

Inside the Monocle



Local sculptor Homer Yost does this and more. See Center Stage Page 18.



On the Horizon. See Page 15.



What could this scene reveal? See Mystery History on Page 16.



It was now or never for this picture. Spring has sprung.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 25, 2005

Volume 2, Number 2

Local Athlete Helps Team Win Gold

For a group of inspired Montgomery County Olympic athletes, March Madness came early. Special Olympians of Montgomery County held their annual Special Olympics Round Robin of Basketball Tournament on Saturday, March 5 at the Barrie School on Layhill Road. This tournament capped off an exciting season of competition, with weekly contests between each of the six teams in the league.

Young athletes with varying degrees of mobility, ranging from fully mobile to wheelchair-bound, compete equally on the court. While special hoops are set up for the athletes with walkers and wheelchairs, everyone plays together as a school team.

Local Poolesville athlete Sam Hardwick attends the Ivymount School, located off of Seven Locks Road. Playing from a wheelchair, Sam helped to lead his team to ultimate victory in the tournament. Representing his team at the awards

ceremony, Sam was awarded a gold medal on behalf of the team for their overall point totals during the tournament.

Winning a gold medal in the Special Olympics is a wonderful achievement in its own right but Sam received even more recognition by being selected by his teammates and

coaches as the Sportsman of the Year for 2005. To commemorate this special honor, he was given a unique patch and sports bag.

Sam is the son of Mr. And Mrs. Joe Hardwick of Hempstone Avenue in Poolesville. Residents in the community who follow youth sports will recognize that Sam comes from a highly

accomplished sports family. Sam's sisters have starred on past teams at Poolesville High School as athletes in field hockey, basketball and softball.

Sam's athletic achievements extend beyond the basketball season where he also excels at bowling and baseball. For Sam, the basketball season didn't end in total success since he is an avid fan of the Maryland Terps. True to his sportsmanlike attitude, we know that won't get him down as he looks forward to next season.



Sam Hardwick on the court.

Ham Needed Here for Easter

By Rande Davis

When I first heard about this I thought it was an Easter-time joke. The teller of the story is a friend and while I wouldn't put it past him to play a practical joke, his nonchalant way of telling the tale was so sincere it was hard to think he was playing around. Then, after listening to him discuss his little phenomenon, it hit me—he is telling the truth. He is not kidding around.

Bill Lermond of Beallsville has raised organic beef and chickens for a long time. He offered to bring some eggs to anyone who might want some, and he emphasized that they were really, really fresh, and white, brown, and green.

Green? I guess if they are really, really fresh green is another way of emphasizing their freshness. Except as it turned out, he didn't mean green like

a rookie—he meant green as in color. I have heard about green eggs as in *Green Eggs and Ham* since my kids were very small, but I didn't think that eggs could really be green. Bill understood my skepticism, smiled, and said he would bring some over to my house later that day. Sure enough, he showed up two hours later with four eggs. Two were brown and two were, without question, green. They were a white pale green, mind you, but, green nevertheless.

From now on I will have to take *Green Eggs and Ham* seriously.

Theodor Seuss Geisel (Dr. Seuss) wrote books because he knew that children "want to laugh, to be challenged, and to be entertained and delighted." To encourage children to read, he wrote books with only two hundred and fifty words since that

was the number most first-graders would know. Then in 1960, publisher Bennett Cerf bet Mr. Giesel fifty bucks that he could not write a book using only fifty words. The result: *Green Eggs and Ham*.

So, there you have it—some chickens in our area really lay green eggs. Our little story could end here except after telling the tale to others I have received reports of others in the area whose chickens lay pink and blue eggs. Are these strange events the result of the chickens' diet? Maybe it is due to the type of chicken. My preferred explanation is that it is just due to envy or patriotism. Perhaps a reader can enlighten us all.

This story was written on March 17, St. Patrick's Day. As you will be reading this at about the time Easter is celebrated, just think, maybe next year you will not have to dye your own eggs.

Family Album

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The PHS Boys' Lacrosse Team waits to be fitted for mouthguards at Dr. Pike and Dr. Valega's.



Ted Wroth officiates as the PBS 6th to 8th grade Dads square off.



Roy and Betty Selby at the sponsors' reception before Sandra Wolf-Meei Cameron's benefit concert.

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 4:00 PM Children's Stations of the Cross • 7:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday, March 26
 10:00 AM Egg Dyeing & Cookie Decorating for Kids

Easter Sunday, March 27
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 10:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt • 11:15 AM Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

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Things to Do

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March 25 – March 31

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March 29

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April 1 - 3

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April 2 - 3

Chesapeake Glass and Pottery Show
Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
\$6.00

April 3

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

April 5

Monocacy Elementary School
PTA Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

April 7

Ducks N Stuff
Poolesville Library
Petable Farm Animals
And story telling
2:00 p.m.

April 8

(No School – Professional Day)

Lions Club Basket Bingo
St. Mary's Pavilion
5:30 p.m. doors open
7:00 p.m. games begin
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Golf Tips

This introduces a new golf column by Mike Aldrich, PGA Head Golf Professional at Poolesville Golf Club.

Spring is Golf's "Starting Over Season."

Three simple tips for starting off on the right foot.

Spring is coming on strong, and most golfers are impatient to get back to their mid-season form. While many golfers will head straight to the course, without taking the time to practice, the smart ones will find the time to rediscover their swings. The only thing keeping you from maximizing your talent is some practice, and perhaps a little coaching.

Take it easy on your body. No matter how good of shape you are in, golf uses muscles not engaged during the rest of your life. There are joints that are used in ways during the golf swing that no other activity can repeat. Make sure that your first

few trips to the range start with some gentle stretching before and after practicing. Also, make sure that when you start to hit balls, start off with some smooth, partial swings. Only make full swings when your body is properly warmed up and stretched.

Take it easy on your ego. Don't start off the season looking for perfection. Enjoy the good shots, and try to capture the mental state that you were in while you were swinging. It always helps to start off practicing with your



Mike Aldrich. Read and learn.

—Continued on Page 21.

COME HOME – ONE IN CHRIST
...so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another.
Romans 12:5

Holy Week Schedule

March 20: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion 4:00 – 4:45 pm (Saturday) – Confession 5:30 pm (Saturday) – Mass 8:00, 10:45 am – Mass	March 24: Holy Thursday 8:00 pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper/Until midnight – Adoration
March 21: Monday of Holy Week 8:30 am – Mass	March 25: Good Friday 12 noon – Stations of the Cross 8:00 pm – Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
March 22: Tuesday of Holy Week 8:30 am – Mass	March 26: Holy Saturday 11:00 am – Blessing of Food for the First Meal of Easter 4:00 – 4:45 pm – Confessions 8:00 pm – Easter Vigil
March 23: Wednesday of Holy Week 6:30 am – Mass	March 27: Easter Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 10:45 am – Mass

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Editorial

Rande(m) Thoughts

By Rande Davis

The Inspiration of Heroes and Heroes to the Heroes

Some of the most inspirational and sublime moments of my life have come in pairs – two different inspirational events experienced at the same time – like feeling the awe-inspiring love for a wife at the same exhilarating moment as witnessing the miracle of the birth of your child. Another of these was the emotional and spiritual collision of being the best man at my



Major Davis and family at Seaworld.

son's wedding just twenty-four hours after the death of my mother – talk about an explosion of emotional and spiritual drama! Moments like these inspire the notion that we, as individuals, are not so much physical beings with souls as we are truly spiritual beings who are just experiencing a brief moment in a physical state

The week of March 10 to March 19, a time just before the miracle of Easter and the renewal of spring, brings two such events into my life. Two inspirational moments are forever locked together in my heart by simply coinciding at a certain time in my life. Both incidents involve two real heroes – my son and my brother.

On Thursday, March 10 just before midnight, my wife and I were awakened by a phone call. The message was simple and to the point, "Hi, Mom and Dad, I am home."

All parents can relate to this late-night welcome news from their child. This phone call, however, was a year in the making. Our son had come home from war.

Home now is Ft. Hood, Texas where he lives with his wife, Camille Hartz Davis, and their incredibly bright and beautiful children, Alexandra and Joshua (no grandpa pride evident here, huh?).

The arrival of the troops occurred a couple hours earlier as the family sat crowded on the parade field bleachers waiting in intense anticipation for the arrival of their loved ones who had been gone for a year. Then, just beyond the glare of the stadium lights, the arrival of five buses driving directly onto the field raised the level of emotional expectation. The buses lined up bumper to bumper at mid-field, positioned in such a way as to obscure the viewing by the crowd of the troops departing the buses. Then, suddenly, the buses pulled away, and there, for all to marvel, were three hundred proud and patriotic troops in full formation, standing at attention and saluting the families. The ceremony was compassionately short before the crowd burst from their seats to find and hold their heroes.

For our son, Major Sean Paul Davis, this was his third deployment in the war on terror having gone into Afghanistan and Iraq previously with the 101st Airborne Division. This time, he was with the 1st Cavalry, home for a while as he and the family prepare to move to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas for Command General Staff College.

For his mother and me, this ordeal is all about him. For him, though, it is all about the heroes with whom he served in a cause and effort in which they believe. It's about the expansion of liberty to an area filled with tyranny and true torture and brimming with hate and anger. It's about a conviction filled with hope that free and democratic people choose not to war with one another, and in so doing, help to safeguard our own nation against terrorism. Finally, it's about the profound pleasure of knowing that their efforts have transformed the lives of millions of upon millions of Iraqi men and women, boys and girls, from an experience of tyranny and suffering, into lives of hope and purpose.

As his father, I fully support that view. Do all Americans share that view? No, but it is just that diversity

—Continued on Page 16.

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CKAF Purim Carnival

The Congregation of Koi Ami of Frederick will have a Purim Carnival on March 26 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This Reformed Jewish congregation invites all for family fun. Eat hamantaschen, make graggers, and hear stories of Purim. For more information call 301-874-0406

Tsunami Fundraiser Dance

The American Legion of Mt. Airy is sponsoring a Country Music Dance (the band Pure Country is on stage) on April 2 from 6:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. In the early evening they will offer a chicken or shrimp dinner basket. There will be a cash bar. The band will play from 8:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Proceeds will go to benefit victims of the tsunami. Call 301-829-9161 for more information.

The Story of Harness Racing by Currier and Ives

The History Resource Center at the Waters House in Boyds is featuring this wonderful display of prints sponsored by the Racing Museum and Hall of Fame, Goshen, NY. Currier and Ives lithographs portray everyday 19th century life and culture with accuracy and charm. The exciting and enduring story of harness racing is celebrated in this brilliant new exhibit dedicated to "The First Great American Pastime."

Children's Museum Discovery Weekend

This family fun event at the Children's Museum of Rose Hill Manor (1611 North Market St., Frederick) will be on Saturday and Sunday (April 2 and 3) from noon to 4:00 p.m. There will be demonstration of hands-on crafts and activities all centered around early American history. For more information call Jennifer Roth at 301-631-2743.

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In the Garden

Spring Garden Tune-Up
By Maureen O'Connell

Our England is a garden, and such gardens are not made

By singing 'Oh how beautiful' and sitting in the shade.

Rudyard Kipling

Just like your car, your garden will perform better and look more attractive if it is checked-out and tuned-up each spring. I am always anxious to see the last of the snow melt and the winter winds to calm down, for I can evaluate my plants' journey through the winter. This year we have not had a difficult one, so I don't expect to see much winter-kill.

All plants benefit from pruning; without it most plants will rapidly outgrow their allotted space. It also helps them maintain their health and vigor. It must be done though with a sensitive eye and hand. Before I do any clipping, I stand back and look at the plant's current shape. Each one has its own character and habit that must be taken into consideration before you pick up your clippers.

On my garden calendar, Saint Patrick's Day is traditionally the day I

prune my roses. I might have to adjust that date if the nightly temperatures go below freezing. If you prune too early, you might have to do a second pruning. While the basic principles involved in pruning all classes of roses are essentially the same, the details vary. For hybrid teas I first cut out all dead, weakened or injured wood and leave four to eight well-spaced vigorous canes on each plant. I cut the strong canes back to about two feet above the ground. Any stems that have become very old and woody and that are not producing vigorous new stems should also be removed.

David Austin roses get a lighter pruning. The idea here is to remove dead and injured wood and to maintain a desirable shape and size. Don't be afraid to remove too much growth; they are very forgiving. The Rugosa roses bloom more or less continuously during the summer, so they also get a pruning. These are very long-lived roses, so there is usually a lot of thick old woody canes that I cut back to the ground. I am always amazed at the vigor of these plants. You can drastically prune them, and new green shoots will pop-up all summer to fill in the bare spots. For Climbers the previous year's flowering shoots should be reduced to

three or four buds. Ramblers should be left to ramble at will unless they are outgrowing their space, in which case treat them as Climbers. Pruning is not just a spring chore. I prune all through the growing season. Everyone looks better with an occasional hair cut.

Vita Sackville-West (1892-1962) was a renowned English poet, novelist and gardener. She is well-remembered for her creation of the wonderful gardens at Sissinghurst Castle in the Kent area of England. If you are in that area some time, I highly recommend a visit. In one her gardens-within-a-garden she included the shrub Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia*) for its "cool glaucous effect." This native plant of China was named after the English botanist Reverend Adam Buddle (1660-1715). Ever garden should have one as they are the best magnets for butterflies. Most varieties bloom in new wood, so they should be cut back to the ground in early spring to encourage new growth. This might seem quite drastic, but believe me, you will have a much healthier and attractive shrub. Don't be alarmed if it does not look too perky in early spring; these plants break dormancy quite late in the spring.

A popular shrub in our area is the Crape Myrtle (*Lagerstroemia*).

For best bloom production, cut back sharply in early spring and remove any wood over five years old. If you are short on garden space, try the *Lagerstroemia* x "Chicksaw." It is a true dwarf growing only twenty inches high and twenty-six inches wide. It is perfect for patios and containers and it will delight you in early summer with shiny clusters of dark red buds that open into lavender blooms.

More than three hundred species make up the genus *Clematis*. For pruning purposes, *Clematis* can be divided into three groups. When you buy this plant at a garden center or through a catalogue, the identifying label should list its group number. Group number one blooms in the spring and should be pruned afterwards. Group two blooms in early summer. In March, prune six to eight inches to a pair of strong buds. Group three blooms during summer and fall and should be pruned in March to twelve inches from the ground. *Clematis* are often slow to break dormancy each spring. Be patient and give them a little longer time to get out of their winter bed.

As each year passes and, I hope, my gardening experience grows, the

—Continued on Page 8.



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Garden Continued—

amount of bare soil left in winter becomes less and less. The garden has a life in winter, if you let it. The winter weather has now begun to take its' toll on many of the garden's skeletons. The sedum plants have been strewn and flattened, but among the desiccated, scarecrow-like stalks, there are already little tightly closed fat buds pushing up through the soil. The next generation of daffodils, tulips and lilies can be seen as their little tips of green emerge through the last of the snow cover. Now is the time to remove the vestiges of winter debris. You will now see the garden transform as she awakes from her winter sleep to become a new Spring Princess.

I start cleaning the spent perennials first. The dead stalks of the day lilies, phlox and ferns are matted to the ground like a rug. Many of the stems of the weariest skeletons come away with a sharp tug. If there is resistance, it is best to cut them to the ground with your clippers to avoid damaging the dormant crown. As you work your way around the garden beds gently removing the old growth, the garden looks quite naked. I feel

like I am removing her winter blankets. But, if you get down on your hands and knees and look closely, you will see the bright green tips of the hostas, peonies, lily-of-the-valley and the dicentra emerging to cover her nakedness.

While you are spring cleaning, pay particular attention to the iris beds. If you notice that the part of the rhizome above the ground is soft to the touch and has a vile odor, it probably has been hit with bacterial soft rot. This disease starts in the leaves, following punctures by young iris borers. This pest ranks as the most destructive of irises if left unchecked. Adult moths of the borer lay eggs in the fall on the brown, dried leaves and remain there through winter. Hatching occurs in April and the larvae feed on the iris leaves and then they work their way down into the lower parts of the growing plants. Damage can be done before you ever notice it. The key to control is the removal of the dried, dead leaves in the fall. If in the spring you see any damage, dig up the affected rhizomes and dispose of them. As a precaution, April and May is the time to spray your irises with pesticide such as Ortho's Lindane .

If you prefer to go organic, Gardens Alive sells "Grub-Away" Nematodes which are very effective. (www.gardensalive.com) Get a head start on weed control now, by digging up the slow growing weeds. The soil should start to warm-up and the weeds should pull up easily. Now that you have cleared away the old debris and got rid of the newly-emerging weeds, take advantage of this window in the garden calendar. It gives us time to lift and divide any perennials that have outgrown their homes. I apply now the first fertilizer of the growing season. For the roses, I use Rose-Tone, which I scatter on the beds once a month during spring and summer. For the rest of the plants, I use a 5-10-5 or 5-10-10 fertilizer, depending upon their particular needs.

Let's go over our tune-up checklist. We have pruned, removed old debris, checked for insect and disease damage, weeded and fertilized. The garden is now ready for her

Spring blanket – mulch. Soil is the foundation of the garden and mulch provides its' vital protection. It needs a stable environment to thrive. Look to nature to see that no place will be without natural cover. This might be

ground-covering foliage, or "what we call weeds." I always liked that saying, "a weed is a flower out of place." Clear a wooded bramble-filled corner of earth, and new growth will quickly take over. Remember the old adage, 'Nature abhors a vacuum.' Early spring is the ideal time to apply mulch. It is much more work, after the plants are growing, to place mulch carefully around each one. If you are not careful, you end up burying many of the young ones. Put down a good two to four inch layer. It will keep the weeds under control and provide a shady cover for the plants' tender roots.

Complete your tune-up work now, and life in the garden will be less work come summer. You have laid the foundation, prepared the framework, and have given your garden beds all they need to thrive and dazzle you all summer with their colorful and brilliant personalities.

To forget how to dig the earth and to tend to the soil is to forget ourselves.
Mahatma Gandhi

**The Arena****Poolesville Budget Plans
Now Taking Shape**

The Poolesville Town Commissioners' first meeting in February resulted anti-climactically with the unanimous passage of the newest five-year Master Plan. This document is the result of the input from a very broad representation of the entire community. Above and beyond the work of the commissioners, members of the Planning Commission, Parks, Recreation and Streets Board spent many hours reviewing and providing input on the plan. Additionally, citizen input came from the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, a survey of residents, and public hearings. While this plan outlines goals and ideas, residents should realize that this product serves only as a statement of objectives and is a tool from which the commissioners measure current expenditures so as to keep an eye on future expenditures. While the plan

establishes limits, it does not mean all things within its scope will be accomplished.

Without skipping a beat, the commissioners moved right into the preparation for the 2006 budget through a series of work sessions. This process involves reviewing each line item by category within the whole town budget. Estimates of future costs are discussed and listed so as to eventually result in a final document. No final votes will be taken until after public hearings. It is too early in the process to make any definite statements, but if past results can predict the future, then the commissioners are trying to work toward a budget in the black. At this point, bottom line numbers show the budget proposal in the black.

Due to increased property assessments as a consequence of real estate values increasing, the town stands to gain an additional \$101,244 in revenue in the coming fiscal year. Currently, residents pay a rate of \$0.230 per \$100 of assessed value of their property. The decision to keep the current tax rate the same or to lower it to offset revenue gains will be part of the budget process in the coming weeks. Any increase in revenue from property tax-

es greater than seven percent, requires a town referendum. All things being equal, the town will have to have a referendum unless the commissioners decide to reduce property assessment by 2.3 cents per \$100 of assessed value of property. Talk about getting your two cents' worth. Residents now must decide if the two cents is more useful to them or to the town. Do you want to know what your share per year would be? Divide your assessed value by 100 and then multiply it by .023. Remember, your assessed value is not the same as market value. In fact, in a good economy, it is almost always lower.

Since town budgets traditionally operate in the black, and two multi-million dollar lawsuits (one by former town attorney, Chuck Rand, and the other by developer, Michael Longshore) have been decided in favor of the town, the immediate economic future for the town looks strong.

The decision on the two cents will be made in the coming weeks. The proposed budget is available online, at the library, and a copy can be obtained at town hall. Should you want to be heard on this issue, now is the time to be involved.

**BASKET
BINGO****When: April 8****Where: St. Mary's Pavilion
Barnesville****Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.****Games Start: 7:30 p.m.****Cost: \$15.00 in advance
\$20.00 at door****20 GAMES****3 SPECIALS****2 RAFFLES****1 50/50****DOOR PRIZES – SNACKS****For Information Call****301 831 8203**

Profiles

Bein' Green

by Dominique Agnew

"It's not that easy bein' green," Kermit the Frog sang. Poor Kermit—being green always seemed especially trying for him, but, at least, he always had Miss Piggy to warm his spirits. Maybe Kermit was hanging with the wrong crowd. What if everyone around him wanted to be green? What if he knew it wasn't really that difficult? If it meant just a few lifestyle changes, maybe it would take a little time, sometimes an up-front investment, but if being green meant thinking green (you don't have to be a rocket scientist), the rewards to be reaped could be wonderful.

Lee Bristol, founder and president of LBA Renewal Energy Systems, Inc., wants everyone to think green and become green. Although it wasn't until 2003 that he started the business, he has been an environmentalist for years. Lee readily admits to being an "old hippy and concerned about everything the oil industry represents." Either despite this or because of this, he has practical philosophies behind the concept of his business and the implementation of alternative power sources.

Lee's grand vision is that every home dotting the countryside would

have its own power source, either solar or a harnessing of the wind. He says, "Distributed power makes good sense. Instead of having large power stations, having smaller sources of energy is more efficient." There are no energy losses from the power plant to the house. He likens the idea to the state of computers today. Just forty years ago, there were a few mainframes here and there; now nearly every home has a small computer—funny that he should think of computers.

Lee grew up in Vermont and after graduating from MIT in the late 1960s as a rocket scientist (a degree in aeronautical engineering), he and his wife Linda Cates lived a truly green life for a few years. They built a geodesic dome home in the woods of Vermont that had no electricity. It featured a composting privy, a hand water pump, and they used kerosene lamps for light. They found their way to Maryland when a friend asked Lee one day, "How would you like to start a microcomputer store?" Of course, Lee replied, "What's a microcomputer?" The friend answered, "I don't know, but it's supposed to be the next big thing."

Lee and his friend owned the first microcomputer store in Georgetown called, aptly, the Georgetown Computer Store. After that was sold, Lee began working as a consultant, mostly in the information technology industry. After all, there were chil-

dren by this time and bills to pay, but the environmentalist in Lee was still active. He and Linda were pioneers of the recycling program in the Monocacy area.

The pivotal point in Lee's life that allowed him to start the business was the graduation of the youngest child, Jessie, from college. He took time off from consulting to continue his education in renewable energy systems, and he began building various alternative energy systems in and around his home—next time you're driving on route 109 out of Poolesville, take note of the house on the left with the solar panels all over the roof.

Presently, Jessie has joined her father's business, and together, they're coming up with numerous ideas to help people be more energy efficient in their homes and businesses. They are asking builders of new homes to propose green options to prospective buyers. It is usually easier and less expensive to install these options during initial construction than it is to alter an existing home. Lee says, "It is most important to think of it as an investment. What you spend will appreciate with the house, and at the same time, it gives you dividends in that you avoid paying for energy every month. With renewable energy, you pay for it once, then it's free after that for thirty years."

Apart from promoting solar panels with photo-voltaic cells to create energy, they also create back-

up power systems using batteries charged by the power company grid for those emergencies when the power goes out. They have devised a remote power application for intelligent signs for airports that are programmable. These signs run on a solar panel and batteries and can direct planes on the runway.

Their own home is probably the biggest guinea pig. Not only do they have the solar panels on the roof, but they are also setting up a solar water heating system and a green bathroom. Lee also hopes to have his house's energy use hooked up to his business's website, so visitors to the site can see the various ways they save energy by turning things off, and how energy is created and used throughout the house.

Lee hopes that the concept of thinking globally and acting locally will pay off in the future for everyone. If enough people use renewable energy, the idea will gain momentum, the demand will increase, and the prices will decrease. Green will be the obvious choice.

Maybe Kermit had it right after all:

*When green is all there is to be,
It could make you wonder why,
But why wonder, why wonder?
I am green and it'll do fine;
It's beautiful and I think it's what
I want to be.*

-Joe Raposo

Remembrance

Cicely Banfield

Longtime Poolesville resident, Cissie Banfield, 68, passed away from cardiac arrest on March 7 in Oxford, England while on a business trip. Area residents recall Cissie's leadership and volunteer work in various civic and community groups.

She was on the Board of Directors of the Historic Medley District Inc., a local historical preservation group. She was honored in 2003 by the Junior League of Washington for her hundreds of hours of volunteer service. She was a member of the Chevy Chase Club and attended St. Peter's Parish in Poolesville.

She developed her passion for antiques into a thirty-five-year career as an antique dealer and part owner



of Market Street Antiques in Leesburg, Virginia. She also participated in antique shows under the trade name of Grubby Thicket Antiques.

She is remembered for sharing her talents and avocation in gardening and painting and for achieving the special honor of having one of her paintings exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. She was highly regarded for her confident advice and knowledge while a participant

in various volunteer roles.

Warmly remembered by her relatives and friends for her devotion and pride of family, she will be especially missed for her joy for life and her tender musical renditions to family by singing and playing the ukulele.

Her husband of thirty-nine years, Dr. William Landon Banfield III, died in 2002. She is survived by her daughter Dale Banning of Newport News; two sons, William Landon Banfield IV of Potomac and Philip Bamseur Banfield of Los Angeles; a sister; and five grandchildren.



Drs. D. Timothy Pike and Margaret A. Valega with sons Alex, Ryan, and Conner.

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Things To Do

March 12

Full Screen Showing of *The Wizard of Oz* (1939)
Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick.
8:00 p.m. Call 301.228.2828

March 15

PHS PTSA Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 16

St. Peter's Preschool Program
Infants up to preschoolers.
Music, Bible Stories & Crafts.
Snacks, puzzles, faith-building fun
1:00 p.m.

March 18

UMCVFD Basket Bingo
Doors Open: 5:00 p.m.
Games Start: 7:00 p.m.
\$15/\$20 301-605-0548.

St. Mary's Crab/Seafood Feast
5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
301-972-7452

JPMS Annual Variety Show
Middle School Talent on Display
7:00 p.m.

March 19

Saturday Easter Egg Hunt
Lilypons Water Gardens
Buckeystown
9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
800-999-5459

March 19 and March 20

41st Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show
Montgomery County Fairgrounds
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

March 21

Poolesville Library
Book Discussion Club
"How the Irish Saved Western Civilization"
7:30 p.m.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)
Poolesville Presbyterian Church
Infant Care Support
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

March 24

Poolesville Library Storytime
Ages 3-6



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Poolesville - The Hoskinson House - This commercially-zoned property, located in the heart of the Town of Poolesville, is improved with a 2-story colonial w/Federal detail. The original section of the home was constructed circa 1826, making it one of oldest properties in Montgomery Co. Originally a primary residence, the property has in recent years housed a dental office on the main lvl & an apt. on the upper lvl. Most recently, it has been modified to house 2 separate apts, one on each lvl. The upper lvl can be accessed from the main lvl or through a separate exterior stairway. Each lvl contains a table space kitchen & full bath in addition to 3 large rms on each lvl. Amenities include: replacement windows throughout, new vinyl siding, 2-year old gas furnace. MLS # MC 4881960. Offered at \$550,000.00

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Dickerson: 45.62 partially wooded acres just minutes from Whites Ferry and the C & O Canal. Beautiful views. One approved perc. Offered at \$850,000.00



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The Pulse

PHS Leo Club Active in Community Service

Many members of the Poolesville High School Leo Club first began their community service as members of the John Poole Middle School Leo Club (see *Monocacy Monocle* – Pulse, March 11) bringing that experience and their interest in helping others with them as they entered high school.

With Beth Fayard-Jones as the parent-advisor, the Leo Club is led by Elizabeth Wolkfinger (president), Maddie Kephart (vice-president), Emily Terrell (treasurer), and Gracie Jones, (secretary).

The teenagers learn important aspects of leadership and organization while enjoying the sense of purpose from being of service to those in need. Important projects already accomplished by this group include making donations to the American Red Cross's Florida Hurricane Relief and WUMCO. They provided toiletries for U.S. troops, Christmas gifts for children on the Salvation Army Angel list, and art and craft supplies to the Women

and Children's Center at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. Their potable water drive went to the Asia Relief in Gaithersburg which shipped the water to tsunami victims in Sri Lanka. They have on schedule a blanket and towel drive for the Montgomery County Humane Society.

Funds for their project come



Emily Terrell, Beth Fayard-Jones, Gracie Jones, and a staff member from Shady Grove Hospital.

from the community through various fundraising drives such as a bake sale outside of Selby's Market and selling water at Poolesville Day. The organization is sponsored and supported by the local Monocacy Lions Club.

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Poets' Corner

Spring Has Sprung

The arrival of Spring
Instills urges to wax poetic (wonder if I should).
The funny Thing
Is I can barely compose a couplet.
Relief—my favorite poet is a Poet (wouldn't you know it).
Fortunately for me (and you)
He can Herald Spring with finer lines than I could
(and probably you—too).

Unfortunate Original poem

by: Moi (Dominique Agnew)

This is what happens when hit by the flu—bad poetry. Thank goodness for Real Poets like Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889). In 1874, while studying theology in North Wales, he learned Welsh and would later adapt the rhythms of Welsh poetry to his own works, naming his cadences “sprung rhythm.”

The following work is one of my favorites—can you feel it?—can you smell it? How interesting to find that the concerns of pollution are not unique to the 21st century. Hope sprung eternal.

THE WORLD is charged with the grandeur of God,
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil
Crushed. Why do men then now not reck his rod?
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;
And all is seared with trade, bleared, smeared with toil;
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And for all this nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things.

George Washington resigned his commission as Commander in Chief of the Continental Army in the Old Senate Chamber in the Maryland State House.

Humble Chef

THE BEST EVER

Lentil Soup

It is now mid-March and the days can still be chilly and damp. I call them soup days.

There is a difference, though, between a January soup and a mid-March soup. We can now faintly hear and see the emergence of Spring. We crave a warm and filling soup, but it must have a touch of lightness. Out with the dark brown soups; we want Green everywhere, even in our soup. Lentil soup comes to the rescue. But it can't be just any kind of lentil—no red, brown, or gray ones. You need the small delicate shaped green Le Puy French lentils from the Auvergne section of France. There is no comparison. Their superiority may be due to the volcanic soil in which they are grown. They are very light, cook quickly, don't require soaking and don't get mushy. Brown lentils make an entirely different type of soup. I have experimented with different ingredients for this soup. As of last week, this is my best recipe. You can find these French lentils at Whole Foods or other specialty shops. Forgive me my approximate measurements. I am not a 'by the book' or 'measure' cook. I measure in pinches and splashes. I will try to be accurate.

6 slices smoked bacon, diced (I find using a scissors very easy)
2 cloves garlic diced
1 large onion diced
2 large carrots diced
olive oil as needed for above
sauté
1 14 oz. can tomatoes chopped coarsely
6 cups chicken broth
10 oz. green lentils
fresh or dried thyme leaves
1 bay leaf
salt and pepper to taste
dash cayenne pepper

Brown the diced bacon. Add the garlic, onion and carrots. Sauté until soft. Add

broth and tomatoes. Cook about 5 minutes. Add lentils and spices. Cover and cook until

lentils are soft. Puree about 90% of the mixture. I like to leave some of the ingredients coarse. This freezes very well. Serves 6-8.

the humble chef



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Focus on Business

Hi Pizza Man!

By Marcie Gross

Hi Pizza Man! was one of my kids' favorite books when they were younger. Waiting at the front door for pizza or going to pick it up may just be comparable to what I can only imagine Christmas morning is like – everyone gets so excited! It's a simple and simply delicious food and a simple menu at our Poolesville Domino's Pizza, here on Fisher Avenue. Now meet our Pizza Man, Owner Joe Angulo.

Joe grew up in Springfield, Virginia. He says that food has always been a huge part of his life. "As a kid, instead of just hanging out with nothing to do, my parents always had big barbecues at our home. My friends and I had somewhere to be and have fun," says Joe. He decided one day he'd like to open up a restaurant of his own. "I love making and serving food. It keeps families together," Joe says. Today, Joe follows the same traditions with his own family and with his business. His brother owns four Domino's franchises in Virginia and Joe decided that's what he wanted

to do, too. Joe became the Head Manager at one Domino's Pizza for a year and he and his wife, Susan sold their townhouse in 1998 to pursue this dream and buy a Domino's business. Joe spent three weeks at Pizza School in Michigan to prepare to own his own business.

Next, Joe drove around looking for the perfect spot to open his business and discovered Poolesville four years ago. He liked the town and decided it would be a great place to start a business. Domino's opened in Poolesville on October 31, 2001. "It was probably the greatest day of my professional life so far. We must have sold 400 pizzas that night," says Joe.

Joe tries to take customer service to a new level. If a customer has a large order, he or one of his staff members (locals from Poolesville) will walk the order out to the customer's vehicle. Joe says they try to make it a mistake-free zone with a product guarantee. If for any reason the customer is dissatisfied with the order, they will make a new meal for free or get a credit towards the next visit. He wants and expects feedback from his customers. Any suggestions or complaints should be called in and Joe will speak to you personally.

As a Board member of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Joe likes to hire local town members. He currently has ten employees – two from his grand opening three years ago. He wants to be known and involved in the daily goings-on in our community. He is eager to do fundraisers with the local schools, churches, and organizations. Joe proudly sponsored a Poolesville Athletic Association (PAA) t-ball team in 2002. Each September 11th, he donates 50 percent of his sales to our local fire department, the Upper Montgomery County Fire Department.

In addition, Joe Domino's Pizza offers a variety of specials – one for each day of the week and also has a frequent "pie-er" card. Joe would like to offer field trips for schools and will even come to schools to talk about the pizza business. Get to know Joe Angulo, our Poolesville Pizza Man.

Children's Towne Academy Comes to Poolesville

The Monocle welcomes Children's Towne Academy, Inc. to the area with its grand opening in the Poolesville Town Center. The school is located on the south side of the mall in the last office space just before Selby's Market. The new preschool offers its services for children aged six weeks old to twelve years of age. The preschool



Domino's Joe Angulo tosses a pizza into the air



The staff of Children's Towne Academy, Inc.

is divided into different age groups: infants and toddlers, two- to three-year-olds, and four- to five-year-olds. School-age programs exist for before and after kindergarten and school.

The president of the school, Ermer Jones, has spent thirty-five years in the field and is a validator of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The staff of ten is primarily from the Poolesville area. The motto of the school is "It takes a village to raise a child."

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The Horizon

Poolesville Has Been Changing More Than You Think

By Rande Davis

You may not even have noticed that this winter has been one of the busiest times for change in the area in a very long time. Obvious to most of us was the building of the new location for Total Automotive and Diesel. The new facility next to McDonald's raises the skyline of the town up a bit. The construction company braved a lot of cold weather to keep on track for a possible April opening. We haven't heard anyone say they miss the old car wash.

Less noticeable was the building of the new facility behind Poolesville Hardware that will soon become the new home for Bob's Bike and Carl's Small Engine and Repair. Once completed, the small outbuildings will be removed to be replaced by a new parking lot. Bob will have expanded space for his bikes and accessories, and Carl's shop will also be enlarged as he has some new business plans that will make the scene in April.

All these changes will allow for an expanded hardware store that will offer a welcome supply of lumber and paneling and even more home improvement products in a store that is all ready jammed with household items from floor to ceiling. One of the more intriguing changes is that John Speelman plans to bring a special "trailer load" auction to the facility on a regular basis. We anticipate even more from John with mysterious surprises coming in time for summer.

Other changes in town were a bit

subtler. If you haven't noticed the new copper roof on the town hall, wait for the next sunny day, you may need sunglasses to ward off the glare.

The empty spaces in the various hopping malls have been of some concern in the past, but lately the spaces seem to be all filling up. Cugini's has moved next to the M&T Bank, and they will have a terrific family fun time restaurant that will seat up to fifty. For those of you who have young kids who just love pizza parties, Cugini's will also have a special event party room to celebrate the birthdays and other celebrations. For those of you dreaming of opening your own retail store, you may want to move your plans up a bit since retail space is quickly closing up.

For area businesses that might be looking for more space, Steve Goldberg of Hearthside Antiques is considering building a new facility and is interested in hearing from potential tenants needing additional retail or administrative room.

Some of the bigger changes will come from some of the churches starting this spring. St. Peter's is only weeks away from their groundbreaking ceremony for their new community. *The Monocle* will provide a preview of the new parish hall closer to the big day.

United Memorial Methodist Church is working with the Historic Medley, Inc. to find a way to restore their old parsonage that sits to the left of the church. That event might be labeled back to the future.

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Today's historical visitors get to step back in time to see the town as it used to be.

Mystery History

The Bomber that Crashed on Route 28

By Rande Davis

At ninety years old, Charlie Knill can remember the tragic event in 1955 as if it were just yesterday. If it had happened to you, you would have found it hard to forget, too.

Mr. Knill, a lifelong dairy farmer in Montgomery County, was in Boyds, talking to a friend. It was late in the morning of February 8, and his desire for a good lunch was the topic at



Charley Knill remembers that day.

hand — that's when it happened.

A disturbing and extremely loud "Boom! Boom!" abruptly interrupted the congenial conversation. Overhead, an airplane had exploded, and, in clear sight. Mr. Knill saw a parachute open and begin its descent to the ground. He immediately jumped into his paneled truck and headed out Barnesville Road trying to stay within view of the parachute. As he approached Peachtree Road, a large piece of metal was drifting, swinging side to side in the air, seemingly floating to the ground. Heading down Peachtree, the road made a turn to the left just before what is now the Bruce Wooden property. There, in the tall tree grove just to the left of the house, Charlie spotted the parachute with a pilot dangling just about twelve to fifteen feet above the ground. The site was horrid. The pilot was bleeding from severe wounds on one leg, and the other leg was completely severed.

Being one of the very first on the scene, Charlie moved his truck off the road to the tree grove so that he could climb on the roof to reach high enough to cut the pilot down. With the help of others, he brought the moaning pilot to the ground where

local rescue paramedics came onto the scene to assist. Dr. Gordon Smith, a Barnesville physician, alerted about the crash, arrived in time to administer first aid and to provide some morphine to the crash victim.

The injured man turned out to be the co-pilot, Lieutenant Masaru Uyehara. He was from the Philippines and was in training to fly the B-57 jet bomber. The pilot, Captain William S. Todd of White Plains, New York was not as fortunate. Still strapped in the ejection seat, he had been decapitated and thrust into the earth about fifteen hundred feet from the crash scene.

Lieutenant Uyehara drifted down about three miles from the actual crash site. Another witness to the event, Guy V. Lewis, an off-duty county policeman, confirmed to the *Frederick Post* Mr. Knill's recollection. Mr. Lewis also reported that the plane backfired twice as it flew over his home. "I looked up just in time to see two trails of black smoke. Then it jettied two streams of white smoke and started to twist and turn crazily, and a parachute suddenly opened near it," reported Mr. Lewis.

A few weeks later in an article in the *Washington Post*, more information came out about the survivor and the incident. Mr. Uyehara stated that, "About five minutes after take-off, we got our first indication of trouble. The plane pitched over on its left side and the nose dropped down. When we couldn't get the nose of the plane up, I asked Captain Todd if we should leave. He nodded and gave me the thumbs-up to go."

"We were at about seven thousand feet [when I] jettisoned the canopy and ejected my seat. I thought I saw Captain Todd follow me. Then, I hit the tail of the plane, and that's when I lost my leg. They tell me I'm the only person ever to survive a B-57 crash." Mr. Uyehara had started his air force career in 1951. He told the *Post* that "they told me I could stay in the air force when I get my artificial limb, but I think I'll try to get into the dental school at the University of Southern California."

Today, a small housing development has risen up just beyond the tall trees on Peachtree Road. The tranquil setting defies the thought of such a tragic occurrence almost exactly fifty years ago. Driving by there today, no one would ever guess what happened, but Charlie Knill will never forget.

Editorial continued—

of opinion that validates the soldier's purpose in our lives.

For the family, supporting the troops is more than praying for their safe return. It is also supporting the goal of their mission. That's how families get through it all. In answer to the one question that is invariably asked, "Will he have to go back?" we have only one answer: we hope not. We hope the advancement of the Iraqis in securing their own future as demonstrated by that inspiring voter turnout will result in the drawdown of troops sooner rather than later. Will they succeed? I can only quote my son when he told me right after his first deployment: "It is amazing how the media so remarkably underestimates the Iraqi people." Let's hope he is right. For now, the return of my hero is a majestic and inspirational moment.

The second profound moment to come within this week revolves around my brother Duane Davis of Hyde Park, New York. On March 19, he will be inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame. This is a moment of immense family pride that understandably causes a burst of excitement and happiness for him. As I write this column, the event is yet to come, but the moment is all too clear in my mind's eye.

For his tenures as a high school and college basketball coach of over forty years, he'll be honored for wins and losses, for hard work and dedication, and for contributions to the sport. The plaque will be handed to him, and we will stand in ovation. I will have fun jokingly diverting his glory to me in recognition that it was I he first coached (with little or no success). The Poughkeepsie Journal headlined on its sports page his new title, Living Legend. I will refer to him as Mr. L. just for the joy of some fraternal teasing. The pride in his hard but fully deserved achievement will be awe-inspiring — another highly and profound spiritual moment.

This story of two of my heroes does not end here, though, for who are the heroes to my heroes? For my brother, Duane, it is Carol, his wife. Through her wife-of-the-coach hard work and dedication, he will view her as a true heroine.

For my son, as to who is his hero, the answer is even more absolute. In one of his last emails home prior to coming stateside, he wrote: "This

sums up my hero — not really even close to my full thoughts, but still I found it moving."

Quiet Hero

*She wakes very early, he's leaving today,
She stands tall and proud as he's walking away
He glances back warmly at his children and wife
Knowing they will bravely carry on with their life.
Her strength and her courage only he understands
As he walks away with her heart in his hands.
For he knows that without it he truly would be lost,
But they both know that freedom comes at a cost.
She walks away holding her children so close,
Swallowing her tears for the one she loves most.
This quiet hero does not walk into war,
She soldiers on bravely behind her front door.
She will move through her life with the wind at her back
Determined to keep her family on track.
Her tears fall silently while she lies in her bed,
Her fear is right there, but nothing is said.
She will ask that no medals be pinned to her chest,
Her husband's return her only request.
Few understand her commitment, her life,
She is the quiet hero, the brave soldier's wife.
(Kathleen Mills, January 2005)*

So, for these two highly inspirational moments, I salute with love the heroes of my heroes: Camille and Carol. God bless you both.



An Easter moment.

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The Essence of Form

By Curtis Osborne

It is rare when a work of art touches you more than just in an aesthetic, visual way. Sometimes a piece of artwork can touch your soul, plucking and pulling on emotions that you did not anticipate.

A unique and talented artist can pull off such a feat, and when that is accomplished, it is because, frequently, the artist has put a lot of time and emotion in the piece that he is working on. The blood, sweat and tears as well as the emotional peaks and valleys that artists go through, become apparent in the work. Such is the case with local figurative sculptor Homer Yost of the Frederick area of Maryland. His work is very overpowering emotionally and one can only assume that he was inviting us to take a peak into his soul when making the pieces.

Homer is the proprietor and artist at Sunnyside Studio, a gallery located on his sheep farm in Frederick County. He has been a sculptor for more than 25 years now and a fulltime

sculptor for over 10 years. Originally from New Jersey, he has found his home in Adamstown after growing up and living in different parts of the



Sculpture by Homer Yost.

country, including Hawaii. He graduated from Overlea High School in Baltimore County, later matriculating to Upsala College in East Orange, New Jersey, where he took some sculpting classes as a senior as a liberal arts/humanities major. Though he really

didn't take any art classes in high school, he grew up drawing a lot as a kid. Up until then, he did not expect to make it a vocation. After Upsala, he decided to pursue art as a vocation and studied with a master figurative artist, Sigmund Abeles, at the University of New Hampshire, and the bug hit him. He later attended grad school in North Carolina at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he studied with the late great sculptor, Peter Agostini, where he received his Master of Fine Arts degree. While pursuing his art, he at times has worked in carpentry, house painting, studio modeling and in landscaping. He found his way down to Frederick in the late 1980's and at one time was a part time instructor at Frederick Community College, where he taught drawing and sculpture for one year.

He is primarily a sculptor who concentrates on form, be it in bronze, clay, terra cotta or Vatican stone. Form is the essence of feeling and emotion, and Homer does a lot to accentuate form in his artwork. His pieces of work are both religious and secular in nature. Because of his ability to work in both arenas, he has been com-

missioned by churches and he has several private commissions as well. He likes work that tells a story, and he is interested in imagery, not just the abstract. Depending on the piece that he is working on, the process can be long and laborious and can take up to a year to create. It is still a labor of love. You certainly cannot rush the creative process, especially when working with bronze or Vatican stone. So for someone interested in commissioning him, an understanding of the process as well as having patience is an absolute requirement.

Homer gets a big thrill out of seeing his work displayed, both in public forums, like churches, or in a private residence, however he notes, "Public viewing is more rewarding because several people see it and get to experience it. Being in a person's home is more secluded."

As always, with an artist, the question of commerce versus art comes up. The tug between making a buck and being true to your art. Artists always have to reconcile the two.

—Continued on Page 20.



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Video Update

By Ray Clark

RAY. New on DVD. Stars Jamie Foxx, Kerry Washington, Clifton Powell, and Regina King. Co-Written, Produced and Directed by Taylor Hackford.

THE GOOD...This film showcases the diverse beauty of Ray Charles' music in a way that will make a fan out of almost anyone. From the fusion of the gospel and the blues of his roots, to pop, country/western, jazz, boogie, and smooth melody, Ray was a larger than life pioneer. What he lost through physical blindness, was overabundantly replaced by a musical vision that is absolute genius.

...E-GAD...Didn't Ray Charles die last summer? So, who is this other Ray Charles? Wow! Jamie Foxx is outstanding! I've never seen a biopic where the star captured the look, the

mannerisms, the vocal intonations, heck, the very incarnation of a film's subject, like Foxx embodies Ray. He's even proficient at the piano, negating the need for those annoying cuts from the face to someone else's hands. In fact, having had style lessons from Ray Charles himself, Jamie Foxx is able to give us Ray in concert. Except for a brief eyes-open fantasy sequence, there wasn't a moment in this film that I didn't believe I was seeing Ray.

...and THE UGLY. What is it that makes us want to sniff the wastestrewn underbellies of those we call legends? Shouldn't it be enough to thank them for their gifts, and then build on their positive exempla? These things asked, however, Ray Charles was a real vice magnet. He was a blasphemous, smoking, heroin addict. He was quite the adulterous

womanizer, or at the very best, he was a serial monogamist with a lot of overlap. This guy's life was a mess -- for AT LEAST two-and-a-half hours.

Say there's no way, Ray! Ray Charles "saw" this film just before he died, and gave it his blessing. He didn't ask, "Who is that guy?" or "Why'd you have to make my life seem so sordid?"

If I had the chance to do it over, I think I would take my DVD money and buy a "Ray Charles: Ultimate Hits Collection" on CD. Then, I'd close my eyes, and in my blindness, imagine that infectious smile and self-embrace, as I hummed along to "You Don't Know Me".

Morality Check: See "THE UGLY". Probably deserved an R rating, but somehow got a PG-13.

Homer Yost Continued—

"It is legitimate to sell your work. It's not prostituting it. People who want to own it appreciate the work and what you do" Homer says.

In the past, depending on time, Homer has taught some art classes for kids at Carroll Manor and Valley Elementary Schools. To make it fun for the kids, he teaches them clay animal sculpting, by sometimes bringing in live animals for the kids to work from. "Kids love it" he enthused. He has also taught classes at community arts centers and private classes at his Sunnyside Studios.

In general, sculptors don't get the same public acclaim as painters and illustrators do. Perhaps over time, this oversight will be corrected and change. All one needs to do is to take a look at some of Homer's sculptures. Homer and Sunnyside Studios can be reached at 301-874-5711 and his website is www.homeryost.com.



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School News

High School Student Leads Team to Victory on It's Academic

Poolesville resident, Michael Kettler, 18, a senior at Washington, D.C.'s Gonzaga College High School is the captain of the school's academic team. Recently, the Gonzaga Eagles



Poolesville's Michael Kettler captains the always-tough Gonzaga Eagles.

school academic teams are broadcast competing on the program at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings.

An advance placement and honors student, Michael Kettler holds a 4.5 GPA through four years of high school Michael commutes from the Barnesville station to the district high school daily. He has already been accepted by five colleges and universities and will be making his final college decision shortly (we were tempted to say by the buzzer). He is co-editor of the school newspaper, The Aquilian, and is a trumpet player in the school's orchestra.

The It's Academic season will not end until sometime in June, but the Monocle will report back on the final results of the team.

Michael's parents are Tom and ebbie Kettler. Mr. Kettler is the president of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce.

Golf Tips Continued—

short irons only and work your way up to the driver. Your goal should be to regain your rhythm, and if everything goes really well, you might hit a few solid shots.

Keep your cool. Don't get aggravated by your inconsistency. Early in the season, I always have a case of the "every-others". That means that I hit one shot great, followed by a horrible shot. I know that if I am patient, the percentage of bad shots will go down quickly. There is little use in getting upset; that will only cause you to continue to hit your shots poorly.

Future columns will address readers' specific issues with their games. It will take the form of a "Dear Abby", but with golf as the source of the predicament, rather than a mother-in-law. Submit your problems about your own to and I will tackle as many questions as I can.

Yours in golf,
Mike Aldrich
PGA Head Golf Professional
Poolesville Golf Course

Information That Historic Promoters Want You to Know

Fifty-five percent of Marylanders were born in Maryland.

The Odd Fellows, a popular fraternal order, was founded in Baltimore on April 26, 1819.

Billy Ripken could field well but wasn't much of a hitter. Cal, Jr. did both quite well.

successfully went up against McLean High School and Northwestern High School on It's Academic, a competitive academic quiz show on NBC. Taped in advance, the show was televised on March 12. Actual future showing dates are not selected as of yet, so determining Michael's next appearance is not decided at this time. Local high

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PHS Winter Sports Roundup

As spring athletes at Poolesville High School begin their preseason warm-ups and practices, The Monocle wants to salute the winter sports teams and coaches for an exciting and rewarding season.

Girls' Varsity Basketball

The varsity girls' basketball team finished the year with an 18-7 record, marking this as the fourth straight season in which the girls had at least eighteen wins. The Falcon girls also went on to finish second in the nine-team Montgomery County 3A/2A/1A league for the second straight season. This successful season is all the more impressive considering the team lost eight seniors as they took to the court this year. The team advanced through the sectional finals, ultimately losing to Catocin in a tough fought 52-47 game.

Jamie Morningstar was named the Most Valuable Player at the team banquet. Her remarkable year was highlighted by setting career records with 1,111 points, most rebounds with 631, and by setting a school record by playing in seventy-six victories. At the same banquet, Katelyn Poss was the winner of the Falcon award for great team and individual play, and Nicole Onley received the Sportsmanship award. The girls are pumped for next year knowing that ten players are returning.

Boys' Varsity Basketball

Coach Larry Hurd's boys' basketball team demonstrated steadfast determination in overcoming a variety of unusual setbacks including injuries and illnesses at the beginning of the year by winning four of their last five games.

Reminded by his assistant coach (and father) Larry Hurd, Sr. that "things are not as good as they sometimes may seem, nor as bad as they sometimes appear," the team maintained its composure through determined practices. They proved themselves with a strong finish at the end of the season.

Coach Hurd compares this season to a childhood experience of being stuck at the apex of a roller coaster at Kings Dominion. While struggling uphill at the start of the season, the team seemed to get stuck at mid-season with no progress. Unlike his roller coaster ordeal as a child, where he had to give up the ride only to walk the steep and frightening walkway down to the platform, this year's team gave him a wild ride to success ultimately leaving him with that same kind of carnival ride sensation about the season, "Just when you want more, it stopped."

Through it all, the boys' varsity came within six points of playing in the finals at Comcast Center.

Wrestling

Coach Eric Britton had some good news to impart about the wrestling season. In a county where it's not only tough to be the only 1A school, but it's especially tough in wrestling because weight classes are forfeited when there aren't wrestlers to fill them, the team won three of its regular season matches, a marked improvement over last year.

In this small but growing team, there were a number of outstanding athletes. Ninth-grader Joe Gilpin placed fourth at the Gaithersburg Junior Varsity Wrestling Tournament amongst competitors from all the county schools. For the varsity team, junior Roger Torres placed second at counties. Of the five wrestlers that went to regions, Roger Torres placed first in his class and was the only one to qualify for states where he placed fourth.

While this is still quite a young team, David Kim is the only senior, they wrestle a very tough schedule with half of their regular season matches against seven of the top ten county teams—two or three of them are the top schools in the state. Coach Britton says, "As the season ended, the wins we had were big. This will give us something to build on for next year."

Poolesville High School's Secret Sport

The first time Coach Ericka Waters had ever heard of Poolesville High School's swimming and diving team was when Athletic Director Mike Riley approached her about becoming the new coach, as she says, "She gladly took the job." Many in the community don't know the team exists since much of the practicing and all the meets take place in locations outside of Poolesville. Many would also be surprised to learn that PHS has had a team since the 1970s.

The team, consisting of fifty-two students, only practices two times a week in the water at the Germantown campus of Montgomery College. They have another two practices per week at the high school either in the weight room or doing dry land exercises. Then they have meets on Saturdays at various pools.

This was Coach Waters's third year coaching and she has been very pleased with the progress of the team. For the first time, the swimming and diving team had an assistant coach in Jonathan Leong which was a big help.

This past season, the swimming and diving team added some impressive marks to its records. The girls were undefeated in division four competition and won overall. The boys came in second overall. These wins will allow the team to move up to division three for next year. In Montgomery County, there are five or six schools per division. "The team can be competitive in division three," says Waters. "I think there will be some competition, but I think the team will do well as a whole."

Apart from the division competition, there are also counties and metros. In the Metropolitan Championships, schools from Northern Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. private schools compete. It is one of the largest swimming and diving meets in the country.

As a small school, Poolesville has a difficult time competing against the bigger schools. "There are so many outstanding schools," adds Waters, "we have some individuals that do

well, but as a team, we don't fare that well."

Among these individuals is stand-out junior Allison Cole who competes in diving only. Allison won the division four championship for the second year in a row, and she placed fifth overall in the county championship and seventh overall at metros. Another amazing swimmer is sophomore Christina Chuang a future Olympic hopeful who also swims in the Rockville-Montgomery Swim Club. "She is outstanding, to say the least." At metros, Christina placed second in the 100m butterfly and sixth in the 200m individual medley. Another sophomore, John Jackson, placed seventh overall in the 200m freestyle and fourteenth overall in the 100m freestyle at metros. He swam for RMSC for the first time this year.

While Waters is sad to see her eight seniors graduate, David Barr, Alex Eames, Megan Long, Ashley Oakey, Chris Ritter, Jon Torrey, Kinsley Wilde, and Matt Wolverson, she is excited about the large freshman class she had this year, "We have a lot of prospective talent." About the future, Coach Waters predicts, "We have a good solid team. We're looking forward to competing in division three and we plan on being competitive."

Comus Woman Wins Local Marathon-in-the-Woods

By Beth Seeger

Special to the Monocacy Monocle

While many of us hit the pavement in our vehicles early Saturday morning March 5 to run errands, unbeknownst to us, there were some harder souls hitting nature's pavement beneath us in their running shoes. Runners participating in the Seneca Creek Greenway Trail Marathon and 50K were snaking their way through upper Montgomery County on the Greenway trail. The Greenway Trail

—Continued on Page 23.

Marathon Continued—

follows Seneca Creek and runs under many of the county's major roads, including Routes 28 and 355.

The Seneca Creek Greenway Trail (SCGT) was officially opened in 1997. It was the brainchild of Milt Kaufman, a noted international



Monika Bracken leads the pack en route to her victory.

environmentalist. He established a coalition of organizations to support the construction of the trail, ranging from the Audubon Naturalist Society to the Sugarloafers' Volksmarch Club. Volunteers from this coalition as well as the joint efforts on the part of the State of Maryland and Montgomery County made this trail possible. It has transformed an area once known hundreds of years ago for its waterpower and agricultural mills to a recreational gem at a time when green space is a precious commodity.

The Montgomery County Road Runners Club (MCRRC) decided to take advantage of this green space and an elevated interest in trail running among its members and organized the first annual SCGT Marathon in the Spring of 2003. It was scheduled to start at Butler's Orchards just south of Damascus and finish

at Riley's Lock at the Potomac River. Unfortunately Mother Nature did not cooperate. "We got two feet of snow a couple days before the race," Ed Schultze, the MCRRC race director, remembers "and we had to cancel it." Next year—though very muddy from an extraordinarily wet spring—the trail was runnable and over fifty runners completed the marathon.

Ken Kelley, a Barnesville resident and avid runner, recalls seeing mud-covered lock arms in order to cross the Seneca Creek safely given the high waters from his volunteer post at the Black Rock Mill. This year's marathon was less eventful weather-wise. A runner's dream: cold and dry. Over ninety runners finished the race. While the male marathon winner hailed from Malibu, California, the female marathon winner was Monika Bracken, a part-time Comus resident, who was able to complete the grueling 26 plus mile race (it's nearly impossible to measure distance

exactly on the trails) in 4:45:27.

Schultze refers to trail runners such as Bracken as "adventure runners," and adds affectionately, "They are a different breed of runners. They don't mind getting muddy and dirty, enjoy running in the woods with the animals, and oftentimes carb-up on M&Ms and Pringles instead of the pricier sports gel alternatives found in running stores. Schultze claims that trail runners—though they are fewer in numbers—are often serious, fast runners who opt for trails to enhance their workouts. "Trail running is a more complete workout. You are usually not running on smooth surfaces and often have to dodge branches and avoid tree stumps. That translates into using different muscle groups and helps break up the monotony as well." Bracken concurs, "I enjoy trail running because everything is a bit more relaxed. You have to run more slowly so you can concentrate on your footing. You don't want your next step to be you last!" Bracken, an active member of the MCRRC, also made the awards the winners took home. "If I had know I was going to win," she says jokingly, "I would have made them bigger."

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