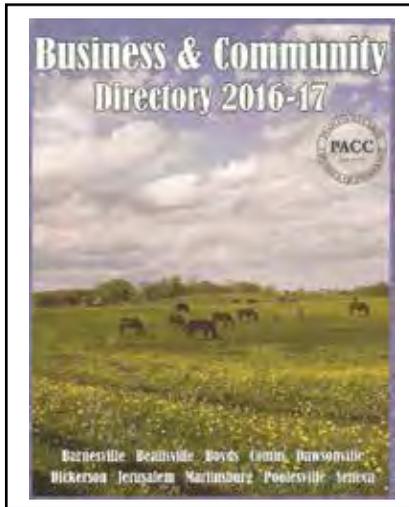


Photo by Bryan Stascavage



This newborn kitten is bottle fed and fostered. Find out by whom on page 4.



Do you want your photo on the cover of the 2018 PACC Directory? Find out how to do it in Tidbits on page 6.



Kids from one to ninety-nine loved the Holiday Lighting Festival. More happy faces can be found on page 10.



This PHS counselor is one of many mystery Santas. Can you name him and the others on page 19?

Fire Destroys Barn and Equipment

By Jack Toomey

A fast-moving fire tore through an Adamstown-area barn on November 29 and completely destroyed the structure and the contents. At about 11:00 a.m., Frederick County Emergency Operations received a frantic call for help from employees at Waverly Farm, a nursery business on Greenfield Road in the southwest part of the county.

Arriving units found billowing black smoke that could be seen as far as Dickerson and Frederick. The chief in charge called for a second alarm that brought tanker trucks from Montgomery and Loudoun Counties. Firefighters used approximately 2,500 feet of hose to connect to a fire hydrant in Adamstown and then ran another very long length of hose to a hydrant on Route 85.

Waverly Farm grows ornamental trees and shrubs for wholesale customers. Employees use specialized equipment that is used to dig trees out of the ground without disturbing the root system. All of that equipment was destroyed.



Barn fire at Waverly Farm on Greenfield Road in Adamstown.

A loss of a million and a half dollars was estimated by the owner. While the cause and origin of the fire had not been officially determined,

the owner told the *Frederick News-Post* that he thought that the fire had started in the engine of a piece of equipment.

BOE Decides Not to Include PHS in Its CIP Budget

By Rande Davis

The Montgomery County Board of Education (BOE) voted on November 27 not to include Poolesville High School in its 2019-2025 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget. This effectively pushes any hope for a new school beyond 2030, as the process of actually building a school takes at least four years or more.

This decision was very disappointing to area parents who had mobilized in large numbers to lobby the BOE to hold to its past CIP decision to schedule PHS for 2023. With impassioned speeches by residents and students, the BOE received input from dozens of concerned citizens whose efforts even got the attention of local television channels 4 and 7.

Continued on page 15.



Prior to the BOE decision on future capital improvements of schools in Montgomery County, WJLA Channel 7's Kelly Lewis interviewed Dan Levine and other PHS activists.

Family Album

Holiday fun at the Odd Fellows Annual Holiday luncheon and the UMCVFD Santa Breakfast.



Santa had a special smile for each and every child.



These kids were hungry after the excitement of seeing Santa Claus.



After seeing hundreds of kids at the fire hall, Santa visited with some adult friends at the Odd Fellows luncheon.



Friends enjoying the meal with friends, all in the holiday spirit.



Dee Turner joined the UMCVFD Ladies' Auxiliary in serving the estimated 500 guests.



The wonder of model trains never goes out of date.



This little sweetheart was just a bit shy for us—but not for Santa Claus!



As always, there was room for all the hungry people.



Sharing a holiday meal as guests of the Odd Fellows Lodge 97.

Town Government

Town Commissioners Mull over County School Board's Decision on Poolesville High School

By Link Hoewing

The town commissioners spent a large portion of their meeting on December 4 discussing the refusal of the Montgomery County Board of Education (BOE) to include Poolesville High School in the 2019-2025 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget for modernization.

The topic of school modernization came up at the very beginning of the meeting when two down-county residents running for at-large seats for the County Council, Melissa McKenna and Paul Geller, appeared before the commissioners to discuss their candidacies. Both have been leaders at the county level in the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). Both spent a large segment of their comments acknowledging how unfair the existing CIP process is to Poolesville High School. Mr. Geller offered his view that the tax revenues from casinos in the state, which were initially set to be shared with county school systems at a level of forty-five percent of the total proceeds, have declined and state leaders do not seem to be concerned. This reduction has set up a battle over decreasing resources, he noted, that has meant Poolesville, with its small voting population and correspondingly limited political clout, has been left out of the CIP.

All of the commissioners expressed frustration with both the CIP process and the outcome. Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski said he had been making the point about the casino tax revenues for a while in his testimonies before the BOE and the council. Commissioner Valaree Dickerson said that while she agreed that the promises regarding casino tax revenues had not been honored, "the argument that the money is not there is wrong—it is." She suggested that Poolesville has historically been ignored when it comes to a wide variety of county services, and the lack of funding for the high school's renovation is just another example.

Commission President Jim Brown took the argument to a higher level, arguing that the town has no one representing its interests in the County Council. He suggested that redistricting the county to reduce or eliminate at-large seats and ensure that one district is specifically designed to take into account the interests of the entire Poolesville area and its citizens is needed.

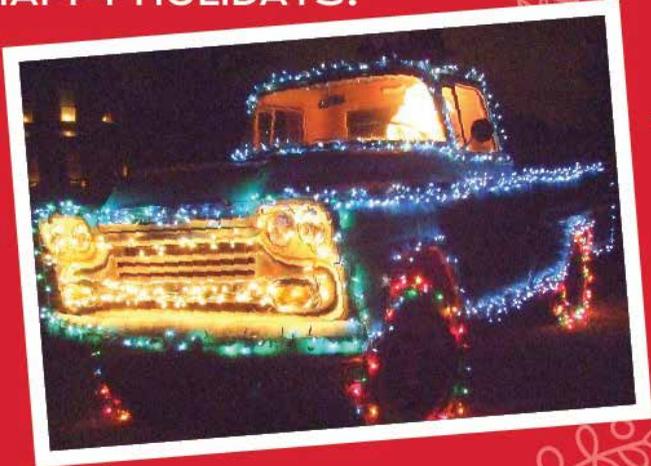
After this discussion, the commissioners turned to consider a letter proposed by Commissioner Klobukowski to request that Superintendent of Schools Jack White be summoned to appear before the commission and citizens of Poolesville to explain why PHS was left out of the CIP budget. Commissioner Klobukowski said that the letter would not just ask for an explanation about how the decision to exclude Poolesville from being renovated was made but would also ask Mr. White to provide his views on what the long-term plans are for the entire Poolesville cluster. The draft letter was discussed, and the commission voted unanimously to send the letter, once all commissioners had discussed it and offered suggestions.

Town Engineer John Strong appeared next to support a request from Kettler Forlines, the builders of Tama, Brightwell Crossing, and the Reserve, to reduce the bonds they have taken out as insurance for various projects related to its construction activities. The Reserve is currently under construction and, in the latest phase of the project, the builders requested that their bonds be reduced by fifty percent for their work on the storm drain system and the sidewalks and curbing. Reducing the bond requirements lowers the costs of the bonds to the builder and is only done if a builder meets construction goals at various stages. Mr. Strong said he believes the builder has met its requirements for this stage of the development and recommended lowering the bond levels. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the recommendations.

The commissioners then turned to considering a resolution supporting local purchasing in making decisions about town contracts for services and products. The town currently has a policy that requires it to give consideration to whether a proposed provider of a service or product is based locally. The policy does not allow the town to ignore competitive bidding, which is used for most things it purchases, but rather allows it to give special consideration to local businesses in contracting situations, all else being equal or equivalent. The draft policy codifies existing practices and is an important part of the town's effort to seek recertification as a "sustainable" town under the Sustainable Maryland program. The commissioners voted unanimously to put the resolution out for public comment and eventual adoption.

Continued on page 22.

Merry
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Rande(m) Thoughts The New-School Deferment Is Not The Worst That Could Happen

By Rande Davis

The Board of Education's decision to not go forward with the previously-planned new school for Poolesville in 2023 has now been made. It should be noted that with this CIP budget locked until 2026, a new school is not now possible anytime sooner than 2030, since it was confirmed in a BOE meeting that it takes two years to design and gain all necessary governmental approvals and permits, and another two years to actually construct. While highly disappointing, it is not the worst decision they could have made. The worst decision would have been to close Poolesville High School.

Let me be very clear: I find that possibility at this stage still primarily unlikely. The county is trying to solve its down-county over-population problem, not add to it by moving our children into their already over-crowded schools.

In terms of past MCPS policy, PHS has always been considered radically under-populated when considering our local student population is only about six hundred students. We get to 1,200 by importing students from outside jurisdictions every day. The county's school population model for the future is more like Quince Orchard's student body of over 2,000 students.

If it is financially viable for the county to bus six hundred down-county students to Poolesville every day, how different is that from bussing our six hundred children down-county. It frightens me to even bring this up, but it is the Elephant in the Room, and we better start gearing up to keep our school now. It is clear: New schools will be decided not by structural need but by student population, future growth, and votes. We simply do not have any of these.

I understand that the new-school advocates are planning to take the battle to the county council. The problem with that is: Who do we think created the over-population of the down-county anyway? It was not BOE but rather decisions by the county, its council, and the state. That decision came from advocates of the decades-old smart-growth plans encouraging the idea of directing population growth where the infrastructure

already exists. This philosophy naturally avoids new housing sprawl in the more sparsely-populated areas that would require newly-constructed infrastructure. This policy has been a godsend for our Ag Reserve. Down-county planners often appear to share our love of nature when, in actuality, their support has more to do with their smart-growth model of avoiding growth in areas like ours which requires the excessive costs of nearly all-new roads and infrastructure—so, for now, for them, it is most convenient to support the Ag.

With the new school off the table for a minimum of thirteen years, just where does the county see the educational priorities for our students. The best scenario now is for the county to allocate enough funds to modernize and renew the school early in the next CIP phase. My greatest fear is to close it.

The notion to close our school has been around the block a number of times in the past. It was a big public concern in the 1950s and 1960s and would have probably happened except, in the 1960s and 1970s, we began to grow out of Poolesville's Civil War-era-sized population with the construction of Westerly, Wesmond, and the expansion of the water and sewer system.

Even with all the approved new homes currently scheduled for Poolesville, the population may increase by three hundred to four hundred at the most. If existing population numbers of 5,600 are on the mark, a 6,500 master plan population will only be possible if the turnover of empty-nesters happens rapidly, resulting in most homes seeing an increase in family size back to 3.25 persons per house. Even then, the growth of our local high school student population is unlikely to exceed three hundred to four hundred. That would only bring us to around one thousand students living in the area.

I would encourage a full-throated campaign to begin, without delay, to obtain every and all kinds of assurance that Poolesville will keep its high school even if the magnet schools systems and educational houses begin to be moved elsewhere. Our parents would not want our kids bused down-county. Are down-county parents any different? Any of the new schools now being planned could have enough physical expansion to incorporate a magnet school house or two.

I am not all doom and gloom. There is some sunshine on the horizon. When I went to my fiftieth high school

Local News

Finding Help for Animals in Despair

By Susan Petro

"I'm not broken, my heart is full of love just waiting to share with the right person. Will you care for me until my forever person finds me?" Love, any shelter animal.

Who can resist the tug of one's own desire or the pleas of a family member who desperately wants a new furry friend for the holidays? Nothing can compare to the Norman Rockwell moments of a wiggly, excited puppy or a mischievous kitten springing from a box on Christmas morn—so much fun, laughter, and good times; however, pet adoptions on a whim often lead to a heartbreaking outcome for our furry friends if the adopters discover they weren't truly prepared for all of the time, expenses, and training needed to successfully introduce a new member to the family. Shelters often become those pets' last resort. These animals aren't damaged goods, they are just waiting for that right person or family to find them. Montgomery County's Animal Services and Adoption Center

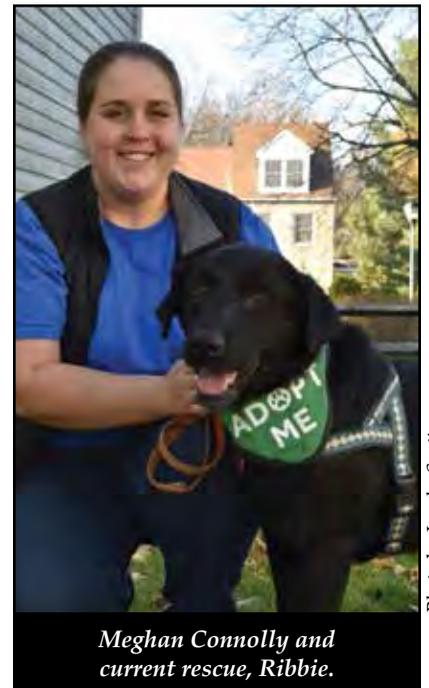


Photo by Jaclyn Scott.

Meghan Connolly and
current rescue, Ribbie.

(MCASAC) strives to find a warm, safe landing spot and, ultimately, a forever home for every adoptable animal who enters its facility.

Foster parent volunteers are an essential component to the shelter operations and ultimate success in finding new homes for animals in need. Joanne Heller, the foster/

Continued on page 8.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

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Continued on page 12.

Local News

School Safety Alerts, Proper Parental Responses, and Issues of Confidentiality Highlight Recent Meeting of the Upcounty Prevention Network

By Rande Davis

The Upcounty Prevention Network (UPN), a citizen-driven initiative to address growing concern over substance abuse generally and opioid misuse in particular, met with Poolesville High School principal Deena Levine in a conversation about communication protocol between the group, the community, and school administrators. In calling for the November 16 meeting, group leader Charlotte Boucher noted, "We have all seen how damaging gossip and partial stories can spread in any community, but we also want to be aware of the situations our kids have to face when we're not there with them to support them directly. How does the school determine what to share with the community? How can we alert school and other authorities when we become aware of something distressing going on or rumored to be going on among our kids? How can UPN work with the school to protect students from destructive decisions and the negative backwash of often unclear or inaccurate gossip?"



PHS Principal Deena Levine met with the Upcounty Prevention Network to discuss ways to maximize communication between the two organizations.

Joining in the discussion was Officer Doug Tressler of the Montgomery County Police, its community relations liaison and a permanent member of UPN. Officer Tressler explained that the priority of MCP lies in helping persons with substance abuse addiction rather than criminal arrests and that parents should know their policy is to work with individuals toward addiction abatement. This approach does not include those selling addictive substances. He welcomes parents calling the police non-emergency number at 301-279-8000 to arrange an interview with him or other MCP substance abuse professionals to discuss their concerns in a confidential environment.

Ms. Levine provided a county emergency reporting directive from MCPS advising persons whom to call when something heard or seen worries a parent or resident. The county contact number is Safe Schools, a twenty-four-hour hotline: 301-517-5995. For particular concerns at PHS, the administration number for such matters is 240-740-2400, for the counseling personnel it is 240-740-2420.

A member of UPN voiced strong concern over confidentiality issues in the past but also pointed out that such misgivings are not necessarily a reflection of current counseling personnel. Ms. Levine reacted with alarm over these comments and assured the attendees that the administration is fully devoted to maintaining proper confidentiality. She hoped to meet with that person privately to learn more of her concern.

Ms. Levine wanted to assure those in attendance that all calls of concern are followed-up on and done so in full confidentiality. The degree to which parents or the community are notified of a particular problem is a balance between personal confidentiality and the immediate need to alert students and parents. This process is strictly regulated by MCP with an approach to restorative practices as opposed to law enforcement. "If someone is under the influence, the restorative approach goes through levels of concern based on age, grade, first-time versus

Continued on page 14.

Gail Lee and her Team wish you a wonderful Holiday Season!

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7 pm – Family Candlelight Communion Service

9 pm – Traditional Candlelight Communion Service

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Tidbits

Do You Want Your Photograph on the Cover of the 2018 PACC Directory?

Well, we don't mean your portrait exactly, but an original unpublished photograph by you taken within the last twelve months. Photos will be judged on creativity, photographic quality, and effectiveness in showing the unique character of the areas that are included in the directory, specifically the upper western region of Montgomery County, including the areas of Barnesville, Beallsville, Boyds, Comus, Dawsonville, Dickerson, Jerusalem, Martinsburg, Poolesville, and Seneca. Your entry or entries must be in by December 29, so don't delay in getting your application by going to the PACC website and downloading its entry form. The Monocle will announce the winner in an upcoming issue.

Rural Women's GOP Club Welcomed Hoerber

National security expert and candidate for congress, Amie Hoerber, joined the Rural Women's Republican Club at its monthly meeting on November 20 held at the Old Town Hall and Bank Museum in Poolesville.

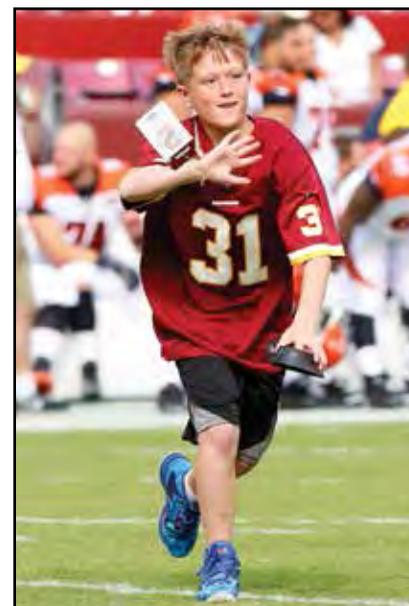
In a conversation-like presentation, Ms. Hoerber elaborated in a forty-five-minute presentation, without notes, on matters of national security with special emphasis on the growing concern of North Korea's development of a deliverable nuclear weapon by ICBM. The Potomac resident and Stanford graduate was a deputy undersecretary of the army under Ronald Reagan. As such, she oversaw the army's research and development programs and managed the environmental cleanup of decommissioned bases.



Amie Hoerber and Club President Sharon Bauer, front center, with members of the Rural Women's Republican Club.

Local Boy Kickoff Kid for Redskin Game

This story came to us some time ago, but it's too good to let slip by. Samuel Lewis, son of Kirsten and Andrew Lewis of Poolesville, was the "Kickoff Kid of the Game" at the August 27 Redskins preseason game versus the Cincinnati Bengals. As the Kickoff Kid, Sam ran onto the field after the first half kickoff to retrieve the ball tee. Sam was announced on the stadium's loudspeaker and was featured on the stadium's jumbo screens. Sam and his parents are very grateful to the Redskins Charitable Foundation and Lymphoma Society-National Capital Area for this opportunity.



Poolesville's Steinberg Makes University of South Alabama's President Scholars List

Congratulations to PHS graduate Sara Steinberg for being named to South Alabama's President Scholar List.

The university announced 137 students having been so recognized on the President's List 2017. The list includes all full-time students earning a 4.0 semester grade-point average.

The University of South Alabama is home to more than 15,500 students and offers more than one hundred academic programs.



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Garden

The Magic of Midwinter

By Maureen O'Connell

About this time of the year, I hear the moans and groans of some of my friends: Oh no, winter is coming. They can already start to shiver, slip on the crusty ice, and worry about the snowdrifts. Well, you might call me a romantic, but, truth be told, I love winter. I anxiously look forward to seeing the first magical snowflakes softly falling to the ground and blanketing it in drifts of white. The hoar frost delicately dusts interlocking ice crystals on the branches of trees, leaves, hedgerows, and blades of grass, creating a Winter Wonderland day.

Winter invites us to turn inward to a quiet time, a place of stillness, silence, and solitude. In our very hectic world, not all like to go there. On a cold wintry night, I look forward to curling up on the comfy sofa near the fireplace with a good book with, more often than not, my yellow Lab Spencer close beside me. It is a time to forget about the cares of the world for awhile. No need to worry about garden chores; the garden will exist without you.

There is a saying that the measure of a good garden is how it presents itself in winter. The artist Andrew Wyeth said: "I prefer winter and fall, when you can feel the bones and structure of the landscape—the loneliness of it—the dead feeling of winter. Something waits beneath it—the whole story does not show." Some trees and shrubs look more alive in winter. I think that God created evergreens to keep the green in our world, even in the depths of gray winter. When the structure of foliage and flowers is removed by December, form really comes into its own. The American holly in my front yard stands stately and tall covered with bright red berries. In heavy snows, deer and small animals seek shelter under its heavy branches. The eight English boxwoods in the Middle Earth of my garden look even greener against the glacier white of snow. The tall, airy, spike-like clusters of the Russian sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*) have turned a silver gray color. The 'Snow Queen' oakleaf hydrangea's rose-pink flowers are gone, but its leaves have turned a deep red bronze and the tan-brown exfoliating bark contrasts with the gray winter sky. The stems of the English lavender have a soft sage color and they still carry a scent. My two new Arnold Promise witch hazels are nicely planted. I look forward to seeing them from my kitchen window—their flowers with wavy yellow petals and red cups in late winter—when there are no other flowers to enjoy.

The older I get, the more of a garden minimalist I become with an eco-conscious focus. I use more drought-, disease-, and pest-resistant plants. The empty winter garden in its stripped back state allows you to appreciate its geometrical lines. Undistracted by colorful flowers and chores to be done, I relive the glory days of spring, summer, and fall in the dormant, not dead, sleeping plants. I can see, smell, and touch them in the cold days of January and February. Thus is the magic of a well-presented winter garden. Gardening begins in January with a dream. We must learn to respond to the land under our feet and the environment around us.

This year, be a little more of a romantic and bring the celebration of winter into your home.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful holiday season. Onwards and Upwards into the New Year.

Worship with Poolesville Baptist this Christmas!

 <p>Sunday Morning Dec 24th Fellowship at 10 am Worship at 10:30 am</p>	 <p>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Dec 24th at 6 pm</p>	
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Continued from page 4.

Finding Help for Animals in Despair

adoption coordinator for MCASAC, touts the many benefits the foster care system provides to the shelter animals. Volunteers are needed to care for puppies and kittens that are too young to be adopted. Older dogs and cats benefit socially and emotionally by having a chance for a break from the shelter environment. Dogs that are timid or stressed in a shelter may not show well at the shelter but will blossom and come out of their shells in a home environment. Animals that are sick can be nursed back to health away from the general population. Additionally, the shelter staff can learn more about the animals under their care from a foster parent.

Volunteers are needed for all types of animals and different levels of commitment, for as little as a few weeks at a time to a couple of months for each animal fostered. There are also volunteer opportunities for people who may not be able to bring a pet into their home but who would be willing to take a dog out of the shelter for a walk or short outing. Each foster parent or shelter volunteer must complete training and a background check. Keller offers training monthly and, occasionally, more often according to need. Additionally, the staff at MCASAC strives to match the right animal in need to the most appropriate foster volunteer or adoptive family.

Local volunteer, Meghan Connolly, has fostered many dogs, cats, kittens, and even a bearded dragon throughout her adult life. Connolly, a veterinarian for the National Institutes of Health, began fostering future seeing eye dogs during her college years after realizing how these highly-trained dogs could help people with disabilities, such as a close friend of hers who was blind. The puppies spent their first thirteen to sixteen months living with Connolly, attending classes, visiting restaurants and shops, and socializing in preparation for their next phase of life as service animals.

Connolly always enjoyed the companionship of animals but realized that her busy schedule and financial obligations made adopting a pet unfeasible at certain stages in her life. Connolly's experience as a veterinary student and veterinarian provided her with numerous opportunities to provide critical foster care to many animals, including what many veterinary hospital staff refer to as "good sams." They are animals brought in for emergency care where no owners ever come forward. Without people like Connolly to foster these animals, they faced certain euthanasia.

Like many foster parents, Connolly occasionally becomes a "foster failure." A foster failure leads to the best possible outcome for both the animal being fostered and the foster parent who ultimately falls in love and decides to keep the animal he is fostering. MCASAC gives first refusal rights to its foster volunteers if they decide they want to adopt the animal in their care, but Heller emphasizes the importance of always having regular foster volunteers available to take in more animals as the need arises. The ultimate goal is to find each adoptable dog, cat, or other animal a forever home.

As the season of giving is rapidly approaching, organizations like MCASAC are hoping that volunteers will step forward to give their animals in need a second chance at life. To learn more about becoming a foster parent or volunteer, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices or contact fostermcasac@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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Youth Sports

Basketball, Swimming, and Wrestling Teams Ready for Winter Season

By Jeff Stuart

The Poolesville girls' basketball led Falcon athletics into the winter season. The team won twenty-one games last year and twenty the year before. It's about time people noticed.

"We are just looking forward to having another good year," said coach Fred Swick. "We have got seven of our top eight players returning. The only loss to graduation was point guard Kenydi Cross. The other four starters will all be seniors this year, and we have our top three substitutes from last year also returning. The leading candidates for point guard are juniors Ali Haddaway and Sarah Mullikin. They were the first two players off the bench last year. We have got some other good players in the program, as well, younger players that will help us fill gaps. We are going to be a good team"

"My expectation is that we will solidify our teamwork together and grow as a team on and off the court, and that will be reflected in our overall record," said 6'-1" senior forward Julia Hobbs. "I am not pointing to any one game. I expect them all to be good, hard games. Our leadership is going to be different this year; we have some pretty strong seniors."

"I expect we will have a lot of energy, and I think we will be able to push the ball up more," said 5'-6" shooting guard Madeleine Thompson. "I think that we will be very intense on defense. We are going to do some man defense to make them rush and get some points off turnovers. I am looking forward to the B-CC game, our first home game on December 12. They have a lot of good shooters, and they are really fast. They are good competition for us."

"We are going to play more up tempo," said 5'-11" senior guard Kelliann Lee. "We are trying to push the ball up court more. We've got some new plays. We have a strong starting lineup, a good core group. We are a good team. Coming off the bench we have a lot of strong players that can fit right in, and we won't have a big drop off."

"I am excited, this being my last season," said 6'-3" senior forward Erin Green. "It's great because four of our five starters are returning. We only lost one key player. I feel like we will be just as good if not better than last year...We have a lot more plays. We are versatile. We have plays for the guards. We have plays for the post. We can make adjustments. In the regular season, Damascus is a rival and always a good team. We have an even record with them since I have been here, so hopefully we will beat them twice and get a winning record."

The Falcons' next game is December 8 at Wootton.

"The boys return six players from last year's team," said boys' basketball coach Kenny Kramek. "They are led by returning starters Ryan Haddaway and Jack Tyler. Seniors Pete Barry, George Chen, Jimmy Dutton, and Michael Basehore will be looked upon to increase their roles this year. Junior varsity call-ups, junior James Lang, and sophomores Nick Zenhle and Colin Hammitt, will be asked to pick up a lot of scoring that was lost to graduation. The Falcons face a difficult schedule playing twelve 4A schools. Perennial powerhouse Magruder is also back on the schedule, but we are looking forward to the challenge."

The boys' next game is on December 12 against Wootton.

"We are looking to pursue another state championship for both the boys and girls, and so far we will have a lot of help doing so," said swimming and diving coach Jon Leong. "Over one hundred students have expressed interest in joining the swim and dive team. We graduated a very strong class last year, but we do anticipate the 'next man up' philosophy. We will call upon our depth to help us through the season. It will be a challenge; we will be in MCPS Division 1 against Whitman, RM, Churchill, WJ, and BCC; however our athletes are determined to step up and meet the challenges head first as we dive into our new season.

"This year's senior captains will be led by Julia Wang and Katarina Lechner on the girls' side; both were in the finals in Metros as well as top-three finishers at states in their events. They are looking to make the girls' states championship run four years in a row. On the boys' side, David Umansky, Zach Nachod, Christian Fuhrman, and Roger Yerger will try to make the boys' streak continue to an unprecedented seven in a row. They know the challenge is daunting but look forward to putting the pool in Poolesville.

"Some freshmen to follow are Jonathan Ye, Alex Chen, and Jacqueline Li."

Continued on page 23.



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2017

The Holiday Lighting Festival



Continued from page 4.

The New-School Deferment Is Not The Worst That Could Happen

reunion a year ago, I was amazed at what I saw. The old junior-senior high school was still there and still a joint-educational facility seldom seen elsewhere today. It was built in the mid-1950s, nearly the same time as PHS. Binghamton, New York has been a city of declining population ever since IBM, Link, and other related industries left town, and there simply have not been any new high schools built since then. In fact, they have closed one. They have, however, used their funds wisely by renovating and modernizing the building. I saw what looked like the same school on the outside housing a beautiful school within, featuring a new and modern cafeteria, an incredible new library that replaced my old gym, and a new gym with climbing walls and other exciting and intriguing new exercise devices. They even have a new Olympic-sized indoor pool.

We have the makings of a beautiful school but only if we keep it. The battle ahead is not certain, but I believe the county would still rather help maintain a robust small high school, perhaps even with a nationally unique agricultural/environmental education department.



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Sunday, Dec 3 rd : 10am to 8pm	Saturday, Dec 9 th : 10am to 8pm
	Sunday, Dec 10 th : 10am to 8pm
	Friday, Dec 15 th : 4pm to 8pm
	Saturday, Dec 16 th : 10am to 8pm
	Sunday, Dec 17 th : 10am to 8pm

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Things To Do

Poolesville Area Senior Center (PASC) Events

Pickleball: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Game Day: Tuesdays: 1:00 p.m. Poolesville Baptist Church

Zumba Gold: Every Wednesday in gym, 1:00 p.m.

December 8

PHS Varsity Home Game

Boys' basketball. Wooton. 7:15 p.m.

December 12

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' basketball. B-CC. 5:15 p.m.

Boys' basketball. B-CC. 7:15 p.m.

December 9

Special Library Event: Happy Birthday Walt Disney

Celebrate Walt Disney's birthday. We will have a craft, a snack, and will watch Ratatouille! *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 3:00 p.m.

December 15, 16, and 17

The Blue Hearth Market Weekend

The holidays are a special time; get your home ready and plan ahead. We can help make your holiday décor unique and your gift giving extra special this year. *19964 Fisher Avenue.* Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

December 16

Special Library Event: Family Storytime

A 25-30 minute program designed to delight children of all ages. Filled with diverse stories and activities that promote and develop language skills and imagination. This program encourages children to develop a life-long love of reading and learning, and introduces them to the culture of reading. *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 10:30 a.m.

Live Nativity

Experience the joyousness of the season through a live nativity scene presented by youth and adults of Memorial United Methodist Church in Poolesville. This is a wonderful and unique way to share the advent season outside of sometimes-hectic times of Santa and all the presents. *MUMC.* 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

December 27

Special Library Event: MCPL Expeditions – An Adventure Awaits You

Please join us as we explore and learn about new places. We will be using a Google Expedition Kit to travel on our virtual adventure. Virtual reality viewers will allow us to see and learn about exciting new locations. This program is geared for ages 13 and up. *Maggie Nightingale Library.* 3:00 p.m.

Continued from page 5.

School Safety Alerts, Proper Parental Responses, and Issues of Confidentiality Highlight Recent Meeting of the Upcounty Prevention Network

repetitive behavior, and the consequence would be developed through progressive discipline, starting at the lowest level working up," she explained.

While issues of general abuse may trigger an alert home to parents, specific problems regarding an individual or small group would be handled through a confidential process in association with the police when necessary.

UPN plans to prepare a fact sheet on matters of legality of use of various products, especially since the legalization of marijuana in various jurisdictions has resulted in confusion among some youth in their understanding as to their legal jeopardy of its use. Plain and simple, it is still not legal for under-aged persons to use marijuana.

Tools for better understanding how parents should respond to their concerns are available through the school starting with a county-wide code of conduct that is available through the administration or on the MCP website.

The discussion also provided information about the MC Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its Screening and Assessment Services for Children and Adolescents (SASCA) which conducts assessments and recommendations for treatment and referrals for county youth. There is no fee for these county services. These services are provided by clinicians with a minimum of a Master's Degree and two years of experience as mental health professionals. The service can be reached at 240-777-1430.

UPN hopes to expand the use of its Facebook page to better communicate to parents on matters of substance abuse. UPN welcomes participation by any concerned citizens in its mission.

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Entertainment Schedule

DJ Entertainment on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30PM



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Christmas Services

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Christmas Bell Concert
Sunday, Dec. 10 at 10:45 am

Christmas Cantata "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
Sunday, Dec. 17 at 10:45 am

Christmas Eve Morning Service
Sunday, Dec. 24 at 10:45 am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Saturday, Dec. 24 at 6:00 pm

barnesvillebaptist.org
facebook.com/barnesvillebaptistchurch

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Change in Method of Operations at the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility
Increased Production of Bagged Material

Pursuant to Section 7 (*Prior Review*) of the Agreement of Settlement and Compromise between the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, Inc. ("SCA") and Montgomery County, dated April 19, 1996, as amended ("the Agreement"), the County is conducting a Public Hearing at

7:00 pm on Monday, February 12, 2018
 Gothic Dairy Barn, 20900 Martinsburg Road
 Dickerson, Maryland 20842

to consider modification of operations at the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility ("Composting Facility") to increase annual bagging operations of compost material to a maximum annual limit of 650,000 bags, beginning with FY 2018.

After the aforementioned public hearing, the Hearing Officer will issue a written decision on this matter.

A copy of materials to be relied upon by the County at the hearing is available upon request by emailing william.brogie@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Written statements for consideration in this matter may be submitted to Mr. Bill Broglie, Acting Chief, Division of Solid Waste Services, Department of Environmental Protection located at 101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor, Rockville, Maryland 20850 or email (at the above email address) no later than February 5, 2018.

Continued from page 1.

BOE Decides Not to Include PHS in Its CIP Budget

Still, they determined our needs were not as pressing as elsewhere in the county.

Local leaders, though, are adamant the campaign to restore PHS in the budget will continue with the Poolesville-area PTA holding a meeting on December 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the PHS Media Center to discuss the advocacy strategies moving forward.

PTA Cluster Coordinator, Kevin Schramm, observed, "The decision by the Montgomery County Public School BOE not to include PHS in the six-year CIP Budget was shortsighted and disrespectful to the residents of the Upper Montgomery County area. Poolesville-area PTA leaders are not giving up the campaign."

Poolesville Commission school liaison Jerry Klobukowski told the Monocle, "To many who have been patiently waiting and anticipating PHS's modernization, this feels like a real slap in the face. Although not happy with 2023, we thought we had a solid commitment from MCPS for PHS's modernization. MCPS has had capacity issues since before the turn of this century; and with the level of development/redevelopment going on throughout the county, combined with population turnover, we will continue to have a capacity issue into the foreseeable future. The BOE, County Council, County Executive, and Maryland Capital Park and Planning need to have a very serious conversation concerning new development/redevelopment and establish a new approach which permits the maintenance and modernization of existing schools. The commissioners are going to invite MCPS superintendent Dr. Smith to personally come to a commissioner meeting and discuss MCPS's long-term plans for the Poolesville Cluster."

Jennifer Singh, who was recently interviewed by Channel 7, said, "The Board of Education's new CIP budget places the wants of developers ahead of the needs of our children. Our children deserve better. Every child deserves better."

Also interviewed by Channel 7 was Dan Levine. He shared his communication to the BOE with the *Monocle*, observing, "The BOE says they do all they can to ensure the schools have the resources they need to be successful. Poolesville in the end still doesn't have that, just go look at the locker rooms as an example, or the kids sitting on the floor to eat lunch, or go to the church here in town where the kids go because PHS cannot get them lunch because of the cafeteria. The BOE talked about how important community schools are, well, PHS is even more so because we are a small community."

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Yeas and Neighs

A Blast in the Past, Part Two

By Andie Devynck

We left off Part One of the history of the Sugarloaf Riding Club somewhere in the mid-nineties with the memorable crossing of the Potomac River at White's Ford. Many of the full-fledged members during the eighties and nineties up to the turn of the century still participate in the SRC but are now social members only. This means that while they either no longer have horses or perhaps just no longer ride, they pay their dues in order to remain active in the club, and they are welcome additions to the vaunted après-ride meals of the more celebrated of the yearly excursions.

One of those rides is the Woolie Waddell Memorial Breakfast Ride. Woolie rode in the seventies and eighties, leading this ride. When Woolie died in 1997, other members took over leadership of it, dedicating it to him. It stands out as well because of its steadfast commitment to the rule that all diners—and there's typically a huge turnout of guests for this event—must wait for the arrival of the riders back at camp, no matter how hungry they are, nor how good the bacon smells, nor how late the hour. The ride has been hosted for many years by Jim and Maureen O'Connell, Bruce and Barbara Wooden, and Audrey and Walter Pritchard, with Patricia Milligan and Mike Fox taking over for the Pritchards last year. One talented and committed chef, Mrs. Lou Perry, who died a few weeks ago, catered the event together with members of her family for almost all its years.

Another is the Father's Day Ride to the Sugarloaf Winery. It used to be the Mother's Day Ride, but since the ground was often too wet during that holiday, it was pushed back a month. At this last ride of the spring season, hosted for the last ten years by members Ron and Juanita Breland, riders are treated to a jaunt through a normally-inaccessible, private 1,200-acre property between Barnesville and Comus. When they arrive at the winery, Ron and helpers treat the group, who don't even have to dismount, to some of the vineyard's finest crisp



Crossing White's Ford.

chardonnay or sauvignon blanc, after which the riders return on horseback to the Breland Farm for an outdoor feast at their beautiful Comus Sky farm facing Sugarloaf Mountain.

Barbara Davidson, the club's longstanding recording secretary, said she began riding with the SRC in the eighties as a guest only, transitioning to full status when she acquired a horse trailer. Club bylaws state that members must either own or have access to a trailer (as do Pony Clubs'). Other club rules require members to host rides and meetings. In fact, the club purposely curtails the size of the membership to no more than twenty-one (singles or couples) so that all meetings can be hosted in the home of any given member. Also, she stressed that you don't sign up for the SRC, you're invited to join based on your interest in the kind of riding the club does. Potential new members ride with the club for a season or two prior to being invited, just to see if they are a good fit.

Continued on page 20.

WUMCO
Help, Inc.

MATTERS

by R. Adam DeBaugh, Assistant Executive Director

2017 WUMCO Thanksgiving

Thank you for helping WUMCO Help and our partners in providing Thanksgiving baskets or gift cards to 126 families comprising 609 people! So many people helped by donating turkeys, other food, and gift cards, and delivering our Thanksgiving baskets to many families.

December Holidays

Clients are signing up for Christmas/Hanukkah/Kwanzaa and other December holidays. WUMCO Help and our partners will provide food baskets or cards and gifts for children under 18. To adopt one or more families, call WUMCO at 301/972-8481 and press 2. To receive December holiday baskets and gifts, call WUMCO at 301/972-8481 and press 6. We will cut off the sign-up for December holiday baskets on December 15.

Second Annual Membership Campaign

Renewal letters have been sent out to our 2016-2017 members and many of our faithful members have already re-upped for the 2017-2018 membership year. We have sent another mass mailing to all 6,700 postal addresses in the five zip codes we serve, inviting people to join our members in providing food and financial assistance to the many needy people in our community. We urge you to join WUMCO!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OUR CLIENTS, DONORS, AND NEIGHBORS!

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Questions? Comments? Adam DeBaugh at wumco2@gmail.com
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DECEMBER 15, 16, & 17

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:15 am - Sunday School

10:30 am - Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship

4 pm - Family Christmas Eve Worship

8 pm - Traditional Christmas Eve Worship

REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 am - Communion Service (1st Sunday of each month)

9:15 am - Sunday School

10:30 am - Worship

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Celebrate Advent, Christmas & Welcome the New Year

Mass with Anointing of the Sick
Sunday, December 10 at 9:30 am

Sacrament of Confession
Wednesday, December 13 at 4:00 & 7:30 pm

Mass Schedule
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23: 5:00 pm
December 24: 8 & 10 am

Christmas
Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm (*prelude at 4 pm / Children's Pageant*)
7:30 pm
10:30 pm (*choral prelude at 10 pm*)

Christmas Day: 9 am / 11 am

New Year's Eve: 5:00 pm

New Year's Day: 10:00 am

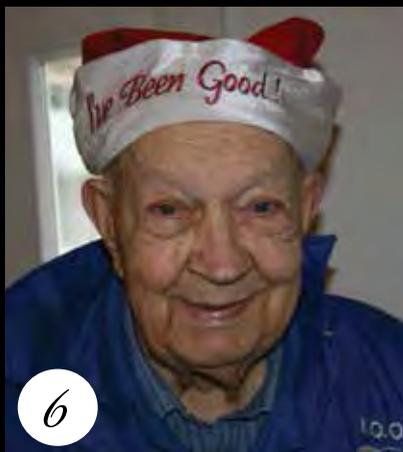
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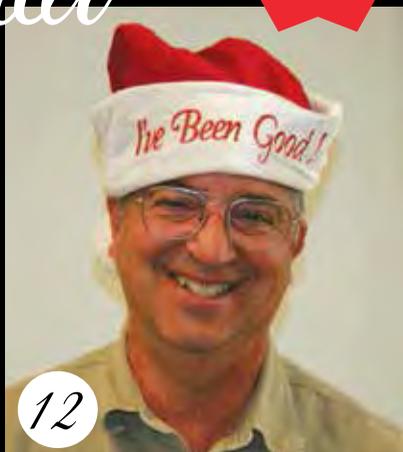
Daily Mass: Monday - Friday 9:00 am followed by the Rosary
Confession: Saturday at 4:15 pm





Name That Santa

See Legend on page 26 for the answers!



Continued from page 16.

A Blast in the Past, Part Two

An unwritten rule is that all rides are walking only; requests can and have been made for trotting, but they are the exception, not the rule. The club has striven to keep the focus on friendship, fun, and food, avoiding the possible troubles that come with increased group speeds. Barbara added that about half of the SRC's membership belongs to other riding groups, most notably the Potomac Hunt Club, where riders who feel the need for speed can get their fix.

Since the year 2000, the SRC has seen many full members leave it for one reason or another; however, it is a testimony to the strength of the friendships made and ongoing camaraderie that the social status membership numbers rival those of the full-fledged. Newer members (those who joined in this millennium!) include Hap and Sharon Bauer; Skip and Vicki Crawford; Beth Daly and Steve Seeger; Barbara Davidson and Jack Shea; Peter, Cindy, and Jaime Eeg; Ellen Gordon and Jim Ballard; Julie and Gene Kingsbury; Patricia Milligan and Michael Fox; Craig and Uli Rodgers; and Michael and Elizabeth Weigand.

Ellen Gordon, the incoming president, explained that while the main activities of the SRC may still be rooted in its original mission—which has included eschewing any outspoken political advocacy—membership has recognized the need to, upon occasion, voice its concerns regarding local matters, particularly when the issue at hand is land preservation. The club has been present recently at county Park and Planning meetings, reflecting this evolving role and the attitude of new membership. It also is in dialogue with the Montgomery Countryside Alliance, the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, and EPIC (Equine Partners in Conservation) as there is much overlap in the groups' membership and focus.

Ellen said the club also continues its traditional donating to horse-related charities, such as Days End and G.A.I.T. Horse Rescues, Great and Small and Circle of Hope Therapeutic Riding Centers, and the U.S. Equestrian Fund's Disaster Relief Campaign on behalf of animals displaced by the recent hurricanes. She also highlighted the new developments that have come from new members, such as the creation of an SRC Facebook page. The club's unofficial photographer, Uli Rodgers, posts photos to the page, upcoming rides are calendared, and past rides storied in text and pictures.

As for the future of the SRC, both Barbara and Ellen see the mission as basically unchanging—socializing on and around horses—with an emphasis on looking for new places to carry on the traditions. The club sends out members on reconnaissance missions around the tri-state area and up into Pennsylvania as favorite riding spots become unavailable, and members search for new terrain and views. One thing is for certain: What has been a blast in the past continues, and with membership going strong, there's no end in sight.



Sugarloaf Riding Club members Melanie Hoffmann, Marge Edmundson, Uli Rodgers, Joan Yolken, and Juanita Breland.

A Monocacy Moment *Lost in Time*

The snowbanks were as tall as the people in 1890.
Streets at night glowed with oil lamps.

Don't know the name of the ol' lamplighter but:

*He made the night a little brighter
Wherever he would go
The old lamplighter of long, long ago.*

Can you guess what's missing in the picture?
A clue is in one of the words above. Answer below.



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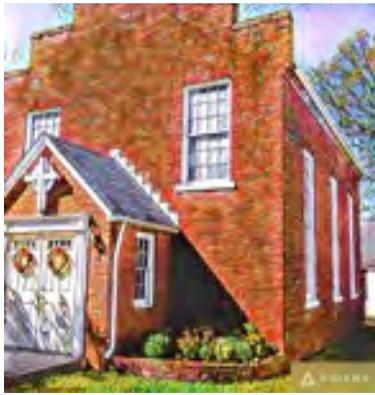
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Remembrances

Barbara Jean Bell

Barbara "Prim" Bell, 66, of Clarksburg, passed away on November 8.

Born on February 9, 1951, in Washington, D.C., she was the daughter of the late William and Peggy (King) Wilt.

Barbara was a loving wife to Walter Bell, Jr.

Surviving along with her husband are their three children, Harold Lee Marsh, Jr. and significant other Kimberly Brickhouse of Inwood, West Virginia, Todd Marsh, Sr. and wife Sherri of Poolesville, Michael Marsh and significant other Paul Beaver of Hancock, Maryland; four brothers, William Wilt, Jr. of Kearneysville, West Virginia, Michael Wilt of Norfolk, Virginia, Jimmy Wilt of Warren, Pennsylvania, Russell Wilt of Kearneysville, West Virginia; one sister, Tammy Combs also of Kearneysville; six stepchildren; twenty-four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and multiple step brothers and sisters.

Barbara was preceded in death by two brothers, Stevie Wilt, Gary Wilt; and one sister, Pamela Milburn.



Barbara Jean Bell

James Herbert Brown

James Herbert "Jim" Brown passed away on Saturday, November 25, at home in Jefferson, Maryland.

He was predeceased by both his parents, Thomas C. and Inez A. Brown.

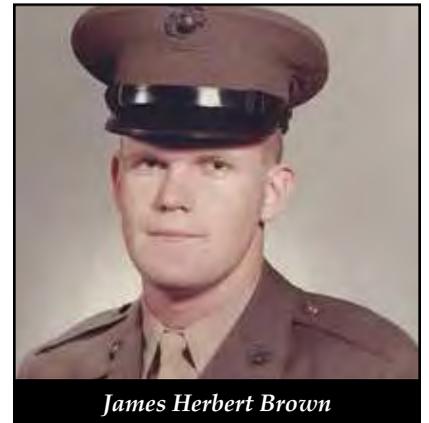
Jim is survived by his brother, Robert Brown (Jennifer), of Jefferson, niece Katie Brown of San Diego, and nephew Dan Brown.

He was a Vietnam veteran, entering the Marine Corps as a private and rising to the rank of captain. Jim received a Silver Star and Air Medal (bronze star) for actions as a Huey helicopter gunship and med-evac pilot in Southeast Asia.

He was an expert on coins and sports memorabilia and will be missed by his family and numerous friends at the Frederick Owls Club.

He will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim's honor may be made to the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs (www.thereligiouscoalition.org) of Frederick County.



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For U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Minnesota information, visit www.mnb.uscourts.gov.

For advice about your rights, contact an attorney.

Police Blotter from the Past 1922

By Jack Toomey

The body of Poolesville resident Frank Baker, 32, was found floating in the Potomac River. His head showed signs of being smashed with an ax or other tool. An investigation led by States Attorney Thomas Dawson led to the case being presented to the grand jury at Rockville. As a result, Baker's wife Irene Baker was indicted for murder. Joining her on the murder docket were Irene's brother Maurice Stokes and William Pinkett. Stokes and Pinkett were eventually convicted of murder and were sentenced to be hanged.

The same grand jury indicted Howard Beavers of Washington for breaking into the lock house at Pennyfield Lock.

A large law enforcement led to the arrests of two men on a farm two miles southeast of Poolesville. A deputy on patrol had discovered a large still run by a gasoline engine. At dawn, Sheriff Moxley, Rockville Chief Cooley, and

several deputies set out for Poolesville and hid within sight of the still. Eventually, two men came along and began working. The police then pounced and arrested P. A. Waddell and Si Ferguson. The farm was owned by Albert Fisher, and he denied any knowledge of the still but identified Waddell as his employee. Waddell elected to make a statement and said that he was not connected with the still and that at night he had seen several shady characters in high-powered machines come and go from the still. Waddell and Ferguson were taken to Rockville where they were placed in the county jail. A large quantity of corn mash and whiskey was destroyed.

The burglar alarm at Farmers Bank and Trust Company in Rockville went off in the middle of the night. The alarm could be heard ringing all over town. Nearly a hundred boys and men armed themselves with shotguns and rifles and went to the bank. When bank officials arrived on the scene, they went inside and were followed by a few armed men. It was determined that the burglar alarm had not

been set properly and that everything appeared normal.

The store of Alfred Wilson at Bethesda was broken into. The thieves attempted to blow open the safe but were unsuccessful. They did take several items of merchandise.

Samuel Hill of Sandy Spring was sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary for manslaughter. It seems that Hill had attended the festival at Sharp Street Church and had encountered Augustus Awkward, a gentleman with whom he did not get along. Hill pulled out a pistol and fired a shot at Awkward, but the bullet struck Thomas Spriggs who later died. Interestingly, Hill's brother was killed two years earlier in an incident very much like the one that cost Spriggs his life.

Barker Braum of Bethesda pled guilty to a charge of possession of intoxicating liquor. He was sentenced to a week in jail and was fined \$50. He had been arrested by Deputy Caywood.

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

Continued from page 3.

Town Commissioners Mull over County School Board's Decision on Poolesville High School

Town manager Wade Yost made comments on two topics at the end of the meeting that were of special note. He said that Dunkin' Donuts had engineers doing a review for the company of a store that might be constructed along the edge of the parking lot in the shopping center directly across from Whalen Commons. The company is scheduled to discuss its preliminary ideas with the Planning Commission this week.

Would you like
to announce a meeting,
club, or upcoming event in
Things To Do?

Then let us know!

Send it along to
editor@monocacymonocle.com



Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Schedule

Sunday, December 24

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm Christmas Pageant

10:30 pm Carols and Special Music

11:00 pm Eucharistic Celebration of
the Nativity of our Lord

Monday, December 25

10:00 am Christmas
Eucharist

Sunday, December 31

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

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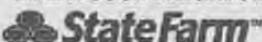
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Remembrances

Artistides R. Espinoza

Aristides Roja Espinoza, 85, of Dickerson, passed away on November 22.

Born on April 20, 1932 in Sou Sal Chile, he was the son of the late Jose Espinoza and Anna Louisa.

Aristides was a loving husband to Floripa Espinoza.

Surviving along with his wife are their two children, Paul Espinoza, Richard Espinoza; three siblings, Rolando Espinoza, Carmen Espinoza, and Teresa Espinoza; and two grandchildren.



Artistides R. Espinoza

James T. Kelley

James (Pap) T. Kelley, 78, of Corriganville, Maryland, died on November 22.

He was the husband of the late Gilberta (Mama) Kelley.

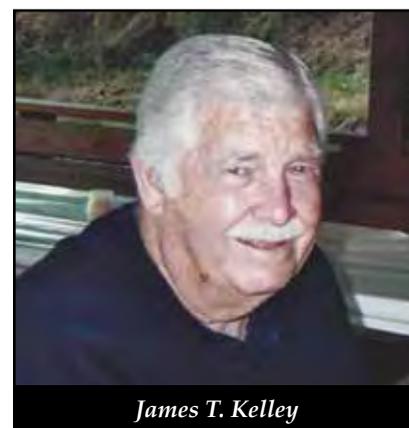
Born on June 12, 1939, he was the son of the late Earl J. and Mary (Fitzpatrick) Kelley.

Jim served his country in the United States Army.

Surviving is one daughter, Jean RaNae Morningstar and husband Steven of Poolesville; one son, James T.

Kelley and wife Rena of Frederick; one brother, John E. Kelley and wife June of Lonaconing, Maryland; four sisters, Rosemary Hitt of Piedmont, West Virginia, Patricia Moon and husband Russell of Swanton, Maryland, Carol Michael and husband Addis of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, and Kathy McMillan and husband Rick of Oldtown, Maryland; six grandchildren, Jamie Jamison, Steven, Jr., and Tyler Morningstar, James T., III, Alexander, and Ava Kelley; and two great grandchildren, Addison Jamison and Riley Kelley.

Jim is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.



James T. Kelley



Continued from page 9.

Basketball, Swimming, and Wrestling Teams Ready for Winter Season

The swimming Falcons' next meet will be against Richard Montgomery at the Martin Luther King Swim Center on December 9 at 11:30 a.m.

"Our team looks to be very strong this year, led by Colin Savage and Alex Carbonell," said wrestling coach Tim Tao. "Both Colin and Alex were region finalists, with Colin winning. Both placed at the states. We have multiple returning county placers, as well, with Sam Hull, Xavier Kresslein, Ray Kinzie, Dillon Trent, and Paul Szafranski. We should have a solid, strong team. Our only downside is we don't have much depth or a full roster. Our numbers are down this year for some reason, so we are trying hard to recruit and fill the holes we have. Schedule-wise, we have an easy dual meet schedule. I am hoping to at least go 12-2 on the season, if not better. We do have two freshmen with experience in Max Hull and Vladimir Velasquez, so I'm excited to see what impact they can have. If we can get a full team, I would guess we can finish top three in the county tournament. I can't wait to get the competition underway." The wrestlers began with a home match versus Sherwood on December 6. They return home for a second time for a match against Rockville on January 3.



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NTS9: **Stacy Lookingbill**, Dickerson Market
 NTS10: **Rev. Emily Phillips Lloyd**, priest, St. Peter's Church
 NTS11: **Josh Webster**, Captain, White's Ferry
 NTS12: **John Strong**, Poolesville Consulting Engineer
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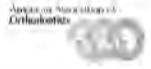
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Pancreatitis in Your Furry Family Friend

Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

Pancreatitis is the most common disease of the pancreas in both dogs and cats. It can be acute or chronic, depending on whether the disease has led to permanent changes of the pancreatic tissues, mainly the changes are shrinking or hardening. Both acute and chronic pancreatitis can be unseen for months, mild and associated with vague clinical signs, or severe and associated with pancreatic tissue loss and systemic complications. Many people think that an upset stomach that keeps coming back over several months to years is because their friend is chewing or eating things they should not have access to in their yard or house. Any upset stomach that keeps coming back should be seen by your veterinarian to be sure this more sinister disease is not present.

An increased prevalence in Yorkshire Terriers, Cocker Spaniels, Dachshunds, Poodles, sled dogs, and miniature schnauzers have been studied. Dietary indiscretion (my favorite term for eating junk) is believed to be a common risk factor in dogs. Hyperadrenocorticism (Cushing's Disease) has been cited in some studies as a risk factor for pancreatitis in dogs. Severe blunt trauma, such as can be sustained during a traffic accident or in cats with high-rise syndrome, can also cause pancreatitis.

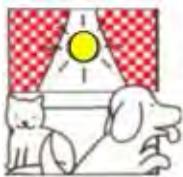
Many different insults may ultimately lead to pancreatitis through a common pathway. Secretion of pancreatic juice decreases during the initial stages of pancreatitis. Prematurely activated digestive enzymes lead to local damage of the pancreas with pancreatic swelling, bleeding, inflammation, and possible necrosis,

Anorexia (91%), vomiting (90%), weakness (79%), abdominal pain (58%), dehydration (46%), and diarrhea (33%) have been reported as the most common clinical signs in dogs and cats with mild, moderate, or severe pancreatitis. Clinical signs in cats with severe pancreatitis are even less specific, with anorexia (87%), lethargy (81%), dehydration (54%), weight loss (47%), hypothermia (46%), vomiting (46%), icterus (37%), fever (19%), and abdominal pain (19%) most commonly reported. Dogs and cats with milder forms of pancreatitis may be subclinical or may have only vague clinical signs, such as picky appetite, lethargy, or diarrhea. The low rate of abdominal pain reported is remarkable given that >90% of human patients with pancreatitis report severe abdominal pain, so it is most likely due to lack of recognition of pain in our furry pets.

Your veterinarian can perform a pancreatic lipase immunoreactivity (PLI) test. This can confirm the diagnosis and determine a baseline concentration. This allows use of serum PLI test as a monitoring tool for the disease. In both dogs and cats, the PLI test is highly specific for exocrine pancreatic function and is also the most sensitive diagnostic test for pancreatitis currently available (sensitivity >80%).

The mainstay of therapy of moderate to severe pancreatitis is supportive care with fluid therapy, vigorous monitoring, and early intervention to prevent systemic complications. New anti-vomit and anti-diarrhea medications can greatly reduce discomfort and pain for your pet. Supportive medications to reduce inflammation and protect against infection are also very important.

The prognosis in mild cases is good, but prognosis in severe cases of pancreatitis is guarded in both dogs and cats, so it is very important that you consider a conversation with your veterinarian should recurrent gastro intestinal problems be seen in your furry friend. Lastly, pancreatitis is seen much more commonly during the festive and food-heavy holiday seasons.



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Get a Goodyear Visa® Prepaid Card by online submission or mail-in rebate with the purchase of a set of four select Goodyear, Dunlop® or Kelly® tires between October 1 and December 31, 2017.

Subject to credit approval. Get up to an \$80 rebate on a qualifying purchase or increase your rebate up to \$200 when the purchase is made on the Goodyear Credit Card. Prepaid Cards expire after six (6) months. See below for additional terms and conditions.

<p>GET \$80 BACK on a set of 4'</p> <p>OR</p> <p>GET \$200 BACK on a set of 4 with the Goodyear Credit Card®</p>	<p>GOODYEAR ASSURANCE® WEATHERREADY®</p>	<p>GET \$80 BACK on a set of 4'</p> <p>OR</p> <p>GET \$160 BACK on a set of 4 with the Goodyear Credit Card®</p>	<p>GOODYEAR GOODYEAR GOODYEAR ASSURANCE® EAGLE® WRANGLER® TRIPLETRED® ALL-SEASON, F1 ASYMMETRIC ALL-SEASON, TRIPLETRED® ALL-SEASON ALL-TERRAIN ADVENTURE WITH KEVLAR®</p>	<p>GET \$50 BACK on a set of 4'</p> <p>OR</p> <p>GET \$100 BACK on a set of 4 with the Goodyear Credit Card®</p>	<p>GOODYEAR WRANGLER DURATRAC®</p>
<p>GET \$60 BACK on a set of 4'</p> <p>OR</p> <p>GET \$120 BACK on a set of 4 with the Goodyear Credit Card®</p>	<p>GOODYEAR DUNLOP EAGLE® SP WINTER SPORT SPORT ALL-SEASON 30", 3D" ROF, 4D", 4D" ROF</p>	<p>GET \$40 BACK on a set of 4'</p> <p>OR</p> <p>GET \$80 BACK on a set of 4 with the Goodyear Credit Card®</p>	<p>GOODYEAR ULTRA GRIP® WINTER</p>	<p>GET \$20 BACK on a set of 4'</p> <p>OR</p> <p>GET \$40 BACK on a set of 4 with the Goodyear Credit Card®</p>	<p>KELLY TIRES EDGE AS®</p>

We proudly feature
Mobil 1™



EXPRESS LUBE