

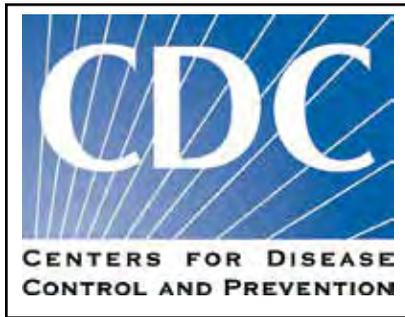
The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 20, 2020 • Volume XVI, Number 1



Your best guide to accurate information.
See the CDC guidelines on page 5.



Feeling stir crazy? Escape your boredom at Cunningham Falls. See Daytripper on page 8.



Jon Wolz and Violet at one of the iron slag piles along the Furnace Branch Trail. Read more about local hiking opportunities on page 9.



State Champion senior Xavier Kresslein with legendary coach Kevin Dorsey. Wrestling wrap-up on page 12.

Unprecedented Community Shutdown

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville area is experiencing the unprecedented (in our lifetimes) total shutdown of community events as thoroughly as in any other section of the nation. Our small town and isolated location have not spared us. While disturbing events have occurred regionally many times before, the degree of this disruption has fortunately been extremely rare. Until the scope and impact of COVID-19 are more clearly understood, social and cultural life has essentially come to a halt. Everything is defined as “until further notice.”

The only things comparable are the 1918 influenza pandemic (a.k.a. Spanish Influenza) or an invasion of a foreign army and, in a medical sense, that is exactly what has happened. That the Monocle has, for now, removed the Things to Do and Family Album columns is symbolic of the new “social distancing” requirements.

Continued on page 2.



The silent hallways of Poolesville Elementary School await the return of the joy of children's laughter.

Board of Education Candidates Visit Poolesville

By Link Hoewing

Fourteen candidates for the Montgomery Board of Education (BOE), the body that controls policy and recommends funding levels for the schools, visited Poolesville on March 10 for an open forum. The event was unprecedented and demonstrated that the Upcounty is becoming more influential in county politics.

About ten of the candidates took part in a tour of the high school just before they participated in the forum. Kevin Schramm, the chair of the Fair Access Committee (FAC), and Jane Lehrman, the Cluster Coordinator for the local PTSAs, accompanied by several community and FAC members were present as well. It was evident from the faces of the candidates and some of their comments that they recognized Poolesville High School



Candidates for the MCPS Board of Education

has gone far too long without major investment. They were especially taken aback by the stickers warning of the presence of “fixed” asbestos that are present in many parts of the oldest section of the school.

At the forum, Cristina Nanof moderated while Jennifer Singh kept time, so all candidates would have an equal chance of participating. Rebecca

Continued on page 10.

Continued from page 1.

Unprecedented Community Shutdown

Economically, it is our local restaurants that will be the most heavily impacted. Governor Hogan ordered all bars and restaurants to close in-store service, relying only on carryout and delivery. With residents encouraged to minimize personal contact, it is hoped that they will support these businesses in these trying times by choosing to order out more often.

For the first time since the 1918 influenza pandemic, churches are closing services and moving to a temporary process of online worship to continue their spiritual reach to their congregations. All of their social events have been canceled. They are planning special ways to meet the daily needs of senior citizens, especially as it relates to food shopping. Local citizens do not have to be a member of a congregation to volunteer to assist our seniors.

Nothing has been more dramatic than the impact on educational life. Montgomery County Public Schools and local school principals have been upfront and proactive in their online communication with staff, parents, and students via their websites. Almost all questions are answered at those sites, so each parent should thoroughly review them prior to calling or emailing for information. The spring sports schedule has been suspended to at least April if not beyond.

Montgomery County's library system is closed until March 27 when emergency needs will be reassessed by the state.

In order to safeguard Poolesville's residents and town staff, Poolesville Town Hall is closed to the public until Gov. Larry Hogan cancels the Maryland State of Emergency. The initial period of time for this closure began on March 16 and will end on March 27. If the governor extends this period to a later date, the town will reassess the closure. Those who need to interact with the town should do so electronically via email townhall@poolesvillemd.gov or by calling 301-428-8927.

Outdoor activities by individuals that continue to practice social distancing will still be able to use town parks.



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Local News

2020 Census Crucial To Upcounty

The 2020 Census will begin shortly with the optimistic goal of counting every individual living in the United States. Households should receive a card in the mail between March 12 and April 1. Responses can be made online, by phone, or by mail. The information gathered is primarily used to redraw legislative districts and allocate resources at the state, county, and local levels. From a more focused vantage-point, there are a number of reasons why an accurate count is important to Upcounty inhabitants.

The State of Maryland is leaning toward the adoption of a non-partisan commission to redraw its legislative districts. Accurate data will be vital in attaining the fairest results. Additionally, there are efforts underway in the county (similar to the term limit referendum) to do away with the At-Large County Council seats. The argument is that those elected at-large come from the most populous sections of the county which increases down-county representation and dilutes Upcounty

representation. Should this transpire within the next ten years, 2020 census data would be used to either create additional smaller districts or redraw existing districts within the county.

The Fair Access Committee efforts, during the past several years, have been pointing out the disparity in capital assets, services, and economic incentives allocated to the Upcounty area. The census data will give our community leaders the information they need to help make their decisions on a more equitable distribution of resources.

The census influences how approximately \$675 billion in federal funds are allocated for states and communities. Montgomery County officials believe that the county missed a significant amount of federal and state funding due to missing participation in the 2010 census. It is estimated that in Maryland, every person NOT counted costs the state up to \$1,820 a year in federal funding or \$18,250 over the ten-year period of the census.

Don't miss the chance to shape your future and that of the Upcounty area. It is vitally important that everyone be counted to ensure our area receives its fair share of federal and state funding, especially for schools, roads, and community services.

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Rande(m) Thoughts

A Hopeful Thought About the Pandemic

By Rande Davis

A family friend in the Netherlands sent the following poem, entitled "Lockdown," to us to contemplate a more hopeful perspective of what the whole world is enduring. It came to us on St. Patrick's Day and was written by Brother Richard Hendrick (a Capuchin Franciscan) in Ireland on March 13, 2020.

Lockdown

Yes there is fear.
Yes there is isolation.
Yes there is panic buying.
Yes there is sickness.
Yes there is even death.
But,
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise
You can hear the birds again.
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet
The sky is no longer thick with fumes
But blue and grey and clear.
They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other across the empty squares,
keeping their windows open
so that those who are alone
may hear the sounds of family
around them.
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland
Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.
Today a young woman I know
is busy spreading fliers with her number
through the neighbourhood

So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques, and Temples are preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary,
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality
To how big we really are.
To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.
To Love.
So we pray and we remember that
Yes there is fear.
But there does not have to be hate.
Yes there is isolation.
But there does not have to be loneliness.
Yes there is panic buying.
But there does not have to be meanness.
Yes there is sickness.
But there does not have to be disease of the soul
Yes there is even death.
But there can always be a rebirth of love.
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.
Today, breathe.
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic
The birds are singing again
The sky is clearing,
Spring is coming,
And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able to touch across the empty square, Sing.

Commentary

A Vision for a New Poolesville

By Link Hoewing and Rande Davis

Recently, an idea for a recreational skating rink to be located on the Donegan property across the street from Poolesville Elementary School has gotten lots of buzz in town. This is good as any ideas emanating from residents are always welcome and should be carefully considered and examined from all angles to see if they work for our town and its residents.

We laud the innovative thinking that is being focused on this idea, but it raises a bigger point: How do we envision the future for Poolesville at this juncture? We are now at the point where almost all development is complete. Where do we go from here?

We have the opportunity in the next Master Plan to make Poolesville a town that truly has something for everyone and serves the needs of every person. This means not only services and programs that address the needs of populations like seniors but that also encourage visits and day trips to our town from other parts of the county. This will benefit all of us

because it will add to our economy and increase the likelihood that we can support other programs and services that do not now exist. We have demonstrated that we can attract people to certain events like Poolesville Day, and we have amenities that help us attract people, particularly with regard to the history and outdoor opportunities of our area.

What ideas should be part of a new vision for the town? We might reconsider opportunities that may come from turning the county pool into a four-season facility. It already generates lots of activity but only for four short months.

Getting the community center/senior center for which the Fair Access Committee has advocated is another important part of the equation. Once a community center opens up, you will see a myriad of activities come on the scene, including many generated by local people such as nutrition and health programs, fitness programs, yoga and dance instruction, continuing education programs, and, yes, sports activities of various kinds.

The energy these two facilities would generate—the year-round pool and the community center—would help buttress our local economy and give people more reason to come here

Continued on page 17.

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Local News

Good Home Care Advice from the CDC

By Rande Davis

Fifteen Days to Slow the Spread

- If you feel sick, stay home, do not go to work. Contact your health-care provider.
- If your children are sick, keep them at home.
- If someone in your household has tested positive, keep the entire household at home.
- If you are a senior, stay at home and away from people.
- If you are a person with an underlying condition, you are at greatest risk. Stay home and away from people.

All Household Members: Practice good hygiene

- Clean hands at the door and at regular intervals
- Create habits and reminders to avoid touching the face; cover coughs and sneezes

- Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, and handrails regularly; increase ventilation by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning

Households with vulnerable seniors or those with significant underlying conditions (Significant underlying conditions include heart, lung, kidney disease; diabetes; and conditions that suppress the immune system)

- Have the healthy people in the household conduct themselves as if they were a significant risk to the person with underlying conditions, for example, wash hands frequently before interacting with the person, such as by feeding or caring for the person; if possible, provide a protected space for vulnerable household members
- Ensure all utensils and surfaces are cleaned regularly

Households with sick family members

- Give sick members their own room if possible, and keep the door closed
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For more information about the scholarship and the requirements, please contact Laura Davis at lauradavis0411@gmail.com, or an application and essay question may be picked up from the Poolesville High School Career Counselor, Rosalie Deota.

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Local History

The Victory Corps

By Jack Toomey

During World War II, women, children, and men who were not able to fight pitched in at home to support the war effort. Women went to work in factories, teenagers collected scrap metal and any other thing that could help in factory work, and some men served as air raid wardens.

One group that has been overlooked in the past was the Victory Corps. It was established in 1942 as a result of an agreement between the Secretary of Education and the Department of War. The Victory Corps was designed to prepare America's youth for potential military service at a time when the length of the war was uncertain. In order to become a member, a student needed to pass a physical fitness test, enroll in a military science course, and enroll in at least one extracurricular wartime activity. Because of Maryland's proximity to Washington, 126 out of 145 Maryland public high schools established a chapter of the Victory Corps.

Recently, Ellen Luhn Williams of Poolesville made me aware of the

Poolesville High School High School chapter of the Victory Corps. Her father, Maynard C. Luhn, also known as Junior Luhn, was a member of the corps. Maynard was born in Comus in 1927, and soon after his birth, his family moved to Poolesville. In 1942, Poolesville High established a corps, and Maynard, who was in the tenth grade, joined, as well as many of his classmates. They did things like growing Victory Gardens, defense preparation, selling war bonds, collecting metal scrap, and practicing bandaging.

Junior Luhn joined the army in 1945, served his tour, and returned to Poolesville where he started playing baseball at the Beallsville firehouse. A Washington Senators scout saw him play and invited him to spring training in Florida in 1950. The Senators liked what they saw and signed him to a minor league contract and assigned him to a team in North Carolina. Eventually, Junior became homesick, so he asked to be released from his contract. He returned home and worked in the lumber and fuel business for many years. He married Arlene Norris Luhn in 1954.

Maynard (Junior) Luhn, like many of his classmates, served his country both at home and in military service.



Victory Corps of 1942. Junior Luhn is in the center of the front row. Also pictured on the far right of the front row is Raymond Poole; standing behind Poole is Doris Matthews.

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Fun Fact...

During World War II, scrap drives were a popular way for everyone to contribute to the war effort. By recycling unused or unwanted metal, for example, the government could build ships, airplanes and other equipment needed to fight the war. Posters like this were created to help get the word out.





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A COVID-19 Daytripper A Day of Physical and Spiritual Renewal

By Rande Davis

In these times of restrictions on social gatherings, something on the outside with minimal and controllable contact with others, enjoying some of our areas best trails, is a good idea. In Your Back Yard this issues talks about a few, while this daytripper takes you a bit outside of our area.

It only takes a brief drive to the Catoctin Mountains to quickly learn why all of our presidents since FDR cherished their retreats to Camp David on weekends. While that compound is strictly off limits, a morning visit to Cunningham Falls State Park is Day-tripper's first phase of a day designed for invigorating physical challenge and spiritual uplift.

An early start is advised but don't let a mid-morning launch discourage you from making the trip since an abbreviated tour can easily be accomplished in less than six hours. The action part of the day can begin within fifty minutes, as your destination point is only thirty-nine miles away. Just go north toward Frederick and hook up with 15 North toward Thurmont. Your first stop at Cunningham Falls is the Route 77/Thurmont second exit.

For those less inclined to hike a trail and highly Covid-19 conscious, there are state roads throughout the park that allow you a most appealing and, at times, breathtaking auto-tour, with ample parking areas that allow you to easily experience the park's attributes. Every turn in the park (and there are many twists and turns) seems to bring up another postcard view of gurgling creek beds, fishing areas, and nature trails. It is a veritable feast of nature shots for passionate photographers.

Serious hiking is available but would not be on the agenda for day-trippers. Although for those serious hiking and walking enthusiasts, the daytrip can become an excellent scouting expedition for future plans.

Your first steps can take the Falls Nature Trail (1.5 mile) that winds through the wooded mountain terrain (yes, there are a few serious uphill paths to navigate) that will bring you back to Route 77 right at the boardwalk entrance to Cunningham Falls (.25 miles). The parking area at this point is for persons with disabilities as all spots are for handicapped parking only; however, it can be used as a dropping-off point though (a rural Kiss and Ride!).

The standard entrance to Cunningham Falls itself is the first left from Route 77 onto Catoctin Hollow Road. Follow this road around until you come to William Houck Drive which will bring you to another entrance on the right. If possible and available, you will prefer to park in the upper lot above the lake. From the upper parking lot, it is just a half-mile hike to Cunningham Falls. Early spring should give you some of the best views of the falls for the year. A sturdy baby stroller should be able to negotiate the path fine, but not so much after a heavy rainstorm.

The park offers other more serious trails, but for the basic daytripper, the lower trail (.5 miles) is the best. At the end of this trail will be Cunningham Falls, a scenic seventy-eight-foot waterfall, the largest cascading waterfall in the State of Maryland. The falls, locally known as McAfee Falls after original settlers, are home to variety of wildlife. You may come upon whitetail deer, turkey, fox, squirrel, raccoon, skunk, chipmunk, and many other species. This is a superb area for birdwatchers. A conservative warning is made that an occasional black bear has made its way in to the park.

Continued on page 18.



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In Your Own Backyard

Interesting Winter Walks

By Jon Wolz

This winter, I have had the opportunity to explore new places. On a cloudy but mild day, I visited the Gold Mine Loop that is one of the hiking trails of Great Falls in Maryland within the C&O Canal National Historical Park. With me that day for the walk were friends Steve Horvath and Doug Zveare. We parked on MacArthur Boulevard near Falls Road and walked on the Falls Road Spur. This short spur of 0.2 miles took us to the Gold Mine Loop, a 1.6-mile trail. There are other popular accesses to the loop we walked by including the Gold Mine Spur that is a 0.8-mile walk up a steep hill from behind the Great Falls Tavern and Visitor Center and the 0.5-mile Angler's Spur that is near the Angler's parking lot on MacArthur Boulevard. There is a map at the Great Falls Tavern titled "Hiking Trails of Great Falls Maryland" with details of several trails within the park.

In 1861, during the Civil War, a Union soldier, Private McCleary of the 71st Pennsylvania Regiment, was stationed in the vicinity of Great Falls and discovered gold. The gold was found while washing skillets in a stream near McCleary's hilltop camp overlooking the Old Angler's Inn. After the war, McCleary returned to the area and began purchasing land from local farmers. In 1867, the first shaft was sunk near the site of the Maryland Mine and remained active

until 1940. There was never enough gold discovered for mining operations to be profitable. Gold is found in rocks of the Piedmont Plateau. The metal occurs as grains, wires, or sheets in quartz veins and along mineralized fault zones in the surrounding metamorphic rocks. Today, the abandoned goldmine is left in disrepair. Most evidence of the gold mining operation has been removed, but we could see the dilapidated remains through tall chain link fences of the old processing mill where gold was extracted from quartz, an old water tank's base, the blacksmith shop, and overgrown sealed shaft entrances. Along the Gold Mine Loop, white quartz rocks of various size lay scattered about. The loop goes through an old growth forest with many rotting trees on the ground. Also, several mounds of earth were left from digging for the quartz rocks that contained gold. The Gold Mine Loop trail is an easy and safe walk for people of any age.

On a very cold, windy but sunny day in late February, I attended a hike to the Seneca Stone Cutting Mill and Quarry that was organized by Pat White of the C&O Canal Association. Forty-three people participated that day, including members of the C&O Canal Association and Friends of Seneca Creek State Park. The hike was led by Maryland State Park Ranger Erik Ledbetter who gave a very informative talk about the history of the mill and quarry. Seneca red sandstone, also known as red stone, formed during the late Triassic Age over two hundred million years ago. Iron oxide gives the sandstone its rust color. It was prized for its ease of cutting, durability, and bright color.



Doug Zveare, Steve Horvath, Paul Kreingold, Jon Wolz, Tony Laing, and Jonnie Lefevre.

Continued on page 14.



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Continued from page 1.

Board of Education Candidates Visit Poolesville

Smondrowski (District 2) and Shebra Evans (District 4), who participated at the forum, are currently sitting members of the BOE. All other candidates who appeared are running at large. While Upcounty residents cannot vote for district BOE candidates during the primary, they can vote for all BOE candidates who are running at large and in districts in the county during the general election.

All of the candidates were asked about the proposal from the FAC to build a new school co-located with county facilities like a community/senior center. All were enthusiastic about the proposal, many calling it "innovative" and several saying it should be a "model for the county." The candidates were also asked about the whole school magnet programs at PHS, and all were very supportive. Several mentioned that they thought special attention should be paid to the Independent Studies Program at the school, and one mentioned specifically that the idea of an Agricultural Sciences magnet sounded innovative and a perfect fit for the Ag Reserve.

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Youth Sports

State Champion Kresslein and County and Region Champ Savage Led Falcon Wrestlers

By Jeff Stuart

On Saturday, March 7, the third day of the Maryland State Wrestling Championships, at the Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Poolesville senior Xavier Kresslein earned an overtime, sudden victory, 6-4, over top-seeded Dustin MacDonald of Mountain Ridge in the 170-pound class to win his first state championship. He had lost to McDonald, 14-7, a week earlier in the west region final at Garrett Community College.

"We knew what to expect and how the guy wrestled, so Xavier went in much smarter and had a plan," said Coach Tim Tao. "He moved much better and wrestled cleaner, greatly minimized the mistakes. He never gave up and pushed the pace the whole match. Xavier worked hard at practice and fixed a couple things and was ready, mentally and physically. He really worked hard to earn the state title. I am very proud of him. His hard work and dedication have paid off. He is a great captain and leader for this team."

Senior Colin Savage, who won county and region titles wrestled back for third place at 160. Sophomore Kevin Fultz took fourth place at 138, and on the girls' side Chloe Maher took fourth place at 106 pounds. "Jackson Barney and Maddie Montemurro finished top eight, losing in the blood round," said Tao. "We did great as a team, finishing tenth overall. Everybody wrestled well and never quit, very proud of the team and their performance."

Maher and Montemurro won first place honors at the west region girls' tournament at Garrett Community College on February 29. Sadie Cowger placed second.

At the region championship, Fultz took second place, losing 6-4 to Malakai Cunningham of Williamsport. Senior Jackson Barney took third place at 152 pounds, Mason Hillegass, took fifth place at 113, and Jacob Zeranski took sixth at 285 pounds.

At the county tournament at Gaithersburg High School on February 22, in addition to Savage, who claimed the only first place title, Kresslein and Fultz took second place honors. Barney finished third, and Hillegass placed fourth. They led the Falcons to an impressive fourth place team finish. There is no county tournament competition for girls.

In an interview prior to the post-season, Kresslein said, "I have had an undefeated season so far, so personally, it has been as good as it can get really. I am still improving in practice, working hard and getting better. A personal highlight was pinning all opponents at the Battle of the Boro tournament at Boonesboro High School in December. I won the outstanding wrestler award in the upper weights. We have definitely developed as a team throughout my years here. We have gotten closer and gotten better and better. We have bonded as a team and that has gone hand in hand with that success. Fultz, of course, is doing



The 2019-2020 PHS wrestling team.

Continued on page 13.

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Continued from page 12.

State Champion Kresslein and County and Region Champ Savage Led Falcon Wrestlers

amazing just like last year. We kind of expected that from him, and Barney as well has really stepped up. He won JV counties last year, and now he is a crucial member of our varsity team."

Kresslein has gotten some publicity lately, having been mentioned in the Montgomery County Sentinel following the Dorsey Duals, and ABC News has taken an interest. Kresslein went 10-0 with nine pins, eight in the first period at the Boonsboro Duals, improving his career victories to 140.

"Basically, my brother, Zack, passed away a few years ago," said Kresslein, "and I have kind of used wrestling to keep my mind straight and to help me focus on something else."

"I wrestled a lot of matches with a hurt knee last season," said Savage, "but I had surgery and this year I have been working out. I feel great. At the Westminster duals over the holidays, I got some feeling back in my knee. I

started wrestling better. Mason had a big match for us against Winters Mill. He pinned the fourth-ranked kid in the 2A/1A state at the time, Garrett Dell. Other than being hurt, I have enjoyed my four years here." Like Kresslein, Colin is one of a select few Poolesville wrestlers with over one hundred wins. "In fact, he set the Montgomery county win record with 178 career wins," said Tao. "The previous record of 172 wins was held by Alex Carbonell who won a state title for us last year. Huge milestone in the county, so PHS had a very good weekend."

"I have had some good matches and some tough losses that were also good matches," said Fultz. "For me, a highlight was the Boonsboro finals. I lost, but it was a very good match. For the team, a highlight was definitely when we beat Bullis in the Dorsey Duals. I think Jackson Barney put in a lot of hard work in the off season. It has paid off. He has really stepped up. His work ethic is great. He was JV county champ last year."

"I started my sophomore year," said Zeranski, "and I have wrestled three years on varsity. When I started out, I really didn't know much. I have gotten a lot better. I really wanted to make it to the states this year. I have had a lot of

Continued on page 14.

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BY AUTHORITY OF ELECT SITTING JUDGES MONTGOMERY COUNTY SLATE, NANCY HOSFORD, TREASURER.

Continued from page 9.

Interesting Winter Walks

We met at the Riley's Lock parking lot at the C&O Canal National Historical Park and walked up the steps by the lockhouse crossing the Seneca Creek Aqueduct and up the towpath. After a short distance, we turned right and walked another short distance to the ruins of the stone cutting mill. After leaving the mill, we walked along an overgrown area along the cliffs where the stones were quarried. Drill marks are still visible in the red rock cliff facing and in rocks along our walk. At the far end of the quarry is Bull Run where large Seneca red stones seemed to be tossed about in disorganized heaps above and in the stream. This area was at the far end of the quarry, and it seems that quarry work abruptly stopped at this location. The quarry operations began in 1781 and ceased operations in 1901 when the Seneca red stone being quarried was found to be of poor quality. The Peter family owned the operations until 1866. John P.C. Peter, a great-grandson of Martha Washington, made the quarry into a commercial success by utilizing the C&O Canal and to supply red sandstone for the Smithsonian Castle and other buildings in Washington, D.C. He also built Montevideo, his summer house near the quarry.

Stone slabs were cut out of the high cliffs overlooking the canal and Potomac River. These slabs were moved over to the mill where they were cut to the size needed for constructing buildings and for the locks that were being built along the C&O Canal up to Lock 27 which is below the Monocacy Aqueduct. Our walk was about three miles round trip, was of moderate difficulty, and is not suitable for young children.

Another place I continue to explore is the Monocacy River Natural Resources Management Area. I have now hiked the entire Furnace Branch Trail (marked with signs and blue paint marks on trees) and the Dr. Belt Trail (marked with signs and red paint marks on trees). This park is 2,100 acres and adjoins the Stronghold Property that includes Sugarloaf Mountain. On a recent mild afternoon, I hiked the Dr. Belt Trail for the first time with Steve Horvath and Doug Zveare from the end of Ed Sears Road down to the trailhead parking lot by the Route 28 Monocacy River bridge. That walk is about three miles and passes through a forest. Wildflowers, including bluebells, were beginning to bloom. As I walked in front of Steve and Doug, I spotted, about two hundred yards in front of me and speeding down the hillside, a very large black bear that ran from left to right and out of sight. I also hiked parts of these trails with my wife Patricia and our poodles Violet and Rosie. Near the trailhead parking area on the Furnace Branch Trail are the slag piles from the iron furnace that was once located here, and the slag can be seen in the trail. Also, on the Furnace Branch Trail are the old quarries and an old lime kiln. This park has very few visitors and is a very scenic place to walk for people of any age; however, getting to the quarries or lime kiln requires stepping on rocks to cross Furnace Branch on the Furnace Branch Trail.

Continued from page 13.

State Champion Kresslein and County and Region Champ Savage Led Falcon Wrestlers

support from my fellow seniors. There are not a lot of us like Colin and Xavier and Elias. I have seen a lot of underclassmen really come on this year like freshman Mason and freshman Sam Stempler. They are doing really well."

The Falcons had a very solid season, finishing the regular season 11-3 in dual meets.

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For deliveries, we will be charging a \$10 delivery fee. This fee will go straight to the furloughed delivery driver. The restaurant will not be keeping any part of that fee. This is also not a tip. This is strictly to cover their expenses.

Taco Tuesday, Wing Wednesday, half-priced wine Thursday, and AYCE Brunch & Happy Hour will not be available to order at this time. We will only be offering the regular menu and the regular brunch menu.

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present Crime

Assault: 20000 block of Fisher Avenue.

Burglary: 21400 W. Offutt Road.

Theft: 19900 block of Fisher Avenue, 17600 block of Kohlhoss Road, 17300 block of Chiswell Road, 21000 block of Big Woods Road.

Vandalism: 21500 block of White's Ferry Road.

Past Crime: 1877 to 1890

Montgomery County Sheriff William White was aboard the train from Washington to Rockville when he was struck in the face by a man named Neil and another person. A friend of White and a passenger came to the aid of the sheriff, and Neil was pinned to the floor of the car until a pair of handcuffs could be properly applied. Upon arriving in Rockville, Neill was taken before the magistrate who sent him to the county jail on a charge of assault. The other man escaped, but it was said that he would soon be arrested since the sheriff knew him.

A rumor that a crowd of men from Mechanicsville was on the way to Rockville to seize a prisoner named Claggett caused the sheriff to ask for help from the Frederick authorities. In no time, two deputies rode into Rockville, their horses sweating and gasping in thirst, and teamed up with the Montgomery County deputies. They took Claggett to the Catholic cemetery next to the train depot and, upon the arrival of the next train for Frederick, they took Claggett to Fredrick where the jail was much more secure. He was held there until his trial.

An important clue spotted by not the police but by a citizen led to the arrest of Arthur Crutchfield. An arson fire

and theft of a large amount of valuables at the home of Mr. Braid who lived between Silver Spring and Mechanicsville had occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Braid had been in Washington attending the theater when they had returned to their home to find their house ablaze. A quantity of Mrs. Braid's clothing and jewelry had been stolen which led the police to believe that the theft of valuables came first and that the arson was committed to cover up the crime. The next day, some of the clothing was being worn by Crutchfield's sister and was reported to Officer Mitchell at Silver Spring by a former employee of the Braids. Deputies searched the Crutchfield house and found much of the stolen property. Arthur Crutchfield was turned over to the D.C. Police to serve a six-month sentence for stealing chickens after which he was to be taken to Rockville for trial in the Braid case.

Sheriff Fairall of Columbia, South Carolina arrived in Rockville looking for J. H. Morrow, a well-known horse trainer in Montgomery County. It was alleged that Morrow had taken indecent liberties with a fourteen-year-old girl in South Carolina. The Montgomery County sheriff accompanied Sheriff Fairall to Rocklands where Morrow was staying, and they arrested him. Morrow was indignant, saying that he had shown affection towards the girl but had not assaulted her. He also said that an arrest was not necessary as he was planning to turn himself in at Columbia when court was in session.

As was a summer tradition, a number of blacks gathered for a large camp meeting at the campgrounds at Barnesville. Things were proceeding until a group of toughs from Seneca arrived and began making trouble. Word reached Sheriff Miller that Fenton Jackson and Henry McDonald were

Continued on page 17

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Remembrance

Franklin D. Holt, Jr.

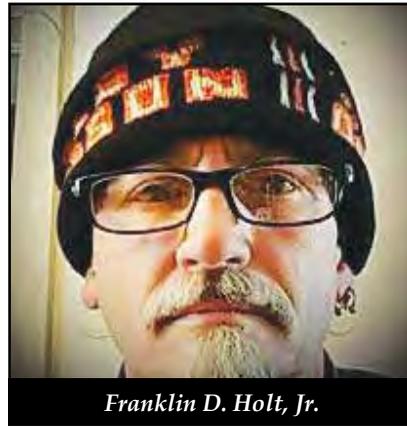
Franklin D. Holt, Jr., 53, of Poolesville, took his final Harley ride up the Stairway to Heaven on March 4, 2020 and was reunited with his daughter Christina.

Born on July 17, 1966 in Maryland, he was the beloved son of Franklin and Judith Holt. Franklin had a love for hunting and fishing and was a member of the VFWA Cabin John Post.

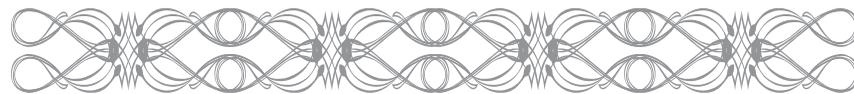
Besides his parents, he is survived by his three children, Timothy Franklin Holt, Melody Lynn Holt, and Donald William Holt; two sisters, Ann Marie Holt-Tuck and Frances Holt-Payne; and one grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Christina D. Holt.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.



Franklin D. Holt, Jr.



Continued from page 4.

A Vision for a New Poolesville

and visit on weekends and even during evenings. It will also help populations—like those in poor health and seniors—improve their health and connect with others.

How do we focus on these ideas and others in order to help make them a reality? The best way is to work on a new Master Plan that reflects a new, invigorated vision for our town. There are several pieces of land—including the Donegan property and the Willard property—that will be part of this mix. If done right, the development on these properties could add immensely to enriching the town's livability. The Master Plan is the place to do this. The master planning process allows for thoughtful vetting, strong community input, and careful development of ideas.

Master Plans do guide future development. The parks we have, Whalen Commons, and the Streetscape were all spurred by initial ideas put in Master Plans.

One critical aspect of making these kinds of positive changes is to focus on how to move private landowners to want to participate in the town's

vision. In the case of Donegan, he is operating under a sort of "deadline" because he only has a short period of time (a year or so if memory serves) to put forward a plan to take advantage of his water allocation. If the town were to offer him an extension of a few years in exchange for serious negotiations under the overlay regulations to come up with a visionary space on the land Donegan has, it could well be a major win for the town.

Donegan would press to get something out of the deal, too. What if that something were a grocery store or at least a fresh food market that offers fresh meat and fish, expanded baked goods, and produce year-round? If such a deal also included a new community space of some sort that was well designed and inviting, it could be a major win for everyone. As in a good marriage, good compromises mean that both sides can win.

There are great opportunities for our town waiting to be had. We need vision and community involvement to make them happen. The recent proposal for a recreational skating rink could be part of it. Let's work together on a visionary Master Plan to find out.

Continued from page 16.

Police Blotter: Past and Present

selling intoxicating liquors. Sheriff Miller and Deputy Mills moved in to arrest the pair, but a group gathered and hit Miller over the head with bottles. Miller, from a position on the ground, fired a shot at Jackson

which later proved fatal. Because they did not have reinforcements, the two lawmen left for Rockville with their other prisoner.

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

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Continued from page 8.

A Day of Physical and Spiritual Renewal

The one nature trail sign that caught our wimpy attention was the one presenting pictures and warnings of poisonous snakes that inhabit the area. Maybe ankle boots, walking stick, and making a lot of noise are not a bad idea.

Springtime, with its high-water creek beds and flush with blooming plant life, is a photographer's feast. If you're on a scouting expedition, you will learn that coming back to the park for an all day visit of hiking and picnicking can include ample fishing, canoeing, and paddleboating. Hunting Creek Lake also offers freshwater swimming.

For the adventurous and those wanting a significant amount of walking exercise, try taking the trail from the first parking lot all the way to the falls then over to Hunting Creek Lake and finally back to the first visitor parking area (roughly 4 to 4.5 miles).

Before moving on to phase two of this daytrip, you may need some sustenance. Nearby Thurmont has restaurants with carryout window service.

Now that your legs are tired and your belly filled, a visit to the National Shrine

Grotto of Lourdes (on the campus of Mount St. Mary's University in nearby Emmitsburg) will help fill your spirit. You do not need be Roman Catholic to experience and appreciate the quiet paths for personal prayer or private contemplation and the beautiful pastoral gardens for meditation that lead to the grotto.

The National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes is one of the oldest American replicas of the revered French shrine. Dating back to 1894 as a grotto, the site had been used for meditation, devotion, and prayer since the early 1820s.

Your walk will follow the winding path that St. Elizabeth Ann Seton once used on her way to the Holy Grotto on Mary's Mountain. St. Elizabeth is the first native-born North American to be canonized. This small woman, who suffered and endured severe times of personal tribulation, has been designated as the Saint for Coping.

A convert to Roman Catholicism, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's. Her legacy includes six religious communities with more than five thousand members, hundreds of social service centers, a hospital, and the beginning of the Catholic Parochial school system in the United States.

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Celebrating 31 Years of Service

World Health Organization (WHO) Declares COVID-19 (Coronavirus) a Pandemic

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

Pandemic is a classification for a disease that has spread to over 80% of the globe and can no longer be contained or eradicated. The COVID-19 virus will continue to spread over the next 6-18 months to a greater or lesser extent depending on general hygiene levels in a country, protective measures, and population gathering limitations. The goal now is to slow the spread so that medical services are not overwhelmed by sick individuals needing advanced care.

A small bit of good news is that young people under the age of 14 do not seem to get very sick from the virus. This will not be the Zombie Apocalypse. Even though the United States got a late start in identifying the disease due to missteps in early testing, we have a well-structured health system and the general health of our population, with respect to diet and active health care, is good.

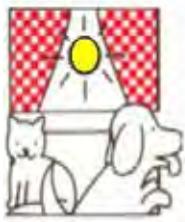
The main age groups that can potentially suffer life-threatening effects if infected are aged 70-90 years. It is important to note that individuals of any age with high blood pressure, diabetes, heart and/or lung disease, or other chronic disease have a higher risk of severe effects from COVID-19 infection.

Please remember that your pets cannot develop the COVID-19 infection. They can have viral particles on their hair and in their mouths and noses if exposed to sick individuals, so if you do get the coronavirus, limit contact with your pets so they do not passively spread it. The virus appears to be primarily spread from direct and indirect contact to surfaces where the virus has landed and not from being airborne. The virus can stay active anywhere from 2-96 hours on passive surfaces.

Your pets' veterinary medical clinic already practices advanced viricidal and bactericidal cleaning of all surfaces in a practice multiple times a day. This is because there are a number of other potential animal diseases against which Veterinary Clinics need to protect their patients. Fortunately for the owners, these cleaning agents are highly effective against the COVID-19 virus also. This means that your local veterinary practice has a very low likelihood of spreading the virus.

Here are simple steps you can take to minimize your potential for infection from coronavirus:

- Wash your hands for 20 seconds after interacting with others or being exposed to areas you do not usually frequent.
- Don't pick your nose and try not to touch your eyes or face.
- If you are healthy, you do not need a face mask, but stay at least 6 feet from people that are coughing or sneezing continually.
- 99% rubbing alcohol and hand sanitizers are very effective at eliminating the virus. You should use them on any surface you will be in close contact with such as tables and chair armrests.
- Consider putting off travel for at least the next 4-6 weeks if you can. If you need to travel, consider if you can handle being stranded in a location for 14-21 days if requested to isolate yourself. Consider also if you can be away from your home and work that period of time if required by local officials
- If you are sick, get tested and then stay home.
- Stay up to date on your town, city, county, and state considerations should the virus become more widespread in your area. Above all do not panic. If you think you need help, ask for it.



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