Poolesville Day was one of the many community events that brought us together. See Pages 8 and 9 for pictures.

The sun was shining on Clarksburg Day; pictures on Page 5.



Sometimes life is just for watching the day go by. For more Family Album pictures of 2007 see page 2.



There's more local talent on display on Page 6.

# The Monocacy MONOCILE

## Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

Volume IV, Number 18.

# Celebrating 2007

January 11, 2008

# The *Monocacy Monocle's*First Annual Year in Pictures: 2007

he Monocacy Monocle welcomes 2008 by celebrating 2007 with an issue filled with photographs featuring the people and events of the past year. We collect a lot of pictures during the year and only so many fit into each issue. We hope you enjoy our selection.

Each page in this issue, for the most part, offers a look at some area of interest from 2007. These include: community events, charities, churches



The BCC Chapter of the Izaak Walton League observed Earth Day. See other civic group pictures starting on Page 20.

and service organizations, news events, high school sports, some of our local military service men and women, Poolesville Day and Clarksburg Day, and not-otherwise-classified pictures of people just being themselves.

We will also have a list of local people who passed away during the year that were mentioned in Remembrances in the *Monocle*, by no means a comprehensive list, but a representation of the lives that we were honored to remember.

There are tens of thousands of people in our reading area, and therefore we can assume that there are just as many distinct stories and experiences that comprise each of our years. What was your 2007 like? Hopefully, there were some good times, there were doubtless some tough times, and probably some sad times, that being the nature of life. Our hope is that in these pictures we have, in trying to chronicle this area in our small way, reflected a little of the past year back to you in a recognizable and enjoyable way

When this issue comes out, the Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire primary will be over, putting us headlong into the reality of an election year, after almost two years of preliminaries. The Redskins will have missed their chance to vanquish the dreaded Dallas Cowboys in the NFL playoffs, Joe Gibbs will be mowing his lawn in Charlotte, and unless I miss my guess, most Montgomery and Frederick County students will be hoping for a snow deep enough for a few days off. Here at the Monocle, we will be getting ready to observe our fifth year in publication, but more about that in a later issue.

We hope you enjoy this issue. We have enjoyed getting to use some more of our pictures, and if this works we'll do it again next year, if we are so fortunate, with even more pictures.

We offer our New Year's thanks to all our readers and advertisers. May 2008 find you healthy, prosperous, and eager to help all of us make this such a great place to live.



See Page 12 for pictures of some of those from our area serving the nation in the military.



High school sports filled the year with thrills and success. See more sports pictures starting on Page 17.

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## family album

The Monocle's Family Album regularly features light-hearted pictures of daily life enjoyed by individuals, families, or small groups. From flying kites to fishing to waiting a turn in the pool, the sharing of these events recognizes our tight-knit lives. We welcome readers to submit pictures for Family Album or short news articles (weddings, births, awards, achievements, etc.) for Tidbits that help all of us stay informed on the little but important milestones in life.

















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## Letter to the Editor

Dear John:

The eagerly awaited edition of your newspaper dated December 21, 2007 arrived in my P.O. box yesterday, January 2, 2008. Still, its contents are worth waiting for and provide interesting views and comments on life in the Up-County.

A letter to the editor took issue with your commentary regarding child lots and sand mounds published November 2. Unfortunately, the letter was not signed or the signature got lost in printing, which makes it a bit more difficult to continue the debate on these important issues! If the omission is accidental, I for one would appreciate a disclosure of the writer's name.

Sincerely, Eric Cronquist Dear Mr. Cronquist,

The author of the letter to the editor was Mr. Frank Jamison of Jamison Realty. After reading my commentary, Mr. Jamison not only provided the letter but gave me over an hour of his time to discuss these issues from his long experience.

I truly wish that some understandable mishap or sinister intervention led to his letter being anonymous, through no fault of his own, but I simply neglected to insert his name, and the item ended up going to the printer without it. We offer our sincere apology to Mr. Jamison—and to our readers as well—and once again we thank him for his concern for the opinions expressed in the *Monocle*, and for his willingness to weigh in accordingly. We encourage others to do the same, although, ironically, we do not print anonymous letters, at least not deliberately.

For those who may have missed some of the impact of this discussion, we will post his letter and the original commentary on our website, www. monocacymonocle.com.

## The Monocacy Keeping An Eye On Local News Published and Edited by John Clayton and Rande Davis John Clayton Production Financial 301-349-0071 jclayton@monocacymonocle.com Rande Davis Advertising Circulation 301-349-0070 rdavis@monocacymonocle.com Dominique Agnew Copyediting dagnew@intairnet.com Departments editor@monocacymonocle.com advertising@monocacymonocle.com

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## Commentary

## Another Year; Another Column

By John Clayton

There seems to be a basic human impulse, at least as far as writing is concerned, to become thoughtful and reflective at the beginning of the New Year and to say something useful and profound about the year just past and the one just begun. So far this morning I have partially succeeded: I am thinking and reflecting. We shall see about the rest.

I am writing this, way past deadline, on the morning after the Iowa presidential caucuses. Remember them? Remember how important it was? I'm having some difficulty remembering what all the hoopla was about. I can only assume it will seem even less momentous when this issue comes out. I read about the election in three newspapers this morning, and they all observed that in the grand scheme of things, results from Iowa don't matter that much. They sure didn't seem to think that last week, and I wish they had told me sooner because I got tired of watching Iowans on TV.

Explaining the results of the Iowa vote, with perfect hindsight, is not terribly difficult. First, a large major-

ity of the country disapproves of the performance of the president of the United States. Second, an even larger majority of the country disapproves of the performance of the Congress, with a pox on both parties. Given this environment, is it surprising that the two winners are the least experienced (credible) candidates available? Of course, no one, myself included, could have told you that yesterday. Please email me if you knew this all along, in twenty-five words or less, please.

Closer to home, the Monocacy Region has and will continue to be concerned with issues of land preservation and development within the context of the Agricultural Reserve. In the Poolesville area, two significant residential developments are emerging, with various road and infrastructure changes on the way. Many remain concerned about how much water there really is down there, but the construction continues. In Clarksburg, the long-awaited final details of the Clarksburg Town Center are inching along, as reported by Kristen Milton in our December 21 cover story, "Clarksburg Town Center Moving Forward." Countywide, issues concerning sand mound septic systems, the Building Lot Termination Program, and the ever-popular tot lots are all in need of resolution. The Inter-County Connector appears to be well on its way, and only time will tell if this leads to a successful effort to connect it further to the west and over the river.

The year 2007 may not go down as the most momentous year on record, here or elsewhere, but it certainly had its share of worldwide political strife, conflict, natural disasters, and human tragedies of many descriptions. Perhaps it was just a typical year. If I had to isolate one thing that I thought represented a trend in 2007, it was the shift in attitudes towards climate change, and general agreement on the need for solutions to the dumping of so much carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. (For the Goreaphobes among you, this has nothing to do with Big Al winning an Oscar, the Nobel Prize, or even his stunning victory on Dancing with the Stars, so fear not.) This has to do with the tilt of the discussion in our public sector, and even with our president, who has increasingly talked the talk of the true believer. Even

those that I would classify as world-class deniers seem to accept the bald-faced reality of advancing climate change, and possibly the culpability of mankind—not everyone, certainly, but most. Our current government seems to at least be paying lip service to the idea that we have to work with the other countries in the world to mitigate the problem before it is too late. From what I have heard and read, I would not have had that feeling at the end of 2006. It may only be a baby step, but it's a step in the right direction.

Once again, and we can never say this enough, we thank our tireless staff, our readers, and our advertisers for keeping our newspaper going for another year. Our world continues to change, and we will try to keep up.

## community social events

The vibrancy of life in Upper Montgomery and Southern Frederick Counties can be witnessed in the many community festivals and events offered throughout the year. The festivals shown here often serve to raise important funds for people and organizations in need. From Poolesville Day and Clarksburg Day to Diversity Day and Fourth of July celebrations, we share special opportunities to join together as neighbors and families.



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Poolesville Day

# Poolesville Day









## Big Board

#### Saturday Night at the Cinema!

The Town of Poolesville presents Saturday Night at the Cinema on January 12 in the Poolesville High School Auditorium. Admission is free with the request that guests bring a canned good donation for WUMCO Help, Inc. The movie will be the popular Wild Hogs. The evening kicks off with a meet and greet at 6:00 p.m., and the movie beginning at 7:00 p.m. The baked goods available for sale will be for the benefit of Poolesville Relay for Life.

The second cinema night is scheduled for February 9 featuring The Bourne Ultimatum.

#### Freedom School Information Night

There will be an information night for the Freedom School on January 17 at the Common Market in Frederick from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The Freedom School is a new K-12 independent school locating in Upper Montgomery County. The Freedom School is based on the premise that when children are able to follow their innate interests, the outcome will be a life of intense exploration and growth. Our students have the freedom to study what excites them, to be who they are, to move about, to teach and be taught, to prepare for life, and to engage in both academic and non-academic pursuits. Please call Denise Chasin at 301-349-0123 for more information or visit www.freedomschoolmd.com

#### **Relay for Life Winter Gala**

The Poolesville Relay for Life fundraising program to benefit the American Cancer Society will be hosting its Winter Gala at the Double Tree Hotel in Bethesda the evening of January 19. This social event will feature a dinner dance with drinks and will run from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. The details were not available at this issue's deadline, but you may contact Chontelle Hockenbery at 301-972-7867 or watch their website, www.PoolesvilleRelay.org for more information.

#### Concerned Poolesville Citizens and **Prospective Candidates: Take Note**

For residents of Poolesville, especially those who may consider running in November's town commissioner elections, there are two opportunities this month to learn and to participate in the decisionmaking process on two major issues facing the town.

The first is an open work session by the commissioners as they review and begin the process of preparing the town budget for fiscal year 2009. At this meeting on Saturday morning, January 19 at 9:00 a.m., they will start to analyze line by line and item by item the revenue and expenditure considerations for the town.

The second is during their regular commission meeting on Tuesday night, January 22 at 7:30 p.m., when there will be a Public Forum on the recommendations made by the planning commission on

changes of infrastructure and landscape for the town's main street area. Referred to as Fisher Avenue Streetscape or just Streetscape, these plans are intended to improve the appearance, safety, and convenience of Fisher Avenue.

More information is available at www.ci.poolesville.md.us.

#### **B-CC Izaak Walton League Schedules Conservation Dinner**

The B-CC Izaak Walton League of American invites the public to an energy conservation event that will feature the senior energy planner of Montgomery County, Mr. Eric Coffman. You will hear how your family can make a difference with local efforts to conserve energy, including the new CFL light bulb, and have your energy use and energy conservation questions answered.

The B-CC chapter house is located at 20601 West Willard Road, Poolesville, Maryland. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, January 25, with the meeting scheduled to begin at 7:15 p.m. (Dinner by O'Brien's Pit Barbeque.) Space is limited. To register for a free ticket, contact Steven Swartz, event chairman, at 301-713-2363 extension 128 and kabloona15@ comcast.net, or Roger Sears at 301-972-8942 and rogercsears@aol.com.

The deadline to respond is Wednesday, January 23, 2008.

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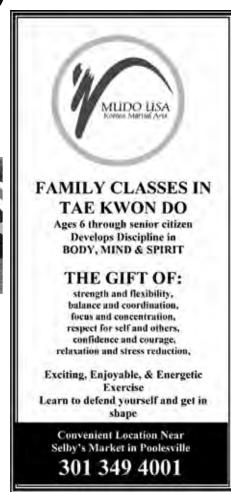
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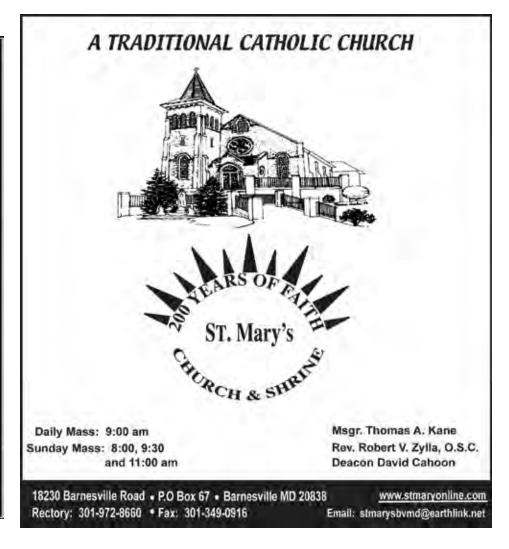


# Relay for Life



# Lighting Ceremony











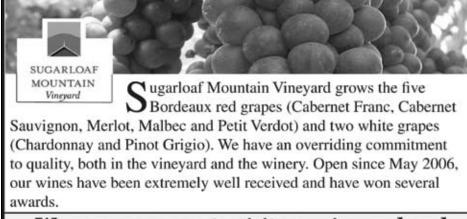
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# Summer Concert













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## military

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Brian Yost



Lt. Michael Fox



### news events

These pictures show some of the important news events of the year. They range from the tragedy of house fires to the bright side of life such as a wedding on White's Ferry. The biggest and most shocking story in our area concerned the murders and suicide that occurred in Barnesville last April. The two biggest Poolesville town government stories were about the special election for commissioner and the groundbreaking for a new town hall. Also represented are news stories of storm damage, car accidents, and vandalism, as well as discussion of issues regarding land preservation and development.





















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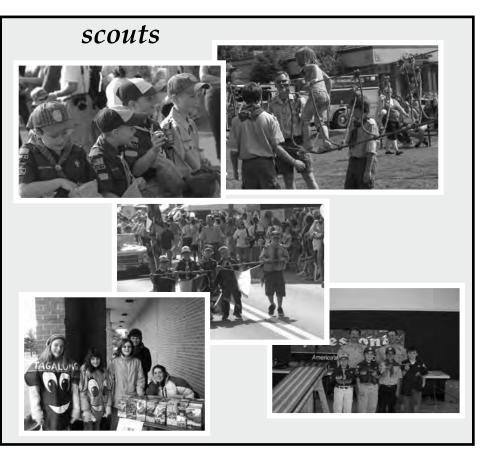
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## schools

These pictures give tribute to the high level of education available in the region in both public and private schools.







sports

# Clarksburg High School









Photos Courtesy of Sue Apple



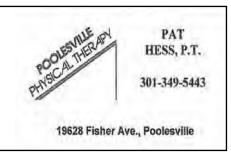




















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# PHS 2007

Photos Courtesy of Tom Amiot



















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# Youth Sports



















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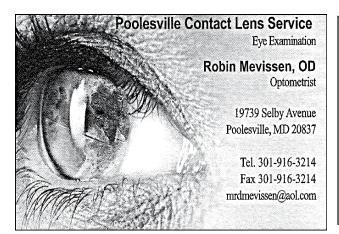
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# civic groups activities

Civic and community service non-profits are especially important to life in the region. Throughout the year, these groups raise money for their great causes and also help in other ways bringing richness to our lives. These pictures present just a few of the many ways these groups contribute to the area, which we often report in our Pulse section.



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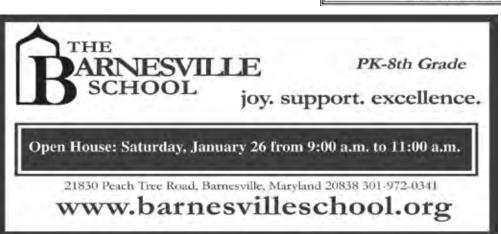
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# MONOCACY CRITTERS

Serendipitous Pet and Animal Pictures



Photo submitted by Jim Smith

Send your unusual pet or animal picture to: Editor@monocacymonocle.com or Monocacy Critters P.O. Box 175 Poolesville MD 20837

## transitions

Sadly, 2007 was the year that beloved friends and neighbors passed away. The Monocle gives tribute to some of those who are no longer amongst us. This presentation serves as a representation all who departed while we also regret not having photographs of everyone and recognizing that we will have failed in listing all.











Sarah Cohen





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# The *Monocle* remembers others from our area who passed away in 2007.

Libby Hough Van Winkle Elizabeth White Nicholson Mary Thompson Bobby Joe Cross Virginia F. Shreve Hon. Judge George R. Gallagher George Righter Mary Ellen Lewis Maria and Carlos Danforth Hubert W. Mathews Sonia "Christine" Cantler Borden Ernest U. Allnutt Douglas Berg Gogo Kiplinger Janet Reed Ann Chambers Maynard L. Burdette, Sr. Martin P. Byrne Frank S. Carey, III John E. Davidson, Sr. Elizabeth Johnson Stephen Boynton Jerry Lee Guynn Tom Kaufman Constance Labash Jeanne King Shirley M. Bailey Brad Hosler Hinckley M. Burkett, Jr. Robert Taylor William T. Wooton Allyn s. McGinley Barbara Erdley Gwen H. Dubois



# Gail Lee's

# Poolesville MARKET WATCH 2008

#### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

#### Health and Happiness to you and your family!

With the close of 2007 behind us, we should all look forward to a stronger real estate climate this coming year. Watching the housing market adjust down over the past two years after 5 strong years of growth was challenging, for most.

#### Now is a GREAT time to move up!

Once your home is under contract, as a buyer, you have so much more inventory to choose from and most sellers are more motivated than ever to work with good buyers. It's all relative, your home may bring less than 2 years ago, however, the new home you choose will also be priced accordingly. Don't let the media or what your neighbor sold their home for keep you from your next move! I'm here to tell you the truth about the market, your homes value, staging and most of all keep you on top of the real estate trends so you can make the very best decisions for you and your family in 2008.

Many Blessings, Gail

### ALL HOMES SOLD September–December 2007 in Poolesville 20837 (All Information gathered from MRIS Multiple List Service)

\ 8					/	
Address	Subdivision	List Price	SOLD Price	Seller Paid Closing	Days on Market	Bed & Baths
		Titte	Tite	Closing	IVIAI KCt	
19105 Hempstone Ave	WESMOND	\$444,900	\$435,500	\$0	115	3 BR & 2.5 BA
19808 Westerly Ave	WESTERLY	\$449,900	\$449,900	\$9,000	108	3 BR & 2.5 BA
19503 Hartz Pond Ct	HUNTERS RUN	\$629,900	\$625,000	\$18,893	99	4 BR & 3.5 BA
17716 Dr. Walling Rd	TAMA	\$600,000	\$565,000	\$3,420	118	4 BR & 3.5 BA
17008 Hersperger Ln	SUMNER RIDGE	\$699,500	\$689,900	\$12,000	86	4 BR & 3.5 BA
17751 Cattail Road	POOLESVILLE	\$950,000	\$915,000	\$0	93	4 BR & 3.0 BA

All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

## THANK YOU for making 2007 a very Blessed Year for Gail!

## LOOK...Gail's Selling POOLESVILLE!



Summerhill - \$274,500



Westerly - \$475,000



Westerly - \$469,900



Westerly - \$475,000



Meadow Lark Manor – \$624,500 Elizabeth's Delight – \$719,500





Woods at Tama - \$800,000



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## **IMPORTANT HOMEOWNER INFORMATION**

Starting January 1, Maryland property owners must now apply to continue receiving the Homestead Deduction savings on their tax bill for their primary residence. This application must be filed by April 1, 2008. If you haven't already received the forms with your tax assessment notice you will soon. Here is the link for the form: http://www.dat.state. md.us/sdatweb/Homestead\_application.pdf or better yet, file online at https://sdathtc.resiusa. org/homestead/ For commonly asked questions about the application see http://

www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/ Homestead\_app.htm.



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