



These folks are in a real pickle! What can be done to solve their conundrum? Details in Family Album on page 2.



Reporting the news in the snow was just another day on the job for this guy. Who? When? Where? As he answered those questions for a living, so will we on page 3.



Gentlemen, start your engines! It wasn't the Grand Prix of Monaco, but it was an auto race on our main street in 1908. The route of this thrilling race is featured on page 12.



Alexavier Saunders, Daniel Reed, and Jacob Lee are leading this Falcon varsity team. Find out which one on page 16.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Monthly Newspaper

February 2025 • Volume XX, Number 12

Commissioners Hear about Petition Regarding White's Ferry and Requests for Grants and Funding

By Link Hoewing

At their only January meeting on January 21, the Town of Poolesville commissioners heard about a new idea on White's Ferry regarding the filing of a petition at the Public Service Commission. They also announced the winners of the annual Holiday Lighting Contests. Finally, they heard presentations requesting grant funding and funding for the Fair Access Committee.

With regard to the holiday lighting ceremony, the winners included Jason and Ashley Elliott in the "Candy Cane Lane" category; Ben and Maureen Gilli for the "Griswold Award"; Dan and Haley Glazier in the "Home for the Holidays" category; Christopher and Delores Trainor in the "Misfit Toys" category. In the business

category, Heather Soskin Photography won the "Merry Marketing" award.

The commissioners next heard from Link Hoewing in his role as chair of the Fair Access Committee. The committee has, in tandem with the town, taken a leading role in the effort to get White's Ferry reopened.

Hoewing explained that he and the committee had an idea that might help elevate the attention of public officials regarding the ferry. He once worked in the telecommunications industry, and could attest that telephone, airlines, trucking, and a number of other industries that are considered "monopolies or quasi-monopolies" are subject to regulation by state public service commissions. This means that these entities must offer their services to all customers (public services)

and are what are called "common carriers." It also means the commissions can regulate these companies and how they operate.

Hoewing pointed out that White's Ferry operates under a charter granted by the State of Maryland pursuant to a law passed by the state in 1781. Under the charter, the state and entities like Montgomery County have authority to regulate ferry service, including not only things like pricing, but also how they operate, when they operate, and what happens when a ferry owner granted a charter stops operating the service. Under the law, Hoewing said, it is his view that the state and county can issue a new charter to another ferry boat operator if the current operator terminates service for any reason.

Continued on page 22.

Names from History: Noah Edward Clarke

The Father of Secondary Education for African Americans in Montgomery County

By Rande Davis

Rooted deep in our local history are names from the past that helped form the Poolesville we know today—names like Copeland, Dorsey, Pruitt, and Clarke. Emerging from the chains of slavery, these people bonded together to form communities that remain today in spirit, if not necessarily in actuality. Though slaves, they were people of skill, talent, determination, and pride. Our local communities of Jerusalem, Sugarland, and Martinsburg were built from their foundation of faith as manifested in their churches and in their spirit of love as exemplified by their gathering places such as Charity Hall at the corner of White's Ferry and Martinsburg Roads.

From these people came Noah Edward Clarke, who is praised and regarded as the father of secondary



Noah Clarke (center), the father of Black education in Montgomery County.

Continued on page 15.

Family Album



Right: The Monocacy Lions now holds its monthly dinner meetings at Crossvines Vineyards. Annemarie and Adam Sartschev (new members), Tom Conlon, Frank Jamison, Alex Jamison (new member), and Herb Brown, a member for fifty years!

Left: Poolesville Seniors visited the home of John Poole, Jr. to learn about the importance to this town of him and the Historic Medley District, LLC.

Below: The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored a special "sip and paint" event at Bassett's Restaurant.



Left and above: The Poolesville Seniors have moved their popular pickleball matches indoors, in the Poolesville Baptist Church.

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Center Stage

I.J. Hudson: The Honorary Poolesvillian

By Rande Davis

For members of the Poolesville Area Senior Center, especially the pickleball enthusiasts, I.J. Hudson is that and more. He and his wife, Jan, now married for fifty-six years, live in Darnestown, but he has become one of us, a true friend and neighbor, ever since his now-grownup children participated in UMAC while in their youth. It was then that his attachment to Poolesville started its roots—an attachment that is as long as it is deep.

Although he's an "out-of-towner," he may seem like a very familiar face to many in our area, and there is very good reason for that. Most of us have seen his face for nearly two decades in our living rooms, or more precisely, on our television, as a reporter for WRC-Channel 4.

This retired six-time television Emmy-winning reporter may not be doing many television interviews these days, but that does not mean he has stopped asking a lot of questions. Asking questions of and learning about others remain his stock-in-trade, his personal trademark to this day. Asking "What's new with you?" is his personal way of saying hello. He revels in stating that "everyone has a story," and he loves hearing them all.

He was born in California in 1947, while his dad was in the navy, and lived some time in Guam where his dad had the irony of being a sailor who was prone to seasickness, so an understanding officer found a way to keep him landbound as a military transportation officer.

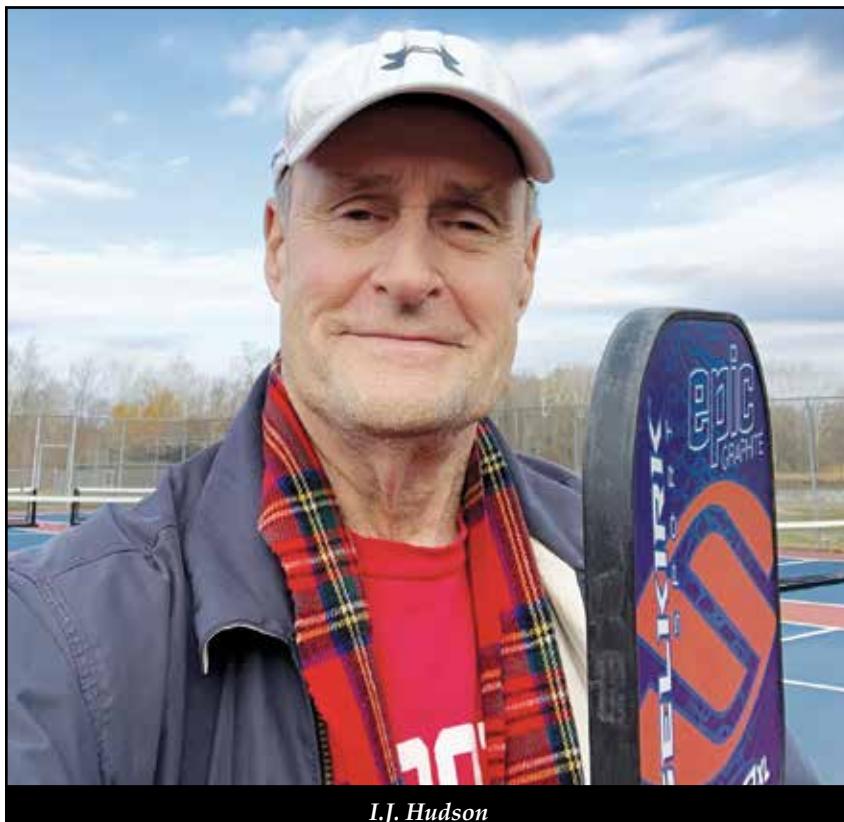
Ira John Hudson, the fourth in his family with that name, was raised in Mound City, a small Illinois town, much like Poolesville. It's near Cairo where the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers come together, much like the confluence of the Monocacy and Potomac Rivers. Our area is a natural reminder of his youth.

In his days at Mound City High School, a lot of his time was spent playing baseball and basketball, as the school—much like PHS not that long ago—wasn't big enough to field a full football team. He also picked up an interest in amateur radio and started part-time work at a local radio station.

He recalls how his school experience in the mid-1960s also included the challenging process of integration. His freshman year at Mound City High School was the first year that the population of the school was fully integrated.

Hudson attended Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, majoring in radio/television and minoring in marketing. Before he got started on his career,

Continued on page 19.



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Rande(m) Thoughts

Winter 2025: It's Halftime, So Where Is the Show?

By Rande Davis

It's been super cold, and, at this moment, the snow is still on the ground. My energy level is about as low as it can go as I have never been motivated in the dead of winter. At this time of year, the best thought I can come up with is that we're almost half-way home to spring. With the snow hanging around long enough this year to get dirty, we may be making a little history here.

In December, I wrote assuredly that we would have a white Christmas. Wrong again, but how 'bout this snow anyway. It came late, but when it did get here, it stuck around longer than usual. My appreciation for winter remains short-lived though. Early winter? That's okay. With Christmas and everything, it's the only time we really do want snow—but now that we are at halftime, I have about had it. The problem for me is that I have so very little use for winter. I don't even ski. I tried it once in college. I lost one ski on my first try right off the ski lift, had to walk the rest of the way down the hill, so I walked straight to the bar in the lodge, faked an injury, and waited for the bus to come and take us back to the campus. If I try skiing again, I will just take a fake leg cast with me to avoid the lift charges. (A little note of history, when I was in college in New York State, the drinking age was eighteen and the voting age was twenty-one. Sometimes I think we got the change exactly wrong.)

For me, the dead of winter is a kind of stay-at-home, no-go, wake-me-up-when-it's-over kind of season. Maybe

there's a clue in that no one ever says the "dead of spring" or the "dead of fall." The dead of anything is a real downer, so once New Year's Eve and the Super Bowl are past, there's not much to look forward to any time soon. You know things are bad when Groundhog Day masquerades as a festive occasion. I don't know about you, but I have grown dreary of that groundhog. If he doesn't call for an early spring, I say, be done with him. PETA doesn't want to know my plans for him if he keeps up this usual negativity.

I suppose there is a case to be made for Valentine's Day and winter. I concede the two are made for each other. Being snowed in by the fireplace with nothing to do—hmm, let's face it, that's perfect for Valentine's Day. Adding chocolate to anything improves it. Just as you get a tiny blip of positive feelings from Valentine's Day, for us Christians, along come Ash Wednesday and Lent. Now right there, that's a happy time for ya. One time a radical optimist once said to me as we ended a conversation, "Happy Lent." Really? We just looked at each other quizzically for a moment and then wordlessly walked away. Lent, though, is the perfect time to give up something, so this year I am going to give up a couple of things: winter and a bad attitude.

Then again, maybe winter isn't so bad. With all that there is to do in summer, followed by our supercharged fall season, especially here in Poolesville, starting with Poolesville Day right through the big three—Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas—maybe a badly-needed break is perfect.

In the meantime, everyone, Happy Lent!



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Business Briefs

Poolesville Man Quoted in *Forbes* Magazine

Julien Singh, a source on major changes to come in *Forbes* magazine.

Forbes magazine quoted Julien Singh, CEO of Crossroads Talent Solutions, regarding the impact of the new presidential administration on government hiring. Singh believes that greater efficiency in government contracting will lead to a higher demand for specialized contractors.

Trump Policies May Shake Up Hiring—Here's How To Get Ahead

Julien Singh, CEO, Crossroads Talent Solutions

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With the Trump Administration promising many changes in federal employment, from downsizing to requiring staff to return to offices, there are many questions and concerns for those employed by the Federal Government. When *Forbes*, a business magazine that covers topics like finance, technology, and investing, wrote about those concerns, one of their go-to sources was Poolesville's Julien Singh. Singh is the CEO of government contracting firm Crossroads Talent Solutions. In government contracting, there is concern about the impact of how focusing on government efficiency will impact their business and hiring.

"As the new presidential administration takes office, we anticipate a shift in priorities for government programs, which may affect the types of contracts awarded." Singh sees "greater efficiency as translating to a higher demand for specialized contracting. While some may perceive this as creating a more competitive environment, we believe it enhances the appeal of government contracting as a career by emphasizing innovation, measurable impact, and professional growth opportunities."

PACC Annual Meeting in February

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the 2025 PACC Annual Meeting at Crossvines on Thursday, February 6 from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall. The meeting is free and open to all members only. PACC will have Happy Hour preceding the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with a cash bar. The annual meeting will be followed by the PACC Annual Dinner (this is a ticketed event, and registration is closed).

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Senior News

Poolesville Seniors Present 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. All events are open to the entire community and free unless otherwise noted.

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

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

February 10

Vital 2025 Senior Legislation: Issues and Your Representatives in the Maryland State General Assembly

Karen Kalla, AARP's watchdog in Annapolis will describe key AARP legislation priorities within the Maryland General Assembly within the current session. Please bring your laptop or tablet with you to learn how to navigate the Maryland General Assembly website. *Speer Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

February 12

Darts Social

We supply the darts, you supply the nimble fingers and deadeye aim. Registration is limited. *Speer Hall*. 2:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

February 13

Hip-Hop Dance Class with Kim Harris

Spend twenty minutes learning the steps, and then the dancing will begin! Profanity-free music has been carefully curated by Kim. *Speer Hall*. 6:30 p.m.

February 14

Heart 'n Soul Annual Online Auction Fundraiser

Starts online 8:00 a.m. and ends February 23 at 8:00 p.m. Visit poolesvilleseniors.org to place your bids.

Story Lifelines: Connection and Community

Master storyteller Noa Baum will offer guided activities to evoke memories and invite story sharing in dyads and small groups. *Poolesville Town Hall Meeting Room*. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

February 15

Heart 'n Soul Gala

Get your dancing shoes and glad rags ready! The Heart 'n Soul Gala is

back by popular demand. The highly-anticipated dinner-dance features a delicious catered meal by local caterers Simply Fresh Events, local live music by Gina's Soul Party featuring the Souled Out Horns, dancing, and congenial company. Tickets on sale online only, get yours by February 7 to secure your place. *St. Mary's Pavilion, Barnesville*. 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

February 16

Monocacy Aqueduct Walk with Jon Wolz

Meet Jon at the parking lot of the Monocacy Aqueduct. View a Civil War rifle pit, an abandoned truck from the 1920s, the granary ruins, the mystery stone, Indian Flats campground, the old canal Monocacy basin, the Little Monocacy River crossing over Culvert 69, a waste weir, Lock 27 and the lock house continuing to milepost 41. *Monocacy Aqueduct*, 20207 Darnestown Rd. 11:00 a.m.

February 17

PS Book Club: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*

Discuss the novel *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. The story is written from the viewpoint of the teenage neurodivergent narrator who tries to solve the killing of his neighbor's dog. *Virtual*. 7:00 p.m.

February 19

Woodstock Equestrian Trail Part 2

Join Karen Dansby and Gwen Haney for the second part of the Woodstock Equestrian Park hike. Meet at the parking lot for a 5.5-mile hike at the edge of open fields with 360 feet of elevation gain. Boots recommended, hiking sticks unnecessary. Bring water and a snack if you like. *Woodstock Equestrian Parking lot, Dickerson*. 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

February 20

Chair One Fitness with Deirdre

Join Deirdre, a certified Chair One Fitness Instructor, for a chair-based dance program that delivers a musically-driven 45-minute, interactive workout that uplifts people through dance and fitness movements. *Speer Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

February 21

Story Lifelines: Connection and Community

Poolesville Town Hall Meeting Room. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

February 21

Movie Night: *The Butler*

Enjoy this special screening of *The Butler* with opening remarks and closing Q&A by Charles Allen, the son of

"The Butler." Inspired by the real life of Charles's father, White House butler, Eugene Allen, the movie follows fictional character, Cecil Gaines (Forest Whitaker), from sharecropper's son to White House maître d' and head butler. *Speer Hall*. 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

February 25

Book Club for Bridge Players

The book selection is *Bridge Basics 2: Competitive Bidding* by Audrey Grant, chapter 4. Jane Clark will moderate the discussions of chapters suggested the previous week. *Speer Hall*. Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Brad Stone: Black Sailors in the Union Navy

Learn about the remarkable and largely unknown story of Black sailors' service in the Union Navy during the Civil War. Historian Brad Stone will cover the amazing gains that Blacks made as an essential part of the Union Navy, and their heroic exploits in furthering the Union's cause. *Poolesville Presbyterian Church Sanctuary*. 7:00 p.m.

February 26

Managing Daily Life with Digital Tools: Safety and Security

Join tech guru Jessica Wallach for the

Continued on page 7.




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Continued from page 6.

Senior News

first installment in her Managing Daily Life with Digital Tools series. In this safety and security class, get essential tips for staying safe online and protecting your personal information. *Maggie Nightingale Library. 2:30 p.m.*

February 28

Story Lifelines: Connection and Community

Poolesville Town Hall Meeting Room. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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. *St. Peter's Episcopal Church. 7:00 p.m.*

Weekly Events

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Pickleball Open Play. *Poolesville Baptist Church. 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*

Mondays

Walking Club. *Whalen Commons Flagpole. 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.*

Seniors at the Barre. 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. *Speer Hall.*

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

Tuesdays

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

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

Knitting/Crochet Instruction and Support. *Poolesville Presbyterian Manse. 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.*

For more information or to register for any of the programs listed here visit the Poolesville Seniors website: poolesvilleseniors.org.

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Tidbits

Respondents for Survey on Future of Great Falls Wanted

The National Park Service (NPS) invites the public to comment on their experiences and ideas for the future of the Great Falls (Maryland) area of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. Everyone is invited to help shape the long-term vision for the area and provide feedback through March 7.

The C&O Canal National Historical Park is in the middle of developing a plan that will outline how the park can facilitate opportunities for recreation and education and manage habitats to support healthy ecosystems. The park is seeking input on issues and opportunities to be addressed in the plan such as visitor activities, facilities, and services, as well as resource management, safety, traffic and congestion, and new uses for historic structures.

To provide comments online about your experiences in the park and ideas for the future from February 3 to March 7, visit parkplanning.nps.gov/GreatFallsMarylandDevelopmentPlan.

Bird Flu Outbreak in Maryland

A *Washington Post* Metro Section article in a January 12 issue reported on a Delaware and Maryland bird flu outbreak impacting more than five hundred thousand birds being culled on a Caroline County, Maryland farm.

The article indicated that H5N1 flu is being brought by migratory birds; seven dead infected snow geese were found in Delaware.

The Town of Poolesville government requests that residents report any incidents to the town government to ensure other town residents who are raising chickens are informed of any local outbreak.

New Regenerators: Zero Waste Solutions Club: Recruiting Local Talent!

Every Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., an intergenerational club created to learn and teach crafty and resourceful skills and trades as simple as getting rid of

Continued on page 9.



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Continued from page 8.

Tidbits

junk mail and as cool as Kintsugi will meet at Maggie Nightingale Library. This is an open call to anyone in our community with a special talent for habits or techniques that can help us save money and reduce waste. Food preservation? Mending clothes? Home composting? Supporting our journeys can be fun! Please scan the QR code to sign up to share your skill or just show up to learn!

Please join us at Maggie Nightingale Library where we'll help participants address their unsolicited mail with tools such as DMAchoice.org and Optoutprescreen.com. If you'd like help in this process, bring your junk mail! We'll also make small signs to laminate and add to your mailbox and share techniques to unsubscribe to your electronic junk mail (bring a laptop or use the computers in the library if you'd like help with minimizing junk email).

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MENU

APPETIZER

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Burrata and roasted beet salad

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ENTREES

Chicken Oscar

Boneless Grilled chicken with 4 oz crab cake topped with imperial sauce Served with wild rice and Asparagus

Surf and turf

7oz center cut filet and 3 jumbo Shrimp topped with Garlic and herbs butter served mashed potato and seasonal vegetables

Seared cajun scallops

Lightly Blackened scallops Topped with lemon butter white wine sauce Served with saffron risotto and seasonal vegetables

DESSERTS

Strawberry short cake Topped with fresh strawberries

Or red velvet trifle cup

Bottle of champagne Included



Garden

Save the Planet: Start in Your Backyard

By Maureen O'Connell

You don't have to focus globally to make a contribution to the environmental health of the planet. Your backyard, whatever its size, can make a significant difference. There are many garden articles written suggesting small but consequential steps to accomplish this goal. As we look forward to starting the next growing season, consider adding these examples to your plans.

Native plants have many values. They provide food and shelter for wildlife, improving soil health and helping to lessen climate change. They help maintain or improve soil fertility while they reduce erosion. They filter pollutants from stormwater runoff. Many native plants have been growing and thriving in many areas for many years. They are well adapted to their environment and require less water and maintenance than non-native plants.

Start your own compost pile. This is a way to recycle kitchen and garden waste into nutrient-rich soil.

Grow your own vegetables and fruits.

Strongly resist using herbicides and pesticides. If you choose your plants carefully, you don't need them. My garden motto now is: If you can't thrive without chemical help, you don't belong in my garden.

Plant a bird and butterfly garden.

Save water with a rain barrel.

Plant a tree or a shrub.

Reduce your lawn with perennials and ground covers.

These measures are nothing new, but they can—even in a small way—reduce your environmental footprint.

In the next month or two, many of us home gardeners will be heading out to local garden centers and hardware stores to replenish our gardening supplies. I recently visited several of these stores. The shelves advertising such products are well stocked. I ask you to carefully consider what you really need. Take your time; read all the small print on the labels on the back of the package. Know what you are looking at. They all appear to answer and solve any problem you might face in your garden.

For many years, my rose garden was the envy of the neighborhood. "Mr. Lincoln," "John F. Kennedy," "Chicago Peace," "Barbara Streisand,"

"Ronald Reagan," and "Just Joey," lived beautifully next to each other for years. "Thanks to chemistry," they were beautiful—but their beauty came at a price. Every Saturday morning, I sprayed them with all kinds of "cides." I began to notice that I saw fewer butterflies, birds, moths, and beneficial insects in my garden. Where were they? I thought that I was a responsible and educated home gardener by spraying my roses, in fact, I was killing all the beneficial insects with my chemicals. After that, no more spraying and way fewer roses. If you can't thrive in my garden without chemical help, there is no place for you in my garden.

Starting last year, I noticed several articles in newspapers referencing studies that "forever chemicals" (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS) used in sewage sludge used in fertilizers on farms across the country pose health risks to farmers, livestock, and the environment. Early in 2000, scientists at 3M, the chemical giant, made a startling discovery: High levels of PFAS, the virtually "forever chemicals" used in non-stick pans, stain-resistant carpets and many other products were turning up in the nation's sewage. The research had already linked exposure to birth defects, cancer, and more. Has there been more research since 2000?

It is well past the time to wake up to the consequences. In the *Washington Post* on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, there was an article entitled "EPA Warns of 'Forever Chemicals.'" Sewage sludge, known in the industry as biosolids, is a byproduct of wastewater treatment that has been used as a nutrient-rich, inexpensive fertilizer for farmers. Americans generate massive quantitates of sewage waste each day. The chemicals contained within this mass are not removed during sewage treatment and instead settle in solid materials that are separated out from liquids in the treatment process. Several research centers have identified dozens of fertilizers made from biosolids. I unknowingly purchased several bags of one of these fertilizers from local stores. My dogs broke open one of the bags; they ate a quantity of it and became very sick.

Soil conditioners and fertilizers have different recommended application rates and protocols for reapplications. My overall message in this article is to advise you to carefully research everything you use in your garden. It doesn't just remain in your backyard; it affects the environment everywhere.



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In Your Own Backyard

The Times-Herald Automobile Endurance Race of 1908

By Jon Wolz

The Washington Times-Herald newspaper of Washington, D.C. sponsored an automobile race that occurred on June 9, 1908. There were sixteen automobiles who paid an entrance fee of \$10 per car. The race began at 5:30 a.m. at the Dupont Garage located at 2020 M Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C.. The route of the race went from D.C. to Ridgeville to Frederick to Harper's Ferry to Berryville to Winchester to Berryville again to Leesburg to White's Ferry to Poolesville to Rockville and ending at the Munsey Building in Washington. The total mileage was 164 miles. The race had a referee, judges, timers, a starter, an assistant starter, scorers, clerk of course, assistant clerk, pilot, and checkers at controls. The race time was estimated to last up to twelve hours.

Leading up to the race, the *Times* published descriptions of what the racers would find along the way regarding road conditions. I found the descriptions of roads in our area to be amusing; even to this day, from time to time, our roads need repair. Some of the curves on both sides of the Potomac River described by the newspaper are the same curves experienced today when approaching White's Ferry on both the Maryland and Virginia sides of the river. We should all be grateful to those who came before us who over the years helped make greatly-needed improvements to our area roads. One of the photographs from the race shows some of the cars passing by the Poolesville National Bank which was opened in 1908 and not 1910 as some people think. I wonder if anyone in Poolesville owned an automobile in 1908? Certainly they got around by horseback, horsedrawn carriages, horse pulled wagons, and bicycles. It seems that when automobiles were new in the Washington area, road trips were popular, and crossing the Potomac River at White's Ferry was one of the favorite routes for motorists. It is too bad White's Ferry is no longer running because, up until the time it closed, it was a destination to be experienced by motorists.



A couple of automobiles from a race which included White's Ferry. The back of Charles Rollison, the ferryman, can be seen. From the Times-Herald Newspaper of Washington, D.C.

Prior to the race, the paper published on May 31 what the conditions were along the route. Regarding our area, from Leesburg, the paper described White's Ferry Road on the Virginia side:

From the turning point to the ferry, red clay is extremely greasy and slippery after a rain, with constant danger of skidding into the ditches. Down that way, you go for about a mile until you see the river through the trees and a sharp turn in the road to the left. Go dead slow around this curve! We repeat, go dead slow around this curve! It is one of the most dangerous spots for an autoist we have ever seen. The angle is very abrupt and just where you can't see it until the car swings around is a forty-foot drop, the edge of which reached to within two feet of the roadway, so if a man were to take the usual outcurve around that corner, he would undoubtedly be killed, and all his passengers with him.

The great trouble with this deathtrap is that the weeds growing along the edge and face of the drop extend so far out that they give the exact appearance of a continuation of the roadway for eight or ten feet more, and unless the driver had been warned, he would not hesitate to run off on this apparently safe ground. Only a short distance from the deathtrap is met with a road that leads down to the river.

That is where you take the ferry. If it has rained any time within a week and you have forgotten your tire chains, your trip will probably end right there, for it is impossible to climb the hill on the other side of the ferry without chains or rope when the ground is soft.

Two medium-sized cars can cross White's Ferry at once, and it is proposed to have a checker on the Virginia side who will take the time of arrival of every car there and of its departure on the Maryland side. The delay will be subtracted from the gross running time. Any other arrangement as far as can be seen now would be unfair, because an auto might arrive just after the ferry had started and would lose the entire time of a round trip, while another car might arrive just as the ferry was about to start and lose no time at all.

Fifty yards from the ferry is a sharp hill leading to a bridge over the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and the chains will be indispensable here if the going is soft. Beyond the bridge, the road turns left and you begin to wonder what Montgomery County does with its money when it allows such roads to exist. The twenty-four miles to Rockville is almost all bad and some of it, especially from Poolesville to Rockville, is disgraceful. As far as can be seen, absolutely no effort has been made to keep it in repair. It is washed, cut, broken up with rocks, and has every dangerous and disagreeable feature that ever marked a public highway. From the ferry to Poolesville is a run of from twenty-five to thirty-five minutes, over bad going. Follow the main road, which is not at all difficult, because there are few connecting roads, and they all show on their faces that they are branches and little traveled. Take the road to the right of the Poolesville National Bank which is called eighteen miles from Rockville. Five or six minutes from Poolesville is a fork with a two-story framed outbuilding on the point. Take the road to the left. The route here winds around a cornfield to a stretch of woods where is a large elm tree having on it a tin sign advertising seltzer water. Bear to the left, the road to the right plainly not being a county road.

On June 11, 1908, the *Times-Herald* described different events that happened during the race. Regarding our area, the *Times* reported that when cars reached White's Ferry, there was a considerable delay because the ferry could only hold three small autos or two large autos at a time.

Continued on page 13.



Adults Getting Together

When: First Saturday of each month from 9

AM - NOON

Where: Vail Christian Education Building
19821 White Ground Road
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The Boyds Presbyterian Church (BPC)

is hosting a monthly *Adults Getting Together* event for those interested in meeting, socializing, and sharing like interests.

Bring your favorite non-alcoholic morning beverage, needle work, puzzles, cards, coloring/drawing medium, books, etc. to re-acquaint with long-time friends and make some new ones.

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Leaman at meleaman41@gmail.com or 301-972-5744.

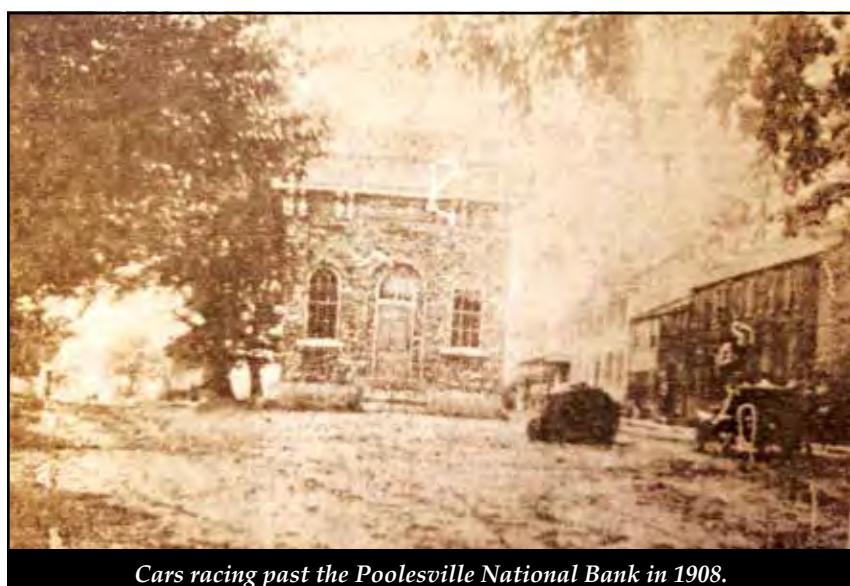
Please join us and nurture your personal faith journey on Sunday mornings at 10 AM, in-person or on Zoom at: <https://bit.ly/3h8917D>.

All are welcome. Fellowship immediately follows the service.



Continued from page 12.

The Times-Herald Automobile Endurance Race of 1908



Cars racing past the Poolesville National Bank in 1908.

The ferryman, Charles Rollison, whose life is dedicated to marching up and down his scow, pushing against the bottom with an iron-tipped pole from bow to stern and dragging it back from the stern to bow, avails himself in high water of an overhead cable arrangement to prevent his craft from being swept downstream. There was no need of it during the passage of the motorists. They mentioned that across the canal, passing an ancient storehouse from whose water fronting side, was swung a block and tackle to unload canal boats.

When some of the autos got beyond White's Ferry, they were caught up in a thunderstorm. They found refuge in the barn of a farmer at Poolesville who took a most lively interest in them, furnished dry clothes, gave them beds and supper and breakfast, and sent them on their way singing the praises of Poolesville as the philanthropic center of the universe.

The race ended in a tie between Charles E. Miller who drove a Ford Roadster and Sam Luttrell who drove a Buick. The winners shared a silver cup.



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Things to Do

February 1

Library Information Table: The Basics

A representative from the Montgomery County Collaboration Council will have information about "The Basics," a community initiative to improve the cognitive and social-emotional development of children ages 0-5. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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.

English Conversation Club

Join us to practice English conversation in a friendly, informal setting. Every first and third Saturday. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

February 3

Homework Help

Teen volunteers will be available to help elementary students with homework and informal academic support. Ages 4-11. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Poolesville Public Hearing

Public comment concerning Resolution 001-25, which proposes to change the existing quarterly graduated water and sewer rate schedule pursuant to Poolesville Code §16.51. *Poolesville Town Hall*. 7:00 p.m.

February 4

Regenerators:

Zero Waste Solutions Club

Learn and share your strategies for at-home eco-friendly solutions with neighbors. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

February 6

English Conversation Club

Join us to practice English conversation in a friendly, informal setting. Every first and third Saturday. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The 2025 PACC Annual Meeting

The meeting is free and open to all members only. PACC will have Happy Hour preceding the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with a cash bar. The annual meeting will be followed by the PACC Annual Dinner (this is a ticketed event and registration is closed). 6:00 p.m.

February 7

Tax Aide

Free appointment-only tax preparation assistance from AARP Tax Aide volunteers. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Family Storytime

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

February 8

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.

Science Saturdays

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

February 10

Design-a-Zine Workshop

Middle schoolers and high schoolers, create a zine and learn the basics of graphic design in this hands-on workshop. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Homework Help

Teen volunteers will be available to help elementary students with homework and informal academic support. Ages 4-11. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

February 11

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.

Pajama Storytime

Stories and activities that develop language skills and imagination. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:30 p.m. to 7:10 p.m.

February 14

Tax Aide

Free appointment-only tax preparation assistance from AARP Tax Aide volunteers. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

February 15

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.

Heart 'n Soul Gala

A fabulous dinner/dance evening sponsored by Poolesville Seniors. Dinner catered by Simply Fresh Events and music by Gina's Soul Party and the Souled Out Horns. Cash-only bar. Event includes silent auction. Bidding online until February 23. Registration online at Poolesvilleseniors.org.

English Conversation Club

Join us to practice English conversation in a friendly, informal setting. Every first and third Saturday. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

February 20

English Conversation Club

Join us to practice English conversation in a friendly, informal setting. Every first and third Saturday. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

February 21

Tax Aide

Free appointment-only tax preparation assistance from AARP Tax Aide volunteers. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Family Storytime

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

February 22

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.

February 24

Homework Help

Teen volunteers will be available to help elementary students with homework and informal academic support. Ages 4-11. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

February 25

Pajama Storytime

Stories and activities that develop language skills and imagination. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 6:30 p.m. to 7:10 p.m.

Book Discussion Group

New members are welcome to join this group! The book discussed is *A Flicker in the Dark* by Stacy Willingham. Free.

Maggie Nightingale Library. 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

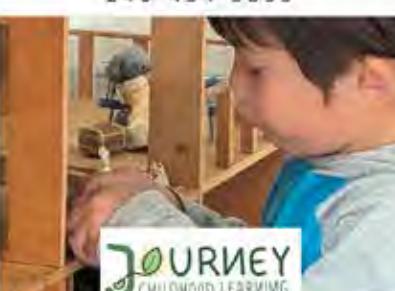
February 26

Managing Daily Life with Digital Tools: Safety and Security

Join tech guru Jessica Wallach to learn simple and secure tips for staying safe online and protecting your personal information. This program is in association with the Poolesville Seniors. Registration required. Free. *Maggie Nightingale Library*. 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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The world is tired of snow—
Tired of loud winds that blow
All night long through brown
bare trees—
The world is tired!—so
Give us back the birds and trees,
The children want to play—
Out in the sun all day—
We welcomed you right well,
O Snow—
But now, at last, it's time to go—
We want to hear the bluebird sing—
We want to welcome Spring!

—Annette Wynne

Continued from page 1.

Names from History: Noah Edward Clarke

education for Blacks in Montgomery County. His life's work and devotion eventually had its full fruition in the integration of Poolesville schools. While a modest man, Noah was regarded as a giant among his peers in Black leadership of Montgomery County.

His father, James Clarke, a freedman, purchased 4.4 acres of land from William Wallace Poole in 1896. From this land, in addition to land purchased by his wife Leana Dorsey's brothers, Frank and George, the community of Jerusalem had its roots. Jerusalem was first settled as a sanctuary for formerly enslaved people during the Civil War under the protection of Union Gen. Charles Stone from 1861 to 1862. After the war, the Clarkes and others established a settlement whose full spirit of community and love remains in the hearts of many who walk among us today, such as Tina Clarke, Rev. Chuck Copeland, and Skip Etheridge.

Devoting his life to his God and neighbors, Noah came to be known as the "keeper of the church." He did it all, from being its janitor, painter, carpenter, and landscaper, to leadership roles as a Sunday school teacher, secretary, treasurer, and deacon. He even was a talented musician and served as the church organist.

His career was in insurance, and consequently he became well known throughout the region. His faith was reflected in his great belief in the power of unity and education. Bringing people together was a singular great talent of Noah.

In 1915, he became a member of a group called the Defense Fund for the Montgomery County Colored Population. Then, in 1925, he chaired the fundraising effort to raise the \$6,700 to match the funds provided by Julius Rosenwald to build the Jerusalem Rosenwald School, the first dedicated school building for Blacks in our area. The school was one of thousands built throughout the nation partly funded by Julius Rosenwald. The program was a collaboration between Rosenwald, a Jewish-American philanthropist and president of Sears, Roebuck, and Company, and Booker T. Washington, an African American educator and leader.

While Rosenwald gave half of the cost, he required the recipients to also raise the remaining funds to ensure rightful pride of accomplishment in the

community. The structure still stands today, and while you may not realize it, you visit it periodically as it is the building at what we call the Beauty Spot.

This remarkable man entered Lincoln University in Pennsylvania with only a seventh grade education. While there, his rigorous studies included the classics, philosophy, Greek, and mathematics. He also played on the school's baseball team and joined the Music Committee.

He became the first Black from the Jerusalem community to earn a bachelor's degree. After graduation, he came home to teach at the Boyds Negro School and the Mt. Zion School in Barnesville.

As the Jerusalem community quickly outgrew the Jerusalem Rosenwald School, Noah petitioned the county in 1935 for a larger school. The county moved an unused school building to Rockville, faced it with brick, and Lincoln High School stood as the only high school for Blacks in the county until it became a junior high in 1950.

The United Trust became the Federation of Parent Teacher Associations (FTPA) in 1948 with Noah as president. He petitioned county, and in 1950, the George Washington Carver High School and Junior College was built and became the first high school for Blacks funded from county moneys alone. It also became the first school for Blacks to approximate the quality and level of education of the "White" schools.

As a member of the Montgomery County Advisory Committee on Integration, Noah was a leader in developing a plan to integrate schools. His talent and skills honed from a history of belief in the power of unity and education helped him lead the way.

Noah Edward Clarke led the way of accomplishment for the community and his family. The Clarke family is a family of accomplishment, and today, includes his son the Rev. Millard E. Clarke whose grandson was the jazz great, Seleno Clarke. Noah's daughter, Beulah Mae Clarke Harper, was a founder of our local food bank and assistance organization, WUMCO. Another son, Raymond Roy, was a veteran, transit worker/activist, and father of Tina Clarke, Noah's granddaughter, who is currently a leading local educator/activist/preservationist and who was former county executive's Doug Duncan's chief liaison to the Black community. Noah's grandson, Douglas Clarke, is a Korea War veteran and the first Black grand noble of the local Odd Fellows Lodge 97.



Academic struggles and behavior problems are rarely because a child is stupid, bad, or lazy ...



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Youth Sports

Falcon Boys' Basketball Bounces Back from Injuries

By Jeff Stuart

"I was really excited about the team, coming into the season," said Poolesville High School boys' basketball coach BJ DeBuchananne. "We started off kind of rough just because of injuries. We have been missing four of our top six guys pretty much the whole year. We got two of them back, but then two more got injured, so we are slowly getting back to being healthy. We are still waiting on two guys who probably will not be back until the end of January. Juniors, Jordan Smith and Chase Nelson, have fractured backs. We have a variety of other injuries. Another has an injured back. One guy tripped over his bike and hurt his wrist. One has a shoulder injury, so our lineup has been constantly shifting. I think the Damascus game that we played on January 11 was our best effort so far. We won 54-49. That was a Saturday afternoon game. We played Magruder the night before, so those were back-to-back games. We won both of those games. We really feel like we have turned the corner."

"We were really expecting senior guard and captain, Alexavier Saunders, to have a good year going into the season, and he has had a good start. He is our leading scorer and go-to guy. As more guys get healthy, it will help him be more effective. There are more guys the defensive team has to worry about. He has really come into his own. He scores twenty points a game. He is moving the ball, sharing the ball. Junior center, Ar-maan Jain, has been out with a sprained ankle since our first game at B-CC. He has come back. His first game back was against Magruder on January 10. He scored twenty points and had ten rebounds, so it is nice to see him back. Junior forward, Emmanuel Chukwurah, has played every game so far for us. He is a do-it-all guy. He plays good defense and has a good outside shot. He rebounds, blocks shots, and steals the ball. He does all those kinds of things."

"The season has been going really well," said Saunders. "I think our best game was against Damascus. We also played really well against Magruder. They are

high-caliber teams, and we definitely put our best foot forward. They were really good wins for our team. I think my personal best was in the New Hope Tournament at St. John's in Fred-erick over the holidays. We were able to get a win against Sandy Spring Friends [School]. I shot well and was able to find my teammates for open shots. It was a good all-around win. It was nice to come out of the break with some momentum. My shoutouts go to senior captains, Daniel Reed, at center, and Jacob Lee, at guard; also to senior center, Armaan Jain, and sophomore guard, Thomas Straniero.

"We have some players who are hurt, like Jordan Smith. Armaan was out for a good while, so other guys had to step up. They got more playing time and played well—guys like juniors, Aiden Hurd, Seamus Lynch, and Bram Keelek. Andrew Sproat, a freshman guard, has done great."

"We opened up the season with a lot of players out with injury," said Chukwurah. "It was hard to get into a consistent tempo or rhythm. Now that we are starting to get some players back, that is starting to look better. We have better chemistry. We have some momentum now that hopefully will carry over. Some of the games we lost were mental losses. Now that we have our guys back, we have more confidence and the mentality to beat them. I think Watkins Mill was our best game because I had eighteen points in that game. Even though we lost, we kept up a good pace the entire game. We led by six at the half. We communicated well. They are a good team. I had a dunk in the fourth quarter that gave us a lift. My shoutouts go to Thomas Straniero. He is a good defender. Alexavier is our leader. He scores a lot, especially when we need it. He makes some big shots."

"I was injured in the first game of the season," said Armaan. "I just got back... for the wins over Magruder and Damascus. Those were our first two wins of the season. I think the season looks good for us from here on. We have had our ups and downs, but as we get more people back, I think we can still win our division. I think our best game was against Magruder. They are a tough, dangerous team, and one of the best in the county. The Damascus game was good for us as well. They have a very well-rounded team. They have some great shooters and some good young players. They have some older big guys up front. I think it is great that we were able to keep our composure when they made a run in the third quarter. We were able to keep our lead. I want to give a shoutout to Jordan Smith."

Continued on page 19.

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COMMISSIONERS OF POOLESVILLE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
RESOLUTION 001-25

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on February 3, 2025 at 7:00 PM at Poolesville Town Hall, 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland. This public hearing is for the purpose of receiving public comment concerning Resolution 001-25, which proposes to change the existing quarterly graduated water and sewer rate schedule pursuant to Poolesville Code §16.51. Copies of this Resolution and a Rate Study can be seen online at www.poolesvillemd.gov and are also available at Poolesville Town Hall.

Poolesville's Water and Wastewater Fund, like other towns that own water and sewer utilities, operates as a government enterprise, and is intended to be self-supporting. Most of the Fund's revenue is derived from user fees.

The Town takes great care to ensure that its rates are determined with cost of service and financial stability in mind. The rate structure, which is being updated, is designed to cover the cost of maintaining and repairing pipes, pumps, and treatment plants, as well covering the cost of operations to ensure that quality water and sewer services are available to residents.

Proposed Rates
RESIDENTIAL FY26 – FY28
CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS

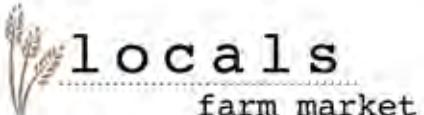
Gallons	FY25 (Current)	FY26 5%	FY27 5%	FY28 5%
0-7,000	12.79	13.46	14.17	14.92
7,001-15,000	14.41	15.17	15.97	16.81
15,001-25,000	17.61	18.54	19.52	20.55
25,001-35,000	22.39	23.57	24.81	26.12
35,001-40,000	22.39	34.09	35.89	37.78
40,001 and up	22.39	44.62	46.97	49.44

COMMERCIAL FY26-FY28
CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS

Gallons	FY25 (Current)	FY26 5%	FY27 5%	FY28 5%
0-7,000	12.79	13.46	14.17	14.92
7,001-15,000	14.41	15.17	15.97	16.81
15,001-25,000	17.61	18.54	19.52	20.55
25,001 and up	22.39	23.57	24.81	26.12

GOVERNMENTAL
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FY25 (Actual Cost)	FY26 5%	FY27 5%	FY28 5%
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Mystery History

The Lost Poet Of Poolesville

By Rande Davis

When Vernon Nicholson of Bucklodge Road died in 1995, he named Peggy Horine Kingsbury the executor of his estate because she had been a lifelong friend of the family. Peggy was born in the house on Bucklodge Road directly across the street from Vernon's home, so naturally the two families became close. In fact, the Horines and Nicholsons became so much like family that Peggy always referred to Vernon's parents as Mama Nick and Papa Nick. While others called Vernon by his given name, his real friends and family knew him best by his nickname. Amusingly, his nickname was Nick.

Vernon "Nick" Nicholson was eighty-one when he passed away, and the sad duties of getting the house ready for sale fell to Peggy since she was named executor of the estate. While most of the items in the house were either given away or sold, Peggy decided to keep some old tintype pictures, letters, post cards, and other

odds and ends that she found tucked away in the home. The pictures were very old and not of anyone she could readily identify, so she didn't pay much attention to them. She simply put them in a bag, took them to her house, and did not give them much thought for the next ten years.

Eventually, Peggy decided to go through the bag, and this time, something caught her eye: An old, folded-up news clipping. Someone had cut a news article out of a now unidentified local newspaper. Peggy guessed the collector must have been Mama Nick, but she couldn't be positive, and she was intrigued as to why it had been carefully "hidden away" for well over eight decades. The news clipping was a letter to the editor of an unnamed, mysterious newspaper. John Will Hall of New York City wrote it.

While the date on the newspaper was inadvertently cut off, it was clear Mr. Hall had been born in Poolesville in 1848. Based on the title of the poem, it also appears his correspondence was sometime in 1923. It was also abundantly clear that Mr. Hall yearned for his boyhood town of Poolesville. Mr. Hall had written to request that the newspaper print his love poem to Poolesville. We could try to paraphrase the prelude that he had submitted to

the paper, but his own words, uniquely expressed, do it best:

Beg to send you an original poem in honor of the little town of my birth and boyhood, asking its publication—including this prelude—in your famous newspaper. Writer left the village when only seventeen years old with sixty-five cents in pocket, raised by his poor but good mother and sister, with sole ambition to make his way in world, that he might help his parents more. Since that September day, in 1865, he has been a self-deported entity, and meanwhile father, mother, sisters, and brothers have lived and died, until only a sister there and writer here are left of thirteen.

Upon the occasional visits of latter years, have seen a new Poolesville rising from the dust and cobwebs of the old, and yet clinging memories and tracings of the past. In my heart still beats the love of the old town, hence, this eulogy.

Respectfully,
John Will Hall, New York City.

We can assure our readers that our local historian and genealogist extraordinaire, Dots Elgin, did an investigation into exactly who our mystery poet was, where he and his family had lived in Poolesville, and hopefully other tidbits about a long-ago neighbor. His parents were John

William and Louisa Veirs Hall who were married on September 30, 1835. Mr. Hall's dad was a tailor. Our mysterious poet died just one year after writing this poem in 1924.

We can also add to our little mystery because just two days after uncovering this poem, Peggy found another news clipping with yet another poem of his offering. This time it was an ode entitled: *The Wreck of the Titantic*. It was dedicated to "the wife who lost husband, mother who lost son, sister who lost brother."

While there are a few in our area who still try to diminish the importance of the history of the town, it is indisputable that, in the eyes of this person whose boyhood and teenage years gave him a front row seat to the events in Poolesville during the Civil War, its historic role was one of great pride.

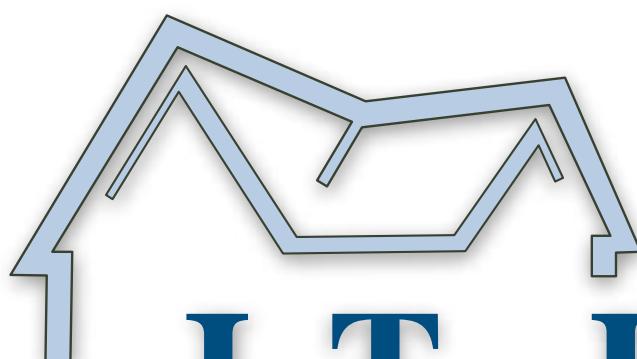
Now, 120 years after its first publishing date and without further ado, here is Mr. Hall's ode:

*The Metamorphosis of Poolesville
1861-1923*

Say, people, have you heard
of Poolesville?

Continued on page 24.

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Continued from page 3.

I.J. Hudson: The Honorary Poolesvillian

President Nixon introduced the process of a lottery to replace the former military draft process, so that at least young men could have some level of certainty as to their immediate future. He drew a five in that first selective service lottery, and he knew he was destined to be drafted soon and sent to Vietnam. Rather than be drafted, he decided to join up, and he was selected for a delayed-entry program into the navy. Right after a winter in the Great Lakes boot camp, he was selected for Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. After commissioning, he was selected to serve on an admiral's staff aboard the USS Enterprise off the coast of Vietnam. He would be a communications and public affairs officer. His "unofficial" side gig was as the admiral's tennis partner—when they had the opportunity to play.

Before he got started in his new role, he had to do some travelling, getting to know the lay of the land and the people he would have to work with while living nine thousand miles apart from some of them. He had port stops at San Diego, Hawaii, Guam, and Saigon.

In Saigon, they wanted him to work for the military Vietnam radio network because of his background and his experience with a local radio station. In the end, that didn't happen. He had orders to the admiral, but he could have been a different version of the "Good Morning, Vietnam" guy.

There he was, just a boy from the Midwest finding himself living on the USS Enterprise, an aircraft carrier that was one thousand feet long, ninety feet high, and with a lot of activity. Many supply helicopters brought supplies for the five-thousand-man crew after flight operations were suspended. At first, he had a hard time sleeping. Then it all came together for the young ensign.

Two of his most outstanding memories were when he was attached to the USS Coral Sea, with a home port of Subic Bay, Philippines as a public affairs officer who was part of the planning team for an upcoming Bob Hope show. Then, while in a prep meeting, the power went completely out, and his home ship, the USS Enterprise was put on call to the Indian Ocean, so he had to return to it even though it had already left port. Catching up to the ship wasn't easy as he had to travel through Thailand, and he missed a connecting military flight that crashed. The time was so confusing, his admiral had already begun writing a letter to I.J.'s wife about his death before Hudson could officially straighten out the situation. He has lived each moment thereafter with the haunting thought of: "There but for the grace of God go I."

I.J. left "Yankee Station" in the Tonkin Gulf for posts at San Diego, including as Public Affairs Officer at Naval Air Station North Island on Coronado. Now a lieutenant junior grade, Hudson received orders to serve as aide to his old admiral, now the first Chief of Naval Reserve.

I.J. knew he didn't want to make the navy a career, although it was a very important part of his life, so with a little help from the admiral, he made an audition tape and sent it to Bob McMullen at WFRV-TV Channel 5 in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and the rest became history. He moved from the comfort of New Orleans to the land of snow, ice, and snowmobiles.

Career moves sent Hudson to Milwaukee, Columbus, Ohio, New Orleans, San Diego, and Chicago before he joined WRC, Channel 4 in 1985.

As a street reporter, he covered a wide variety of stories. "When something happened, I would cover it, whether it was mayhem, storms, or whatever. I began to do some work for the television station's division, which meant that if it was a big story that broke, they might send me or another Washington reporter there. I would do a two-minute cover, then I would do a live coverage report with a news anchor at other NBC-owned and -operated stations, introducing the pre-packaged short video. This included reporting from the Pentagon during the first Iraq War."

Eventually, he became the station's Technology Reporter, covering startups like the beginning of America Online and the growth of the internet. He pioneered as the reporter with the very first live high-definition television report in America. That report was simulcast on regular television and HDTV. The high-definition report was received only by a special TV set in a D.C. hotel where a few FCC commissioners and a couple of corporate executives had gathered for a bit of history.

When he retired after twenty-two years at WRC, he began spending a lot of leisure time in the Poolesville area where he first played pickleball at the Baptist church gym and at Stevens Park. He became an almost-daily fixture at the C&O Canal where he could take up to 150 photos a day, often settling on just a few. Those few, though, were incredibly beautiful and natural pictures. Photography has also changed I.J.'s perspective on nature. "It's not just the big scenes like fog

in a valley, it's also the bee, the hummingbird, the butterfly on milkweed."

He spends his time on the canal and everywhere doing what he has always done throughout his career, meeting and chatting with the people he has met along the way. He loves coming to Locals where there seems to always be someone he knows.

He and Roger Brenholtz have created a popular gig together calling bingo for the Poolesville Seniors; it's not for those who wince at puns. He also helps with recording videos for Poolesville Seniors.

He does occasional consulting for a company in Northern Virginia in communication and marketing, but more importantly, the reporter within has never left him. He understands, better than most, that everyone has a story. Where most people say hello, he will ask, "What's new in your life?" From there he has found his life is enriched by taking the time to learn about others. What's his most profound life's lesson? For him, it comes naturally: "Talk to people, and your life will be much more enjoyable." Just ask, "What's new with you?" and your whole life will veer in many wonderous directions.

Continued from page 16.

Falcon Boys' Basketball Bounces Back from Injuries

He has been out for the whole season so far, but he has been on the bench and very supportive of us. Alexavier is a great leader as a cap-tain. That goes for the other senior captains, Jacob Lee and Daniel Reed, as well. Daniel has always been there for me."

As of this writing, the team has improved its standing to 5-8, with nine games left in the regular season.

Forward/center Bryan Smith is a sophomore, rounding out the team.

Have an event you'd like to list in the *Monocle*?

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Youth Sports

For Poolesville Girls' Basketball, Confidence Is the Key

By Jeff Stuart

"We have a lot of returning seniors from last year," said new Poolesville High School girls' basketball coach, Kelsey Lewis. "The biggest difference this year is confidence. Last year, we lacked confidence in our shooting. This year, I spent a lot of time with the girls. I made them shoot a lot, built up their confidence, and it is starting to show. Defensively, we are pretty scrappy. We have two girls on the team that are pretty fast. We use that when we switch up defenses. It has been a really fun year so far. As a first-year coach, I found it to be a challenge—finding what schemes work for the varsity—but I am starting to figure it out in the new year—the team is as well. Our leaders are senior captains, Alex Sosna, a four-year starter, and Kate Dacaney, who has started the last three years."

"Even though we lost, I think our best game was against Damascus. We went into overtime with them this year and were at the wrong end of a buzzer beater. We lost by three, but we gave ourselves a chance to win the game. Last year, we lost to them by twenty-five points. Overall, it was a good game for us. I think it showed there is enough fight in our team to get things done the rest of the season. We fell behind, 14-0, early. They were hitting threes left and right. We switched to a man-to-man defense and got a couple of steals and a couple of fast breaks. We got on a roll. We started making shots. We were down by three at the half. We were tied in the third quarter. We fell behind by six and rallied to go up by five with three minutes left, but they hit a buzzer beater with three seconds left to tie it. We fought hard."

"In the first game of the year against B-CC, we did everything we wanted to do defensively. We could not get it going offensively. It was 13-9 at the half. B-CC won the county championship last year. They were runner up in the states, so it was a good first effort for us. It was in the second half of the Quince Orchard game on December 13 that we started hitting shots. I knew we would come together in the new year. I think the girls have gained confidence every game since."

"Our season has gone really well," said senior guard/forward Alex Sosna, "especially compared to last year—not only in terms of wins and losses, but in terms of how many points we have given up and how many points we have scored. We scored forty-two points against Damascus. Last year, we scored half that amount against them. We have definitely improved. I think my personal best game was against Magruder. I played well on both ends of the court. I have gained a lot of confidence on offense, and it showed that game. As a team, I think we played really well against Rockville. We won, 44-29. It wasn't my best performance, but a lot of the girls stepped up. Kate Dacaney had a really great performance. She had twelve points in the first half and played lockdown defense."

"Anna May Straniero is a freshman this year. She is very aggressive and brings intense energy when she comes off the bench and onto the court. She has really helped us a lot. She really broke out in our Holiday Tournament at Thomas Johnson. She had a couple of high-scoring games, and she has continued to contribute. We lost both games in that tournament, but we played well. We ran our offense. We had opportunities, but our shots weren't falling. Coach Kelsey said it was our best offensive effort of the season. They were tough teams."

"Another shoutout goes to senior Laynie Sofelkanik. She has been on the basketball team for four years. She got called up to varsity in her sophomore year. She has shown what she can do this year. She is a dynamic player and a great athlete. She gets down the court really fast which makes her a crucial part of our offense and defense. She has a really good floater. She hits it several times a game."

"I think we have had a great season so far," said senior guard Kate Dacany. "We are sharing the ball well, and we are only going to get better from here. I think my best personal game was against Rockville. I had ten points and played an all-around good game. It was a good team game. As a team, I think the Damascus game was our best game. That is our rival school. We worked hard. We fought hard. Collectively, we gave it our all. We went into overtime. Because I am a senior, I am taking advantage of everything this year and having a lot of fun with the girls. My shoutouts go to Carson Hartke, a sophomore, she has been a beast on defense and a great motivator, and to senior forward Alyssa Bailey. She has played great on the front line."



Alaira Walker, Kacey Raines, Laynie Sofelkanik, Alex Sosna, Kate Dacaney, and Alyssa Bailey.

"I think we have a good mix of upper and underclassmen," said sophomore guard Hartke. "We have a really good chemistry. Our best game was against Damascus. We played lockdown defense. We had some good looks at the basket."

Continued on page 23.

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Poolesville Green

EV Road Trip Planning Tools

By Richard Strock

In the previous article published in the November 2024 issue of the *Monocle*, I discussed preparation of the EV and driver for road trips. This month, I would like to discuss some tools that can help in planning an EV road trip and some possible pitfalls you may want to avoid.

The first tool is an app called "A Better Route Planner," or ABRP. It is designed specifically for EVs and runs on Apple, Microsoft, and Android platforms. The basic version is free; there is a premium version that contains additional features. ABRP uses factors such as year, make, model, battery type, number of motors, etc. in calculating driving range. Items such as additional weight carried, type of charger(s) to be used, departing state-of-charge, and others that may impact range are also factored in. After entering your departure and destination locations, and any intermediate stops you plan to make, ABRP suggests specific charging stations with estimates of driving time, charging time, charging cost, along with other metrics. A table showing the details of the route can also be printed to help with pre-trip planning. Using ABRP is the first step in planning any trip we contemplate.

Another useful app is called PlugShare. It shows virtually every charging station in North America and runs on both Apple and Android platforms. We used this app to find a free charging station during our stay at Acadia National Park, our very first EV road trip. The app provides details about the type and number of stations installed, cost, nearby amenities, etc. It also has reviews posted by previous users, which can help identify unreliable chargers which you may want to avoid.

Another app we found quite useful when travelling the Interstate Highway System is iExit. It shows all the services available at every exit on all the interstate highways in the U.S. It is quite valuable when one needs to make an unplanned pit stop. It operates in real time, showing the distance from your present location to the exit or rest area where you may want to stop.

There are a couple of cautionary notes I want to mention. First, don't assume a charging station is functional. During our recent trip through Arizona, we planned to travel to a more northerly interstate through a desolate area via a U.S. highway. When the route was entered into the Tesla travel planner, a message appeared warning that the lone Tesla Supercharger along the route was out of service. We then altered our route to avoid possibly running out of energy. When travelling through sparsely populated areas, it is wise to choose a route having multiple charging options.

Don't try to secondguess your trip planner. When travelling west through Kansas, I thought I was smarter than the Tesla trip planner and did not stop at the charging station the trip planner suggested. The minute I passed the exit, a message appeared indicating that I would need to charge before I reached my destination, the next supercharger along the route. I failed to realize that there was a 2,200-foot rise in elevation between the two charging stations, resulting in more energy consumption than I had mentally calculated. This elevation rise was not visibly noticeable, but the trip planner knew it and calculated accordingly. We exited and backtracked to the original charging station. This was a valuable lesson!

I hope the information provided in these articles has alleviated some of the fears and uncertainty many have regarding extended EV road trips. With proper planning and preparation, there is little chance you will find yourself stuck in the middle of nowhere with a dead EV battery.

Richard Strock is an electric vehicle advocate and has been a resident of Poolesville for forty-eight years.

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Continued from page 1.

Commissioners Hear about Petition Regarding White's Ferry and Requests for Grants and Funding

In such instances, the law also allows the state and county to assign the charter to a new ferry operator and construct buildings and buy any equipment needed to run the ferry which becomes public property.

Hoewing said it appears that this law has never been tested, but he believes the public service commission, as the entity in the state that regulates ferry service, could investigate the circumstances around the White's Ferry closure and order changes designed to get the ferry running again. It appears there is no precedent for this, but he thinks the argument is worth raising. At the very least, making a filing with the public service commission allows the Town of Poolesville to stand up for itself and say, "We have had enough, and we want some action." Even if the public service commission denies the petition, it still helps create another forum to raise the White's Ferry issue and puts the issue more directly in front of policymakers who may well pay more attention.

The commissioners seemed to be supportive of the idea. It was decided to hold off on the filing until more information is gathered about the current status of the ongoing county-led discussions about the ferry.

Maria Briançon and Woody McDonald appeared to ask for a grant to support the Poolesville Area Seniors Committee. Briançon said the PASC is a growing nonprofit that has been highly successful and now offers more than seven hundred different, in many cases free, events every year. She said more than 11,600 attendees came to the various events last year.

Briançon noted that it takes a lot of money to operate a nonprofit with this many programs and participants. The cost for instructors who do things such as provide informative lectures or help with dance instruction, exceeded \$4,000 last year. Rental costs for events exceeds \$7,000 a year. The seniors raised more than \$35,000 on their own and the existing \$25,000 line item the town has in its budget to support the group helps immensely. They still have around \$6,000 in additional costs that they need to cover, and she requested that additional funding be included in their grant this year. The commission will be considering this and other grant requests in the upcoming budget cycle, which starts in the spring.

Jim Brown, president of the commission, said that "it was shameful that the county denied the PASC a grant this year" which had awarded the seniors the grant for a number of years. He emphasized that the county offers almost no programming in our area because we do not have a community center, and he also noted that the PASC programs are among the most successful in the entire county.

Andrea Stokes, who represents the Post Prom Committee, was scheduled to appear to request a grant for the committee but was unable to attend. Wade Yost, the town manager, said that he had a copy of the proposal, and the post prom party is scheduled for May 16. The costs that the committee is trying to cover include transportation to and from the event, which is currently scheduled to be held at the North Potomac Community Center, food for the event, and rent for the center.

Kevin Schramm, the chair of the Poolesville Day Committee, appeared next to request that the commissioners approve, once again, a grant to support the committee's activities. In doing so, he noted that they were asking for less this year than they have in the past to the tune of \$10,000. This is in part possible because the committee was able to raise more money from its vendors—close to \$35,000 for the cost of Poolesville Day—as well as increase the amount of money it raised from sponsors or local businesses that support the event. As a result, the committee this year is asking for \$25,000 from the town instead of \$35,000 which is what the request had been in the past.

Schramm added one other important point regarding the committee's work: Security has always been a major issue for the committee, but this year, given what happened recently in New Orleans, the committee had decided to take an even closer look at security issues in order to do everything it can to make sure the event is safe and peaceful for everyone.

Link Hoewing, as chair of the Fair Access Committee, appeared next to make the case for the committee's funding in the coming year. The committee is an official body of the Town of Poolesville. He said the budget proposal requested a total of \$95,000 for the work of the committee. This is the same funding level the committee requested for the past two years.

Hoewing said that if you consider the return on investment as an indicator of impact, just using the high school modernization as the example, the committee has been able to return to the community \$240 for every dollar spent over the last six years.

He went on to say that the committee's main objectives for the coming year include the following:

1. Ensure that construction of a new community center with clinic space is moved up to begin this coming year;
2. Ensure that funding is included in both the capital budget and the operating budget for the county to get the pool bubble installed and operational no later than eighteen months from now;
3. Continue the push to end the White's Ferry impasse;
4. Ensure that the \$230,000 line item in the county's budget for WUMCO's healthcare programs is made permanent; and
5. Work with the state and county to develop better data about the Upcounty visitor/tourist economy and work with key leaders and agencies to develop better strategies to support agri-tourism, farms, our small businesses, historic sites, and recreational areas.

Town Manager Wade Yost next reported on the town's annual Capacity Management Plans for water and sewer. He said that by January 31 of each year, the town is required to develop and submit to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) a Municipal Wastewater Capacity Report. To develop the annual wastewater capacity determinations, the town calculates the past three-year sewer plant flow averages. Then it calculates the number of allocated (not connected) sewer connections that the local government has committed in writing to allow, and subtracts the sum from the MDE permitted discharge limit for the town of 750,000 gpd. The remaining balance is the net available wastewater capacity. Yost said that after making these calculations, the town still has 165,000 gpd of wastewater capacity available. Using a similar process for water, Yost said the town has a net available water capacity of 32,850 gpd.

Finally, Yost said the water and sewer rate changes the commissioners are proposing would be considered at a public hearing on February 3.



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Remembrance

Ross Koeser

Ross Koeser, 84, of Poolesville, Maryland, passed away peacefully on January 25, 2025, due to complications from Myelodysplastic Syndrome.

Born and raised in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, Ross always cherished his roots and made every opportunity to visit his hometown. It was there that he developed his love for golf, organized neighborhood sports, and formed a lifelong appreciation for community and connection.

Ross was the first in his family to attend college. He joined the U.S. Army National Guard to pay for his schooling and graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh with a degree in Economics. He wanted to move to New York City, but lost a coin flip to his buddy and instead moved to the Washington, D.C. area, where he began his career at Microbiological Associates in Bethesda. While there, he met and married Jane Zwemer, and together they built a life in Poolesville. He changed jobs to the National Bureau of Standards (now the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST]). While working for NIST, he started a Wednesday night golf league in which he participated for more than forty years. Ross later had a distinguished career as the Director of State Programs for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), significantly contributing to advancements in product safety across the nation. In 1993, recognizing the importance of collaboration within the global product safety community, Ross helped with the founding and establishment of the International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization (ICPHSO) and its annual symposium, accomplishments that brought him great pride. He was the ICPHSO president for many years and its first executive director. He remained active in the organization, attending conferences as recently as October 2023 in Sweden.

Even after retiring, Ross was always on the move. He sold Tee Time golf passes, worked as a starter/ranger at Bretton Woods, and maintained an active social and professional life.

Ross was a dedicated member of Poolesville Presbyterian Church for over fifty years. A lifelong Green Bay Packers fan and "owner," he also developed a deep loyalty to the Washington Commanders (though to him, they were always the Redskins). He was thrilled to see the Commanders in the NFC playoffs and loved watching them beat the number-one seeded Lions, but sadly passed before the season ended.

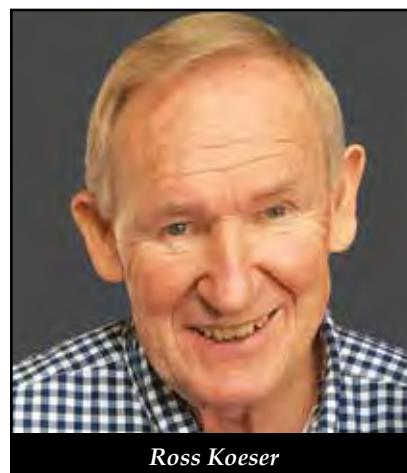
Ross's passion for travel took him all over the world, both for work and for pleasure. He had a natural gift for bringing people together and creating joy in any gathering. He was deeply committed to his family, always intentional about spending time together and building memories.

After Jane's passing in 2013, Ross married Lisa Roberts. They shared nearly a decade of happiness and adventure.

Ross was born on October 30, 1940, the fourth child of Marie Blattler and Lloyd. He was preceded in death by all his siblings: Kenneth, Gordon, Polly, Frederick, and Ann. Ross is survived by his four children: Ken Koeser (Kathy), Karen Shields (Andy), Doug Koeser (Jessica), and Greg Koeser (Rebecca). He was a proud grandfather to ten grandchildren and great-grandfather to one great-grandchild, all of whom adored him.

Ross lived a full and joyful life, and his legacy of love, connection, and fun will live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

The Koeser family and friends will celebrate his life at a memorial service on March 1 at 11:00 a.m. at Memorial United Methodist Church in Poolesville. The Rev. David Williams of the Poolesville Presbyterian Church will lead the service. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Poolesville Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 68, Poolesville, MD 20837, or to a charity of one's choosing.



Ross Koeser

Continued from page 20.

For Poolesville Girls' Basketball, Confidence Is the Key

Altogether, our team played really well. We really wanted to win that game. That was a division game. My shoutouts go to Alex who has been working really hard. She is a beast on the rebounds. Mehek Patnaik, a junior, has been hitting her shots lately. She is having a really good season. I am looking forward to the rematch with Damascus. I think it is going to be an awesome game."

The return match against Damascus is February 7 at 7:15 p.m. at Damascus.

Forwards, Alaira Walker and Kacey Raines, are seniors. Lila Snelson is a junior. Camden Ranero, Emma Weyrauch, Stella Volpe, and Lacey Franklin are sophomores.

Managers are Zoe Hornyak and Kristen Lang. The assistant coaches are Jamie Jamison and Mackenzie Magaha.

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Nicholas Spano
New Ownership

Continued from page 18.

The Lost Poet Of Poolesville

That place of civil war fame;
If not, sit still and listen,
While I weave its magic name.

First, Poolesville stands for Poole,
From the earliest stage of its birth;
And the name and fame of that tribe,
Make its history of greater worth.

And Poolesville the mother of Williams,
of Woottens and Whites and more
Old county never nurtured a coward
Along the stretches of thy
Potomac shore.

You remember the little
brick schoolhouse,
Where the famous Irishman taught;
And, the sting of the reed and
the ruler,
That our poor little bare hands caught.

The little old brick has passed away,
And long banished is the rod and
the rule;
The great Academy now towers aloft,
And love is the law of the school.

Do you recall the little old brick church,
Still braving time's havoc and loss;
Where we sat with our Mothers side
by side,
And listened to the story of the cross?

The Amen! corner where the Elders sat,
Solemn visaged as the Raven of Poe;
They prayed and shouted the terror
of Hell,
Til our young hearts quaked with woe

The dear old church stands desolate
and lone.
Her walls re-echo the names of
the dead;
The great, new church a monument
of love,
Where the teachings of Christ
are spread.

Poolesville stood sentry in the sixties,
'Twixt the Southern and
Northern hosts,
And many raids by the Rebel boys,
Were made on the Yankee posts.

O! The Ides of October, that bright
Sabbath eve,
All ye old folks remember so well,
Of Doctor Poole the Union
Colonel said,
Tomorrow we eat breakfast in
Leesburg, or hell.

Then bravely marching to
capture Leesburg,
Across both ferries to their doom,
From "Ball's Bluff" returning all
battered and torn,
When the Rebels shot holes in
their boom.

Men living now—were boys then,
Who will never forget the Rebel yell,
And the Union soldiers who fought
and died,
Carried that Echo with them to
heaven or hell.

But days that tried the souls of men,
Were banished by the Angel of Peace;
And Poolesville rose from the doubt
and dismay,
While happiness wrote a new lease.

Thy angle on map gives
business growth,
Commerce and fame reach farms
and hill;
The merchants push the electron
buttons of trade,
With léger-de-main and skill.

Other towns in old Montgomery land,
Tried to copy the Poolesville creed;
But Poolesville had her Willards and
Elgins, too,
Who showed them the meaning
of speed.

Then sing a song of the old town,
Let thy voices with accent rise;
For the glories of far famed Poolesville,
And her habitants great, good,
and wise.

1923

The Injunction

Thy fathers and mothers asleep in
the dust,
Their spirits transmit this message
to thee;
Love thy fellow man—keep faith
with God,
And live for all humanity.

We encourage our readers to help
fill in the mystery. Do you have
information or speculation about
our author? Do you have questions
about things he referred to in
the poem? We await your contribu-
tions and inquiries, and will try to fill
in the gaps

Fun Fact...

Poetry, spoken or written, predates other styles of literature

The spoken word and written
poetry are ancient art forms.
Mankind's oldest surviving
manuscript is from the Geometric
period (900–700BC). It was an epic
poem about the demigod and
Sumerian king, Gilgamesh, that
circulated from Mesopotamia,
Europe all the way to Asia, carved
on stone pillars. It goes to reason
that the first ever scripture was
based on verbal storytelling styles
that existed way before.

Remembrances

Alivia Gabrielle Tetlow

It is with deep sorrow and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved Alivia, who left us far too soon at the age of 25. Alivia passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family on January 14, 2025.

A cherished daughter, sister, granddaughter, niece, aunt, cousin, fiancée, and friend, Alivia brought light and joy to everyone who was fortunate enough to have known her. She embraced life with an adventurous spirit, always seeking new experiences and opportunities to create unforgettable memories. Her boundless energy, radiant smile, and kind heart touched everyone she met, leaving a lasting impact on her family, friends, and community.

Alivia lived her life to the fullest, embodying strength, compassion, and love. She found beauty in every moment and shared that beauty with those around her. Though her time with us was far too brief, her legacy of joy, courage, and love will live on in our hearts forever.

Alivia is deeply loved and will be profoundly missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to Make-A-Wish Foundation, Give Kids the World Foundation, or Alivia's Critical Medical Journey.



Alivia Gabrielle Tetlow

E. Allen Ahearn

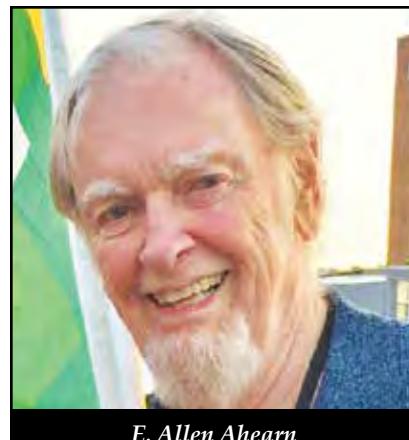
On January 3, 2025, Allen Ahearn died peacefully at home in Silver Spring of complications of myelofibrosis. He is survived by his dear wife, Nina Masson; daughters, Elizabeth Fisher (Martin) and Dyanne Ryan (John); sisters, Anne Hall (Kenneth) and Kathleen Lelis (Gunars); thirteen grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of fifty-five years, Patricia Ahearn; daughter, Suzanne Regan (Ralph); and son, E. Allen Ahearn, Jr.

After a long and distinguished career working as a Cost Analyst and Contract Negotiator for the Navy Department and Department of Defense, Allen "quit the government," as he liked to say, and worked a few years in Canada as a consultant before joining wife Pat full-time in the mid-1980s at the Quill & Brush, their bookshop and art gallery in Bethesda (originally established in 1976 in Olney, it continues to this day as an online store). They authored a number of well-respected reference works for booksellers and collectors together, including *Collected Books: The Guide to Identification and Values*.

Allen loved jazz, basketball, single-malt scotch, political roundtable talk shows (civilized or otherwise), holidays, poker, pets, and people. He was enormously grateful to have been lucky in love twice. At 6'-4" ("you can tell me I'm dying, Doc, just don't tell me I'm shrinking"), he was an affable and unmistakable presence at any gathering, with a great memory for stories and a terrific voice with which to tell them.

He had a zest for life, wringing every last drop of joy even while in the weeks-long process of dying, which he somehow managed to handle with his usual aplomb, perking up for adults and children alike ("Sorry not to get up, I'm having a bad day") and saying near the end, "I've never died before, so I'm not quite sure how to do it." As in most things, he did a truly fine job.

Allen was a man who no doubt made an indelible mark in ways he never knew. For that and so much more, he will be greatly missed by one and all.



E. Allen Ahearn

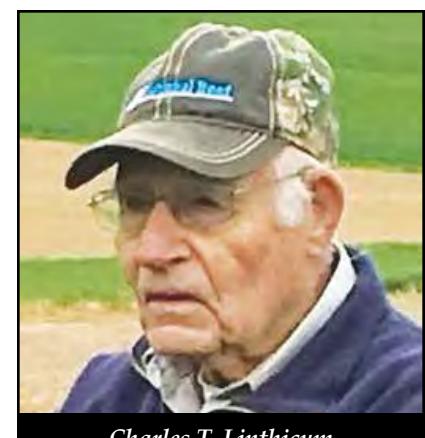
Charles T. Linthicum

Charles T. Linthicum, 99, of Laytonsville, passed away on January 19, 2025. He was the husband of the late D. Juanita Linthicum and a son of the late Charles G. and Ethel R. Linthicum.

Charles, lovingly known as Grandpa, touched the lives of many and will best be remembered for good conversations. He was a lifelong farmer. He was the oldest living charter member of the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, a former Montgomery County 4-H member/leader, Maryland 4-H All Star, past member of U.S. Ayrshire Breeders, past secretary/treasurer of Maryland/Delaware Ayrshire Breeders' Associations, member of MD & VA Milk Producers' Cooperative Association for over fifty years, past member of Maryland Dairy Shrine, and a Life Member of the Hyattstown Volunteer Fire Department. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Barnesville.

He is survived by son, Tom Linthicum (Paula); granddaughters, Abbey Wiggins (Latham) and Anna Hamilton (Connor); and great-granddaughters, Jolie and Charlie Kate Wiggins.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Charles's memory to St. Mary's Catholic Church, P.O. Box 67, Barnesville, MD 20838



Charles T. Linthicum



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Car Sickness Affects 35% of Dogs

Peter H. Eeg, DVM

One of the “nice” things about car sickness in dogs is that they do usually outgrow it — kind of like children.

Generally, I find that it resolves by the time the dog turns one, although this is not always the case, and sometimes it lasts for the pet’s lifetime.

Behavior modification can work but will take time and a lot of effort on the furry friends’ humans. Best to have a consult with your veterinarian or trainer.

Several pharmaceuticals are available.

The first drug of choice is Maropitant, often sold under the brand name, Cerenia.

The brand name Cerenia is highly effective when given at least two hours before a trip. It also lasts 24 hours. It may be considered pricey but is worth not having your furry canine pal vomit in your back seat (pets should never ride up front due to the airbag danger). Generics are available and tend to be more cost-effective, so it may be worth asking your vet for a prescription.

Maropitant is my favorite drug for combatting nausea that is secondary to motion or car rides, but there are other drugs you can try.

Diphenhydramine, or Benadryl, would be a potential option, although it is far less effective than Maropitant and can cause sedation. Lowering the car sickness sensation for your four-footed friend is great, but sleepiness isn’t necessarily ideal.

Dramamine can be considered. It is not labeled for use in dogs. Consult your veterinarian, not Dr. Google, for dosage recommendations.

It may also be worth trying things as simple as not feeding your dog before a trip so that they don’t have a meal or treats sitting in their stomach. If they vomit, there won’t be as much to clean up.

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