

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

June 17, 2005

Volume 2, Number 8

Inside the Monocle



Here we are in Yellowstone – in the background you see the Grand Canyon

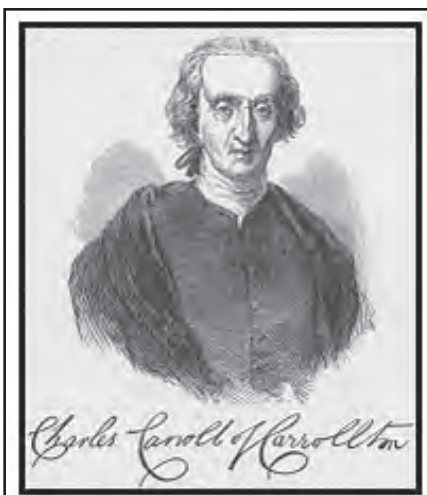
See Local History on Page 20 for the trip of a lifetime.



The Daytripper goes sideways across the river. See Page 5.



Doug Jimerson at the Kennedy Center, circa mid-19th Century. See Center Stage, Page 16.



See Local History on Page 21 for an Independence Day Special.

John Poole Middle School Students Paint Giant Crab

By John Clayton

The students at John Poole Middle School, led by art teacher Nori Thorne, are preparing to send a giant six-foot crab to Baltimore as part of a combined public art and fundraising project in support of the Baltimore Public School system. The crab, fully and gloriously painted as a tribute to Vincent Van Gogh, is named Vincent Van Crabbe. He is currently on display in the lobby of JPMS where he will remain until June 16 when he begins his trip to further fame and glory as part of the Crabtown Project which was organized by Baltimore City's "Believe in Our Schools" project.

The project was kicked off earlier this year, when, as Ms. Thorne said, the "first bushel of two hundred crabs was released." The crabs were dis-

tributed to participating artists and art students for painting and decorating. Later this month, the completed sculptures will be placed at well-traveled sites throughout Baltimore where they will remain on display until they

are auctioned off at a Crab Fest in November. CitiFinancial is the program sponsor for this initiative, and Legg Mason is sponsoring the auction. Piper Rudnick sponsored Vincent Van Crabbe for JPMS.

The original Crabtown sculpture was designed by artists within the Creative Alliance which is managing the initial design process. Baltimore artist Charles Winkler sculpted a full scale crab (roughly six feet by six feet) to be used in the production of full scale molds. Fox Industries of Baltimore generated the molds and manufactured the unfinished fiberglass sculptures. The Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance (GBCA) released a Call for Artists in early January to solicit design proposals.



The one and only Vincent Van Crabbe, flanked by art teacher Nori Thorne and JPMS Principal Richard H. Bishop.

—Continued on Page 16.

A Community In Search of Its Identity

By Rande Davis

It was one of the grandest nights old Seneca had seen in a very, very long time.

Over one hundred people descended on the little Seneca Community Church on Berryville Road in Seneca on the evening of June 7 for what turned out to be an emotional celebration of community spirit and pride.

The occasion was to celebrate the release of a beautifully completed new publication, *The Seneca Valley – A River Runs Through It*, a delightful historical

presentation of a quaint community whose past has become obscure through difficult times and challenges. Today it takes some new steps toward the future through this book that bonds diverse neighbors with a spiritual sense of accomplishment.

The evening began with local resident Austin Kiplinger asking the question, "Who will preserve this treasure of time?" Among those summoned to answer that question were Susan Soderberg and Julia O'Malley of the Montgomery County Historic Commission, and Andrea Willey, president of the Historic Medley District, Inc.

Perhaps the most poignant answer came from Ben Clipper, a member not only of the church but a member of its founding family as well. He remembered working in the quarries at a time when men were called boys and were paid one dollar a day for their work. He recalled how happy he had become when the National Institute of Health came to the area with better-paying employment. His answer was loud and clear: those who value

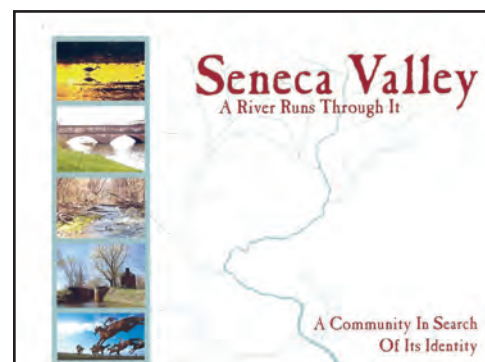
Fireworks Return to the Upcounty

Michael Rubin, owner of the Hughes Road polo grounds, has offered his property to the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department for the annual celebration. Joining Mr. Rubin's generosity are Selby's Market, the Commissioners of Poolesville, the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, and Jamison's Real Estate. This event will feature an exciting fireworks show, delicious food and beverages like Boardwalk Fries, Bar-b-que sandwiches, pizza, soft drinks, plus a variety of live music on stage, with the very popular Jim Bowie Band as the headliner. The gates will open at 6:00 p.m. with fireworks to go off shortly after sunset.

Businesses and community leaders wishing to become a sponsor of the event can call Jeff Eck at 240-401-0780.

The Monocacy Lions will coordinate parking and entry fee collection (\$5.00 per car). Other groups willing to help can call 301-349-0070 for more information.

—Continued on Page 18.



The new book about the Seneca Valley published by the Cultural Strategies Institute.

Family Album

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Photo courtesy of Matt Kremek

Chris Kramek, Caitlin Evans, Ryan Lawrence, Kevin White, Becky Fielding, Eric Agnew at the PHS graduation.



The four scouts installed at the Court of Honor: Joseph Bernardo, Chris Ritter, Justin Rollibard, and Will Martin



The American Legion and Boy Scouts placed flags on veterans' graves.



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Day Tripper

Real Close—Real Fun

By Rande Davis

Sometimes it's those things closest to you that fail to get your attention. Today's Daytripper is somewhat like that, since we decided to take a quick trip to Virginia wine country in the Leesburg area. Like most of our readers, we have been over to Leesburg for shopping, a little antiquing, and some fun dining. Inexplicably, we just haven't visited any of the wineries, but after seeing the movie *Sideways*, we thought that some wine touring might just be the perfect daytrip.

What makes this trip especially rewarding is that it can truly be accomplished at the very last minute. In fact, we didn't leave Poolesville until after 3:00 p.m. one Saturday afternoon and still had a terrific four- to five-hour daytrip.

Loudoun County has twelve local vineyards so finding one that will interest you will not be difficult. You can go online to www.loudounwine.com to review the list and make your choice. From the moment you leave our area, you could be at any one of them within fifty minutes. Some, like Tarara Winery, have quite a few special events throughout the year, and we plan to go there on a special Daytripper a bit later in the year.

For our late afternoon excursion, we selected Lost Creek Winery on Spinks Ferry Road in Leesburg. From Poolesville, the trip took about thirty minutes, and, even though it was near the end of their day, we still had time to catch a tour and some tasting www.lostcreekwinery.com.

Lost Creek is about a mile and a half off of Route 15 in Lucketts (on the right traveling north after getting off of White's Ferry). The indoor tasting room has a feel of the southwest and would be a warm setting even in colder weather with its large, flagstone fireplace.

The covered outdoor patio has many tables that would be suitable for festive parties like showers, receptions, meetings, etc. As we went into the winery's visitors' building, a tasting was already underway. A friendly and cheerful staff was ready to serve us a sampling of eight of their wines.

The tasting is \$3.00 per person and deducted from any purchases.

We were served by one of the owners of the winery, Carol Hauck, whose pleasant and informative presentation of each wine was demonstrably filled with much deserved pride in the wine and in the establishment. We won't pretend to be wine connoisseurs, but we do know what we like, and we found their wines quite pleasant. We became instant fans of their rosé (blend of Merlot and Chardonnay) and their Spring Time wine, a blend of Vidal, Viognier, Chardonnay, and Muscat Canelli. We bought a bottle of each to enjoy at home.

Even though we were there just a few minutes before closing for the day, Carol gave us a tour of the winery. She told us that her husband, Bob, gained a passion and knowledge for making wine from an Italian friend who taught him the business. In 1995, they bought the farm, and the rest is history.

The twenty-six acre grape orchards surround the building which is quaintly situated on a gentle hill overlooking the vineyards. A number of the employees are family. The vineyard "next door" is owned by the Haucks' son, Eric, and his wife, Deborah. They surprised their parents by buying the farm next door and developing it into Hidden Brook Winery. Today, the two vineyards complement each other very well.

Depending on the time of day and your personal interests, you can visit the antique stores in Lucketts or travel directly to Leesburg for shopping and dining. The weekend we went to the area, Lucketts was having a huge flea market near its old school grounds. The event centered around the town's large antique dealers (the kind treasure hunters like the best), but since it was so late, we decided to skip the flea market and go directly to Leesburg.

The shops in Leesburg are really intriguing, and on a Saturday evening, they often have a band playing in the town courtyard. The first Friday night of each month is the best time to go if you are planning your daytrip, the shops stay open late, but for the rest of the month, most of the shops in Leesburg close early, even on a Saturday.

We were in the mood for Italian food and among the many restaurants in Leesburg there are at least three

—Continued on Page 11.

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Published by Monocacy Press, LLC

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Poolesville, MD 20837



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Basket Bingo
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 p.m. \$15.00 in advance; \$20.00 at door

June 19

Summer Sounds in Park
 "Utenzil"
 Whalen Common 7:00 p.m.

June 20-23

Baseball Summer Camp
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 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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June 20-25

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June 23

Poolesville Public Library
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 2:00 p.m.

June 26

Summer Sounds in the Park
 Whalen Common
 "Project Natale" – Jazz Band
 7:00 p.m.

June 27


Poolesville Public Library
 Book Discussion Group
 "Curious Incident of the Dog in the
 Night"
 by Mark Hadden

June 28

Poolesville Public Library
 Stevens Puppets – Wizard of Oz
 7:00 p.m.

June 30

Poolesville Public Library
 Pre-school film: "Stone Soup,"
 "Happy Birthday Moon," and "Owl
 Moon"
 2:00 p.m.



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In the Garden

The Museum of Garden History

By Maureen O'Connell

God Almighty first planted a garden, and indeed it is the purest of human pleasures. It is the greatest refreshment of the spirit of man. Francis Bacon (1561-1626)

LONDON. A short walk from Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament and across the Lambeth Bridge, brings you to the church of Saint Mary-at-Lambeth. It is next door to Lambeth Palace, where the Archbishop of Canterbury has his London residence. It served as the parish church for nine hundred years until this building was deconsecrated in 1972, when the congregation dwindled to an unsustainable level. The earliest record of this site dates back to 1042 and King Harthacnut, the last Viking King of England. The present church is an 1851 restoration of the fourteenth century building, with the oldest remaining part being the belfry tower. After 1972, Saint Mary-at-Lambeth gradually deteriorated and by 1976, the wrecking ball

was getting closer. In that same year John and Rosemary Nicholson, keen historians and gardeners, traced the family tomb of two 17th century plant hunters, the John Tradescants, to the overgrown churchyard surrounding the derelict church. Appreciating the historic importance of the site, they became determined to save the building and the surrounding land. But, they had to find a new purpose for it. This idea grew to creating the world's first museum dedicated to garden history. They established a Trust in 1977 and a campaign began to restore the building and develop the museum. Through the Nicholson's determination and largess, the Museum of Garden History was created as a first class national resource, informing and inspiring the public about the history of the garden. This small, unpretentious museum is not listed in most tour guide books, but it is well worth a visit on your next time in London.

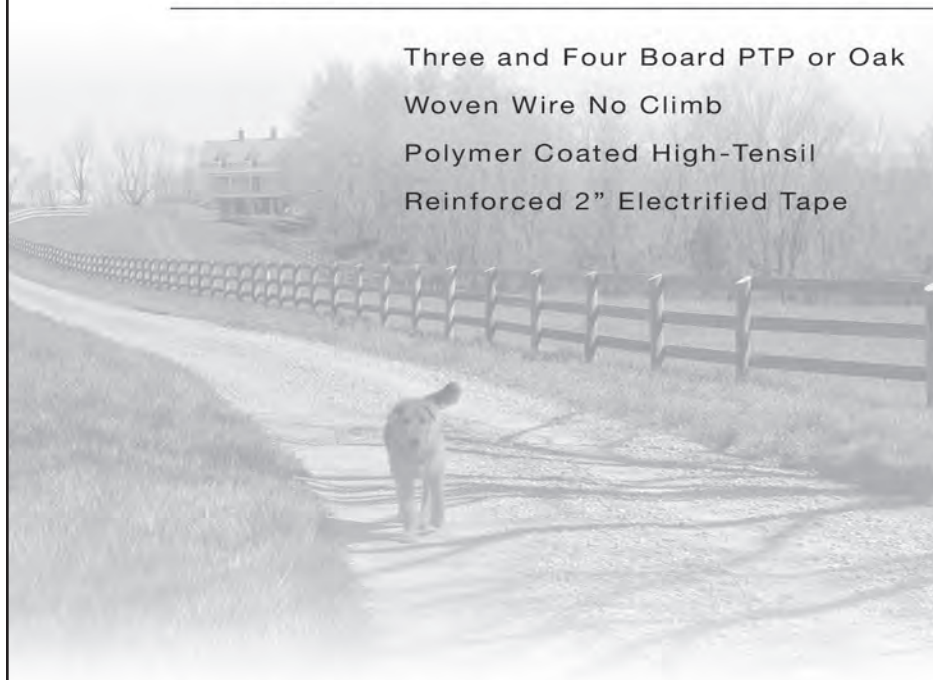
You don't have to be a dyed-in-the-wool gardener to enjoy this museum; it has something for many interests. The Victorian design of the building imitates the elements of the perpendicular style of 14th century

—Continued on Page 15.

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Big Board

Summer Carnival Season Kicks off in Adamstown

The Carroll Manor Volunteer Fire Co. starts the summer carnival season with their 51st Annual Carnival from June 18 through June 25. The Adamstown extravaganza starts off with a car show on the first Saturday. Every night, the volunteers offer a variety of dinner platters including fried chicken, pit beef, and fresh cut fries. Some of the area's favorite country singers and bands will be performing nightly. On Wednesday, their parade gets started at 7:00 p.m. Of course, fireworks night is scheduled for Thursday evening at 10:00 p.m. and country music band Hot Creek Country will be on stage.

Poolesville Summer Recreation Programs

The Montgomery County recreational program for children six years old to twelve years old will begin on June 20 and run through July 29. It is held at Stevens Park from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The cost is only \$10.00 per child. Only a weekly basis, the children will play

games like tennis, pickle ball, basketball, lacrosse, softball, baseball, soccer, and capture the flag. There will be other games throughout the summer as well. Every Wednesday from 11:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. will be pool day. The cost is \$4.00 and forms can be obtained through the Poolesville Town Hall.

Summer Camps and Sports Programs

The Poolesville Athletic Association Summer Baseball Camp starts June 20 through June 24. The ages are from seven years old to fourteen years old. Cost of the camp is \$180.00 and includes all aspects of the game and will be under the direction of high school baseball coach Will Gant. The camp will be at Halmos Park Call 301-972-7047.

The girls have a lot to keep them busy with volleyball. The volleyball team will be at the Poolesville Baptist Church from June 20 through June 23. For those in sixth grade up to ninth grade, it is perfect for beginners or more experienced players. Contact: rosemaryferrino@clearchannel.com.

Want a Summer to Remember?

The Barnesville School is taking registrations now for their Early Childhood Camp to be held throughout the summer. For pre-kindergarten to eighth grade, they have sports, nature, academics, drama clubs, and much more. Contact Audra Hough at 301-972-0341 to get the details of this program.

Free Concerts

As part of a series of free concerts that will be presented at three parks throughout Montgomery County (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec or 240-777-6821), Whalen Park in Poolesville will host four unique musical presentations:

Utenzils – June 19, 7:00 p.m.

Project Natale – June 26, 7:00 p.m. This group incorporates all the styles of jazz with a fresh and exciting concept.

Bob Bertilla's Big Hillbilly Bluegrass – July 10, 7:00 p.m. A mix of hard-driving bluegrass along with country, folk, and original material.

BanjerDan – August 7, 7:00 p.m. A banjo player/multi-instrumental performer with an Americana mix, rooted in straight-ahead bluegrass, branching through folk and rock influences.

Baker Park Band Shell Musical Series

Frederick's Baker Park Band Shell starts their summer musical entertainment by featuring Dixie Power Trio and the New Line Brass Band (Louisiana variety) on June 19 at 7:00 p.m. The concert is free, but patrons are asked to bring a non-perishable canned food item. Bring your blanket and come early to be treated to the beautiful bells of the carillon.

The Wiz in Frederick

The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theater in Frederick is presenting the Wizard of Oz on June 17 and 18. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m. with the performance starting at 8:00 p.m. Fun for the whole family, come and relive childhood memories of the rainbow.

A Real Comedy Porker for You

The Maryland Ensemble Theater (31 West Patrick St., Frederick) welcomes The Comedy Pigs as they celebrate their twelve years of improv with returning members in a special performance. The comedy improv

—Continued on Page 9

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**Big Board Continued on
Page 8.**

starts at 8:00 p.m. with shows on June 17 and 18. For details call 301-694-4744.

Lost Montgomery: A Photography Exhibit by Michael Dwyer

At the Waters House at Pleasant Fields in Germantown, this unique photography exhibit documents Montgomery County's lost architectural heritage with black and white images of buildings in the county that pre-date 1850. Most of these structures were photographed in the mid-1970s and would be difficult to recognize as they have since been replaced by developments. A few are large, architecturally significant homes but most are the modest dwellings, barns and outbuildings of farmers. This exhibit will run to September 10. The Waters House, located at 12535 Milestone Manor Lane is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, call 301-515-2887 or visit the website: www.montgomeryhistory.org

Eighth Annual Montgomery County Heritage Days

Mark your calendars for this free countywide event which celebrates Montgomery County's rich historical and cultural past. From Sandy Spring to Seneca and Chevy Chase to Hyattstown, over thirty sites will be open with special activities, demonstrations, tours, and exhibits. Make ice cream, create a grave rubbing, take a hay ride, listen to gospel music, and more! MCHS will have all its facilities open for this great event which is coordinated by Heritage Montgomery. Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26 from 12:00

P.O.O.F Annual Picnic

Poolesville Odd Fellows Lodge 97 will have their annual picnic of widows, widowers, and orphans on Saturday, June 25, at Owens Park, starting at 1:00 p.m. There will be music, dinner with choice of ham and/or chicken, and door prizes. Come and help us celebrate springtime.

*Sandra Wolf-Meei Cameron at
Strathmore Hall*

If you missed Poolesville's violin prodigy at Poolesville High School this past March (or even if you saw her), come hear her play at the new Music Center at Strathmore on Friday, June 17 at 8:00 p.m. Larry Kirkegaard will unveil the mysteries of Strathmore's acoustics through this lecture/concert entitled "A Journey for the Ears." There will be performances by Sandra Wolf-Meei Cameron with the National Philharmonic, as well as a jazz trio, a brass and percussion group, and in a grande finale, Ravel's "Daphnis and Chloe Suite No. 2" will be performed with full orchestra and full chorus. Children seven through seventeen get in free. Call 301-581-5100 for adult ticket prices and reservations.

Among My Souvenirs

An exhibit of souvenirs, keepsakes, and mementos at the Beall-Dawson House. This exhibit looks at an often-overlooked category of decorative arts: the souvenir. Whether kitschy or quality, practical or pointless, purchased for ourselves or for the unlucky friends and family left behind, souvenir goods serve as physical reminders of where

we've been and of who we were when we got there. This exhibit runs through July 31. The hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for students and seniors; MCHS members have free admission. For more information call 301-762-1492 or visit www.montgomeryhistory.org

Braddock's March, 1755

2005 marks the 250th anniversary of General Braddock's fateful march to Ft. Dusquesne during the French and Indian War. In April 1755, Braddock and his troops, along with a young officer named George Washington, traveled through Maryland and Virginia to reach Ft. Dusquesne, located near present-day Pittsburgh. This exhibit at the Beall-Dawson House explores the march as it traveled through Montgomery County and runs through July 3.. Hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission to the exhibit is included with museum admission. For more information call 301-762-1492 or visit www.montgomeryhistory.org

—Continued on Page 11.



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"I started lifting weights, stretching and taking the aerobic classes. After three to four months, I realized that not only was I in better shape, but my back pain was no longer a problem. To this day, I continue to workout at Healthworks and I am still pain free."



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**Daytripper continued from
Page 5**

Italian establishments. We like to go to Nido's restaurant since the food is very authentically Italian. Its location reminds us of so many New York City restaurants with its "three steps down" into a basement room that is cozy, with low ceilings, and has just the right combination of travel posters of Italy and hanging Chianti bottles. Just walking in you want to kiss your fingertips and proclaim, "Mama Mia!" The service is friendly and unpretentious.

The upscale and unique Light Foot Restaurant is a must dining experience by everyone and when we come back to the area another time, we will visit more of the town's other restaurants, sites, and explore their walking tour.

Even though we left late in the afternoon, visiting a winery, window shopping, and then dining in a warm, family atmosphere, we got back before 9:30 p.m. Between the selection of wineries, restaurants, and shops, there are numerous combinations of experiences to piece together for many visits to Leesburg. Since Leesburg has many special events throughout the year, we will watch their website for the street festivals that come up every so often.

**Big Board Continued From
Page 9—**

The UMVFD Fireworks Are Back
Back by popular demand, the Upper Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department will be presenting fireworks at the polo grounds on Hughes Road by Sugarland Road on July 4. .

Swim for Sarah – July 27
Mark your calendars for the annual Swim for Sarah fundraiser and silent auction at the Western County Outdoor Pool. Businesses and individuals are encouraged to donate services and goods to the silent auction.

Annual Picnic

Poolesville Odd Fellows Lodge 97 will have their annual picnic of widows, widowers, and orphans on Saturday, June 25, at Owens Park, starting at 1:00 p.m. There will be music, dinner with choice of ham and/or chicken, and door prizes. Come and help them celebrate springtime.

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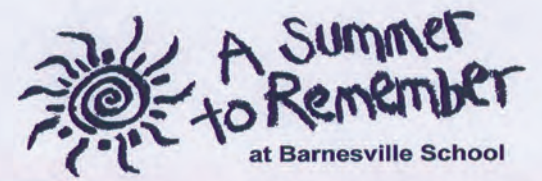


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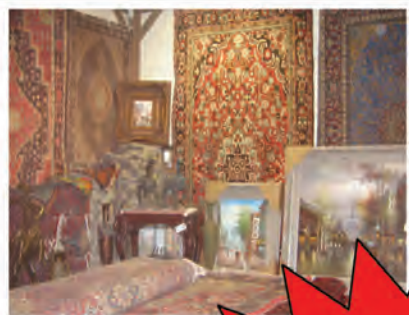
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**Museum Continued From
Page 7—**

architecture. The 19th century stained glass windows, destroyed in the Second World War, were replaced in the 1950's with designs that imitate the original themes. The beautiful West Window is uncannily appropriate for the Museum as its depiction of sending the Gospels to the New World reflects the great European tradition of exploration and trade in which plant hunting and the John Tradescants played such a part. The East Window is more traditional. It depicts five Saints: Thomas Becket (1118-1170), Archbishop of Canterbury under Henry II and martyred in Canterbury Cathedral, Saint George, (died c.303 AD), patron saint of England, Edward the Confessor (c.1002-1066), 11th century King of England and founder of Westminster Abbey, Saint Nicholas, (4th century), Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, patron of sailors, merchants and children, and also identified with Santa Claus or Father Christmas, Saint Christopher, (3rd century), patron saint of travelers, especially those who cross fords such as that at Lambeth.

Saint Mary's grounds hold an estimated 26,000 burials, most with no surviving memorial. The museum puts particular emphasis on James Tradescant the Elder (c. 1570-1638) and his son, John Tradescant the Younger (1608-1662). James the Elder lived in the era when European plant exploration was very common. It was the time of the great plant exchanges between England and the New World. Tradescant and his son were tireless travelers in search of new species. They traveled throughout Europe, Russia, Algiers and America and introduced many plants as well as 'curiosities' from foreign lands. During his time working for Charles I, Tradescant the Elder bought a house in the parish of Saint Mary-at-Lambeth. In 1629 he set up at his home a museum known "Tradescant's Ark." Among the many exhibits were the "hand of a mermaid", a natural dragon about two inches long, blood that rained on the Isle of Wight, and the Passion of Christ carved very daintily on a plum stone. The least fanatical pieces formed the nucleus of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford.

The Museum hosts permanent collections and rotating exhibits. The Tools and Artifacts Collection is one of the country's finest collection. Garden tools have changed very little from the seventeenth century. Tradescant used the same watering cans, spades, shov-

els and rakes that we use today. An interesting garden object on display was pony boots. Before the invention of the lawn mower in 1830, turf was cut using a scythe or, on large estates, sheep were allowed to graze near the house, where a fine sward was required. On larger estates, horses were used to pull mechanical mowers, and to protect the turf from damage, their hooves were fitted with neat leather boots. One of the oldest items in the collection, at approximately 4000 years old, is a pick used to dig the great ditch around Durrington Walls Henge, near Stonehenge. In my articles I often disparage garden Gnomes. I put them in the same category as garden flamingoes. Well, my opinion of them is changing. The museum holds a varied and interesting collection of garden gnomes, dating back to the late nineteenth century. The oldest is a German terracotta gnome, and one of the most modern is the "People's Gnome" caricaturing Prime Minister Tony Blair. (How would W look as a gnome?) There is also late breaking news from the Chelsea Flower Show being held this week. Gnomes are back in vogue, even in the most chic gardens of London. Only in England would television give prime-time coverage to a flower show!



One of the topics discussed in the rotating exhibits explored the history of Botany, from the first botanists, the medieval monks, to the establishment of Botany as a science in the seventeenth century. Much of plant collecting has remained the same over the years. What has changed is the politics of such collecting. In 1988 the Rio Earth Summit established international laws to protect a country's right to retain economic and intellectual copy rights over its indigenous plants. In 2000 the Millennium Seed Bank was created in Sussex and is run by botanists at Kew Gardens. It is the world's first repository of plant specimen seeds. It is housed in a bomb proof vault large enough to store thirty double-decker buses. It was built to last five hundred years and to withstand temperatures to -20 degrees Celsius. Volunteers have already collected 90% of Britain's native flora in seed form. Environmentalists believe that there will be a loss of twenty-five percent of earth's plants over the next fifty years. The Millennium Seed Bank is working to prevent such extinction.

Behind the church building is a cemetery and a reproduction seventeenth century knot garden. In the garden two interesting sarcophagi lurk among the flowers and foliage. The first, which features a sculpted eternal flame, is the resting place of one time Lambeth resident Captain Bligh, the commander of the Bounty. In 1787 it set off from England to transport bread fruit trees from Tahiti to the West Indies. On the way home the crew mutinied. The story is that Bligh remained on the island longer than planned waiting for the fruit to ripen. This extended time took a toll on the men's patience and their provisions. The crew set Bligh and eighteen others adrift in a small open boat with no maps and few provisions. Using just a sextant, Bligh navigated the craft 3600 miles to the Indonesian island of Timor, a journey of forty eight days. He later became Governor of New South Wales, where his subjects once again rebelled. After which he was demoted to Vice-Admiral. The Tradescant Memorial is more unusual, depicting a seven-headed griffin contemplating a skull and several crocodiles sifting through sundry ruins, flanked by knurled trees. Not the usual headstone you see in the cemetery in Beallsville.

The reproduction seventeenth century knot garden with historically authentic planting was made in 1981 and formally opened by the Queen Mother in 1983. Knot gardens had been popular in Britain since the sixteenth century when woody herbs were clipped to form low, formal hedges in geometric designs. The compartments created inside the hedge are planted with a mixture of shrubs, roses, perennials, annuals and bulbs. Traditionally the patterns of the garden were symbolic and would represent meanings such as 'heaven on earth', marriage or union.

This wonderful little museum and garden live quietly in the shadows of Westminster Abbey, Parliament and Big Ben. It is quite a peaceful haven in the middle of a big, noisy city. Next time you are in London, take time to visit it. I will end this little garden travelogue with a quote from the wonderful, eccentric English gardener, Vita Sackville-West.

"The most note-worthy thing about gardeners is that they are always optimistic, always enterprising, and never satisfied. They always look forward to doing something better than they have ever done before."

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Vincent Van Crabbe Continued From Page 1—

Nori Thorne learned about the project from her association with the Maryland Art Council. She said that the project has been an artistic collaboration with Jamie Eakin of Poolesville High School. Once the decision to honor Vincent Van Gogh was made, the creativity of her art students seems to have taken on a life of its own. Vincent Van Crabbe has been adorned with a paint brush in one claw and was also provided with “his infamous ear,” in keeping with the spirit of their chosen artist. However, for various practical reasons, and perhaps with some concern for the sensitivities of the general public, the ear will not be part of the final display. The ear may in fact become a gift to Piper Rudnick, which we assume or perhaps even hope will be a first of some kind for everyone involved.

However, the true wonder of this project is the incredible job of painting and preparing the crab by all of Ms. Thorne’s artists. The crab is truly a beauty to behold and probably has to be viewed in person (in crustacean?) to be fully appreciated. Vincent’s front is painted with a variety of sunflowers, reflecting Van Gogh’s penchant for incorporating sunflowers into his art. On one side of his front, there is a rendering of his self portrait with a bandage over his missing ear. Vincent’s back is painted in the style of Van Gogh’s “Starry Night.” The students studied Van Gogh’s work and his techniques in order to determine how they could best capture his style on Vincent’s generous carapace. They decided that the secret was in his brushwork, and Vincent is adorned with the distinctive swirls and signature brushwork so familiar from Van Gogh’s paintings.

The Crab team is hoping that Vincent will “net” (Nori said it, not me) five thousand dollars at the auction, and ten percent of the proceeds will come back to JPMS, with the balance supporting the Baltimore City Public Schools. So though it may seem that sending a crab to Baltimore is a little like sending coals to Newcastle, or perhaps a bureaucrat to Washington, it’s for the benefit of many, and Piper Rudnick is going to get a well-deserved ear. To continue to follow this saga and to see more of Vincent Van Crabbe and the students, go to www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/poolems/artroom/artnews.htm. There’s even a blog.

Center Stage Patriotic Tenor

By Dominique Agnew

Perhaps you’ve seen his CDs at the John Poole House and other national parks and monuments—“Jimerson Live at the Kennedy Center” or “America,” among many. Perhaps you’ve heard him on the radio and seen his CDs at Tower Records—“America the Beautiful” by country singer Doug Alan. Douglas Jimerson, high tenor at the Kennedy Center, and Doug Alan, country singer, are one and the same, Doug Jimerson of North Potomac, frequenter of Poolesville.

Born and raised in Reading, Pennsylvania, Doug started piano lessons at the age of six and “definitely dreamed” of becoming a concert pianist. It wasn’t until the tenth grade that he had his first opportunity for singing. The high school which he attended at the time had a strong choral program, and he sang in DuBois’s oratorio, “The Seven Last Words of Christ,” for which he received a write-up in the local paper. Doug’s choral director liked to say he “discovered him.” This did not launch Doug’s career as a tenor. He still wanted to be a concert pianist.

To this end, during the tenth grade, Doug decided he couldn’t stand public school any longer. He abruptly changed schools and attended a preparatory school, continuing his focus on the piano. Growing up in Reading, rich in history, Doug also developed a great love of history, choosing it as his major at Cornell. While at Cornell, Doug sang in the glee club and, off campus, with Cauaga’s Waiters, a small men’s group. Still, there was no serious thought of singing professionally.

When Doug came to the realization that he would not find any jobs teaching history at the university level because he was “not a woman,” he decided to continue his schooling. He applied and was accepted at Temple College of Music with the piano as his major instrument, and voice as a “minor minor.” Doug credits his childhood piano teacher, Elizabeth Zug, for, as he says, “getting me on the path of thinking of music as a career.” One year later, he had his bachelor’s of music. Yes, the piano was still the focus, but the turning point had come. To earn his bachelor’s of music, he had to perform; and for his juries, he played

the piano and sang. When he was finished, the judges asked him what his plans were. Doug replied that he was considering an internship in Washington, D.C.; they told him to study voice with Todd Duncan, the original Porgy in “Porgy and Bess” and friend of George Gershwin.

It still took a little while for his mission in life to sink in, first Doug had to go to law school and hate it, then things would begin to take shape. After that brief law school stint, he applied to the music school at Catholic University to take part in the opera program. He contacted Todd Duncan who said, “Get your Master’s degree in opera, come and see me, and I’ll teach you how to sing.” Todd Duncan didn’t want to “impose his ideas” and refused to teach Doug while he was at Catholic University.

Finally, with a Master’s from Catholic U. and the beginning of studies with Todd Duncan (which would last twenty years), Doug says, “Then the focus began of trying to make a living as a musician.” This was easier said than done. Doug did all of the following, many concurrently: music director at St. Peter’s Catholic Church on Capitol Hill; singing with the Washington Opera, the Annapolis Opera, and the Summer Opera of Washington; tuning pianos; singing country music in clubs; singing as a soloist in dinner theatres; and money management. Something sticks out, right? He went to the American University School of Business and earned his MBA in money management—it pays the bills.

The dilemma continued. How was Doug to overcome the difficulties that exist for many opera singers of getting a big paying audience? “What can I do to get more people to come to recitals?”

Todd Duncan replied, “Why don’t you look at some American folk songs—something more popular?”

Doug says, “This reminded me that I had an old folk music collection in the piano bench.” Many of these were Stephen Foster songs.

In September of 1995, Douglas Jimerson performed live at the Terrace Theatre of the Kennedy Center. While it wasn’t a sellout, two important people attended: a reviewer from the Washington Post giving the performance a favorable review and Richard Foster, grand-nephew of composer Stephen Foster.

The success of this recital was quickly followed by an opening at Carnegie Hall in January 2006, then

singing in front of the New York Stock Exchange, and singing on CNN—in all of these performances he dressed the part in a Civil War era costume. Also in 1996, Doug founded his company, AmeriMusic and “got busy working on CDs,” the first of which was “Abraham Lincoln Sings On!”

He recently added country music to his repertoire, continuing the theme of patriotic songs, mainly because he likes country music. He saw a show on television similar to “American Idol” entitled “Nashville Star” and thought, “I can do that.” So now he does it. He has released two CDs as his alter ego, Doug Alan.

He has presently completed fourteen CDs, ten of which can be found on the Civil War website, www.civilwar.com. Of course, his own website lists a number of his CDs, as well, www.patrioticmusic.com. He continues to perform regularly, mostly at national parks such as Gettysburg and Antietam, usually accompanied by Gilmore’s Light Ensemble which has been with him since the Kennedy Center. In carving this special niche for himself, he has not only found a unique way to keep performing as an artist, but he has also contributed to keeping alive American folk songs and patriotic music.

His next performance in the region will be Sunday, June 26 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the annual Westminster Civil War Weekend at Carroll Community College.

Poolesville Artist Joins Brother in Maine Show

Poolesville artist, Forrest Meader, is showing his work alongside his brother’s, Colby College (Maine) emeritus professor art, Abbott Meader, at the INKA URPI GALERIA in Damariscotta, Maine through June 26. The brothers were offered a show last summer when the gallery owners, Bob and Norma Piper, discovered they had never shown their work together before.

This is a departure for the gallery which normally shows work of Andean artists and crafts people. A portion of profits generated by this show will benefit ADESIA, a Peruvian charity that supports a clinic, a rural school and local artists.

For more information go to www.forrestmeader.com

Tributes

Stillson-Hale Wedding in Florida

LyAnne Marie Stillson, daughter of Lynne and Dennis Stillson was married to Aeon Michael Hale, originally



LyAnne Marie Stillson

of Waldorf, Maryland, on May 13, 2005 in Indian Rocks Beach, Florida. The bride, a 1997 PHS graduate, attended Villa Julie College in Baltimore and graduated Cum Laude in 2001. She is employed at the Tampa Tribune newspaper as a graphic design artist. The groom attended George Washington University and currently is a senior network engineer at Quality Distribution. After a honeymoon in Costa Rica, the couple resides in Tampa, Florida.

Dickerson Girl Chosen as Prom Queen at Urbana High School

Sara Jo Jamison of Dickerson, Maryland was named Queen of the Urbana High School. At UHS, the court of queen candidates is first nominated by the faculty and from



Sara Jo Jamison

that selection of five girls, the student body makes their choice. The prom was held on May 27, 2005 at the high school. Sara, who is the daughter of Bill and Pam Jamison, now heads to Delaware University.

Eagles Soar in Poolesville

Congratulations to four scouts from Poolesville's Troop 496 who were recently inducted as Eagle Scouts at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor at held at Whalen Common on Memorial Day. Only two percent of all scouts make it to the level of Eagle, and Troop 496 has six Eagle Scouts already. Over 130 friends attended the impressive ceremony as the scouts were installed and honored for their special community projects, which follow.

Joseph Bernardo installed a sidewalk ramp to the front of the Dickerson United Methodist church. Joseph is on his way to Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Willard Martin restored the historical cemetery at the Old Methodist church on West Willard Road. He will be attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in the fall.

Christopher Ritter planned and installed a new storage shed at St. Peter's Parish. Chris also will be attending Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Justin Rollibard constructed outside and indoor wheelchair ramps at WUMCO's food pantry. Justin will start at the University of Delaware.

Local News

Feast for History Buffs the Last Weekend in June

By Rande Davis

For history fans, the last weekend in June is a great time to stay close to home. The Montgomery County Heritage Tourism Alliance is sponsoring its 8th annual Montgomery County Heritage Days on June 25 and 26. If you have been putting off visiting the many historical sites in the county, there will not be a better time to do it.

Starting at noon and running to 4:00 p.m. each day, spend your weekend exploring, discovering, and learning about Montgomery County's exciting past by visiting thirty-three living history historic sites. The free countywide event has each location with its own open house special event. Visit historical towns, schools, educational facilities, agricultural sites, and hidden treasures. In our readership area alone, there will be eleven sites

Vacation Bible Schools

Dawsonville Mennonite	Celebrate the Psalms	July 11 -15	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	301-349-2124	Free
Barnesville Baptist	Ramblin' Roads - Which Way Do I go?	July 25 -29	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	301-407-0500	Free
Poolesville Presbyterian	Jerusalem Marketplace: Holy Land Adventure VBS for the whole family	August 8 to 12	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	301-605-6975	Free
St Peter's Episcopal Parish	Living as Forgiveness Children of God - Around the World in 5 Days	July 11 - 15	Evenings TBD	301-349-2073	
United Memorial Methodist Church	Circle G Ranch	July 11-15	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	301-349-2010	\$5 per child
Poolesville Baptist Church	Ramblin' Roads: -Which Way Do I Go?	July 17 -21	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	301-972-8151	Free

To include your VBS announcement in our July 1 issue, please call 301-349-0070.

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for you to explore.

Step back in time by visiting the John Poole House General Store where docents will give you an enthralling lesson in the history of the building and the town. An actual school "marm" will be in attendance at the Seneca Schoolhouse Museum so you better behave yourself because the dunce hat and corner are still active at this school.

The Hyattstown Mill project is always a wonderful weekend destination point and this weekend they will offer a themed presentation, "Barns,

Farms, and Open Spaces." There will be a demonstration of printmaking and other hands on activities.

The historic circa 1912 Davis House in Hyattstown will be open for tours with exhibits of photographs and artifacts along with information on restoration.

Almost next door in Hyattstown is the Milton Chapel, recently restored. This 1875 chapel reflects the architectural simplicity of the nineteenth century country church.

—Continued on Page 18.

Old Seneca Continued From Page 1—

the sacrifices and accomplishments of its predecessors will preserve the treasure.

While the group discussion focused on ideas to strengthen the cultural identification of the community and to preserve its rich heritage through parks, visitor centers, oral history, renewing the old Seneca Valley Civic Association, and other ideas, clearly the release of the new book



Mr. and Mrs. Ben Clipper

provides the launch pad for all of their thoughts and notions, and for all of their hopes and dreams.

The Cultural Strategies Institute, a group with worldwide reach based in Seneca, Maryland, created the new publication. The mission of CSI is to develop and implement dialogue programs that reduce cultural conflict, facilitate cultural coexistence, and enable differing cultures to grow in harmony side by side.

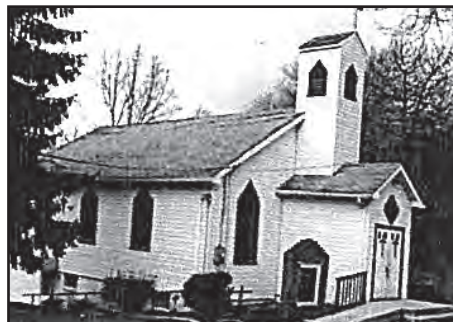
From Seneca's settlement, its agricultural and industrial history, its sand mills and special role with the C&O Canal, shared tribulation through the Civil War, its slavery and free towns, and finally, its near fade to oblivion, the community of Seneca, through this publication, has a new spark to ignite its future.

Lowell Christy, cofounder of CSI, said after the evening's events, "The evening was magical. People's life stories mingled with those who have dedicated their lives to preserving our common heritage. All the people were concerned with letting our Great Seneca Valley speak."

He continued, "The discussion centered on how we can forge an identity out of the richness of our past... the challenge will be to see if there is interest, resources, and people power to

make [the ideas] happen."

Through it all and on center stage, though, was the new book. This twenty-four page booklet in color and with great historical graphics and pictures tells the story of the Seneca Chestnut tree as the model for the community. Once so densely grow-



The Seneca Community Church on Berryville Road.

ing in the area, the American chestnut reached heights of glory and power unmatched by other vegetation. The folklore history of the book relates, "It was said that one could walk on the top of trees from the Chesapeake to the Mississippi without touching the ground."

Where this new surge of community spirit will go from here is anyone's guess. Subtitled "A Community In Search of Its Identity," the book can be purchased at the John Poole General Store, other historical locations throughout the community, or directly from Cultural Strategies Institute by calling 301-869-9098.

Heritage Days Continued From Page 17—

If you read about the restoration of the Monocacy Aqueduct in the *Monocle* and have decided to take a look at this important historical structure, this is the perfect weekend to do it. On the way to the canal and aqueduct, stop off at the Monocacy Confederate Chapel and Cemetery at the corner of Route 28 and Route 109. Civil War artifacts will be on display.

Historic White's Ferry is offering free round trips for foot passengers and they have great spots for a picnic.

The newly restored Comus Inn is on the list of sites for the weekend and what a terrific time to go there for lunch. You will be amazed at just how beautifully the restoration has transformed the inn.

Members of the family that founded St. Paul's Community Church on Sugarland Lane in Poolesville will be on hand to share their history of the church and the cemetery. If you get there by 1:00 p.m. you will have the chance to hear the Will of God Mission gospel choir.

An oral history will be provided for those visiting the Warren Historic Site in Martinsburg on Whites Ferry Road.

There are twenty-two other sites outside of the Monocacy area that include agricultural museums and sites. Brochures are available at retail locations throughout the area or you can visit www.heritagemontgomery.org.

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School News

Congressman Van Hollen Teaches Civics

It started out as a way to teach students at Poolesville Elementary School (PES) the importance of civic responsibility. It ended with a civic lesson taught by their representative, Congressman Chris Van Hollen.

Last February, Joshua Goldman, a fourth grade reporter for the Poolesville Elementary School newspaper, *Tiger Tales*, wrote an extensive article on the issue of global warming. After discussing the issue, fellow students decided to write a letter to



Van Hollen with Tiger Tales reporters.

President George Bush to register their concern and ask for his support on this issue.

The February 28 letter to the president stated: "How are you? We are writing to ask your help. Even though it is winter, we are very concerned about global warming. We know that the earth is getting hotter and that there are things our country can do to make it better. Please do whatever you can to help. Let us know what we can do. If everyone in the world works together, we can stop global warming. Thanks for doing this and all the other things you do in your job. It must be hard. We'll help, too."

Originally, the reporters had planned to visit Washington, D.C., but the large group (over sixty-five) coupled with new security concerns made the plan too difficult. While the letter was never actually mailed directly to the president, it was decided to send it to Congressman Van Hollen asking him to take it to the president on their behalf. The Congressman agreed to not only deliver it, but he also agreed to come out to the school and personally receive the letter.

On June 1, Mr. Van Hollen visited the third, fourth, and fifth graders at an assembly and gave the children a civics lesson on the various responsibilities of government.

The thirty-five minute presentation was on the multiple roles of the various branches of government, from the federal level to the local level. He

also explained their different responsibilities and the importance of checks and balances.

He sought input from the students by posing various questions to them. The students were very enthusiastic in their responses, and, to the relief of the faculty and administration, the children did exceptionally well in answering the questions posed by the congressman. In explaining the role of government, Mr. Van Hollen used the process of how a bill becomes a law as his focal point. The students were obviously paying close attention since every time the topic of the make-believe bill (increasing the driving age from sixteen to twenty-five) came up, a large groan was heard.

After the assembly, many of the reporters came forward to meet him. The students said that their favorite part was when the reporters got to quiz Mr. Van Hollen. The *Tiger Tales* reporters led off with the questions and near the end of the event, the other students were allowed to ask questions as well. Their questions were personal as well as poignant — everything from favorite color (blue) and favorite book (*Grapes of Wrath*) to what is the hardest thing he has had to deal with in life (illness of family members).

The full learning experience of this event, from initiating the topic and writing the letter to the personal appearance by the congressman, met with high praise from the students.

Words of Wisdom

By Dominique Agnew

The graduates are leaving behind their school, teachers, fond memories, but taking with them a wealth of knowledge and, in many cases, wisdom gleaned from the hallowed halls of experience. When asked to share the fruits of this wisdom to younger friends and students to help them through the journey of life, the fifth graders of Poolesville Elementary graciously imparted Words of Wisdom. The following is just a sampling of the philosophers' writings.

"Success is not a gift, work for it."
— Patti Maloney
"My friends eat beans, but they never spill beans."
— Miranda Olsen
"I learned that in sports you have to run, run as fast as you can because you sure aren't the gingerbread man."
— Julia Howard
"Trying your best will pay off. It might not right away, but it will eventually."
— Emma Stevens
"A friendship is a privilege not a game."
— Shelli Pedersen
"I learned that you have to swing a bat to hit a ball."
— Kendall Ziner
"Don't start something that you can't finish."
— Ashley Banana
"Bullies look big, mean, and tough, but look under their shell and they are not so tough. There is a heart, and to your surprise, you will find a little kid with tears in his eyes."
— Justin Carter

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Local History

By Jack Toomey and Rande Davis

Editor's Note: Part of this article is from an interview with Mrs. Helen Pumphrey in February of 2005. She passed away in April of 2005 at the age of ninety-seven. Other sections come directly from her entries into her diary written during her trip. This odyssey is about four adventurous women traveling alone cross-country in a ten-year-old automobile that had over fifty thousand miles on it. What makes the trip so unusual is that it occurred in 1933, a time when travel was limited and extremely rare for unescorted ladies. Our ladies left Poolesville in late June of that year and traveled through the month of July.

Think about getting into a used car with three friends and taking off for a journey across America. You have no real plan and are traveling on a tight budget. You only know that you want to see the country and that you have about six weeks to do it. Daunting proposition today? Well, think about doing this seventy-two years ago!



Helen Willard Pumphrey
Age 25

During the spring of 1933, America was mired in the Great Depression. Helen Willard Pumphrey and her close friends decided the time was right for such a trip. Born and raised in Poolesville, she was teaching the third grade in Silver Spring and was paid just one hundred dollars a month. She would routinely leave her home in Poolesville on Sunday night and travel to Silver Spring where she boarded, returning to Poolesville on the weekends.

The "trip for a lifetime" was planned by Helen and her friends, Antoinette Darby, Nettie Brosius, and

Mrs. Pumphrey's Adventure

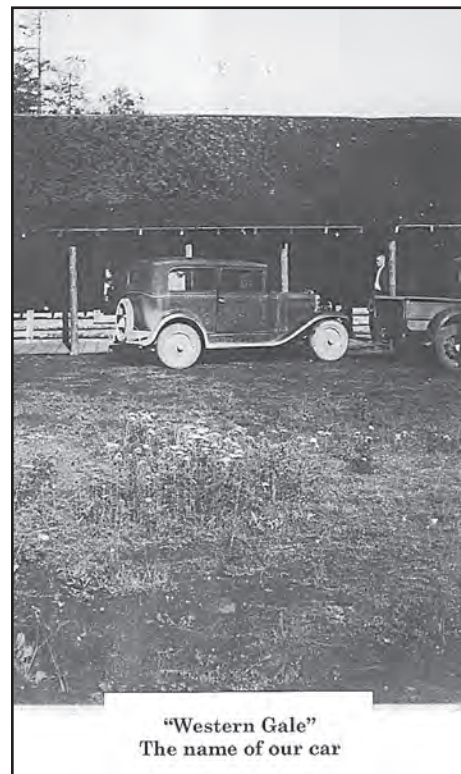
Charlotte Adams, all young ladies in their early twenties, and Esther Allnutt, who had just graduated from high school.

It seemed to them that the only thing they lacked was a car. Miss Darby was engaged to be married and her fiancé who owned an ice cream parlor in Kensington decided to lend his 1926 Chevrolet to the group. The car had fifty thousand miles on the odometer but was in good shape.

They pooled their money, purchased travelers' checks at the Poolesville bank, and began packing the car. They determined that the depression made carrying cash much too risky. There was no trunk so they had to tie their suitcases to the roof. In the last week of June 1933, family members bade them goodbye as they drove out of Mrs. Pumphrey's driveway. They traveled west on the Old National Road (now Route 40) in the direction of Chicago where the Worlds Fair was their first goal of the trip.

Antoinette, Charlotte, and Esther took turns driving since Helen and Nettie did not have driver's licenses. Keep in mind that the car did not have air conditioning, and in those days, ladies wore dresses and hats in public at all times.

There were no motels in those days so the women stayed in tourist cabins and boarding houses at a rate of fifty to seventy-five cents a night. Mrs. Pumphrey recalls "we had to pay ten cents extra for a towel and soap."



"Western Gale"
The name of our car

In situations where the bathroom was shared with other guests, she reports that "the first one to use the bathroom would thoroughly clean it, and then the others would take turns guarding the bathroom door so no strangers could get into the bathroom until all of us had used it."

A typical breakfast would cost around thirty-five cents and consist mostly of toast and jam. Lunch, on average, would cost about the same and would usually consist of soup and a sandwich. Frequently, they survived on in-between meals of apples and pears gathered along the way.

When they reached the Worlds Fair, one of their greatest thrills was being introduced to Mark Twain's sister.

Most often, the highways were less than ideal. Mrs. Pumphrey wrote in her diary, "You have to be careful driving on the gravel roads — as long as you keep your car in the middle of the road it's fine but drags terribly if you get on the side."

Getting to Yellowstone National Park was a challenge for them since "the roads in Wyoming are all oil and fine stone or sand." The park stretched their pocketbook though, as evidenced by this entry in the diary: "Gas is very much more expensive in Yellowstone (typically they spent between sixteen and twenty-five cents per gallon). The hotels are very expensive and mostly older people go there. The young people you will find stay at the lodge where they furnish dancing, bathing, horseback riding, etc. The most reasonable place to eat is the cafeteria." Highlights of the visit at Yellowstone are recorded in the diary: "Took a nature trip through the woods with a ranger naturalist which was very interesting, saw Old Faithful go up several times. Went to the park to see the bears feed and went to a dance." (Budget: Breakfast — 25 cents; Lunch — 45 cents; Dinner — 30 cents; and Lodging — \$1.50.)

From there they headed for Salt Lake City. Mrs. Pumphrey said, "When we got to the Great Salt Lake, we rented bathing suits and floated on the water which was very nice." Their next goal was to cross the Rocky Mountains, and, for the first time, the old Chevrolet gave them some trouble. Apparently, the carburetor could not handle the thin air of the mountains, so they stopped at some-

one's house and had it adjusted. The family asked them to stay for dinner and fed them a real meal at the top of the Rockies. "The lady got a ham out of the barn and cooked it, and it was very nice eating with them."

Mrs. Pumphrey had solid advice for all those who visit the Grand Canyon: "By all means, if you ever visit the Grand Canyon, go down into the canyon on mules. You probably will not feel like doing it ever again, but you never will regret the trip. One really cannot get the vastness from the rim, you really have to go into the canyon." She reported that her mule, named Jet, was very surefooted, but she really felt sorry for him on the way up. The diary entry states, "Our guide was lots of fun, he told Es that he didn't like her hair, so she told him she didn't like gold teeth."

They went on to San Francisco and then down the coast to Los Angeles where they saw *Symphony in Blue* at the Rose Bowl. "Los Angeles is a lovely city with wide boulevards and very beautifully-lighted streets."

After leaving Los Angeles, they were warned not to attempt to cross the Imperial Desert during the day, but because they were afraid of traveling at night, they set off across the desert in the heat of the day. They soon realized their mistake. It was so hot that "we had to take off our dresses and travel in our slips," and when they arrived in Phoenix, "we were half dressed," said Mrs. Pumphrey with a hearty laugh.

Someone suggested that they visit an Indian reservation and they had to ask directions. Down a dirt road they went until some govern-

—Continued on Page 21.



Helen Willard Pumphrey

Mrs. Pumphrey's Adventure Continued From Page 20.

ment agents offered to take them to the reservation. The Indians (now known as Native Americans) were very friendly and invited the girls to a dance that was being held that night. Since the superintendent's house was empty, they stayed overnight, but "we put chairs up against the doors just in case!" Mrs. Pumphrey bought two rugs at the reservation, "Nettie and I sat on the rugs the whole way back since there was no room to store them."

Their next stop was New Orleans and then Atlanta and they stopped at the federal prison where Al Capone was incarcerated. They asked to see this notorious criminal. The officers declined but gave them a tour of the prison.

It is ironic that over seventy years later there may be more trepidation today for young people traveling alone. Of course, the cost of the trip was so much different than it would be today. When they arrived back in Poolesville, they had been gone six weeks and had traveled over ten thousand miles while visiting twenty-five states. Most remarkably, these four adventurers totaled up their budge—An amazing \$200.00 for the trip and \$130.00 for car expenses!

Speaking for those of us who had the pleasure of hearing the tale directly from the grand lady herself, we only wish there was a way to adequately describe her hearty and mischievous laugh over her remembrances.



This was taken in front of the Lodge at Mammoth Yellowstone

Our Neighbor the Signer

By Mary Ann Kephart

(Editor's Note: As we get ready to celebrate the Fourth of July, it is interesting to review the biography of Charles Carroll, the only person from our area to sign the Declaration of Independence.)

On June 7, 1776 Richard Henry Lee of Virginia made the motion in the Continental Congress that "These united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states." A committee was appointed to draft a Declaration of Independence. One member of this committee was Charles Carroll of Carrollton. Mr. Carroll owned 15,000 acres within the Monocacy region between City of Frederick and the Monocacy River. Thomas Jefferson, with suggestions from Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, gave eighteen days to the task of writing and polishing the document.

Finally, the Continental Congress formally adopted the final draft on July 4, 1776. The number of signers from each state was determined by the population of the state. Maryland had four signers: Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton.

Charles Carroll was born in Annapolis in 1837 to a wealthy and distinguished Roman Catholic family of Irish ancestry. When he was ten years old he was sent abroad to be educated at French Jesuit colleges. He studied law at Bourges, Paris and finished his studies in London.

The first ten years of his life had been spent with his mother at their estate near Baltimore called Douregan Manor. It was and is a beautiful place, established by his grandfather, Charles Carroll, the settler. He and his mother corresponded regularly with great affect on both parts. His parents did not marry until Charles was 20. When they married, he sent both parents congratulations. His parents had lived together in both Annapolis where Charles' father (Charles Carroll of Annapolis) had built a handsome brick house and at Douregan Manor.

To his great distress his mother died while he was still in France.

In 1757, by letter, his father informed him that he had established a manor for him on 15,000 acres. Charles Carroll, the settler, had acquired the land from the Tuscarora Indians. He described its location as a few miles south of Frederick city and near the Monocacy River. He instructed

Charles that he would henceforth be called Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

In 1763, Carroll was allowed to return to Maryland. His time spent in England had convinced him that the Parliament was corrupt and not to be trusted in their relationship to the American colonies. When he returned to America he already had already been having thoughts of separation from Great Britain.

Although a manor house had been built for him in Carrollton, his father requested that he make his home with him in Annapolis so that he could learn the very complicated and extensive family business. He soon became active in politics. He became a member of the various local and provincial extralegal bodies – committees of correspondence, committees of observation, council of safety, provincial convention (1774-1776) and constitutional convention (1776). From 1777 until 1800 he was a member of the Maryland Senate. In April-June 1776 he, with Samuel Chase and Benjamin Franklin, was a member of the commission fruitlessly sent by the Continental Congress to Canada for the purpose of persuading the Canadians to join the thirteen revolting colonies. From 1776 to 1779 he sat in the Continental Congress, rendering important services as a member of the board of war, and signing the Declaration of Independence

He married a young relative, Mary Darnall, who had been living with her mother in Charles of Annapolis home for several years. The young couple enjoyed the social life of Annapolis as well as occasional weeks in Tuscarora where Charles had race tracks built on his estate. From Carrollton they visited Bath for a few days at a time (which today is called Berkeley Springs, West Virginia). They had a road built between Douregan Manor and Carrollton.

When the revolution began, Maryland had few men with knowledge of military training and tactics. It was Charles Carroll, using his fluency in French and his connections in France, who conceptualized the solution and arranged for a company of French troops to come to Maryland to assist us.

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Police Blotter Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present: Fortunately it was a quiet crime week

Robbery

May 22, 2005, at 8:45 p.m., an 18-year-old Poolesville male and a 19-year-old Germantown male rode in a vehicle with three acquaintances to the 16200 block of Frederick Road in Rockville. Once there, a verbal argument turned physical, and the three suspects assaulted the two victims and took their property.

Suspect #1 – White male, 23, 5'11"-6'0", 210 lbs., tattoo on calf, blue T-shirt, khaki pants.

Suspect #2 – White male, 20-21, 6'1"-6'2", 180-200 lbs., black T-shirt, black hat.

Suspect #3 – identity known

Past

June 13, 1958

Four persons, three of them children, drowned in the Potomac River before the eyes of their horrified families when a rowboat carrying eleven people capsized and sank at Seneca, Maryland.

June 15, 1958

Four men were arrested in a raid on an establishment described as a poker and whiskey club near Germantown, Maryland. Montgomery County police reported that the club was located just a short distance from the Atomic Energy Commission at Germantown.

June 19, 1930

Three men were killed and six injured when the bridge over the Monocacy River on the Frederick Pike south of Frederick collapsed into the river. A truck was crossing the span when it began to collapse throwing crossing motorists into the water. A family had a narrow escape when the driver managed to stop his machine just short of the collapsed span. Three iron workers were pinned beneath the wreckage and drowned.

June 22, 1934

Lowell Hash, 22, of Quince Orchard, Maryland was arrested on charges of the murder of his father, Edward J. Hash, who died earlier in the day at Montgomery General Hospital. It is said that the younger Hash struck his father with an iron bar after the father had struck him with a milk stool.

—Continued on Page 22.



Sports

New Ladies Course Record Set at Poolesville Golf Course

Hilary Lawson, of Gaithersburg, Maryland, shot a red hot 68 on the par 72, 5540 yard layout at Poolesville Golf Course during the 2005 Booze Allen Junior Shootout Qualifier on May 21, 2005. Miss Lawson is a 15 year old sophomore at Magruder High School and plays on their "boys" golf team. She is looking forward to playing college golf, and hopes to get a scholarship at a Division 1 school.

Miss Lawson started on the 328 yard first hole with a bogey and proceeded to play the remaining 17 holes at 5 under par, including 6 birdies and one additional bogey. Miss Lawson stated, "I putted extremely well, and made several putts over twenty feet." Miss Lawson is a student of Bob Dolan, the PGA Head Professional at Columbia Country Club. She attributes much of her development as a golfer to him. "He has really helped me, especially with my short game", said Miss Lawson. Poolesville Golf Course PGA Head Professional Mike Aldrich, said, "This is quite a feat for this young woman. The course has been here since 1961, and she is the first female has ever broken 70."



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Golf Tips with Mike Aldrich



Etiquette – The Manners Within the Game

The word "manners" seems archaic in today's rough and tumble, no holds barred, everything goes, world. Golf provides a welcome refuge from the scariness of a world filled with war, crime, and economic insecurity. For beginning golfers, golf etiquette may seem overwhelming. I hope that the following five commandments will simplify the rules of behavior for novice and experienced golfers.

I. Honor thy clock

a. First, register in the pro shop for your tee time at least 15 minutes before your scheduled tee time. Who knows? You might even have time to hit a couple of chips and putts before you tee off.

b. Keep up with the group in front of you. If there is no group in front of you, find out what the pace of play is, and keep up with it. If you think that you aren't good enough, I once played 18 holes of golf with three other golfers in 3 hours and 45 minutes...with

only a putter! (I shot 147, and had the second best score). This is very important in golf, because your pace effects the pace of *every golfer behind you*, for the remainder of the day!

c. Do not stop at the turn for a four-course meal. If you take more than about two or three minutes to grab a quick hot dog on your way to the tenth hole, you will probably miss your turn. This behavior will add 20 minutes onto the pace for all of the golfers. The best time for a leisurely meal and a beer is AFTER the round, when you can really exaggerate the length and accuracy of your drives.

II. Thou shall not distract others
Make sure that you stand in an area that does not potentially put you in harm's way, and does not detract from your playing companion's delicate concentration. That means that you should not stand directly behind the hole from the person hitting their putt, even if you are a world champion statue imitator. Also, watch the volume of your voice. If you have to say something to another golfer, wait until you are within range.

III. Thou shall fix thine own harm, and the harm done by others

It is a common misconception that your green fees allow you to enjoy the golf course with responsibility for any maintenance. I'm not going to suggest that you "weed-whack" around the

trees, or top-dress a green, but you should always replace your divots, fix ball marks on the greens, and rake your marks in the bunker. While you are at it, why don't you try to make up for some of the discourteous golfers out there by fixing their divots, ball marks, and footprints in the bunkers? Also, make sure that you operate your golf car in a manner that is safe, and causes the least amount of damage to the turf.

IV. Thou shall honor thine honor – Golf is one of the few remaining sports of honor. In general, it is played without referees and scorekeepers. Do not besmirch (I know, fancy word for a golf pro) yourself or the game by cheating, or even by trying to "stretch the rules."

V. Tip your pro – Gratuities are a great way to say thanks. Thanks for taking my green fees. Thanks for replacing my slice with a shank. Thanks for selling me a \$400 driver that goes two yards farther than my ten-year-old driver.

Follow the above commandments (aside from #5, that was a joke), and your company will be sought by fine golfers wherever you go. More importantly, the thousands of golfers that you aren't playing with will feel the effects of your actions.

Mike Aldrich is the PGA Head Professional at Poolesville Golf Course. Whether you are a novice or a seasoned veteran, he hopes that you consider the course "Your home for all things golf".

Remembrance

Dickerson's Margaret Lamson

On May 21, 2005, Margaret E. Lamson, 88, passed away at the College View Nursing Center in Frederick. She was very active in many organizations in the area over the years and was appreciated so much for her passion for music and dedication to health care.

She retired from her forty-year career in public health in 1978 as a captain in the United States Public Health Service, with the last twenty years at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda.

Margaret was born in Ontario, Canada, and graduated (R.N.) from the Victoria Hospital School of Nursing in Ontario. She gained a B.A. from Wayne State University and her Mas-

ters of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh.

For her friends and family in our area, she is remembered best as the choir director for many years at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, member of the Monocacy Garden Club, Montgomery County Ontario Society, and a supporter of the Maryland Symphony Orchestra. She and her beloved husband Glenn resided at their home on Mt. Ephraim Road in Dickerson which overlooks Sugarloaf Mountain.

Her two sons, Graham Lamson of Dickerson and Timothy E. Lamson of Adamstown, survive her.

Police Blotter Continued From Page 21.

Lowell Hash was being held in the Rockville jail.

June 23, 1957

Three men were killed when a Capital Airlines DC-3 crashed on a routine training flight near Hyattstown, Maryland, narrowly missing a house and the homeowner who dived behind a car in his backyard.

June 26, 1927

Two men were arrested, and a large still and a quantity of rum were confiscated by Montgomery County policemen in a raid on a small island in the Potomac River near Poolesville, Maryland. Clarence and Curtis Jenkins of Sterling, Virginia were arrested and held on \$500 bond.

Contest Winner



Emily Zych correctly identified this as Staub's picnic area in our May 20 Mystery Photo Contest.

Emily won a drawing for a Free Cuginin's Large Pizza with two toppings.

Congratulations Emily!

Learning

Sinking Into the Abyss

By John Clayton

Where is rock bottom? When you're trying to master the fundamentals of something (in this case, golf) and trying to do it well, how bad can it get? On one of my initial golfing forays this spring, I think I found out how bad it could get.

I was substituting for someone else's partner in a tournament that meets weekly in a competition that lasts from early spring well into the summer. This put me in a foursome, playing two against two.

After a shaky start on the first two holes, I hit a terrible tee shot on the third hole, more sideways than forward. My partner and our two opponents went and stood by their balls up near the green while I addressed my next shot. I think my first attempt popped up and went about two feet. I have a vague recollection of squirting my next shot sideways. I was acutely conscious of the other three people shifting their feet and trying to look the other way (or so I thought) as I contemplated my next attempt. No, that's not true. I contemplated leaving my clubs on the ground and walking back to the parking lot and hoping no one would remember my name. I contemplated getting teleported by Martians somewhere else, anywhere else. I contemplated joining the French Foreign Legion, not even sure if one can still do that. In my usual game with friends, I probably would have picked up my ball, sworn a mighty oath, and moved on; but here, they



Golf, like life, can be rough.

were actually keeping a real score to be turned in. There was nowhere to climb but upward out of the putrid abyss of mediocrity – which I did, managing to launch a shot that flew in the general direction of the green.

What is the key to all this? Relaxation – what else? Once you stop tensing up, and relax, and let things happen fairly naturally, golf and life get easier. It also helped that I was playing with passionate people who said, "John, just relax and have fun." I did marginally better the rest of the day – but only marginally.

This idea of doing better by relaxing is well known and often espoused by Mike Aldrich, the head golf professional at the Poolesville Golf Course. In fact, it was the topic of a recent column of his in this paper. During my lessons with him, this seems to be a goal – to get me to relax enough to actually do what he is trying to get me to do.

Part of his approach is to have me do things that entice me to discover the elements of a correct swing, and then even more importantly, be able to return to those elements at a later time. I am grateful that he uses very little of the golfing terminology that leaves me mostly confused when I read golf magazines – releasing one's hands, inside-out and outside-in swing paths – they all make a little sense in the abstract but have yet to help me on the course.

In a lesson, Mike often has me work through a drill that lets me discover that which I might never understand otherwise. For example, the aforementioned swing path, i.e., the path a club follows after having been swung. He could have told me five different ways where the club was actually going, and I probably never would have believed him. Instead, he set up a small obstacle outside of the ball, away from me, and I amazed myself by repeatedly clobbering said object – which was nowhere close to where my club could possibly have been going. Finally, I figured out just what it was he was trying to get me to see and do, and I made a significant adjustment to my swing. Progress of this sort also reveals all the other flaws in one's swing. The path is one step backward, and then at least one step forward. Over time, based on my faith in Mr. Aldrich, I assume the forwards will outnumber the backwards.

Maybe there's a profound philosophy to be found here. Life is like a game of golf (sorry, no chocolates). Sometimes you swing the club and

the ball goes where you want it to go. Life is good. Sometimes you swing the club and the ball definitely does not go where you want it to go (see paragraph three above). Life is not going so well. Sometimes you swing the club and the ball just does not go. Oh,

right, life can be this dismal? Then you swing the club, not believing the ball is anywhere near within range of the swing path, and you hit the ball. Life is full of ups and downs, chocolate and mold, on the greens and in the rough. Life is like a game of golf.

Equestrian

Maximum Efficiency for Very Small Operations

By Debby Lynn

Ever notice it's all most as much work to take care of your own few stalls at home as it is a 20 stall facility? Most of us substitute hand labor for all the equipment you find in place at a large barn. Small operations just don't justify big tractors and manure spreaders. So, we find ourselves pushing a wheelbarrow, lugging bales of hay, and generally wearing ourselves



Efficiency in action.

out on our home mini-farms. Here's how I solved the problem:

I got a used riding mower, removed the deck, installed tire chains, and added a ten cubic foot cart, all for under five hundred dollars. The tractor has a little over twice the horsepower of my household vacuum

cleaner, but it more than suffices for my needs.

If I stand them on end, I can get four bales of hay in the cart. It holds one or two stalls worth of dirty bedding if I'm stripping, three or four stalls for regular cleaning. It's very maneuverable, and doesn't require much aisle width to get it through the barn. You don't even need a drive through aisle. It can be turned around in a small space. (I use the wash stall.) It's a little tough to back, as the wheels are so close to the pivot point. However, since the cart is not much bigger or heavier than a double wheeler wheelbarrow, it's easy enough to just move it into place by hand.

It's a fair spreader substitute. I drive out to the field, remove the tailgate and flip the tilt lever so the back of the cart drops to the ground. Then, the fun part! I run the throttle up a bit, put it in high gear, and take off. This method yields a fine wheelie, and as well, the manure spreads out in a ribbon behind me. It's not perfect, I tend to get a small pile and a ribbon of manure. But, by changing where I dump each time, the field seems to be absorbing the bedding adequately.

My little rig moves water troughs, jumps and hay. It takes the trash cans to the curb and repair boards out to the back fence. It saves me enough time and energy to ride one more horse each day, and, after all, isn't that why we do it?

Contest Winner

Patty Smallwood correctly identified this as the house at the foot of Sugarloaf Mountain in our June 3 Mystery Photo Contest.

Patty won a drawing for two large Domino's pizzas with two toppings. Congratulations Patty!





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