



# The Anneslie Times

A publication from the Anneslie Community Association

FALL 2022

## LOOK WHO TURNED

# 100!



At 100, Ruth Stahl has seen it all. **See Page 4**

## Ruth Stahl & Anneslie

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- ▶ Towson Times featured Anneslie's centennial. **Page 3**
- ▶ Writer Gary Almeter, the Bard of Anneslie, celebrates three book releases in one year. **Page 8**
- ▶ Local in Philadelphia Phillies minor leagues. **Page 10**
- ▶ Environmental News. **Page 14**
- ▶ President's Corner. **Page 15**



For 100, Anneslie looks pretty good. **See Page 6**

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**PRESIDENT:** Robert Fisher 410-206-4810  
president@anneslie.org

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Rob Hardesty 410-377-2074  
vicepresident@anneslie.org

**SECRETARY:** Julie Kromkowski 410-377-4254  
secretary@anneslie.org

**TREASURER:** Lisa Robey 410-377-4189  
treasurer@anneslie.org

### OTHER BOARD MEMBERS:

Julie Calkins	Ted Hull
Doug Donovan	Keith Klinger
Emily Dorman	Kristen McGuire
David Dymond	Beth Miller
Kate Feiring	Adam Rothwell

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Anneslie Community Association  
P.O. Box 39251  
Baltimore, MD 21212

Anneslie Times articles are written by ACA Board members unless otherwise noted.

### Trivia Question

What is the oldest town in Maryland?

See page 12 for the answer



## BLOCK CAPTAINS

**LIAISON:** Rachel Rock Palermo, rachel@rachelrockphotography.com

### ANNESLIE ROAD

**500** Elizabeth Almeter, 443-613-5515  
elizwalmart@yahoo.com

**600** Brandi and Will Knipscher,  
410-868-2291, b\_scher@hotmail.com

**700** Maria Brown, 410-377-7875  
marakibrown@yahoo.com

### DUNKIRK ROAD

**500** Kelly Montgomery, 410-218-5771  
kellymmontgomery@gmail.com

**600** Tom and Kristin Fan, 410-377-0409  
fanfamilybaltimore@gmail.com

**700** Gail Vernick, 410-377-2541  
burchardgnp@aol.com and  
Jesse Kaplin, 410-377-5039  
Kapeliah@yahoo.com

### MURDOCK ROAD

**500** Karen Buch, 410-377-3080  
kbuch@theimmaculate.org

**600** Mike Kahn, 410-878-1215  
monkworld@hotmail.com

**700** Jen Hudak, 410-868-6100  
jenniferhudak07@gmail.com

### OVERBROOK ROAD

**500** Amy and Fred Kline, 410-377-6392  
amykline@att.net

**600** Jarrod Wuderlich  
jarrodw10000@gmail.com

**700** CDelphine Everarts de Velp  
410-404-8729  
delphineeverarts@yahoo.com

### REGESTER AVENUE

**500** Ellen/Jim Sheridan  
410-377-3066

**600** Sue McGovern  
410-377-7948

**700** Beth Stiles  
707-459-0475

### WINDWOOD ROAD

**500** Ellen and Jim Sheridan, 410-377-3066  
veloellen@comcast.net

**600** Stephanie Dieter, 410-377-5168  
jjdandsbd@verizon.net

COVER PHOTO BY TED HULL  
NEWSLETTER DESIGNED  
BY GERRY FEY OF MURDOCK ROAD

# The Towson Times featured Anneslie's centennial

BY TONY ROBERTS

From The Towson Times

**A**nneslie, a neighborhood listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is celebrating its 100th anniversary on Sept. 17 with a community picnic in the 500 block of Dunkirk Road for dues-paying members of the Anneslie Community Association. This year's annual picnic will have food and drink, music and other activities.

The Anneslie neighborhood of about 500 homes is located in the Towson area, just north of the Baltimore City/County line. The neighborhood is a grid of five streets extending east from York Avenue and south from Regester Avenue.



## Article in the Towson Times

The community is built on what was once the 119-acre Villa Anneslie estate. The villa, built in 1855, still stands at 529 Dunkirk Road as a beautiful landmark in the center of the historic community and is a private residence.

The first houses in the neighborhood were built in 1922 and the neighborhood was mostly complete by the 1950s.

People in the community express their opinions, whether it's concerning a re-zoning dispute that may negatively impact the community or simply day-to-day, quality-of-life issues, said Robert Fisher, president of the Anneslie Community Association.

"Engaged, involved and neighborly would be just a few words to describe why Anneslie has withstood the test of time," said Fisher. "Not only do we have a very active community association, but residents are very passionate and proactive expressing their viewpoints about a wide range of topics."

The community association and its board of governors have been in existence since the 1940's. The volunteer board, together with other community



PHOTO BY DOUG DONOVAN

Gigi Allen Fisher and her band, High N Tight, played a concert on the porch of the Villa Anneslie to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Anneslie as a neighborhood.

volunteers, supports Anneslie in a variety of ways, including hosting several events each year, such as picnics, bowling, concerts, family movie nights and more. This fall, the neighborhood will also host an outdoor concert and a tree-planting event.

"We're a neighborhood that loves to gather socially for events," Fisher said. "Simply put, our board enjoys organizing events that bring people together, especially now that we're finally able to gather after a two-year hiatus."

On March 12, 2012, Anneslie joined nearby neighborhoods Rodgers Forge and Stoneleigh on the National Register of Historic Places, which allowed the neighborhood's homeowners to qualify for tax credits.



# At 100, Ruth Stahl has seen it all

## From a Rosie the Riveter to an Anneslie resident

BY CATHERINE LEHR

"People look at me and they just don't get it," says Ruth M. Stahl, a bemused expression on her face. "They don't know who Lindy is!"

Stahl leans forward from an armchair in her living room in the Overbrook Drive house where she has lived for more than six decades to explain that "Lindy" is the nickname for famous aviator Charles Lindbergh. There was a big picture of him on the kitchen calendar of her childhood home in Laurel Springs, N.J.

"Mother and I walked out in the backyard, and I held her hand, and we were watching for Lindy's plane, since that is when he was supposed to fly overseas," she recalls. That was in 1927.

At 100 years old, Ruth is the same age as Anneslie, which also celebrated its centennial in 2022. Such longevity has provided her with many memories of the past century's most pivotal moments, including Linbergh's transatlantic solo flight and an idyllic childhood upended by World War II.

One of her first pets was a goose that was "the same height as I was," she says. The goose would waddle out to greet her father when he came home from work. Goose eggs, colored by Ruth with crayons, decorated their rural home. Her father had been a railroad man since his youth and enjoyed a livelihood relatively unaffected by the Great Depression.

After briefly owning an early Ford (her mother was a better driver than her father), the family gave up on cars. They moved with her father's job to various towns in New Jersey and Pennsylvania that provided the freedom to walk to stores, to jobs and, most importantly to Ruth's dad, to school.

By the start of high school, they had moved



PHOTO BY CATHERINE LEHR

to Shamokin, Pa., where Ruth's younger brother would come home filthy from sliding down the hills of coal. War was on the horizon, and her father was directing troop trains for the Reading Railroad.

One of Ruth's first pets was a goose that was "the same height as I was," she says.

remembers how her fellow students brought her to the train station on her first day on campus to say goodbye to the "Fighting Forty."

"Forty men at the school all joined the Army," she says. "We went to the station, waved goodbye, and I don't have any idea of course how many of them survived."

She already knew one soldier who had deployed. Her fiance, Bob. The two had met in 1941 at Knoebel's Grove swim club in central Pennsylvania where Ruth's family had a summer cottage. When Bob enlisted in the Army after Pearl Harbor, he was sent to Australia as a cryptologist and volunteered to serve as a spy. But where was still a mystery to Ruth, who was now both a student and a defense worker.

She traveled by school bus to a factory in a neighboring town at 4 p.m. each day to work a four hour shift. "They gave every one of us a vision test, and I was the only near-sighted one," she says. "So I was a spot-welder."

Ruth, her classmates, and "a whole bunch of Pennsylvania housewives" were working together

to Shamokin, Pa., where Ruth's younger brother would come home filthy from sliding down the hills of coal. War was on the horizon, and her father was directing troop trains for the Reading Railroad.

Ruth was entering adulthood just as the U.S. was entering World War II. She attended Loch Haven State Teachers College, and



as a critical part of the war effort known as Rosie the Riveters. Specifically, they were constructing components of proximity fuses: a vital innovation during World War II developed at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. The fuse allowed an explosive to detonate near its target without striking it. "It was considered the second most effective weapon after the atom bomb," she says.

The 56-cents-an-hour salary was enough for Ruth to pay for her final three years of college, even after tuition was increased – by about a dime!

Back in her college dorm room each night, Ruth slept beneath a map of the Philippines she had tacked to her wall.

"I figured out that if they were ever going to beat the Japanese they would have to use the Philippines," she says. "I was real proud of myself [for figuring it out]."

Bob was indeed in the Philippines.

Ruth remembers Bob calling her upon his return home to San Francisco on April 12, 1945, the same day President Roosevelt died.

Instead of acting ecstatic that Bob had returned, she said, "Oh hi, so you're home. Did you hear about President Roosevelt?"

"We were married five days later."

It was a simple wedding at an Episcopal church in Shamokin. Ruth wore a powder blue suit. Afterward, they honeymooned in New York City for a week, seeing the shows Oklahoma and Harvey on Broadway, and staying in a hotel paid for by Ruth's father and his colleagues.

The couple moved to Bethlehem, Pa., where Bob studied civil engineering at Lehigh University and Ruth taught kindergarten.

An engineering job for Bob led the couple to Baltimore in 1955 where he would work on the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel and other projects. After looking at about "a hundred houses" they bought their Overbrook Drive home for \$21,000 on April 6, 1959, according to land records. It was the perfect home for the couple and their three children—



PHOTO PROVIDED BY RUTH STAHL

Ruth traveled by school bus to a factory in a neighboring town at 4 p.m. each day to work a four hour shift during World War II.

Debby, Rob, and little Holly.

Once they settled in, they "took up square dancing, which is the best way in the world to get to know people. It was a real icebreaker for us."

Debby, the oldest child, enrolled at Stoneleigh Elementary school. The children loved the freedom that their large backyard allowed. Ruth stayed at home while Bob worked long hours. But while the early years in Anneslie were filled with happy times, they were marred by one great tragedy.

In January 1963, Holly was in first grade at Stoneleigh Elementary. She had just celebrated her sixth birthday with a small party with friends and was excited to walk home alone from school. But when she re-

turned on the first day without being accompanied by a sibling, her legs were covered in bruises and she felt ill. It was the first sign of a blood-clotting disorder that landed Holly at Union Memorial Hospital for the next several months for treatments.

"I went to visit her every day," says Ruth. "I carried her down the hall so she could wave at the children in the other cubicles." Holly was able to come home for only a brief time. In April 1963, despite much hope that she would recover, Holly died. She was buried over Palm Sunday weekend, Ruth says. .

Six-year-old Holly, dressed in a red jumper, still smiles from a picture in Ruth's living room.

In later years, Ruth and Bob drove hundreds of thousands of miles across the United States and Canada in their large camper. Bob passed away in 2003, but she still owns the motorhome, a site of so many happy memories. Ruth enjoys visits from her daughter Debby, who lives in St. Louis with her husband and recently came home for Ruth's birthday. Her son Rob and his wife live a short walk away on Walker Avenue.

When asked the secret to living to be 100, Ruth stops to think. "I think if you live moderately and modestly, I'm sure it helps you to live longer."

# An Eye on Anneslie

## Ted Hull snapped photos of all 493 houses for neighborhood centennial

BY DOUG DONOVAN

To get quality photographs of each one of Anneslie's 493 houses (494, once a new build is done) to fill a poster celebrating the neighborhood's 100 years, Ted Hull snapped 550 photos over 17 days this summer.

The result: the "Anneslie Centennial 1922-2022" poster featuring all but one of the houses (one owner asked not to be included). It can be purchased for \$25 through the community website.

"I spent about 12 hours shooting pictures, 18 hours editing them, and about five hours sorting them for the final layout," said Hull, a member of the Anneslie Community Association's board of governors.

Beginning in August, Hull photographed one side of a street each day starting at 12:30 p.m. "to ensure the sun would be overhead" to complement his flash – which overheated and shut down on two of the longest days of shooting.

Post production involved about two minutes adjusting each photo for shadows, contrast, cropping and other elements.

"It was definitely challenging remaining on the sidewalk (to stay on public right of way) and shooting around some of the trees on people's front yards," Hull said.

Board members and former ACA president Scott McGovern had been pushing for the poster project for years. "The centennial seemed like the ideal time to attack the project," said Hull, an Anneslie resident since 2004 who has been photographing community events for 14 years.

Once the photos were in, fellow board member, David Dymond, quickly designed the layout of the pictures on the poster. The houses are arranged on the poster as if you were looking at an overhead map of Anneslie – the Regester Avenue houses begin at the top row (the neighborhood's northern border) and the bottom row is Windwood (Anneslie's southern border).

Hull said the project reiterated his opinion of Anneslie as "a diverse mix of down to earth people" – nearly all of whom didn't mind his presence.

"Everyone has common values of respect, tolerance, and care for their neighbors," he said.



PHOTO BY DOUG DONOVAN

Ted took a picture of your house for this poster. Buy one and find your house!





# Let's Celebrate Us!

Gigi Allen Fisher and her band, High N Tight, rocked beneath the stars on the porch of the Villa Anneslie with a powerful performance that brought audience members to their feet to dance the gorgeous grounds of the neighborhood's gated historic treasure. While the concert honored the 100th anniversary of Anneslie as a neighborhood, the Villa itself is much older – this year marked the 167th anniversary of its Italianate Style building by architect John Rudolph Niersee. The Villa Anneslie is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Maryland Historical Trust, which identify construction as taking place in 1855.

PHOTOS BY TED HULL





# The Bard of Anneslie

## Writer Gary Almeter celebrates three book releases in one year

BY DOUG DONOVAN

*(Editor's Note: With apologies to pages 18 to 25 of Gary Almeter's novel, Kissing the Roadkill Back to Life, and his semi-autobiographical Curriculum Vitae.)*

My neighbor is a father and a husband. My neighbor was a city solicitor. My neighbor is a humorist. My neighbor was a lawyer for "major Japanese automotive manufacturers" (aka car makers). My neighbor is a sneaky good pickleball player who despises pickles. My neighbor is a "legal content writer" and "legal landscape monitor" for a company you've never heard of in Atlanta. My neighbor is (was) a marathon "runner" (five times, allegedly). My neighbor is a talented résumé writer who publishes thought leadership articles on thoughts about being a follower of the law.

My neighbor was an attorney for "businesses large and small." My neighbor was a commercial litigator and someone who knows a "wide variety" of "torts." (Or is it tarts?) My neighbor was a clerk for an at-large judge (catch him!) on the Maryland Court of Special Appeals (now rebranded as the New & Improved, Voter-Approved Appellate Court of Maryland!) My neighbor is an English teacher. My neighbor was an "assistant development editor of law school casebooks and ancillary texts." My neighbor is a law school graduate. My neighbor is a member of "the bar." My neighbor is a novelist. My neighbor is a memorist. My neighbor is a journalist. My neighbor is an editor.

My neighbor is a writer.

My neighbor – our neighbor – is Gary Almeter.



Author Gary Almeter

And he's all those things; And so much more. Well, maybe not "so much," but definitely a few more other things. One of those things: busy.

Almeter published three books in 2022. He penned the novel *Kissing the Roadkill Back to Life* and a humorous volume called *The Official Dream Dinner Party Handbook: If you could have dinner with anyone, living or dead, who do you pick? How do you choose? And how can it all go terribly wrong?* He also co-edited a story collection called *A Lovely Place, A Fighting Place, A Charmer: The Baltimore Anthology*.

The Anneslie Times caught up with the lovely, brawling charmer himself near his Anneslie Avenue home. To get to know him better (so you won't have to when you run into him) the AT offers this Q&A.

### **Have you always been a writer?**

GA: That's a very interesting question, Doug. The short answer is yes. I will always remember the time my 5th grade teacher, Mrs.

Donnelly, stopped reading papers, got all my classmates' attention, and asked me, "Gary, are there times when you sit down with a pen in your hand and feel like you just have to write something?" and she emphasized the "just have" to part. And I said, "yes." And she said, "Well it shows." And then she read whatever sentence I had written to the whole class. So the short answer is, "yes. I Have always been a writer" But have I always written? No. It takes a while to be able to say "I'm a writer."

### **What was the first fiction/humor/essay you published?**

GA: It was a list in McSweeney's called "Alternate, and Ultimately Rejected, Titles Suggested by Pat Benatar's Record Company for her Opus 'Love is a Battlefield' in Reverse Order of Rejection." Published February 14, 2014. This was after months and months and months of rejection. Seeing my

name in McSweeney's was euphoric; announcing to the world "hey read this!" was a whole thing too.

**Which book of yours do you most want people to read?**

GA: I am so proud of *The Emperor of Ice-Cream*, my 2019 memoir. I think definitely that one with the caveat that there is a modicum of cursing in it.

**What books are on your night stand?**

GA: I just bought Rob Delaney's *A Heart that Works*. So that's there. But there's a constant cycle of kindle books from Baltimore County Library's Libby system that are always there too. I also just finished a retelling of *David Copperfield* called *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver that was great. I have never read *David Copperfield*, have never read any Dickens except for *A Christmas Carol*, and think I should so that's there too. But it's over 1,000 pages so it's going to be a big commitment. I've also never read Don DeLillo's *White Noise* and that's on my nightstand.

**Is there a moment as a lawyer when you said: that's enough. I need to be a writer full time now.**

GA: There's that thing of when the Powerball hits this certain threshold and everyone in the office pitches in and the office manager gets a bunch of tickets. And someone says, "If we win this thing I'm still coming into work tomorrow," and everyone nods in agreement until one person – usually Stacy from Accounts Payable – says, "Have fun, I'm outta here." Then everyone nods in agreement with Stacy. But if I ever sold a million books and didn't have to work I think I still would though. I am really lucky. After practicing law for enough years, I joined a start-up company and get to do legal writing but with a tinge of creative writing. It's great.

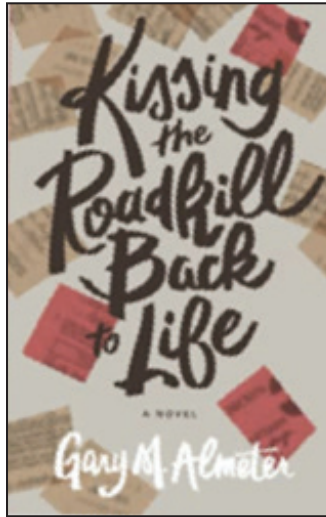
**Which writers — novelists, playwrights, critics, journalists, poets — working today do you admire most?**

GA: I will always read anything and everything Michael Chabon writes. There's a guy named S.A.

Cosby who writes heist books set in rural Virginia that are so good. That's great when you feel like you discover someone and then you see they have other books and you can't wait to read those, too. David Sedaris, Teddy Wayne, Alexandra Petri, and Simon Rich are great humor writers. Joyce Carol Oates is from Buffalo so I always read her.

**What books, if any, most contributed to your artistic development?**

GA: There's a book called *House* by Tracy Kidder written in the 1980s that I read. It was so simple – a year in the life of a couple in Massachusetts building a house – and it was so good. That was the book that made me realize that anything can be interesting, anything can be a book, anything can be riveting if the writer makes it so. *The Preppy Handbook* by Lisa Bernback had a satirical tone that I enjoy. Mario Puzo's *The Fourth K* wasn't a great book but the idea that a writer could manufacture a Kennedy for literary purposes stuck with me.



**Is there a great book that you think you should have read but which you have not read AND that you've lied about having read it? Other than any books of the bible.**

GA: I've never read *Moby Dick* and probably should have as an English major and former English teacher. I've never lied about reading *Moby Dick* but I may have nodded in agreement during cocktail chatter when someone opined on Ishmael or Captain Ahab or whatever else is going on there. Which might be a lie by omission?

**This should be easy given your most recent book: you're throwing a literary dinner party for local authors only. Who do you invite, dead or alive?**

GA: Easy. Doug Donovan. Edgar Allen Poe. And Anne Tyler.

**Do you read any genres you're ashamed of?**

GA: No. Reading is supposed to be fun. So if it's fun, I read it unashamedly.

# FIGHTIN' WOODWARD

## Dunkirk resident pursues quest to pitch for the Philadelphia Phillies

BY DOUG DONOVAN

Just as the Phillies forged an improbable path to this year's World Series, Anneslie resident J.P. Woodward has been following a similar route toward the Major Leagues – transforming himself from an unremarkable “pudgy” pitcher at Boys Latin years ago into a muscular southpaw hurler in Philadelphia's farm system today.

The Phillies' championship pursuit, while impressive, did not end in victory. But Woodward is just two years into his pursuit to one day take the mound for the Fightin' Phils.

“The World Series run was definitely motivating,” said Woodward, 24. “I want to be pitching for the Phillies.”

For now, he must continue to prove himself for the Jersey Shore Blue Claws, Philadelphia's High A minor league affiliate in Lakewood, N.J. As a 6-foot-6, 215-pound left-handed pitcher, Woodward is a rare commodity on any pitching rotation in the majors, where the average size is just below 6 foot 3, 210 pounds, according to DriveLineBaseball.com.

But getting to The Show requires another season-long slog of long bus trips and homestands over 132 games to seize each chance he gets to stand out from the competition – who also happen to be his teammates and friends.

“You're all competing to move up but you're also teammates and you want to win games,” Woodward said.

While the dream of pitching in the majors is a

longshot under normal circumstances, Woodward is used to performing beyond expectations.

J.P. was never a natural athlete. He tried multiple different sports in the Towson Rec league, never standing out at any – including baseball, said his father, John Woodward of Dunkirk Road.

“J.P. was always pudgy,” the elder Woodward said. “And he wasn't the most coordinated.”

Even when J.P. settled on baseball, pitching emerged only as a default position.

“His bat was a piece of [crap] and he was slow,” John Woodward said. “That's how he ended up pitching. He was a lefty, too. What do you do with lefties? You make them pitch.”

Once he found the right position, J.P. became determined to excel. But he didn't attend camps or showcases. “He literally just has been self determined and driven,” his dad said. “He doesn't let anything get in his way.”

Bill Greenwell, head varsity coach of Boys Latin School's baseball team, said J.P. was nothing special when he expressed interest in playing for the North Baltimore private school.

“When I worked him out as an eighth grader, I could have caught him without a glove,” Greenwell said. “He was not one of our top players.”

Still, J.P.'s desire and work ethic made him stand out.

“I could tell that he really wanted it, even at that age,” the coach said.

As a relief pitcher, J.P. didn't work into the team rotation regularly until his junior year, when he pitched 15 innings, and his senior year, when he pitched 17, Greenwell said.

“His problem was he didn't throw enough strikes,” he added. “He was tough to hit but he would get himself into trouble with walks.”

Still, during practices, “J.P. was a pitcher the other



PHOTO COURTESY PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES  
J.P. Woodward currently plays for the Jersey Shore Blue Claws, in the Phillies' minor league system.





PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WOODWARD FAMILY

Boys Latin won three of the four MIAA B Conference championships it played in during J.P.'s time there.

guys didn't want to face because he was tough to hit. They didn't know if he was going to hit them."

The team won three of the four MIAA B Conference championships it played in during J.P.'s time at Boys Latin.

"When he was with us his pitches topped out at 80 m.p.h.," Greenwell said. "He couldn't figure it out and we couldn't get him where he needed to be."

At the time, J.P. was still growing. He was 5 foot 11 in junior year, his father said. "Then he exploded to six-five and then six-six," he said. He even lost 30 pounds.

"I was a real late bloomer," J.P. said.

Despite the challenges with his speed and control, J.P.'s desire remained undimmed, Greenwell said.

J.P. entered Lafayette College on academic merit to study economics. He wasn't convinced he wanted to stick with baseball. But he decided to take a chance and called the coach of the Division 1 baseball team.

When Lafayette's baseball coach called Greenwell about J.P., the Boys Latin skipper emphasized J.P.'s determined, tireless work ethic.

"The coach there said J.P. hadn't done a whole lot

for us but he was a tall left hander and he wanted to give him a shot," Greenwell said. "It's what J.P. did with that opportunity that got him to where he is today."

What J.P. did was earn his way onto the 35-man roster for Lafayette's baseball team as a walk-on, bumping two other players who had been recruited to play at the Pennsylvania college.

It wasn't until J.P.'s second year at Lafayette that his father realized how quickly his son was improving. He had already become a closer and was on his way to becoming a starting pitcher in his junior year, hitting speeds of 93 m.p.h.

His dad remembers one game against High Point when a couple Major League Baseball scouts were in attendance. "He got shelled," John Woodward said. "He got his [butt] handed to him."

But as the season went on, "J.P. started blowing fire," his dad said. He and J.P.'s mom, Erin, knew they could no longer ignore the fact that an economics degree may not be the only result of their son's time at Lafayette.

At the last game of the season, against Towson

**CONTINUED PAGE 12**

University, “there were 11 scouts at the fence.”

“They were all there to see J.P.,” Mr. Woodward said.

It was March 2020, just as the World Health Organization had declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Shut-downs spread across the United States, including for the baseball season.

Due to pandemic-driven cost cutting measures, Major League Baseball held a draft of only five rounds instead of the customary 40 rounds.

The draft took place over two days, June 10-11, a Wednesday and Thursday. J.P. and his girlfriend joined his parents watching the event on ESPN at their Dunkirk home. The phone did not ring until the second night. It was the Pittsburgh Pirates. The team was considering selecting J.P. in the fourth round. But the offer was no better than if he went undrafted and signed later with a team.

“Teams were trying to get steals for no money,” Mr. Woodward said.

Then the Chicago White Sox called with a real deal. “He said, ‘Hell, yes,’” the father said. “But it didn’t end up working out.”

Teams were not able to call any players until Sunday, two days after the draft. Between 9 and 11 a.m. that morning, J.P. received 10 phone calls from teams feeling out the young pitcher. With nothing solid offered, the family decided to enjoy a distraction.

“We all went to the Stoneleigh pool,” Woodward said.

As J.P. jumped into the deep end off the diving board, his parents and girlfriend took turns watching the cell phone. After a pleasant day at the pool

with no phone calls, the family returned to Dunkirk. Then, at around 5:30 p.m., the Phillies called. By about 9 p.m. a deal had been struck and officially announced on June 16, 2020, according to the team’s website.

“We literally kicked back and were all like, ‘Holy [crap] did this just really happen?’” Mr. Woodward said.

Due to his accumulation of A.P. credits from high school, J.P. was able to remotely complete his bachelor’s degree in economics by December 2020 and turn all his attention to spring training in 2021 in Clearwater, Fla. He started in the Low-A division in

April before getting promoted to the High A Blue Claws within two months.

The team competes in the South Atlantic League’s North division and travels mostly by bus between New York and North Carolina to challenge the minor league squads of the New York Mets and Yankees, the Baltimore Orioles, the Washington Nationals and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

His four-seam fastball had been his go-to pitch, but the Phillies quickly disavowed him of the notion with data to prove why it wouldn’t succeed in the Major Leagues. “They wanted me to throw a sinker,” he said. “Now I’m a true sinker baller.”

His 2022 earned-run average, or ERA, was 6.8 – not a great statistic. “I had an unlucky year,” he said. “I gave up more bloop hits, broken bat hits. On the surface the ERA is bad, but it’s better than it looked.”

“Next year,” he added, “I have to bring it all together. Be more consistent. And use that sinker to get more weak outs.”



PROMOTIONAL BLUE CLAWS PHOTO

Woodward’s 2022 earned-run average, or ERA, was 6.8 – not a great statistic. “I had an unlucky year,” he said.



## Trivia Answer

The answer to the trivia question is:

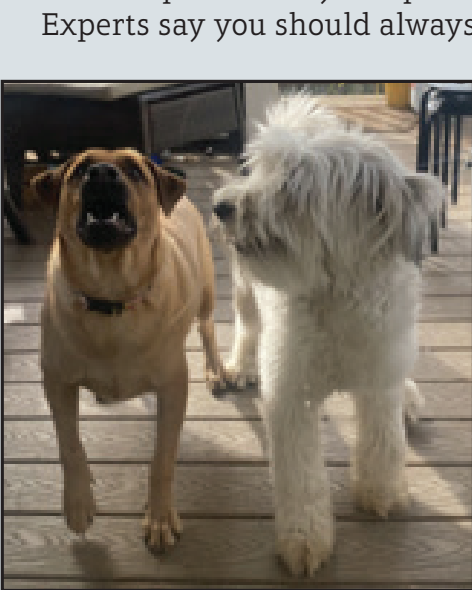
**St. Mary’s City, Founded by Leonard Calvert on March 27, 1634**

St. Mary’s City is the historic site of the founding of the Colony of Maryland (then called the Province of Maryland). The original settlement was also the fourth oldest permanent English settlement in the United States.



# Excessive Dog Barking: What to do?

I filed a complaint on my dog for her excessive barking at night. While I don't think she exceeded the parameters detailed below from the Baltimore County Code, Frankie was downright annoying and deserves some consequences. My neighbors are too nice to say so. But I'm not. I want to see just what the county does in response to my complaint.



Experts say you should always talk to your neighbor before filing a complaint. That's what I did. I talked to myself as Frankie's primary caretaker, and I agreed to try to do more to prevent the barking.

But, I failed. We spoke again, as experts advise, before I filed the complaint. Convinced I wasn't going to do much more than I had already done, I filed a complaint on my lazy self.

The online complaint form can be found here: [Baltimorecountymd.gov/report-problem#/](http://Baltimorecountymd.gov/report-problem#/) under the category of "Pets and Animals Issues." Then select the sub-category of "excessive barking." The website said I'd get information about how to curb the barking. So I'm hoping for more helpful tips than what I've found online so far.

For more information you can read the Baltimore County Code's Article 12, which contains all of the animal laws and fines, including details on excessive barking. To contact Animals Services, call 410-887-PAWS (option 4). But do not contact police for excessive barking

complaints.

## § 12-6-106. - EXCESSIVE NOISE.

*Definition. For the purposes of this section, "unreasonable noise" means noise from an animal of sufficient loudness, character, and duration that exceeds a level of 60 dba during daytime hours between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., or 50 dba during nighttime hours between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.*

## No Plastic Bags For Yard, Recyclable Waste

"Plastic bags—even if marked recyclable—are not accepted in the County's recycling program.

Plastic bags of any type must not be used to set out recyclables for collection. These bags jam machinery at the single stream sorting facility. Many grocery stores will accept clean, dry plastic bags for recycling." ...

"County regulations require that yard materials set out for separate 'Y' day collection must be placed in heavy-duty paper lawn and leaf bags or bundled with non-plastic string. For these set-outs, plastic bags will not be accepted."

— **Baltimore County government**

## ON THE BLOCKS

### Welcome new neighbors!

- 513 Windwood Road  
Julia Marciari-Alexander

---

- 523 Windwood Road  
Andrea Marsh; Jason Rubin

---

### 500 Anneslie

- In June 2022, Matt Umland and Jesse Vasques (518) welcomed Jules to the family!



# Where Do Our Storm Drains Lead?

I recently gathered the colorful fall leaves along the curb to put in my compost bin. Not only will I have black gold after the leaves decompose to rich soil, those leaves will also no longer be washed into our storm drains when it rains.

Our storm drains in Anneslie are piped to the nearest stream, then to the Herring Run, to Back River and ultimately to the Chesapeake Bay. Whatever goes into the storm drain goes into our streams and the Bay.

## HERE IS A LIST OF WHAT GOES INTO ANNESLIE'S STORM DRAINS:

**1. Rainwater that does not get absorbed** by the ground or captured by the trunks and leaves of trees flows onto the street and down the storm drain. Our roads, driveways, rooftops, patios and sidewalks cannot absorb water. These are called "impervious surfaces." Even turfgrass lawns absorb very little water. This "stormwater" enters streams from the storm drain system. Heavy rains pour into our streams in high volumes and rapid speeds eroding the stream banks and flooding nearby natural and manmade areas. Organic matter in the eroded soils from the stream banks contributes nutrient pollution to open waterways.

**2. Chemicals such as pesticides**, fertilizers, oils, heavy metals and de-icing salts are washed into the storm drains from yards, roads, roofs, sidewalks, etc. These pollutants kill fish and other wildlife in streams.

**3. Leaves and dirt that collect** in the gutter get washed into the storm drain, polluting our streams with more nutrient rich decaying matter. They can even build up at the storm drain entrance and cause flooding in the next storm.

**4. Trash that is dropped on streets** and sidewalks gets washed into the storm drain and then

into the streams and the Bay.

**5. Dog feces that are left out on the lawn** or in plastic bags that are dropped on the street go on to pollute our streams with bacteria and rotting nutrients.

**6. Anything else that people pour** or throw into the storm drain all goes to the stream and the Bay.



## WHAT CAN WE DO TO KEEP OUR STREAMS AND THE BAY CLEAN? HERE ARE SOME SIMPLE STEPS:

**1. Plant trees, shrubs** and garden beds in our yards. A rain garden that is slightly depressed will collect rain until it can be absorbed.

### 2. Disconnect your downspouts

if they are piped to the street and redirect the water from your roof into a rain barrel, concrete splash block, swale or rain garden.

**3. Stabilize slopes** that might otherwise erode with terraces and native plants.

**4. Use permeable paving** such as bricks, flagstones or interlocking stones set in sand for new patios or walkways instead of impervious materials like blacktop or concrete.

**5. Limit or eliminate chemicals** applied to yards, plants, driveways and sidewalks.

**6. Remove autumn leaves** and other debris from the street. Organize your block to keep storm drains clear.

**7. Pick up trash on sidewalks** and streets. Join our annual stream clean-up of the Herring Run in the spring.

**8. Pick up after pets**, even in your own yard.

**9. Teach the children.** They are learning from us to protect the health of our waterways and to help keep all our families safe.

For more information and tips see [https://mda.maryland.gov/resource\\_conservation/Documents/tip3.pdf](https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Documents/tip3.pdf)

# 24 New Trees Usher in Anneslie's 100th Year

Congratulations to our neighbors who planted trees this fall through Anneslie's annual partnership with Blue Water Baltimore! The Class of 2022 holds the honor of the largest number of trees planted by Blue Water Baltimore in Anneslie in one year. With care, these trees will provide clean air, absorb storm-water, and cool and beautify our neighborhood for many years to come.

These are all trees that are native to Maryland, growing in the mid-Atlantic region of the United States since before European settlement.

## THE TREE SPECIES PLANTED INCLUDE:

- Black Tupelo
- Flowering Dogwood
- Hackberry
- Persimmon
- Redbud
- Sassafras
- Serviceberry
- Shumard Oak
- Swamp White Oak
- Sweetbay Magnolia
- White Pine



Volunteers and Blue Water Baltimore employees planted 24 trees on October 5, 2022

Native plants are vital to the food web that supports our local ecosystems – which include the butterflies, moths and bees that are pollinators – as well as the songbirds and other wildlife that share our neighborhood. Nearly all butterflies and moths can only lay their eggs on the plants they have co-evolved with for millions of years. These eggs become the caterpillars that feed baby birds.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

# Fun Times Return – At A Cost

BY ROBERT FISHER

Since our last newsletter in early 2022 we've had a lot of fun as a Board planning events, getting back to more "normal" times. Family Movie Night featuring "Goonies," our community Cornhole Tourney, Anneslie's Centennial Picnic and the Concert Under the Stars at the Villa were just a few of the events we were able to organize so both new residents and long-time



residents could get together once again.

If you were able to attend our annual meeting last month you already know that after much debate and consideration our Board members voted to increase our community association annual dues for non-seniors from \$25 to \$35, but left dues for our senior residents at \$10.

The decision was driven by a few

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

different factors. As everyone has noticed, virtually everything costs more than it did just a year or two ago. And it's been at least 15 years since the last increase. For our community association, even mundane yet important expenses like liability insurance and website hosting are more expensive. At the time, events like the annual picnic have become more costly. Also, we've seen a significant dip in the percentage of households paying dues. About five years ago 60% of households paid annual dues, but that percentage dipped significantly down to 30% during the pandemic.

## 'Dues Paying Members Get Discount Card'

In 2020, we made a decision as a Board not to advocate for people to pay their dues during that time. We thought requesting dues from residents during a frankly dark and melancholy time would have been completely tone deaf and out of touch with the reality of life during Covid. We figured there were much more important things going on in everyone's life and we weren't hosting as many events that required funding. We hoped dues membership would rebound strongly this year as more events were offered. But we've only reached 43% participation. While our financial position is still very healthy, we're being mindful of our reserves for occasional expenses like banner replacements and sign maintenance. In addition to our PayPal option we're also rolling out an auto pay option for your convenience. Don't forget, all dues payers receive discount cards to use at many small busi-

nesses in the area.

Lastly, if you attended our annual community association meeting or any of the local meetings the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) has hosted over the last few months, you're aware a very large scale mass transit project on the western edge of our neighborhood is a possibility as part of the state's 25-year plan for improving public transportation in Central Maryland. I have posted a link to their survey at the end of this piece. There are seven different options, five of them have routes along York road. The York Road possibilities are bus rapid transit, light rail transit and heavy rail transit. I have spoken with friends who have lived close to light rail routes in Baltimore city and they have all mentioned noise pollution in the form of screeching steel wheels and axles and unresolved traffic congestion as two of the biggest concerns. Along an already very crowded and frankly dangerous corridor (the 35 mph speed limit being a mere suggestion) I have very significant concerns how a light rail system taking up at least one of the mostly four lanes of York Road would improve our quality life. I implore EVERYONE to take the survey to make your opinions and positions known.

In closing, wishing everyone happy holidays and recommend a stroll around the neighborhood to enjoy the festive light displays across Anneslie. As always, if you have any questions and/or concerns feel free to reach out to me.

— **Robert Fisher** *President@anneslie.org*

<https://rtpcorridors.com/index.php/northsouth/alternatives>



## 2022 EVENTS

Please visit the Anneslie Community Association website and Facebook page for updates on event dates and times as scheduling will be determined as vaccinations increase. For now, here are tentative events, including the approximate dates for some:

DATE	EVENT	CHAIR
December 12	Santa's Visit	Ted Hull
December 20-21	Holiday Home Decorating Contest Judging	



# In Memoriam: Doris “Dody” May Bearry Wagner

## A Neighborhood Treasure

Anneslie lost a neighborhood treasure in the passing of Doris (“Dody”) May Bearry Wagner more than a year ago on Nov. 13, 2021, at age 91. She died peacefully in her home, her ultimate wish granted.

Dody lived just about half her life in the neighborhood. She and her beloved late husband of 54 years, Paul Daniel Wagner (July 24, 2009), whom she had met while working at the YMCA, moved to Anneslie in 1977. She was the devoted mother of three daughters, six grandchildren and one great grandchild, all of whom she adored – and who adored her. Family vacations to the Outer Banks were some of the countless highlights of their lives.

Born in Dundalk to Roy and Elizabeth Bearry, Doris Bearry had one sister, Betty Jane Hill. A member of the Towson United Methodist Church for decades, Dody loved to volunteer in the church nursery, and knitted hats for newborns into her 80’s.

Ask any person in Anneslie who knew her and they will concur: Dody was the epitome of good-neighborliness. She had a smile and a wave for everyone passing by her home at 710 Anneslie Rd. Min, a neighbor of Dody’s since the 1980s, says, “I picture her always looking very well-dressed sitting on the porch in her white butterfly chair . . . She was just a lovely person and I always enjoyed our visits.”

Rita Liu met Dody and Paul when she moved across the street from them 23 years ago.

“They had a huge interest in other people – not what they did but who they were,” Rita said. She described Dody as confident and tolerant of other

peoples’ beliefs while still being certain of her own beliefs. Once, when admiring their surroundings, Rita remembers Dody describing their street as, “abundant.” Rita says, “When you are abundant, you are able to enjoy, to appreciate, to understand more. You are able to embrace . . . That’s

because Dody was abundant; she was so rich, so full of life.”

Gretchen Maneval and Eric Haber’s sons were 9 and 2 when they moved next door in 2014.

“They just adored Dody,” Gretchen says. “She was always so soft-spoken and kind and gentle with them . . . She’d had a little dish of chocolate for them; she had a little stack of children’s books.” Gretchen appreciated her visits with Dody, too. “We loved her,” she said. “Such a kind spirit, a very generous soul. And also a very dry, quick wit with a sparkle in her eye! She shared a lot of wisdom, life perspective. You’d have a casual conversation with her and you’d come away feeling very

honored for that time with her.”

Dody was determined to live in her Anneslie home until the end. Combined with her fortitude, and the loving support of her daughters – Tracie Bartlett (Gary) of Towson; Laurie Mallot (Steve), Barrie Brown (Doug) of Ocean City, Md. – she succeeded. The “girls” took turns bringing groceries, taking her to doctor’s appointments, visiting often and more. Most importantly, they kept her company in person and by phone – lifelines that meant so much, especially during the pandemic.

“They are really good daughters; it’s because Dody was a good mother,” Rita said. Perhaps Dody’s greatest legacy for Anneslie is reminding us how to be a good parent, a kind neighbor, and a caring human being.

– *Algerina Perna*



## ON THE BLOCKS

### 500 Overbrook

- We are deeply saddened by the passing away of Kelly Shay of 501 Overbrook. Kelly had beautiful gardens and was often seen walking with her husband, Jim. Our condolences go out to Kelly's family.
- Congratulations to Julia Baran of 517 Overbrook! Julia graduated from the Park School in June and is a freshman at George Washington University.
- Check out the Little Library outside the Bailey home at 519 Overbrook. The bottom shelf has fantastic children's books and the top is devoted to adults. Look inside for other occasional treats and check out the front porch for additional books. Happy Reading!
- The Klines at 525 are mourning the loss of their sweet dog, Bonnie. Bonnie was an active therapy pet through Pets on Wheels, working at Holly Hill Nursing Home, Charter Living of Towson and various school and college events. She will be missed by many.
- Wedding bells rang this past June at the Brown home, 531 Overbrook. Bethany Brown married Matt Kozak at the Cylburn Arboretum. After a honeymoon in Costa Rica, the newlyweds are settling down locally. Congratulations!

### 700 Overbrook

- 705 Overbrook Rd, the kids Stephen and Matthew Coleman held a yard sale on 10/8 to raise money for an injured sea turtle at the National Aquarium, named Kai. They raised a little over \$300. Last year, they raised \$2,000 for Kai. This year, their goal is to raise \$4,000 and give half to the aquarium and the other half to the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center in Surf City, North Carolina. They plan to have more yard sales in the future.
- Happy First Birthday to baby Oliver Henry Charrest, who was born on New Years Eve 2021.

### 500 Windwood

- 513 Windwood Road
- Julia Marciari-Alexander (Hyphenated)  
443 540 -9077
- 523 Windwood Road Jason Rubin 410 -802-8744  
Andrea Marsh 202-288- 3101

### 500 Murdock

- New neighbors at 512 Murdock Rd: Amy and Nick Velich, and two daughters Maisie, 4, and Marcella, 1.
- 513 Murdock Rd. Martha and Steve Sullivan. Two dogs Ursula and Butternut. They have two grown sons.
- 518 Murdock Rd Annabel Joice got accepted to Stevenson University, which is high on her list.
- Sarah Feiss had a personal best this Fall in the Emerald Isle, NC marathon. She is super speedy!

### 500 Anneslie

- In June 2022, Matt Umland and Jesse Vasques (518) welcomed Jules to the family
- Looking forward to meeting new neighbors at 531 Anneslie.

### 600 Anneslie

- Ernesto and Diana at 637 Anneslie welcomed their first grandchild, a granddaughter Violeta Belén, born on 6/23/22.
- We welcome our new neighbors at 621. We look forward to meeting Faith and Joe in person soon!

### 700 Anneslie

- The 700 block of Anneslie welcomes our new neighbor Henrik Thomas Johnson, 7 pounds 13 ounces, born on June 28. Wishing all the best to Henrik and his family!





PHOTO BY PHOTOS BY TED HULL

Great concert for Anneslie's 100th Anniversary.

## 700 Dunkirk

- 725 Dunkirk. Hats off to Alex Marshall on his graduation from Towson High. Alex is attending Salisbury University and is studying Environmental Science and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- 704 Dunkirk. Congrats to the Van Tiem/Laich family: Magnolia graduated from Towson High and is a first year student at the University of Vermont, majoring in Fine Arts. Sam graduated cum Laude from St Mary's College of Maryland in May with a double major in Political Science and History.
- 726 Dunkirk. Jenny and Bob Powers are thrilled to see Charlotte thriving in Kindergarten. She is the third generation to attend Stoneleigh- Jenny started first grade in 1966, her daughter, Jessica in 1989, and now Charlotte! She loves

her teacher, being with other students, and is reading up a storm at home.

- 728 Dunkirk. Congrats to the Zoll family! Andrew graduated from Towson High, and is attending the AV Tec works program at Sheffield Institute for the recording arts. Maddie graduated from Towson U with a BA in Elementary Education and is now teaching 2nd grade at Hampstead Hill Academy in Canton. Kristin decided to turn her lockdown hobby into a small business, Banbury Studio, redesigning antiques to fit the modern aesthetic.
- 729 Dunkirk. News from the Mogilnicki family: Vince is working as a Data Analyst for Thomson Reuters and is enjoying living in Federal Hill. Annie transferred to St Mary's College of MD and is loving being there on their beautiful campus.