

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Monthly Newspaper

October 2024 • Volume XX, Number 8



One of these life-size statues will be for sale at a local antiques festival. For more details, turn to page 3.



Walk softly and carry a big stick? Read about it on page 10.



Making Poolesville Day 2024 the best ever was a tall order! We think they did it. More pictures on page 18.



The first sweet purchase at a new store in town! Find out where on page 22.

Fair Access Committee Holds Most Successful Breakfast Ever

By Link Hoewing

The Fair Access Committee (FAC) held its sixth annual breakfast at the Poolesville Elementary School All-Purpose Room. The committee holds these breakfasts just before the Poolesville Day Parade kicks off and invites local, county, and state leaders to learn about the needs of the Upcounty. FAC was founded to ensure leaders understand the inequities in services, facilities, and programs that have plagued our area for decades. Its first priority was to push the county to modernize and rebuild the high school.

On September 21, over ninety leaders attended the breakfast. As usual, many members of the County Council attended, including Council President Andrew Friedson, Dawn Luedtke, Evan Glass, and Gabe Alborno, and our District 2 Council representative



The Fair Access Committee thanked the people who have helped them reach many of their goals.

Marilyn Balcombe. The state delegation that represents our district—Sen. Brian Feldman and Del. Linda Foley, Lily Qi, and David Fraser-Hidalgo—were also present along with District 39 Del. Greg Wims, who has been a longtime supporter of the Upcounty. Members of the Board of Education were also

present, including Board President Karla Silvestre, Shebra Evans, and Julie Yang. County department heads, including Bill Tomkins of the Montgomery County Economic Development Commission, Artie Harris of the

Continued on page 5.

Harper Family Celebrates 35th Reunion Anniversary

By Rande Davis

One of the most important, historic families from our area is the Harper family, tracing its origins to patriarch Alfred Harper, circa 1810. The exact date is unknown as Mr. Harper was born into slavery and lived in the area we know as the historic Jonesville/Jerusalem communities. The family recently held its 35th family reunion, and we asked that a descendant, Sylvia Ford-George, report to the *Monocle* on this special event. Her report follows:

Every Family Reunion Has a Story to Tell

By Sylvia Ford-George

Our reunion story started about four decades ago when family members in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania suggested there were too many family gatherings during funerals, provoking the first mention of a family reunion. Three years later—at yet another funeral—

we had had enough and agreed to begin planning. We gathered family members who resided in Philly, contacted a couple members from the Poolesville area, and started on our journey. It took almost two years to organize, which included hundreds of hours researching the family lineage, resulting in the identification of our oldest known family member, Alfred Harper, who was born in Poolesville in circa 1810, and his wife Sallie Jones, two sons (John Thomas and George Columbus), and over 450 other descendants. Our efforts culminated in a three-day weekend event in August 1989 with close to two hundred family members coming together and meeting—many for the very first time. This year, as we celebrated the thirty-fifth anniversary of that first gathering, we're still learning more about the family, our lineage, heritage, and legacy—and how we all fit in.



Poolesville's historic Harper family: Thirty-five years of reunions!

This year's reunion was all about reconnecting, as it was our first since COVID-19. It was held at Brookside Nature Center (BNC) in Wheaton, where the Harper Cabin—an 1870s homestead where John Thomas Harper once resided—is located. The cabin represents the life of post-Civil War African American communities. It was a one day, five-hour event held on

Continued on page 13.

Family Album

Fair Access Committee Appreciation Breakfast for County Officials



Attendees of the Fair Access Committee breakfast.



Delegates Linda Foley, Lily Qi, and David Fraser-Hidalgo, and Sen. Brian Feldman were also recognized for their help, along with Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller.



Republican Congressional candidate Neil Parrott was in Poolesville to show his support for the town at the Poolesville Day breakfast event.



Commission president Jim Brown and Fair Access Committee chairman Link Hoewing presented Councilperson Marilyn Balcombe with a Champion of Western Montgomery County award.



County Executive Marc Elrich was awarded a Champion of Western Montgomery County plaque.



John Poole, Jr. was joined by his good buddy George Washington at Poolesville Day.



Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller



Members of the Fair Access Committee: Nancy Kidd, Derek Longbrake, Chair Link Hoewing, Adam Sroka, and Ed Reed. Missing members are Commissioner Sarah Paksima and Rev. Chuck Copeland.

Focus on Business Spectacular Vintage Festivals Coming To Poolesville

By Rande Davis

Poolesville's Joy and Jon Siegel, owners of Aix La Chapelle Farm on Jerusalem Road, will be hosting two signature events this fall, starting with their Fifth Mid-Atlantic Antique and Garden Festival this fall. The setting, with its historic barns and farm buildings, is nestled in a scenic pastoral setting showcasing not only the antique and vintage items for sale, but their local agricultural ambiance as well.

The Mid-Atlantic Antiques Festival event on Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27 is the largest antiques and vintage décor show in the region, with over sixty dealer booths, including many nationally-renowned dealers from eighteen states, the United Kingdom, and Canada. Highlights will be dealers featuring eighteenth and nineteenth century American and European furniture, fine art, Americana, folk art, Militaria, architectural items, garden décor, and decorative arts.

This show will have a special emphasis on fine garden material, including garden benches, statuary, fountains, and flowers. A special guest will be the owners of Alitex Greenhouses from London, England to show the fine features of their glass house built at Aix La Chapelle Farm. Be sure to stop by their booth in the Washington Pavilion and see the special features. There will be some tours offered of the greenhouse and historic walled garden for parties interested in an acquisition.

The November show, Old Line Market, runs Saturday, November 2, and Sunday, November 3. For this show, the focus is on vintage, repurposed, and artisan goods. Garden items will also be featured at this show, and a local flower farm will have a flower bar and will also be selling locally-grown dahlia tubers, peony roots, and bulbs.

Your shopping experience will be enhanced with locally-roasted coffee, craft beer, and food trucks. Vanish Brewery will do a tap takeover at both events in the Aix La Chapelle Taproom. Comus Inn will have food offerings in the tap room. Metzger Winery will be serving wine from their specially-equipped wine trailer, and Rustic Route Coffee will be serving coffee and sweet treats from the bakery. Some very popular food trucks will post up in our food corral, including Salat Foods, Bom Burger, Silver & Sons, and Bacon on a Stick!

A full, two-day entry is \$12.00 for guests of Mid-Atlantic Antiques Festival, those under 35 enter free. A full, two-day entry is \$12.00 for guests of Old Line Market, where those under 18 enter free. This is not only a wonderful time for the whole family, but the family dog, too, if they are currently vaccinated and leashed.

Event Facts:

Mid-Atlantic Antiques Festival

19130 Jerusalem Road
Poolesville, MD 20837

Saturday, October 26:
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 27:
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information and advance tickets, visit: midatlanticantiquesfestival.com.



Poolesville's Joy Siegel with Hilary Nolan of Massachusetts, one of the many esteemed dealers coming to the antique festival.



A beautiful glass Victorian greenhouse made by of Alitex Greenhouses from London, England.



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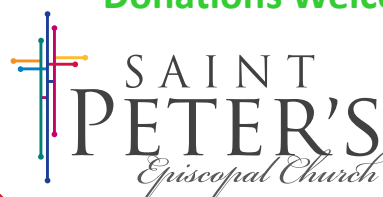


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Rande(m) Thoughts

The Big Election Is Coming, and I Know for Sure Who Will Win!

By Rande Davis

That headline sounds like an arrogant statement of confidence, especially since almost all the so-called professional election experts and prognosticators do not get predictions right. On this one, however, I am certain.

Let me, as they say, be perfectly clear. I am not talking about the 2024 presidential election but our town election for commissioner. Before I give you my prediction of the winners, let me review the criteria in choosing a commissioner and what any candidate needs to bring to the table to be productive and effective.

We don't endorse any candidates—you don't need us for that—however, when it comes to the metrics for choosing a good commissioner, my forty years of community involvement, including over a decade of attending and covering town meetings, have given me some advantage in understanding how our town succeeds where other towns can fail. That doesn't mean we would necessarily choose the same candidate, only that once we do choose, even if not the same, the winners have proven to be good servants of the town.

My criteria in choosing a commissioner:

The candidate must truly want to serve the whole community. The key phrase here is "to serve." Don't run for commissioner if you want to move on to a higher office. Primarily, this is because no commissioner (in my over four decades here, at least)

has ever been able to use the office as a steppingstone. Your political career is more likely to end as a commissioner than advance.

The other key word is "whole" as in serving the community. Don't run because of one issue or another. Don't run as if on one side or the other. Do not choose a candidate who represents a political faction. There is a good reason why, in a small town, party affiliation is not an issue. For the most part, while I might guess well, I still cannot be certain of the political party of any of the commissioners—and that is a good thing.

A good candidate needs to have a solid understanding about what is expected from the position in time and energy, and an appreciation of the complexity of most issues. We have good people run, win, and then realize this is not an easy task, requires a lot of personal time, and often subjects one to public criticism.

Be determined to listen first before deciding on issues. That is why we have public hearings. There have been several big issues where public hearings can change your mind. The decision on the skatepark was one that swayed me from my original position.

Now to my prediction on the winner. The hard part as I write this is that no candidate has officially been announced. The petitions and candidate forms can still be handed in (or not) two days from this writing. I know for sure only two incumbents and two newcomers have taken petitions to run.

Each of the incumbents who may decide to re-up for duty have been on a productive commission: positive in its approach and effective in results. Their re-election will continue that. Any newcomers offer a much-needed fresh approach to town issues and a new point of view and worthy of consideration—so who will win? We

Continued on page 7.

Pulse

The Owl Moon Raptor Center: A Sanctuary

In the heart of the Agricultural Reserve, home to diverse wildlife populations, a small organization works to save raptors in distress and return

them to the wild. Owl Moon Raptor Center is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that rescues and rehabilitates injured, sick, and orphaned birds of prey from throughout Maryland. Suzanne Shoemaker founded Owl Moon in 2002 because of her lifelong love of these birds and appreciation for the roles they play in

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Releasing a Barred Owl.

Photo by Kaleigh Keese

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Monocacy Monocle!

Continued from page 1.

Fair Access Committee Holds Most Successful Breakfast Ever

County Planning Board, Keith Miller of the Revenue Authority, and Kelly Groff of Visit Montgomery came to the breakfast as well.

This year, Aruna Miller, the lieutenant governor of Maryland, also came to the breakfast. She lives in nearby Darnestown and was once one of our delegates in the State House.

Since it is an election year, a number of candidates running for office were in attendance, including Neil Parrott and April Delaney, running for the House of Delegates in our District 6, and Rita Montoya, Brenda Diaz, and Natalie Zimmerman running for the Board of Education.

Dozens of local leaders were in attendance, including Bob Cissel of the Montgomery Agricultural Producers, and farmers who are members of his group, including Eric Spates and Linda Lewis; Tom Kettler of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce and Chamber members Katie Horan of Sweet Lemon, Lynne Bodmer of Total Automotive, and representatives from Calleva; and leaders in the nonprofit community, including Katie Longbrake from WUMCO, Jenny Freeman from FarmShare, and Charlotte Boucher of the Upcounty Prevention Network.

A key purpose of the breakfast is to educate and familiarize county and state leaders—most of whom live in areas that are suburban and urban and highly populated—with the issues the Upcounty faces with the lack of population, hidden needs of some residents, isolation for many, and long distances to get to many needed services. The committee showed a video that highlighted these issues and pressed leaders to support moving funding up to this year for the already-approved community center, making permanent a line item in the budget approved last year to support WUMCO's healthcare programs, and putting a "pool bubble" over the outdoor pool so it can be used all year round.

FAC annually selects a leader or organization as a "Champion of the Western County." These awardees have "gone the extra mile" to support policies and funding to make life better for those who live in the Upcounty.

This year, County Executive Marc Elrich and our District 2 Councilmember Marilyn Balcombe both received the award. In receiving his award, Elrich commented that we can't keep leaving out certain areas from getting access to services other parts of the county have. He said, "At some point, you've got to provide service to everybody." He went on to say that he thinks "we can make the pool bubble work."

In her remarks, Balcombe noted how important it is to continue to make everyone aware of the inequities and needs that exist in the Western County. A student who has lived in the Upcounty for ten years and is now at Duke University, Ella Moore, released a series of papers at the breakfast that provide more evidence that many in the Upcounty suffer from the lack of primary care access, high levels of certain types of health problems, inadequate transportation, and food insecurity.

In her remarks, Miller noted that she knows the Upcounty and is a "Poolesvillian" because of her love for the area. She went on to declare, "White's Ferry is absolutely a priority at the state level."

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Senior News

Poolesville Seniors Presents Virtual and In-Person Programs

Visit the website for Poolesville Seniors, poolesvilleseniors.org, or call 301-875-7701 to register for a wide variety of virtual and in person events.

Most in-person events take place at Poolesville Presbyterian Church's Speer Hall at 17800 Elgin Road (Rte. 109). **Registration is required.**

October 4

Historic Medley District History and Cultural Role

Celebrate the 50th Year Anniversary of Historic Medley District (HMD) with light colonial fare and a social when John Poole (Rande Davis) recounts the history and important cultural role of HMD in the past and present. *Historic John Poole House, 19949 Fisher Ave. 1:00 pm.*

October 5

Glenstone Museum

Enjoy this world-class museum in nearby Potomac, featuring a series of indoor and outdoor spaces showcasing post-World War II artworks from the past seventy years. *Glenstone Arrival Hall, 12100 Glen Road, Potomac. 10:00 am.*

October 7

Trail Hike:

Blockhouse Point Park Loop Trail

Join Gwen Haney and Karen Dansby at the Blockhouse Point Loop Trailhead in Blockhouse Point Conservation Park. The seven-mile Loop Trail is mostly wooded with a stretch on the C&O towpath. *Blockhouse Point Conservation Park 14750 River Road, Darnestown. 8:55 a.m.*

October 9

Darts Social

Join the fun with easy darts games that anyone can play! *Speer Hall. 2:15 p.m.*

October 10

History of Ferries

Ralph Buglass talks about the History of Ferries along the Montgomery County segment of the Potomac, the C&O Canal, and their impacts on Montgomery County's Social and Economic Development. *Virtual. 7:00 p.m.*

October 15

Fairy Tales for Children & Adults

Conceicao Andrade will enchant us with fairy tales she learned from her grandmother. She'll talk about her

research on these folktales and myths and tell some of her grandmother's own stories. *Poolesville Presbyterian Sanctuary, 17800 Elgin Rd. (Rte. 109). 7:00 p.m.*

October 17

Chair One Fitness: Chair Dancing

Join Deirdre, a certified Chair One Fitness instructor, for a chair-based dance program that delivers a musically-driven forty-five-minute interactive workout that uplifts people through dance and fitness movements. Perfect for anyone who can benefit from a seated workout. *Speer Hall.*

October 18

Movie Night: Fall Guy

Come watch *Fall Guy*, a 2024 action comedy from director David Leitch. Join us for this action-packed fun film starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt. *Speer Hall. 7:00 p.m.*

October 19

Motown Dance Party: Put Your Dancing Shoes On!

Join the Motown Dance Party. Enjoy tunes from the sixties and seventies from DJ EZ while wearing your favorite Motown styles. *St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 20100 Fisher Ave. 7:00 pm*

October 21

PS Book Club: Little Fires Everywhere

Discuss this novel by Celeste Ng. A peaceful suburban community is upended by a controversial custody battle over an adopted Chinese American baby. *Virtual. 7:00 pm.*

October 21

Hip-Hop Dance Class with Kim Harris

Get the party started! Learn one complete hip-hop dance each monthly session. Spend twenty minutes learning the steps, and then the dancing will begin! *Speer Hall. 6:30 p.m.*

October 22

Book Club for Bridge Players

Read chapters from *Bridge Basics 2: Competitive Bidding* by Audrey Grant. Bring your questions for discussion. *Speer Hall. 12:00 p.m.*

October 25

Line Dancing w/Ashley Kelch

Enjoy a free evening of line dancing with basic instruction that builds up to more complicated moves. Join the fun, work out, and meet new people. *Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church. 7:00 p.m.*



October 29

Kunzang Palyul Chöling Buddhist Temple Peace Park and Gardens

Tour the grounds, prayer room, goats, pigs, chickens, large gardens, and three miles of hiking trails with consecrated Stupas right in our backyard at the KPC Peace Park and Gardens. Spend quiet contemplation in the beautiful prayer room, masks required. *(KPC) Buddhist Temple, 18400 River Road. 10:00 a.m.*

Weekly Events

Monday through Friday

Pickleball. *Stevens Park. 7:30 a.m. to noon.*

Mondays

Ping Pong Afternoon. *Speer Hall. 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

Walking Club. All levels are welcome, register online to get updates on any weather/temperature related time changes. Meet at *Whalen Commons Flagpole. 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.*

Seniors at the Barre. 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. *Speer Hall.*

Tuesdays

Tai-Chi with Maureen Ivusic. *Speer Hall and virtual. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.*

Continued on page 7.




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Continued from page 4.

The Big Election Is Coming, and I Know for Sure Who Will Win!

will! We are the winners as we have done a good job of choosing, while remaining open to new ideas. Congratulations! You the voters are the winner in this election. Keep up the good work.

Continued from page 6.

Senior News

Bridge. Snacks provided. Registration required. *Speer Hall*. 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pickleball. Owens Park. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Wednesdays

Zumba Gold with Karen McPhatter. *Speer Hall*. 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Trivia Game Night. If you love Trivia, come join a team with Poolesville Seniors on the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, email info@poolesvilleseniors.org. 7:00 p.m. *Virtual*.

Thursdays

Mahjong with Joyce Kral. Beginner and seasoned players are welcome. *Speer Hall*. 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Fridays

Walking Club. All levels are welcome. Register online or drop in. Meet at *Whalen Commons Flagpole*. 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Seniors at the Barre. All levels welcome. Register online for each session. *Speer Hall*. 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

For more information or to register for any of the programs listed here visit the Poolesville Seniors website: poolesvilleseniors.org, to receive the link for virtual events or directions for in-person events. Any Zoom presentations are recorded for later viewing on their YouTube channel. Contact 301-875-7701 or email info@poolesvilleseniors.org with questions.

In case of bad weather or unusual circumstances, consult poolesvilleseniors.org. If you are already registered for an event, check your email for updates.

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October 21

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ENGLAND

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Roberto Freitas American Antiques

Barn Fresh Designs

DELAWARE

Jayne's Reliable

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Halloween Story

The Ghost of Stick Pile Hill

By Jon Wolz

During the operating days of the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal, there were many deaths during construction and operation from 1828 to 1924. The reasons for these deaths included natural causes, drownings, and even murders.

Horrible indeed was the ghost which haunted Stickpile Hill along the C&O Canal. The specter was in the likeness of a murdered peddler with battered head and bloody clothes and caused much trouble until it was “laid.” The peddler was an elderly man who arrived at Little Orleans at Mile 141 along the canal. This was in the 1870s before the railroads dealt canal traffic an almost deadly blow, and Little Orleans was a flourishing village. The peddler enjoyed a profitable stay in the place. When trade fell off, he flung his pack over his back and started away over the road from town that led across the mountains.

The next morning, a frightened farmer rode pell-mell into the village and excitedly gasped out a story of a brutal murder on the highway out of town. He had found the body of the peddler on the roadside, the head beaten almost to a pulp and the pockets turned wrong side out. An empty pack lay nearby. A party of villagers went to the scene of the crime and buried the body close to where it had been found.

The burial was not the end of the peddler. A week later, a terrifying specter near the grave gave a farmer the scare of his life. The peddler had appeared to him “misty like, with his head like mush,” and his clothes clotted with red, the man declared.

Others soon began to report seeing the ghost. It glided about among the trees and made sudden rushes at them in a way which made their hair stand on end and their blood congeal. The road began to be avoided at night and even in the daytime. It became known that persons who passed the grave were sure to have some misfortune happen to them that very day: They lost money or other valuables; their horses ran away; or they made bad bargains at the village stores.

The stories grew and grew until finally the road was almost entirely unused and rapidly growing up in weeds. Then an authority on ghosts at Little Orleans recalled the belief that a ghost could be “laid” by throwing a small branch on the grave of the restless dead man. Once this was done, the ghost of the peddler ceased to trouble people. For years, the farmers who used the road placed small branches on the grave, and sometimes the pile was four or five feet high. It was burned every winter to make way for a fresh pile. The pile of branches gave the place its name of Stick Pile Hill.

Today, you may visit or camp at the Stickpile Hill Hiker-Biker Campsite at Mile 149.36 on the C&O Canal. If you are there on a foggy and misty evening, who knows what you may see!



Photo by Robin Lynn

The Stickpile Hill campsite. Enjoy the scenery—if you dare!



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I humbly write to ask for your vote to re-elect me, Jeff Eck, to the office of Poolesville Town Commissioner this November.

Poolesville residents deserve safe communities, carefully managed growth, local shopping, services and dining choices. All of this is possible, but it won't happen by itself. My plan, as Commissioner, is to continue to lead our community in this direction. Leadership that makes each and every one of us proud to call Poolesville home!

My family has called Poolesville home for nearly 30 years. My adult daughter grew up through the Poolesville schools. I am, indeed, proud of the academic achievement of the Poolesville High School students and faculty. After many years of persistence and continuous relationship building within the County and State, the new PHS is finally a reality. Future generations will benefit from this new state-of-the-art learning environment!

Every community deserves leaders that are servant leaders, **community before self**. I am that leader. As an example, I worked closely with the Montgomery County Dept of Health to acquire and distribute COVID19 test kits in January 2022. Albeit an all-out community effort, I worked with other community leaders to mitigate the horrible pandemic in any way. The many local resident volunteers on our team that offered their time and efforts to organize and distribute the test kits in the bitter cold month of January can never be understated or over thanked. I, along with the leadership team of the Poolesville Commissioners, placed this as one of our most significant public health accomplishments.



Keeping community health and safety in mind, I worked with Town staff to acquire a grant for the public access defibrillator (PAD) in Poolesville. The automated electronic defibrillator is located in Stevens Park near the pickleball courts. Additionally, I worked closely with Montgomery County Fire and Rescue officials and established the first-of-its-kind dispatch protocol with MCFRS 911 that instructs the public how to access the defibrillator if needed.



My focus will be on representing the Poolesville community and continuing to move forward to keep Poolesville the vibrant, thriving, and attractive community that is attractive to both residents and businesses alike. As a Commissioner, I will bring a servant and representative form of leadership by listening and, perhaps more importantly, acknowledging our community's needs. One should never choose to serve based on personal agendas. In the running for Commissioner, I have none other than myself to push for common-sense improvements and to be fiscally responsible when it comes to taxes.

I serve our community every day and as an active 30+ year Montgomery County volunteer firefighter/EMT. Additionally, I spent hundreds of hours volunteering as a COVID vaccinator at the Montgomery College mass vaccination site from its inception to its demobilization. Scan the QR code to watch the video.



I have contributed in other ways to support needed supplies to Ukraine as well as the Christmas Toys for WUMCO. I can only hope that my small contribution made the lives of the people in need a bit easier. Scan the QR code to watch the video.

My volunteer service is a testament to the community I love as well as my commitment to Poolesville. Additionally, I serve on the Board of Directors for the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department as well as a member of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

I don't take your vote for granted and value your support greatly. I ask for your vote to re-elect Me, Jeff Eck, to the office of Poolesville Town Commissioner, on Tuesday, November 5th.

"We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who vote."

—Thomas Jefferson.

Monocacy Lions Club Charity Golf Tournament





Monday, October 21

Bretton Woods Country Club

REGISTRATION: 9:30 a.m.

SHOTGUN START: 11:00 a.m.

Format: Shotgun Start – Four Person Scramble – Captain’s Choice

Prizes/Awards:

- Closest to the Pin on all Par 3s
- Closest to the Center and Putting Contest
- Buffet Dinner – Cash Bar – Cash Beverage Cart

SUPER TICKETS INCLUDE: Putting Contest, Mulligans, 1 tee from red, Free Throw onto green

\$725 - Commercial Sponsor/Team
\$600 - 4-Player Team
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\$150 - Commercial Hole Sponsor
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Continued from page 1.

Harper Family Celebrates 35th Reunion Anniversary

August 17, 2024, John's 187th birthday. We paid tribute to deceased loved ones and updated family history. Special guests, Quame DeJonge, Naturalist, Environmental Science & Policy Major, and Maryland-National Parks and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Montgomery Parks employee; and Shirl Spicer, Cultural Resources Museums Manager, M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks provided details about cabin living, significance of the cabin architecture, and eighteenth and nineteenth century African American history in Montgomery County. A powerpoint presentation provided by BNC included oral histories from Joseph Clyde Harper, John's grandson and former cabin resident. A family member also presented John's death certificate which was found days before the reunion in a folder of other information from those earlier years of research.

We learned of other historic reconstruction period cabins still managed by M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks and were reminded that the Harper Cabin is just one of two "first generation" log homes preserved from the Jonesville and Jerusalem communities that are related to the family. The other, the Jones-Hall-Sims House, is located in the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) in Washington, D.C.

There was also food: a light breakfast of donuts, croissants, and fruit salad; and a light lunch of fried chicken, potato salad, ham sliders, pizza, chips, cookies, cake, fresh peaches, beverages, and birthday cake in honor of John. There were souvenirs, including John Thomas Harper t-shirts, 2024 reunion t-shirts, baseball caps, bucket hats, and fans. There was a family chat about continuing our connection with the family-at-large, future reunions, and continuing the genealogy research needed to find other siblings of John and George, as well as the families of Alfred and Sallie. We took an official group picture and finished things off with line dancing and door prizes.

About sixty family members from the local area, Delaware, Georgia, Philly, and New York joined us at BNC, representing six generations (fourth through ninth). Everyone left knowing which of Alfred's sons they were descendants of and what generation they represented.

It was a great day with family and friends (new and old). The rain held off until most of us were home. We honored our past and began planning for our

future. We're looking forward to continuing to build relationships with BNC, M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks, and NMAAHC, and honoring our Harper family in every way we can. We're hopeful that everyone left with a sense of pride, love, and belonging.

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Youth Sports

Falcon Field Hockey Surprises
In Quick Start to the Season

By Jeff Stuart

The loud report of a field hockey shot as it hits the bottom of the back wall of the goal is unique to field hockey. The Poolesville squad heard that sound often in the first three games of the season. Their opponents did not hear it at all. The Falcons opened the season on September 10 with a win at home against Clarksburg, and they followed it up with wins at Wheaton and Gaithersburg on September 12 and 14, respectively.

"We have won three games, and all of them have been shutouts," said senior midfielder Rachel Longbrake. "We played really good defense, and our offense has been good too. We have five freshmen on the team that have never played the sport before, and, honestly, they are just killing it. Charley Staniero at midfield, and Haley Sherrill and McKenzie Kavanaugh on defense are starting. Regan Trainor at forward and Victoria McGuire at midfield are getting lots of playing time. They are all really impressive. I think each of them has scored a goal so far this season. Our best game was against Clarksburg. We were expecting to lose that game. We won, 7-0, which was astonishing for all of us. I mean, we lost to them, 6-0, last year, so it was a big deal."

"Huge change this year," said senior forward Evie Smalley. "Lots of young people on the team. We are really coming together. We are more athletic and faster."

I am really looking forward to playing our game tomorrow against Walter Johnson. They are always one of our toughest games, but we have been getting closer to beating them every year, so we will see what we can do against them."

When told it might rain for the game at Walter Johnson, Evie replied, "I'll bring an umbrella."

Unfortunately, the Falcons lost to Walter Johnson, 2-1.

"I think we are really aggressive this year," said senior goalie Kacey Raines at practice on September 16, "more than we have been in the past. I think that is the



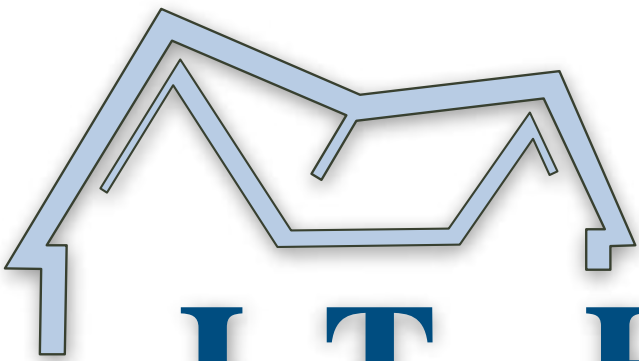
Maddie Ryals, Rachel Longbrake, Kate Dacanay, Paige Soskin, Evie Smalley, Laney Sofelkanik, Ellie Huber, and Kacey Raines.

result of the coaches, our seniors, and a really athletic freshman class that just came in. They are doing really well. I think everyone has just stepped up. I am super excited over the way we began the season. I want to see where that leads to. As for shoutouts, Coach Brooke and Coach Hackey have meant a lot to me over the years. I think Clarksburg was our best game so far."

"The season is going pretty well," said freshman Straniero. "Our offense and defense seem to be really good. Like Rachel said, I have never played the game before, and we have won all our games, so it has been fun so far. Kacey, our goalie has played really well, and Rachel and Evie have played really well on offense."

Continued on page 15.

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Continued from page 14.

Falcon Field Hockey Surprises in Quick Start to the Season

“We have a really good group of girls,” said Coach Brooke Hamm. “We have a good group of returners. We also have five freshmen that are very athletic and learn the game really quickly, so they round out the team really well.

“Overall, our defense has been really strong. We returned some good players on defense, Raines is in goal. Seniors Kate Dacanay and Paige Soskin are center backs. Freshman Haley and Mckenzie have been very strong as well. This team has definitely exceeded our expectations, by far. We are eager to see how this season is going to go.”

Other seniors are Laney Sofelkanik, Ellie Huber, and Maddie Ryals. Other juniors are Genevieve Hix and Ainsley Walton on defense. Ava Shelburne at midfield, Alina Vicinelly at forward, and Laney Franklin in goal are sophomores.

Coach Katie Hackey shares coaching responsibilities with Hamm, and Falcon alumna Krista Kennedy is a volunteer coach.

The October 26 game at home against Springbrook is Senior Night. Other home games are against Rockville at 11:30 a.m. on October 5 and Quince Orchard at 6:00 p.m. on October 9.

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| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| October | And soon, with silent pinions, |
| Behold, the fleeting swallow | The fledglings of the North |
| Forsakes the frosty air; | From winter's wild dominions |
| And leaves, alert to follow, | Shall drift, afrighted, forth, |
| Are falling everywhere, | And, phantom-like, anon |
| Like wounded birds, too weak | Pursue the phantoms gone. |
| A distant clime to seek. | — John B. Tabb |

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Youth Sports

Girls' Flag Football Team Makes History

By Jeff Stuart

When freshman AnnaMay Straniero caught a three-yard pass from junior quarterback Mehek Patnaik on the Falcons' second try in overtime on September 4 at Wootton High School, the Falcons recorded the first score against Walter Johnson. When the Wildcats failed on their second try, Poolesville posted the first win ever in a Montgomery County flag football game.

Game highlights included a long run by freshman Bryn Miller in the first half and interceptions by sophomore Addison Kain and Lizzie Reed in the second half.

"It was super crazy, super exciting," said senior wide receiver Kristen Lang. "It was obviously an extra special game. It was one of the first flag football games in Montgomery County history. There was super high energy, and I wish I could do it all over again. Starting out fresh, we had a really good first drive that ended up on their six-yard line. It was a little disappointing that we did not score, but I think it

showed what this team can do. As the season goes on, those drives are going to turn into touchdowns. When AnnaMay scored, it took a few seconds before we realized what had happened, and everyone came rushing in."

"It is really cool to be able to say we won the first flag football game in Montgomery County," said junior wide receiver Zoe Hornyak. "It was really fun. AnnaMay, our freshman, did really well running routes and catching the ball the whole game, and Brynn Miller, another freshman, played really well on defense. Sophomore Stella Volpe played well too."

"It was pretty exciting," said junior quarterback Mehek Patnaik. "We made flag football history. We were the first team to win in Montgomery County. It was a little frustrating at times because we moved the ball in regulation time but didn't score. We had to go double overtime to clinch the win. It was really a special win. Our coach prepared us well. We played a scrimmage before, and I think that helped get us ready for the competition."

"We did a good job of driving the ball," said Coach Mike Neubeiser. "We just had a hard time punching it in the endzone. We made a couple of little mistakes here and there. For our first game, the girls played well overall. They just never gave up. They played really well defensively. We didn't give up many first downs. They played hard. The defense carried us. It was 0-0 at the end of regulation. We got those two stops in overtime, and we scored. I feel fortunate to get the win, but good things happen when you work hard."

Montgomery County Public Schools launched girls' flag football as a varsity sport with three games at each of four sites on September 4. The Poolesville-Walter Johnson game was the first of three at Wootton High School. There was much fanfare. Femi Ayanbadejo of the 2000 Super Bowl Champion Team Baltimore Ravens, in his #30 jersey, was in attendance at Wootton—and there were fireworks. A number of local media outlets covered the event. There were similar triple headers hosted by Seneca Valley, Richard Montgomery, and Paint Branch High Schools.

Other seniors are Jolee Cowger, Rayleen Woods, Paige Soskin, Paige Miller, Zoe Neubeiser, Amelia Goettsch, Kacey Raines, and Lulu Alcorta. Other juniors are Kate Dacanay, Olivia Sordo, and Teagan Banholz. Sophomores are Nyah Huang, Carson Hartke, Addison Kain, Lizzy Reid, and Alina Vicinelly. Layla Tao is a freshman.



Presenting (with great fanfare!): The inaugural and history-making 2024 PHS varsity girls' flag football team!



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Continued from page 16.

Girls’ Flag Football Team Makes History

The magic carried over into the home opener under the lights at Poolesville. “The home crowd was large and loud,” said Volpe. “The Falcons pulled out the win with forty-two seconds left. Trailing, 7-6, the Falcons scored on a ten-yard touchdown pass from Patnaik to Olivia Sordo and converted the extra point. Just prior to that, the Falcons faced a fourth and long situation. They picked up the first down on a long pass to Zoe Hornyak. Blake finished the first half at the Falcons six-yard line but did not score. Halfway through the second half, the Falcons scored on a pass to Straniero, but a two-point conversion attempt failed. Five minutes later, the Bengals scored and converted the extra point to take a 7-6 lead.

On Tuesday, September 17 at Rockville, the Falcons ran their record to 3-0 at Rockville as they dominated the Rams, 32-13.

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Poolesville



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NURSERY (6mo-4yr olds) - 10:15-11:45 am

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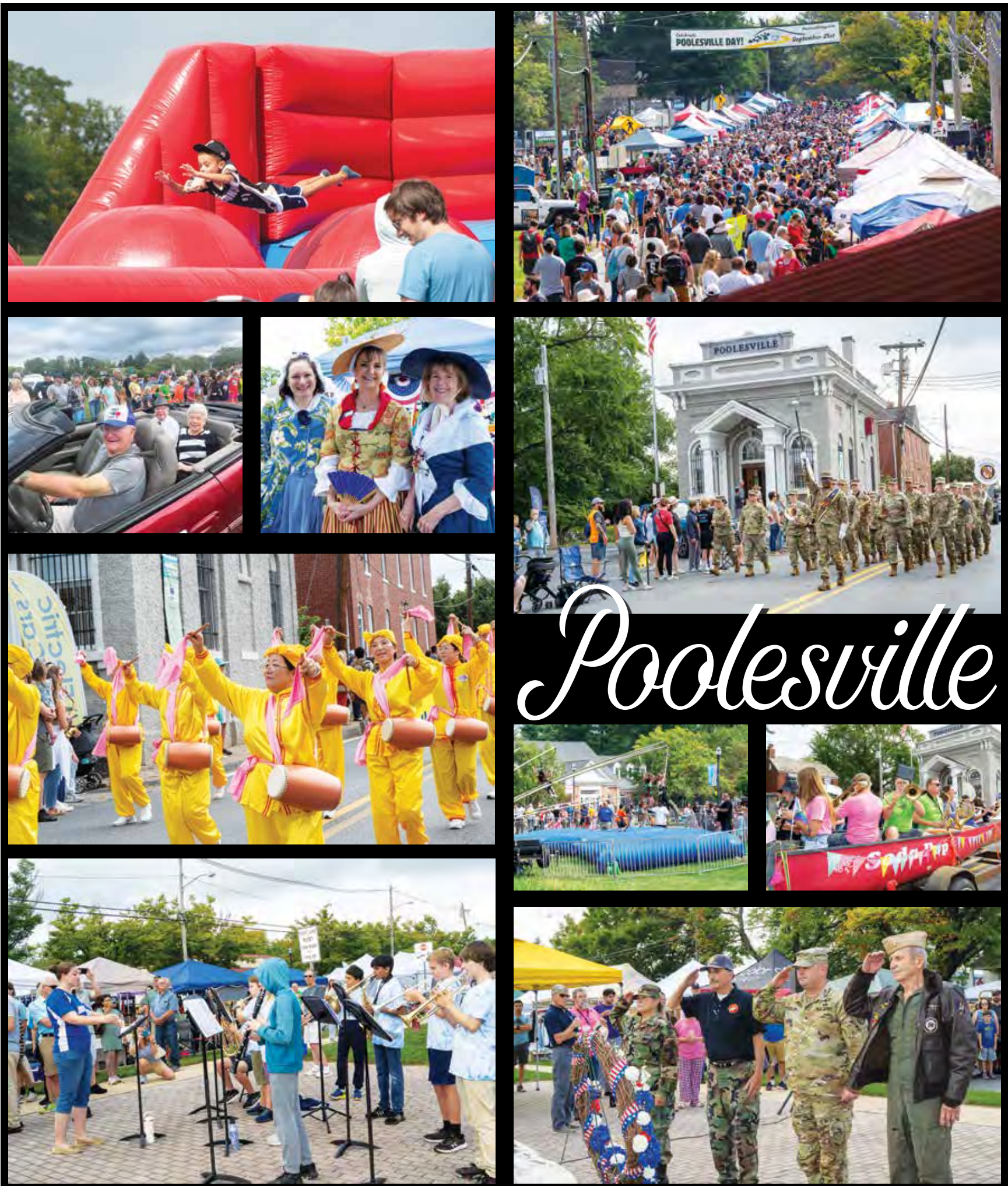


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Poolesville

Photos by Hilary Schraub and Raude Davis



Photos by Hilary Schaub and Rande Davis

Garden

There Is a Time and Place for Everything

By Maureen O'Connell

I rarely quote the Bible, but today, Ecclesiastes 3:1 beautifully describes the thoughts of my article. "To everything, there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven—a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot." Our gardens exist in four seasons. Each season serves a purpose in its life cycle, from the early days of spring, as we look in anticipation towards the colors, shapes, and scents of emerging hibernating perennials to new plants to the busy summer of weeding, watering, and pruning to the laid-back season of fall as the garden quietly closes for the winter. You can almost feel the garden sigh with relief that summer is over. As much as I love my garden, there comes a time when I look forward to fewer daily garden chores.

If parts of your garden this year disappointed you for whatever reason, now is the time to put that behind you and move on to plan for next year. When my garden is weeded, mulched, and tidied up in April and May, and June enters the stage, for me and my two Lab sous-gardeners Spencer and Winston, my garden is our joy. This year, my garden did not look like it has in past years. The deer and squirrels were extremely hungry and curious and, despite my frequent



Winter gardens make for spring seeds.

application of the spray Deer and Squirrel Away, they nibbled and dug up many of my beautiful flowers. I wished that they had an appetite for weeds! The high temperatures of July, August, and September extinguished my desire to work outside. The increased number of mosquitoes did not help either.

Before you put away your garden gloves and tools, now is the time for your garden cleanup, where less is more. Here are some tips.

Leave some leaves. Place some piles of them in a few out-of-the-way corners of your yard. Allow some to remain under shrubs as a natural insulator. These tasks will provide safe harbors for overwintering pollinators. Butterflies will overwinter in a chrysalis hanging from a dead plant. Native bees will "hibernate" in the hollow stem of a bee balm plant. Birds will feast all winter on the dead seed pods of many plants, especially cornflowers (*Echinacea*), and caterpillars will roll into the seedpod of a milkweed plant. With other leaves, mulch them with a mower. This will add nutrients and organic matter to the soil.

Clean up perennial flowers. In general, I leave most perennials uncut through the winter. They are an important source of food source for seed-eating birds. On the other hand, some plants, such as peonies, bearded irises, and lilies can be cut back to a height of about three to five inches to avoid spreading diseases.

Clear away vegetable crops of diseased plants and any dead or rotting plant material.

Leave grass long.

Support wildlife with bird feeders (don't forget suet) and a clean source of water.

Plant spring flowering bulbs for pollinators.

Now you can relax.

Do you or someone you know have a special announcement or milestone you would like to share with our readers?

The Monocle welcomes your contribution.

Send to editor@monocacymonocle.com



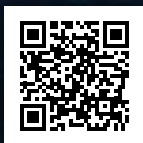
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Tidbits

The Monocle Welcomes Renowned Cartoonist to Staff

The *Monocacy Monocle* is honored to welcome aboard John Kolm to its staff as a contributing cartoonist.

In 2004, he wrote a bestseller on success and leadership at work, *Crocodile Charlie and the Holy Grail*, which is published in seven languages and fourteen countries including the U.S. He is a graduate of the University of Melbourne and the U.S. National Cryptologic School. John was born in Melbourne and lives in Potomac with his wife, Sandy, and son.

John is a renowned cartoonist and writer—a winner of a Rothman's award for cartooning. He started his publishing career in the arts in 1986 as a cartoonist for Australian Syme Magazines and Syme newspapers and was published there for sixteen years.

Retired Soldier Receives Electric Car



Joyce Breiner of Poolesville Green spoke at the ceremony in which retired U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Cody William Chism was awarded a payment-free electric vehicle on Poolesville Day.

Military Warriors Support Foundation's (MWSF) Transportation4Heroes program, in collaboration with Wells Fargo and Nissan of Bowie, presented retired U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Cody William Chism with a payment-free electric vehicle during the National Drive Electric Week event and Poolesville Day Parade in Poolesville on September 21.

Retired U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Cody William Chism was born and raised in Louisiana but is currently a Maryland resident. Chism enlisted in the military in 2003 in Tallahassee, Florida after the attacks of 9/11 and due to the long history of military service in his family. He began his military career at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, assigned to the emergency department after basic training, where he served in Germany and Iraq.

The Key Ceremony for the vehicle donation took place at 11:30 a.m., immediately after the Poolesville Day Parade on Elgin Road and Fisher Avenue. During the ceremony, remarks were given by Tanya Sanders as the head of Wells Fargo Auto, Casey Kinser from MWSF, Damon Lester of Nissan of Bowie, Maryland State Del. David Fraser-Hidalgo, and Poolesville Green's Joyce Breiner.

MCPS Approves the Naming of New Gym and Football Field

A petition of nearly five hundred residents was delivered to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) administration and accepted to name the football field after Howard Lyles, a wonderful coach at Poolesville High School, and the new gymnasium after the legendary Coach Fred Swick.

Both men were wonderful role models and helped get programs off the ground in our area to help kids get involved in sports. Howard lived in Jerusalem, and



Cartoonist and author, John Kolm.

his family has deep roots in Jerusalem, and he was also one of the original fifteen students that integrated Poolesville High School.

Oops! We Missed a Few Important People in Our Special Edition of the Monocle

We wanted to make sure that we didn't completely forget two important businessowners in our Name the Woman Business Owner feature in our very Special Edition of the *Monocle*, *The Grande Dames of the Monocacy*. They were Linda Lewis of Lewis Orchards and Ginny Shaver of Poolesville Barber Shop.

Mysteries Solved!

Regarding the unidentified women in some of the photos of our Grande Dames issue: On page 2, bottom left picture of ladies of St Peter's, the "unknown" to the left of Winsome was her sister-in-law Inez Brown; the woman shown on pages 2 (Bassett's luncheon) and page 15 (bridge game) is Jean Schultz who moved to Poolesville in 1976 and passed away in 2014.

New Vintage and Antique Store Opens

Congratulations to Kelly Swanstrom on the opening of her new specialty store, Sugar Pea Vintage, in the Dr. Thomas Poole home, next to Bassett's Restaurant. The store offers upscale antiques and vintage furniture, painting, décor acumen, etc. The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 13.



The grand opening of Poolesville's newest retailer, Sugar Pea Vintage.



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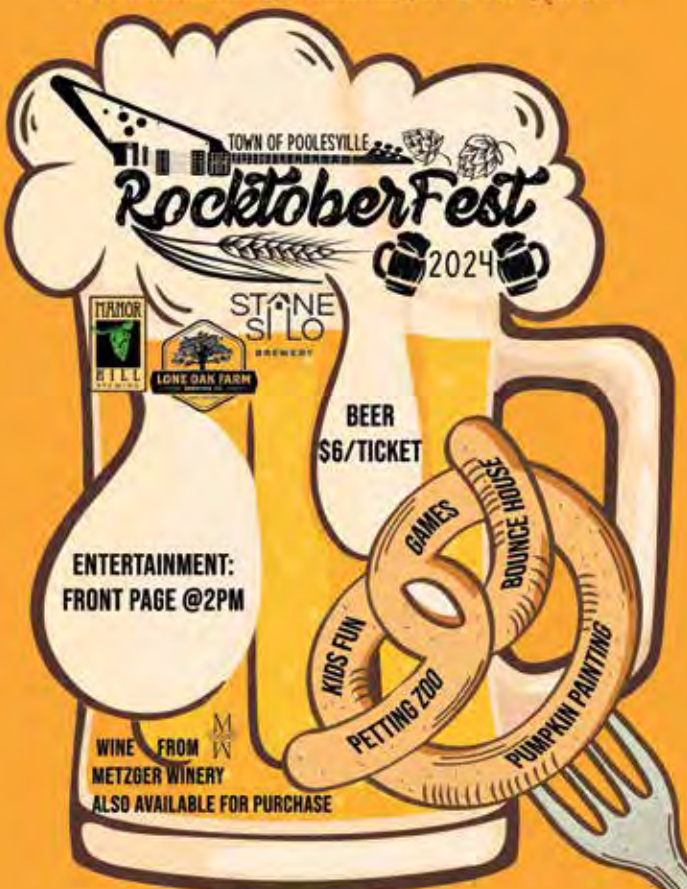
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Youth Sports

Girls' Volleyball Puts Forth Stellar Effort in Opener

By Jeff Stuart

The Poolesville High School girls' volleyball team came up just short in their first match of the season at home on September 9. There were long rallies. Every point was contested. The match took nearly two hours to complete. Neither team gave an inch.

"The opener was great," said Coach Steve Lostoski. "We played Quince Orchard, a really good team. We played well, especially for the first game. We have a young team. We have a great freshman middle hitter, Megan Elder. We were missing senior Iris Duan who has played varsity since her freshman year. She is out for medical reasons and will probably miss the first part of the season, but the girls really scrapped. Our offense started to come together in the second set, and we were right there with them. We lost the fourth set, 27-25. We served for the win three or four times. If we could have finished off that game, I felt like we had a really good shot at taking that momentum into the fifth set tiebreaker and winning the match.

"It was a very long match. There was a lot of good play on both sides. I told the girls it was kind of a litmus test going into the season, and they passed with flying colors. We served at ninety percent. We passed the ball well. I considered it a win.

"Losing Iris for the first part of the season is tough. She is a great player. As a setter, she has some of the best hands in the county. She is one of the best I have ever worked with. She has great range defensively and is a good hitter. She is a leader, and the rest of the girls really look up to her. As for other players to watch, sophomore Caroline Balthazar returns as our libero. Several of our juniors played on varsity last year, including Jaylin Anderson, Emma Chettupuzha, and Camryn Smith. I think the experience playing varsity last year will help them this season. Overall, I feel we have a lot of potential.

"I think we did really well considering how good of a team Quince Orchard is," said junior middle hitter Scarlett Huner. "I think we had great energy, and we had a lot of fun playing. The fans in the stands were all involved. Everyone was cheering. We kept the ball in play. There were really long rallies. My shout-out goes to junior Jaylen Anderson. She is a setter. She does a good job of keeping us together and united as a team. She helps us keep a balance between having fun and getting work done."

"Quince Orchard is a very hard team to play," said junior setter Jaylin Anderson, who had an amazing dig in the opening game, diving off the court to

Continued on page 31.



Caitlyn Yee, Sanjana Shrivatsa, Brainy Akpala, and Iris Duan.

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- Pumpkin Chunkin Donation \$3

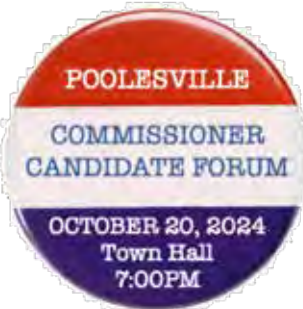



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Pooleville Town Hall
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Things to Do

Markoff's Haunted Forest

The great fall tradition every weekend in October.

Bassett's Thursday Nights Trivia

Hosted by BP Trivia. 7:00 p.m.

Annual Halloween Scarecrow Contest!

Call *Poolesville Town Hall* for details.

October 4, 5, and 6

Countryside Artisans Fall Tour

A tour of artists and artisans' studios and galleries in the Ag Reserve. Meet the artists, see where they work, learn about their mediums. For locations and more information, visit countryside-artisans.com. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

October 4

Library Event: The Aging and Disability Resource Unit

Stop at the ADRU table to learn about the variety of resources available to Montgomery County older adults, people with disabilities and/or caregivers. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' volleyball vs. Watkins Mill at JPMS. 6:30 p.m.

Boys' football vs. Rockville. 6:30 p.m.

October 5

PHS Varsity Home Game

Field hockey vs. Rockville. 11:30 a.m.

Library Event: Playdate at the Library!

Drop in, meet your neighbors, and enjoy free play time with puppets, puzzles, and games for the very youngest. Every Saturday morning. Ages 0-5. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Library Event: Illumination Stations: Shedding a Light on Energy Programs

Bring old incandescent light bulbs to swap for new LED lightbulbs. Limit three LEDs per person. Also get information about how to lower utility bills. In collaboration with Montgomery County Health and Human Services, Department of Environmental Protection, and Pepco. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

October 5 and 6

Annual Pumpkin Chunkin' Cannon at Lewis Orchards!

Each pumpkin shot raises money to benefit Poolesville's American Legion. Hit the target and win \$100. All day.

October 6

Open House Kunzang Palyul Choling

Learn about Tibetan Buddhism and get to know our vibrant community. *KPC's front lawn*. 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

October 7 and 8

Benefit to PHS!

The Boosters' Food Grill Team will be selling barbeque and sides. *Lewis Orchards*.

October 7

PHS Varsity Home Games

Pickleball vs. Walter Johnson. 3:30 p.m.

Girls' soccer vs. Watkins Mill. 7:15 p.m.

October 8

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' flag football vs. Northwest. 6:00 p.m.

Library Event: Read to a Dog

Drop in and read to a certified therapy dog. Ages 5 and up. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Library Event: Narcan Training

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services will provide information about opioids and Narcan. Each registered attendee will receive one Naxolone kit. Ages 14 and up. Registration required. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

October 9

PACC Special Event: Family Pumpkin Chunkin' at Lewis Orchards

For PACC members and guests only: Complimentary hot dogs, chips, and sodas/water. \$3.00 donation for WUMCO.

PHS Varsity Home Game

Field hockey vs. Quince Orchard. 6:00 p.m.

October 10

PHS Varsity Home Games

Boys' soccer vs. Gaithersburg. 5:15 p.m.

Girls' soccer vs. Gaithersburg. 7:15 p.m.

October 11

Library Event: Storytime

Music, crafts, and more. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 10:30 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.

October 12

Library Event: 2024 Voter Engagement Campaign

Montgomery County Board of Elections will be present to assist voters with service. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Library Event: Science Saturday: Hunt for Aliens

Join us for Kitchen Chemistry by Science Connections. Space is limited, registration required. Ages 6-10. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

October 11 and 12

St. Peter's "Toys & More" Fall Rummage Sale

Halloween fun and costumes, Thanksgiving and fall décor, toys, games, puzzles, legos, cars and trucks, superheroes, dolls and stuffed animals, kids' crafts and books, baby items. and more. Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

October 12 and 13

Annual Pumpkin Chunkin' Cannon at Lewis Orchards!

Each pumpkin shot raises money to benefit Poolesville's American Legion. Hit the target and win \$100. All day.

October 15

Library Event: Club de Conversación en Español/ Spanish Conversation Club

Obtenga confianza para hablar español en un ambiente entretenido, acogedor y relajado. Gain confidence in speaking Spanish in a fun, friendly, and relaxed setting. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

October 16

PHS Varsity Home Games

Field hockey vs. Springbrook. 6:00 p.m.

Girls' volleyball vs. Seneca Valley. 6:30 p.m.

October 17

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' soccer vs. Wheaton. 5:15 p.m.

Boys' soccer vs. Wheaton. 7:15 p.m.

Library Event: Teen Advisory Board

Teens earn SSL hours while helping the library improve services to their age group. Ages 13-19. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

October 18

PHS Varsity Home Game

Boys' football vs. Sherwood. 6:30 p.m.

October 19

Library Event: STEM Adventure with the Science Guys!

In this thrilling show, young scientists will embark on a STEM adventure, learning physics, chemistry, engineering, and more. Ages 5 and up. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

October 20

Poolesville Commissioner Candidate Forum

Sponsored by the PACC. Meet and ask questions of all the candidates. *Poolesville Town Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

October 21

Monocacy Lions Club Charity Golf Tournament

Annual golf tournament. *Bretton Woods Country Club*. Registration: 9:30; shotgun start: 11:00 a.m.

October 22

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' flag football vs. Damascus at JPMS. 6:30 p.m.

Boys' football vs. Rockville. 6:00 p.m.

Library Event: Echoes through the Stacks: Poetry Reading

Enjoy a night of poetry performed by a selection of writers from Poetry Evenings at Quince Orchard Library. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

October 23

PHS Varsity Home Games

Girls' volleyball vs. Whitman. 6:30 p.m.

Boys' football vs. Rockville. 6:30 p.m.

October 24

PHS Varsity Home Game

Boys' football vs. Clarksburg. 6:30 p.m.

Markoff's Haunted Forest: Lights-On Nights

For those who love the scenery but hate the jump scares.

October 25

Library Event: Halloween Family Storytime: Wear your costume!

Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 10:30 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.

October 26

Town of Poolesville Special Event: RocktoberFest 2025

Beer and wine family event: Wine from Metzger Winery, Manor Hill Brewing Co., Lone Oak Farm, Stone Silo Brewery. \$6.00 per beer. Entertainment: Front Page Band at 2:00 p.m., kids' games, petting zoo, pumpkin paintings, bounce house. 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Haiti Fest 2024

Live music, BBQ dinner with all the fixings (\$20.00). Silent Auction: Featuring paintings and many prints from Claire Howard. The festival benefits education and healthcare for the Village of Carcasse in Haiti. 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Continued on page 27.

Continued from page 26.

Things to Do

October 29

Library Event: Halloween Pajama Storytime

Wear your costume! Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:30 p.m. to 7:10 p.m.

Maggie Nightingale Library Book Club

All are welcome to join a discussion of the book *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi. In participation with the NEA Big Read and Sandy Spring Museum. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

October 30

Markoff's Haunted Forest: Lights-On Nights

For those who love the scenery but hate the jump scare.

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

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In Your Own Backyard

Along the C&O Canal

By Jon Wolz

Last May, I attended the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park’s Federal Advisory Commission meeting that was held at the C&O Canal National Historical Park’s headquarters in Williamsport. Prior to the meeting, I provided a list of topics relating to the canal for western Montgomery County. In August, I received a reply from the park on my topics. Below are excerpts from my questions and the park’s replies:

Canal Dredging Project from Lock 20 (Great Falls) to Lock 21 (Swain’s)

Park’s reply: Funding for the dredging project above Lock 20 was provided by the State of Maryland through a Transportation Alternatives Project (TAP) Grant in the 2017 grant cycle. Unfortunately, due to changes in the program, additional park requests for TAP funding for this type of rewatering project have not been funded by the state. NPS continues to be open to other funding sources for desilting, but as of right now, there are no plans or funds to extend the current project.

NPS entered an Interagency Agreement (IAA) with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) who issued a contract to clear all large woody debris from the canal between Locks 20 and 23, resurface the towpath between Locks 21 and 23, and to remove sediment in the canal on Level 20. While the initial phase of this work has been completed and only a few punchlist items remaining, due to



Accumulated sediment within the C&O Canal prism upstream of Lock 20 that will be removed.

Photo by NPS, Engineering Services Team

the current bidding climate, not all of the sediment could be removed from the various accumulated areas in the canal between this reach. The challenging logistics and complexities with removing sediment from the canal within this stretch of the park adds to the pricing associated with this type of work. Some of this initial funding remains that is anticipated to be used to dredge a few other small areas in the upcoming year over the off-season.

The parking lots at Pennyfield Lock (Lock 22) and Riley’s Lock (Lock 24) need the potholes repaired, and the asphalt parking lots need resurfacing. Both parking areas were once paved with asphalt.

Park’s reply: We have funding requests submitted to repave both Pennyfield and Riley’s parking lots, although at present neither is scheduled to be funded. Both parking lots are in need of total replacement as the base underneath the existing asphalt is in such bad condition that any repair work we do is short-lived. Part of Pennyfield lot is gravel and part is paved, and we can’t use cold patch on the gravel sections. Although Riley’s parking lot is mostly paved, cold patch doesn’t last very long either as the root of the problem is a lack of base material under the existing very thin asphalt. Staff try to keep potholes patched as best they can and will do so until these projects are funded.

The Seneca Aqueduct needs restoration and the corresponding lock (Lock 24) needs to be evaluated to determine if it needs to be stabilized/restored too.

Park’s reply: This remains on the radar of the park’s facilities staff. Previously, park staff had tried to include the repairs of this structure in a Great American Outdoors Act Legacy Restoration Fund project request, but was unsuccessful



The parking lot at Pennyfield Lock to be repaired.

Photo by Denise Schlecker

Continued on page 29.



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Benefit for PHS

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Come Hungry!!**
October 7 and 8



Continued from page 28.

Along the C&O Canal

at receiving funding for repairs using that source. Recently, in May 2024, Professional Services Engineers and Facility Managers performed a site visit with Denver Service Center and HDR Engineering to conduct further scoping of the repairs to try to determine a path forward on addressing the deferred maintenance on the structure. This included performing inspections from the shore and by boat.

Seneca Stone Cutting Mill

Park's reply: Once the park assumes management of the Seneca Mill property, the NPS will be able to seek funds to preserve the Seneca Stone Mill. These funds would support removal of graffiti and overgrown vegetation and the installation of security fencing and interpretive signage. Costs associated with long-term preservation of the mill structure would include a comprehensive condition assessment, a historic structures report, and stabilization of the mill ruins.

The park is still working with the state on the transfer of this property to the NPS. Once the state is able to transfer the property, the park can enact interim stabilization measures to ensure the structure's preservation while we apply for funds for long-term preservation and development solutions. The park is also currently working with a cooperator on a Historic Resource Study of the greater Seneca community, which will help guide education and interpretation efforts for the area.

The gate at the Edwards Ferry lock needs to be unlocked so visitors may access the parking lot.

Park's reply: The construction contractor was delayed due to the unforeseen site conditions uncovered during excavation—the historic pivot bridge foundations were documented by NPS, design revised by the engineer of record, and modifications issued to the contract for the revised foundation configuration. (Update: The work has been completed and the parking lot is open.)

The White's Ferry Concept Plan dated March 2023 needs to be communicated with leaders of western Montgomery County by the Park's leadership.

Park's reply: The White's Ferry Concept Plan is available on PEPC at parkplanning.nps.gov/whitesferryconceptplan. The plan conceptualized development alternatives, using public input to help guide concepts. Further refinement of these concepts and selection of a preferred alternative to develop and manage the area will be done through an Environmental Assessment which will include additional public and stakeholder engagement. (Update: The cabins at the old White's Ferry Sportsman's Club will be removed in FY 2025.)

Park wayside signs need to be reviewed/updated/replaced along the canal in western Montgomery County.

Park's reply: Interpretive wayside care of the approximately 174 waysides along the towpath and other trails—which includes routine cleaning, regular assessment of both frame and panel conditions and wayside content, and repair and replacement—is an ongoing effort. At this time, the park is in phase one of a multi-phase parkwide wayside project. As part of this phase, the park has hired a Visual Information Specialist (VIS) with IRA funding to create and update graphic files—a necessary component in order for the park to update content and reprint wayside panels. Already in FY24, the VIS has conducted a wayside condition assessment. This condition assessment and an upcoming content assessment are key pieces in allowing the park to strategically prioritize wayside replacement and creation efforts.

The park's goal is to create interpretive wayside "trails" that focus on stories of African Americans, Native Americans, immigrants, women, canal engineering, and life on the canal. Visitors will be able to travel the length of the canal following a selected "trail" to discover these various narratives. An important goal moving forward is to create new elements holistically so that they have a shared identity, an integrated design approach, and content that is reinforced throughout the visitor experience. The park continues to seek funding to support the wayside project.



Seneca Stone Cutting Mill ruins.

Photo by Eric Schweitzer

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Local Arts

Riverworks Events

Local arts events take place at: **Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms, 19215 Beallsville Rd., Beallsville; Locals Farm Market, 19929 Fisher Ave., Poolesville; and Riverworks Outdoor Stage at the Old Methodist Church, 17617 West Willard Rd, Poolesville.**

Learn more at www.riverworksart.org.

Classes Multiple Offerings

A variety of classes are offered through Riverworks, and most are held at Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms (unless otherwise noted). Details at RiverworksArt.org/book-online.

Ongoing

Tuesdays and Sundays

Open Studio

Need studio space, a change of scenery, or the company of other artists to nurture your creativity? Work on your project with fellow creatives during open studio time. \$5.00. *Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms.* Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Sundays, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Wednesdays

The Reserve Wind Ensemble

If you've ever played a wind instrument at least at a high-school level, join our community band! This program is led by Michelle Palmer of Yunique Music School. *Riverworks Studio at Alden Farms.* 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Afrofusion Dance and Mindfulness:

Dance instructor Angela Gonzales invites you to heal your heart and body through learning the art and history of afro-influenced Latin dance, including styles from Peru, Puerto Rico, and Cuba. \$20. 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Fridays

Jam Sessions

Bring your instrument and voice and join Brian Jamison as he leads these jam sessions. Jam sessions are held outside, depending on the weather. *Locals Farm Market.* 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Offerings of the Month

October 5

Brian Keith Gross and Friends

Poolesville native, Brian Keith Gross, returns for an evening of music and memories with old and new friends. This concert is a part of the Canal Towns Partnership Art Trail. Brian has kindly donated all concert funds to Riverworks! Brian's altered guitar

tunings follow the style of Leo Kottke, Joni Mitchell, and John Fahey, creating custom arrangements for the twelve-string guitar, as part of his solo shows around Virginia, Maryland, and Nashville. \$15. *Riverworks Outdoor Stage.* 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

October 19

Catocin Cowboys

Looking for an unforgettable country music experience that will have you toe-tapping and boot-scootin'? Mike Kuster, the award-winning country singer/songwriter hailing from the charming town of Frederick, is coming to town! As the Independent Music Network's Male Country Artist of 2023 and Impact Artist of 2022, Mike and his band, The Catocin Cowboys, are the epitome of honky-tonkin' good times. \$15. *Riverworks Outdoor Stage.* 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

October 20

"Constellations" Gallery Opening

Join us in welcoming the work of artist and Riverworks Programming Assistant Ian Parsons to the artist-in-the-house gallery. Meet the artist, experience the work, and enjoy light snacks and refreshments. Free. *Locals Farm Market.* 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

October 27

Reserve Wind Ensemble on the Locals Stage

Riverworks community band, the Reserve Wind Ensemble, comes to the stage at Locals to exhibit what they have been working on this fall season, guided by band leader Michelle Palmer. Free. *Locals Farm Market.* 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Adult Classes and Workshops

Saturdays, September to October 19

Beginning Painting with James Vissari

Your painting experience begins here. Learn to take measurements and know where to place your color. Begin in simple steps to get you started on your painting adventure. If you want to get started, this is it! Led by painter and Yellow Barn Studio instructor James Vissari. Suitable for ages 15 and up. 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Saturdays, September 14 to October 12

Painting Composition with James Vissari

Learn to describe the arrangement of the visual elements in a painting or other artwork and how the elements of art and design are composed, according to the principles of art and design, to give a painting structure and to convey the intent of the artist. Suitable for ages 15 and up. 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Youth Music and Art

Saturdays, September 14 to December 14

Tiny Tones (ages 4-6)

This class has it all! Students learn to count rhythm, explore percussion and other cool instruments, and create art while listening and learning about classical composers. 9:35 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Music Explorers (ages 6-8)

Explore playing a wide variety of wind instruments, such as saxophone, didgeridoo, harmonica, and ocarina. Listen to and learn about classical composers, practice counting rhythm, and create some awesome art along the way! 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Thursdays, September 5 to December 19

Youth Band (ages 10-14)

These exciting instrumental lessons encourage budding musicians to learn to perform and work and play their instruments as a group. Learn not only music theory and technique but also build teamwork skills by rehearsing and performing with peers. 6:00 p.m. to 7:20 p.m.

Tuesdays, September 1 to December 17

Beginner Reed, Brass, Flute Classes (ages 8-12)

Even if your child has never picked up an instrument, this class will teach the fundamentals of learning a new instrument and nurture the joy of playing and performing. Students will learn to properly care for their instrument, practice good breath control, and learn to read and play fun songs!

Flute: 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Brass Instruments: 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Reed Instruments: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

October Artist-in-the-House Gallery

Exhibits are held in the upstairs gallery at *Locals Farm Market* (accessible only by stairs). Sponsored by Walter Matia, Curlew Castings.

Ian Parsons: Constellations

Join us in welcoming the work of artist Ian Parsons. Parsons builds up vividly-layered surfaces from magazine clippings, wood, old books, art prints, greeting cards, and other found objects in thought-provoking multimedia collages. In the past year, Parsons has been highly visible at Riverworks as the Arts Programming Assistant. This show serves to highlight his work and its connection to Parsons's study of philosophy and the mission of Riverworks to support young, up-and-coming artists. October 9 to December 7.



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Remembrance

Robert J. Kapsch

Robert J. Kapsch, author, civil engineer, chief of HABS/HAER, and beloved husband, stepfather, and uncle, passed away in the early morning from complications of Parkinson's Disease on Saturday, September 28, 2024 at Chiswell's Inheritance, the family farm near Poolesville. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Perry (Kephart) Kapsch, his younger brother, Joseph Michael Kapsch, Jr., his sister-in-law Ann Frazer Brown, four nephews, a niece, and their thirteen children. He was preceded in death by his first wife of twenty-nine years, Kathryn June (Schmidt) Kapsch, his older brother, Richard J. Kapsch, and his stepdaughter, Sarah Frazer Prestemon.

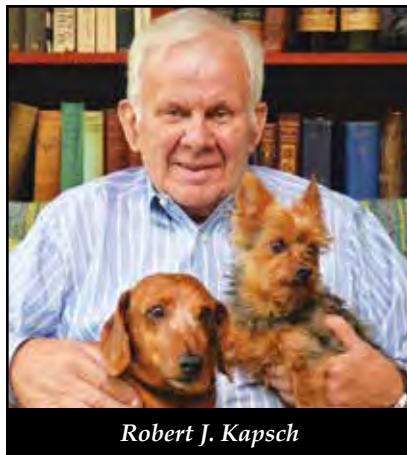
Bob grew up on Bender Avenue in Roselle Park, New Jersey, the middle son of Joseph Michael Kapsch and Mary Elizabeth (Brady) Kapsch. After Bob received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Rutgers University in 1964, he served two tours of duty in Vietnam with the U. S. Air Force Reserve as an engineer involved with the design and construction of hospitals and casualty staging units.

Upon his return, Bob relocated to Maryland where he received a M.S. in management and an M.A. in American Studies from the George Washington University; a Ph.D. in Architecture & Engineering from Catholic University and a Ph.D. in American Studies from University of Maryland. His early years in Maryland were at NIST, working on building codes related to fire and other safety issues, as a Congressional Fellow, and then at HHS on similar projects related to historic buildings. Next only to his later book projects, he most enjoyed serving from 1980 to 1995 as the Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), doubling the size of these Library of Congress collections that include delineation and recordation of such notable buildings as the White House and Monticello. This was followed by five years as project engineer for the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, working on the successful rehabilitation of the Monocacy and Conococheague Aqueducts and the subsequent five years as National Park Service Senior Scholar in Historic Architecture and Engineering. He received the highest award of the U. S. Department of Interior, the Distinguished Service Medal.

After his retirement from NPS, when not enjoying wine on the terrace at the farm, Bob kept busy as author and principal at the Center for Historic Engineering & Architecture where, in addition to numerous articles, he was the author of award-winning early American architecture and engineering histories such as *Canals* (W.W. Norton, 2004); *The Potomac Canal: George Washington and the Waterway to the West* (West Virginia University Press, 2007); *Historic Canals and Waterways of South Carolina* (University of South Carolina Press, 2010); *Over the Alleghenies: Early Canals and Railroads of Pennsylvania* (West Virginia University Press, 2013); *Building Washington: Engineering and Construction of a New Federal City, 1790-1840* (Hopkins Press, 2018); and co-authored with his wife, Perry, *The Monocacy Aqueduct on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal*, published by Medley Press in 2005. His last book project, a collection of scholarly essays on Roman civil engineering lies unfinished on his desk.

He was member of several American and European organizations, including the Newcomen Society, American Institute of Architects, American Society of Civil Engineers, Society for Architectural History, Society for Industrial Archeology, Preservation Roundtable, International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH), the all-important Train Collectors' Association (standard gauge Lionel was his personal favorite) and until recently, the Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C.

Funeral services will be at St. Peter's Parish, Poolesville, on October 13, 2024 at noon. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation could be made to K-9 Lifesavers (K-9lifesavers.org) or Montgomery Countryside Alliance (mocoalliance.org).



Robert J. Kapsch

Continued from page 24.

Girls' Volleyball Puts Forth Stellar Effort in Opener

her right. "We knew they had good outside hitters and played really good defense, so we wanted to give it our all and see what we could do. I cannot say I am disappointed. It was an awesome game, especially that last set which went into overtime. Our freshman Megan is very shy, but she is an amazing player on the court. She can really hit the ball down hard. Players on the other side are scared of her which makes it so much more fun. Scarlett has so much energy. She is a strong player, and Caroline, our libero, keys the defense. I know Iris is going through a touch time right now, but she is going to get back soon and have an amazing senior year, and we will get senior captain Sanjana Shrivatsa back soon. She is such a positive person and brings that energy to the court. When we get both our captains back, we will be an even stronger team."

Other seniors are outside hitter Brainy Akpala, opposite side hitter and setter Caitlyn Yee. Other juniors are Olivia Lawrence, Pankhuri Malayanil, and Maia Petrov. Emma Schmidt is a sophomore.

Look for the Dig Pink Breast Cancer Awareness game in October. Home games in October include Watkins Mill on October 5, Seneca Valley on October 16, and Whitman on October 23, Senior Night.

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Before It's Time to Go to Bed

Before it's time to go to bed,
Let's have a feast," October said,
"Let's call our family all together,
And celebrate this pleasant weather";
Then every leaf put on her best,
And each small shrub most richly
dressed,
In red and gold and orange, too,
And many another party hue.
The party lasted day and night,

Until the leaves were tired quite,
"O Mother Dear," at last each said,
"It's time for us to go to bed;
Dear Mother Tree, good-night to you!"
Then loosed her hand and off it flew,
And every little sleepy head
Soon settled in the garden bed,
And dreamed the dreams that
flowers do
And slept and slept the winter through.

—Annette Wynne

Monocacy Critters



Goodbye Poolesville, Hello San Antonio!

Hummingbirds leave Poolesville on their migration south for the winter.

Photo by Terri Pitts

Do you have an unusual or funny picture of an pet or animal?
Mail or email the picture to editor@monocacymonocle.com
or P.O. Box 372, Barnesville, MD 20838

Remembrances

Majorie Ann Rupp

On September 11, Marjorie Ann Rupp, age 95, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her devoted family after a long battle with cancer.

Marjorie was born Marjorie Ann Gustafson on November 30, 1928, on a farm in Gonvick, Minnesota that was homesteaded by her parents, Charles and Gurina Gustafson. After a childhood spent in the beauty and solitude of rural Minnesota, she attended Lindenwood College and then the University of Minnesota. She also had a career as a model while she lived in Minneapolis. At the university, she met a handsome graduate student and veteran, Marwood "Woody" Rupp, whom she married on September 15, 1951. Their loving marriage lasted for sixty-two years, until he passed away in 2013.

Marjorie devoted her time to raising her four daughters while traveling the world in support of her husband's career. After traveling the world, including many years in Tripoli, Libya, she and her family settled in Park Ridge, Illinois, and then in Comus, Maryland. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega in college, was an enthusiastic musician with the Park Ridge Chorale, and enjoyed her dance classes at Saint Mary's Church in Barnesville. In her prime, she loved travel and adventure, but as she aged, she appreciated a return to a quiet rural life and spent her time playing the piano, exercising, playing cards with her family, walking in nature, and helping with her grandchildren.

Marjorie is survived by her daughters, Tammy Rupp of Comus, Terrill "Teri" Rupp Doyle (Michael) of Mendham, New Jersey, Susan Toni McDermott (Geoffrey) of Boyds, and Tracy Helwig (Dan) of Hershey, Pennsylvania. She also leaves behind six grandchildren, Christopher McDermott, Danny McDermott, Alyx Pavone, Derek Helwig, Patrick Doyle, and John "Jack" Doyle; and six great-grandchildren. She is predeceased by her husband, Marwood Rupp; and her three brothers, Glenn Gustafson, Hiram Gustafson, and Clifton Gustafson.



Majorie Ann Rupp

Jay Schwartzman

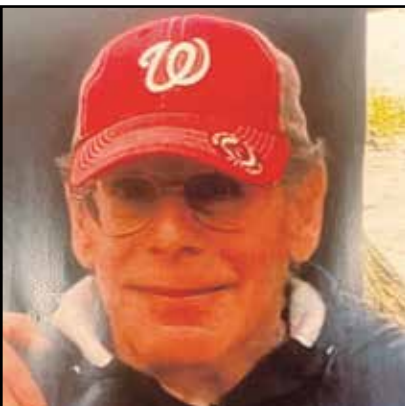
Jay Schwartzman, 74, of Poolesville passed away on September 8, 2024.

Jay was born on July 29, 1950 to Samuel and Sonya Schwartzman. He graduated from Walt Whitman High School in 1968 and then served in the U.S. Air Force from which he obtained an Honorable Discharge in 1970.

Jay owned the Poolesville Beer and Wine for thirty-four years. He spent hours at his grill where many proclaimed him "King of the Steak and Cheese." He truly loved the community and was a co-founder of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce. He was also one of the founders of the Poolesville Day festival.

Jay found true joy in watching grandchildren laugh and play, and in taking long car drives with his dogs. He was an avid music lover with special admiration for Jimmy Buffet, the Grateful Dead, the Allman Brothers, and any classic rock. A great fan of all D.C. sports, he held season tickets to the Nationals in his retirement.

He is survived by his wife Jennifer (Moropoulos); sons, Jason and Thomas (Morgan) of Thurmont; and three grandchildren, Isabella, Samuel, and Maximas.



Jay Schwartzman

Frances Suddarth

Frances L. "Pat" Harner Fitzwater Suddarth of Walkersville was born in Dickerson on December 1, 1931 and died on September 12, 2024 at Citizens Nursing Home, Frederick.

She was the daughter of the deceased Charles Jacob and Dorothy Marie Harner.

She was the wife of the late Kenneth E. Fitzwater, Sr. and deceased Sterling Suddarth.

Frances was a loving mother and devoted grandmother. She was a nurturing and compassionate person to all family, neighbors, and friends. Having a special love for small children, she spent eight months in Kenya with the Doctors without Borders Program, attending to small children and babies. She had a love for nature, particularly for all types of flowers and birds. Hummingbirds and finches were among her favorites. She had many gardens, allowing her to can fruits and vegetables during the summers.

She is survived by five children, Kenneth E. Fitzwater, Jr. (Diana), Charles R. "Butch" Fitzwater (Linda), Faye E. Fitzwater (Bob), Sue Betson (Ronnie), and Ann Whalen (Bill); eight grandchildren, Wendy Brewer, Amy Miller, Michelle LeGrand, Keri Frank, Jennifer Betson, Brittany Jackson, Brian Huff, and Timothy Huff; and seventeen great-grandchildren.



Frances Suddarth

Marguerite Mary Dawson

Marguerite Mary Dawson, 95, of Poolesville, passed away on June 26, 2024.

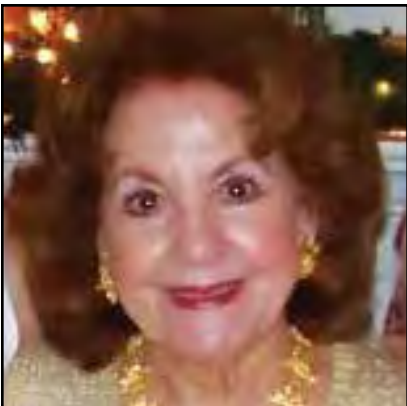
She was the loving wife of the late Dr. Victor Charles Douglas Dawson.

Born on March 19, 1929 in Massachusetts, she was the daughter of the late Rocco DeLuca and Jennie Deroma.

Marguerite was a loving wife to Victor, a wonderful mother to her five lovely children, grandmother to nineteen, and great-grandmother to forty-six.

She also had the privilege of becoming a great-great-grandmother. Marguerite was a devout Catholic and an active member in her church and community.

She is survived by her daughters, Michelle Dawson Powell, Joan Marie Henry (Richard), Celeste Pridemore (Fred), Maria Stanton (Joseph), and Regina Winovich (Edward); nineteen grandchildren; forty-six great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.



Marguerite Mary Dawson



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Remembrances

Dianne Dieuaide Mechlin Driscoll

Dianne Driscoll, 79, of Beallsville, passed away peacefully in her home on Dogwood Hill Farm on September 16, 2024. She was born September 29, 1944 in Fort Meyers, Florida. She was the daughter of Frank Dieuaide and Georgiana Kimball Dieuaide.

She was a graduate of the Holton Arms School, class of 1962. She attended Centenary College in New Jersey where she met her future husband, Pete, and moved to the D.C. area after their marriage in East Hampton, New York in September 1963.

Known as "Deedee" by her friends and family, she was an accomplished equestrian and Competitive Trail Ride Champion. She bred and raised numerous Tennessee Walking Horses as well as adopted wild Mustangs and various rescued horses. In addition to that, she dedicated her time to helping others in the community. She loved trips to the beach with her family and dogs, and riding her horses on Sugarloaf Mountain.

She is survived by her husband of sixty-one years, Peter A. Driscoll; their son, Maj. Peter A. Driscoll, II (Martha); and two granddaughters, Ivy and Violet. In addition, she is deeply missed by two younger sisters, two younger brothers, and many relatives and friends.



Dianne Dieuaide Mechlin Driscoll

Christopher Randall Gallagher

Taken from us far too soon, beloved brother, cousin, and friend, Christopher (Chris) Randall Gallagher of Ardara Farm in Comus passed away on August 19, 2024, at the Layhill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Silver Spring, following a brief illness. Born on June 20, 1962, in Washington, D.C., Chris grew up in Potomac, and then moved to Comus in 1980 with his parents, the late Hon. George Randall Gallagher and the late Judith Faulkner Kuertz Gallagher.



Christopher Randall Gallagher

Chris attended Manor Montessori School in Potomac, Primary Day School in Bethesda, and Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C., before graduating from Winston Churchill High School in Potomac. Following his graduation, Chris attended Hood College in Frederick, and the College of Boca Raton (now Lynn University) in Boca Raton, Florida.

After college, Chris first worked as a sales representative for Long Fence Co., Inc., and Western Fence Center, Inc. He then became a licensed real estate agent with Mackintosh Inc., Realtors in Frederick, before founding his own companies, Comus Rail Systems and MD Steel Buildings. Chris's interest in the construction industry eventually led to him becoming a general contractor and a construction consultant. For many years, Chris also sold Black Angus cattle which he raised at Ardara Farm.

In addition to being a talented, self-taught chef, Chris was skilled in watersports and greatly enjoyed the many summer vacations he spent with his beloved Fallon family cousins in Seabrook Beach, New Hampshire. He was an award-winning marksman and served as a gun enthusiast instructor. Chris also enjoyed participating in the competitive international sport of "Punkin Chunkin" as one of the first members of the Frederick County, Maryland-based "Chunkin Up" pneumatic air cannon team. Chris was proud to be a landowner for the Potomac Hunt and always enjoyed the annual party given to honor the landowners who allow the Potomac Hunt to access their land.

Chris is survived by his sister, Mary Elizabeth (Betsy) Gallagher, Esq. of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania; many cousins; and a lot of good friends.

George Lewis

George Lewis, one of the strongest advocates for the C&O Canal, passed away on September 22.

George was the driving force behind the restoration of the Catoctin Aqueduct. Two arches of the aqueduct collapsed in a 1973 flood. George owned a nearby farm in Lander. In the early 2000s, he started a nonprofit organization and began raising funds for the restoration of the aqueduct.

In 2007, the National Park Service entered into a formal partnership with George's Catoctin Aqueduct Restoration Fund to raise funds for the project. As a result of George's efforts, the Catoctin Aqueduct restoration project received an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant in 2010.

George had served as chair of the C&O Canal NHP Federal Advisory Commission since 2016. He served as a director of the C&O Canal Association for many years.

The next time you see the beautifully restored Catoctin Aqueduct, please remember George and the legacy of his work.



George Lewis

Camille H. Majchrzak

Camille H. Majchrzak, 66, of Poolesville passed away on September 10, 2024.

She was the loving wife of Brendan McMinn.

Born on August 23, 1958 in Buffalo, New York, she was the daughter of the late Robert Majchrzak and Anne Marie Satlaw.

Camille is survived by her husband, Brendan McMinn; two sisters, Roberta Alessi (Russell) and Dianne Majchrzak; and one nephew, Jared Becker (Lauren).

She was preceded in death by her parents and one nephew, Andrew Alessi.



Camille H. Majchrzak

Franklin Eugene Poole

Franklin Eugene Poole, 89, of Poolesville, passed away on September 18, 2024.

Born on September 7, 1935 in Poolesville, he was the son of the late Raymond "Happy" Benjamin Poole and Claudia Katie Ellen Johnson.

Franklin lived his entire life in Poolesville: on the Trundle Farm, the Andrew Farm, and then in his current residence. He loved farming, hunting, gardening, and, once retired, telling stories of how things used to be. Franklin was a good historian of the happenings in Poolesville but mostly enjoyed the visits of his family and his trips into Poolesville and down to the Chesapeake Bay and Virginia to visit his sisters and their family.

Franklin was survived by numerous devoted nieces, nephews, cousins, family, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his two sisters, Bettie R Powell and Rachel R. Porter; and niece, Barbara Melvich.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in his memory to the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department, 19801 Beallsville Rd., Beallsville, MD 20839.



Franklin Eugene Poole

Continued from page 4.

The Owl Moon Raptor Center: A Sanctuary

key ecosystems. Based in Boyds, Owl Moon relies primarily on individual donors and volunteers to maintain its day-to-day operations. The center has expanded over the years and now has two staff and an active volunteer cadre of at least eighty people who help with medical treatments, food preparation, and the rescue and transport of birds. Owl Moon is actively recruiting volunteers locally and across the state.

In 2012, Owl Moon launched its first fundraising project: a wall calendar featuring photos and stories of rehabilitated raptors. Several years later, they partnered with Black Hill Regional Park to host their first annual raptor festival. Owl Moon is unable to host tours of their rehab facility, so this popular festival offers a unique opportunity for the public to learn about raptors and to see them up close.

Support for raptor rehabilitation efforts is especially important this year as the number of birds entering care has increased significantly. As of September 30, Owl Moon had admitted over 550 birds for care, while in all of 2023 they received a total of 536 birds.

This has been an exceptionally difficult year for osprey which nest along Maryland's shores and waterways during the spring and summer. Owl Moon received ninety osprey through September 2024, compared to fifty-seven in 2022


and forty-eight in 2023. Shoemaker noted that, typically, young osprey entering care were caught in fishing lines or pulled from the water after a difficult early flight. This year was different: Of the sixty percent of admitted osprey that were juveniles, most were severely emaciated. Researchers believe that overfishing of menhaden, a core fish species in the Chesapeake Bay, is contributing to the dramatic increase in failed osprey nests. Shoemaker said, "Menhaden are an essential source of food during nesting season. Ironically, these fish are being harvested for use in aquaculture in Canada, depleting the bay of prey that osprey and other local wildlife need to feed their young."

The tenth annual Owl Moon Raptor Festival will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Black Hill Regional Park in Boyds. This fundraising and public education event supports Owl Moon's rescue and rehabilitation efforts. The 2024 festival will feature the release of rehabilitated raptors, live raptor exhibits, and talks on Chesapeake osprey, plus kid-friendly activities, birdwatching walks, food trucks, and photo opportunities. (The festival goes on rain or shine and is handicapped accessible.)

For more information, please visit Owl Moon's website at www.owlmoon.org.

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Celebrating 35 Years of Service

New Maryland State law on veterinary clinics goes into effect today.

Here is an overview of the changes we have to make.

Peter H. Eeg, DVM

The Maryland Veterinary Board and the State of Maryland are constantly working to improve the quality and consistency of medicine provided to animals across Maryland and occasionally update the requirements for veterinarians, support staff, and clinics/hospitals to achieve new standards of care.

The updated laws slightly limit what our staff are able to do without a veterinarian on site. As a veterinarian is almost always at the clinic, we anticipate this will not significantly affect your pet's experience at Poolesville Veterinary Clinic; however, we want to outline two types of visits that may be affected by the new laws.

1. If your pet experiences a life-threatening emergency, please call prior to bringing your pet to the clinic to be sure we are staffed to support the needs of your dog or cat. As always, we may recommend that you seek emergency care at a specialty hospital if our doctors or staff feel your pet would be best served in that environment.
2. Technician/assistant appointments for nail trims, microchip insertion, and/or blood pressure checks will continue to be offered on occasion when there may not be a veterinarian on site, all other services offered by technician/assistant appointments will continue to be scheduled throughout the veterinarian's clinical hours to best accommodate your schedule.
3. As a reminder, we have a 24-48-hour turnaround for most medication refills, although we do our best to refill medications as soon as we are able. Controlled substances may require a longer turnaround time of 72 hours and requires the veterinary practitioner to be available to dispense controlled substance medication. Please keep a close eye on your supply of medications and let us know when your pet is getting low so we can help to avoid any missed doses.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please let us know. We are grateful to continue to care for your pets as family.

Warmly,

The Poolesville Veterinary Clinic Team



Poolesville Veterinary Clinic

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