

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

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Gina Beck is interviewed by Channel 8's Eileen Whelan. The TV station's visit to Poolesville is pictured in Family Album on page 2.



The Poolesville Day Committee has named its festival headliner. Who can it be? Tidbits on page 5 has the answer.



Deere Valley Farm is the focus in AgNews on page 8.



Find out where this Grey Heron is about to take flight in Garden on page 13. Hint: Consider the spelling of Grey.

Commissioners Vote to Proceed with Taking Control of Fisher Avenue

By Link Hoewing

More than fifteen years ago, when the planning commission developed its Streetscape Plan for an integrated, pedestrian-safe, and attractive main street in the center of town, a key stumbling block to making improvements on the street, known as Fisher Avenue, has been the fact that the State of Maryland controls the road. At its July 18 meeting, the commissioners decided to move ahead with a proposal to begin to work with the state for the transfer of control of the road to the town.

In his presentation to the commissioners about the idea, town manager Wade Yost explained that the planning commission was working on a proposal to update and reinvigorate the Streetscape plan that was first developed in 1999. While the town can present its vision for its main street, it does not control the roadway and must try to convince the state to make any changes or improvements that the



Poolesville seeks to take ownership of state Routes 107 and 109 within town limits.

town believes are needed. This has frequently involved lengthy discussions and even requests for improvements in pedestrian crosswalks to enhance safety have been repeatedly turned down.

Yost explained that a number of municipalities in Maryland—particularly New Market—have moved

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Poolesville's Dog Park's Grand Opening

By Susan Petro

Poolesville dogs give their new park a big paws-up.

After more than three years of effort, the dogs of Poolesville and their people finally have a park to call their own. On July 23, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., dog park advocates, Kevin Roehner and Michelle Riley, cut the ribbon at the new Poolesville Dog Park located at Dr. Dillingham Park on Wootton Avenue. Prior to the ribbon cutting, Commissioner President Jim Brown gave a short speech thanking Riley and Roehner for their research, dedication, and steady commitment to bringing a dog park to town. Additionally, Brown thanked town manager Wade Yost, the Parks and Planning Boards, the commissioners of Poolesville, and all the supporters for working together to bring a new park to our community.

In addition to Brown, Riley, and Roehner, other attendees of the ribbon-cutting ceremony included Parks and

Streets Board chairman Douglas McKenney and vice-chair Jeff McIntyre, Commissioner Valaree Dickerson, local veterinarian, Dr. Peter Eeg, and many furry and human members of the community eagerly anticipating their first visit to the park.

Eeg and a staff member from Poolesville Veterinary Clinic were on hand to offer free bordetella/kennel cough and canine influenza vaccinations.

Park rules require that all dogs visiting the park must be friendly and up-to-date on their vaccines. Dr Eeg also joined the crowd of people and dogs inside the park to help make sure the dog introductions went smoothly.



After a three-year effort, Poolesville's Dog Park opened on July 23.

About a dozen dogs and their family members showed up for the opening day activities and to check out the new park. Shortly after the ribbon-cutting,

Continued on page 6.

Family Album



The crew from Calleva Outdoors picnicked at Whalen Commons.



Eileen Mathews of Channel 8 appreciated her top billing when she did her broadcast from Poolesville on July 22.



These Calleva employees shouted out that Calleva is the best place at which to work—ever.



Chuckles the Clown always gets the young ones smiling!



Commissioners Jim Brown and Val Dickerson extolled the virtues of Poolesville.



Poolesville residents prepare to shout "Good Morning, Washington" to the viewers of Channel 8's early morning show.



Mindy Miller and friends serenaded the Channel 8 TV viewers, inviting them to visit Poolesville.

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Local News

Poolesville and Clarksburg High School Students are Finalists in International Youth Innovation Competition

Dhruv Patel and Vineet Shah of Poolesville High School and Sharvil Parekh of Clarksburg High School are finalists in the Paradigm Challenge, one of the largest youth innovation competitions in the world. The competition challenged students aged seven to eighteen to use STEM skills plus kindness, creativity, and collaboration to generate new ideas to prevent injuries and fatalities from home fires—America’s number one disaster threat.

Patel (seventeen), Shah (seventeen), and Parekh (eighteen) submitted a winning entry entitled HeatSense. The HeatSense is a novel device that notifies residents and neighbors of hazardous gas and fire conditions through a simple phone notification system. This device is unique in that it utilizes a Raspberry pi, Arduino (Editor’s note: a computer and microcontroller, respectively, popular with do-it-yourselfers), and a sensor to detect butane, propane, natural gases, smoke, and other chemicals associated with fires. The indicated hazardous gas level and picture of the room in which it was detected is then sent to users through a simple text message. This innovative device will revolutionize fire safety as we know it.



The HeatSense team: Dhruv Patel, Vineet Shah, and Sharvil Parekh.

More than 50,000 students participated in this year’s Paradigm Challenge, and while the HeatSense team was a finalist and was not one of the final one hundred cash award winners, they are still alive for cash awards in the Public Choice Award competition. The public can also choose its favorite finalists during the public voting period which ends August 30. The ten finalist teams that receive the most votes will win prize money ranging from \$100 to \$5,000. HeatSense members are encouraging everyone to visit the Paradigm Challenge website at www.projectparadigm.org/monthly-contest and vote for their entry.

SCA Winning Essay

By Clara Jackson

There is a wide variety of crops grown and livestock raised in the Montgomery County (“MoCo”) Agricultural Reserve. Some of the most prominent crops grown include corn, soybeans, wheat, and barley. If I had an opportunity to manage a farm in the Ag Reserve, I would try a different crop. While many would choose to grow the established crops, I believe that it would be beneficial to diversify the Ag Reserve by introducing a new crop—hops. This would offer my new farm a niche so that my farm wouldn’t have to compete with older, more established farms. It would also help expand the economy of the Agricultural Reserve because new crops attract new businesses and people. If I were given a farm in the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve, I would grow organic hops (specifically Cascade, Golding, Nugget, Chinook, and Fuggle hops) to sell to the various craft breweries in the D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area.

Continued on page 11.

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24th Annual Poolesville Day

Announces Headliner

The Patty Reese Band



September 17, 2016
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Whalen Commons

Commentary

Reversion to the Mean

By John Clayton

As the past few weeks have gone by, I have been assuming—and perhaps even hoping—that our political process was slowly leaving the Twilight Zone and returning to some sense of normalcy. Of course, another thought is: What was so great about that which we considered normal?

An irony of the two parties' respective primary systems is that the Republicans have embraced the process designed by George McGovern, a Democrat, which left the nominating decision entirely up to the primary voters. The Democrats adopted the McGovern system initially but have since leavened it with some votes for the party bosses, otherwise known as super delegates. The McGovern plan emerged out of the 1968 Democratic Convention debacle when the primary results were cast overboard in favor of the will of the party bosses. McGovern understood the new system better than anyone, and he subsequently rode the process to the 1972 nomination, only to be soundly waxed by Richard Nixon. After four presidential years and an election loss with Jimmy Carter, the Democrats saw the downside of actually trusting rank and file voters and, being the party of equality and influence for all, wrote the party bosses back into the game. The Republicans, the party of equality and influence for anyone with the money to buy it, have preserved their primary system as a pure democracy, or if you prefer, have left themselves entirely open to the will of the rank and file.

This year, both the super delegates and the mob had their day in the sun. As the conventions started, I thought the world had completely slipped off its axis. The Republicans were heading

for a donnybrook. Floor fights! Rule challenges! Delegates up for grabs! Riots in the streets! I was really looking forward to it, but then the party pretty quickly resolved the issues, dusted off the combatants, and for the most part, things went along fairly smoothly. This is as it is meant to be. The GOP always runs orderly and well-organized conventions, and for the most part, raucous and uncouth displays are aimed at the Democrats, not each other. For example, the nominee and the head of the Republican National Committee had been at each other's throats for months, but they made nice at the convention. The nominee and his runner up had a bit of a dustup, and the nominee settled a few scores along the way that he probably could have just left alone, but overall, the party pulled it together, bashed its opponents, and morphed back into a semblance of Republican behavior.

The Democrats, whose conventions are supposed to be fraught with discord, dissent, and general lamentations from the aggrieved, came in talking about a lovefest which would resonate in contrast to those awful infighting and uncouth Republicans. The runner-up had battled with the head of the Democratic National Committee for months, and I, totally caught up in expectation of the sweetness and light that we had been promised, fully expected the runner up and the DNC lady to float onto the stage in a heart-shaped swan boat. Not quite: They unceremoniously threw her overboard, confirming once again that the parties had indeed returned to standard operating procedure, at least temporarily. I did notice, however, that traditional testimonials to the virtues of a man and a woman in marriage, a Republican staple in days of yore, fell instead to former President Bill Clinton, who spoke eloquently and at length about his harmonious married life with the nominee. I don't know what's going on anymore.



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Published and Edited by
John Clayton and Rande Davis

John Clayton
Production
Financial
301.349.0071
jclayton@monocacymonocle.com

Rande Davis
Advertising
Circulation
301.509.9232
rdavis@monocacymonocle.com

Dominique Agnew
Copyediting
dqagnew@gmail.com

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

Monocacy Press, LLC

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

Contributing Writers

Dominique Agnew
dqagnew@gmail.com
Pam Boe
pamboe@intairnet.com
Link Hoewing
linkhoe@aol.com
Kristen Milton
kmilton1998@yahoo.com
Maureen O'Connell
mafoconnell@msn.com
Susan Petro
bsusan424@gmail.com
Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz
Heidi@HealthyEdit.com
Jeffrey S. Stuart
sark10@juno.com
Jack Toomey
jact21262@aol.com
Ingeborg Westfall
ingeborg560@comcast.net

Layout and Graphics

Anne-Marie Thomas • AnyArt Solutions LLC
Anne-Marie@AnyArtSolutions.com

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Tidbits

Dickerson Girl Selected Alternate Miss Dairy Princess

Congratulations to Dickerson's Catherine Savage for being selected Alternate Maryland Dairy Princess on July 13 at the Holiday Inn in Frederick. Mackenzie Underwood of Rising Sun, Maryland won the crown for 2016.

In recognizing young women participating in 4-H and contesting for Miss Dairy Princess, each are considered for their service to their community, school, and church, and for their experience and leadership in dairy farming.

Catherine's interest in dairy and agriculture comes naturally as she grew up on the family dairy farm, and has been highly active in the Maryland and Montgomery County 4-H program for most of her life.

Catherine holds a most impressive resume of leadership, service, and award winning for her participation in 4-H. The PHS rising senior holds certificates from the Center for Dairy Excellence Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow high school program in introductory dairy herd management and dairy business management classes.



Attached are two photos from the Maryland Dairy Princess pageant, held Wednesday, July 13, at the Holiday Inn, Frederick. From left are Alternate Maryland Dairy Princess Catherine Savage of Dickerson, outgoing Maryland Dairy Princess Ellie Grossnickle of Middletown and newly-crowned Maryland Dairy Princess Mackenzie Underwood of Rising Sun.

TV Channel 8 Comes to Town

TV reporter Eileen Whelan from WJLA's Channel 8 broadcast from Poolesville on Friday, July 22 as part of their weekly visit to communities within their viewing area. While here, she interviewed Commissioners Jim Brown and Val Dickerson about the town's summer Fridays on the Commons events and the upcoming Poolesville Day.

Countdown to Poolesville Day

With just a month and a half to go until the 24th Annual Poolesville Day festival, the event's organizing committee, under the leadership of Faith Etheridge, is starting to finalize the plans for the big day. They have many new and exciting events to offer this year starting with the main stage headliner: The Patty Reese Band. The band is known and celebrated for its ability to raise the roof with a get-down rocker sound or to bring tears to your eyes with heartfelt ballads. Each song is loaded with soulful vocals and harmonies, and showcases some of the most critically-acclaimed soloists on the East Coast. Either way, you'll find your feet moving and your heart touched by their infectious rhythms and grooves.

If we told you George Washington will be coming to Poolesville—guaranteed!—you might be skeptical, but we are telling the truth and nothing but (after all, we cannot tell a lie). Only this George Washington is coming from the Washington Nationals baseball team. He will be running around solo while here as the other Nationals Presidents will be staying home.

Continued on page 11.

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August 12: DJ Slim Pickins
August 13: ON THE PATIO
Bobby Lewis Blues Band – 4:30 p.m.

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Things To Do

July 29

Fridays on the Commons: Wine Down in the Park

Wine tent featuring Rocklands Farm, food vendors, inflatables, and music by Gina Beck's Soul Party and the Souled Out Horns. *Whalen Commons*. 6:00 p.m.

July 30

St. Mary's 141st Annual Chicken Dinner

Country store, white elephant, children's games, candy store, baked goods, cake wheel, and live music by Sookie Stomp. *St. Mary's Pavilion*. Noon to 7:00 p.m.

August 1

Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

August 3

Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC)

Tai chi. 10:30 a.m. and *Zumba Gold* at 1:00 p.m. 17750 West Willard Road.

Community Dinner

Featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, summer sides, dessert. All are welcome. Free. *Memorial United Methodist Church*. 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

August 4

PASC Special Event

Matinée Day: Movie selection to be voted on; giant screen TV. 17750 West Willard Road. 1:00 p.m.

August 5

Fridays on the Commons:

Wet, Wacky, and Wild

Water slides, wet children's games, farmers' market, food vendors, and music by The Few. 6:00 p.m.

August 6, 7, and 8

The Blue Hearth's Summer Market Weekend

Featuring renovated and refurbished furniture, gifts, decorative arts, and much more. 19964 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

August 10

PASC Event

Tai chi. 10:30 a.m. and *Zumba Gold* at 1:00 p.m. 17750 West Willard Road.

Planning Commission Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

August 11

PASC Special Event

Craft Day: Seashell crafting. 1:00 p.m. 17750 West Willard Road.

Have an event you'd like to list here?
Email: editor@monocacymonocle.com

Continued from page 1.

Poolesville's Dog Park's Grand Opening

the dogs were busy exploring their new park and meeting new furry friends, while their owners sat in the covered pavilion and socialized.

A little over three years ago, when discussions of a dog park for Poolesville were first brought before the commissioners of Poolesville, there was much skepticism and limited support. With the steady efforts of a group of committed dog park supporters and advocates, led by the husband and wife team of Riley and Roehner, dreams of a dedicated space for Poolesville dogs to run, play, and freely socialize with other dogs slowly turned into a reality as the members of the Parks Board, the commissioners, and Yost worked together to find funding and the perfect location for Poolesville's newest park.

Despite the heat, the grand opening of the park was a success. Thanks to the shade provided by the pavilion and surrounding trees, both people and dogs managed to stay cool. Many people brought much-needed water bowls to keep the thirsty dogs hydrated.

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Continued from page 1.

Commissioners Vote to Proceed with Taking Control of Fisher Avenue

ahead with proposals to have the state transfer control and ownership of roadways within their jurisdiction. The state actually welcomes such proposals from municipalities. Any town that wishes to convince the state to make a transfer of ownership must develop an analysis that carefully assesses short-term and long-term maintenance costs. Usually, the State Office of Real Estate does much of the work in evaluating road transfer proposals from municipalities. A list of short-term improvements that a local government has identified with respect to any road proposed for transfer must also be developed.

Yost said that, generally, in transfer projects like the one regarding Fisher Avenue, there are four phases that are involved: the Planning Phase, the Engineering Phase, the Right-of-Way Phase, and the Construction Phase. It can take five years or even more to move through all of these phases and, given the changes in government that can occur over such periods of time, there are no guarantees with regard to funding for various aspects of a transfer project. He also remarked that while the town may initiate the project, the state remains in control of how the project moves forward and its timing.

The town has identified a number of short-term improvements that it believes need to be made to Fisher Avenue if it is to be transferred. These include some storm drain upgrades, sidewalk repairs and widening, and gutter reconstruction in some areas. The total cost for all upgrades is estimated to be about \$195,000.

The town also put together a preliminary 15 Year Cycle maintenance checklist. Fifteen years is the standard time frame between major repaving and repairs of roads like Fisher Avenue. The state last repaved Fisher Avenue about three years ago, so if the town assumed ownership today, it would have more than a decade before repaving would be required. Even so, the total costs over a fifteen-year planning cycle of maintaining Fisher Avenue could come to nearly \$890,000 according to Town Engineer John Strong.

Both Yost and President Jim Brown iterated that the state has been very difficult to deal with and has not been willing to consider safety improvements or traffic management changes—such as stoplights—that the town has suggested. If the town owned the deed to Fisher Avenue, it could make short-term and safety improvements and the much-more-significant improvements that are contemplated in

the existing Streetscape plan, such as a potential round about. At the same time, the town would have to shoulder all of the ongoing expenses of maintaining the road that today are borne by the state.

In response to citizen questions, the town admitted that it had not yet identified all of the monies needed to maintain Fisher Avenue in the long term. Commissioner Chuck Stump said he could find about \$540,000 in spending that could be allocated to the project but added that more work would need to be done to find additional funding.

When asked what benefits the town stood to gain from assuming ownership of Fisher Avenue, the main response from town officials was the ability to control the road so that the town's vision for the main thoroughfare through town could be realized. In addition, the lack of responsiveness of the state, especially regarding pedestrian safety issues, was cited as another reason to consider a transfer of ownership. The section of Fisher Avenue from the four-way stop at Elgin Road and Fisher Avenue to the intersection of Wootton Avenue and Fisher Avenue is the segment of roadway that would be included in any transfer agreement.

In concluding the discussion, Yost said again that the question comes down to whether or not the town really wants to take over ownership given all the factors at play. This is an issue that has been repeatedly before the commissioners, but there has never been a formal vote to initiate discussions and begin processes that might, in the end result, in a takeover of Fisher Avenue by the town. By a unanimous vote, the commissioners agreed to task Yost, with assistance from Town Engineer John Strong, with beginning to work actively with the state on a project that could lead at some point to a takeover.

In other business, the commissioners voted unanimously to award a contract to M. T. Laney to repave roads in Elizabeth's Delight, Wootton Heights, and Wesmond. The approved funding of \$600,000 included a margin to take care of unanticipated costs. The work is to begin later this summer.

Finally, the commissioners tasked Yost at a previous meeting with the job of negotiating with the Electric Vehicle Institute (EVI) to install two electric vehicle-charging stations near town hall on Whalen Commons. EVI agreed to front the costs for the two stations if the town agreed to assume responsibility for funding the electricity needed to run the stations. EVI also agreed to maintain the two stations for the next three years. The commissioners agreed to the project but will seek corporate sponsors to defray the costs of supplying the electricity.



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Ag News

Deere Valley Farm: A Working Farm with Unsurpassed Views

By Susan Petro

In an era when suburban sprawl has swallowed up much of the historic pastures, fields, barns, and farmland that once dotted much of Montgomery County, Poolesville and adjacent communities are unique because they remain surrounded by the Agricultural Reserve, a scenic swath of 90,000 acres specifically set aside for farmland preservation.

Deere Valley Farm, located in Dickerson, Maryland on the Montgomery/Frederick County line, is one of the many working farms that have been in the same family for multiple generations. The large distinctive white barn and buildings with green roofs are surrounded by fields of rotating crops and have an unsurpassed view of Sugarloaf Mountain. The farm is a familiar site to residents and other motorists who travel Route 28 between Frederick and Rockville.

Today, the farm is run by the Baker family, Paul and Nancy, and their sons, Rob and Ray. Ray and Rob are the fourth generation to grow up on and farm the land. The fifth generation, including their children Josh, Zack, and Ellie, are already engaged in the farming operation and are actively involved in Frederick County 4-H, showing steers, sheep, and pigs among other projects.

Rob Baker returned to working full-time at the farm in 2004, after attending the University of Maryland and studying agriculture and working as an agronomist for a bio-solids company. Together with his mother and father, who both retired from Montgomery County Public Schools, and his brother Ray who is also employed with MCPS,

Rob is part of a unique agricultural family structure that works diligently to pass along this farming legacy to their children.

The Baker family farms approximately two thousand acres of crops, including corn, soybeans, wheat and hay, and oats for feed, in both Montgomery and Frederick Counties in Maryland, and in Loudon County in Virginia. They also raise a herd of beef cattle on additional pasture acres.

Some of the crops raised on the farm are used to feed their cattle while others go to a local grain buyer. Hay and straw are sold both wholesale and retail. "Deere Valley Farm sells high-quality hay. All acres are fertilized and are weed free," said Baker.

The farming season begins in March when the wheat crop that was planted the previous fall is fertilized. In April, the corn is planted, followed by soybeans. Haymaking starts during soybean planting.

"We have a very diverse operation," said Baker, "including growing hay to a variety of grains, raising cattle, and bailing straw. We are busy from the end of March until the end of July." There is a little bit of a break in the beginning of August and then they start the second cutting of hay. In September, the family and their crew members start harvesting corn and beans and finish up around Thanksgiving planting cover crop for the winter.

During the winter months, the cattle operation is more labor intensive as they need additional feeding and care, especially when there is snow on the ground and less pasture visible. Repairs and maintenance on the equipment are also done during this time.

There are many challenges to farming in the Agricultural Reserve, including the increasing population of deer and traffic around the farms. As housing developments move closer to the farms, the deer population is becoming harder to manage. Additional

Continued on page 16.

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Youth Sports

Threepeat— Baseball Is Fun Again For UMAC 11U Cal Ripken Team

By Jeff Stuart

On Sunday, July 17, at Heritage Farm Park in Walkersville, center-fielder Luke Pearre lined a single to left center with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning, scoring Oliver Martin from third, and giving the UMAC 11U baseball team a 7-6 walk-off win over Glade Valley and a rare three-peat. It was the third straight Cal Ripken State Title for this UMAC group after winning at the 9U and 10U levels the past two years. First baseman Martin led off the final inning with a double and moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by left fielder Chase Manion, pinch hitting for Miles Carr. Catcher Ian Stewart then flied out to right, setting the stage for Luke, who also hit a sacrifice fly to score a run in the bottom of the second. It turned out to be a pretty good ball game. UMAC built a 6-2 lead after three innings, but the host team from the Glade Valley Athletic Association battled back with three in the top of the fourth and tied

the game in the top of the sixth. UMAC had nine hits to seven for GV. Martin and right fielder Van Rosenbaum each had two hits for UMAC. Carr singled and walked and scored twice. Third baseman Trent Adelman walked twice and scored a run. Second baseman Alex Escanilla walked with two out in the bottom of the second and scored on Rosenberg's double.

The winning pitcher was Tommy Roldan who pitched five innings, striking out four and recording nineteen first pitch strikes. He needed relief help from Luke Boyd after the Lions moved runners to first and second base with no outs. After a wild pitch, Boyd induced a ground out to second. That scored the tying run, but he struck out the next batter, and the final batter lined out to the first baseman. Boyd had earlier homered to lead off the bottom of the first. GV had scored two in the top half of the inning to take the lead. "They were the best-hitting team we saw at the tournament, and they came out of the gate hitting the ball hard," said coach Drew Woolery. "The game was nip and tuck. They were an aggressive team, capitalizing on miscues by UMAC in the field and on the base paths." UMAC committed three errors.

Roldan, who threw the first three innings in last year's championship, said, "The highlight for me was



Front row: Chase Manion, Alex Escanilla, Luke Pearre, Van Rosenbaum.
Middle row: Noah Ashker, Ian Stewart, Oliver Martin, Tommy Roldan,
Luke Boyd, Miles Carr, Ryan Woolery, Trent Adelman.
Back: Jody Pearre, Paul Martin, Doug Metz.

bouncing back in the fifth inning after struggling a little bit in the fourth when they scored three runs. I threw a lot of strikes and got out of the inning quickly. I got the last batter by striking him out on a curve. My curve was probably my best pitch that day. They are a good team; they timed up pretty well...I had lots of fun. We dumped a cooler on Luke after the walk-off."

"It was a 2-1 count and the pitcher (a submariner) threw me an inside fastball," said Luke, "and I hit it back up the middle. When I rounded first, everyone jumped on me. It was a great moment. It was a lot of fun. So cool." It was Luke's first ever walk-off hit.

UMAC led Hickory Black of Bel Air, 1-0, in the semi-final game before
Continued on page 17.



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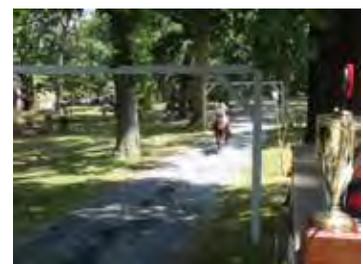
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Continued from page 3.

Local News: SCA Winning Essay

The Craft Beer Industry has grown substantially in the past eight years. Growing over thirteen percent in 2015 alone, the craft brewery business now represents twelve percent of the total beer market and continues to grow. As the demand for craft beer increases, the demand for small farms that specialize in hops (particularly Cascade, Golding, Nugget, Chinook, and Fuggle which are very flavorful and used predominantly in craft beer) also increases. The MoCo Ag Reserve is ideally situated to serve not only craft breweries in Maryland, but also those in Virginia and the District of Columbia. It would be easy to find buyers for my hops because brewers would have convenient access to their supplier, saving on shipping and transport. Brewers would also be able to visit my farm and advertise their use of locally-sourced organic hops which is very appealing to customers of craft breweries. Brewers could also suggest hop varieties for planting, based on plans for particular IPAs, stouts, or ales. Other ingredients used in craft beer are among the most commonly grown in the Ag Reserve, so my customers (brewers) may want to get the rest of their ingredients from the same area. This would increase business in the Ag Reserve for many farmers and increase awareness of the Ag Reserve in general, as breweries advertise the local source of their ingredients.

I would farm my hops organically (without the use of pesticides and chemicals). Chemicals such as pesticides and herbicides can be extremely harmful to the environment, if not managed well, particularly for our waterways. As pesticides are sprayed on fields, they often spread to surrounding land, contaminating the soil and killing non-target plants. This reduces the diversity in the environment as plant species are killed off, and the few that survive proliferate and absorb the pesticide. This, in turn, can cause adverse effects on local wildlife as they consume the pesticide through the plant. Another example of the effects of pesticides is the diminishing bee population. Pesticides (containing



*Award-winning essayist,
Clara Jackson.*

neonicotinoids) kill bees as well as cause Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). This negatively affects the Ag Reserve economy as the bees are key pollinators and, without them, crop production (particularly for fruit) decreases dramatically. Pesticides also make their way into waterways after rainstorms, contaminating the water, with effects on aquatic ecosystems similar to the effects on ground level ecosystems; furthermore, pesticides often remain absorbed in the ground for a long time, depending on the type of pesticide used and the overall health of the surrounding land. In order to preserve the Ag Reserve for future generations and to maintain a viable economy, I would grow my hops organically and encourage my fellow farmers to do the same if possible.

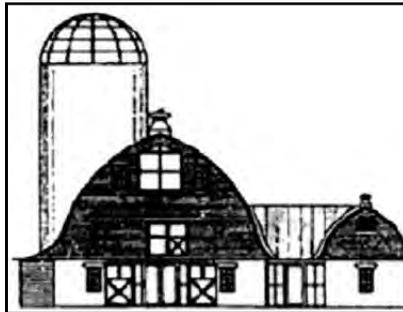
Because of the popularity and growth of the craft beer industry and craft breweries in the D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area, I believe that there is a demand for locally-sourced organic hops; therefore, if I were given a farm in the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve, I would grow organic hops for craft breweries. Consumers (brewers) would be attracted to the convenience and quality of my hops, and these consumers could increase business for my fellow farmers in the Ag Reserve. By farming organic hops, I would help expand the economy of the Ag Reserve and simultaneously help and preserve it for future generations.

Continued from page 5.

Tidbits: Band Camp

Saint Peter's is hosting a summer band camp from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. from August 22 through August 26. Middle and high school aged students—as well as adults who would like to brush the cobwebs off their musical instruments—are invited to improve their musical skills. Lunch will

be provided each day and the camp will conclude with a final concert and family BBQ. Campers will practice and perform in an ensemble, in sectionals with local professional music teachers and musicians, and have mentoring by local high school students. Cost is \$350 for the first child, \$250 for each additional sibling. Please direct all inquiries to Kevin Collar at kevincollar56@gmail.com.



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER July 2016

"Protecting our rural legacy"

How to contact us:

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association

Beth Daly, President

Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road

P.O. Box 218, Dickerson, MD 20842

Visit our Web site: www.sugarloafcitizens.org

And the Winner of the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Creative Essay Contest is...

Clara Jackson!

In an effort to get Poolesville High School (PHS) students—nestled in the midst of Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve—to reflect on the role of local agriculture and conservation efforts, SCA launched an essay contest asking entrants to imagine waking up with 100 acres and \$100,000 at their disposal and design a "dream farm." We worked closely with PHS educators, Allison Wilder, Tiffany Ayers, and Leigh Hegmann, to design the question, promote the contest, and build a panel of "citizen judges" located throughout the Ag Reserve. After reviewing the submissions, Clara Jackson's essay was selected. The judges were impressed with how much careful thought and research went into Clara's submission. Her essay addressed the current market conditions as well as the long term environmental impact of a hops farm in the Agricultural Reserve. Clara managed to convince the panel that her hops farm could be a reality—no small feat—and is the 2016 recipient of the \$300 cash prize.

Note: A special thanks to our panel of judges: Steve Vogel, Steve Findlay, and Ellen Gordon. And congratulations to the Essay Finalists: Kavon Badie, Jennifer Dunn, and Ankit Sheth!

Feel free to check out our website (sugarloafcitizens.org) to learn more about the contest and how to get involved in preserving the rural legacy of Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve. Enjoy the below "summer read" by Clara Jackson!

Warmly,

Beth Daly

President, Sugarloaf Citizens Association

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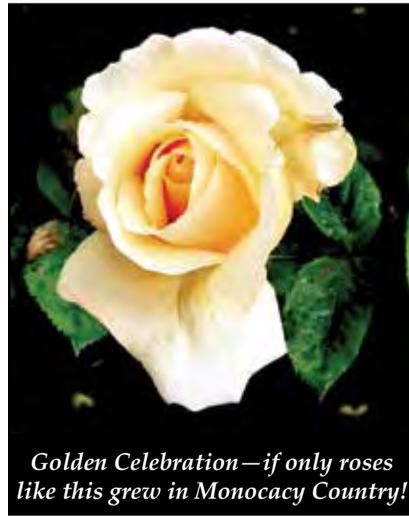
Garden

A Queen's Rose Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

There are many parks and open spaces in greater London, but the centerpieces of its parks systems are the eight Royal Parks of London—Green Park, St. James's Park, Greenwich Park, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, Bushy Park, Regent's Park, and Richmond Park—covering 4,882 acres. Of these, I believe that Regent's Park is the most beautiful and interesting. It covers 482 acres in northwest London and was originally a hunting preserve for Henry VIII in the early 1500s. It remained a royals-only retreat long after it was formally designed by architect John Nash in 1811. There were grand plans for this land reserved for the "wealthy and good," including a palatial summer residence for the Prince Regent, fifty detached villas with surrounding extravagant park settings and elegant terraces. Nash was no businessman, and the project was nowhere near as profitable as he had hoped. The plans were considerably reduced, with only eight villas being built surrounded by parkland and wooded areas. In 1845, it became open to the public. At that time, there was one worthwhile venture that came about: Between 1826 and 1828, the Zoological Society of London established a menagerie in the north end of the park. This zoo was granted a Royal Charter by King George in 1829. Charles Darwin, a fellow of the Zoological Society from 1831, was a frequent visitor. He was particularly interested in the orangutan, the first ever seen in Europe. Today the zoo is considered one of the world's great zoos, with exceptional focus on animal research and the preservation of endangered species.

Today, Regent's Park offers many attractions and draws thousands of visitors each year. There is an enchanting Open Air Theatre, rowing boats for hire, bandstands, cafés, tennis courts,



Golden Celebration—if only roses like this grew in Monocacy Country!

children's playgrounds, and many sports fields. The park has an outer ring road called the Outer Circle and an inner ring road called the Inner Circle, which surrounds the most carefully-tended section of the park, Queen Mary's Garden. This area includes the celebrated Rose Gardens, a cascade, a small Japanese Garden, Mediterranean and herbaceous borders, a waterfall, a lake, Begonia gardens, the Triton Fountain, and the Jubilee Gates of 1935.

I visited the park in the first week of June; I was especially anxious to see the rose gardens and the first two weeks of June are their best viewing times. They did not disappoint; I have never seen such beautiful gardens. The garden, created in 1932, is named after Queen Mary, the wife of King George V and the present queen's grandmother. She officially opened it to the public in 1932, and the rose garden was completed in 1934. It is considered one of the best rose gardens in the world. The collection includes twelve thousand rose bushes and eighty-five single variety beds. There are roses in every hue which include old roses to today's modern roses. The focal point of the garden are the eighty-five single variety beds arranged in a circle around a central fountain surrounded by a roped pergola

Continued on page 18.



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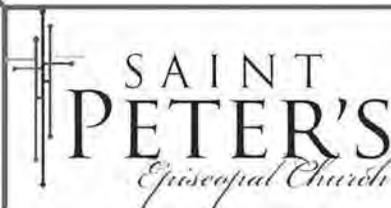
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By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

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Past Crime

August 2, 1896 Deputy Embry organized a posse that was searching for Edward Thompson who was said to have committed a felonious assault upon Mrs. John Simpson at a house near Potomac. Both the Simpsons and Thompsons occupied tenant houses on the farm of Darnes Clagett, and their houses were within calling distance of each other. Apparently, the day before, Mrs. Simpson had visited the Thompson residence and had left her comb there. Upon returning the next day, Thompson assaulted Simpson in a bedroom. Thompson then went to the Stone Brothers' store in Potomac and told a bunch of loungers that he was going to head out of Montgomery County. In the meantime, Mrs. Simpson ran into the fields and alerted

her husband as to what had happened. It was speculated that Thomson headed for Washington or even to try to cross the bridge into Virginia. He had \$1.50 on his person.

August 3, 1892 Word was received at Rockville that on Saturday night Boyd Perry was assaulted by two men in Bethesda. The two men were arrested but managed to escape. Perry's wounds were thought to be fatal, but Doctor Elgin, who attended to Perry, expected him to recover.

August 5, 1892 James Maxwell and his wife, of Dickerson, were fishing in the Monocacy River when Maxwell dropped his fishing pole into the water. When he leaned over to retrieve it, he fell out of their boat and sank almost immediately. Mrs. Maxwell had no way of summoning help, and his body was recovered later that evening from an eight-foot hole.

August 9, 1892 James Mobley was residing in the Rockville jail after an affray in Barnesville. At the camp meeting that Mobley was attending, he became combative and began firing a pistol in the air. When chased, Mobley turned and fired three shots at his pursuers.

August 11, 1894 Sheriff's deputy Thompson travelled to Washington with three warrants for William Magruder charging him with three counts of theft. Thompson enlisted the aid of the Washington police and soon afterwards Magruder was found in an alley near 27th and K Streets, NW. Thompson then left the city headed for Rockville with the prisoner. It was said that Magruder was part of a gang that had committed numerous thefts.



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Continued from page 8.

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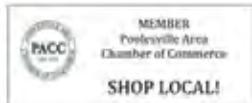
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**Aug. 6th @ 9am - The Catechist Group topic will be:
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again". For details see the Church bulletin.**

**Aug. 15th Monday - The women's Sodality will be
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Continued from page 9.

ThreePeat—Baseball Is Fun Again For UMAC 11U Cal Ripken Team

Noah Ashker hit a two-run homer to left to give his team breathing room. UMAC won, 5-1, to advance. “We caught a rematch of last year’s 10U championship against Hickory,” said Woolery. “They had a very good pitcher who made us scrape for almost every run. The big shot of the day was Noah’s two-run homer. Ryan Woolery pitched five innings, giving up one hit and no runs.”

“There was a runner on second with two outs and it was a 2-0 count,” said Noah. “He gave me a fast ball right down the middle, and I knocked it out of the park. I really figured out that it would help our pitcher to have a bigger lead. I thought it might be the difference.”

“I had good defense behind me,” said Ryan. “Luke Pearre made a crazy catch in the center. My fast ball didn’t move real well, but I was able to fool people with my curve ball.” Ryan also

pitched against Hickory in the championship game last year and was part of a no hitter, but the best moment of the weekend, he says, “was jumping and pouring water on Luke. That was pretty fun.”

UMAC easily defeated Emmerton, 13-0, and Urbana, 11-0, in Saturday’s pool play.

Jody Pearre, UMAC’s manager, said of the championship game, “Give Glade Valley credit. They did a great job. We didn’t play our best game, but at the end of the day, good teams know how to win—and we did. My pitchers did great. The hitters came through. We are not built on one or two players. Everybody contributed, all twelve players. That’s why we won. This was our fourth tournament in a row. We won local tournaments at Rockville, Clarksburg, and Aberdeen, and then capped it off with the states.”

The UMAC 11U squad now advances to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Tournament in Audubon, Pennsylvania from Friday July 28 through Tuesday, August 2.

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A Queen's Rose Garden

draped with climbing roses. The scent in this space is beyond description. It is not only roses that live here. There are hundreds of delphiniums, lavender plants, begonias, hydrangeas, herbs, and other flowering perennials.

As my readers know, I love roses, so this visit was very special for me. As I struggle to grow roses here in Barnesville, I am always a bit jealous of rose gardens in England. They do not have as many of the disease and pest problems that we experience. Like Portland, Oregon, London is an ideal location for growing roses. The next time you happen to be in London, visit Regent's Park, even if the Queen's roses aren't in bloom.



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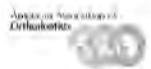
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Top 5 Most Common Orthopedic Conditions in Dogs

Peter H. Eeg BSc, DVM
Poolesville Veterinary Clinic

A 15-year study of purebred and crossbred dogs with inherited orthopedic (bone) conditions found that the following 5 orthopedic conditions occur most commonly:

Elbow Dysplasia:

Common in mixed breeds and purebreds, this abnormal bone growth and formation to the elbow joint is seen most often in purebred dogs. Radiographs (X-rays) at one year and two years of age reviewed by a board-certified radiologist can determine early problems that can be surgically corrected.

Hip Dysplasia:

This condition involves an abnormal hip socket formation, either the ball from the femur or the socket from the pelvis. Over time this can cause increasing lameness and severe arthritic changes. Dogs with this condition often refuse to use stairs and are very slow to rise from a sitting or lying position. Again, radiographs early can help to determine the steps your veterinarian can take to slow or repair the condition.

Intervertebral Disc Degeneration:

Seen mostly in purebred dogs, intervertebral disc degeneration is defined as a structural failure of the intervertebral disc associated with abnormal or accelerated changes seen in various locations in the back. This is typically seen in older dogs and dogs with a longer back than normal. Advances in neurosurgery for animals has improved long-term prognosis in many cases. Common signs are inability of dog to place its rear feet correctly when walking.

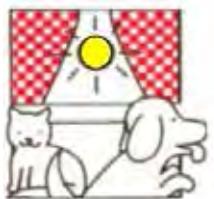
Patellar Luxation (knee cap displacement):

This is a lateral or more commonly a medial (inside) displacement of the patella out of the femur's groove. This condition is seen in both purebred and crossbred dogs. Medial luxations occur in smaller size dogs, but lateral luxations are seen mostly in larger breeds after a trauma. Surgical correction is usually very effective if caught early before arthritic changes begin to show up.

Ruptured Cranial Cruciate Ligament (ACL, CCL rupture):

Most commonly seen in crossbred dogs where the cranial cruciate ligament develops tears in the some fibers due to progressive fatigue, dogs have a consistent forward force on the knee from the normal bent position of the knee. People have a neutral (straight up and down force) on the knee, so even with a full tear we can walk more normally with a brace. Dogs may get some improvement from a brace, but surgical correction, replacement, or force repositioning are usually the best results. Lameness is usually progressive as more and more fibers tear during normal exercise until a complete tear occurs.

It is important that you discuss with your veterinarian the most common orthopedic conditions your breed of dog may show. If you have pet insurance, having normal radiographs of your dogs' hips, knees, elbows, and back when they are young can show the insurance company that a developing orthopedic condition is new and not pre-existing.



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