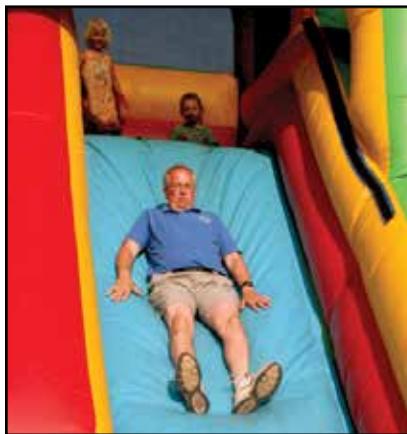


# The Monocacy MONOCLE

*Keeping an Eye on Local News*

A Biweekly Newspaper

June 26, 2015 • Volume XI, Number 7



*Open up, Dr. Pike—this won't hurt a bit. Pike & Valega, DDS's customer appreciation event was a hit. More events are in the Family Album on page 2.*



*Bob Mallasch of Bob's Bikes was honored the blue bin is a clue. Read Tidbits on page 11.*



*Senior Dennis Wang led the Falcons to a great season. See Youth Sports on page 12.*



*Family fun, food, inflatables, and music at the PES annual carnival. More pictures are on page 15.*

## Poolesville Man Dies in Storm-Related Accident

By John Clayton

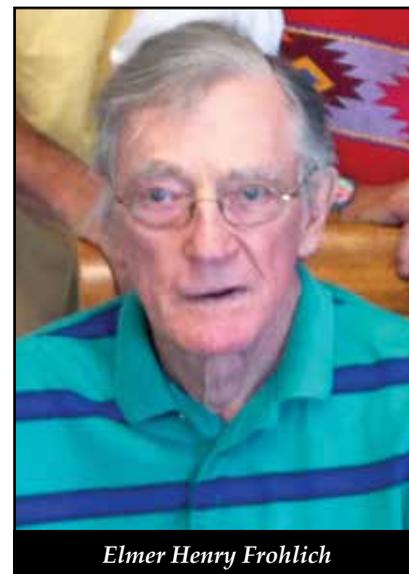
Elmer Frohlich of Poolesville was pronounced dead at the scene of a single-vehicle collision on the evening of June 23. The incident occurred at about 8:30 p.m. on Darnestown Road (Route 28) in the vicinity of Cattail Road. Frohlich was the only occupant of the vehicle.

A preliminary investigation by detectives from the Montgomery County Police Department Collision Reconstruction Unit (CRU) revealed that Frohlich's 2003 Chevrolet S-10 pickup truck was traveling east on Darnestown Road. Storms had recently swept through the area and a tree had fallen in the roadway in the area of Cattail Road. The pickup truck struck the downed tree and apparently a power pole, which brought elec-

trical lines down on the vehicle. The Emergency Communications Center (9-1-1) received a call for the single-vehicle collision and emergency personnel responded. According to news reports, Frohlich was unresponsive when help arrived.

Frohlich and his wife Nancy are longtime residents of Poolesville and members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. The Monocle will print a more detailed article on his life in our next issue. Funeral details were not available as we went to press.

Detectives continue to investigate this collision. Anyone who witnessed this collision is asked to contact the Collision Reconstruction Unit at 240-773-6620. Callers may remain anonymous.



*Elmer Henry Frohlich*

## Police and Relatives Gather to Remember Local Hero

By Jack Toomey

This month marks the eighty-second anniversary of the death of Police Officer Webb Hersperger. On the anniversary of his death, several active duty officers and retired officers gathered at his gravesite at Monocacy Cemetery to honor his memory and to reflect on his life. The group was honored to have Officer Hersperger's son, Dr. Webb Hersperger, Jr., from Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in attendance.

The following is reprinted from the June 27, 2008 issue of the Monocle with a few changes to reflect more recent information.

On the morning of June 18, 1933, Police Officer Hersperger left his home on the Dr. Elijah White farm in Poolesville where he and his wife Virginia rented a small house. As he drove his police motorcycle down the Rockville-Darnestown Road, he looked forward to a day of policing the still-rural area from Bethesda to Rockville. He might investigate a chicken theft or two or keep a lookout for drivers from Washington who tended to exceed the speed



*Dr. Webb Hersperger, Jr. spoke at the vigil for his father at Monocacy Cemetery.*

limit, but the day promised to be a slow one since it was Sunday.

As was his habit, he planned to stop at the courthouse at Rockville and visit the magistrate to pick up any subpoenas or warrants that might have been issued overnight before heading down the Rockville Pike to the Bethesda substation. His only means of communication with

headquarters was a system of blue lights mounted on telephone poles placed around the county. Whenever an officer was needed, a blue light was lit on one of the poles, and the officer would then find a telephone and call headquarters to see where he was needed.

Continued on page 17.

# Family Album

Mocha (right), owned by Stuart LaGrice, was selected as the Best in Show at the Bark in the Park contest.



The Weaver family brought their matching set to the Bark in the Park Friday on the Commons event.



The winning dogs at the Bark in the Park Event.



Girls Scouts Charlotte Vogel and Julia Lyons placed pet bag dispensers at town parks to help keep them, shall we say, fresh?



Sam "The Man" Hardwick of Poolesville, a member of the Frederick Challenger Baseball League, went to bat against the Frederick Keys. The league is made up of young athletes with disabilities.



Members of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce were hosted by the Madison House Autism Foundation at Madison Field Farm in Dickerson.



Introduction to PAA's youth football camp was held at Whalen Commons.



Kindergarten awaits the 2015 pre-school graduating class of Little Learner Child Care: Alan Altamirano- Gomez, Lela Eyler, Addison Hagen, Charlotte Hofmann, Elizabeth Kinney, Victoria McGuire, Tanae Torry and Madeline Weaver.



PBA's summer camp wrapped up at Poolesville Baptist Church.

## Local News

### Circuit Court Rules in Favor Of Poolesville

By Rande Davis

On June 18, 2015, Judge Gary E. Bair of the Montgomery County Circuit Court ruled in favor of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) in a legal petition brought against it by Poolesville resident Conrad P. Potemra. MDE was represented by Assistant Attorney General Paul N. De Santis and Jack A. Gullo, Jr., Esq. on behalf of the Town of Poolesville.

Potemra maintained that MDE's decision to reissue a Discharge Permit for the town's wastewater plant on May 5, 2014 was in violation of federal law because it did not contain a requirement for a thirty-day average removal efficiency rate of eighty-percent of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5).

The attorney for MDE asked the court's dismissal of the case because, one, Mr. Potemra lacked legal standing in objecting to the reissuance of the permit; two, the legal doctrine of res judicata (a matter that has already been adjudicated by a competent court and may not be pursued further by the same parties) applies to Mr. Potemra; and that, three, MDE does have the authority to impose more stringent restrictions than federal law requires.

The court ruled that Potemra's claim of legal standing failed to show any "concrete injury" that would establish standing.

The court further stated that the petition was denied since "the petitioner's current claim is substantially identical to his May 12, 2004 case; therefore, he is barred under the doctrine of res judicata." Judge Bair went on to note that "even if the Petitioner had standing and was not barred by the doctrine of res judicata, there is substantial evidence to support the MDE's factual findings and there was no error of law" by the state. Bair observed that "MDE met all state and federal water quality standards and exceeded federal standards, the Permit issue was not in violation of federal or state law." Federal law allows states to impose more stringent standards than is required by federal law.

Jim Brown, president of the town commission, responded to the court's ruling: "This was an unfortunate

situation where one resident decided to take it upon himself to engage the town in what turned out to be a frivolous and ultimately expensive (to our hard-working tax-paying community) legal engagement for no apparent reason.

"While I'm gratified and thankful the court found his case to have no merit or standing whatsoever, I think it's a shame we had to use town resources to defend our Maryland Department of the Environment-approved wastewater treatment discharge permit, which was also co-defended by the MDE in this action.

"While we always appreciate resident input, in my opinion, this harkens back to the bad old days when a select few private citizens with personal motives felt they had the right to disrupt and circumvent the hard work of town staff and the professionals we rely on to provide solid infrastructure support to the town.

"In the end, I'm thankful our town attorney and the attorneys for the MDE were able to prove that our infrastructure policies and directions are sound and safe for our residents. Time to move forward."

Potemra responded to Brown's comments as follows: "I would have to admit that I am very disappointed on many fronts with the outcome of the Judicial Review. First, it should be made clear that my actions were against MDE, the issuer of the permit and NOT against the Town of Poolesville. I never could figure out why they got involved. I felt all the heavy lifting was done by MDE.

The disappointment continues as the Clean Water Act clearly requires a measurement of 85% removal of pollutants as measured BEFORE the treatment process begins to ensure that rainwater and ground water are NOT diluting the output stream to meet permit requirements. Even worse, it turns out that Maryland is one of the very few states in the entire United States that does not comply with the 85% removal requirement, a Federal mandate.

Further concerns were that most of the efforts by MDE were focused on various legal maneuverings to avoid the basic issue of compliance with the Clean Water Act. The Town of Poolesville Waste Water Treatment Plant has come a long way since I first got involved in 1987 due to Consent orders and long standing discussions with MDE officials as we worked to resolve the myriad of issues."

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## Commentary

### A Tipping Point

By John Clayton

The modern-day version of the Confederate States of America battle flag was recently prominent in its latest and hopefully last outrage. It has jumped the shark, which is not to make light of the horror of this recent terrorist act by a deranged racist consumed by irrational and ignorant hatred. The conservative Republican governor of South Carolina, a well-respected leader, led her colleagues in requesting her legislature to close out this last vestige of state-sanctioned fealty to the Lost Cause. We shall see how this goes later this summer.

It did not help the cause of those who want states to continue sanctioning Confederate flags that the United States Supreme Court let stand a Texas law that banned the image from license plates. This was based on the premise that license plates are owned by the state and represent not free speech by an individual, but speech sanctioned by the state. When the travesty in Charleston occurred, that made it that much easier for the governor and others to grasp this third rail of South Carolina politics and say, "No more." The governors of Virginia and Maryland have pledged to follow suit.

I grew up in the South, and have significant Southern and Confederate heritage in the genetic soup of my ancestry, and as a kid growing up in North Carolina during the Civil War Centennial, and being at that great age of ten years and thereabouts, I admit that I always liked that flag. It wasn't evil to me. I understand that all those

Sons and Daughters of Confederates want to honor the military service of their ancestors, but this always seems to involve some revisionist history-scrubbing about state's rights and all that. I'm sure it is true that many a North Carolina or Virginia farm boy fought for his family and his state without a whole lot of thought for the slaves owned by the rich planters, but they were still fighting for a cause that wanted to protect slavery, whether they cared to acknowledge it or not.

Even as a ten-year-old kid with my cool Confederate hat and replica scaled-down musket (which had a ramrod and fired cork balls powered by Mattel Greenie Stik-M-Caps), I and my friends all knew, and discussed the fact, that the Rebel cause was for slavery, and maybe it wasn't so cool to be a Reb after all. We knew it then, we know it now. The flag is the symbol of all of that, and the flag has been used and defined as the symbol of groups espousing all sorts of hatred, sometimes subtle, sometimes overt, and often violent. This has included slavery, Jim Crow laws, race-motivated lynching, segregation, voter suppression, discriminatory housing, unequal educational resources, and a host of other indignities and damages inflicted upon American citizens. The flag was co-opted as the symbol for much evil, whether we like it or not. The flag still has its place, in museums and historical displays and on gravesites and cars and tee shirts and as other expressions of free speech, which should forever support our inalienable right to annoy and even insult one another, within reasonable bounds. Hopefully, we will continue to enjoy this right, without asking the government to put its blessing on our particular point of view.



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Keeping an Eye on Local News

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## Town of Poolesville Town Officials Hear from Montgomery County's State Legislative Delegation

By Link Hoewing

While the official agenda for the June 15 town meeting was to consider Ordinance 203, revising the town's traffic and road safety regulations, and to hear some funding proposals, most of the session was taken up by a report from the state legislative delegation of Montgomery County regarding the recently-concluded 2015 session of the Maryland Legislature.

Senator Brian Feldman led off the discussion by providing an overview of the highlights of the legislature's annual session. He mentioned first the unusual turnover from the last election: fifteen new senators and sixty-two new members of the General Assembly. Over 1000 bills were introduced in the Senate and 1500 in the General Assembly. In the previous four years, the legislature focused heavily on cultural issues, including such things as same-sex marriage and the death penalty. In the senator's view, Gov. Larry Hogan's election was all about economic issues, such as taxes and excessive regulation, and he believes that the next four years will largely focus on these issues.

A bill to create a commission to study the business and investment climate in Maryland was passed, and Norm Augustine, a former leader of Northrup Grumman and a respected business leader, chairs the committee, which will report later this year. Feldman felt that the state must diversify its economy so it is less reliant on federal spending and federal employees, and that is an issue the commission is also examining.

In Feldman's view, Governor Hogan has some important economic development issues pending that relate to infrastructure investment. A key area where these issues arise has to do with the proposed Purple Line light rail system that would link the red, orange, and green lines and would allow traffic to flow on public transit in an east-west direction in the county. If he decides against doing so, hundreds of millions of dollars of federal funding that was to have been dedicated to the new line would be forfeited.

The budget deficit is a perennial problem in Maryland, but, constitutionally, the state must balance its budget every year. Legislators were able to re-

duce the structural deficit (the amount of overspending that exists no matter how well the economy is growing) by seventy percent in recent years. At the same time, the Montgomery County legislative delegation fought some efforts to reduce the budget deficit that they believe unfairly target residents of the county. Unfortunately, he said that while they pushed back successfully against some of these proposals, one change in how schools are funded will cost Montgomery County \$18 million in monies dedicated to county schools.

Delegate Kathleen Dumais spoke next and noted that even before the Baltimore riots, the House Judiciary Committee she sits on was looking at proposals to change sentencing guidelines so that far fewer people committing low-level crimes would be jailed. The committee was also looking at how police do their jobs and at ways to reduce the friction between police and local communities.

Delegate David Hidalgo-Rivera spoke last and talked about the work of his committee on the environment, most significantly on the subject of fracking and whether and how to regulate the process to ensure minimal damage to the environment. The committee passed a bill to put a moratorium on fracking for two years so the issue can be studied and effective policies set in place to regulate the industry.

Maryland still remains a relatively low-growth state compared to other states, and spurring growth is critical. In this context, Feldman remarked that the idea of a bridge crossing from Virginia into Maryland somewhere above the Chain Bridge has been raised by Virginia officials once again. He was of the view that the town commission has been on record against such an idea. Commissioner Brice Halbrook replied that a bridge that was located in the right manner might spur more growth and economic activity, but he was quick to note—as all other commissioners did—that he is not advocating for the construction of such a bridge.

During the question-and-answer period, only one significant question arose, from Mr. Bob Roit, a local citizen. He expressed great skepticism about how the structural deficit was reduced since part of the reduction was achieved by drastically reducing the amount of money that had been committed by previous legislatures to help fund the state pension system. He likened it to “robbing Peter to pay Paul.”

After the legislators appeared, two proposals requesting town funding were presented to the commissioners.

## Local News

### WUMCO Board Optimistic

WUMCO's joint annual meeting and second quarter board session on June 10 provided an excellent forum to take stock of operations and plans. Noted at the meetings were the many events that have occurred in the past nine months—the move to new facilities, the decision of Jane Stearns to step down as fulltime director, the appointment of Catherine Beliveau as executive director, the community celebration of Ms. Stearns's forty-seven years of service at WUMCO's helm (“Salute to Jane” in the April 30 issue of the *Monocacy Monocle*), and a successful fundraising effort.

Of course there was also business to conduct. The board accepted with regret the resignations of Jim Ridgway (treasurer for the last three years) and Kathy Nethercutt. Dorothy Norwood was elected to the board and will be serving as the organization's new treasurer. Other than Ms. Norwood, the rest of the leadership will not change—Jane Stearns executive director emeritus, Nancy Allnutt president, Tracey Forfa vice president, and Catherine Beliveau as executive director.

In its discussions, the board agreed that the move to new facilities had



WUMCO's Catherine Beliveau, Jane Stearns, and Katie McFall.

more than met expectations, reported a solid financial position, and supported a study of possible new services to clients that go beyond emergency assistance. One director described the concept as “teaching people how to fish, not just providing them with fish.” Implicit was the premise that there are

possibilities of helping clients move beyond dependency on emergency services to richer and fuller lives.

An anticipated feature of each annual meeting—since the organization's programming is literally dependent on the involvement of hundreds of people and dozens of organizations—are the awards for outstanding volunteer service. Commendations for outstanding service in 2014 were awarded to Dr. Timothy Pike and his son Alex for building a donation box for twenty-four-hour collection of food donations to WUMCO; Boy Scout Troop 496 for collection of almost 5,600 pounds of food; and Bill Carroll, Lori Kocur, Ellen Onderko, and Wendy Stolicker for pickup and delivery of local food donations. Jim Ridgway was also presented with a certificate of appreciation for his service as treasurer.

### Local Judge Steps Down

By Jack Toomey

The saga of Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge Audrey Creighton has apparently come to an end. As readers might recall, Creighton, 54, allowed Rickley Senning, a convicted felon, to move into her Dickerson home in 2013 after he was released from prison. When she was a member of the Public Defenders' Office, she represented him in 2008 in a District Court case.

Things turned violent in May 2014 when Senning, then Creighton's live-in boyfriend and aged twenty-four years old, forced her to drive him to Gaithersburg after pulling her hair and forcing her foot down on the accelerator so she would drive faster. At the intersection of Routes 28 and 112, Judge Creighton jumped from the car, and Senning took the car and was involved in a serious wreck just a few minutes later.

A complaint was made to the state about Creighton's actions and her relationship with Senning; an investigation ensued. Even though these events were known and in the news, Creighton was reelected in November of 2014.

On June 15, it was announced that Creighton had decided to retire from her position as a judge. Her future plans are not known.

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Continued on page 16.

## Local News

### Treasure Hunter Finds Lost Wedding Ring

By Susan Petro

Rob Medwid always knew where his wedding ring was. If it was not on his finger, he knew exactly where he put it. Married for seventeen years, Medwid never lost sight of the treasured band he received from his high school sweetheart, Melissa, on their wedding day. He took great pride in the fact that he would never misplace his ring.

When the couple married at the age of twenty-one, they didn't have a lot of money to buy expensive rings, but he treasured the specially-inscribed band nonetheless. "The ring was old, beat up, and so cheap, I could bend it with my fingers," said Medwid, "but it was my ring."

The pair had been sweethearts since the age of fourteen, and the battered, beat-up ring meant everything to him, so when Medwid saw his band slip off his finger as he tossed a football to his son and slowly flip end over end like a slow-motion movie into the grassy fields of Whalen Commons during the Springfest two years ago, the loss almost seemed surreal. He kept telling himself, "Don't lose sight of the ring, don't lose sight of the ring." The ring was slightly big so Medwid could slide it over his knuckle which was often swollen from the goalkeeping days of his youth. Additionally, the air was brisk that morning, attributing further to the ring being loose.

As the ring landed in the grass, Medwid thought he knew exactly where to find it. Without taking his eyes off the spot, he sent his children to tell his wife and in-laws that he had lost his ring and to come join the search.

As Medwid searched the field for the missing ring, he drew a crowd of other Springfest attendees who were eager to assist. Soon, many people were scouring the ground. One person even went home for his metal detector to aid in the search efforts. Medwid kept thinking to himself, "It shouldn't take this long."

Unfortunately, all those feet walking over the ground may have hindered the search efforts or pushed the ring deeper into the ground. After two to three hours of nonstop searching, Medwid decided to return in the evening after the crowds dispersed to continue the search. He made a grid, carefully covering inch by inch of the area where he saw the ring fall.



Rob Medwid was amazed by the recovery of his lost wedding ring by metal detectorist Juan Ramos.

Medwid and his wife, who reside in Urbana, returned two or three times over the next few days and spent about seventeen hours searching. They finally decided that someone had probably picked up the ring and pocketed it. As the days, weeks, and months went by, the couple figured the ring was probably gone forever.

Five months after the ring disappeared, the couple went out and chose new wedding bands together. "The new ring was nice," Medwid said, "but every day I looked at my new band, it was just not the same." He still mourned the loss of his original wedding band.

Fast forward two years: Local resident Juan Ramos had just spent the night at Whalen Commons preparing for the next day's Relay for Life activities held on June 6, 2015. He wanted to make sure that no one vandalized or stole any of the supplies that vendors or participants had dropped off the night before.

Around 5:00 a.m., Ramos took a break from his volunteer duties to do a little metal detecting, a hobby he had developed two or three years ago after purchasing a detector from a coworker. Over the years, Ramos had enjoyed finding Civil War artifacts, old coins, and jewelry.

The device soon signaled a find about twenty feet from the bandstand. Juan carefully cut out a small flap of grass about four inches deep and retrieved a ring. He put the sod back into place to make sure the ground was restored undamaged.

Right away, Ramos knew that the specially-inscribed band must hold much more than just a monetary value. He was determined to reunite the ring with the lost owner. He posted a picture on the Poolesville Buy and Sell Facebook page with a message that he would return the ring to the

Continued on page 19.

### POOLESVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on July 15, 2015 at 7:30 PM, Poolesville Town Hall, 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed allocation of water and sewer capacity. The Town has established procedures for requesting allocations that are well known and reasonably understood and to establish policies that are equitable and serve the economic development and growth management goals. Copies of this proposed water and sewer policies and procedures are available for review at Town Hall.

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## Things To Do

June 26

### Friday on the Commons

*Take Me Out to the Ballgame*; Movie: *Sandlot*

Farmers' market, food, and artisan vendors open at 6:00 p.m. Featuring home run derby, dizzy bat, pickup games, inflatables, prizes. Be sure to wear your favorite team's jersey. Movie starts at 8:30 p.m.

June 27

### Annual Odd Fellows Lodge 97

**Summer Picnic for Seniors, Widows, Widowers, and Orphans**  
Meal and Entertainment provided free. *Memorial United Methodist Church in Poolesville*. 12:30 pm. to 3:30 pm.

### Indians Return to Potomac River

Sponsored by Sugarloaf Regional Trails (SRT). SRT dedicates its newest trail: The Trail of Indian History. The dedication is at the Monocacy Aqueduct from noon to 4:00 p.m. The Piscataway Indian Tribe will honor us with a performance of their Dance and Drum Corps. Presentations on Indian culture, customs, and agricultural prowess in raising native plants.

### House of Poolesville Entertainment

The Colliders. *Patio* at 8:30.

June 27 and 28

### 18th Annual Montgomery County Heritage Days Weekend

Countywide auto tour of history with thirty-five historical, educational, entertaining, and fun-filled sites for the whole family. Sites are open from noon to 4:00 p.m. each day. Plan a full weekend or just visit the local sites which include John Poole House, the Old Town Hall Bank Museum, Seneca Schoolhouse, Sugarland Ethno Project's historic St. Paul Community Church, Edwards Ferry C&O Lockhouse, Boyds Negro School, Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard, White's Ferry, Hyattstown Mill Arts Project, and Warren Church and Historic site. Complete brochure available at retailers and online at [heritagemontgomery.org](http://heritagemontgomery.org).

June 28

### Capitol Polo Club Event: Retired Racehorse Project Match

*14600 Hughes Road, Poolesville*. Sponsored by HOSSO. 3:00 p.m.

July 4

### Fireworks Display

Traditional Family Fireworks sponsored by the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department. Grounds open at 5:00 p.m. with music by Bobby Lewis Band with lots of refreshments: hot dogs, hamburgers,

funnel cakes, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, kettle corn, Kona ice, and more. Alcohol, pets, and coolers are prohibited. Fireworks begin just after dusk. Located at soccer fields at Hughes and Sugarland Roads.

July 5

### Capitol Polo Club Special Event: Independence Cup

Sponsored by Bassett's Restaurant. *14600 Hughes Road, Poolesville*. 3:00 p.m.

July 8

### PASC Special Event

*Poolesville Area Senior Center. Zumba Gold*. *17550 W. Willard Road*. 1:00 p.m.

July 9

### PASC Special Event

*Arts and crafts*. *17550 W. Willard Road*. 1:00 p.m.

July 10, 11, and 12

### The Blue Hearth Special Market Weekend

New inventory of exciting interior decorations and design, renovated furniture, and more. Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m.

July 11

### 90th Anniversary Open House Celebration for Living Word Bible Fellowship

*Route 107 and Route 28*. Meal at 4:00 p.m., music and service from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair.

July 13 to 17

### Memorial United Methodist Vacation Bible School

Theme: *G-Force*. 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with free dinner for all campers and families from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.

July 13 to 18

### St. Mary's Catholic Church Vacation Bible School

Theme: *Nazareth: Where it All Began*. Three years to sixth grade welcome. 9:30 a.m. to noon.

### 41st Annual Urbana Volunteer Firemen's Carnival

Great food, music, raffle, midway rides, and overall family fun. For more details, see ad this issue.

July 15

### PASC Special Event

*Bingo*. *17550 W. Willard Road*. 1:00 p.m.

### Commissioners' Town Meeting and Public Hearing

Purpose of hearing is to receive public comment on the proposed allocation of water and sewer capacity. *Poolesville Town Hall*. 7:30 p.m.

July 16

### PASC Special Event

*Book club*. *Poolesville Library*. 7:00 p.m.

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Great hot dogs, pit beef, sausage and pork sandwiches, pizza, and soft ice cream!

### Great Fun!

Cash Bingo! 8PM (inside Air-Conditioned Hall)  
July 16: FIREWORKS!!!  
July 17&18: Three Shows 7:15, 9:00, and 10:45 p.m.

### Great Music!

July 13: Rock & Roll Relics  
July 14: City Slickers featuring Debbie Williams  
July 15: Inside Out  
July 16: Full Effect  
July 17: JR Country  
July 18: A Classic Case

### Great Raffle!

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## Local News

### England Overcomes America in Capitol Polo Club Opening Day Action

On June 7, 2015, the English Polo Team of Neil Agate, Robert Do, Steve Utterwulghe, and Jose Pasten proved that consistent team play wins polo matches in the opening day match at the Capitol Polo Club grounds in Poolersville. They trounced the American team, 5-2, got revenge for the British Empire, and rode off into the sunset carrying their bottles of Pimms.

Pasten led the English team with three goals, Robert Do and Neil Agate, the captain of the English team, both added goals in the come-from-behind effort.

Agate was ecstatic after the match, "It was a great triumph for England, and since my tailgate attendees drank all the Pimms we brought, I feel the English showed great spirit on and off the field."

The American team was disappointed in the outcome of the match but delighted at the attendance of the red, white, and blue-clad fans. Donatelli commented, "We got in foul trouble and it cost us the game, but it was a good effort and wonderful to see so many fans at the club enjoying the match."



England won its challenge over the USA at Capitol Polo Club's recent tournament.

The American team of Javier Donatelli, Chris Abularrage, Maureen Marsh, and Derek Wilson started off strong, jumping out to a two-goal lead in the first chukker behind the scoring efforts of Donatelli, but the English team, showing the patience that helped that island nation establish an empire, slowly fought back goal by goal while drawing the American team into foul trouble. Jose

Polo continues every Sunday through the end of October at the Capitol Polo Club, located at 14660 Hughes Road, Poolersville.. The matches are at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. each Sunday and are open to the public. Upcoming events include the NYTS youth tournament on Sunday, June 14 and the Chicks with Sticks Ladies' Invitational on Sunday, June 21, sponsored by Tractor Supply.

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Saturday: Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 8 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Sacrament of Reconciliation:  
Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

#### Special Events:

June 28, on Church grounds after 10:45am Mass - Join us for "Picnic & Play" - Bring your picnic lunch and family, the Ladies Sodality will supply a grill, bottled water and some game equipment.

Lookout for Hospitality Sundays - Get to know parishioners while enjoying Coffee, juice and homemade treats!

**"For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement namely, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." - Galatians 5:14**

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**Spectators Welcome**

**Sunday, June 28: Retired Racehorse Project Match**  
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**Sunday, July 5: Independence Cup**  
Sponsored by Bassett's Restaurant



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For more information, contact Polo Manager Melanja Jones  
Melanja@capitolpolo.com or visit www.capitolpolo.com



## Tidbits

### Rev. Broady Leaves for Kentucky

Poolesville Baptist Church bade farewell to Rev. Kyle Broady on June 14 at a celebration honoring his ministry there and to wish him well in his new assignment. Kyle has been at PBC for seven years as its Pastor of Worship, Youth, and Children's Ministries. He has shared his musical talents, especially as a pianist, with the community, often volunteering to help the music departments of John Poole Middle and Poolesville High School. His Music and Art Summer Camp was very popular in the town.

He leaves for Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset, Kentucky where he will be Pastor of Worship.



*Buddy Glazier, Deacon of Poolesville Baptist Church, presented a farewell gift to Kyle Broady, departing Pastor of Worship and Family Ministries, with his family Kyle, Sara, Benjamin, Samuel, and Joshua.*



*Triathlete  
Scottie Turner*

### Turner's Triathlon Mission

Poolesville's Scott S. Turner is a triathlete on a mission, training at least four to five days a week to better himself and to make a difference for others. He is participating in the Tenth Annual D.C. Nation's Triathlon to Benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society taking place on Sunday, September 13, 2015. It features a course that winds through Washington, D.C.'s monument corridor in the shadow of the nation's best-known memorials and national treasures. This Olympic-distance triathlon, sanctioned by the USAT, includes a 1.5K swim in the Potomac River, 40K bike course through D.C., and a 10K run through Washington, D.C.'s historical landmarks. You can help him by visiting [gofundme.com/wu5d96s](http://gofundme.com/wu5d96s).

### Agnew Graduates Magna cum Laude

At the recent commencement at Wagner College, Staten Island, New York, Chantal Agnew, Poolesville High School class of 2011, was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree, magna cum laude, with a major in biology and a minor in art. Agnew also won three awards at the college's annual senior awards banquet: the Kevin Sheehy Award in Biology for achieving the highest cumulative grade point average in the biology major; the John '53 and Gloria Deane Award, presented to a deserving student who demonstrates the strongest level of academic excellence and the desire to pursue work in the field of environmental studies; and the Thomas Carroll Award for Environmental Sustainability for dedication in leading the campus toward a more environmentally-sustainable future. Agnew was the invited student speaker at the senior awards banquet.



*Chantal Agnew*

### Davis Graduates War College

Colonel Sean Paul Davis, 1989 PHS graduate, was awarded a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National Defense University National War College at Fort McNair. The mission of the National War College is to educate future leaders in high-level policy, command, and staff responsibilities.

## Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

### Current Crime

**Assault:** 23600 block of Mount Ephraim Road.

**Burglary:** 18000 block of Moore Road, 16600 block of West Willard Avenue.

**Theft from vehicles:** 19900 block of Briarley Hall Drive, 17900 block of Bliss Drive, 17200 block of Lightfoot Lane, 17100 block of Spates Hill Road.

**Drug complaint:** 19200 block of Hempstone Avenue.

### Past Crime

**June 26, 1955** Howard Spurrier, the former mayor of Poolesville, was seriously injured in a two-car crash in Dickerson. Police Officer Donald Brooks said that the wreck happened in front of his house and that he ran out into the road and pulled three injured persons from their cars. Also injured were Ethel Spurrier, wife of Mr. Spurrier, who sustained a broken knee cap, and Bessie Grubb who had cuts and bruises. All were taken to the Frederick Hospital. Brooks said that Spurrier's car crossed into the opposite lane and struck another car.

**July 3, 1955** Two drownings happened on that afternoon. In the first, a young father drowned in four feet of water in a farm pond on the Dewey Brown farm on Brown Church Road near Damascus. Police said that the dead man's invalid father was watching from a wheelchair when the man disappeared while swimming to an inner tube. The father then walked over a mile for help.

Police were at a loss to explain how the man drowned in the shallow water.

In the second case, a man from North Carolina was fishing at the Brookmont feeder dam when he apparently slipped and fell into the Potomac River current. Fire department personnel searched until dark and said that they would resume searching in the morning.

**July 6, 1955** A small airplane was destroyed by fire at the Congressional Airport south of Rockville. Police said that six airmen who owned the plane and who were repairing the tail assembly accidentally set fire to the plane while using an acetylene torch. The plane was a surplus air force Aconca.

**July 7, 1955** County police credited two alert patrolmen for the arrest of three safecrackers who had burglarized several buildings in Rockville and broken open the safes. Officers Pearson and Keller were on patrol long after midnight when they saw a car with no tail-lights on. When they stopped the car, they found burglary tools and a large quantity of spark plugs. When the boys could not clearly explain the contents of the car, they were arrested. A few hours later, a gas station was found broken into and sparkplugs stolen. At the home of one of the crooks, police found an album with newspaper clippings detailing their crime wave.

**July 13, 1956** Three Silver Spring boys were arrested and charged with setting off homemade bombs that they exploded in the Four Corners area. In one of the cases, the boys set off a bomb in a tree that bordered the Indian Springs Golf Course. A golfer was showered with shrapnel but not seriously injured.

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Continued on page 16.





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## Business Briefs

### Bob's Bikes

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, at its 16th Annual Recycling Achievement Recognition Ceremony, honored Bob Mallasch of Bob's Bikes in Poolesville on May 20 for his dedicated and conscientious recycling efforts. Held at the Bethesda Marriott North Hotel and Convention Center, Mr. Mallasch was recognized in the category of Business Individual Outstanding Achievement in Recycling category. County Executive Ike Leggett and Loo Katz of 97.1 WASH-FM radio were featured speakers.

### Elgin Park Officially Dedicated

On June 21, Kettler Forlines Homes dedicated its community park at

Brightwell Crossing to honor the longest-serving president of the Poolesville town commission, Charles Elgin. The park's amenities include a soccer and lacrosse practice field, basketball court, tot lot, covered pavilion, nature trail, and uniquely, a covered bridge.

Kettler Forlines Homes was recently recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a 2015 Indoor airPLUS Leader Award for the Reserve at Brightwell Crossing, its newest community in Montgomery County. The award is for its commitment to building homes with better indoor air quality.

The company was one of only eight homebuilders nationwide to be thus honored and is one of the few organizations that participate in the EPA's Indoor airPLUS Program.



*Kettler Forlines's Tom Kettler, Dots Elgin, and Commissioner Jim Brown at the grand opening of Elgin Park at Brightwell Crossing. Members of the Elgin family joined in the celebration.*

## House of Poolesville

*Chinese & Japanese Restaurant - Dine in or Carry Out*

### Entertainment Schedule

- June 26: DJ Slim Pickins**
- June 27: The Colliders - on the patio at 4:30 p.m.**
- July 3: Brian Jamison Band**
- July 4: DJ Slim Pickins**
- July 10: DJ Slim Pickins**
- July 11: Bobby Lewis Band – on the patio at 4:30 p.m.**
- July 17: Karaoke**
- July 18: Crackinbush – on the patio at 4:30 p.m.**

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## Tidbits of The Past

By Jack Toomey

**June 1, 1927** The Silver Spring High School baseball team defeated Poolesville, 9-3, at the Silver Spring field. Rubel and Reed had two hits apiece for Poolesville, while Hersberger and Ball had one hit each.

**June 6, 1927** Barnesville, Beallsville, Dickerson, and Poolesville were scheduled to have electric current for lighting and other purposes as a result of a contract signed with the Potomac Edison Company. One hundred and twenty residents will benefit from the contract that was negotiated by a board headed by Harold Spurrier. The electric line, which ran from Buckeystown, cost \$36,000.

**June 10, 1926** Members of the faculty of Poolesville High School, assisted by several students, presented the comedy Come Out of the Kitchen. The show was held in the school auditorium. In the cast were Professor Thomas Pyle, Mrs. Webb Hersperger, Misses Ruth Beall and Ethel Garner. Students

William Beall and Miss Dorothy Morningstar also appeared.

**June 13, 1934** Mrs. Joseph Allnutt entertained at an old-fashioned quilting party. Her guests were Mrs. White, Williams, Clagett, and Williamson.

**June 21, 1930** Berry Clark, clerk to the county commissioners, was told to write to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company and urge them to hasten the construction of the Boyds underpass. The commissioners had been told that the underpass had been scheduled for construction some time in the past.

**June 24, 1925** It was estimated that about 2000 citizens of Montgomery County, some of them prominent, had failed to pay their dog tax. Twenty-two people, most living in the Poolesville district, appeared in Police Court, and Judge Riggs fined them between one and twenty-five dollars.

**June 30, 1934** A ceremony was held at the cemetery at Beallsville by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. They decorated the graves of the Confederate soldiers buried there. Music was provided by the Poolesville band.

## Youth Sports

### Senior Wang Places Second in State

#### Team Wins Division

By Jeff Stuart

There was more buzz than normal this season for a Division III tennis team because Poolesville High School had nationally-ranked, All-Gazette player Dennis Wang (undefeated last season) at first singles. Wang was a strong favorite for county and state honors. He defeated Whitman's Jack Welch (6-4, 6-4) to win the county singles tournament at Paint Branch on May 6, and he defeated Bethesda Chevy-Chase sophomore Conor Smyth (6-1, 3-0) in the region singles final at Walter Johnson on May 13. Smyth withdrew due to an injury. In the state boys' singles at the University of Maryland on May 23, Dennis defeated Bel Air's Michael Quang (3-6, 6-3, 6-2) in the semifinals that morning, but he lost to Severna Park's Alex Cauneac (2-6, 6-1, 6-4) in another lengthy, back-and-forth finals match that afternoon. In his first three years at Poolesville, Wang, who will attend Yale University this fall, did not compete for county and state titles because of scheduling conflicts with United States Tennis Association tournaments. He would have been a strong contender in those years as well.

"We had a great season," said Coach Holley Dacek. "For the first time in Poolesville history, we had a player qualify for the states. He made the finals, and we won our division. Dennis is a great kid. I am proud to have coached him. He earned everything he got. He is definitely the best player I ever coached, and he's been very supportive and positive with other kids."

First through fourth singles for the Falcons were Wang, sophomore Coleman Martinis, junior Chris Johnson, and senior Nick Kibbey.

The boys won all five division matches and defeated Division II opponent, Northwest, 4-3. They narrowly lost to Division I Quince Orchard, 4-3. They easily defeated all three Division IV opponents, not

losing a single match; nonetheless, the team, which finished 9-3 overall, had to overcome obstacles to claim the division. The team will move up to Division II next season.

"We had a bunch of delays at tryouts due to bad weather in the early spring," said Martinis, at a late season practice. "We had lost a lot of seniors the year before. Some of the juniors didn't come back, and then we lost our original second singles due to the fact that he wanted to participate in the school musical, so I came in to play third singles." Martinis decided to challenge for the second singles spot before the first game, and won the second singles spot for the opening match against Division IV Seneca Valley. "I think our best match as a team was against Damascus, even though I lost...but that was the only DIII match that I lost. I played Joe Iosue, a challenging opponent whom I respect. He was a very good player. It was an exciting match, and it was a home game which added to the fun."

In one tough week, the team had to play four matches that had been rescheduled due to weather postponements and won against Einstein, Watkins Mill, Springbrook, and Rockville. Rockville had been a worthy opponent last year, but this year, a 6-1 victory over Rockville took the team into spring break.

First doubles players were senior Archis Sathe, a captain, and sophomore Chuan Chen. Second doubles were sophomore Kartik Krishnan and Anish Prasanna. Third third doubles were Andy Lum and freshman Justin Park.

"I think our best match was against Clarksburg," said Archis, "because that's the win that sealed the division title, and I think we had the most fun that match. For me, individually, I played first doubles with Anish against Quince Orchard, which is a Division I team—and we won. That was very surprising for us actually. It was a good win and a definite highlight for both of us."

Sathe and Kibbey, team captain, qualified for the Region II first doubles tournament after qualifying at the county tournament.



The 2015 Falcon Boys' Tennis Team

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David Cahoon, Deacon



#### MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8, 9:30, and 11 am  
Monday - Saturday at 9:00 am (Rosary follows)

#### Coming Up

**Saturday, July 18 - 4:00 pm Mass (Sunday Vigil)**

Come Celebrate along with our Knight's of Columbus!

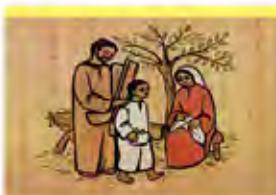
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**Saturday, July 25**

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*Local News*

**Calling All Photographers**

Get your cameras ready. Historic Medley District, Inc. (HMD) announces its Fourth Annual Photography Contest. This year's theme is: **Children Enjoying the Agricultural Reserve.**

You may submit as many photos as you like, taken since June 1, 2014.

Submit actual photographs. Include caption information and date the photo was taken, plus your name, email address, street address, and phone number.

The contest is open to all photographers.

The deadline for entries is August 15. By entering, you grant HMD the license to use your photos, including the right to edit, publish, distribute, and republish them in any form. Photographers retain the rights to their images.

Mail photos to Maureen O'Connell, P.O. Box 385, Barnesville, MD 20838, or you may place them in the box on back porch of the John Poole House, 19923 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville. For more information, call 301-972-8307.

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\$15.00 first two lines — \$7.00 each additional line.

Continued from page 10.

**Tidbits: Davis Graduates War College**

To do this, NWC conducts a senior-level course of study in national security policy and strategy for selected U.S. and foreign military officers and federal government officials from the State Department and other national agencies. The commencement speaker was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey.



*Bruce Kirby after completing a 4.4-mile swim in the Chesapeake Bay.*

**Bruce Kirby, Swimin' with the Dolphins**

Let's hear it for those over sixty years old. Bruce Kirby, 60, finished the 2015 Great Chesapeake Bay Swim on June 14. The swim began at Sandy Point Beach on the Annapolis side of the Bay Bridge. The 618 swimmers started in two waves and swam between the two Bay Bridges, ending up at Hemmingway's Restaurant on the Eastern shore after swimming a distance of 4.4 miles. Bruce reported, "It was a beautiful day with calm seas, but we had an ebb tide current pushing to the south. My finish time was a respectable two hours, 43 minutes (a 37-minute mile pace)." Bruce swam in the Over-60 Category.

**High School Students Hold Art Show at Germantown Library**

Over one hundred students from Poolesville High School and Northwest High School contributed art pieces to the Germantown Library Art Gallery for an art show that was held from May 18 to June 18. As an initiative of the MCPL Teen Advisory Group, the display was intended to not only exhibit the marvelous creativity of local student artists, but also to create a more patron-friendly atmosphere, beautifying the library for all visitors. Participating artists from PHS were Tobias Whelan, Michael Moran, and Isabella Markoff.



*These students from Northwest High School joined PHS student artists in presenting an art show at the Germantown Library.*

Continued from page 5.

**Town Officials Hear from Montgomery County's State Legislative Delegation**

One—made by local Girl Scouts Julia Lyons and Charlotte Vogel—proposed the location of dog waste stations in major parks in town. The scouts had not only priced out how much it would cost to create the facilities (\$720) but also where they should be placed.

Boy Scout Dakota Grimsby of local troop 496 proposed that birdhouses be located along the trail in Perkins Park. He had developed plans for building the houses and said they would be designed to attract chickadees and wrens. He had also designed and built a model of the birdhouse he proposed to place on various trees along the trail. Thirty-one houses would be located along the trail at a total cost of \$240. Both of the proposals were approved by the commissioners.

In a final piece of business for the evening, the commissioners approved the revisions to town ordinance 203 regarding traffic safety, parking, and code enforcement. The revisions have been reported on extensively and have gone through a number of revisions and a public hearing.

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- Bev Bos

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Continued from page 1.

### Police and Relatives Gather To Remember Local Hero

Hersperger had been born in 1902 on the family farm on River Road. He was the son of Elmer and Anna Poole Sellman Hersperger. He attended the Poolesville schools and graduated from Poolesville High School about 1920. Webb was an accomplished baseball player and may have played for the Poolesville town team. After high school, he worked at a variety of jobs before taking a job with the Peoples Life Insurance Company. Webb developed a knack for talking to people and putting them at ease. His travels around the county put him in touch with his clients, and someone suggested that his easygoing demeanor and intelligence might make him a good candidate for the newly-formed Montgomery County Police Department. He also had aspirations of a future in politics and thought that by becoming a police officer he would meet many people who would later support his candidacy for county commissioner. Webb married Virginia Gartrell in 1925 and they moved into a house on the Dr. White property on what is now Elgin Road in Poolesville.

Webb joined the police department about 1930. He immediately became a respected and aggressive police officer. Some of his exploits included investigating a huge illegal liquor still in a wooded area near Rockville in 1932 and arresting five people. Later that year, he and a prohibition agent raided a house in Friendship Heights, another house in Chevy Chase, and a still near Great Falls on the same day. They seized hundreds of cases of whiskey and beer.

In January of 1933, Webb was on patrol when he noticed a forest fire burning on Grosvenor Lane. He called the fire department from a neighbor's phone, alerted the occupants of three rural homes, and then assisted the fire department in putting out the fire. In April 1933, he and another officer were on patrol in Bethesda at 3:00 a.m. when they spotted a car parked behind the Leland Pharmacy. The car sped off and headed towards the District line. Hersperger and his partner shot at the car, emptied their revolvers, and managed to flatten the tires of the car. When the car crashed a few blocks into the District, Hersperger chased the fugitives for several blocks until he cornered them in an alley. He drew his revolver, not realizing that it was empty, but still managed to disarm the fugitives. They

were later convicted of robbing the All States Inn in Rockville and several Peoples Drug Stores.

Perhaps his most memorable case involved the capture of bandits who had been preying on motorists in Rock Creek Park. On July 23, 1932, Webb and his partner had been patrolling on Beach Drive when they came upon the suspects who were in the act of robbing a couple. While his partner drove at high speed in pursuit of the suspects' auto, Webb leaped from the police car onto the running board of the other car, and forced them to stop at gunpoint. He received a commendation from the county commissioners and police chief for his actions in this case.

On the fateful day in 1933 when our story began, Officer Hersperger passed the village at Quince Orchard and came upon a rolling portion of road just west of Seneca Creek. At the same time, a motorist, coming toward him from the opposite direction, was passing a slow moving motorcycle. Officer Hersperger, unaware that a car was in the wrong lane, collided with the automobile at the crest of the hill and died instantly. Ironically, the operator of the car was a lifelong friend. Someone called Dr. White who went to Hersperger's house and informed his wife Virginia about the death of her husband. After an investigation, the State's Attorney chose to not prosecute.

Officer Hersperger was buried at Monocacy Cemetery, and his funeral was attended by dignitaries, the judges of the Circuit Court, the county commissioners, and the entire police force. He was the second Montgomery County Police officer to die in the line of duty.

Webb, Jr., was just two years old at the time of his father's death. He and his mother lived in rented homes for awhile until she set her eyes on a house for sale in the center of town. On her teacher's salary, she could not afford the \$3000 sale price. The principal of the Poolesville School lent her the money interest-free, and she lived there until her death in 1997. Mrs. Hersperger was the first principal of Poolesville Elementary and was the principal during the successful integration of the school in 1956.

Dr. Hersperger went on to medical school and specialized in otolaryngology in the Carlisle, Pennsylvania area. He still attends many county police memorial services and is eternally grateful that the police department has not forgotten the dad that he never got to know.



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## Garden

### The State of the Garden: Act II

By Maureen O'Connell

A garden lives in a state of constant change. Every day, every month, every season bring new climatic conditions, new pests, new diseases, and new challenges that can invigorate, weaken, or kill plants, trees, and shrubs. Every day, a rose's delicate petals unfold and reveal subtle or striking changes of color and form; a clematis climbs slowly up and around its supporting cedar tuteur; a Wave petunia creeps further along its garden path; and perennial herbs grow taller and put out delicate, little flowers. I visit my garden early in the morning before the heavy summer heat blankets everything and at dusk when a gentle quiet descends upon the plants. If I did not have a garden anymore, I would miss it very much. I know that the time will come when I cannot take care of all my gardens, but that is more tomorrows away.

So what is the current state of my garden? I am pleased to say that it is not too bad, for now, that is. I believe that this is due to several events or conditions. The usual reason is that it is June; it's June, the lovely month of June, to borrow words, a bit changed, from *Camelot*. This year, June was a Goldilocks month in the garden: not too hot, not too cold, not too wet, and not too buggy.

I mentioned last spring and this spring that I have changed the plants that I grow in my gardens. My new plantings must be reasonably hardy and disease-resistant to thrive, or at least make an effort to survive, in our area of Montgomery County, Monocacy Country. I did plant six David Austin roses—I had to have at least a few roses—but six are a lot easier to take care of organically than the ninety-two I used to have. As bitter cold as this past winter was, fewer plants were killed or severely damaged than in past winters.

July is just around the corner and it can be an unpredictable month for many areas of the country. In our area, more often than not, we are faced with ninety and above temperatures, high humidity, drought, and many pests, including Mr. Japanese Beetle.

Here is my list of plants that are doing well now in my gardens and, I believe, with minimal care can continue to grow and blossom into the mid-fall season.

**Agastache.** Its common name is Hummingbird Mint and is irresistible to pollinators. I have about six of 'Blue Fortune' in my upper garden, and they bloom from July to frost with masses of powder-blue flowers.

**Achillea.** Yarrow produces masses of flowers on flattened flower heads from June to September. It is deer resistant and its unusual shape adds interest to the garden's architectural look. Three of my favorite and most prolific varieties are: 'Coronation Gold,' 'Pink Grapefruit,' and 'Paprika.'

**Alchemilla mollis.** I have about ten Lady's Mantle plants scattered in different gardens. They have been doing well for many years, and their delicate chartreuse shade adds an interesting new color. After blooming, cut them back a bit, water them well, and they will last until the first frost.

**Asclepias.** This is a tough perennial that has been blooming in my gardens for years. It has small, pretty blooms that form in dense clusters, but I don't grow them just for their flowers. They are indispensable for the survival of the Monarch butterfly larvae. They used to grow wild in many farmlands, but the increased use of pesticides has destroyed this resource. Home gardeners can help by planting more milkweed plants.

**Echinacea.** What's not to love about coneflowers? They are deer resistant, thrive in average soils, withstand hot, dry conditions, and can stand up to our winters.

**Geranium erianthum.** Also known as Cranesbill or wild geranium. Don't confuse this with the ubiquitous, large-leaf, annual geranium. Perennial Geraniums are delicate-looking plants that grow in full sun or partial shade through the heat of summer to fall. I think that two of the best varieties are the blue-flowered 'Rozanne,' and the fluorescent pink 'Elke.'

**Lavandula.** I love lavender. It is fragrant, deer-proof, prolific, resistant to heat, humidity, and drought. Some of my plants are ten to fifteen years old. I recommend *L. angustifolia*, L. 'Grosso,' L. 'Hidcote,' and L. 'Provence.' Last year horticulturists introduced L. 'Phenomenal.' It lives up to its name. I planted several last year and its winter hardiness, and heat- and humidity-tolerance are outstanding.

**Perovskia.** Russian Sage. More people should consider planting this tough, aromatic woody plant in their gardens. It comes back every year with small, feathery violet flowers. It ignores heat, drought, pests, and looks fresh all summer.

P.S. If squirrels are digging in your flowerpots, throwing out soil, and killing plants, here's a cure: Cover the soil with screen material and cover

with fairly large pieces of gravel or rock. I tried other methods, and this one works.

Continued from page 6.

#### Treasure Hunter Finds Lost Wedding Ring

owner who could identify what the inscription said. Within thirty minutes, local resident, Dan Savino, posted that his friend had lost his ring a few years back. A few other readers remembered the man searching for a ring. Savino left a message for his friend, Robert Medwid, and within an hour, the mystery was solved.

The next day, when Ramos returned the ring, he said Medwid was just beside himself. "He couldn't believe we actually found it," said Ramos. "He thought the ring was sold and melted down." To Ramos, the pleasure of returning a treasured wedding band with the inscription, Always and Forever 7/6/96, to the rightful owner was much more rewarding than any of the other treasures he's found.

Medwid is determined not to let history repeat itself. He and his wife took the ring straight to a jeweler to have the ring resized. This time, he plans to hold on tight and make sure the ring stays with him always and forever, just like the inscription says.

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## Remembrances

### Rev. Merritt Wayne Ednie

Rev. Merritt Wayne Ednie passed away on Friday, June 12, 2015 after a long battle with cancer.

Born October 14, 1944 in Tarentum, Pennsylvania, Ednie attended the Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he received a Bachelor of Arts in education in 1966. He attended the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary where he received a Master of Divinity. Pastor Ednie then became pastor of Boyds Presbyterian Church where he remained until his retirement in 2014.

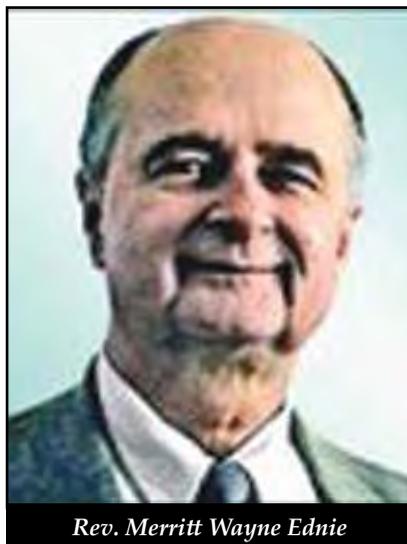
During his forty-five-year tenure at BPC, Merritt was a significant presence in his church and in the wider community of Boyds. Merritt believed strongly in the idea that, as he put it, "If you want to change something, get involved." He recalled that when he came to Boyds, "I wanted to make an impact...Community to me is very, very important...I kind of take a broader perspective on what the church should be in the community because I really think the church belongs to Boyds." When he first arrived at BPC, he realized, "It was a community church, so I could not only minister to church members, but had the opportunity to minister to a much wider group." Over the years, that ministry extended to hundreds—if not thousands—of people whose lives he touched. In later years, Merritt was widely known as the "Bishop of Boyds" because of his wide-reaching influence in the community, as well as his first-name familiarity with almost everyone who called it home.

He actively supported the Boyds Daycare Center for both black and white neighborhood toddlers, and made sure the center provided breakfast for the kids. He also encouraged the founding, years later, of another preschool, the Elf School, on BPC property. He established a youth group at BPC, and invited all area teens to come, leading that program himself for twenty years. He headed up the BPC Vacation Bible School for many, many years, imbuing it with his love of song, heartfelt joy, and playfulness. Ednie also reached out to other area churches, particularly the African-American congregation half a mile down the street of St. Mark's Methodist Church. He began a long tradition of joint BPC-St. Mark's services at Thanksgiving and during Easter week. Merritt also helped initiate the annual Easter Sunrise Service on Sugarloaf Mountain, bringing several local churches together for this event. His many small kindnesses extended over the years not just to church members, but to others in the community who needed his advice, counsel, and help. On a larger scale, Merritt made sure that BPC took on bigger challenges by supporting community missions to help feed the hungry and support the homeless.

During his ministerial career, he held nine different positions, including moderator, with the National Capital Presbytery, the group representing the 108 Presbyterian churches in the greater Washington, D.C. area. The breadth and depth of his dedication to community included serving on the boards of the Barnesville School, the Boyds Credit Union, and the Boyds Civic Association where he was president for nearly a decade altogether (with breaks between his tenures). In this position, he played a critical role in guiding the community through years of upheaval, helping the civic association block a rock quarry, a landfill, and unwanted subdivisions in its rural midst. In the process, he attended countless county zoning, county council, and park and planning meetings, keeping abreast of what was happening and being an active presence and voice for the Boyds community when necessary. Pastor Ednie was also involved in supporting numerous charities and community organizations: WUMCO (Western Upper Montgomery County Help, Inc.), Germantown HELP, Gaithersburg Hospice Caring, and the Boyds Historical Society.

Merritt leaves behind countless friends and coworkers in the community, as well as his wife of forty-eight years, Sue Ann Silvis; and his son, Merritt Paul.

Memorial gifts in Merritt's name can be made to Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Dr., #100, Rockville, MD 20850 or to Boyds Presbyterian "Good Samaritan" Fund, 19901 White Ground Rd., Boyds, MD 20841.



Rev. Merritt Wayne Ednie

### Nina M. Gilmore

Nina M. Gilmore, 53, of Dickerson, died on June 6, 2015 at the Medstar Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C. surrounded by her loving family. She was the wife of Ted Gilmore. Born on August 10, 1961, she was the daughter of Ruth Flohr and the late Carroll Flohr. Nina was dedicated to everything she did, especially her career at AHMP where she ran the office for fourteen years. She enjoyed family functions during the summer. It was her favorite time of the year, and there was nothing she loved more than being surrounded by loved ones. Surviving besides her husband and mother are three children, Troy Monroe and wife Georgiann of Damascus, Tiffany Gilmore of Frederick, and Tara Gilmore of Dickerson; five sisters, Holly Rippeon of Wolfsville, Karen Benson, Vickie Haskins, and Carol Flohr all of Poolesville, and Patti DiCarlantonio of Frederick; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial services will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday June 27 at the St. Mary's Catholic Church Pavilion, 18230 Barnesville Rd., Barnesville, MD 20838. Casual attire. In lieu of flowers donations may to Relay for Life in Poolesville.



Nina M. Gilmore

### Robert Gregory Mills

Robert Gregory Mills of Poolesville passed away peacefully on June 7. He was the loving husband of Rita O'Donnell Mills; father of Jason Robert Mills (Lauren) of Annapolis and Linda Mills-Lough (Timothy) of Lake Ridge, Virginia; brother of Judith D. Street of Laurel; and grandfather of Ryan and Jack Mills, and Braeden Lough. Greg was preceded in death by his parents, Frank Trowbridge Mills and Elsie Lee Mills; and one brother, Eric Lee Mills. Greg retired from the Montgomery County Government with over twenty years of service in 1994 as a Program Manager II in the Paratransit Section, Division of Transit Services, Department of Transportation. He was a Lifetime Member of the Chesapeake Yacht Club and served as its governor for one year. He was also a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation ([www.cbf.org](http://www.cbf.org)) in Greg's name.

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## Diann Marie Rolfe Fiery

Diann Marie Rolfe Fiery of Earlysville, Virginia passed away at the age of 80 on June 2, 2015, after a long, courageous battle against cancer.

Diann was born January 27, 1935, in Washington, D.C., to parents Laura Moriarty Rolfe and Harold Joseph Rolfe. Diann attended Stoneridge Sacred Heart School in Bethesda, and spent many happy summers with her beloved grandparents, A.G. and Bertha Rolfe, at their Spring Valley Farm near Poolesville. The family was known for its prized Polled Hereford operation as well as for raising excellent foxhounds.

After graduating from Stoneridge, Diann majored in Studio Art at the University of Maryland, College Park. As she carried her art around campus, all that could be seen of her petite frame were her two feet moving under the large art portfolio case. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority, and her wit and spunk, something she retained throughout her life, earned her the nickname "Punchy." It was at the University of Maryland that she met the love of her life, John Burton Fiery. "Jock" was a true New Yorker but fell head over heels for this Southerner, and she returned the sentiment. They were married in 1957 and moved to Chicago where Jock was in the military service. Diann worked for an interior decorator, and she and Jock started their family.

They moved back east and, because they shared an interest in historic homes, they searched tirelessly for an old farmhouse they could renovate and make their own. They finally found the perfect one in 1963 near Earlysville. The day they saw it, it was pouring rain, but they knew it was the right one for them, and they spent the rest of their lives there. Diann continued to renovate the house, raise their three daughters, and briefly taught art at St. Anne's Belfield School before volunteering for many years for the Virginia Museum of Art based in Richmond, Virginia. She was the Charlottesville/Albemarle Chairwoman and was responsible for organizing a multitude of cultural events for the Charlottesville chapter. With her daughters away at school, Diann returned to study art photography, first at the University of Virginia and then at Virginia Commonwealth University in the MFA program in Richmond. She received numerous awards, and her photographs have been exhibited internationally and domestically, and her work is part of many collections, including the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk.

Diann loved the Virginia countryside, and it gave her great pleasure to host both fox and beagle hunts from her beloved farm. Her Beagle Teas were always a highlight to the season. When not at the farm, her love of travel and adventure took her to many places around the world. Diann and Jock were enthusiastic participants in the Monticello tours, focusing on the travels of Thomas Jefferson, and they took trips following the trail of Lewis and Clark. Her lifelong love of the water took her and her whole family to the beach in Duck, North Carolina every summer, where she would happily spend hours with her husband, daughters, and grandchildren. There were many long dinners with the whole family filled with great conversation and laughter.

Diann was predeceased by her beloved husband Jock in 2013. She leaves behind her three daughters, Leila Fiery Hamar of Keswick, Virginia, Page Fiery Ford and husband Richards Ford of Charlottesville, Virginia, and Anne Fiery McGregor and husband Adolfo McGregor of Miami, Florida. Her grandchildren include Katherine Hamar, Caroline McGregor, John McGregor, and Grace McGregor. Diann also leaves behind a brother, Harold J. Rolfe Jr. of Maryland, and she was predeceased by another brother, George A. Rolfe, also of Maryland. She was the aunt of Stephen Vogel of Barnesville, Stuart Vogel of Highland, Maryland, Peter Vogel of Alexandria, Virginia, and Jennifer Vogel Davison of Vienna, Virginia.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, June 20, 2015, at Hill & Wood Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to CASPCA, the Charlottesville Albemarle SPCA.



Diann Marie Rolfe Fiery

## Rupert William Spring, Jr.

Rupert William Spring, Jr., 85, of Dickerson, passed away on Friday, June 19, 2015. Born October 7, 1929, he was the son of the late Rupert W. Spring, Sr. and Mamie C. Alexander Spring. Surviving are his wife of sixty-four years, Nancy Jo Spring, two sons, Michael Spring (Sandy) of Salisbury, and Steven Spring (Jody) of Gaithersburg, and one daughter, Pamela Jamison (Bill) of Dickerson; one brother, James Spring of Boyds, two sisters, Gloria Duvall of Rockville, and Geraldine Bartee of Ormond Beach, Florida; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his twin sons, David and Dennis Spring; daughter-in-law, Barbara Jean Spring Collins; and by three sisters, Betty Lou, Joanne, and Sondra. Rupert was a seasoned millwright doing work for Bechtel, Fairchild Hiller, NIH, Naval Medical Center, Ford's Theatre and other notable businesses, and personal cabinetry for Lady Bird Johnson. He retired from Montgomery County Public Schools in 1991 with eighteen years in the Cabinetry and Millwork Department; prior to that he was co-owner of S&N Woodwork. Rupert served in the U.S. Army's 1169th Combat Engineer Group during the Korean War, from 1950 to 1953. He was a life member of American Legion Post 11, VFW 3285, AMVETS Post 2, Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 142 of Frederick, and Honor Guard 142. He was a lifelong motorcycle rider. He enjoyed dirt track Class C M/Cycle, AMA pro racing, NASCAR, pro xoxing, bluegrass, country, and gospel music. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Boyds Presbyterian Church.



Rupert William Spring, Jr

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## Thunderstorm Phobia in Dogs

### Dr. Peter Eeg, DVM

### Poolesville Veterinary Clinic

Thunderstorm phobia in dogs is real, not uncommon, and shouldn't be ignored. It can be heartbreaking to watch: Even before the first clap of thunder, otherwise well-behaved dogs begin to pace, pant, cling to their owners, hide in the closet, or jam themselves behind the toilet. In severe cases, they'll claw through drywall, chew carpets, or break through windows in their escalating panic.

#### Storm Phobia Triggers:

Although we don't know all the triggers, we suspect the dogs are set off by some combination of wind, thunder, lightning, barometric pressure changes, static electricity, and low-frequency rumbles preceding a storm that humans can't hear. According to one theory, dogs experience shocks from static buildup before the storm.

Some dogs with storm phobia are also frightened of other loud noises, such as fireworks or gunshots, but others are only afraid of storms.

What to do? There's no easy fix, and unless your dog is only mildly affected, it can be difficult to treat. Thankfully, there are lots of tools to reduce your dog's distress during storm season:

**1. Reward calm behavior year-round.** Many owners make the mistake of trying to console a fearful dog that's whimpering or climbing on them, but that just encourages the panicky behavior. We absolutely don't want owners to scold their dog (that doesn't work either), but we don't want them to reward the dog for being clingy because that will increase the clingy behavior. Instead, practice getting your dog to settle and lie at your feet on command when there is no storm and your dog learns the routine. Praise the calm behavior in a calm tone.

**2. Give the dog a safe place where he can go in a storm.** This might be an open crate, a basement where the dog can't hear or see what's happening outside, an interior room with music playing (single instrument symphonic music is best), or a bathroom. Let your dog decide: Notice where he goes during a storm, and if possible, allow access to it. Be sure your dog can come and go freely, since some animals become more anxious if confined.

**3. Consider a snug garment.** Snug-fitting shirts and wraps especially designed to calm anxious dogs are worth a try. A Thundershirt™ is a so-called pressure garment that is said to have a calming effect similar to swaddling a baby. Some dogs also respond to wearing a metal fabric-lined cape marketed as the Storm Defender, which claims to protect dogs from static shocks.

**4. In the winter, desensitize your dog to the sounds of a storm.** Play a CD of thunder recordings at low enough levels that don't frighten your dog, while giving him treats or playing a game. Gradually increase the volume over the course of several months, stopping if your dog shows any signs of anxiety. The goal is to get your dog used to the sound of thunder, and associate it with good things. \*Experts caution that desensitization can have limited success in an actual storm because you can only recreate the noise, and not the other factors that may be bothering the dog, such as the static electricity or changes in barometric pressure.

**5. Ask your veterinarian for advice.** Your doctor may have more ideas for behavior modification and can assess whether medication may also be needed. Not every dog needs anti-anxiety medication, but dogs that are in a horrible state of high anxiety will really benefit. In severe cases, owners can keep their dogs on the medication for the whole season, while others give their dog medicine in the morning if there's a chance of a storm later in the day.



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