

# The Monocacy

# MONOCLE

*Keeping an Eye on Local News*

A Biweekly Newspaper

July 26, 2019 • Volume XV, Number 9

## New Principal Appointed to PHS

By Rande Davis



*There is always more than one way to sink a putt. See more beachy things to do in Family Album on page 2.*



*It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a .... What? Find out in Tidbits on page 5.*



*This restored tractor is on a historic farm, spotlighted by the MOOseum. See page 6.*



*Piranhas in the water are not always dangerous. Read about the friendly ones on page 12.*

For Mark Carothers, the newly-appointed principal of Poolesville High School, the decision to seek the position at PHS was a coming home of sorts. He grew up in a similar rural town, Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania. In fact, he always joked with his wife, Sarah, who hails from the Pittsburgh area, how much fun it would be if he ended up as a principal at his alma mater. Though that will not happen, coming here, a community that reminds him so much of home, may be the second-best opportunity to do so.

His high school experience was very positive, one which really changed the trajectory of his life. He credits the people he met in high school and the experiences he had in the classrooms for solidifying his decision to pursue a career in education. "Without that experience, I would not be here today."

Conveniently, he chose to attend Slippery Rock University which is right across the street from his high school and earned his Bachelor of Arts

in English/Language Arts and Teacher Education. He recalls using the Slippery Rock University library to do his research for high school papers. He received a Master's in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis on educational leadership from McDaniel College, where he also interned for his administrator certification.

Mr. Carothers comes to PHS after sixteen years in education, first as an English teacher, then as an English resource teacher, followed by assistant school administrator and finally assistant principal at Damascus, Clarksburg, and Rockville. He has also been the varsity volleyball coach, assistant cross country coach, and sponsor of the student newspaper. These experiences underscored his rightness of his decision to pursue secondary education. His teaching experience has been wide ranging from on-level English, advanced placement, and International Baccalaureate to summer school and night classes.



*New PHS Principal Mark A. Carothers making instructional excellence his mission.*

Continued on page 7.

## Enzo, Don't Die

By Rande Davis

What happens when one of life's moments of quaint pleasure suddenly turns into a nightmare?

Poolesville's Stefan Burtea recently found himself in exactly that horrific situation. While it was a personal crisis, he shares his experience so that others may steer clear of such a dilemma.

The Burtea family's love affair with their two Dobermans began the moment Stefan first brought the adorable then-six-week-old siblings home a little over a year ago. Never having spent even one second of their short lives apart, the two dogs became best friends while developing one of their very favorite playtime activities of carelessly hopping around mindlessly and chasing one another joyously throughout the yard while harmlessly nipping each other along the way. They would grab each other by the

neck or ears, rolling about, usually ending in a wild and twisted tangle together on the ground—exhausted. Oh, how the dogs loved each other and this game.

For Stefan, one of life's pleasures is to start his day around 5:30 a.m., coffee in hand, quietly overlooking his yard, watching the rising sun with his rambunctious dogs jumping wildly about while he contemplates the day ahead. Such times can be so precious. It was during one such moment that life suddenly turned horrific.

The day started out perfectly normal. Stephan always uses a standard choke collar to better control the dogs as he walks them since they can get a bit disorderly. He released the dogs to play in the yard with their collars still on as his thoughts swayed away from the dogs to the day's tasks ahead. He



*Siblings Hazel and Enzo on a better day.*

instructed them to move away a bit to not interrupt his thoughts. He had long ago developed the habit of

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# Family Album



Maddie Munster, ukulele player and singer extraordinaire, entertained the beach goers at Whalen Commons during the Just Beachy festivities.



Disappearing into foamy bliss is a great way to spend a summer evening.



Poolesville's Community Garden at the Presbyterian Church held a garden party fundraiser on July 19.



Right: Why go to the beach on a Friday, when the beach can come to you at Whalen Commons?



Poolesville Presbyterian Church filled the hall for the summer program.



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## Rande(m) Thoughts On Common Denominators

By Rande Davis

President Truman was never a man of wasted words. He would have been quite a tweeter. If he had been on Twitter, his best tweet, I think, would have been: "The buck stops here," a reference to the ultimate role of leadership. Another good one was: "If you want a friend in Washington, get a dog."

Indirectly, our front page of the *Monocle* seems to refer to both of these sayings and speaks to two of life's great experiences. First, the hopeful excitement new beginnings can bring and, secondly, the amazing love we can experience from animals. The only thing these two manifestations have in common is their impact each may have on our hearts. The first sustains us with hope for the future while the second can help give us fuel to face each day with a smile on our faces.

Our headline is about a new principal for PHS. At the same time, Poolesville High School is hopefully on the cusp of a metamorphosis into not just a renovated building but a whole new educational and community experience. Into this new reality enters Mark Carothers, an experienced educator whose primary mission is to make excellence in classroom instruction and experience his goal.

We are pleased that he comes into our lives and the lives of our children with a welcoming desire to absorb the culture of our community as his own. We just recently completed a two-part history of education in the Poolesville area, in which a remarkable story of dedication to mission and purpose is told with an equally remarkable tale of the community leaders, teachers, and administrators who were up to that task. That first journey, to develop a high school, took fifty-three years. One

can only wonder how long this next phase may take.

The gifts Mr. Carothers gains in coming here are: first, having a level of parental involvement for which many other schools desperately long; and second, he enters a rural environment that is equally as enviable for its calming effect on our ability to communicate and interface better. Harshness and loudness of words are less likely to move us than they might in other areas. Here in the Ag Reserve, we treasure our open spaces and our history of being people of the Earth. Heck, we even have been known to name our fanciest of dining experiences Dirty Dinners for their offering of fresh, locally-grown produce, hand-butchered meats, with everything made in a more personal farm-to-table process.

The below-the-fold story touches us in a way only the love of a pet can. I naturally relate to the story of two dogs, Enzo and Hazel. My dog, Daisy, is approaching fourteen years old. We have grown old together. She has gone deaf, while I am well on my way to joining her. She is slow in her movements, so am I. As she approaches the bottom of the staircase at night on her way to her bed, she looks forlornly at her steep path ahead, not sure she can make it. Sometimes, so do I. As she ascends slowly, moving side to side up the steps, she meanders and eventually makes it to the top, a bit surprised that she made it. I know just how she feels.

I was in the U.S. Army but never a war hero, yet this little girl greets me as one, even if I have only been gone a few hours. Perhaps the joy of that shared love from animals within us is a common denominator worthy of remembering. No matter our politics or differences, we should always remember that all of our hearts melt the same when touched by the love of a pet. If we can share that sentiment along with the joy that great expectations can bring, maybe this sense of common humanity may benefit us all.

## Garden

### Midsummer Stars

By Maureen O'Connell

All the seasons of a perennial garden have their stars: from the early spring tulips and daffodils to the late summer dahlias, sedum, and the robust, but a bit pushy, *Physostegia*. They all deserve their Day in the Sun, bringing with them their own colors, their shapes, their scents, their flowers, and their leaves. The garden becomes vertical and horizontal, both at the same time. I love all my many perennials, from A to Z, but I must admit that I love my lilies the most. Nothing in my garden can come close to their sheer beauty, elegance, and intoxicating clouds of perfume. In past times, my ninety-eight rosebushes shared this accolade, but they no longer live at my house.

Lilium (members of which are true lilies) is a genus of herbaceous flowering plants growing from bulbs, all with large prominent flowers. Most species are native to the temperate northern hemisphere. There are many other plants that have "lily" in their name, but they are not related to true lilies: daylilies (*Heemerocallis*), Lily of



Lilies can stand out in any garden.

the Valley, and the Lily of the Nile (*Agapanthus*). Botanists have classified these summer-flowering bulbs into nine different divisions based on their genetics and hybridization history. Within each of these divisions are many subdivisions, but for our purpose here, let's just look at four types.

Asiatic lilies are bred from several different species of lilies. Sporting three-to-six flowers per stem, they

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## Tidbits

### Sammy Fired a Strike

We love keeping *Monocle* readers up to date on the number one sports fan in all of the Monocacy region, Sam Hardwick. Sam, a young man with muscular dystrophy, may have just outdone himself with his latest feat. Readers may recall him batting before a Frederick Keys' game last year, and many of us joined him in rooting for the Falcons during the high school basketball games. On July 13, at a Keys' game, Sam wheeled himself up to the front of the pitcher's mound, leaned forward a bit, glanced to first base checking an imaginary runner, wound up, and threw a perfect strike to the waiting catcher. You da man, Sam. We love rooting for you as a fan, a batter, a pitcher, and most of all, as a man. Keep us pumped with that smile of yours.



Sam "The Man" Hardwick whistles in a strike. Play ball!

### Really, Really Sorry for this One

In our July 12 issue, we were excited to share the retirement news coming from Barnesville's Watkins Cabinet Co. about longtime employees J. Rudell "Rudy" Day and his wife, Cici. Rudy was the company's sales manager while Cici was the office secretary. The July 1 event celebrated their amazing contribution to the firm with Rudy serving for sixty-two years and Cici forty-two years. The company and friends are so proud of them as they should be.

Unfortunately, we got the headline wrong by naming Buster Watkins as the retiree. To make matters even more egregious, the beloved founder of the company passed away last fall. We extend our sincere apology to all at Watkins Cabinet, especially Rudy and Cici, for this mistake.

### Rocket into Scouting

The Rocket into Scouting Program recently held at the John Poole Middle School is designed to take your recruiting efforts to new heights. With a focus on fun, this program invites families in the community to experience the adventures that only scouting can offer. The program leverages an activity that kids love (building and launching rockets) while showing parents that scouting will foster their child's creativity, initiative, and sense of wonder.



Ground control to Houston: The rocketmen of scouting are standing by, ready, willing, and able.

Photo by Terri Pitts.

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## In Your Own Backyard

### The White Family Farm

By Jon Wolz

On Sunday, July 28, 2019, the history of the Frank (Max) Malcolm White farm will be celebrated from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the King Barn Dairy MOOseum in Germantown. The family of Max White will be at the MOOseum to share their memories of the family dairy farm that is located west of Dickerson near Route 28 and Martinsburg Road. They will tell their experiences and stories of farming with horses, growing farm produce, including corn, wheat, oats, and hay, and shipping milk to markets for more than fifty years. The family has set up a farm display of their farm at the MOOseum. The MOOseum serves as an educational dairy museum that has numerous dairy-related displays, collections, and artifacts that highlight the history of dairy farming in Montgomery County. There are always docents on hand to help explain the displays and exhibits to visitors of the MOOseum.

Max White was born at the White family home at Inverness on October 11, 1890 and died January 20, 1972. The brick house at Inverness was built about 1818, and the farm remained with the White family until 1959. Max graduated from the University of Maryland College of Agriculture in 1911. From there, he went to Wisconsin to learn and experience modern dairy farming. Max's parents, Mansfield and Ella White, had bought a 177-acre farm in the late 1800s near Inverness, and Max returned from Wisconsin to begin dairy farming on his parents' farm in 1913. In 1915, he began transporting his milk by horse and wagon in ten-gallon milk cans to the Dickerson train station where the milk was delivered by train to the Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers' Cooperative Association in Washington, D.C. The White family milked their seventy-five cows by hand in a thirty-stanchion bank barn. Over the years, the family changed its way of dairy farming by transitioning to vacuum milking and refrigerated bulk milk tanks transporting the milk by truck to markets. This dairy farm was one of the largest of the 450 dairy farms that shipped milk and other dairy products in Montgomery County. Today, only two dairy farms remain in the county.

In December 1916, Max married Ellen Percy Blake who was born on January 27, 1892 and died on February 15, 1967. Together, Max and Ellen bought his parents' farm in 1923. They had two children, Mary Maxine (White) Warfield and Charlotte Blake (White) Chakan.



*The MOOseum will be celebrating Dickerson's historic White Farm.*

Max was a leader in the community and was involved in a variety of interests. He was a past president of the Montgomery County Historical Society and was a member of the Frederick County Historical Society. He was a lifelong member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville where he served in various positions over the years, including registrar, and senior and junior warden. He was a charter member and past director of the Upper Montgomery County Fire Department in Beallsville. He was also a past director of the Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers' Cooperative Association. He was a member of the Montgomery County Farm Bureau.

Once, Max attended the dedication of Ritchie Coliseum at the University of Maryland in 1931 where, after the dedication, he watched the Navy-Maryland

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Continued from page 1.

**New Principal Appointed to PHS**

He describes his leadership style as being hands-on, high visibility with students and staff, noting, "I am not having a good day if I am spending my day in my office." Mr. Carothers remembered one moment that resonated with him during a vocabulary lesson. While defining ubiquitous, a student mentioned the principal, saying, "He is ubiquitous because, I swear, no matter where I go in this school, halls or classrooms, it seems I see him everywhere." Mr. Carothers has also learned from others with a variety of strengths such as Mr. Evans at Magruder High School, Ms. Webster at Damascus, and Mr. Owusu at Clarksburg. His educational philosophy maintains there is no substitute for that in-person approach of visiting classrooms for gaining critical feedback which he hopes gives him the right insight in making effective and ethical instructional decisions.

His primary message to the community, parents, and anyone with a connection to PHS is: "I see the education and experience of every student who walks through these doors as my primary responsibility. The combination and culmination of their high school experiences will have a long-range impact on their lives, and that is a responsibility and honor I take seriously. From the moment they get on a bus or begin walking to school, I want to ensure they have a positive connection to Poolesville High School."

He knows that with a student body that comes from approximately twenty feeder communities, his challenge is to build one, unified cohesive student body joining locals and out-of-area students. "It's a privilege to come here and be a part of this great community, and I look forward to merging all of the different communities of students into one student body of Poolesville Falcons."

For him, everything starts with classroom instruction, and it his priority to make sure that when people think of Poolesville High School, the quality of classroom instruction will come to mind first and foremost. Remembering how wonderful his high school experience was and how it really played a large part of determining his future, Mr. Carothers has as his goal that all his students have that same experience.

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Continued from page 5.

Tidbits

Photo by Terri Pitts.



Scouting still promises to do its best for God and Country.

Winner of Last Mystery Photo Contest

Congratulations to Justin Glazier for winning the drawing for the \$20.00 gift certificate to Watershed Café in our final Mystery Photo Contest. The contest asked readers to identify a 1989 photo of the intersection of Fisher Avenue and Milford Mill Road. From this vantage, facing south, readers saw a two-story white house where McDonald's and Total Auto and Diesel now are located. The empty field to the left is where BB&T Bank is now located while Whalen Commons, to the right, was once a cornfield. One reader offered that the house in the picture was the old Jaycees haunted house. It was not. That house was located on the site now occupied by Dollar General.

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**Enzo, Don't Die**

talking to the dogs just as if they were people. A short time later, the nightmare began.

His thoughts were interrupted by one of the dog's yelping sharply. As he turned to see what the dogs were up to, he saw both tangled together on the ground. It was apparent that Hazel, in her usual nipping frenzy, had gotten her teeth caught in Enzo's choke collar, and as she innocently twisted and turned to free herself, she inadvertently tightened the collar to a full choke, causing Enzo to stop breathing. Stefan anxiously had a whirlwind of panicky thoughts go through his mind and realized that there was no time to go searching for the chain clippers in his shed. He couldn't even put his fingers underneath the collar it was so tight, and he had no idea which way to turn Hazel to help relieve the pressure anyway. Enzo lay still on the ground; his eyes rolled back showing only white, there was no visible breathing, and the dog had defecated as so often happens to dying animals. Stefan shouted out for help to his wife and daughter that Enzo was in trouble. It was then he starkly realized that Enzo was dead; nevertheless, when he saw a pair of pliers nearby, he desperately tried to pry the collar open with no success. He then thought of pounding it open. He was able to quickly find an ax and, using the pliers to grip the choke collar link, he raised the ax into the air and miraculously hit the pliers perfectly causing the collar link to snap

open, freeing Enzo from the collar. Immediately, he cupped the dog's mouth in his hands and, pressing the dog's mouth to his, breathed hard into his lungs; he then began massaging and pressing the dog's chest, all the while saying frantically, "Enzo, don't die. Enzo, don't die. Enzo, don't die." He continued for a moment, then breathed into the dog's mouth again, then pressed down on the dog's chest again and again, breathlessly proclaiming, "Enzo, don't die. Enzo, don't die. Enzo, don't die."

The frantic effort to save Enzo's life seemed to go on forever, but in reality, lasted only five-to-eight minutes. Then it happened. First an eye rolled back somewhat into position, and then with a bit more signs of life emerging, Stefan picked up his dog's listless head in his hands. It was clear Enzo had come back to life. While Stefan was hugging the living but exhausted dog, Hazel joined in the joy by rapturously licking her surviving brother's face over and over again.

The message from the now-fully-relieved and grateful dog owner to others is that while choke collars have a purpose, do not leave them unwatched, even for just a moment, as the collar can get caught on many different things, including another dog's jaw, and in a panicky helpless frenzy, any dog could strangle itself.

As the dog owner's heart began to resume a normal rate, the emerging sense of relief overcame Stef as he realized that, on this day, his precious Enzo did not die.

Continued from page 6.

**The White Family Farm**

men's basketball game. Ellen White was actively involved with 4-H and often had meetings at her home. One of Max and Ellen's grandchildren, Charlotte White (Chakan)

Boucher lives on the farm today. Charlotte is a retired Montgomery County school principal.

The MOOseum is located at 17920 Germantown Park Drive, Germantown.

A special thanks to Bill Duvall of the MOOseum's Board of Directors who contributed to this story.

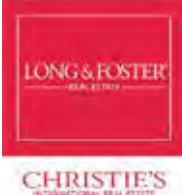


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## Things To Do

### Poolesville Area Senior Center

All events at 17750 W. Willard Road, Poolesville

**Pickleball:** Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

**Zumba Gold:** Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

**Mahjong:** Thursdays, Room 129, 10:00 a.m.

**Chair/Slow Flow Yoga:** Mondays, 11:00 am in the café

**The Blue Hearth is open every weekend.**

**Bruster's Ice Cream** is open, hours on Facebook. Be sure to use \$1.00 coupon from ad in on page 11.

### July 26

#### Friday on the Commons

Wine Down in the Park: A variety of great wines and cool sounds, inflatables for the kids, farmers' market, food trucks. Gina's Soul Party and the Souled Out Horns in the bandshell from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

### July 27

#### 144th Annual St. Mary's Chicken Dinner and Festival

Famous BBQ chicken dinners served family style with all the fixings. Just \$16 per adult and all carryout meals. Children 12 and under free. Enjoy Maryland jousting (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.), children's games, huge white elephant sale, book sale, baked and canned goods, cake wheel, crafts,

and more. Music by Sookie Stomp. *St. Mary's Pavilion, Barnesville.* Noon to 7:00 p.m.

### August 1

#### PACC Special Event: Businesses Helping Businesses

Featuring Poolesville Green speaker, Joyce Breiner. *Poolesville Town Hall.* 8:00 a.m.

### August 2

#### Friday on the Commons

Small Town Throwdown—Bluegrass and Beer: Inflatables, barnyard olympics, petting zoo, food trucks, farmers' market, and, of course, beer. Downhome music festival, featuring Ernie Bradley and the Grassy Ridge Band from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., then Colebrook Road from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

### August 5

#### Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

*Poolesville Town Hall.* 7:30 p.m.

### August 7

#### Free Community Dinner

Featuring cold cut subs with summer side dishes and lots of homemade desserts. Gluten free and vegetarian options available. *Memorial United Methodist Church.* 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### August 10

#### UMCVFD Pit BBQ

Fundraiser featuring pulled pork or beef sandwiches, baked beans and coleslaw, eat in or carry out. *Beallsville Firehall.* 11:00 a.m. until sold out.

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](mailto:editor@monocacymonocle.com)

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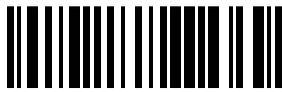
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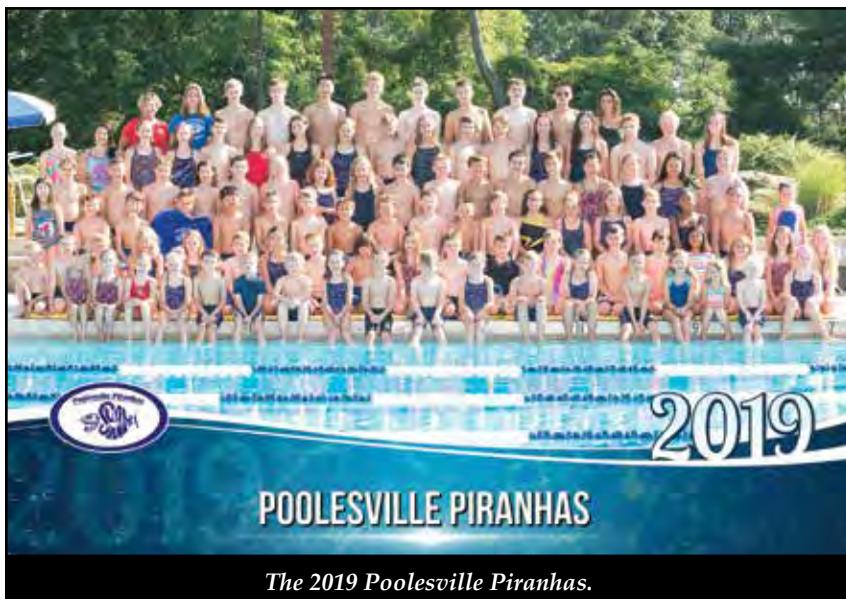
# Youth Sports

## The Poolesville Piranhas, A Potpourri of Summer Fun

By Jeff Stuart

Wednesday, July 10 was a hot summer day, but at 7:45 a.m. at the Sarah E. Auer Pool when the Poolesville Piranhas Swim Team began practice, there was a breeze and the temperature was quite comfortable. The swimmers come from near and far. Coach Tracy Craemer lives in Point of Rocks, but her three

Continued on page 17.



The 2019 Poolesville Piranhas.

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# A Monocacy Moment *Lost in Time*



### Name the Street!

These are the Groundhogs, a card game club specializing in Pitch. Read their names, and you will realize that many grace street signs in Poolesville.

*Front row: John Poole, Isaak Fyffe, Dr. Walling, Jerome Offut, Lige White, Dr. Doc Hersberger, and Ray Bodmer (child)  
Back row: Will Hempstone, Ben White, Julius Hal, Joe Willard.*

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**JUST FINISHED!**

MHIC: 6812

Continued from page 4.

**Midsummer Stars**

have petals that are often spotted. They do not have a fragrance, and their flowers are smaller than some other types of lilies'. They come in many different colors and make wonderful, long-lasting cut flowers. I have White Flower Farm's Pastel Shades Asiatic Lily Mix. This blend of soft yellows, oranges, corals, creams, peaches, and pink are scattered among other flowering plants in a naturalizing fashion.

Of all the types of lilies, the Oriental lilies are the most fragrant, especially in the evening. Coming in vivid shades of pink, purplish red, white, and creamy yellow, they grow two-to-five feet tall. Many of them need staking. Trumpet lilies, also called Aurelian lilies, have prolific, trumpet-shaped, very-colorful flowers that are long lasting and very fragrant. Oriempet lilies are a cross between Oriental hybrids and trumpet lilies. Their outward-facing flowers are huge and heavily scented. My 'Silk Road' is now about twenty years old and gets better every year.

I have several of all of these types, but my overall favorites are my two Oriental lilies 'Stargazer' and 'Casa Blanca.' They bloom in July and August and have the strongest sweet scent of any of my lilies. You might have noticed that 'Stargazer' is the favorite flower of floral bouquets of floral shops. 'Casa Blanca' has very large, bowl-shaped flowers in glistening pure white. Many people believe that this lily is one of the finest Oriental lilies of all time. Quite an honor! They both last for four-to-five days inside in a vase.

Lilies are easy to grow. They say that they need full sun, but I have some in partial morning sun, and they both do equally well. They must have good draining soil, or the bulbs will rot, so be careful where you plant them. They also like cool soil, so I have underplanted them with low daylilies, *Alstroemeria*, and the Shasta Daisy 'Becky.' I have not experienced any pests or diseases with mine. They do live, though, in the favorite route of deer through my gardens. The deer have an uncanny ability to know just when their buds are about to open, but several times a week, the spraying of deer repellent keeps them well away.

Once your plants are established, they require very little care. If the plants flop, stake them with a hardwood stake. After the blooms fade, cut off the top third of the plant to keep the seed pods from developing and robbing energy from the bulb. They need that energy to feed the development of next year's blooms. At the end of the growing season, let the lilies naturally die back. Do not cut off the green leaves. After the stalks and leaves have turned brown in the autumn, cut the lily plant down to the ground. It will lie dormant ready to develop next year's blooms. The best time to plant lily bulbs is either in the early spring or mid-to-late fall. They prefer cool soil (below 60 degrees) to root properly. Planting in warm soil will lead to weak plants and smaller flowers. I have had great success planting these bulbs in late fall.

Lilies are one of the truly great garden plants that belong in your Monocacy garden. Their diversity, extended season of bloom, graceful stature, and exotic perfume will add a new dimension to your garden. Order them now and plant them this fall. You will not be disappointed.

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## Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

### Present Crime

**Assault:** 15700 block of River Road, Bretton Woods Golf Course.

**Auto Theft:** 17000 block of West Willard Avenue.

**Theft from Auto:** 17100 block of Spates Hill Avenue.

**Vandalism:** 21000 block of Big Woods Road.

### Past Crime: 1960

Two Montgomery County high school students were arrested and charged with the beating of several visiting high school students. Visitors from Hazel Park, Michigan were staying at the Ambassador Hotel in Washington when curses were shouted from a passing car. The car slowed to the curb, and a brawl broke out on the sidewalk. D.C. police traced the car to an address in Montgomery County where the arrests were made.

Reckless operation of a turbo-powered jet boat was lodged against some Montgomery County youths whose operation of the boat dumped

fishermen into the Potomac River between Seneca and Edwards Ferry. Police said that the boat made several passes up and down the river and caused a wake so high that pleasure boaters and fishermen were put in danger. On one occasion, the boat backed up to a small fishing boat and then roared away causing a huge wall of water to inundate the smaller boat.

Two District boys, aged 17 and 14, led police from two departments on a hundred-mile-per-hour chase. Police said that the chase started in Washington and then entered Montgomery County. Officers had been alerted to the oncoming car and fired several shots without effect as it entered Montgomery County. The chase wound its way from Bethesda to Rockville on to Gaithersburg and back into the District where it finally ended after the speeding car crashed on Park Road, NW.

A drill conducted by the Medical Association of Montgomery County did not go as planned. The drill was supposed to test the readiness of area hospitals in the event of a nuclear detonation over Montgomery County. A large explosion and smoke were set off in the parking lot of Wheaton Plaza

and, instead of keeping people away, thousands of residents jumped into their cars and set off for the plaza to see for themselves. Over a hundred pieces of fire department equipment responded to the scene and treated or transported a hundred volunteers to area hospitals.

An escapee from the federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania was captured by two county officers. The

man had stolen a car from the parking lot of the prison while he was on trustee duty picking up trash. The officers saw the car southbound on Route 240 and pulled it over. The escapee was identified by the tattoo "Hard Luck" written across his knuckles.

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

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Sunday, July 28 - 8, 9:30 & 11 am



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**All are Welcome!**

Continued from page 12.

**The Poolesville Piranhas, a Potpourri of Summer Fun**

daughters began swimming at Poolesville sixteen years ago. She was coaching a rival team, Potomac Swim and Tennis Club, and discovered, when they competed at what was then known as Western County Outdoor Pool, that it was a public pool anyone could join. Poolesville was not too far from home, so her family joined the pool the following summer, and the girls joined swim team as soon as they were able. "We love the community in Poolesville. We always refer to it as our summer home. We've made wonderful friends here and, since I grew up swimming in MCSL [Montgomery County Swim League], I'm glad my girls had the chance to experience it even though we live just over the line in Frederick County," said Craemer.

Coach Craemer introduced me to a few of the Piranhas, while assistant coaches, Jonathan Ye, Grace Bodmer, Kelly Craemer, and Chloe Insalaco, put the others through their paces.

The first was Liam Crandall. "I think I have been swimming since I was three years old," said ten-year-old Liam. "I finished eighth in the 50m backstroke at the Coaches' Long Course Invitational Meet in Rockville." He was the only member of the Piranhas to qualify for that meet. "I qualified for the event because I had one of the eight fastest times in that event in the county," said Crandall. "I go to school in Beijing, China where my mom teaches. I have lived in China for seven years, but I spend all my summer holidays in Poolesville. I saw they had a team here, so I joined it. In Beijing, I play soccer and sometimes track and field." Liam has a twin brother, Ryan, who also swims for the Piranhas.

Then Coach Craemer introduced me to someone coming to Poolesville from a bit closer by. "My family is moving to Poolesville," said Heather Congdon. "We have three children, Lillian, Brynn, and AJ. This is their first year on the Poolesville Swim Team. Lillian and Brynn have swum for the Rockville Rays for a number of years. This is AJ's first year on a swim team."

"I like the pool here," said AJ.  
 "I like it here better than Rockville," said Lillian. "I'd rather be here. It's fun. My favorite event is the 50 free."

Next, the coach presented the Piranha girls' 13-14 200 medley relay team that took first place at the Division I A Meet Relay Carnival at North Chevy Chase on July 7. "With the four swimmers we have here, we got first place," said Anna Bodmer who swam the third leg of the relay.

"I have been swimming for three years," said Avery Ye, who swam the second leg. "Our next big competition is the All Stars in Rockville at the end of July."

"I have been swimming with the Piranhas for three or four years," said Lina Abzakh, who swam the first leg. "We have been trying for as long as we have been here to get to the All Stars. In order to do that, we had to win the Carnival. We kind of expected to win."

"We were expected to win," said Maggie Rose Rook, who closed out the relay, swimming the final leg. "This is my seventh year, and this was special."

In addition to the 200 medley relay swimmers, several other Piranhas have all-star times.

Senior Grace Bodmer said, "I love being with the Piranhas. I have been with the team since I was five. I have come back every summer and look forward to it every single year. I will be too old to swim next year, but I love it so much I am planning on coming back to coach. We do a lot of activities as a team like laser tag at Shadowland, and we go to a Keys' game in Frederick...My best event is the breast stroke." Grace is attending Towson in the fall. Grace ran track and field and played field hockey for Poolesville High School (PHS).

Both Bodmer and fellow senior, Grace Clark, were acknowledged by Coach Craemer at a meet on Saturday July 13 as each climbed separately onto the diving board and dove into the pool. Clark joined the Piranhas in second grade and will also be attending Towson in the fall.

Other fun events the Piranhas enjoy are a team movie (this year it was *Toy Story 4*), team pep rallies, a trip to Sky Zone, team breakfasts, and a season-ending ice cream social.

The Piranhas advanced A meets are on Saturday mornings, and B meets are on Wednesday evenings through June and July,

On Sunday, July 14, the team held a fundraiser at Vanish Farmwoods Brewery and hosted the annual Sarah E. Auer Mini Meet. The money raised goes to a scholarship fund in honor of former Coach Sarah Auer. Scholarships are awarded every year to members of the Piranhas, PHS swimmers, and MCSL swimmers.



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## Celebrating 30 Years of Service

### IT'S HOT! IT'S DARN HOT!

#### How To Keep Your Furry Friends Safe During Excessive Heat

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

The Heat is on in a big way! It's time to review tips on how to keep your pets safe and out of the veterinary clinic due to heat exposure.

Dogs already face increased potential overheating issues due to their inability to sweat and their love of fur coats. Cats can sweat, but only through their foot pads. Both dogs and cats use their oral cavities and especially their tongues to transpire (blow off) heat. As the temperature and humidity rise, the effectiveness of this method of heat release goes down. At temperatures of about 101 degrees F., most pets have a very difficult time maintaining normal body temps (101.5 to 102.0 F), so during these excessive heat events, please follow these simple tips for your pets' temperature safety.

1. **When to walk, run and play:** Keep increased activity limited to early mornings and later in the evening. Make sure that you reduce your normal play activity by 50% and shorten times outside. If your pets live outside (and they should not, especially during excessive temperature shifts), make sure they have access to shade, fresh (and I mean fresh) water that is changed 4-5 times a day and kept full all the time, active fans or AC, and access to some indoor part of the house where the temperature is 15 to 20 degrees cooler (AC cooled garage or basement mud room will do nicely). During these times, your pet may dig into the ground to find cooler temps to lie on, so don't get mad, it is their way of coping with the heat. The use of cooling mats can be very helpful in reducing overheating. Remember that a cooling mat left in the sun is not cool (get it?).
2. **To Clip or Not to Clip the Fur:** Many different opinions are present on the advantages/disadvantages of clipping your pets' fur during the summer. Heavy-coated breeds can benefit from having their bellies clipped short to allow better cooling against cool surfaces. If you clip your entire pet, have a groomer do it, and do not have them clipped closer than 1-2 inches. Completely removing all the fur will cause potential sun burns and skin damage.
3. **Check that surface:** There is no question that asphalt and concrete absorb heat very effectively. An air temp of 87 degrees where the asphalt and concrete are in full sun can raise their surface temps to over 143 degrees. Surface temperatures 125 to 150 degrees can cause significant burns and blistering of the skin and foot pads within 60 seconds of contact. The best recommendation is to put your hand onto the surface. If you cannot keep your hand in contact for 60 seconds without pain, don't let your pet touch it either. Cars can also get very hot inside and out. Best recommendation, never leave your pet or human pet unattended, even if the AC is blasting.
4. **Feeding your pet:** During times of excessive heat, it is a good idea to add water to your pets' food, canned or dry. This will help them increase the amount of water they are taking in. This gives them a bigger buffer should they need to cool themselves for extended periods of time.
5. **When to seek medical attention for your pets:** Simple rule during excessive heat: If your pet is outside and begins acting more strange than normal, or starts to stumble or sway, go to your nearest veterinary clinic immediately. If you have immediate access to a cool (not cold) water source hose him down on his belly, feet, and in his mouths and get him to a veterinary office. Permanent brain and organ damage can occur in as little as 10 minutes when a pet's internal body temp goes above 107 degrees.



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