



Jeff Burton's #31 Prilosec car will be available at the Relay for Life on June 13. For a small donation you can get your picture taken with it.



Learn more about the 2009 PHS girls' outdoor track team in Youth Sports on page 10.



Summer activities abound in our area. See Local News on Page 8 for more details.



This group climbing mission took nearly an hour and a half. Find out why in Tidbits on Page 14.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

June 5, 2009

Volume VI, Number 7.

PHS Seniors Join the Ranks of First Responders

By Rande Davis

For those seniors entering their final year of high school with a light schedule of classes, the most typical choice would be to take it easy and enjoy the senior experience to its fullest. Three seniors at Poolesville High School, though, are not typical. They chose a different and highly-demanding path, both mentally and physically. They chose to enroll in the Montgomery County Public Schools' Fire Science Cadet Program.

Seniors Jake Davis and Ethan Burns decided on the firefighter path which included Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training, and Alexa Brown chose the EMT route. All three entered an arduous, five-days-a-week instructional program of classroom courses as well as practical training



Jake Davis, Alexa Brown, and Ethan Burns, recent graduates of the Montgomery County Public School Fire Science program.

which began in August of 2008 and did not end until graduation in May of 2009. Monday through Friday of every week, the trio left PHS at around 10:00 a.m., jumped on a bus, gobbled down a quick lunch, and headed to their Fire Science classes down county which ran from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Keep in mind that, as seniors, they still had high school credits to complete, and, in Alexa's case, the courses included honors level classes in chemistry, math, English, and AP Psychology.

-Continued on Page 15.

Rebecca "Becky" Ann Selby Brooks: Dedicated Volunteer And Friend to All

By Rande Davis

The passing of Becky Brooks on May 27 after a long and brave battle with cancer left the community with a profound sense of loss. Poolesville has lost a friend who was known and appreciated by nearly all who lived in the area. Rebecca Selby Brooks, the daughter of Roy and Francis Louise Selby, was born on June 13, 1940. Becky and



Rebecca "Becky" Ann Selby Brooks

Lewis Brooks would have been married forty-seven years this December.

Becky worked in the family supermarket businesses most of her life; having administra-

-Continued on Page 16.

Fire Truck and Motorcycles Collide at White's Ferry

A tragic accident occurred near the end of the festivities for the Wounded Soldiers at White's Ferry on May 30. The details of the accident are under investigation, and an official report on the incident will be available at a later date. From witness reports to the Monocle by persons coming upon the scene shortly after the accident, a fire truck, coming from Poolesville, was thought to have crossed over the yellow line, inadvertently hitting three motorcyclists leaving the gathering of the visiting soldiers from Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

While at least one motorcyclist was injured and taken to the hospital, no other information was available at the time of filing this report.

Jim Brown, a commissioner of Poolesville, arrived on the scene very shortly after the accident and reported to the Monocle, "The fire truck was stopped in its lane just a short distance from where four motorcycles were down in and around the lane heading from White's Ferry to Poolesville. From what I could see, at least one motorcycle hit the front driver's side fender on the fire truck. I think the rest of the bikes went down due to a chain reaction when the first bike went down. The one injured biker got his clothes cut off, was strapped to a carrier, and placed into the back of an ambulance until the medivac helicopter arrived about twenty-five minutes later. One other biker got a pretty big piece of road rash on his elbow, but he refused treatment from what I saw."

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by
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Samantha Ferris Baker presents a scholarship in honor of her father, Wes Ferris, to John Donovan and Christy Wyne at the Awards Night at PHS.



Betsy Lyman, Ellen Ballard Gordon, Bev Jernberg, Trish Dunn, Gary Valen, and George Miller were at the First Annual Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Plant Swap.



Marjory Jones of Barnesville, standing on the far right, and her Virginia Tech club lacrosse team won a national championship in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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Equestrian Buttercups Redux: Eradication This Year and Next

By Carol Rae Hansen, Ph.D.
Director, Equine Therapy
Associates

Eradicate this dangerous neuro-inhibitor before it becomes entrenched. Buttercup poison is camouflaged in an attractive yellow bulb of the genus *Ranunculus asiaticus*. Buttercups have grown to be a serious hazard in the Upcounty, especially in over-grazed pastures where little alternative forage remains. Only excellent pasture management and extreme vigilance can prevent their spread. Even then, in small concentrations, where abundant grass still exists, and the toxicity rate is low, buttercups can adversely affect your newborn foals, calves, and wild-life, as research done by Dr. Tony Knight of Colorado State shows that the irritating substance is passed in the mother's milk.

Buttercups are always potentially hazardous because they contain proto anemonin(e), a powerful irritant in a volatile yellow oil, which causes mouth ulceration or inflammation, often with increased salivation and sometimes colic. The Canadian Department of Agriculture has shown that these oils irritate the digestive system, can cause blisters on the skin and mucous membranes, and even around the hooves of horses used to harvest. Buttercup's bitterness often causes animals to stop eating, which can make their poisoning self-limiting, but the veterinarian should always be called. Purdue University's Plants Project notes that their toxin is reduced by freezing in the fall. Research in New Zealand, the U.K., Canada, and the U.S. suggests that buttercups dried and included in hay may evidence an inactive poison, although other researchers have noted that smaller animals fed

buttercup-infested hay may suffer, particularly rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, and other herbaceous pets.

All animals fed fresh buttercups are affected. Most equines will naturally avoid buttercups as their taste is bitter, but hungry or starving equines in a pasture overrun with buttercups have no option. Symptoms of buttercup poisoning include colic, bloody urine, bloody diarrhea, twitching of eyelids and lips, loud breathing, and or a weak pulse. In severe cases, nervousness grows, as does difficulty with breathing, and then death with convulsions. Research in New Zealand shows that great quantities fed to equines lead to prostration, coma, and death. Although there have been limited cases of death in field studies, New Zealand researchers do not recommend significant quantities of buttercups in harvested hay. If these symptoms occur, calling your veterinarian is vital, as is removing the animal from the field. Because there is no known antidote, preventing buttercup infestation is vital.

If your buttercup problem is a small-scale irritation in lawn and pasture, they can easily be dug up with a dandelion digger when the ground is soft, but you must remove the entire plant, bulb included, and bag them for landfill or burning off the farm. Out-of-control fields can be treated with an early spring pre-emergent herbicide recommended by your Montgomery Soil Conservation District (call 301-590-2855), but you must lock up domestic pets to minimize toxicity and restrict grazing. Aggressive low mowing may also help, but you will still need to kill the bulb, or the same plant will plague you annually. Don't compost your rakings or clippings, as you can reinfest your property or that of others. If you have a low concentration and need to mow before you dig up each plant, deadhead the stalk and flowers to avoid seed distribution. Team up with your neighbors to enhance effectiveness.

Your best bet to avoid buttercup infestation is to properly

manage your pastures. These tips will help prevent future buttercup infestations: never graze your livestock in spring pastures before the grass is six to eight inches high; keep animals off the fields for three days after a rain; never graze a pasture below three inches or you will kill off fifty percent or more of the root growth. Increase your pasture production and reduce the cost of annual reseeding by sectioning off your fields through moveable electric fencing, and practicing

rotational grazing. Consult your Cooperative Extension Service (call 301-590-9638) about your soil's fertility needs, drag or harrow to spread nutrient-rich manure, and regularly mow to control weeds or intergraze with sheep or goats. Rest your pastures by turning equines out on sacrifice lots and feed them hay; in winter, hold all animals in a confinement area when the ground is wet.

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Letter to the Editor

We need to let you know that we had to make a difficult call and cancel our Clarksburg Day Event for this year, the reasons being: not enough people interested, very few donations, and a slim list of volunteers. Without the support of the Montgomery County Recreation Department, we were forced to make this decision.

Please let your readers know that we are sorry for this late announcement. This was something we were hoping to be able to con-

tinue for the community, our purpose being to educate and highlight the history of Clarksburg and surrounding areas.

The support of the *Monocle* has been wonderful, and we have been pleased to have you be a part of this event.

Clarksburg Historical Society Inc.

Local News

Poolesville Town

Government

By Rande Davis

Montgomery County Police Captain Thomas Didone, commander of the 5th District, opened the June 1, 2009 town meeting with an annual report to the commissioners on crime and policing matters. He was accompanied by Sgt. Marcus Brown, Lt. Ron Hardy, and members of his Citizen Advisory Board—Barnesville Mayor Pete Menke and Steve Vaughn being the two local representatives of the CAB.

Captain Didone was able to report that overall crime, especially violent crime, has gone down since the start of his tenure in 2007. District 5 is geographically the largest MCP district at about 240 square miles and occupies one-third of the county. The Poolesville area currently has two officers assigned to it on every shift.

Captain Didone also reported that street parking by heavy vehicles, including recreational vehicles (RVs, campers, boats, trailers, etc.), will be restricted as of July 1 to commercially-zoned areas or on private property only. Farm use vehicles will be exempted from the new regulations. Violators can be fined

\$75.00 and charged with the costs of towing and storage. Specifics of the regulation are available at www.montgomery-countymd.gov.

Sgt. Brown presented the District's Neighborhood Awareness Program which encourages and educates citizens to be productive assistants in crime prevention. It differs from other programs, like Neighborhood Watch groups, since it relies on citizen knowledge of the neighbors and residence area and not on citizen walking patrols. Captain Didone and Sgt. Brown emphasized that a strong theme of the program is: "It's okay to be wrong." This theme seeks to encourage citizen involvement in reporting their suspicious concerns without having reluctance due to being "afraid of being wrong." Vehicle larcenies continue to be the most perpetrated crime and with midnight to 5:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. the most often times of their occurrence. It was reported that locked vehicles are far less likely to be burglarized.

Regarding town impact fee schedules, the commissioners discussed a presentation by Dr. William B. Moore on the proposed changes to the Development Impact Fee rates paid by developers of new homes. The proposal establishes a per house or per building fee for the impact on town expenditures for each new residential home or commercial building. The fee

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is adjusted annually to take into account changing costs.

Although not finalized, the proposal would charge the developer from \$10,515 per home built in 2010, rising annually to \$12,873 in 2020. Commercial construction would increase from \$24,701 to \$30,238 in 2021.

These fees are determined by totaling specific town infrastructure expenditures and assigning a percentage of those costs associated with the new homes and population. Infrastructure categories include: recreation (parks, trails, etc.), public facilities (town hall), water supply (wells), and wastewater services. For example, in the category of public facilities, an impact fee of nineteen percent of the cost of building the new town hall was established based on the percentage of new homes to be built as compared to existing residences prior to construction. In this way, new owners are paying for their share of the construction of the new facility. Another example, in recreation, the cost of new park

facilities associated with the new development to support the new town residents would be assigned an impact fee rate of one hundred percent.

For all other infrastructure costs related to a rising population, standard property taxes are used to cover those expenditures.

Dr. Moore's calculations have two primary variables in formulating the fee: discount rate and cost escalation. The complication of the calculations has raised many questions and concerns especially in those areas that are not consider hard costs, and rely on estimates and adjustments over time. At the town meeting, Mike Conley, vice president of Winchester Homes, requested more information from the town so that his group could better analyze the proposed rates. While \$8,000 of the fee rate is primarily a hard cost, the remaining \$2,500 is more ambiguous, and it is here that further clarification was request-

-Continued on Page 12.

In the Garden A Kitchen Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

When this article comes out, we will be heading into the second week of June. I believe that June is the most beautiful month of the year for gardens in Monocacy Country. Many gardeners will have finished planting their flower and vegetable gardens by now, and the very early birds' gardens might have experienced some plant kill from an unexpected frost in the middle of May. With a little light pruning, they should be bouncing back now, good as new. If you are a little behind schedule and have not yet started your garden, it is not too late to start now.

Several people have mentioned to me that they would love to grow some flowers, vegetables, and herbs, but they don't have the time or space for a garden. You don't need a large plot of land. If you live in a house with a small

backyard, a townhouse with a deck or patio, or an apartment with a sunny balcony, you can still harvest fresh flowers and produce by growing them in containers. Vegetables and herbs work very well with each other in the kitchen, and they also can grow very successfully side-by-side outdoors in sunny, well-drained soil. Last year, I grew vegetables, flowers, and herbs both in a large garden and in containers on the patio. The quality of those in the containers was as good as those in the garden plot.

What is the best type of container for this type of gardening? For patios and decks, look for attractive and durable pots. Garden centers carry them in a wide range of colors, sizes, shapes, and materials. Some are traditional, formal, informal, Victorian, French, colonial, and contemporary. See what style goes best with the architecture of your house. Many people use the dark wood whiskey barrels; they are very serviceable and can hold several plants, but, as the whiskey industry uses them less, they are getting harder to find. Initially, they need a large

amount of potting soil to fill them, so, wherever you place them on your deck or patio, they will probably remain there until they rot away. It would take a small front end loader to move them. The classic garden planter has always been the terra cotta clay pot. Its natural brownish-pink color takes on a mossy finish over time, which wonderfully complements the color of many plants. You must be careful not to leave them outdoors in freezing temperatures, as they will crack. In the past several years,

pottery from the island of Crete has become very popular and available. These attractive pots are thrown by hand and then fired in wood-burning kilns that give them a soft shade of tan to pale beige, which changes with the light and the pot's contents. Twenty years ago these pots were not readily available in our area. While visiting Crete many years ago, I was determined to find these pots and ship some back to the United

-Continued on Page 13.



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Youth Sports

Coyote Boys Win First State Track Title, Girls Finish Third

By Jeff Stuart

"It was the best performance in a meet that we've ever had in the three years I have been here," said Clarksburg High School Head Track Coach Scott Mathias following the 2A West Regional Track Meet at Winters Mill High School in Westminster on May 14. "[There were] a lot of step up performances. Even when we had some adversity and some issues, the kids stayed together and really came together as a team."

The Coyotes easily outpaced second place Middletown, 112-99. The boys took a bigger step

up the next week, winning their first ever 2A State Championship. The Coyotes scored in the sprints, relays, and field events at Morgan State University over Memorial Day weekend. University of Maryland-bound Avery Graham won the 100-meter (11.08) and the 200-meter (21.99). Avery also anchored the 4x200 relay which also finished first with the help of Senior Sam Oluyemi, junior Naseem Zietoon, and senior Mark Small. Senior Christian Smith won the shot put (50.01); senior Robert Thompson placed second; and Marcus Kinney won the discus (140-01). The Coyote boys scored 76 points to North Point's 63.

The girls, with 53 points, finished third behind Champion North Point. Freshman Bailee Freeman, won the long jump. The 4x200-meter relay run by junior Ryland Charnay, senior Page Harris, senior Courtney Clark, and Johnson finished first. The 4x400-meter relay also finished first, run by senior Nana Langa, Harris, Charnay, and senior

Clark. "Harris qualified for the states in four events. She holds the school record in all those events," said Coach Mathias. She finished fourth in the triple jump and eleventh in the long jump. Langa finished third in the 300-meter hurdles and seventh in the 100-meter hurdles.

Leading up to the exciting finishes at states, Clarksburg also had strong showings in the county and the region competitions. The Coyote boys finished second to Gaithersburg in the county meet on May 6 at Clarksburg. Avery Graham beat Bisi Ezekoye of Kennedy (the eventual 3A state champion) in a photo finish in the 100-meter dash. "Avery got a bad start and had to play catch up," said the coach. "I just put the pedal to the metal," said Avery. "I didn't look at him. I ran in my tunnel. I caught him and beat him with a lean." In the region, junior Naseem Zietoon finished first in the 300-meter hurdles. Graham won the 100-meter and the 200-meter. Small won the 400. Junior Jatin Narang won the 1600-meter and the 3200-meter.

The girls finished third in the county meet. Nana Langa won

the 300 hurdles. Clarksburg also took the girls 4x100. Freshman Casey Dowling of Wootton edged Coyote Harris in the girls' long jump by a single inch. Johnson won the shot put. In the region, Langa won the 300-meter hurdles and placed third in the 100-meter hurdles. Sumner placed third in the 800-meter. The 4x100, 4x200, and 4x400 relay teams all finished first. Freeman won the high jump. Freeman and Harris were second and third in the long jump, respectively. Harris and Ryland were second and third in the triple jump, respectively, and Johnson placed second in the shot put.




The Clarksburg High School Track Team

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Local News

Planning Board To Rezone

Commercial Center

By Kristen Milton

With tenants asking for rent reductions and the police substation little used, the owners of a Germantown shopping center convinced the Montgomery County Planning Board to support turning the site into a townhouse development—over the concerns of residents who insisted the center was their “village green.”

“We just don’t want to lose this,” said Cinnamon Woods resident Anne Marie Martinez, who had gathered thirty signatures on a petition opposing the potential rezoning. “It’s very viable; I don’t care what the owner says.”

But representatives of Finmarc Management Inc, who have owned the location at the intersection of Mateny and Clopper Roads for about five years, disagreed, saying the center’s small size and poor visibility made it unable to compete with newer retail options in the area.

At the April 16 hearing, planners supported a request to rezone the center’s 8.5 acres in order to allow the construction of up to 112 townhouses. Staffer Damon Orobona said the change would also benefit an 1800s family cemetery that currently sits near the parking lot but would abut a park in the proposed subdivision.

“There was a lot of trash and beer bottles on that cemetery, and it was overgrown with vegetation,” Orobona said of a recent visit. “I think this new plan should encourage the use or visitation of this historic resource.”

The board’s recommendation was forwarded to the county Hearing Examiner, which held a public hearing on the matter in May. The hearing examiner’s report, due by June 26, will be forwarded to the County Council for a final decision on the rezoning.

Commissioners’ long April 16 discussion showed that their support did not come without concerns, many of which they said would be addressed in site plan review if the project moved forward. The number of townhouses, underestimation of the impact on schools, and the question of cemetery upkeep were all cited as topics in need of more scrutiny.

Board members also expressed sympathy with the residents who said the site was a community focus, hosting National Night Out events, and that walkers would find other centers hard to access. The site’s proximity to several bus shelters and a main thoroughfare should help both existing and future residents to reach other retail, they said.

The center currently hosts a Grand Mart, a dry cleaner, and a beer/liquor store as well as the Seneca Cluster Satellite Facility, a police substation that opened in 1998. The 7-Eleven gas station on Clopper Road directly in front of the center would not be affected by the potential rezoning.

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Local News

Isn't There Anything to Do This Summer?

By Rande Davis

With the end of the school year right around the corner, most parents may be wondering what plans they can make to help their children stay busy during the long summer days ahead. Once again, Poolesville is offering a summer camp program with a wide variety of entertaining and educational fun and, most likely, the best bargain you will find anywhere.

The Stevens Park Summer Recreation Program kicks off on June 22, runs for seven weeks, and is for all kids between the ages of six and twelve. It is a jam-packed schedule offering sports, crafts, and swimming with each week emphasizing a different theme.

The camp begins with a

We've Got Spirit theme offering contests and games such as soccer and capture the flag.

The second week is Survivor Week, and campers will be divided into tribes, each picking their own names with their own flags. Tribes will compete in mental and physical challenges including the optional Survivor eating contest. At the end of the week, campers will know which tribes were able to outwit, outplay, and outlast the others.

With temperatures rising in July, week three will be Wet, Wacky, and Wild. Whether it's enjoying the slip and slide, or soaking a counselor during the sponge relay, campers will find plenty of ways to beat the heat.

Next up is the Blast from the Past. The youngsters will experience a bygone time of root beer floats, hula hoops, peace signs, smiley faces, bell bottoms and disco, Rubik's cubes, and air guitar all to the music of the fifties, sixties, seventies, eighties, and nineties. Wait a minute. How can the eighties and nineties be a bygone era already?



The great-great-great grandson of Rin Tin Tin and his handler entertain kids of all ages.

A popular visit from the Upper Montgomery County Fire Department, the Montgomery County K-9 Unit, FEMA, and the Maryland Park Police will bring a fun and informative week centering on safety.

Week six transforms the park into a tropical island during Jamaican Me Crazy week. Fresh

fruit snacks, sand castles, limbo contests, pass the coconut, and sand art projects fill the days.

Finally, camp ends with a Quit Buggin' Me theme featuring a look at creepy crawlers, bugs, and birds. Discover the bugs under rocks and in the dirt, chase butterflies, and listen to the birds.

Each week also has sports activities, as well, with soccer, capture the flag, tennis, baseball, lacrosse, basketball, field hockey, crafts, and other games.

In the introduction, we mentioned that the camp is a great bargain, and at only \$20.00 per child for all summer, who could disagree? The registration forms are available online at www.poolesville.com or can be picked up at Town Hall.

YOUTH & FAMILY RALLY

Everyone Invited!

Come and enjoy the carnival atmosphere

- **Live Music: Christian Rock Band**
- **Food**
- **Fun and Games: Moon Bounce, Bungee Run, Dunk Tank, Joust**
- **Face Painting, Balloons**

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BUD BREAK FESTIVAL

June 6 & 7 Noon - 6 PM

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SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN
Vineyard

Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Present

May 11 Burglary. 17100 block of Titus Way, Poolesville.

May 21 Burglary. 19300 block of Hempstone Court, Poolesville.

May 22 Disorderly Conduct. McDonald's, 19630 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville.

Past

June 8, 1926 A squad of county officers led by Deputy Sheriff Clifford Harris raided a Block-town home in the upper section of Montgomery County. They arrested a man and woman and found three cases of whiskey and one of beer.

June 12, 2001 A Gaithersburg man was arrested after robbing the AllFirst Bank on Fisher Avenue in Poolesville. An alert citizen called the police on his cell phone and then followed the suspect as he made his getaway on a bicycle. The suspect then

discarded his bike and drove away in a car and was followed to the Germantown MARC station where he was arrested by county police.

June 13, 1938 A rowboat carrying eleven persons capsized in the Potomac River at Seneca. Four people, including three children, drowned within sight of their horrified families who were picnicking on the shore.

June 16, 1906 Andrew Small, a dealer in machinery and agricultural implements, was shot inside his Boyds home. Authorities said that Deputy Sheriff Samuel McAtee received a letter from Small concerning money owed for work done. McAtee then went to Small's home to discuss the matter, and the shooting happened soon after.

June 17, 1905 One of the worst railroad accidents in Maryland history happened near the village of Ransom in Carroll County. Two passenger trains collided head-on killing twenty-six people and injuring hundreds. Many of the dead were from Thurmont.

of Maryland. He received the award at the Technology Council's Annual Dinner on May 14, 2009 at the Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center.

Now in his second term in the Maryland House of Delegates, Delegate Feldman serves as Chair of the House Subcommittee on Banking, Economic Development, Science and Technology, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Technology Oversight, and Chair of the Montgomery County House Delegation.

Upon receiving this distinction, Delegate Feldman said, "I am honored to receive such an important award and am proud to have a role in promoting policies which make Maryland a national and international leader in the technology sector."

The Technology Council of Maryland is Maryland's largest technology trade association, consisting of over 500 members from Maryland, D.C., and Virginia.

Local News

Technology Council Of Maryland Names Delegate Brian Feldman Advocate of the Year



Maryland State Delegate Brian J. Feldman of District 15 has been named Advocate of the Year by the Technology Council

~ Jeff Foster ~

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Youth Sports

Durr, Harris, Reid, Wilson, Dickerson Lead Poolesville Track

By Jeff Stuart

The Poolesville girls' track team has seemingly always been great with solid performers like Olivia Durr, Jenny Reid, and Karissa Harris. Over the past three years, juniors Dave Wilson and Kevin Dickerson have helped to lift the fortunes of the boys' squad and dovetail with that success leading to the team qualifying for states last year for the first time since 2003—the Falcon boys hope to make it a habit.

Wilson has played soccer, but he came to running first in the fall. He runs cross country, finishing first in the Poolesville Day run. "This season has gone well," he says. "I have dropped times in pretty much all of my events." Dickerson plays football during the fall. "My little brother did track," he says. "My dad did track. [A lot] of my family does track, and it just came down to me."

"Kevin is best known for his 400," said Head Coach Mike Trumbull. "He ran a 51.74 earlier in the year...he did not qualify for states, though." That time would have been good enough for a fifth place finish at the state meet.

There are others on the boys' squad who have made a difference. The 4x800-meter relay was the top seed entering the state competition. The four runners, Wilson, senior Nick Stavely, sophomore Eric Holmestead, and junior Sam Widmayer, ran a school record time of 8:20.08 for the event at the state meet over Memorial Day weekend. That was good enough for third place and more than seven seconds off the Falcons' qualifying time of 8:27.34 which had been good enough to win at the 1A West Regional

at Clear Spring High School.

On the girls' side, Olivia Durr, headed for Dartmouth College in the fall, was the top seed in the state in the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles—and the defending champion in both events. Durr won both events as the Falcon girls finished second in the region. Olivia was also third in the high jump. Karissa Harris was the second seed in the 100 dash and 400 dash. She won both events at the regional meet. Jenny Reid, headed for Pittsburgh in the fall, was third in both the 800 and 1600 in the region. She teamed with Durr, Karissa, and junior Ellie Lalonde to finish second in the 4x400-meter relay; and she teamed with Lalonde, senior Katherine Connor, and freshman Megan Gerders to finish second in the 4x800-meter relay. The 4x800 entered the state meet as the second seed.

The girls are fast, but, especially in the state, they missed the field event points they got last year from shot putter Holly Defnet, now at Salisbury, and discus thrower Ashleigh Nesselt, now at Towson. They also missed 2006 graduate, Emily Furr, who broke the Frostburg State school record in the triple jump at the Paul Kaiser Classic on April 25 in Shippenburg, Pennsylvania. The record had stood for twenty years. At the state meet, Durr won the 100-meter hurdles, matching her qualifying time of 15.06. She ends her Poolesville career with four state gold medals.



The Poolesville High School Boys' Track Team

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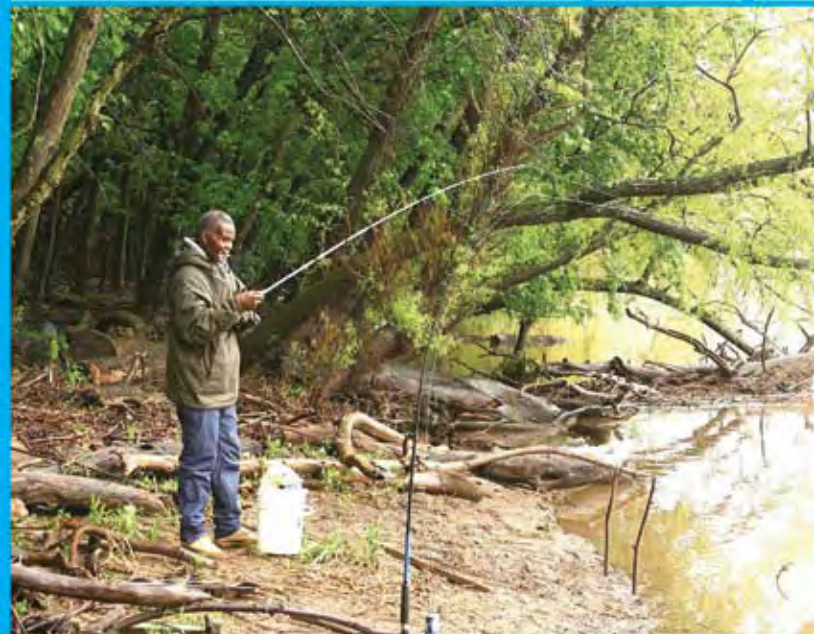
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A Monocacy Moment

Fishing for catfish on a rainy Monday



Photograph by Jack Toomey

Things to Do

For continual updates visit:
www.monocacymonocle.com
June 6

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Jim Bowie Band
8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Bassett's Entertainment Night
Bill Euler
Performances begin at 10:00 p.m.

Clarksburg Day Festival
THIS EVENT IS CANCELED

June 6 and 7
Bud Break Festival at Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards
Come celebrate the buds breaking out from the grapevines after a winter of hibernation. The festival held on Saturday and Sunday will be from noon to 6:00 p.m. The will be terrific musical entertainment with the Big Cheese performing on Saturday and the Yardslippers on Sunday. Along with the entertainment will be plenty of food vendors including Big Nate's BBQ, Potomac Pizza, and Gifford's Ice Cream. The

wine tasting will feature SMV's Pinot Grigio '08, Chardonnay '06, Merlot '06, Comus '07, Cabernet Franc '07, and Cabernet Sauvignon '06. There will be children's activities as well, so bring a blanket or folding chair and plan for a great day.

June 8
Poolesville Library
Madame Butterfly: The Washington National Opera will present an opera workshop for children and families. Children will participate with crafts and creative music activities. Geared towards ages four to ten years.
7:00 p.m.

June 10
Planning Commission Meeting
Poolesville Town Hall
7:30 p.m.

June 12
Annual Jake Perkins Memorial Falcon Golf Classic at Bretton Woods Golf Club at 1:00 p.m.
Contact www.phsboosterclub.org for more information.

June 12 to June 20
Carroll Manor Fire Co. Annual Carnival

Nightly Entertainment
Midway Rides, Games, and Great Food
Car Show – June 13
Basket Bingo – June 14
Firemen's Parade – June 18

June 13
Third Annual Poolesville Relay for Life
The event begins with a survivor's luncheon for cancer survivors and their friends and family 11:30 a.m. on the athletic field at Poolesville High School, followed by an opening ceremony at 2:15 p.m. There will be activities, games, music, and demonstrations throughout the day, which culminates with a Luminaria Ceremony at dusk in honor of those who died of cancer. A final ceremony and award presentation will be at 6:30 a.m. Sunday. Food and drinks will be available for purchase, and some activities may cost money.

Youth and Family Summer Rally
Barnesville Baptist Church
There will be live music, food, fun, and games. The activities include a moon bounce, bungee run, dunk tank, face painting, and jousting. Music will feature

a Christian Rock Band. Plus a dynamic speaker from Taneytown who has traveled to Mexico and to Africa on missions will share stories of missionary work.
Noon to 5:00 p.m.

June 15
Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting
Poolesville Town Hall
7:30 p.m.

June 16
MCPS last day of schools for students

June 17
CEDC Meeting
Poolesville Town Hall
7:30 p.m.

June 20
Youth Car Wash
Poolesville Baptist Church
9:00 to noon

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Doug Bell
8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Bassett's Entertainment Night
So Far Gone

-Continued on Page 18.

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School News

PHS Seniors Earn IWLA Scholarships

Poolesville High School Global Environmental Studies seniors earned, through their hard work, scholarships from the B-CC chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. Each of the six winning groups received a \$900.00 scholarship.

Jackie Carpenter and **Julie Stout** worked with Project Wild to create global ecology lessons for younger students and taught Theresa Bliss's science class at John Poole Middle School.

Chelsea Glowacki and **Kristyn Kirschbaum** created a Poolesville Environmental Activity Book, which will be used in the town welcome bags and in the global program to welcome incoming global students.

Kelsey Montgomery, Emily Stubbs, and Elaine Wang used their diverse skills to create a film showing that going green is

possible and being done successfully in Montgomery County. Their film also took top honors at the MCPS Environmental Film Festival, earning each of them a week of film school at American University.

Lisa Webb augmented her car engine with an HHO (oxyhydrogen) Gas Car Modification. Her car was on display at the awards ceremony at the BCC-IWLA chapter house.

Katherine Connor created a micro-lending club and worked on the creation and sale of the senior global t-shirt for her seed money. She made two loans to women in developing countries.

Carly Gayle began her senior project in the tenth grade. For two years, she has been working on stream restoration at Seneca Creek State Park.

"Town Government" Continued From Page 4.

ed. Many of the infrastructure expenditures are paid up front by the developer and then credited later toward the town revenues expected from the fees. Assessing the financial costs of these capital expenditures is part of the formula in finalizing a rate.

The town held the public record open for additional comments until June 12, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. and made copies of Dr. Moore's presentation available at town hall.

Town manager Wade Yost reported that contamination concern from gasoline tank leakage at the closed Getty Station has been investigated by the Maryland Department of the Environment and town wells #2 and #5 have been cleared of damage at this point. A nearby private well was not cleared and has been scheduled for retesting. No decision as to the closing and removal of the gasoline storage vaults has been announced by MDE.

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"Kitchen Garden" Continued From Page 5.

States. I asked several local people for directions to a Cretan pottery studio I had read about. Their directions and sense of direction were even worse than what you might hear from an Irishman or an Italian. Take a left by the third black and white cow on your right, after you pass the white church at the crook of the road by the crick. My husband and I drove five times through the same small village, being held up by a long, steady crossing of sheep and again by inadvertently becoming part of a wedding guest line. We never did find the pottery studio. I recently found some at White Flower Farm. I think that clay pots have the best properties in which to grow plants. Unlike plastic or resin ones, they keep the soil at a consistent level of moisture, without letting it become soggy. The clay removes excess water from the potting mix. Synthetic-material planters have become very popular in the last ten years. They are made of durable, lightweight polyethylene, fiberclay, non-porous resin, and crushed stone. Some of these can be pricey, but they will last a long time in the garden.

Some vegetables and herbs are more suitable and successful than others for growing in containers. The easiest one is the tomato. The growth habit of tomatoes is described as Determinate varieties, which take up less space in a garden or container and ripen with a heavy crop of fruit over a few weeks' period, and Indeterminate varieties, which put out extensive vines and bear fruit until frost. They also require cages or stakes

for support. The former are more suitable for growing in containers. Some good choices of these tomato varieties are: 'Patio Princess Hybrid', 'Celebrity,' 'Champion,' 'Carmello,' 'Principe Borghese,' and 'Husky Cherry Red.' If you want to put all your vegetables in one basket, or if you enjoy one-pot gardening, here is a good combination that would grow well in a container approximately seventeen inches wide and sixteen inches tall. Try these varieties: early, compact tomato 'Husky Cherry Red'; sweet pepper 'Early Sensation' with golden yellow fruits; early cucumber 'Salad Bush,' an All-American Selections Winner; and densely-leaved, flavorful basil 'Pistou.'

Peppers are very attractive plants that grow very well in containers. Choose varieties that are short, compact plants. They need support to grow straight and tall, producing a better harvest. At the time of planting, insert a strong wire cage into the soil of the container.

I must admit that I do not love eggplant, but every year I plant one or two because the plant and its fruit are so beautiful. Two new compact and high-yielding varieties are the purple-and-white Eggplant 'Fairy Tale' and Eggplant 'Crescent Moon Hybrid.' If you like squash, try yellow straightneck Summer Squash 'Multipik.'

Herbs are ideal plants for containers, especially if you have hungry deer in your backyard. I find that the closer you place plants to your house, the less chance there is that the deer will devour them. Here is a good selection that will give a

cook, from a novice to a gourmet, a wonderful blend of especially flavorful culinary seasonings. If you are cutting down on fats and salt, herbs will give your food the lively flavor you want. If you are not a cook, grow them for the beauty and scent of the plants. Every herb garden should include: basil, chives, oregano, lavender, mint, rosemary, sage, marjoram, English thyme, cilantro, and parsley.

Gardening has always been a balance between poetry and practicalities. From the beginning

of time to the present day, the beauty of a garden has inspired poets, and the fruits of the garden have provided sustenance for man. While we tend our gardens, it is the garden and the plants that are nurturing us. Everyone should have a garden, be it as grand as a royal estate garden or as simple as a terra cotta pot on a deck.

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Tidbits

Charles Wolz Completes Plebe Year at the Naval Academy



Poolesville High School's Charles Wolz completed his plebe year at the Naval Academy on May 18. He and his classmates completed the traditional "greased" climb of the Tecumseh in the goal of removing a Dixie-cup from the top of the twenty-one-foot Herndon statue and

replacing it with a midshipman's hat. It took the plebes 1:14:38 to complete the Herndon climb which was an hour faster than last year. A nineteen-year-old Midshipman fourth-class Schyler Widman of Jackson Hole, Wyoming is the one who replaced the plebe Dixie-cup hat on top of the grey obelisk with a midshipman hat. When he completed the switch, everyone shouted, "Plebes no more!"

Looking for a Speaker for Your Next Meeting?

The Montgomery County Historical Society's Speakers' Bureau is a community service available to local professional groups, businesses, neighborhood associations, senior centers, clubs, schools, religious institutions, and other organized groups. The Speakers' Bureau has seventeen speakers who talk on a variety of topics from an overview of Montgomery County history to specialized topics related to people, places, and happenings in the county. Each year, the Speakers' Bureau reaches over 2500 people. Talks

are available for a nominal fee of \$35. To have a brochure mailed, call 301-340-2825 or look on the MCHS website at www.montgomeryhistory.org.

Local Women Complete Johns Hopkins University Master's Program



PHS graduates Juliana Davis and Heather Emory graduated from the Johns Hopkins University master's program on May 21. Both women were enrolled in the Johns Hopkins and Montgomery County ProMAT scholarship program which has their students teaching for Montgomery County during and after the program. Heather has been teaching tenth grade English at Winston Churchill High School



and Juliana has been teaching eleventh grade English at Blake High School. Both ladies earned a Master's of Arts in Teaching.

Barnesville's Jones Girls in the News

Emily Jones graduated from Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, with a major in Accounting and a minor in Spanish. She is now employed fulltime as a budget analyst in the budget office at the National Institutes of Health. Emily went to high school at St. John's Prospect Hall in Frederick.

-Continued on Page 16.



The Jake Perkins Falcon Classic

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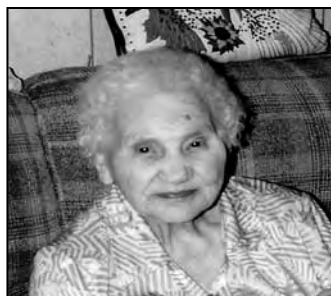
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Remembrance

Helen Irene Burdette: A Woman of Strength and Faith

By Rande Davis



Helen Irene Burdette

Mrs. Helen I. Burdette, 95, of Dickerson, died peacefully on Friday, May 22, 2009 at the National Lutheran Home in Rockville. She was the loving wife of the late John R. Burdette who passed away in 1964. Wayne Roberson, pastor of Dawsonville Mennonite Church and a lifelong

family friend, officiated at the service held at Dickerson United Methodist Church.

She was a lifelong resident of Dickerson having lived, until only recently, over sixty-five years in the same house. As the sole female in a household of eight men, she was remembered as a strong, yet gentle woman, always smiling, a perfect model of the early twentieth century farm homemaker who cared for the home and family with love, devotion, humor, and without complaint. In that regard, it was recalled by her son, Russ, how she cooked three full meals each day, washed and dried dishes by hand, and handled the laundry of eight people at a time when scrub boards were still in use—and she still had time to prepare food for her sons' visiting baseball teammates. During times of war and economic depression, this family of farmers worked exceptionally hard and none more than she. A woman of strength and certain faith, she endured the grief of losing her husband, a son, and three

other relatives in a brief stretch of years. Russ reminisced how she could be "tough as nails" during difficult times but underneath "as gentle as an angel."

Even through the tribulations of her earlier years, she went on to enjoy life and good health, visits with friends and family, volunteer work and membership in her beloved Dickerson United Methodist Church, and participation in her Beallsville Senior Citizen group. Friends recalled her humor and laughter, recalling even one time when she found the humor in her automobile nearly getting swamped by an overflowing creek. Virginia Byrd Bitzel always remembered her welcoming nature, greeting others with a "hey, a shout, and a wave." Mrs. Bitzel recalled Helen's joy in being invited to church mother-daughter events as her surrogate-mom, especially knowing that Helen had no daughters of her own. Virginia's mother, one of Helen's closest friends and a mother of seven

daughters herself, was overjoyed to share one of her daughters with her dear friend. Virginia recalled Helen as one who always was ready with a "smile, a hug, and a warm, comforting welcome."

After a final farewell, her nephew Bill Burdette sang the classic hymn, "How Great Thou Art," a song and tribute to her, an individual who exemplified the great farm ladies of the twentieth century.

She was interred in the Monocacy Cemetery. She is survived by sons Russ Burdette and wife Carole of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, Otis Burdette of Hagerstown, and Tommy Burdette and wife Paula, also of Hagerstown; six grandchildren Chris, Jon, Juliann, Steve, Adam, Katie; and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by husband John, son Doug, and her mother Cora E. Mulligan.

"Fire Training" Continued From Page 1.

Just how challenging the program can be is evidenced by the fifty percent dropout rate. In August, as the aspiring first responders gathered in their initial group classes, thirty-two high school students answered the roll call. By May, only seven firefighters and ten EMTs graduated.

In group classes, they covered basic instruction in HAZMAT, CPR, and injury assessment in preparation for the more individualized training in emergency medical services and, for Jake and Ethan, firefighting, as well. All three were a bit surprised by the detailed educational aspects of the program and the degree of the physical requirements as well. Despite the rigor they faced, as they progressed through the year with rising confidence, they found the program uplifting as well.

All three were friends before joining the program and encouraged each other throughout the process. Although joining as a team, they had their own personal reasons for doing so. For Alexa, it

was a natural preparatory program for her goal of becoming a registered nurse. She plans to complete courses at Montgomery College before completing an RN degree at UMBC. Ethan cited family history as his greatest impetus in enrolling in the program. Both of his parents are retired military, and his father is a lieutenant in the Montgomery County Fire Department. For Jake, the decision had to do more with a gut feeling of being pulled toward the excitement and purpose of a firefighting career.

Both Jake and Ethan will be taking their final employment exams for firefighting soon and hope that they will be hired by a fire department nearby. If that doesn't happen right away, both plan on taking additional classes at Montgomery College that will support their firefighting career goals, and they will continue to volunteer with the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department, Station 14 in Beallsville.

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"Brooks" Continued From Page 1.

tive responsibilities; working the customer service counter; and greeting people with her warm smile, caring personality, and sense of humor. While it was in this position that most people in the Upcounty area came to know her, it was through her family, church, and volunteer work that she made her greatest contributions and impact on the lives of residents.

Becky devoted a large part of her life through her leadership of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department. She was a founding member of the Auxiliary which holds a critical role as a support group for the department. Remarkably, she was the president of the Auxiliary for over twenty-five years of its fifty-two-year history. The Auxiliary helps raise funds for non-government-sponsored expenses and assists the department by providing nourishment and sustenance through its mobile canteen for firefighters during the more stressful and extensive fires. Ann Baur, current president of the Auxiliary, remarked how Becky's spirit and impact are so evident throughout the fire hall: in the kitchen where she played such a pivotal role in its upgrade; the dining hall, where she worked so many countless hours at fundraising dinners and bingo; and in the boardroom where her leadership skills and talents were most appreciated. Marge Shultz recalled how Becky "[raised] the bar on volunteerism, she was truly an example of selfless dedication and should be an inspiration to all of us who volunteer to make a difference in our community."

Her volunteer work extended to her participation at the Memorial United Methodist Church where she was also a member of the Crafty Ladies and Gents service group.

After graduating high school, Becky Brooks first went to work as a secretary at the Atomic Energy Commission (now Energy Department) in Germantown where she worked for thirteen years.

During her struggle with cancer, friends Frances Noffsinger, Betty Jean Selby, Nancy Morning-

star, Julie Bellet, Rosalie Weller, Sarah Ann King, Suzie Moore, and Pam Landis, many who had never done so before, knitted a very special Blanket of Love for Becky letting her know just how beloved she was. The blanket was given to Becky just a couple weeks before her passing and was with her when she was interred at Monocacy Cemetery.

For Becky, perhaps her most beloved title was that of Meemaw, a gentle and affectionate nickname used by her grandchildren after her oldest grandson Michael came up with it when having trouble pronouncing grandma. Granddaughter Alexandra Szalay-Brooks spoke for all eight grandchildren in reading a poem dedicated to her. She wrote:

Meemaw, I was thinking of
you today
And a smile tickled my face
Remembering all the things
you taught me,
Like to always say my grace.
I thought of those early mornings
I would bring you and
Peepaw coffee in bed,
I remember crossing the street
and
Hearing "Tooney, you better
stop right there."
I remember the goodness you
instilled in me
Though sometimes it doesn't
show,
You played such a very special
part in my life,
And I thought you should
know.

In recalling her passing, the grandchildren and the ladies certainly were not alone. The witness of friends and family to her life, to her caring, dedication, and humor was evidenced by an overwhelming turnout for her visitation and funeral. With the number of mourners too large for Memorial United Methodist Church, Father Herbert graciously offered the sanctuary of Our Lady of the Presentation for the funeral service which was filled to capacity and beyond. The fire department's uniformed Honor Guard served as pall bearers, and her funeral procession was led by a black-draped

fire engine to the cemetery.

Cancer took Becky from the community, and this year, Poolesville Relay for Life will honor her memory by dedicating to her its annual event at the Poolesville High School on Saturday, June 13, which is also Becky's birthday.

The struggle of Becky's battle with cancer was sadly coupled with the recent loss of son, Jody Brooks. Lewis Brooks, her husband, as well as the entire Brooks family, has had to shoulder very difficult times. Surviving Becky besides her husband are: her children, Robert L. Brooks, Jr. and wife Debbie, Jeffery W. Brooks and wife Alice, Darren J. Brooks; one

"Tidbits" Continued From Page 14.

Marjory Jones's Virginia Tech club lacrosse team recently won the U.S. Lacrosse Women's Division Intercollegiate Associates (WDIA) National Championship in Scottsdale, Arizona. This was the second year that her team participated in the sixteen-team tournament; last year, they finished in fifth place, and this year they were seeded sixth. Her team

brother, Roy L. Selby, Jr. and wife Betty Jean; eight grandchildren, Michael Szalay-Brooks, Alexandra Szalay-Brooks, Christopher Szalay-Brooks, Robert Brooks, III, Ryan Brooks, Jared Brooks, Gabriella Brooks, Zachary Brooks; and numerous nieces and nephews including Linwood, Michael Bruce, and Lisa Selby.

Friends should know that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Becky's name to Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Dr., Suite 100, Rockville, MD 20850, www.montgomeryhospice.org, or Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 358, Poolesville, MD 20837.

is coached entirely by students, although most club teams have at least two paid professional coaches. Marjory, a mid-fielder, scored a number of goals in the tournament. She is a junior at Virginia Tech and is also in her third year as an intern at the Eye Institute at NIH in Bethesda.

The two Jones girls are the daughters of Chris and Mary Lu Jones of Barnesville.

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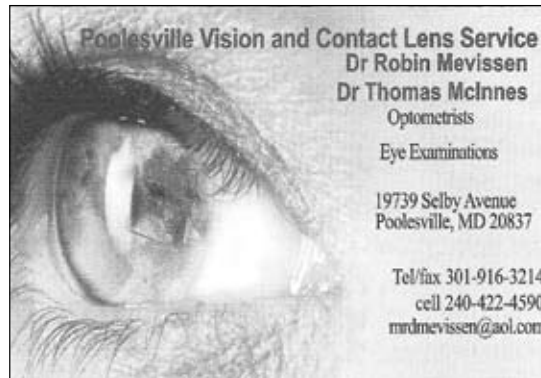
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"Things to Do" Continued From Page 11.

Performances begin at 10:00 p.m.

June 21 to June 24
 Poolesville Baptist Church
 Summer Sports Camp
 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

June 22
 Town of Poolesville Summer Recreation Program begins at Stevens Park and runs to August 7. This program runs Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for ages six to twelve. With great weekly themes like: We've Got Spirit; Survivor Week; Wet, Wacky, & Wild; Blast from the Past; and more. All this at an incredible cost of just \$20.00. Visit www.poolesville.com for registration forms and more details.

June 22 to 26
 The first of the summer's VBS programs begins at the Dawsonville Mennonite Church with the theme of Crocodile Dock: Get Swamped with Fun. Programs are for ages four to youth, plus special features for men and women. The church is located at Route 28 and Route 109, and the program runs from 7:00 p.m. to

9:00 p.m. through the week.

June 25
 Jazz Singer Catherine Russell Gutsy and gifted, she's got the voice—and the pedigree—to go with it. Her father was Louis Armstrong's long-time musical director, and her mother is an accomplished bassist and vocalist. Often compared to Ella Fitzgerald, Bessie Smith, and other jazz and blues legends, Russell pours her heart and soul into everything she sings, reinventing vintage tunes with her own dynamic flair. Don't miss her performance at the Weinberg Center for the Arts at 8:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. For more information, visit www.weinbergcenter.org or call 301-600-2828.



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See current updates to Things to Do

Tidbits of the Past

June 1, 1925 The winners of the essay contest for Montgomery County students were announced. Entrants had been asked to write an essay on the life, character, and accomplishments of General Richard Montgomery. Miss Rena Darby of the Poolesville School won honorable mention.

June 1, 1935 Montgomery Blair High defeated Poolesville, 13-5, at the Silver Spring field. Cubitt, pitching for Poolesville, struck out nine batters. Poolesville had taken an early two-run lead after drawing five walks in the first inning.

June 3, 1926 A group home demonstration meeting was held at Barnesville, and the ladies of Poolesville and Dickerson were invited. A guest from Dorchester County gave a talk on meat extenders, a professor from the University of Maryland gave a demonstration on summer flowers and garden problems, and a traveling saleswoman showed the latest sewing machines available.

June 8, 1926 The June meet-

ing of the Poolesville Community League was held in the auditorium of the Poolesville School. The largest turnout in its history was present. Judge Charles Woodward presided, and a program of vocal and instrumental music was presented.

June 15, 1921 Randolph Luhn of Poolesville announced his candidacy for the position of Sheriff.

June 20, 1925 Commencement ceremonies were held at the Poolesville High School. Diplomas were awarded to Alice Darby, Margaret Grubb, Georgie Hough, Matilda Fox, Florence Fyffe, Emma Haller, Helen Willard, John Elgin, Thomas Hall, Jr., Reno Darby, and Boyd Brooks. Principal Thomas Pyle presided.

June 20, 1937 Mr. and Mrs. C. Merrick Wilson entertained the faculty of the Poolesville School and their escorts at a picnic supper on the heights of Sugarloaf Mountain.

June 23, 1935 Misses Helen Willard, Virginia Fyffe, Elsie Brooks, and Eleanor Stout returned to their homes in Poolesville from their respective universities.

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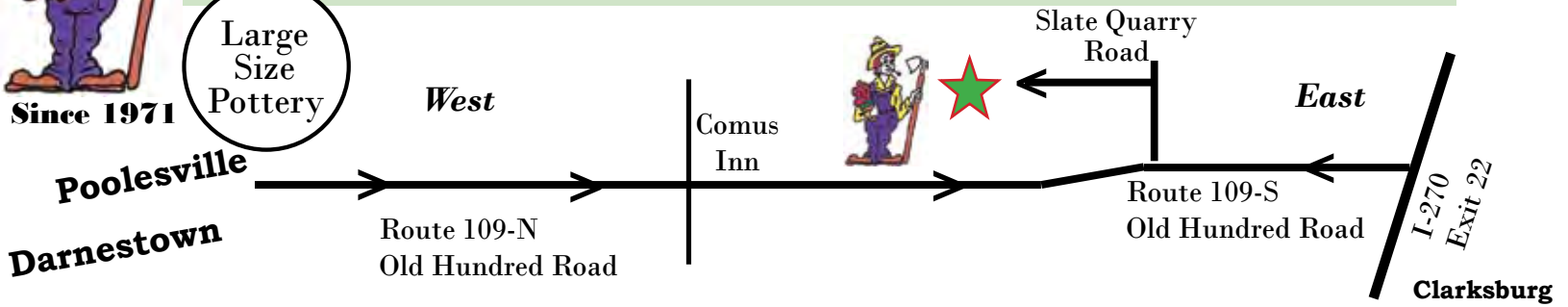
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