**INSIDE DINING NOW OPEN!**

Health and safety are still most important, so we have created some boundaries to provide the safest environment for everyone.

Please use the hand sanitizing station at each entrance upon entering.

**Bar Use:** High-top table design only. Patrons must stay at each table unless using restroom.

While 2020 has been a year like no other, we still have so much to be thankful for. We are grateful for each of our customers for sticking with us these past several months while we have navigated the COVID-19 pandemic together. We couldn't have done it without YOU! We are so grateful for not only your continued support, but for your friendship, and we look forward to serving you and seeing your faces in the new year.

Cugini's wishes you a great, prosperous, blissful, healthy, glowing, beautiful, lively, and incredibly Happy New Year 2021!!

**EVERY MONDAY: BOGO**  
 Buy any large pizza, get one large cheese pizza FREE!

**301-349-5800    9916 Fisher Ave.  
 Poolesville**



## Maryland Tree Expert

### Lic. # 118, Fully Insured





## LEE PEYTON TREE SERVICE

**301-208-8235**

[www.leestreeservice.net](http://www.leestreeservice.net)

**FREE ESTIMATES**

Tree Trimming, Pruning, and Dead Wood Removal

Tree Removal, including Hazardous Trees

Lot Cleaning

Tree Removal by Crane

Tree Selection and Installation

Ornamental Tree Care

Stump Grinding

Property Evaluation

Permit Applications

24-Hour Emergency Tree Service



MEMBER  
**TCIA**  
VOICE OF TREE CARE



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURISTS



PACC  
PROFESSIONAL ARBORICULTURAL CARE



MEMBER  
**ISA**





ACCREDITED BUSINESS



TOP RATED FOR QUALITY  
CONSUMERS' CHECKBOOK

**FREE Woodchips and unsplit burnable wood delivered FREE to Poolesville, Dickerson, Barnesville, or Beallsville.**

**Watkins Cabinet Co., Inc.**

Over 67 Years in Business and still going strong!

Hand Crafted Custom Cabinetry

In the market for new cabinetry for your home?

301-428-8510  
or  
Info@watkinscabinet.com

For all of your Cabinet Needs.  
MHIC 12995

# In Remembrance...

# Beloved Departed



Marian Mae Belt



R. Edwin Brown



Winsome S. Brown



Otis McCellan Burdette



Teddy Lee Burriss



Joseph Chmelik



John Clayton, Sr.



Robert Allen Cline



Mary Katherine Cowdery



Idella Craven



Michele Anne Cropp



Nancy Moseley Daughtry



Darrell Ugene Davidson



Andie Caplan Devynck



Lorenzo Ellsworth Duffin



Sidney W. Earle, Jr.



Richard 'Dick' Denton Ernst



George Gray



Robert B. Harney



Franklin D. Holt, Jr.



Benjamin H. Honemond, Sr.



Remus Hungerford



Marguerite Isabella Felice Jeffries



Edith June Luhn



Eleanor Ferguson Mackintosh



Ronnie Magaha



Edward W. Maxwell, Jr.



Samuel "Clay" McCarty



Laura Amy Morrow



Esmail Mir Mozaffari

- Marian Mae Belt
- R. Edwin Brown
- Winsome S. Brown
- Otis McCellan Burdette
- Teddy Lee Burriss
- Joseph Chmelik
- John Clayton, Sr.
- Robert Allen Cline
- Mary Katherine Cowdery
- Idella Craven
- Michele Anne Cropp
- Nancy Moseley Daughtry
- Darrell Ugene Davidson
- Andie Caplan Devynck
- Lorenzo Ellsworth Duffin
- Sidney W. Earle, Jr.
- Richard 'Dick' Denton Ernst
- George Gray
- Robert B. Harney
- Franklin D. Holt, Jr.
- Benjamin H. Honemond, Sr.
- Remus Hungerford
- Marguerite Isabella Felice Jeffries
- Edith June Luhn
- Eleanor Ferguson Mackintosh
- Ronnie Magaha
- Edward W. Maxwell, Jr.
- Samuel "Clay" McCarty
- Laura Amy Morrow
- Esmail Mir Mozaffari
- Laura Amy Morrow
- James Welsman Napier
- Victor E. Origoni
- Davis Michael Richardson
- Anthony DeJuan Scott
- Kelly Nicole Serra
- Lillian Holt Smith
- Kyra Tamara Sosna
- John W. Warren
- Howard Whisman

# Farewell.



James Welsman Napier

Victor E. Origoni

Davis Michael Richardson

Anthony DeJuan Scott

Kelly Nicole Serra

Lillian Holt Smith

Kyra Tamara Sosna

John W. Warren

Howard Whisman

Continued from page 1.

### New Proposal for Willard Property Receives Enthusiastic Reaction from the Planning Commission

in detail in an effort to negotiate a final proposal. In considering whether or not to approve the use of the Overlay Rules, the town commission is required to hold public hearings which will allow for citizen comments regarding the plan and whether it meets the requirements for the use of the rules.

The Overlay Rules were adopted several years ago by the commissioners in an attempt to give the town tools to help better shape proposed developments primarily in the "infill" properties in town. These are open properties located in the more central parts of town where most of the properties have already been developed. Unlike traditional zoning regulations which essentially set the parameters of what can be built on proposed land but are rigid and allow for little negotiation between planners and developers, the Overlay Rules allow the Planning Commission to question a proposed development and offer ideas to better shape it, so it includes more public benefits. In exchange, developers can gain some benefits, for example, increasing the number of houses that can be built on a given parcel.

Appearing before the Planning Commission, Billy Willard, representing the Willard family, Jeff Clifford, the attorney for the family, and land planner David Ager offered an overview of their initial concept of what a new plan for the property would look like. Willard iterated, "We are not developers, and our family has been farming in the area since 1871." He said the original Willard family home remains on the thirteen-acre property. "We want a project we can look back on a decade from now and be proud. It is not our intent to squeeze every dollar out of the property."

Jeff Clifford said that the family had been meeting with a wide array of stakeholders since the failure of the previous plan. He said, "We need the Overlay Rules to make the project work." Trends have indicated that households are changing in Poolesville and are generally smaller. During their discussions with stakeholders in developing the proposal, they consistently heard that there is a need for "senior housing" that is more affordable and not multi-floor. The proposal incorporates the view that "small single-family homes are ideal for the identified demographic (i.e., first-time buyers, smaller households, move-down seniors)." In terms of other benefits to the broader public, he said that the plan incorporates "additional parkland, amenities (such as green buffering around the development on the north side, in particular), and pedestrian connectivity."

Specific public benefits included in the plan are numerous. Instead of building a road to extend Glass Way (which currently dead ends at the Willard property line) and connecting it to Beall Avenue in front of town hall, the proposal contemplates the construction of a limited access road that would be open to pedestrians but only available to cars during major town events and for emergency fire and rescue access. A park area would be dedicated to the town next to the John Poole House that could include not only green space but parking. Additional parkland would be dedicated to a "multi-age park" that would be "visually

connected" to Whalen Commons and reachable by a walkway. A planned entry to the development from Fisher Avenue would also maintain visibility for the John Poole House. Numerous "rain gardens" are included in the plans, and road designs avoid "extended straight lines."

In terms of the houses themselves, sixty-two houses are planned. A number of possible designs were presented, and front porches and "rear or side loading" garages were major features. Homes would be situated so that the fronts of the structures and not their backyards would face Fisher Avenue and Whalen Commons. The houses are planned to be single story and have anywhere from 1,500 square feet to 2,000 square feet.

Approximately one third of the entire development would be dedicated to open space in some form. Pedestrian walkways are a major feature of the proposal, and walkways run not only throughout the development but also from Whalen Commons up to the John Poole House. The potential exists to take this walkway and extend it to the center of town, creating a safer means for pedestrians to walk from Whalen Commons to the center of town at the intersection of Fisher Avenue and Elgin Road.

The reactions from the Planning Commissioners to the concept plan were positive and even enthusiastic. Commissioner Martin Radigan said, "This is quite a contrast with the original plan (presented several years ago). I like it a lot." Kevin Schramm said, "I want to echo Martin's comment. This is a complete 180-degree change. The emphasis on Whalen Commons, the John Poole House, and different styles of housing" than those that currently exist in Poolesville he views as commendable. Amanda Leichter, who is not only a Planning Commissioner but also a member of the Moms' Club which met with the Willards as they developed their plan, said the club is "excited about having affordable homes for our parents."

There were a number of questions raised and, in particular, Lexie Huber, a new member of the commission, wondered whether some sort of mixed use concept could be used for homes fronting along Fisher Avenue which might allow for some businesses to operate. On the whole, however, the proposal received overwhelming support. On a 5-0 vote, the Planning Commission agreed to send the request for the application of the Overlay Rules to the Town of Poolesville commissioners and with the recommendation that they approve it.

The town commissioners, at their January 4 meeting, discussed when they will hold a public hearing on the Planning Commission recommendation, and they agreed to a February 1 meeting.

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

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

## Remembrances

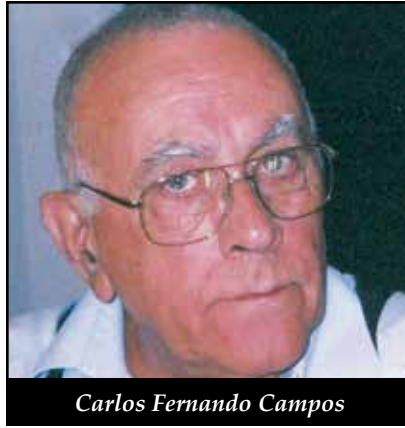
### Carlos Fernando Campos

Mr. Carlos Fernando Campos, 86, of Poolesville passed away peacefully at home on December 14, 2020 following a brief illness.

Born April 27, 1934 in Valdivia, Chile, Carlos was the son of the late Juan F. Campos and Elisa E. Prochelle de Campos.

Mr. Campos is survived by two children, Patricia Moore and husband Roland, and Patricio (Pato) Campos and wife Monica; four grandchildren, David, Katherine, Danielle, and Rachel; and two great-grandchildren, Barrett and Valentina.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Juana Emilia Campos, with whom he is now reunited after fourteen long months. He will be deeply missed by all who called him Papa. As he wished, there will be no service.



Carlos Fernando Campos

### Patricia Straw

Patricia "Pat" (Kane) Straw, 82, died after a long illness with Parkinson's Disease on December 19, 2020. She was born on October 22, 1938 in Queens, New York to Katherine Logan Kane and Michael Joseph Kane.

As a child, Pat loved spending her summers in Rockaway with her siblings and cousins and developed a true love for the ocean. Eventually, her family moved to Syracuse, New York where she lived for a short time before entering the convent.

After leaving the convent, Pat met and married Patrick "Paddy" Straw. They moved to Smithtown, Long Island to raise their family, two children, Kara and Patrick. Pat was an employee of Smithtown School District in various roles ranging from administration assistant in elementary school to math academic intervention support teacher in the middle school. She loved teaching and helping her students, as well as her colleagues. It was in the school system that Pat shone, and she loved her time there. Pat was also an active member of the PTA and a vital member of the Smithtown College Scholarship Association. While in Smithtown, Pat enjoyed playing cards and dominos, eating out, and having wine tastings with her neighbors who were the closest of friends.

Pat loved spending time with her family, listening to her grandchildren splash in the pool, and hearing their giggles during the holidays. She liked to vacation and especially loved family vacations to Lavalette, New Jersey or any beach destination where she enjoyed the ocean, good meals, the company of her family, and she was always up for a good-natured political debate.

Patricia was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Patrick William Straw. She is survived by her daughter Kara, her husband, Travis Johnson, their two children: Kaylee and Reagan of Poolesville, and her son Patrick, his wife, Margaret, their three children, Landon, Hudson, and Zoe of Nanuet, New York. She is also survived by her brother, Michael Kane, his wife, Patricia, her two sisters, Kathleen and Mary Joan, and many loving cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Due to COVID restrictions, no services are planned at this time; however, the family hopes to have a memorial mass in the spring.



Patricia Straw

Do you have any interesting local history or fun facts to share with our readers? The Monocle welcomes your contribution.

Send to [editor@monocacymonocle.com](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com)

# Reimagine YOUR HOME!

**KETTLER  
FORLINES**  
DESIGN, BUILD  
& RENOVATE



## Luxury Design & Remodeling Services

- Home Office
- Gourmet Chef's Kitchen
- Luxury Spa Baths
- First Floor Owners' Suite
- Outdoor Living Area
- Sunroom
- Multigenerational Living Space
- Screened Porch
- Finished Basement
- Home Gym

**301-258-0980, x20**

MHIC License #137561

## Total Automotive & Diesel Service

All manufacturers scheduled maintenance

**ASE Certified Master Auto**  
All Manufacturers Scheduled Maintenance

### Services Include:

- Coolant Flush • Brake Fluid Flush • Oil Change
- Transmission Flush Service • Power Steering Flush Service
- 4-Wheel Drive Service • Oil Changes • Front End Alignments
- Brake Inspections • General Repair • Tire Repairs
- Mount & Balance Tires • Rotate Tires • Pre-Purchase Inspections
- Tune-Ups • Check Engine Light Diagnosis
- Maintenance Light Diagnosis • Maryland State Inspections

**New Hours!**  
Mon-Fri: 7am-6pm  
Most Saturdays: 8am-3pm



30,000 Mile Service  
60,000 Mile Service  
90,000 Mile Service

**19640 Fisher Ave • Poolesville**  
**301-349-5888 • totalauto@comcast.net**

Of 554 auto repair shops, CHECKBOOK rated Total Automotive as one of the best in the Washington area!

Continued from page 1.

### For the Community's Sake, Brown Family Hopes for Resolution

viability of the ferry and in terms of the aggravation at this point in their lives.

Since the facebook press release of January 26 announcing their decision to close the ferry, the public outcry and subsequent reaction by local and county government officials has been loud and clear. While there are many obstacles in the path to reopening, all involved, including the Brown family and Rockland Farm LLC, have stated a desire to find a successful solution.

In a facebook post, Rockland Farm LLC (which is not affiliated with Montgomery County's Rocklands Farm Winery or to White's Ferry Manor wedding venue) stated that "it is in everyone's best interest to keep the ferry running and sent White's Ferry an interim licensing agreement so that the ferry operation could continue without interruption until acceptable terms between the two parties could be negotiated."

The Rockland proposal was a revocable agreement for any reason with a thirty-day notice requiring payment of \$18,000 per month. This fee is considered way out of proportion to the Browns both in terms of amount and the temporary nature of the agreement.

The land in question is a plot approximately seven thousand square feet located within a severe flood zone where building and farming were inadvisable. While willing to discuss a payment for perpetual easement of use of the land, that value for the otherwise very restricted use of the plot is the heart of the disagreement. The Brown family considers proposals to date unreasonable for the level of profitability due to COVID-19 and emerging future commuting patterns most likely even after the pandemic has waned.

Rockland Farm LLC and White's Ferry have been in a legal dispute since 2009 over landing rights to the ferry on the Virginia side. White's Ferry has operated historically since legal decisions about the road in the 1871 Road Case created a public pathway to the ferry public landing, the survey specifics from the time are unclear in records available today. The 1871 case was found to not be supported specifically enough in land records in recent court rulings. Both parties acknowledge entering into an agreement of understanding for use of the land in 1952. The 2009 lawsuit was a legal dispute over the continued use of

the land after Rockland considered White's Ferry in breach of the agreement when the ferry operation made improvements to a retention wall without Rockland's approval. White's Ferry refused a court option to restore the wall to its original condition. Stating that the defendant in the case was trespassing on Rockland's land, the Twentieth Circuit Court of Virginia decision by Judge Stephen E. Sincavage ruled in favor of Rockland's claim and ordered a payment of \$102,000. With an injunction pending to cease operation by the court if further agreement cannot be reached between the two parties, the ferry service chose to unilaterally close the operation.

The original plan was to keep the ferry open until January 15 and then close if agreements could not be reached. Beyond the terms of a proposed agreement that is considered unacceptable by the Browns, the ferry additionally experienced high floodwaters requiring a cable replacement (estimated to cost \$7,000). With uncertainty that a potential agreement would be reached, pending court injunction, and facing a high cost of restoring service again, the Browns chose to close immediately rather than delay.

Over the entire of period of dispute, different proposals for settlement have been made by White's Ferry, to no avail. While Rockland cited lack of communication by White's Ferry in the past, Herb Brown stated he personally has not until recently received communications from Rockland but cannot affirm any discussions that might have occurred with others, including his father, Edwin Brown, who died on January 26, 2020.

Since the statements on facebook by White's Ferry and Rockland Farms LLC, there has been telephone communication between Herb Brown and Peter Brown, the brother of Libby Devlin of Rockland Farms. Peter Brown is the CEO of Renaissance Technologies LLC, an American hedge fund based in East Setauket, New York. The multi-billion-dollar firm is regarded as one of the most successful hedge funds in the world.

Mr. Brown has stated that an official offer of \$250,000 payment for perpetual use of the landing area had been declined by Rockland and that White's Ferry has now offered \$400,000. At the same time that these informal discussions were being made and the public outcry reached a peak on facebook, Montgomery County Councilmember Andrew Friedson arranged for a meeting between Christopher Conklin of the Montgomery County Department of

Transportation and Herb Brown on January 6.

On Monday, December 28, Herb Brown agreed to a public meeting with the Commissioners of Poolesville that can still be viewed on YouTube. In that Zoom meeting (Herb Brown participated by telephone only), Mr. Brown transparently provided his review of events. The town commissioners voted to take various actions to support the possible reopening of the ferry. Kerri Cook, commission president, was tasked with further reaching out to Councilmember Friedson, and Commissioner Jim Brown to State Senator Brian Feldman.

Joining together in a public statement with the Poolesville commissioners, Friedson, and Feldman, as well as State Delegates David Fraser-Hidalgo, Kathleen Dumais, and Lily Qi, notified the public of their support of initiatives to seek a solution that will reopen the ferry. The open letter read, "As soon as we became aware of the closure, we have been working collaboratively at the county, state, and municipal levels to engage with the private parties and officials in Loudoun County and Virginia. We are working closely with the Maryland Secretary of Transportation, the Montgomery County Director of Transportation, and the county attorney and in direct communication with their counterparts across the Potomac River."

The group recognized that the complicated dispute remains between two private parties, but, collectively, the writers are dedicated to using "every resource at our disposal to this issue and will continue to work with our public and private counterparts throughout the region to resolve the issue. We will keep our residents informed throughout the process with any and all information."

Although not formally acknowledging stated interest in advancing the prospects for a new bridge between Virginia and Montgomery County, Maryland, comments on facebook and on Bloomberg Radio indicate that at least some Virginia governmental representatives consider closure of the ferry a help to their state's long-sought desire for a new bridge. Complicating this consideration is not only that a prospective new bridge would take a least fifteen to twenty years to build, but in the immediate situation, an already nearly intolerable heavy traffic problem on Route 15 north in Leesburg is going to be even more severely aggravated by the addition of the hundreds of cars that typically used the ferry instead.

In answer to the public's request to assist in helping to reopen the ferry,

Jim Brown, Link Hoewing, and Kevin Schramm (all of the Fair Access Committee) put out a call for the public to join in an email campaign designed to put public pressure on both governments to help settle the dispute. The information on how to participate is in this issue on page 5.

Continued from page 6.

### Senior News

#### New Event

#### January 25

#### Monthly Book Club

Hosted by Michelle Roche. The book for discussion in January is *The Dutch House* by Anne Patchett. Join us for this fun, intellectual, and social event. 7:00 p.m.

Some upcoming programs that Poolesville Seniors is working on are various guided walks. Keep checking their website for more information on these anticipated programs.

To register for any of the presentations listed here and to receive the Zoom link for each, visit their website: [poolesvilleseniors.org](http://poolesvilleseniors.org). For a hard copy of their monthly newsletter, call: 301-875-7701. Keep checking the website for additional information and an updated listing of programs.



**Locally-owned for 17 years!**

**Ask us about  
fall cleanups  
and fertilizations**

*"The most reliable service  
from consultation to installation"*

Landscape design,  
Installation & maintenance  
Licensed fertilization  
Weed control and  
turfgrass maintenance  
Hand pruning  
of shrubs & trees

**Contact:**  
David Bowen  
301-536-3385  
MDA28129,  
MDA-F 1441



## Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

### Present Crime

**Numerous cases of theft:** 19400 block of Umstead Court.

**Identity theft:** 19900 block of Briarley Hall Road.

**DUI arrest:** 22000 block of White's Ferry Road.

**Disturbances on New Year's Eve:** Police were called to disperse a large crowd of young people who were driving from county to county, town to town, and drinking and carousing. They were last seen in the parking lot of Poolesville Elementary.

### Past Crime: 1915 to 1920

Washington was in an uproar after the rumor of a plot to blow up the aqueduct that supplied water to Washington and Montgomery County was revealed. The rumor started when an employee of a gold mining company found several sticks of dynamite in an outhouse on a farm on the Conduit Road. Deputy sheriff Boswell was called as well as Treasury officers, and two men were taken into custody. After questioning, the federal officers announced that there was no threat to the water works.

The reported murder of attorney John Holt turned out to have been a suicide. A passerby heard a gunshot near the Sligo Bridge in Silver Spring and then found a man lying in the grass. The passerby ran to the nearest location with a telephone and screamed into the phone that there had been a murder. Several deputies and Sheriff Aud came to the scene. Aud learned that the deceased man had recently been released from the Washington Sanitarium, and, when he inspected the remains, he found a gun under the body. Aud ruled the case a suicide.

Swift justice was handed out in the jail yard in Rockville. George Williams had been arrested the day before on a charge of brutally beating his wife after she had returned from a picnic. He was tried the next day in Rockville Court and found guilty. The judge ordered that Williams receive twenty lashes to be administered by Sheriff Aud. Williams was led from his cell and tied to the whipping post. He turned to Aud and said, "Sheriff, I admit that I did it and know you have to do your duty." Aud then laid on twenty lashes that produced welts on the back of the prisoner. The county doctor was in attendance and inspected Williams and declared that he was not seriously injured. He even began administering a home remedy to reduce the welts and pain. As Williams walked away, he declared that he was through with women.

The mandatory work law was in effect in Maryland, but some said that it was not being enforced. Sheriff Aud was directed to scour the county to look for men who were not gainfully employed. He visited the Columbia Country Club and found twenty men whose only occupation was to occasionally carry golf clubs for members. Aud rounded up the men and took them before the magistrate in Bethesda, declaring that caddying was not really work.

A thirty-five-year-old Dickerson man was placed in the county jail for his own safety after a fourteen-year-old girl reported that the man had sexually assaulted her. The citizens in the upper region of the county were outraged, and threats had been made. Oscar Copeland denied the allegation but agreed to stay in the jail for the time being.

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

## A Monocacy Moment



January 1, 2021: Poolesville's first sunrise of the year and decade.

Photo by Terri Pitts

## Marketplace



Pat  
Hess, P.T.

301-349-5443

19628 Fisher Ave. Poolesville

Would you like to remove negativity from your life?

I will help you.

Please call me:  
Christian at 240-876-1274

Customized Studio  
Yoga for Private & Small Groups

Maria Briançon

gladiyoga

(301) 758-3983

gladiyoga@gmail.com • glad-i-yoga.com  
20005A Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837



Charm your Guests with Chamber Music

We will work with you to achieve the musical effects you desire.

Dominique Agnew 301-407-0001  
http://Violinsanity.peatandbarley.com

### Hilary Schwab Photography

Portraits and Event Photography  
Poolesville, MD (301)349-2322  
25 years' experience  
hilary@hschwabphotography.com  
www.hschwabphotography.com

### Sugarloaf Pet Gardens

DEDICATED - APPROVED  
PET CEMETERY

301-972-8882

Box 415  
21511 Peach Tree Road  
Barnesville, Maryland 20838



# Hilton Funeral Home

A Tradition of Caring since 1890

Full range of services. Now offering cemetery monuments.

22111 Beallsville Road  
Barnesville, MD 20838

hiltonfh.com  
(301)349-2135

YOUR AD COULD BE RIGHT HERE.  
Call Rande Davis at 301-509-9232.



## Remembrances

### David Scott Johnson

David Scott Johnson, 74, of Barnesville, passed away on December 28, 2020, surrounded by his loving family at home. The cause of death was melanoma.

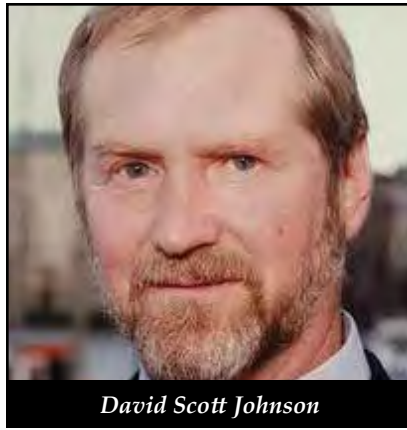
Dave was born in Kensington to the late Pauline Scott Johnson and Edwin Roberts Johnson. He is survived by his loving wife of forty-eight years, Judith Kay Johnson, daughter Abby Catherine Johnson of London, England, and son David Perry Johnson of Washington, D.C.

Dave spent his life as a skilled carpenter and artisan, restoring old homes, structures, and log cabins in and around the Barnesville area. His work has touched many homes and buildings in town and stands as a visible reminder of his craftsmanship.

Dave was a passionate and adventurous world traveler, an avid reader, and a history buff. He was also deeply interested in politics and enjoyed political activism throughout his life. He loved spending time at his home in Eastville, Virginia and sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. A bicycling enthusiast, he also spent many hours cycling through the region's mountains and could be found riding on the C&O Canal until his final months.

Dave spent much of his retirement hard at work on his farm, establishing gardens, planting fruit trees, and landscaping.

In addition to being survived by his wife and children, Dave is survived by his sisters, Elinor Sweeney of Hollywood, Maryland and Nancy Rattie of Comus, and brother, Edwin Johnson, Jr. of Clarksburg. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a food bank of your choice.



David Scott Johnson

### Dawn Marie Zinsser

Dawn Marie Zinsser, 48, of Poolesville, passed away December 26, 2020, at the Holy Cross Hospital in Germantown after a battle with COVID-19.

She graduated from Magruder High School in Derwood and attended Montgomery College in Rockville. She was employed by George Washington University Facility Associates in Germantown and Rockville.

She is survived by her husband, Gus Zinsser; one son, Cody James; and two daughters, Kayla Marie and Kacie Brienne; a sister, Debra Lynn (Howes) Dwyer and husband Ronald; nephew, Ronald Dwyer, Jr.; niece, Jamie Lynn (Dwyer) Harper and husband, Charles, and their children, Briana Noel and Gabriel Marie, of Germantown.

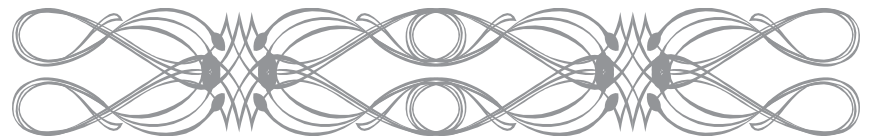
She is also survived by her mother, Mary E. Howes-Benesh and her husband, Lester; and her father-in-law August Zinsser, III, and his wife, Ann. She was preceded in death by her father, James Aubrey Howes.

She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. Dawn loved going to the beach and tanning. She enjoyed traveling, especially on her honeymoon cruise. Most of all, she loved her children to the moon and back.

A memorial service will be held at a later date when family and friends can safely gather and share memories and celebrate Dawn's life.



Dawn Marie Zinsser





**HUGHES**  
LANDSCAPING

**Office**  
301-330-4949

**Email**  
Info@hugheslandscaping.com

Check us out on Facebook  @Hugheslandscapingsupplyco



**Hughes Landscaping was founded in 1983 by John Hughes on the principles of customer service and exceeding customer expectations —principles that the company still has in place today. Give us a call today to schedule a free estimate at your convenience.**

**We specialize in patios, deck building, tree care, any kind of yard maintenance, and anything else that you may need to have done outside of your home.**

Continued from page 10.

### The Spirits of PHS Winter Sports Past

six straight starting in 2015. Before all that, Cara Chuang was a four-time champion in the 100 back at the Metropolitan Swimming and Diving Championships, from 2007 to 2010. She broke the county record in that event and was a four-time All-Met selection.

Multiple state medalists on the boys' side include Xavier Laracuate, Alex Lin, Maxwell Chen, Conner Dunathan, Justin Kim, Kevin Song, Kenny Song, and Theodore Jagodits. Multiple medalist on the girls' side include Moshelle Borjigin, Diana Hanson, Dorit Song, Katarina Lechner, Rachel Ryan, Autumn Wang, Helen Matia, Miranda Liu, Julia Wang, Lindsay Knapp, Sayaka Vaules, and Theresa Nardone.

Looking back, Coach Jon Leong has lots of memories. "I had a senior captain who did not make the states as an individual, but I did put him in the lineup as a relay alternate. He was going against the fastest kid in the state in the 100 free. As soon as he went up, our entire team was cheering so enthusiastically. It was

like a 'Rudy' moment. We were happy for Josh. I had a girl, who was always a solid second place, until the states. Before the 50 free in the states, she said, 'Wouldn't it be wild if I won?' Well, Lindsay did win, and that is etched as a highlight, knowing how much that first place meant to her."

On February 17, 2014 in the MPSSAA 2A State Indoor Track Meet at the Prince George's County Sportsplex, Chase Weaverling finished first in the 3200, posting a state record 9:29.76 time. The girls' 4x800 relay team of Denise Larson, Chelsie Pennello, Claire Beautz, and Theresa Nardone also finished first in 9:46.17, missing the state record by just a second. At the 3A West region in February of 2017, Ryan Lockett was just trying to run to qualify for the states in the 3200. "Someone stepped on my shoe," said Ryan, "so I had to kick it off. I had to kick my other shoe off too because I didn't want to run the rest of the race with just one shoe on, so I ended up running the last third of the race in my socks. The surface of the armory track was slippery, so it felt like I was running in place. After the race, my feet were all bloody, but I still got second, and it is a really good story to tell."

"It is a race that will become a legend," said PHS coach Prasad Gerard.

*Poolesville Area:  
We're Open  
for Business.*

## Cornerstone Inc.

*General Contractor  
Serving Poolesville and the surrounding  
area for over 30 years*

Custom Homes – Additions – Baths  
Kitchens – Basements – Roofing – Siding  
Custom Barns – Fencing – Decks – Garages  
Porches – Patios – Concrete Work

**301-972-8700**

Ron and Rinnie Magaha

MHIC #26662

## William N. Price, CPA, CFP®, MS

*Financial Planning and Tax Preparation*

21800 Beallsville Road  
P.O. Box 68  
Barnesville, Maryland 20838  
301-428-8191  
Fax: 866-896-2325

william@williamprice.com  
www.williamprice.com

Securities offered through Registered Representatives of Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., a broker-dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., a Registered Investment Adviser. Cambridge does not offer tax advice.



**Thistle Thickets Farm**  
301-407-0001  
www.thistlethickets.com  
Boyd, MD

**Hand-Crafted Goat Milk Soaps**  
Make Terrific Gifts!

Buy them online or from these fine merchants:  
All About Equestrian, Farmers' Coop, Locals,  
McCutcheon's, Mrs. Brown's Attic, Poolesville  
Hardware, and RB Savage and Sons.



## Noregod Painters

*There's a divinity that shapes our homes.*  
30+ Years' Experience - References  
10% Winter Discounts - Free Estimates

**Proper Prep Work - Attention to Detail**  
**Precision Painting - Prompt**  
**Contact: Tor Ofsthun**  
**Call or Text 301-938-1460**

## Shear Elegance Hair Salon



**Image Is Everything**  
**Hair Services**  
**for the Whole Family!**

**301-349-3773**

19623 B Fisher Ave. Poolesville

**Hours:** Mon. 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Tue. 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.,  
Wed. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Thur. 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.,  
Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.



## Violin Lessons

Boyd, MD

**Over 15 Years' Experience**

Sassmannshaus Method Certification

d2violin@gmail.com  
301-407-0001



## Morningstar Welding, LLC

**COMMERCIAL, FARMING, &  
RESIDENTIAL WELDING**

**301-349-2702**

17612 Elgin Road - Poolesville



**Poolesville Vision**  
Doctors of Optometry  
**Dr. Thomas McInnes**  
**Dr. Robin Mevissen**

20005B Fisher Ave  
Poolesville, Maryland 20837

301-916-3214  
(fax) 301-916-3101  
pv20005b@outlook.com

Subscribe to the *Monocacy Monocle* (\$31.80 per year)  
The *Monocacy Monocle* • POB 372 • Barnesville, MD 20838-0372  
editor@monocacymonocle.com • www.monocacymonocle.com

## Celebrating 32 Years of Service

### A Very Different Holiday Season for You and Your Pets

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

The holiday season will likely look quite different for most humans this year. The focus is on home and small “pods” for interaction for the holiday. This has brought about a significant shift with respect to the interaction of humans and their pets in the last 10 months. Many more people have accepted a pet into their houses. Many more people are spending 35-100% more time at home. Many people have invested much more time and emotion into their pets than ever before in the United States.

This generally is an amazing occurrence for us and, more importantly, for our furry friends. Animals that would otherwise have not gotten a forever home for long periods are securely entrenched in a new loving home. Animals that were living the only child life are now sharing their humans with other pets. People who would not typically be the primary source of interaction with their pets are now focusing large amounts of time on them.

All these factors make it incredibly important for us all to pay much more attention to new objects, new foods, new people, and new traditions during the holidays. New pets and pets that now have new siblings may not act as you would think during these changes to their environment during the holidays. Here are a few tips for limiting problem issues for you and your festive-seeking furry friends.

1. Be sure that any new decorations, plants, candles, and foods are kept at a level that your pets cannot reach. You may think the metal and glass ball on the Christmas tree or the Hanukkah menorah is something your new or additional pets will not examine, you would be wrong.
2. It is not very festive, but an X pen (wire fence that can be set up in the house) can be placed around the Christmas tree(s) and presents to protect them until the wonderful Morning of Too Many P resents.
3. If you are having visitors (and the CDC does not recommend that this year), ask them to keep the door to their area of your home closed whenever they are not in that area. Dogs and especially cats love to investigate the new objects and smells. Peeing in your guests' suitcase is a high honor.
4. Do not assume that food on a counter, uncooked or cooked, is safe at any time but especially during the holiday seasons when humans are more easily distracted, like having small children at the mall (yes, we used to go there) would always require multiple eyes on them to avoid problems. Take the same idea for watching food and other objects on tables and in sinks. Be sure also to not leave edible gifts in a suitcase, coat pocket, or under the tree. The Seal-Team-6-like ability of your canine and feline patients to identify and “free” these gifts from their captors is a thing of legend.
5. Be sure any new medications that may be in your home during the holiday are also secured in a safe, animal-safe place.
6. Lastly, it is a great idea to consider leaving a leash attached to your dog so you can have a better chance of catching them when they make a mistake. You may consider also giving your feline friends a “special” place in the house where they can be safe and away from temptations.

Happy New Year and Peace on Earth to everyone two- and four-footed from Poolesville Veterinary Clinic.

## Poolesville Veterinary Clinic



DR. EEG AND THE ENTIRE VETERINARY STAFF ARE DEDICATED TO PROVIDING THE HIGHEST QUALITY VETERINARY CARE WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH. \*PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE \* LASER SURGERY \* ACUPUNCTURE \* DENTAL CARE \* LASER THERAPY \* FIBEROPTIC VIDEO SCOPE \* ADVANCE IN-HOUSE LABORATORY \* MICROCHIPPING \* DIGITAL RADIOGRAPHY \* GERIATRIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT \* PAIN MANAGEMENT \* BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION \* REPRODUCTION



**Open Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., CLOSED ON SUNDAY**

**Like us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter, Visit us on Foursquare 18**

19621 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville • 301-972-7705  
[www.poolesvilleveterinaryclinic.com](http://www.poolesvilleveterinaryclinic.com) • [poolesvillevet@verizon.net](mailto:poolesvillevet@verizon.net)

19920 Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837 ★ (301)349-3880



www.poolesvilletire.com



# FULL-SERVICE AUTO REPAIR SHOP



## REPAIRS

Expert service performed by ASE Certified Technicians

## MAINTENANCE

Scheduled maintenance on all foreign & domestic models

## TIRES

The right name-brand tires to fit your needs & your budget

Mention This Ad For  
\$5 OFF ANY OIL CHANGE



MENTION THIS AD FOR  
**10% OFF**  
YOUR FIRST KEY PURCHASE

# AUTO KEYS

- ★ KEY FOBBS ★ KEYLESS ENTRY REMOTES ★
- ★ TRANSPONDERS ★ SMART KEYS ★ CHIP KEYS ★
- ★ FLIP KEYS ★ EMERGENCY BLADES ★
- ★ PROGRAMMING ★ KEY CUTTING ★

19920 Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837

☎(301)349-3880 ✉poolesvilleauto@yahoo.com



COLLISION SPECIALIST

# FULL-SERVICE BODY SHOP



ALL INSURANCE WELCOME!



Over 35 years of experience

Call to schedule a custom quote today



19920 Fisher Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837  
(301)349-4550