

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Monthly Newspaper

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The Crossvines Is Officially Launched by Leaders And Citizens

By Link Hoewing

Some two hundred attendees, including county and state leaders and citizens from across the county, came together on June 12 to officially launch The Crossvines. The new facility, built on what was once the Poolesville Golf Course Clubhouse, restaurant, and meeting room, features a huge events venue, a spacious restaurant and bar, meeting rooms, a large fully-equipped kitchen, and a grapecrushing and bottling facility. The golf course remains in place, and it too has been refurbished.

The new facility has several purposes. One of its primary functions is to lease to wineries space in the grapecrushing facility to help new businesses get started by avoiding the costs of having to invest in their own grapecrushing and bottling operations.



Ribbon-cutting ceremony for the soon-to-open Crossvines Vineyard on West Willard Road.

Another is to grow a number of grape varieties and conduct research on various aspects of the winemaking business. The University of Maryland

is partnering with the county in conducting the research. The new

Continued on page 8.

A Second State Title for Falcon Tennis

By Jeff Stuart

The last athletes to compete for Poolesville High School in the 2022-2023 school year were the tennis players, and they made the most of it over the Memorial Day weekend, capturing the Maryland Class 2A State Championship at Baker Park in Frederick on Saturday morning, May 27. The event was MPSSAA tennis co-hosted by Baker Park and Frederick High School. On the strength of victories in boys' and girls' doubles. The Falcons amassed forty-five total points to sixteen for runner-up Eastern Tech. This was their second consecutive team title. The senior Falcons went out in style, coming away with three individual titles and one second-place finish.

Boys' coach Tom Lang recapped the highlights.

"Boys' doubles: After falling behind, 1-4 and 3-5 in the first set, Carson Smith and Jeeva Padmanabhan won four straight games to take set one, 7-5.



PHS tennis state champs: Andy Wu, Kyra McGlinchey, Suzy Xu, Jae Yi, Nikhita Karthikesan, Jeeva Padmanaban, and Carson Smith.

In set two, the boys trailed 2-3 before again stringing together four straight games to win the second set, 6-3, and the championship. They defeated Xavier Moadde and Deron Zhu of C. Milton Wright. The straight-set win

provided the Falcons with their third title of the day.

"Girls' doubles: Suzy Xu and Kyra McGlinchey put on a dazzling display

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The first Riverworks Performance Center fundraising festival was held on June 10. See more pictures on page 10.



The JPMS Leos Club helped out with the Odd Fellows annual luncheon. More information in Tidbits on page 12.



More history on the heroes of the C&O Canal. See page 14.

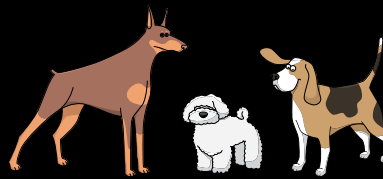


Riding bareback at one of the earliest Montgomery County Ag Fairs first held in Poolesville. See a collage of pictures on page 24.

Family Album



Bark
in the
Park



Town Government

June Town Meetings Focus on White's Ferry And Policing in the Upcounty

By Link Hoewing

The Town of Poolesville commissioners held two meetings in June and heard from the District 15 Legislative leaders about the just-completed Maryland General Assembly session at their June 5 meeting. Appearing at the meeting were Del. David Fraser-Hidalgo and Del. Linda Foley. Delegate Lily Qi appeared via Zoom.

Fraser-Hidalgo said that the Maryland legislative session had passed a nearly-\$55 billion budget and included a \$200,000 grant to Riverworks for use in its work effort to build a new performing arts center. The facility would preserve the Old Methodist Church on West Willard Road and add new rooms for art classes and performances, as well as a large new indoor space for plays, readings, and live presentations. A large outdoor space would be attached at the back of the old building to accommodate outdoor performances.

Fraser-Hidalgo spent a lot of his time talking about White's Ferry. He has been leading a group of county and state leaders for many months in discussing and working on outreach and ideas to help resolve the impasse that has closed the ferry. He said he took a boat across the ferry and spoke with an expert in ferry operations about whether a new landing, which would be on land just south of the current ramp on the Virginia said, would be workable. Fraser-Hidalgo said, "It is just a question of money and horsepower," meaning the new landing would require a different kind of "cableless" ferry and would be expensive to get off the ground. It is feasible to make this approach work however. He said the idea is one that is a "long haul" approach but is worth considering if the current impasse drags on too much longer.


Fraser-Hidalgo also remarked that a letter from the Secretary of Transportation from the State of Maryland to the delegation indicated that the current governor is interested in initiating "governor-to-governor conversations" to see if Maryland and Virginia can help break the logjam and add renewed vigor to the efforts between the two governments.

During the segment of the meeting where commissioners report on their work as liaisons to various committees, Commissioner Martin Radigan indicated that a draft of the new master plan should be ready by August, "but worst case, October." He added that lots of work had been done to improve coordination among town committees involved in providing input to the master plan, such as Sustainable Poolesville, and he is pleased with how the process has been improved.

Nathan and Jennifer Loyd, who have been leading the effort to help build a co-op grocery store, came before the commissioners to report on the successful market study that was just completed. Nathan Loyd pointed out that the new study demonstrated that the project is feasible. Jennifer Loyd said that they are "starting the project out the right way," learning from the mistakes that have been made by other co-ops. They are not, for example, focusing on "finding a location for the co-op" which they explained was done in Lovettsville and actually set them back a couple of years. The couple said it is important to first commission a market study to see whether the project is feasible. If that study suggests the project has a high likelihood of success, the next step is to conduct a financial study to look at the financing, capital needs, and the ten-year balance sheet for the co-op. The Loyds appeared before the commission to ask for \$7,500 to fund a consultant to do the financial study. After that study is completed, Nathan Loyd said, "We will take ownership of the project from there on out," meaning that funding and all work from that point on would be funded by the co-op members and board. The commissioners approved the study proposal by a 4-0 vote (Commissioner Radigan had to leave the meeting early and did not vote).

Town Manager Wade Yost brought a proposal to the commissioners to remove the rubber mulch that has been placed at a number of kiddie parks and replace it with wood chips. The EPA has not officially called for the removal of the rubber mulch, and although they are studying the matter, he does not expect them to make a decision about its use. Still, many residents seemed concerned about its use and the chemical odor that seems to hang around the new mulch. He admitted that if he had younger kids, he would likely be concerned too.

Continued on page 27.





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Rande(m) Thoughts The Glue That Binds Us

By Rande Davis

The news in June was an amazing array of issues, unfortunate incidents, and important public events.

With our lengthy town government reports now covering two town meetings per issue, I want to publicly commend Link Hoewing for his excellent reportage of the essentials of public matters. I also want to commend all our staff for their dedication to the *Monocle* and covering the news from their specific beats and roles. While they do get paid, the amount per article is admittedly far below the minimum wage. There is a labor of love. They will forever be my heroes of public service.

Occasionally, people moan that they don't know what is going on with the town and commission, yet this paper provides, free of charge, an impressive summary of every town meeting. I once heard a business leader make this complaint at a chamber meeting, leading me to wonder what more can be done to make sure each person can keep abreast of town government decisions and plans about things that affect their daily lives so directly. What is it they say, something about leading a horse to water? Fortunately, I hear from so many more on how appreciative they are that we provide the news in such a thorough way.

Like so many others, I participate somewhat in social media, and I am constantly appalled at how inaccurate and uninformed many of the opinions on Facebook are—how they completely miss the mark of truth. The ultimate offense came in a Facebook rant about bullying among some of our young folks. One adult respondent went on to radically bully another person for

their posting opinions about the matter. Imagine that: In a discussion against the evils of bullying, people bullied other people. Since it was among adults, one wonders how then our teens can be expected to be above such low behavior.

I heard a word this week from days of old that resonated with me. The word? Manners. We seem to have thrown the concept overboard, relishing now in our individual power to act as we do without regard to others. Someone defined manners as nothing more than learning to respect others. What a concept. Imagine that. In a world where so many herald the importance of how everything affects them as the most important thing, with no consideration of others, we move from a time of social grace to divisionary tribalism to now a more current ethos of individualism, a "me-ism." This seemed to happen in the short span of time of just one generation. Please excuse me if I have been offensive, but if you are one who passes the butter only when asked, say "no problem" rather than "you are welcome" or "my pleasure," does not refrain from talking when others have the floor, then my rant won't resonate with you anyway. Manners and respect serve as a sort of social glue that helps public dialogue and behavior remain civil.

June was busting out all over with so many events. The ribbon cutting at Crossvines Winery, the tennis team winning states, a fire at Bassett's, a tragic fatal car accident, and a jubilant arts festival at Riverworks exemplify how, even in our little town, a wide diverse range of life experience bursts from us every day. Each of us lives with many different difficulties and challenges. Each of us lives with joyous achievements and events. Maybe humbly respecting each other for our shared joys and challenges might be the simplest expression of proper manners ever.

Local News

Bassett's in Process Of Reopening after June Fire

By Rande Davis

On June 5, a fire broke out at Bassett's Restaurant in Poolesville, causing damage to a rear section of the building. The fire came from a malfunction in the smoker that is used

for briskets and other meats. Fortunately, the staff on location immediately called the fire department, notified the owner, Erika Myers, who was home at the time, and then vacated the building, with no injuries to anyone. When Erika Myers, who lives off White's Ferry Road, arrived the fire department was already on site.

Since this was in the center of Poolesville in very close proximity to other establishments, multiple fire departments were alerted to come to

Continued on page 8.



The fire at Bassett's in June received a very rapid response by the UMCVFD and other fire stations in Montgomery County.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

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Published and Edited by
John Clayton and Rande Davis

John Clayton
Production
Financial
301.461.8840
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
301.461.8840

Contributing Writers

Link Hoewing
linkhoe@aol.com

Maureen O'Connell
mafoconnell@msn.com

Kenny Sholes
kcs7110@gmail.com

Jeffrey S. Stuart
sark10@juno.com

Jon Wolz
wolzjon@hotmail.com

Student Reporters

Max Bingham
Kaitlyn Schramm

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

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School News

For PHS Graduates: The Reverend Chuck Copeland Offered Three Rules to Live By

By Rande Davis

At the graduation of the PHS class of 2023 on May 24, at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, the seniors—whose high school years were challenged by the pandemic with its virtual learning and demanding transition period—heard some powerful words of wisdom from their chosen guest speaker, the Rev. Chuck Copeland.

The seniors knew Chuck Copeland well through his weekday career as a PHS school security officer. Copeland came to PHS when he retired after twenty-three years as a jail security guard. His family has deep roots in the Ag Reserve that go back to the 1880s, and as he likes to point out, he “has DNA in both local black and white cemeteries.” Chuck is also the pastor of Hosana Worship Center, a ministry that shares space at Poolesville Baptist Church.

The senior class selected Chuck as its commencement speaker, honoring him for the leadership, mentorship, and friendship he has shared with them throughout their high school experience.

True to his well-regarded joyous and positive personality, he brought the students his personal three rules of life from which to live a life of personal fulfillment.



The Rev. Chuck Copeland at the PHS 2023 Graduation Commencement.

Copeland began by expressing his deep appreciation for the outpouring and expression of love from the school and community following a car accident he had on May 21, 2022. After suffering eleven broken ribs, three fractured vertebrae, neck injuries, and trauma to his solar plexus, his prognosis was not good. To loud applause he noted, “I should not have even been able to breathe, but I am still here.” For over twenty-four days, he could barely walk, but his “community loved me back. My entire PHS family sent cards, messages, and provided many gifts and meals. They cooked for us every day for a month.” Looking back on his challenging road to recovery, he said, “I am still here for many reasons, but most importantly, I am here to be a positive influence on my community.”

Copeland praised the graduating class for their perseverance. “You continued to do what you needed to do to get here, to this place right here. Through homework, projects, group activities, and tests, tests, and more tests.”

As was the case during high school, Copeland told the students, “Life is full of tests, some tests you pass, some tests you don’t pass. Notice I did not use the word fail because you never really fail if you learn from your mistakes. In life, you pass or you learn.”

He told the students to choose to discover God’s plan for them and in so doing he gave them three rules by which to live their life.

First, every single day of your life, be grateful because tomorrow is not promised.

“You have the opportunity to be better every day. Change your perspective and look at life in a positive light. You will discover that each day is a chance to improve your situation.” In using a phrase familiar to the students, he said, “Life is not fair, but it is precious, and it is good, and each day is another chance to

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Senior News

Poolesville Seniors Presents Virtual and In-Person Programs

Are you looking for activities that stretch your mind, renew your body, and lift your spirits? Then visit the website for Poolesville Seniors, poolesvilleseniors.org, or call 301-875-7701 to register for a wide variety of virtual and in person events. **Registration is required, but all events are open to the community.** Most in-person events are located at Speer Hall at Poolesville Presbyterian Church, 17800 Elgin Road (Route 109).

June 29

Byline: Ernie Pyle

This one-man show created by Steve LaRocque of the Montgomery History Speakers Bureau, showcases excerpts from the famous wartime newspaper columns of Pulitzer Prize winning WWII correspondent Ernie Pyle. One of the first "embedded" reporters. 7:00 p.m.

June 30

Line Dancing with Ashley Kelch

Kick up your heels at an evening of line dancing in Poolesville. The first hour (7:00 p.m.) will be for novice line dancers with simple, but fun steps. The more advanced line dancing will begin at 8:00 p.m., and everyone is welcome to stay. Registration is limited, so please sign up early. 7:00 p.m.

July 11

Bingo

Join us for live, in-person bingo. Bring a friend or neighbor for an afternoon filled with congenial conversation, competition, snacks, and prizes. Our bingo-calling dynamic duo will be

former on-camera NBC-TV reporter and humorist I.J. Hudson, and Roger Brenholtz, raconteur, and King Lion or President of the Monocacy Lions Club. This is an afternoon of fun and camaraderie that you won't want to miss. Open to all ages. 1:00 p.m.

July 13

Measuring Maryland Champion Trees

Join Joli McCathran, co-chair of the Maryland Big Tree Program, to hear about the importance of documenting and preserving champion trees, and the program that was started in Maryland in 1925 and adopted nationally.

July 20

Historic Ag Reserve Properties with Kenny Sholes

Explore the next historic Ag Reserve properties with local historian Kenny Sholes who brings us the stories of an array of impressive historic homes, those who built and lived in them, and the important part they played in American history for centuries. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

July 21

Friday Movie Night

Watch *Missing*, a highly-rated 2023 Sundance Film Festival selection. A teenager uses all the digital means to search for her mother who disappeared in Colombia with her boyfriend. Drama, mystery, thriller. PG-13. Snacks provided. 7:00 p.m.

Weekly Events

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

Outdoor Open Play Pickleball. Stevens Park. 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m..

Tuesdays

Tai-Chi with Maureen Ivusic. Speer Hall and virtual. 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Bridge. Snacks provided. Registration required. Speer Hall. 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesdays

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

Trivia Game Night

If you love Trivia, come join a team with Poolesville Seniors. For more information, email info@poolesvilleseniors.org. 7:00 p.m. Virtual.

Thursdays

Outdoor Ladder Play Pickleball

Limited to a maximum of 24 players. Stevens Park. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Mahjong with Joyce Kral. Beginner and seasoned players are welcome. Speer Hall. 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information or to register for any of the programs listed here and receive the Zoom link for each, visit the Poolesville Seniors website: poolesvilleseniors.org. Many of these presentations are also streamed live on their Facebook page and recorded for later viewing on their YouTube channel. Did you know that you don't need a computer to participate? You can join the Zoom presentation using your smartphone or just listen in using the local telephone number from Zoom and the Poolesville Seniors meeting ID and Password. Call or text them at 301-875-7701 to learn how.



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Continued from page 5.

For PHS Graduates: The Reverend Chuck Copeland Offers Three Rules to Live By

improve your position in life. As I sat in the hospital, I realized how grateful I am for each chance to improve."

Second, be kind.

"It's not hard to do that; if you practice it, it becomes easy. I believe the world can be changed by the power of love expressed through kindness. Love can change the world. You have the power to change the atmosphere even when just you walk into a room. Love is the universal language. You have no idea how much a kind word can affect someone's life. You don't know what someone is going through. As you go and as you grow, be kind to everyone."

Finally, use your gift for good.

"Each of you were blessed with a gift. Leave something of yourself behind to help somebody. Be sure to use your time to become the best person you can be, leave a legacy of love, you will never regret it. When you were born in your mama's womb, you were created with a gift. You, every last one of you, are special and you are here to be a blessing to others. You gotta leave something good behind, something of yourself behind. Use your gift to help somebody."

In concluding his principals of life, he reminded them, "Make it your life's work to find out what you are good at, develop that gift, go to school, laugh with others, and get about using that gift to make this a better world. Life goes by fast, don't waste time and be sure to use your time on Earth to become the best person you can be and in doing this, it will make the world a better place. Be grateful, be kind, and use your gifts for good, and you will leave a legacy of love."

Fun Fact...

'Pomp and Circumstance'

The instantly recognizable tune, played during the processional march as graduates arrive to collect their degrees, was composed in 1901 and originally performed in 1902 to honor the coronation of King Edward VII of Great Britain.

It made its U.S. graduation debut in 1905—when Yale bestowed an honorary degree on the song's composer, Edward Elgar—and quickly spread to other schools.

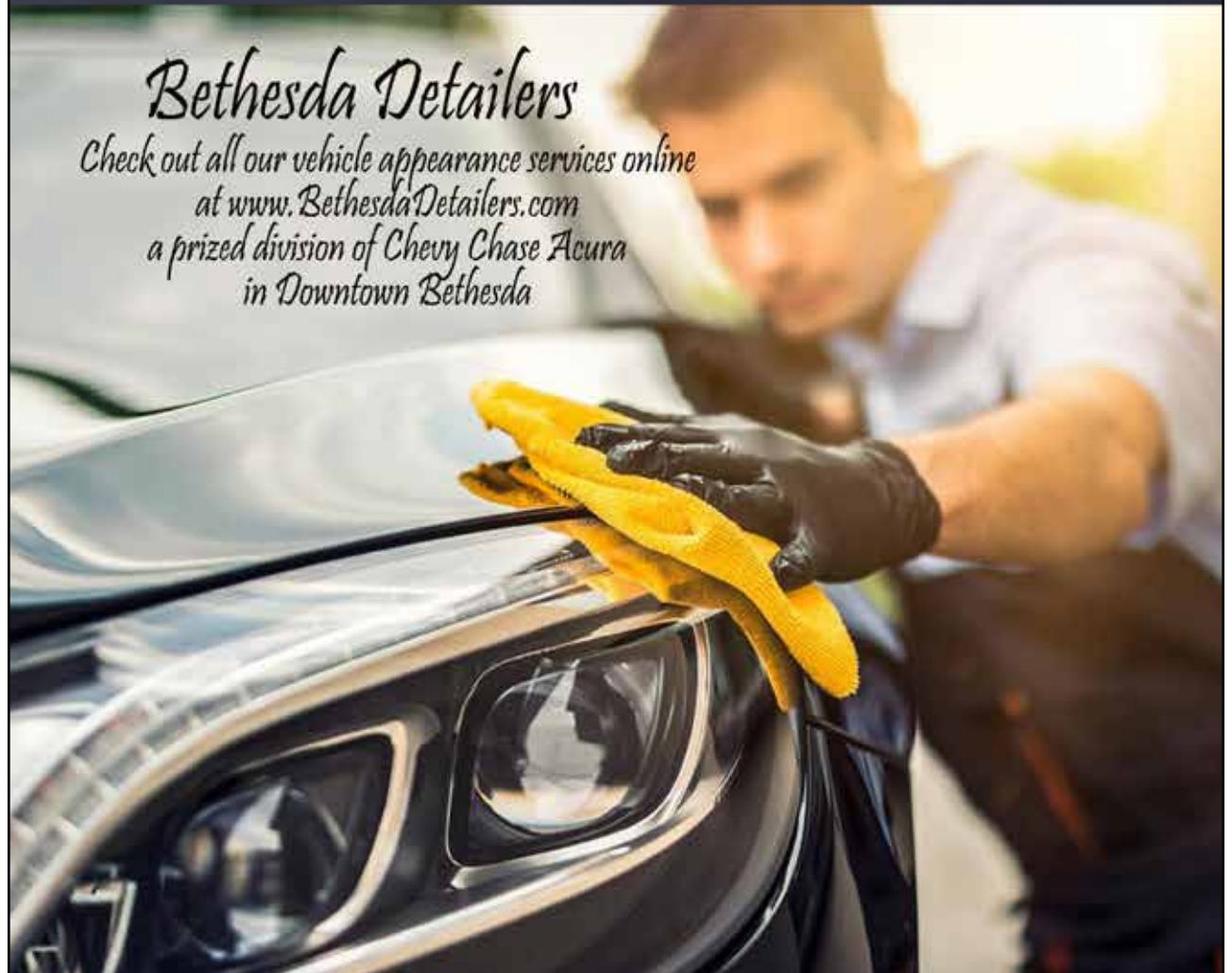
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Local News

Local Woman Dies in Car Accident

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office received a call for assistance on June 4 at approximately 8:35 a.m. regarding a car at the bottom in the dry quarry located at Lehigh Road and Peter Shriner Road.

Initial indications show that a 2022 Dodge Charger was traveling at a high rate of speed, left the roadway, and plummeted into the bottom of the dry quarry, owned and operated by Heidelberg Materials. First responders found one female ejected from the vehicle and the other female and male were still inside the heavily-damaged vehicle.

Those killed in the vehicle crash include Kortney Angleberger, age 28, of Keymar, Maryland; Robert Grossnickle, age 65, of Woodsboro, Maryland; and Rachel Willis, age 23, of Dickerson, Maryland

Continued from page 1.

The Crossvines Is Officially Launched by Leaders and Citizens

restaurant and events venue is also intended to help promote the Ag Reserve by focusing heavily on promoting and using fresh produce from farmers in the area.

The construction of The Crossvines is also intended to help promote economic growth in Poolesville and the Upcounty by attracting visitors from throughout the DMV. It will also provide jobs and opportunities for many nearby residents. A recent job fair held to hire prospective workers at the new facility included a number of applicants from Poolesville and the surrounding area.

The facility was built by the Montgomery County Revenue Authority (MCRA). The Revenue Authority was created in 1957 and is both an instrumentality of Montgomery County and a public corporation. The MCRA was established to construct, improve, equip, furnish, maintain, acquire, operate, and finance projects devoted wholly or partially for public use, good, or general welfare. It does everything from management consulting to operating the airpark to managing golf courses and swimming facilities.

Keith Miller, the CEO of MCRA, kicked off the festivities by pointing out that the project had taken ten years to conceive and build. He said that he had talked with then-Councilmember now County Executive Marc Elrich about projects in the Ag Reserve, and as he had left the meeting, he'd heard only one word "wine." Elrich said he had attended a seminar about winemaking, and the immense financial impact of the wine industry detailed in the seminar had stuck with him. While these two leaders undeniably helped initiate and conceive this project, it should also be noted that the Town of Poolesville sponsored an economic study by a firm headed by former Councilmember Mike Knapp in 2012 that specifically identified a grapecrush facility as an idea that could help spur economic growth in the Upcounty.

During the presentations, it was mentioned that the Montgomery County legislative delegation, including Sen. Brian Feldman and Del. Lily Qi, David Fraser-Hidalgo, and Linda Foley, also was able to secure \$3 million in funding to help boost the construction of The Crossvines. County Councilmembers Andrew Friedson, Marilyn Balcombe, and Laurie-Ann Sayles also attended the event. Miller said the new restaurant is expected to open by the middle of July.

Continued from page 4.

Bassett's in Process of Reopening after June Fire

Poolesville. At one point, over eleven different fire emergency vehicles were on site. The fire was quickly brought under control and extinguished.

The damage did not impact the kitchen, bar, or dining area; nevertheless, due to a lengthy process of re-permitting and other governmental requirements, along with the process of contracting for repairs, Myers does not expect to be able to reopen any time before the end of July. "We are fortunate to have the damage limited and especially that no one was hurt. I know it will be difficult on the staff until we can open again. I have been overwhelmed with expressions of concern and kindness by so many people in the area. Even Barbie Stull of Cugini's reached out to me to wish me well. I am so grateful to operate in such a caring community."



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Garden

Right Plant, Right Place

By Maureen O'Connell

There were some nighttime temperatures in the thirties in April and May. I did not buy any tender annuals and perennials for fear they would be killed by the nights' low temperatures. If you did the same, you have not lost planting time. Before you head out to the garden centers, do some homework about the plants that interest you. You want to know their growing requirements and growth habits. The info on plants' labels do not always tell the whole story. Many gardeners assume that people working at local garden centers are knowledgeable and know what they are selling—and for the most part, that's true. I will not assume that with plants sold at big box stores such as Lowe's and Home Depot—but what if the most-sold plants also happen to be some of the most invasive?

Perennial plants are a good investment. Plant flowers once and have flowers that bloom for years, but some plants that seem innocent can take over a garden and quickly spiral out of control. Others bloom for a short time, and they don't seem worth the trouble. Whether they are invasive, fast spreading, slow blooming, impossible to kill, or difficult to grow, I am speaking today about some examples of plants that I wish I had never planted in my garden. These are reflections of my experiences; they might not be yours. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.



A weed by any other name may not be a weed. It all depends on where it's placed.

The title of this article embodies many arts and science-based concepts for landscape designs. Remember that the definition of a weed is a plant considered undesirable in a particular situation, growing where it is not wanted—a plant out of place. The category of weeds is ever changing, and the term is a relative one. Now, if you add the adjective invasive to the word weed, you open the picture to plants that are commonly sold in garden centers as desirable garden plants, but if planted in the wrong place can become invasive as they smother their neighbors.

Here is a list of some commonly-sold species that can become invasive in the right place or not:


Wisteria sinensis, bamboo, English ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, *Vinca minor* (Common periwinkle), *Spiraea japonica*, *Physostegia*, *Tradescantia*, *Stachys* (Lamb's Ears), *Centaurea montana* (perennial Bachelor's Button), mint, and some ferns. The last eight plants I have in my gardens. Here is where the phrase "right plant, right place" can provide a solution. If you want some of these attractive and low-maintenance plants, plant them in their own garden plot and not with other plants. They need to live in their own neighborhood. I will tell you some interesting and unexpected facts about some of my plants that I never expected

to be as invasive as they became over the years. The most common ways of spreading plants' seeds are wind, water, animals, and birds.

Many years ago, I planted two small *tradescantia* plants in a medium-sized plot which was also home to one rose, David Austin's rose 'The Poet's Wife,' two Oriental irises, three daylilies, and two physostegia. Today, the only plants still growing there are the tradescantia and the physostegia. The other plants were smothered to death by their above-named invasive neighboring plants. While in bloom, these two plants are lovely, but as soon as the weather in July turns hot, these plants die, leaving a blackened mess of dead leaves. I tried to get rid of them, but outside of covering the area with large amounts of Roundup (which I don't recommend) or digging up the whole plot, they come back every year thicker than ever. *Physostegia's* common name is Obedient Plant—what a misnomer! Several feet away from this plot, every year I notice that these two pushy plants were growing everywhere underneath the butterfly bushes and rhododendrons, continuing in their invasive habit. Two once-beautiful plants

Continued on page 30.


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School News

2023 Lacrosse Coach of the Year Stuart Orns Retires

By Jeff Stuart

After a successful decade, Stuart Orns has retired as the Poolesville High School boys' lacrosse coach. He led the Falcons to an 11-3 record this year, a second straight division title, and a region final appearance. He won the USA Lacrosse Coach of the Year Award. In 2022, the Falcons won their first six games before losing to Churchill, the eventual 4A state champions. The Falcons were undefeated in the division and beat rival Damascus in both years. In 2023, they were led by First Team All-County defenseman Jack Feys and Second Team goalie Lukas Bocek.

Let us go back a bit further. From 2014 to 2016, Orns's team won at least ten games every year. In 2016, they were the first Poolesville Lacrosse team ever to beat Quince Orchard. Four of the 2016 seniors went on to play Division I and Division II lacrosse: Adam Branscombe, Jonathan Hetrick, Jake Armstrong, and Reid Patton. Reid and Jake returned to the program as coaches the past few seasons.



2023 lacrosse Coach of the Year Stuart Orns rallied his team.

"Coach Orns was instrumental in building a winning lacrosse culture at Poolesville over his time here," said Armstrong. "He developed players at a rate not seen at PHS before. It was incredible for me to see work ethic at and outside of practice while I coached next to him this year and when he coached me in 2015 and 2016."

"I had the pleasure of being coached by and coaching with Coach Orns," said Patton. "He brought his vast knowledge of the game to the program. but most importantly, he instilled great character in the young men he coached and mentored."

"As an alumnus of the program and former coach," said Dr. Josh Funk, PHS class of 2004, who went on to play Division I at Ohio State, then professionally, "I know that Coach Orns put almost a decade of his time, energy, and effort into building the Poolesville Lacrosse Program into what it is today. Not only has the program been extremely successful when it comes to winning during his tenure, but the academic achievements and long-term life success of members of the program truly speak to the holistic way that Coach Orns has helped to create an environment where young men thrive. We have been blessed to have him leave his mark on the program, and it sets the foundation for future success!"

"I went to Herricks High School in New Hyde Park, New York," said Coach Orns. "I played basketball and lacrosse. Basketball was my first sport until a neighbor who played lacrosse needed someone to have a catch with him. The stick felt like an extension of my arms, and lacrosse became my sport."

"Coaching was a natural progression for me. I felt like I could give back to the game and wanted to share what I had learned with high school players. Being competitive is absolutely part of the attraction, along with getting back on the field. I spent eight years at Churchill as an assistant before coming to Poolesville."

Continued on page 23.



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Tidbits

Celebrating all Nonagenarians

Do you know someone who is a nonagenarian? Do you even know what a nonagenarian is? Well, that's someone aged ninety to ninety-nine years old. We think these wonderful life-warriors deserve to have a special celebration on their birthdays. Let us know of your friends or relatives celebrating a ninety-something birthday this August. Just send us the birthday person's name and a little bit about him or her by July 24.

July 2023: Eric Conquist, 96

Happy Birthday to Eric Cronquist of West Hunter Road, Beallsville, a great husband, father, and mentor, who spent the last twenty-five years devoted to the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association and the Montgomery County FIG group. On July 29, he celebrates his ninety-sixth birthday. In the summer of 1927, Eric opened his eyes and saw the first ray of sunshine in the Swedish town of Borås. Now, ninety-six years later, Eric is looking forward to celebrating this very special day with his wife, Brita, their three daughters and husbands, and their ten grandchildren.

Cookies to Those Who Serve



Scouts from Troop 32009 with JPMS secretary, Mrs. Crutchfield.

Local sixth grade Girl Scout Troop 32009 delivered forty boxes of cookies to the staff of John Poole Middle School as part of Gift of Caring. Each cookie season, troops choose an organization to receive donated boxes of cookies. In the past, Troop 32009 has donated boxes to the staff of Montgomery County Humane Society, Montgomery County Police Rockville Station, and the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department.

Calling All Equestrian Enthusiasts

The Maryland International and Horse Trials will run from July 7 to 9 at Loch Moy Farm in Adamstown. This is an eventing competition where some of the best horses and riders in the sport come to compete.

If you are new to the Olympic sport of eventing, not to worry! Check out discovereventing.com to learn a little bit more about eventing which is also called the equestrian triathlon.

If you have never been to Loch Moy Farm, you are in for a treat. With its rolling hills and mountain views, it is the perfect place for families to come and enjoy a summer day outside, or for anyone who is passionate about horses to watch some of the best horses and riders in the sport compete. With food, spectacular views, competition, and horses, there is something for everyone at the Maryland International!

General admission is free, with the option to buy VIP tickets to get all-access passes that include admission to the VIP hospitality tent, food and drinks, a behind-the-scenes course walk with Ian Stark, a parking pass, a complimentary glass (while supplies last), and most importantly, the best views of the event.

Have questions? Feel free to email mdhorsetrials@gmail.com.

Odd Fellows Annual Summer Luncheon

The annual Odd Fellows summer luncheon was once again held this past June, and it has been going on so long no one remembers when it started! The Odd

Continued on page 13.



Members of Poolesville's Odd Fellows Lodge #97.



Continued from page 12.

Tidbits

Fellows, founded over 160 years ago, has a mission of aiding widows, widowers, and orphanages. It's a great event for young and old as the JPMS Leos Club was there to serve their seniors the meal.

Pike's Peek at Fun and Friendship

Tim Pike and Margaret Valega have served our area for more than three decades, and they enjoy hosting a party for their patients. With COVID-19 well in the rearview mirror, this year's event was bigger than ever.



Bill and Sharon Conway with Dr. Tim Pike, at Pike and Valega's annual Patient Appreciation Day.

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In Your Own Backyard

C&O Canal Heroes Remembered: Part 2 of 2

By Jon Wolz

[Part 1 of "C&O Canal Heroes Remembered" can be found in the June 2023 issue of the *Monocacy Monocle* at www.monocacymonocle.com.]

In the 1880s, the Collier children began moving out of their parents' household. In the 1880 census for Edwards Ferry, Richard's occupation in the census had him "at home." There were four children living with their parents. Valentine and Henry were working on canal boats living with their parents. Son Thomas was married and living nearby, and he worked on a canal boat.

On September 24, 1880, it was reported by the *Montgomery County Sentinel* that "Captain Collier took 4,400 bushels of wheat to Georgetown on Tuesday raised by farms near this place (Edwards Ferry). He will bring back thirty-five tons of fertilizer." I do not know which Collier son this was, but possibly it was Thomas who was the oldest of the Collier "boatmen" and had moved out of his parents' household. In 1882, tragedy struck the family of Thomas and his wife Martha. On August 8, their infant son, William Peyton, died of cholera infantum "after a week of intense suffering." He was four months old.

By 1884, Richard had moved down the towpath to Lock 20, Great Falls. There the lockhouse adjoins the Great Falls Tavern, or Crommelin House as it was officially known back then. Richard's pay was \$40 monthly. Son Thomas became lockkeeper at Lock 23 (known as Violette's Lock today). Thomas also worked on canal work crews. Children of Thomas attended the Seneca Mills School on River Road. Son Valentine became a canal laborer and would eventually be in charge of his own canal work crew in the early 1900s in Georgetown. Son Richard, Jr. was a canal laborer. Daughter Fannie married canal worker and future lockkeeper of Lock 27, John Whalen. Fannie served as a cook for canal work crews, earning \$10 a month when she worked. As the 1880s progressed, pay for lockkeepers decreased. Richard's pay dropped to \$30 monthly and then \$20 monthly by 1889. During winter months, his pay was \$15 a month. At times, someone else signed for his pay, possibly a person who gave Richard a payday loan. The adult Collier children would eventually leave the canal for other ventures except for Fannie and Henry who spent their entire lives on the canal. All of the adult Colliers are buried at the Monocacy Cemetery with their spouses/families except for Valentine and Charles who are buried in Washington, D.C.



Great Falls Tavern (formerly known as Crommelin House) in 1889, showing staff and visitors. The waters of Lock 20 can be seen where two water rescues occurred involving the Collier family in the 1880s.

In May 1885, the *Sentinel* reported, "Some little excitement has been caused by the charges against Mr. Thos. Sullivan, the gatekeeper of the Washington Aqueduct at Great Falls. Mr. E. E. Fisher (Lock 18 lockkeeper) and Mr. R. H. Collier (Lock 20 lockkeeper), both worthy gentlemen, are applicants as the position is a lucrative one, and are backed by their many friends. Mr. Sullivan is charged with using his office to further the interest of a certain political party. The charges have been laid before the Secretary of War." Neither Fisher nor Collier got the position and remained lockkeepers through the 1880s.

Continued on page 16.







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School News

PHS Robotics Team Seeks Space To Conduct Some of Its Work

The Poolesville High School Robotics Team competes in a Robotics Competition, building industrial-sized robots as well as conducting STEM outreach programs in the local community.

For the past couple of years, they have been using a CNC machine to do a lot of me-mechanical work for the robot, but they no longer have a place to store it. The CNC is a milling machine about the size of a small table (36" x 72") that works to cut metal for them. They are looking for space to store and operate the machine. Operating it can entail cutting metal and wood which creates a lot of noise and shavings. They will make sure to clean everything so that the rest of the facilities are not affected.

In addition to the CNC machine, they have other equipment that would need to go with it. This includes a powder coating gun which requires handling a powder that is harmful to inhale. As a result, the area in which they operate these tools must be well-ventilated. These machines need electricity to operate as well. During their build season, which runs from January through March, they tend to use the equipment four to five days a week from around 3:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with one to three people coming in per day. For the rest of the year, they won't be operating the machine as frequently; it would vary on a week-by-week basis, and they would be happy to work with the facility accommodating them to determine a schedule.

As appreciation for their help, they would recognize the donor of space as a Diamond-tiered sponsor which includes various benefits such as putting the sponsor's logo on their publicity materials (team shirt, website, banner, robot, etc.), demoing their robot, or otherwise providing support for their business. A more detailed breakdown can be found at www.team4099.com/supportus.

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C&O Canal Heroes Remembered: Part 2 of 2

Locks along the C&O Canal are from ninety feet to a hundred feet long, and the lock walls are sixteen feet high. When the locks were full of water, the water depth could be up to sixteen feet of brown murky water. People living and working along the canal generally did not know how to swim. There were many unfortunate stories of drownings. On December 18, 1885, the *Sentinel* reported that George Jewell fell overboard while attempting to board a grain boat belonging to Elijah White and Edward Wootten. The boy "was rescued with extreme difficulty by Mr. H. L. Collier of Great Falls." That was Henry L. Collier who did the courageous rescue. George Jewell was four years old at the time. He would grow up to become a streetcar motorman, marry, and together with his wife, have five children.

In December 1886, in the *Sentinel*, it was reported, "When the payboat Maryland passed up (the canal) last week, our old friend R. H. Collier received very serious injuries by falling between the boat and the lock. The timely assistance of Mr. James Daily and others saved him from going under the boat and drowning. He is now slowly recovering from many bruises and a severe cold." James Daily was a laborer living along the canal in the Great Falls vicinity. The available canal records do not show James as working for the canal.

During the mid-1880s and continuing through the end of the decade, three of Richard, Sr.'s children were actively involved in the Knights of Pythias, Crommelin Lodge, No. 89, located at Great Falls. Sons, Valentine, Henry, and Richard, Jr., held offices with the lodge at different times. Richard, Sr. appears not to have been a member as his duties of lockkeeper were a full-time job requiring him to be on duty twenty-four hours a day. The Knights of Pythias supports charitable, benevolent, fraternal, and social activities. The Crommelin Lodge had one hundred members by 1889.

In January 1888, the *Sentinel* reported that "Mr. R. H. Collier, Sr. had a surgical operation performed by Dr. L.V. Chamption. Mr. Collier is doing well under the circumstances."

On June 1, 1894, Richard Collier, Sr. died at Great Falls. The *Sentinel* reported, "The death of Richard H. Collier removes from our county a good citizen, an old-time gentleman, and a noble-hearted friend to those who enjoyed his confidence."

He was seventy years old. His wife Mary died in 1904 in Potomac, Maryland.

In 1910, Henry Collier was living with his brother-in-law, John Whalen, and John's sister, Fannie Whalen, along with their grandchildren at Lock 27. There was no occupation mentioned for Henry. In 1920, Henry was still living at the lockhouse with John, along with John's granddaughter and her husband. Henry's occupation was level walker where he kept an eye out along the canal to insure there were no leaks and the towpath was clear of trees or limbs. A level walker was also required to walk twenty miles a day checking on the canal. In 1926, John Whalen died. The *Sentinel* reported on January 3, 1930, "Henry L. Collier, aged seventy years, a well-known and lifelong resident of the upper section of this county, was found dead in bed last Friday (December 27, 1929) in the lock tender's house at Campbell's Lock (Lock 27) on the C&O Canal near Dickerson. He was unmarried and lived alone in the house where he died."

From my research, I have found there are twenty-four C&O Canal workers buried at the Monocacy Cemetery, including seventeen lockkeepers. At their gravesites, there is no indication they were associated with the canal. I am working with Glenn Wallace of the Monocacy Cemetery to come up with appropriate ways to recognize these people who are virtually forgotten today. As for canal hero, Henry Collier, there is no gravestone at his burial site. Through the contributions of William Bauman, Tom Mears, and me, one is on order for Henry through Sugarloaf Monuments.

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— Robert F. Skillings



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Youth Sports

Anna Bodmer and Aaron Longbrake Highlight Outdoor Track Season

By Jeff Stuart

Setting personal records (PR) and qualifying for the states are the two goals for which the members of the Poolesville Track and Field Team strive. Anna Bodmer finished first in the 3200 at the region, setting a PR. She also set a PR in the 1600 as did Daisy Dastrup. They finished third and fourth, respectively. Roma Diak finished eleventh in that event but qualified for states with a PR seventh place finish in the 3200.

At the state competition, Aaron G. Longbrake set a PR in the 3200, finishing fifth, and Caleb Dastrup finished seventh.

"We had some good races with the 4x800 and the 4x1600 relay teams at the Woodward relays at Georgetown Prep on April 13," said coach Prasad Gerard.

Alex D. Daniels, Jonathan Dastrup, Joseph Garrison, and Kevin Hsu ran the 4x800.

Caleb J. Dastrup, Jonathan Dastrup, Caleb Bodmer, and Aaron G. Longbrake ran the 4x1600.

The girls' 4x1600 of Ava Wagner, Roma Diak, Daisy Dastrup, and Anna Bodmer finished first.

The distance medley relay improved throughout the season, cutting forty seconds off their time in their first race. Caleb Dastrup ran the first leg of the 1200. Jonathan Dastrup ran the 400 leg. Caleb Bodmer ran the 800, and Aaron Longbrake finished with the 1600. They finished third.

"In the region at Oakland Mills on May 18, we had our fastest 4x400 and 4x800m. Those teams set PRs for the season," continued Gerard. "The 4x400 relay team was Aayush J. Pandya, Emmanuel E. Yang, Oren Hurwitz, and Ian Boehm. The girls' team was Amelia Goetsch, Abigail Hoy, Ava Wagner, and Peri Nelson. In the 4x800, Aaron Longbrake, Alex Daniels, Oren Hurwitz, and Ian Boehm finished ninth, and Anna Bodmer, Daisy Dastrup, Ava Wagner, and Peri Nelson finished fifth. On the boys' side, Aaron Longbrake and Caleb Dastrup qualified for the state in the 3200.

"Emmanuel Yang has done very well this season," said Gerard. "He qualified for the states in both the 110 hurdles and the 300 hurdles. He has really progressed a lot. He is a senior. Alex Daniels has done well as a freshman. He set a PR in the 800 at the regionals, and Oren Hurwitz, another freshman, set PRs in both the 400 and 800 at the regionals."

Daisy Dastrup and Anna Bodmer finished ninth and tenth at the states in the 1600 and eighth and tenth in the 3200. The 4x800 team of Bodmer, Dastrup, Ava Wagner, and Peri Nelson finished fifth at the state; and in the field events, Declan Obrien was doing 5'8" in the high jump. He jumped 5'10" in the region and in the state, his personal best.

"I was really hoping he could get psyched up and get over 6'," said Gerard. "In the discus, Evan Taylor set a PR at the regionals, throwing twelve feet farther than he had ever thrown. He finished second. In the shot-put, Seth Lemarr set a season record with a forty-two-foot heave in a dual meet with Watkins Mill."

On the girls' side, Teagen Bandholz, a freshman, did very well in her events. She high jumped 4'8" at the region, a personal best, good enough for a fifth place finish. She also finished fifth in the shot put at the region with a PR and set a PR in the discus at the Montgomery County B meet.



Caleb Dastrup, Prasad Gerard, Alex Daniels, Declan O'Brien, Ian Boehm, Aaron Longbrake, Peri Nelson, Anna Bodmer, Ava Wagner, Roma Diak, and Daisy Dastrup.
Not pictured: Evan Taylor, Emmanuel Yang, and Oren Hurwitz.



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Anna Bodmer and Aaron Longbrake Highlight Outdoor Track Season

"I think the highlight for me was at the regionals," said Daisy. "Our 4x800 team qualified for the states there, setting a season PR. It was an awesome moment for me. I just had so much fun cheering on my teammates. We were going for that time, and we did it. Peri went out hard on the last lap and got that time for us. I would like to give a shout out to Anna. She has been pushing me to improve all season. We work together in workouts. She has been a good friend."

"My highlight was when I realized the boys' 4x800 team had qualified for the state," said Alex. "We finished running our race on Tuesday, May 18 at the regionals, and if three more teams beat us, we would not have gotten to move on, so we had to wait, but they did not. Only two teams beat us. We ran our fastest race of the year. Aaron, Ian, Caleb, Oren, Jonathain, Daisy, and Peri are all good runners and good teammates. They pushed me and each other. I was especially proud that they all made the states."

"This season is my first-time long jumping, and I surprised myself by jumping nineteen feet," said Emmanuel. "I have been doing hurdles for three years now, and this season I was hoping to make it to the states, and I was able to do that for the 110m and 300m hurdles. My PR for the 110m was 17.94 which was directly on the mark for qualifying, so I am proud of that. Eric Hoeger is the son of the hurdles coach. He has been out training with me every day. I have seen him improve as well. I am glad to see that. He is only a sophomore. Harrison Peak has been injured for most of the season. That is unfortunate, but I am hoping that next year he will be able to make it to the states like I did this year."

"My personal highlight was jumping 5'10" at the Katie Jenkins on May 6 at Sherwood," said Declan. "That was a PR and qualified me for the states. At the regionals, it was nice to see all the people I have been jumping with for the last few years. Jackson Hartke, Vincent Witt, and Denis Motuzenko have been my jumping friends here at Poolesville. We had a lot of fun. It was a good experience."

They are installing a new track at PHS. The Dastrups, Daisy, Caleb, and Jonathan, are moving to Utah soon and will not be back next year. They will be missed.



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JULY 14 – WET, WACKY & WILD

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Artisan Vendors * Foam Dance Party
Movie: Dolphin Tale – 8:30 pm

JULY 28 – FROZENVILLE

Inflatables * Food Trucks * Artisan Vendors
Ice Skating Rink * Snow Globe Photo Booth
Wine Garden
Music: Chasing Autumn Duo - 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Movie: Frozen 2 – 8:30 pm

Barnesville Baptist Church
Vacation Bible School
July 10-14, 2023

Classes for Pre-K to Adults 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Register online at barnesvillebaptist.org/vbs
17917 Barnesville Rd., Barnesville, MD

facebook.com/barnesvillebaptistchurch

Things to Do

Be sure to check out Senior News and Local Arts this issue for events, activities, and performances.

Saturdays

Poolesville Farmers' Market

Whalen Commons. 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

July 4

Annual UMCVFD Fireworks display

Live music and food vendors. No pets, dogs, or alcoholic beverages. \$10 per car. Soccer fields on Hughes Road at Sugarland Road. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. Fireworks at dusk.

July 10

UMCVFD BBQ Pork and Beef Fundraiser

Featuring sandwiches and platters with sides. Baked goods sale. Covered tables or carryout. Beallsville Fire Hall. 11:30 a.m. until sold out.

July 10 to 14

Barnesville Baptist Church Vacation Bible School

Classes pre-K to adults. Register at barnesvillebaptist.org/vbs. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Poolesville Baptist Church Adventures in Art Summer Camp

Creative fun activities for ages six to fourteen years old. ASL class, guitar, painting, art, science, paper art, music, sports, and more. Text for more info at 240-461-1043. \$40 per person. Discounts are available. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

July 14

Friday on the Commons: Wet, Wacky, and Wild

Waterslides, DJ, food trucks, artisan vendors, foam dance party, and movie, Dolphin Tale. Free. Whalen Commons. 6:00 p.m.; movie: 8:30 p.m.

July 17

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall and online. 7:00 p.m.

July 20

Fundraiser for WUMCO

Mexican Grill will donate 10% of its food receipts to WUMCO.

WUMCO Free Community Clinic

Health services, including primary care, prescription refills, annual checkups, sick consultation, lab work. By appointment or walk-ins. Patients 18+, seniors, insured, and uninsured. Poolesville Baptist Church. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

July 28

Friday on the Commons: Frozenville

Inflatables, food trucks, artisan vendors, ice skating rink, snow globe photo booth, wine garden, and music: Chasing Autumn Duo, and movie, Frozen 2. Free. Whalen Commons. 6:00 p.m.; music: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; movie: 8:30 p.m.

July 29

148th Annual St. Mary's Chicken Dinner

Delicious BBQ chicken with all fixings and desserts, meals at \$20, carry-outs and tent dining. Jousting tournament—Maryland's State Sport—1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Country store, white elephant, crafts, baked goods, snack bar, children's games, live music. Food available from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or until sold out. Mass at 4:00 p.m.

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Youth Sports

Poolesville U12 and U9 Soccer Teams Claim Division Titles

By Jeff Stuart

On Saturday, June 3, the U12 Poolesville Falcons junior soccer team won the Soccer Association of Montgomery (SAM) Red Division Championship. After going 6-0-2 (two ties) in the regular season, the Falcons won a one-game playoff with second place Killburg, 2-1, in overtime with a "Golden Goal."



U12 Falcons Soccer Champs

Back row: Coach Nanof, Ruhaan Rotella, Quinton Nanof, Kabeer Bakshi, Owen Devine, Coach Johnson, Owen Stump, Gabe Rhode, Brian Lee, Ethan Johnson, Dominic Grayson, and Coach Bakshi. Front row: Nathan Ward, Angelo Ritter, Sutton Pollicino, Avery Donart, Micah Johnson, and Ben Lawrence. Not pictured: Diego Pena and Mauricio Salazar Hernandez.

The goal was scored by Gabe Rhode and came off a corner by Kabeer Bakshi. Poolesville goalkeeper Angelo Ritter made save after save to make the win possible.

Continued on page 28



U9 Falcons Soccer Champs

Back row: Travis Morrow, David Milliner, and Jason Waldman. Front row: Kenny Layne, Noah Scholsburg, Nicky Morrow, Lixing Ye, Calvin Evans, Jacob Elliott, Thaddeus Milliner, Sebastian Waldman, and Connor Pearce. Not pictured: Coach Blake Monson and player Benton Monson.



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Continued from page 1.

A Second State Title for Falcon Tennis

of tennis as they cruised to a convincing, 6-0, 6-1, straight-set win over Bella White and Lucy Staley of Huntingtown. For Suzy, it was her second consecutive girls' doubles state title.

"Boys' singles: After trailing for the first time in the tournament at 1-2, Andy Wu rolled off the next eleven games to win the boys title, 6-2, 6-0 over King Herald Nacua of La Plata. Andy won seventy-two of the seventy-five games he played throughout the region and state tournaments.

"Mixed doubles: Jae Yi and Nikhita Karthikesan battled throughout their match but came up short against a strong team of Rebecca White and Josh Huster from North Carolina, 4-6, 0-6. The two senior Falcons collected silver medals for being the state finalists."

"I played first singles in the regular season and in the regular season where the girls team won the Division I title again, in the top division, finishing 9-1," said Suzy, "and in the county tournament, but I switched to doubles in the regionals and states because it made our team stronger.

"It was another incredible season for the Poolesville girls' and boys' tennis teams.

I was looking forward to a back-to-back title win. Even though I had a different partner, I was confident enough in Kyra's ability and in my own that I believed we could win another title. During the regular season, our second match of the season against B-CC was undoubtedly one of our hardest matches. Going into it, we lost our opening match at Walter Johnson, 5-2, a Division I team. Team morale was low because last year we were so successful and did not lose a single match. We knew going into it that B-CC was going to be a rough match because they are also a Division I team. We lost all three of our doubles matches, but our third and fourth singles matches were still going on. All of us were trying to support our teammates and friends on the court. There were a lot of new faces this year. We did not know each other very well, but I thought this match brought us all closer, and our support helped the girls on the court play the best tennis they could. We ended up winning all four singles matches and pulling out a 4-3 win. That gave

us a real lift. We won the last eight matches, shutting out six opponents and beating both Northwest and Quince Orchard, 6-1.

"Myself and all the other seniors, Marie Valouiski, Nikhita, and Malavika Kattuparambil, have been on the team our whole high school career. All of us have supported each other. Just getting to know them has been amazing. I feel very confident that the underclassmen will take leadership roles and carry on the legacy of Poolesville tennis."

Andy Johnson is the coach of the girls' team.

Annie Zhao was the second singles player during the regular season; Vera Singh was third singles; and Kyra was fourth singles. Nikhita and Pranahitha Kanuparthi played first doubles; Elena Du and Lindsay Huang played second doubles; and Marie and Sanjana Konka played third doubles. Alternates were Malavika, Kareena Gupta, Anwitha Kondragunta, and Samyuktha Sivakumar.

"Winning the states was a great feeling for me personally because last year my partner and I were not able to advance to the championship match," said Jeeva, who played third singles during the regular season, "so I felt like there was a lot of pressure on me to get back to that position I was in in my freshman year. Winning this year was a great relief for me, and winning for the second time established us as a top program, and it is where we want to be in the future.

"The matches against Walter Johnson highlighted our regular season and showed how much we had progressed. We opened the season against them. It was a tough loss, four matches to three, but towards the end of the season, we played them again. We played a good match and won, 6-1

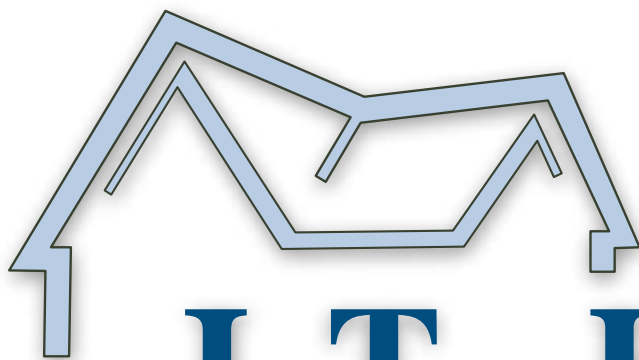
"Our other Captain, Jae Yi, second singles, has been like the rock of the team. He really kept everybody pumped up and confident. Carson and Michael Esser were really good at first doubles. They were consistent. We could always count on them. It was really good to have them on the team."

Andy Wu was first singles. Bryan Yung played fourth singles. Michael Figliozzi and Amoson Shu played second doubles, and Jason Liaw and Armaan Jain made up the third doubles team.

Alternates were Jordan Go, Joshua Tang, Vivan Madan, and Darren Chen.

Both the boys' and girls' teams are firmly entrenched in Division I going into the 2023-2024 season.

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Continued from page 11.

2023 Lacrosse Coach of the Year Stuart Orns Retires

"I'm not sure anything really prepares you to be a coach. It's an evolutionary process. The more games and practices you're part of, the easier it becomes to recognize what will work best for your team. I guess there is no substitute for experience. Before each season I would look at films from the previous year's games. This helped me evaluate what works in certain situations. I also am constantly communicating with other coaches about practice drills and techniques to improve players' skill levels.

"I have never coached any club teams. I prefer to teach the game and offer lacrosse opportunities to kids who may not have the means or resources to be part of a club.

There are a few words and phrases that I hope players will remember from their time with me. 'Focused,' 'direct,' and probably 'old school.'

When I meet the team for the first practice every year, my message is always the same, but one phrase will be repeated every day, 'If you're not five minutes early, then you are ten minutes late.' I took that from Tom Coughlin who coached the New York Giants to two super bowl wins. The micro is be on time; the big picture message is that attention to detail is the difference between winning and losing.

"I believe that sports parallel life. Teaching players respect for coaches, teammates, officials, the game, opponents and of course themselves is paramount to success. Mastering fundamentals, consistency, hard work, and focused practice will translate to wins—same as life.

"I look at each year and the team in a vacuum—2016 had Reid, Jake, Jonathan, and Adam as seniors. We came up one goal short against Oakdale in the regional semifinal. Certainly, a game I remember. It was fantastic to have Reid, Jake, Michael Chilla, and Niko Sofelkanik on the coaching staff this year. All of them coming full circle from their playing days.

"I played college lacrosse at UMass Amherst and was lucky to be coached by Richard (Dick) Garber. He is one of the all-time greats, a hall of famer with over three hundred career D1 wins. I can't describe how much he influenced me as a coach and person—proud to be part of his legacy and coaching tree.

"My time at Churchill with coaches Fritz and Olan was invaluable. That was a tremendous staff, and they both showed me what it takes to run a successful program. Together I think we helped change the perception of lacrosse in Montgomery County.

It's hard to pin down one or two memories. Beating Damascus last year on their home field for the first time is one of them. This past year, wins over Quince Orchard and Walkersville are always going to be on that list.

"My first two years at Poolesville, I coached with Josh [Funk] and Matt Fields. Both were great, and we had a couple of years that featured some high-level lacrosse and a lot of wins.

"I'd like to thank all my players and their parents for the work and support they gave to me through the years. It takes a village to run a program, and whenever I asked, they always stepped up.

"Play hard be great."



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Local History

The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair: Founded in Poolesville

By Rande Davis

The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair had its beginning right here in Poolesville. With Poolesville in the Upcounty's agricultural land, it was natural to begin the county fair here. In the early 1940s, in the fields surrounding Poolesville High School, volunteers organized a typical farm fair of animal competition of horses, cattle, goats, and sheep. Of course, it was also a venue to showcase all the locally-grown produce and home-prepared baked goods and desserts.

During the beginning years of what now has grown into a premiere county fair, borrowed land down county in 1945 to 1948 was used so that anyone in the community with an interest in agriculture could donate their time and efforts to provide 4-H and FFA youth the opportunity to compete for top awards with their projects. It was a bonanza of volunteerism. Parents of these youth served refreshments for the participants, sold catalog advertisements, built pens and ties for the livestock, and organized the entries. Prize money was provided by the Maryland State Fair Board.

Today's Montgomery County Agricultural Center, Inc. (MCAC) was formed as a privately operated 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization on January 7, 1949, when a group of local farmers were elected as the first board of directors by the volunteer membership of the organization. The MCAC purchased sixty-four acres of land adjacent to the railroad tracks from Herman Rabbitt, a successful farmer and landowner in Gaithersburg. On June 4, 1949, hundreds of volunteers participated in an old-fashioned barn raising, and twelve outbuildings were constructed in just one day. Through this gargantuan effort, the site of the new Montgomery County Agricultural Center was created. Dedicated volunteers donated time, materials, and talent to construct and continue operation of the Montgomery County Agricultural Fairgrounds. The fairgrounds would not be what it is today had it not been for those visionary pioneers who were committed to agricultural education and family entertainment.

As is true even today for the agricultural center, the volunteers were, and still are, necessary for the successful operation of the fairgrounds, through continued contributions of materials and free labor for the construction of the new facilities, as well as upgrading the old. A network of more than two thousand volunteers continues providing their time, making the agricultural center a vital part of the business community in Montgomery County. The nine-day Montgomery County Agricultural Fair is held in mid-August and requires support from over eight hundred volunteers during the eight-day event, who assume the responsibility for organizing and producing the single largest annual event in Montgomery County.

Fair participation has developed into a grand traditional activity for many families. The positive relationships and friendly atmosphere at the fairgrounds make the MCAC a unique organization that continues to provide service to the agricultural and nonagricultural segments of our population while educating the public.

Aside from its primary objective of being a showcase for 4-H and FFA members exhibiting livestock, garden, and home economic projects, the Montgomery



George D. Quigley of the University of Maryland poultry department, who was one of the judges at the Poolesville (Md.) High School fair held last month, examines one of the feathered exhibits. His youthful assistant, with pad and pencil, is Ray Melvin.

County Agricultural Fair promotes agriculture through education of the community regarding agricultural issues and providing a meeting place for those interested in agriculture to encourage growth for future generations. The center is also committed to educating members of urban communities, helping them to acquire an appreciation of the role that agriculture plays in our daily lives.

Although the Montgomery County Agricultural Center has always given top priority in the usage of the grounds to county youth involved in 4-H and FFA activities, the fairgrounds are rented throughout the year to businesses and community organizations for shows, markets, meetings, receptions, banquets, and festivals. The revenue brought in by these rentals provides the organization with the ability to make improvements to the grounds for the comfort of fair patrons and rental clients.

The Montgomery County Agricultural Center has been recognized by local and county governments as being an integral part of the business community by making contributions to the economic and social development of Gaithersburg and Montgomery County.

The Montgomery County Agricultural Center continues its involvement in community service projects such as its VIP program for children who are facing life-threatening illnesses. These children and their families are treated to a special day during the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair.



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The Historic PHS Community Fair and Livestock Show



The two-horse team at right, owned by Mrs. B. E. Gray, Poolesville, Md., won the weight-pulling contest, carrying an equivalent of 15 "road tons" a distance of 4 feet 9 inches.



Local Arts

Every Friday:

Open Jam Sessions

Bring your instrument and voice, and join Brian Jamison as he leads these jam sessions. *Locals Farm Market, 19929 Fisher Ave, Poolesville.* Evening.

Open Studio

The Studio at Alden Farms is open for your use on Friday afternoons. Bring a project and share time and space with others working on their projects in the studio. Free. *Riverworks Studio, Alden Farms, 19215 Beallsville Rd., Beallsville.* 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

To sign up for the following workshops, which are all located at Riverworks Studio, *Alden Farms, 19215 Beallsville Road, Beallsville*, visit: www.riverworksart.org.

July 5 to July 6

Two-Day Workshop: Expressionism

Join James Vissari for this two-day workshop on expressionism. Use color, line, and texture to express

yourself in a painting. Learn the interpretation of line and color. Have a painting that is potentially fully abstract that says exactly what you feel. 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

July 7

Made in Studio, Alcohol Ink with Dani Beaulieu

Learn the basics of alcohol ink. No experience required, just an adventurous spirit! . 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

July 15 to August 13

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"Artist in the House Gallery" at Locals, 19929 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville.

Artist Reception: July 15: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

July 20

Storyteller Series: Ayanna Gallant

Please join us for a very special evening with musician, poet, voiceover talent, educator, and sound therapist Ayanna Gallant as she weaves poetry, song, and rhythm into the stories she tells about the various ugly, odd, and beautiful aspects of womanhood. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



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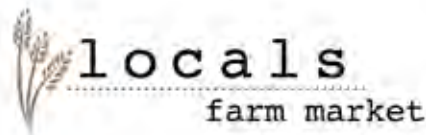
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Continued from page 3.

June Town Meetings Focus on White's Ferry and Policing in the Upcounty

Commission President Jim Brown said it seems "like a no-brainer" to replace the rubber mulch. Commissioner Sarah Paksima said that there is no reason to keep it and said that it is not biodegradable, and it can and does get knocked off into the grass and woods. The commissioners voted to authorize \$90,000 to pay for the removal of the rubber mulch at six parks where it is used and replace it with wood chips. The vote was unanimous.

Assistant Town Manager Niles Anderegg reported on a speed study that had been conducted on Fisher Avenue. The study found that "there really isn't excessive speeding on Fisher Avenue" for the most part. The study did find a significant uptick in trips along Fisher Avenue from 2010, when 700 cars per day traveled on the road to more than 2,700 trips today. It seems that this is due in part to the fact that so many people are now working from home.

Finally, Yost said that the filtering tests to remove PFAS have shown that so far the new process appears to show "total removal" of the chemicals from the wells. This is good news, but Yost says the town will continue testing both to see if this holds up over a longer period and to see how often the filters will need to be changed.

The bulk of the commissioners' June 20 meeting centered around a visit from the new Montgomery County Police commander of District 1D, Brian Dillman. District 1D includes Poolesville but extends all the way down to Twinbrook and includes Rockville. It includes much of the Upcounty as well. It is by far the largest district in the entire county.

Dillman said that he wanted to address key issues that citizens had on their minds. He noted first that Poolesville has the fewest issues with crime of any jurisdiction in the county. Only 1.4 percent of all calls to the police regarding crime came from Poolesville. He said, "If I were choosing a place to raise my family, I would choose Poolesville" when it comes to safety.

Commissioner Ed Reed said, "I hear two things consistently from citizens: speeding on area roads and kids hanging out at McDonald's including bullying incidents."

Dillman said in response that because of the low volume of calls from Poolesville regarding complaints about crime, it is hard to support the presence of more officers in the area, especially given the lack of available officers. Only seven duty officers serve the entire district. He also said that recent changes in law by legislators such as raising the age to thirteen where officers can intervene in cases involving younger people mean that, often, police can really not do anything when a child is involved in an incident. He was very direct in pointing the finger at recent changes in law that he believes make reducing crime harder, including expanding the legal use of marijuana beyond medicinal purposes which he believes increases the potential for abuse. He included in his comments the decision some years ago to disband the stationing of School Resource Officers or SROs at schools. The officers, he said, were not just about policing, but they developed strong and trusting relationships with students and helped to head off many problems at schools.

In the case of McDonald's, he said that unless the owner wants to put a student or adult on its "no trespass" list, the police have little power to do anything in most cases about problem behavior.

In response to a question from Commissioner Sarah Paksima about the community engagement work of the police, Officer Bruce Beardsley, the District 1D Community Relations Officer, said a major part of the job is "education and information." For example, many parents are not negligent but simply don't know what to look for when it comes to signs that their child might have problems with drug use. The police have created a mock bedroom that incorporates the kinds of things teens do to hide drugs and keep their parents from knowing what they are doing. Parents who visit the mock setup learn a great deal about signs of drug use and what they can do to help their kids.

He also was very direct in his comments about the often very negative impacts of social media, particularly TikTok, on the mental health of kids. He said he has found all kinds of disturbing and disruptive content including "how to trash a school bathroom" and "how you can steal a car" on the platform. He really urged parents to take seriously the use of social media by their kids.

Commissioner Jeff Eck wondered why the police could not increase their presence in the area by simply having police cars drive through town more often. He said that a large number of police officers park their cars at the fire station for security reasons. These officers commute from the station to their homes, often in Frederick County. Eck asked why these officers could not be asked to take a

drive through Poolesville on their way to parking at the station. Dillman said that he could not order officers not in his district to do so. It did appear that the idea was of interest to the public, and the commissioners and would be pursued however.

Local citizen Dan Levine said he sympathized with the comments from officers regarding recent changes in law and the lack of staffing to support more policing, but he also said it was "unacceptable" to have officers take forty-five minutes to respond to a recent call he made to 911.

While there were no specific actions agreed upon between the police and the town, it did seem the dialog was helpful in establishing an ongoing dialog between Dillman, who just took over as head of District 1D, and both the citizens and the commissioners. Discussions about scheduling "Coffee with the Cops" sessions were a part of the dialog. Plans for bringing out the "mock bedroom" the police have created to help parents learn about teen drug use were also discussed. It is clear that more discussions and actions are likely to occur regarding improvements in policing in the Upcounty.

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Remembrances

Madison F. Loucks-Lenz

Madison F. Loucks-Lenz, of Frederick, passed away on May 27, 2023. Madison is survived by her husband, Rob Lenz; her parents, Joshua Loucks and Patricia Copenhaver; her stepfather, William (Bill) Copenhaver; loving siblings, Will Copenhaver, Paige Copenhaver, and Davis Copenhaver; father and mother-in-law, Dale and Pam Lenz; and brother-in-law Thomas (Tommy) Lenz.

Madison was a true force and bright light in this world through her love and caring of her friends and family, her humor, creativity, and her commitment to making the world a better place. At her young age, she was a true trailblazer with her passion for children, raising cattle, and farming. She was undoubtedly a role model and would have been a role model for young women.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts be made in memory of Madison Loucks-Lenz to the Frederick County EAC (Extension Advisory Council). Checks may be mailed to: Frederick County Extension, Attention 4-H 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, MD 21702.



Madison F. Loucks-Lenz

Rachel A. Willis

Rachel A. Willis, 23, of Martinsburg, West Virginia, passed away on June 4, 2023.

Born on January 29, 2000 in Maryland, she was the daughter of the late Michael Franklin Willis and Dawn Elizabeth Parker.

Besides her mother, Rachel was also survived by her brother, Thomas Monroe, Jr.; uncles, Ricky (Chrystal), Randy (Diane), David (Kim), and Fred (Connie); nieces and nephews, Riley, John, Kyle, Carter, Kylie, Cayden, Braylee, and Bryson; her Mema and D Daddy, Mary and Richard Scheetz; her Granny Carolyn Willis; and two sisters-in-law, Allie and Cara. Rachel is also survived by her best friends, Kylie, Saige, Caitlyn, and Jessica.

She was preceded in death by her stepfather, Vernon Parker.

She was a graduate of Poolesville High School.



Rachel A. Willis

Continued from page 21.

Poolesville U12 and U9 Soccer Teams Claim Division Titles

"We communicated well; that's what made the difference," said fullback Quinto Nanof. "Gabe did an amazing job. He scored both goals. We practiced the corner kick all week long before the final."

Others on the roster are Owen Devine, Avery Donart, Dominic Grayson, Ethan Johnson, Micah Johnson, Ben Lawrence, Brian Lee, Diego Pena, Sutton Pollicino, Angelo Ritter, Ruhaan Rotella, Mauricio Salazar Hernandez, Owen Stump, and Nathan Ward.

The coaches are Aaron Johnson, Gagan Bakshi, and Tim Nanof. All games are played at the Maryland Soccerplex.

"When this team started out, everyone was new to SAM Soccer," said Nanof, "the coaches and the players. The first year we won just one game, but we have been getting better every year. The core of the U12 team has been together for about ten spring and fall seasons over five years."



U9 Tigers Soccer Champs

Lucas Atak, Christopher Caicedo, Coach Caicedo, Harrison Braslow, Xander Nanof, Robbie Ritter, Micah Valmonte, Coach Nanof, Levi Robinson, Johnny Robinson, Ethan Newens, Aidan (AJ) Kitts, and Aidan Gohn. Front: Keeper Graham Litzenberger.

"Also on June 3, the U9 Poolesville Falcons won the White Division title, ending the season at 7-1, defeating second place Grassroots Academy, 9-3, in a one-game playoff. It was the 9U squad's second straight title. They also won in the fall of 2022.

"They ended the spring season, 7-1-0. Their lone regular season loss was to Grassroots. The final game was tied 3-3 at half time. The Falcons played amazing defense and had strong goalkeeping. They dominated on the offense in the second half."

"Our team has come a long way from where we started," said sweeper Xander Nanof. "We have had success because of our teamwork and the way we react to the ball. Micah Valmonte is an incredible player who makes his teammates better, and Sammie Hayes was the most-improved player this season. Graham Litzenberger made some great saves in the final to help us win the playoff game."

Aidan (AJ) Kitts was one of the top scorers in the league.

The core of the U9 team has been together for three years and five seasons.

Others on the roster are Lucas Atak, Harrison Braslow, Christopher Caicedo, Aidan Gohn, Sammy Hayes, Ethan Newens, Robbie Ritter, Johnny Robinson, and Levi Robinson. The coaches are Tim Nanof and Carlos Caicedo.

"This team has speed and overall athleticism," said Nanof, "but what sets them apart is their ability to play as a team on both offense and defense."

Both the U9 and U12 teams play in countywide leagues run by SAM, and all the boys on the "Poolesville" teams are from Poolesville, Beallsville, Barnesville, and Dickerson.

In addition, the Poolesville Tigers won the title in the 9U Red Division.

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Remembrances

Avaleen "Jill" Chadwick

Avaleen (Jill) Chadwick, age 100, died on June 10, 2023. She was a resident of Buckingham's Choice in Adamstown. She was a former member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville, and was the widow of George (Jay) Chadwick, Jr. who had a long career in the practice of law in Washington, D.C.



Avaleen "Jill" Chadwick

Avaleen Geneva Gazaway was born on March 21, 1923 in the community of Redwine's Cove near Dalton, Georgia. She was the eighth of ten children and the last remaining living child of Timie (Redwine) and Allen Gazaway.

During World War II, she moved to Atlanta to work as a Civil Service employee in the wartime headquarters of the army's Fourth Service Command at Fort McPherson. In 1944, she married Carl Barth Seamans of Atlanta. They later divorced. She was employed as a secretary and office manager for a neurosurgeon, and was a volunteer with the American Red Cross, serving as a staff aide and later transferring to Atlanta's Grady Hospital where she worked with indigent patients. She later worked for and became manager of the Atlanta District Office of the Southern Oxygen Company. Their headquarters were in Washington, D.C., and they were a client of her future husband, Jay Chadwick. They met while Jay was preparing a court case for the company.

In 1960, she married Jay Chadwick and moved, with her two children, to his home in Boyds. Over the years, they hosted church picnics, family reunions, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, and springtime Rhododendron Parties at their farm, "Huckleberry Hill." Jill and Jay were married for forty-one years before he passed away in 2001.

She is a former member and past president of the Gaithersburg Women's Club, a member of the Monocacy Garden Club, and a charter member of the Rural Womens' Republican Club. She was an avid conversationalist, and had many longtime friends and acquaintances who enjoyed her company. Her hobbies included reading, traveling, and oil painting which she took up at the age of seventy. Jill enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was very family-oriented and followed the lives of her family members, in person and through extensive correspondence. She was dearly loved by many.

She is survived by two children, Tarillis Jane Adams (T. Paul) of Blodgett, Oregon and Dan Lee Seamans (Wycliffe) of Boyds; stepson, Charles M. Chadwick (JaneAnn) Westminster; daughter-in-law Margie Chadwick of Alexandria, Virginia; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Jay Chadwick and stepson George A. Chadwick, III.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Buckingham's Choice Resident's Assistance Fund, at 3200 Baker Circle, Adamstown, Maryland 21710.

Glenn Anthony Rice

Glenn Anthony Rice, 39, of Poolesville passed away on June 4, 2023.

Glenn was born on August 21, 1983 in California, to Linda and Glenn Rice.

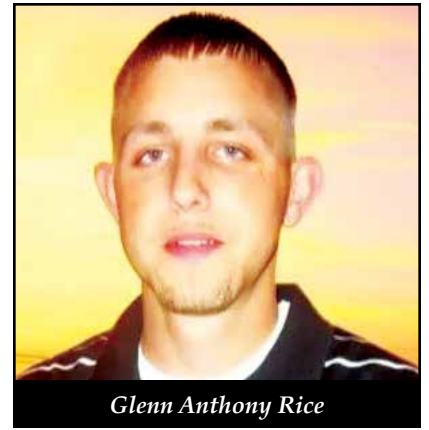
Glenn was a loving father to his children, Jackson Anthony Rice and Kennedy Kileen Rice; a cherished brother to Autumn and Jonathan Rice; uncle to Carter Rice; and a grandson, cousin, and friend to many.

Glenn was a father first and foremost. His kids were his world.

What is a bigger word for huge? Multiply whatever that answer is by infinity, and you get the idea of how big Glenn's heart was. He was nurturing, easygoing, ambitious, fearless, respectful, and genuine. Glenn was known for his selflessness and his grit or determination. He was a big smile on a rainy day or always trying to get a laugh.

Glenn attended Poolesville Elementary and High Schools. After finishing school, Glenn pursued his passion as a Head Auto Painter. He loved his job and was known for his exceptional skills. In his free time, Glenn loved to play and watch sports, go hunting or fishing, play golf, and ride motorcycles.

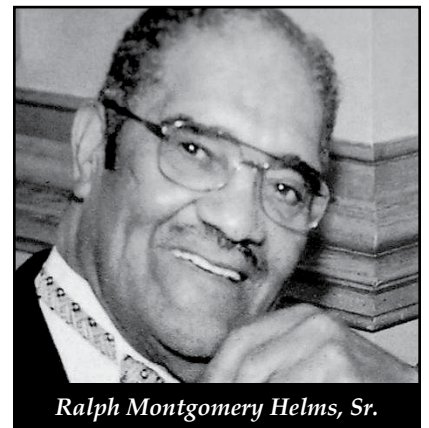
Glenn is survived by his children, parents, siblings, and numerous cousins, family, and friends. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Leon and Joyce Rice; maternal grandfather, Ray T. Douglas; aunt, Kathleen Watson; and first cousin, Priscilla Smith.



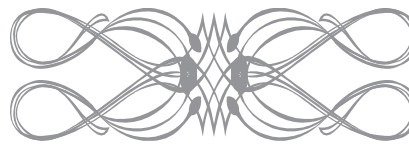
Glenn Anthony Rice

Ralph Montgomery Helms, Sr.

Ralph Montgomery Helms, Sr. was born in Maryland on November 24, 1937, and passed away on June 3, 2023. Ralph Helms was a resident of Poolesville. He will truly be missed by all who knew and loved him.



Ralph Montgomery Helms, Sr.



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Continued from page 9.

Right Plant, Right Place

have turned into an eyesore, so I suggest that you don't plant these two in your garden. They are not worth the trouble.

As a child, I remember fondly touching the thick, fuzzy, velvety blue-gray leaves of the *Stachys* plant; its common name is Lamb's ear. It is a pretty plant, but it spreads like crazy. That being said, once it starts flowering, it gets sort of ratty looking, and the flowers are not at all that attractive. It takes up too much real estate in your garden. It is known as a bee magnet, which is good, but there are many other prettier flowers that are bee magnets too. They are great travelers; all the way across the garden, there are now many, many Lamb's Ear plants where I never planted them!

Buddleia, common name Butterfly Bush, produces fragrant and showy

arching panicles with densely-clustered tiny flowers. It provides glorious summer color on fast growing plants that attract butterflies, but be wary of *Buddleia davidii* (the most commonly sold variety), for many gardeners don't realize their invasive ability. Look instead to this "butterfly bush" hybrid that won't take over and will attract all pollinators all summer long: *Buddleia* 'Pugester Blue.' Breeders have worked to cross hybridize species to produce hybrid varieties that are sterile and don't set viable seed—or produce it in negligible quantities compared to the main species. True, the butterfly bush does produce a source of nectar for butterflies, but it is detrimental to butterflies. Although adult butterflies will feed on its nectar, butterfly larvae (caterpillars) cannot use the leaves of the plant as a food source, because this plant does not support the entire life cycle of a butterfly. It is quite harmful when it

displaces native plants that caterpillars need to survive, so be sure to plant plants nearby to support caterpillars.

One of my most beautiful early summer perennial flowers in one of my gardens is *Centaurea montana*, the perennial Bachelor's Button. I forgive his invasive growth habit because he happily lives in his own neighborhood, which he shares with his equally invasive neighbor mint, but the "bachelor" is bigger than his mint roommate, so they get along. They live under many very tall white pine trees where nothing else will grow. They are the "right plants in the right place."

The message of my article: Do your homework and choose the best plants for your garden's space, soil considerations, light exposure, and your time.



Lamb's ear growing in a local garden.

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Tips to be Prepared with Your Pet in Case of an Emergency

Peter H. Eeg, DVM

Many of you have experienced a massive rainstorm in which several inches of rain fall in a short amount of time. These are unique events that nature produces to be sure we know we are really not in charge on this planet. Events like these also show us where the holes in our preparedness for ourselves and our animal friends are present during an emergency.

Here are 5 simple tips that will give you peace of mind for your pets and you—should disaster strike.

- 1. Microchip your pet:** A microchip that is implanted and registered can greatly increase the chances that you will be reunited with your furry friend should you become separated during a disaster. Collars and harnesses can fall off, but a microchip is a passive device that stays under the skin for the life of your pet, ready to identify your pet if he/she is separated from you.
- 2. Pet ready bag:** Keep a small backpack/suitcase handy that has a three-to-five-day supply of your pets' food, treats, and medications. You can rotate all the items in the bag monthly, so it stays fresh. Be sure you have a leash and extra collar in the bag. Often, people do not keep collars on their pets unless they are traveling. Leashes should be strong nylon or leather. Do not use a retractable leash. These can too easily get tangled or caught in objects or around people's legs and in an emergency; that is not what you need to deal with at the time.
- 3. Don't put your pets in the basement or tied up outside:** During a natural or man-made disaster, you want your pets to be in a safe location away from exterior walls or areas that could flood. Basements are only appropriate in case of a tornado. Leaving your pet tied outside is never a good idea and an even worse idea during a disaster. Just remember how rapidly the water rose in many places during the recent rains. Your basement can rapidly flood if drains or water runoff areas become blocked. Dogs and cats can swim, but they get tired like we do, and if they are tied, they have no chance to escape the rising water.
- 4. First Aid Kit:** Most first aid kits for people can be used on your pets. Gauze, tape, cotton wrap, and vet wrap are all good items to have on hand in case your pet gets cut or develops an open wound. Do not use alcohol; instead, have a clean bottle of water to flush out an injury. Paper towel is also a very good item to keep. It can be used to compress a wound or wipe out debris from a wound. For pets and some people, a muzzle that fits your dogs and cats is very important to help them avoid biting you or someone you know as you are trying to help your injured pet. Your veterinarian can help you get the correct type and size muzzle for your pet.
- 5. Friends and Family on Alert:** Think about friends or family that live outside your area but are within driving distance. Give them a call or visit them to discuss having a safe place to stay for a few nights with your pets in case your home is not safe to stay in. Knowing that there is a safe place that you and your pets can go to and ride out a natural or man-made disaster can greatly decrease your stress and keep your pets safe.



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