



Shh, quiet please. Read about the new Poolesville librarian Linda Berg in Tidbits, Page 8.



A very hot day, and it was uphill. More pictures in the Family Album on Page 2.



You'll never guess who the Poolesville Day Grand Marshal will be. Find out on Page 9.



Read about Nick Yarmis and his Eagle Scout community service project in Tidbits, on Page 8.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

July 30, 2010

Volume VII, Number 10.

Poolesville Basks in Broadcast

By Rande Davis

At times, well over six hundred residents turned out for the live broadcast of Hometown Fridays by WTTG-TV Fox 5 Morning Show on July 23. The morning show ran from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and, frequently, Whalen Commons resembled more of a summer festival than a television program.

The station's Director of News Operations, Bill Beyer, resides in Poolesville, and, joining him in managing the production was Katy Adams, their producer of special projects. Hilary Schwab, president of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC), spearheaded the chamber's part in identifying the thirteen program segments which showcased the people, history, businesses, culture, youth sports, and tourist attractions of the town.

The segments included one on with two authors about town history, Dots Elgin and Ray Hoewing. Steve Goldberg handled the history of the sites owned by Historic Medley, while Gregg Shores ran through the town's part in the Civil War.

Another highlight was the tribute to the gentlemen who started the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Earl Moore introduced George Hillard, Bill Bliss, and Charles Elgin, Jr. as central persons in the development of the fire company. Another key individual who was unable to attend was Bill Griffith.

Cathy Bupp the town's recreation director, with the help of Brian Gross, provided essential assistance to the PACC in lining up area entertainers who performed on the new band shell in Whalen Commons throughout the event.

The Morning Show came with a full lineup of news personalities, including: Tony Perkins, Steve Chenevy, Allison Seymour, Tucker Barnes, and Gurvir Dhindsa. The program had previously visited Leesburg, Leonardstown, and Fredericksburg and is scheduled for Greenbelt on July 30.

The production crew arrived before 4:00 a.m. in a small convoy of television trucks and stealthily set up the production with military precision. At the first break of dawn, the program's cast arrived and was welcomed by Jeff Brooks of

Watch for the *Monocle's* Photo Spread of the Fox 5 Hometown Fridays in our upcoming August 13 issue.

Java Cruiser with free coffee.

Beyond Whalen Commons, there were live broadcasts from the center of town near the old bank and former town hall, the John Poole General Store museum, and the county pool, where the Poolesville youth swim team, the Piranhas, were featured.

The station did some pre-taping earlier in the week at White's Ferry, St. Paul's historic church on Sugarland Lane, and in the center of Poolesville. They also pre-filmed a variety of shots around town.

-Continued on Page 5.

Leaping Through Life

By Dominique Agnew



Eric Trope

Some people grow up knowing exactly what they want to do with their lives and move steadily towards their goals; others leap from one activity to the next seeking that one passion that would guide them. Eric Trope is such an individual. Now a dancer

with the Pennsylvania Ballet II, his path didn't diverge in that direction until almost high school.

Growing up in New Mexico—as a triplet and one of five children—he was always a child of motion, jumping around the house, but early dance and motion classes didn't enthrall him as he preferred to do his own thing rather than follow the set regimen of the class, and his parents didn't press the issue. His first love ended up being acting. While involved in drama, he was encouraged to take a movement class, so he took up dancing and began jazz classes. During his middle school years, the Trope family moved to Poolesville. Eric found modern dance classes at the Metropoli-

-Continued on Page 15.

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by Selby's Market Your IGA Hometown Food Store



The bikers were in the sun, and the judges were in the shade at the 2010 Giro di Coppi here in the Upcounty.



Kettler Forlines Homes hosted a PACC hospitality night at their model home on Elgin Road in Poolesville. Enjoying the event are Bob Pierce, forest conservation consultant, Dr. Margaret A. Valega, dentist, and Bob Mallasch of Bob's Bikes in Poolesville.



The Warren Historical Site Committee held its Tenth Annual Reunion at the Martinsburg Methodist church grounds on July 25. Past congregants came from as far away as Pennsylvania.



A late afternoon storm surge on July 25 brought wind gusts above 60 mph which brought down this huge locust which collapsed a shed on Beall Street. Similar scenes were seen throughout the area.

The Poolesville Military Support Group presented its seventh donation of \$10,000 to the Fisher House, a free housing facility for families of wounded soldiers. Attending the donation ceremony were Rich MacKnight, Carl Hobbs, Janice Strippey, Paul Kelly, Maurice Bored, Bubba Pollen, and Rebecca Skimmer representing Fisher House.



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Equestrian

The Palio: A Great Horse and Travel

Experience

Carol Rae Hansen, Director, Equine Therapy Associates

Here's a riddle for you: What has occurred without fail for seven hundred years, is held in Europe, involves the entire community, generates intense excitement, captures pageantry, neighborhood pride, intrigue, deceit, and excites the imagination of historians and enthusiasts from around the world? (No, it's not Oberammergau, the Passion Play held in Germany every ten years since 1634 in fulfillment of the villagers' promise to God for sparing them from the Black Death.) The answer is, of course, the Palio Horse Race of Siena, Italy!

History abounds in Tuscany, but not so mystically as the beautifully-preserved, refined, medieval city of Siena, a scant hour and a quarter south of Florence. Even without the lure of the Palio, Siena's unique nature and

generous spirit always welcome visitors with its motto, inscribed atop the Camollia Gate: "*Cor magis tibi Seni pandit*," "Siena opens its heart even wider to you." The Palio, however, brings you to Siena at a time as close as possible to its medieval core. True Sieneese are loyal first to their *contrade* (one of the seventeen neighborhoods that spend the entire year getting ready to race for the Palio, the winner's prize of a pennant of the Virgin Mary), then to Siena, and only then to Italy. The medieval tradition of competitive rivalry between the *contrade* (parishes) echoes Siena's days as an independent republic, often a threat to or threatened by neighboring Florence. Each *contrade* has its own museum, which displays the pennants it has won, a public fountain, its church, stables, a band, and warehouses for its weapons. The symbol (colors) of each *contrade* represent one of the seventeen virtues held dear by the Sieneese: my favorite, the Porcupine (sharpness), the Owl (finesse), the Panther (daring), and so forth.

The Palio horse race is actually held twice a year, on July 2 (we were fortunate to attend the finals of the pre-race this

year) and August 16, but only ten *contrade* can take part each time, so the seventeen must take turns, with barely room for ten on the track. Antepost betting is heavy, intrigue swells (including jockey drugging), and virtually the entire population brings out their colors, hangs flags, practices music, dance, and marching steps for the parade. There is a most solemn drawing of lots in the Campo (the grand square) to see which horses are assigned to each *contrade*; the latter surprises horse race enthusiasts from the U.S. or the U.K. because, as one pundit put it, the "same old nags are brought in each year to race."

Just as in medieval times, winning becomes an exercise in intrigue, not breeding, with horse doping allowed, as well! If a horse dies, its *contrade* must exit the race, but its colors are set at half-mast and can be carried in the opening procession, along with the horse's hooves on a silver tray. *Fantini*, or jockeys, from surrounding communities, are spied upon day and night to ensure that they've not been

bribed to lose the race, but all is not unfair, as mattresses pad the sharp turns on the Campo, where many *fantini* fall. Only sabotaging a horse's reins is not allowed as a trick.

Race day is the highlight of each three-to-four-day frenzy. On the morning of the race, Masses are said in the *contrade* churches, with each horse and rider blessed in his own. The horses are told by the priest: "Go, little horse, and return victorious." It is considered a sign of good luck if the horse leaves droppings in the church. Virtually the entire city turns out for the procession in the afternoon, with medieval costumes abounding, tambourines, bells, and drums at the ready, flag-bearers, six black horses and riders in mourning for the six defunct *contrade*, and town archers in the rear.

The race itself is run in but a bit over a minute, three times around the Piazza del Campo, or great square of Siena, one of

-Continued on Page 12.

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Commentary

Barnesville Oaks—Still a Bad Idea for the Ag Reserve

John Clayton

Most people in this area by now are familiar with the proposed Barnesville Oaks development, at least from the signs they see on the roadside. There is strong opposition to the development, but its proponents are still marching on.

The controversy is that the developers, rather than developing properties of twenty-five acres or more, as required in Rural Density Transfer zoning, as the Ag Reserve is more properly known, want to develop twenty-four (down from thirty-three) properties averaging about two and one-half acres. The properties would be clustered in two areas on the existing land. The requirement of twenty-five acres per property would be achieved by preserving two larger tracts of farmland totaling 780 acres, which the developer, Benning and Associates, calls "mega farm remainders." The total acreage of the project is 840 acres, so the twenty-four properties would average out to thirty-five acres, using that logic.

Except they don't. The properties are not on thirty-five-acre lots, they are on lots of varying size averaging two and one-half acres. The two mega-farm remainders are truly impressive

swaths of preserved farmland, and that is certainly a plus in the plan, but the fact remains that the developers want to insert a suburban development in the Ag Reserve, stacking a large number of homes in a small area. This is not how the Ag Reserve and RDT zoning were conceived, which, in short, was to limit most development to twenty-five-acre lots that would support sustainable farming.

There are many reasons why this significant suburban development is a bad idea and will put a strain on the areas resources, but I will not belabor those here. One can see such information at www.mocoalliance.org, at www.maryland.sierraclub.org/montgomery, at www.stopbarnesvilleoaks.com, or at www.audobonnaturalist.org. I am sure Benning and Associates would be willing to provide information on the project from their perspective if one inquires at benninglandplan@aol.com.

My primary, overriding concern is that this development will damage the immediate area it is in, and a proliferation of such developments, even if on a smaller scale, will dramatically undermine the protections of RDT zoning. I fear these for the same reason that I assume the developers choose to build in this way—because they are easier to sell and will sell much faster. I'm sure it is much easier to sell twenty-four two-to-three-acre lots than it is to sell twenty-four twenty-five-acre or larger lots. That may be a good thing for the investors, but it's not a good thing for the Upcounty.



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| 5. Snowbrite | 14. White Hale |
| 6. Saturn | 15. Snow King |
| 7. White Lady | 16. Snow Giant |
| 8. Sugar Lady | 17. September Snow |
| 9. Klondike | |

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"Poolesville Basks in Broadcast"
Continued From Page 1.

In a spectacular and festive day with many exciting events, perhaps the top one was the recreation of the picture that appeared in the November 1959 National Geographic. With a baby boom in full swing and America's population expanding at a rate of 350 people per hour, Poolesville, with that size population, was chosen to illustrate the growth pattern. On June 24, 1959 right after church services ended, the residents congregated in the center of town and were photographed by a helicopter.

This year, the aerial shot was in Whalen Commons, and the picture was taken using the town's cherry picker. Nearly fifteen persons who were in the 1959 shot came by to be included in this one. With those persons positioned in the front, the rest of the residents spread out in the park in front of the new town hall.

Along with the thirteen prescheduled events, there were many unplanned spontaneous interviews which filled unanticipated gaps in the live broadcast.

Among the businesses offering a sample of commerce in the town were: the Organic Market and Holistic Health Center, Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards, Bassett's Restaurant, Equiscovery, and an array of other

firms who were able to promote themselves with signs and spontaneous interviews during the program. The Poolesville Military Support Group presented an oversized \$10,000 check to benefit Fisher House, hospitality facilities for families of wounded soldiers.

Commissioner Eddie Kuhlman was interviewed about governmental facts while Commissioner Jim Brown presented the town's youth sports programs and exceptional educational institutions.

The event ended with a corn-eating contest with outstanding sweet corn from David Scott's Oak Ridge Farm. The winner of the contest then was given the opportunity to submerge Tucker Barnes in the Dunk Tank. At the end, this reporter clearly heard one of the cast members stating that this show was "the one best so far."

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce is in the process of having a DVD of the program edited and hopes to make them available for sale soon. Persons or businesses wishing to order a copy may contact the PACC website at poolevillechamber.com.



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Local News

Farm Tour 2010

By Kristen Milton

From the panting yet-to-be-sheared sheep at Star Gazing Farm to the rows of empty covered picnic tables at Butler's Orchard, heat was the theme of the day as the 21st annual Farm Tour and Harvest Sale got underway.

"Snow cones, fans, we're doing fine," said Anne Shroeder of Boyds's Star Gazing Farm on the first day of the weekend event, as the heat index made its way past 105 degrees. "There's a good breeze."

Linda Lewis of Lewis Orchards in Dickerson was less sanguine. "I don't know if I would come out today," Lewis said, as she sipped a cold drink and watched customers peruse the piled-high tables of fresh peaches, corn, and okra.

Luckily for the fourteen farms participating in the event, held July 24 to 25, there were hardy souls who were ready to brave the heat on the promise of fun and food—although many limited their excursions to one or two locations.

"I was looking for something to do that wasn't the same old, same old," said Lisa Hone of Arlington as daughter Lizzy, 4, petted a goat.

"I did it for him," said Kari Peterson of Germantown, gesturing to her one-year-old son Dylan as she looked for berries at Lewis's farm stand after completing a play date with another toddler at Star Gazing Farm. It was their first visit to the further reaches of the Upcounty, Peterson said. "It's nice to see mountains and not so many townhomes... It was nice just to drive, see all the old houses."

Back at the farm, Heidi Nielsen of Bethesda carried freshly-made lavender wands purchased at the gift shop while children, Adena and Coby, ages four and two, feasted on rainbow-colored snow cones after petting the various farm animals. The chickens were Coby's favorite while his sister preferred the sheep, "cause

they were so sweet," she said.

Babysitter Aden Hill of Hyattsville had the playground area of Butler's in Germantown to himself and his three-year-old charge by 3:00 p.m. Saturday although there had been more action in the air-conditioned market where free samples of grilled vegetables and juicy fruit attracted visitors. "I'm surprised more people aren't here, but after sitting out here a minute, I see—it's boiling," Hill said.

Butler employee Casey Brown of Damascus, 14, said she opened the castle moon bounce for only five children between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Instead, she largely waited in the shade of the food stand on the empty grounds.

Nonetheless, Lewis said the traffic through her farm stand was steady all day, with peaches and tomatoes the most popular purchases, and regular customers mingling with visitors. After two decades with the farm tour, Lewis said it was important to participate in order to show support for agriculture in the county.

After the event, Shroeder said Star Gazing Farm "fell very far short" of its annual goal of raising enough money to provide winter hay for its rescued farm animals due to the lighter crowds. She would like to see more participation from fellow farmers in future farm tours, maybe even double the number of farms.

"This is our biggest event of the year," said Shroeder, who now has four years under her belt. "It's a really important event not just for us but for the county and for letting people know what is here... We felt the event went very well in terms of the interactions of people with the animals and the level of enjoyment, but the attendance was very low, lower than any year we've done the farm tour."

The Nielsons, Petersons, and Hill all said it was their first farm tour experience, although all said they would likely return in future years.

"They need to move it into the fall," Peterson said with a laugh. "It would be cooler in the fall."

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In the Garden

The Effects of Oil on Plants in The Gulf

By Maureen O'Connell

Almost every day for the past several months, we have seen devastatingly-sad pictures on the internet, television, and in newspapers of large-eyed, oil-coated pelicans and other birds, the most visible victims of the British Petroleum oil leak. We will never know the exact number of how many died; there were thousands of birds and small mammals that were not caught and cleansed of the oil. They died out of our sight. Scientists say, however, that the smaller ocean creatures will bear the brunt of the damage. The ramifications of the oil in the Gulf waters, in domino fashion, affects and threatens the entire ecosystem, and it is uncertain

how far-reaching the damages will be in the long-term.

The threat to the ecosystems from the oil contamination is multi-level and multi-layered. Approximately forty percent of the country's wetlands are in Louisiana, and one of the largest is the Mississippi River Delta. Within this area, we find ecosystems interwoven in bayous, channels, bays, and marshlands. You can also find areas where there is a mixing of saltwater from the Gulf with river water known as brackish water. Near the shore, there is a constant back and forth of salt and fresh water—home to a vast variety of fish, birds, reptiles, and mammals.

In the fresh- and brackish-water areas, the marshland is held together by a plant called roso-cane. In the saltwater areas, sea grasses predominate. Both of these plants act like glue or cement to hold together the marshland sediments. If you lost these plants, the wetlands would disappear. Marshlands are home to many other plants, cypress trees, flowering plants, thistles, and

white spider plants. Wetlands are extremely important to the health of an area. Their primary benefits are flood protection and prevention of soil erosion. These ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to storms, especially those of hurricane-strength. Remember the devastation from Katrina. The coastal wetlands also protect ocean waters as they filter toxins before they reach open water.

What happens when these wetlands become filled with oil? Scientists say that grasses are fairly resilient, and if just their leaves or stems are coated with oil, they can put out new shoots. Oil can be removed relatively easily from the surface of sand, but it is toxic to plant life if the oil covers and penetrates to their roots. As the plants die, the sediments supporting the whole ecosystem of the marshes and coastal waterways begin to be washed away. These sediments are also alive with algae and microorganisms; they would also disappear. Coastal wetlands and marshes are based on highly-organic soil from which it is very

difficult to remove oil. Oil in the soil can kill existing grasses and prevent new grass from growing.

So what are the trickle-down results of the death of wetlands' plants, grasses, and algae? These areas are home to oysters, crabs, and other crustaceans. Larger animals, such as manatees and sea turtles, feed on animals that live in the sea grass beds. Juvenile fish, worms, and crabs depend on the microalgae that live in the sediments to survive. Another key plant being threatened by the oil is a dirty mass of brownish-colored weeds and berries that floats on the Gulf of Mexico, called Sargassum algae. Why is it so important to the ecosystem? Many animals, from tuna to mahi-mahi to shrimp to crabs to sea turtles, use the algae mats to spawn, to rest, and to hide from predators. Several experts have said that once algae is oiled, all the animals that live in it will die. Life for the animals in the gulf waters and wetlands is very

-Continued on Page 12.



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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Burglary: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Assault: 18500 block of Jerusalem Church Road, 19600 block of Gott Street.

Auto theft: Poolesville Golf Course, 16600 block of W. Willard Road, 19500 block of Jerusalem Road.

Theft: 19300 block of Cissel Manor Drive, 22200 block of Mt. Ephraim Road.

Disorderly conduct complaint: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue, 19600 block of Wootton Avenue.

Past Crimes

August 3, 1931 The body of a Lucketts, Virginia man was found in the Potomac River near White's Ferry. The sixty-eight-year-old retired farmer had fallen from a boat while fishing a few days earlier.

August 6, 1907 Earnest Holland, a well-known merchant of Redland, was accosted by a highwayman who jumped from a stand of woods on the road leading from Derwood to Redland. Mr. Holland was driving his buggy to Rockville to deposit money. Holland drew his revolver and fired shots at the man who ran back into the woods. Holland then returned to Redland where a group of men were assembled and went to the place of the assault. In the meantime, Sheriff Mullican at Rockville was notified, and he and a posse headed in the direction of Redland.

August 6, 1898 Craft Swain was struck by a Baltimore & Ohio fast express train between Barnesville and Dickerson. Miraculously, his injuries were only minor. Swain, a member of the First Maryland Volunteers, was absent without leave from his post and was headed home to Brunswick when he was struck.

August 7, 1918 Oscar Cope-

land of Mt. Ephraim was arrested and charged with committing an outrage against a thirteen-year-old Dickerson girl. Sheriff Aud received word that Copeland's life was in danger, so he traveled to Dickerson and took Copeland to the Rockville jail for safekeeping. Citizens of the upper county were said to be in turmoil and had threatened to harm Cope-

land.

August 8, 1935 Two Dickerson boys were seriously injured when their automobile overturned in front of the Darnestown Presbyterian Church at the sharp curve. Walter and John Perkins were removed from the scene and taken to the hospital at Sandy Spring. John Perkins was said to be suffering from a fractured skull.

Tidbits

Local Thrift Shop Gets Help from Scout

Poolesville's Nick Yarmis is one of the more recent scouts in our area working to make Eagle Scout rank. For his community service project, a requirement for the Eagle Scout program, he chose to help the Friendly Thrift Shop in Poolesville spruce up its interior. The shop, opened in 1972, provides used clothing, shoes, house wares, books, linens, baby items, and many other items at very reasonable prices.

Nick's objective was to move everything out of the shop, sweep, clean, and apply a fresh coat of paint to brighten the walls. Before moving items back in, he also built new bookshelves to better display house wares, movies, and books.

A senior this fall at Poolesville High School, Nick is with Troop 496. He is also a member of the Germantown ice hockey club, plans on attending Boston College next year, and hopes to major in history and teaching. Nick is the son of Stephanie and Jeff Yarmis.

Poolesville Welcomes Back Berg

There is a new librarian in town—well, not exactly new. Linda Berg, who recently replaced Mark Gochnour, had worked at the Poolesville Library

in the days when it was located in the high school. A resident of Gaithersburg, Linda has been with the Montgomery County Public Library system for thirty-one years.

Does the Earth Move Under Your Feet?

For many, it did just that. On Friday, July 16 at 5:04 a.m. and lasting about ten to fifteen seconds, an unprecedented 3.6-magnitude earthquake did a little shake, rattle, and roll through the region, waking some with a confusing vibration of the house with a muffled sound, described by one person, as "large farm equipment driving down the road." Fortunately, no damage or injury has been reported, and although unusually powerful for the area, the experience became more intriguing than troublesome. People emailed friends and relatives in California for some bragging rights only to receive some good-natured ridicule for it being so minor by west coast standards. One Marylander observed that he is now "an experienced earthquake experiencer" and wondered if this made him a Quaker.

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Local News

Poolesville Day Committee Makes Grand Marshal Selection

By Rande Davis

The 2010 Poolesville Day Committee has announced that Jane Stearns, the executive director of Western Upper Montgomery County Help, Inc. (WUMCO), has been selected as the grand marshal for this year's event scheduled for September 25, 2010.

The committee has also selected as Honorary Grand Marshal, the area's Boy Scout troops in recognition of this being the Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) 100th Anniversary.

Mrs. Stearns and her late husband, Fred, started WUMCO as a private sector "safety net" to fill the gaps in public service for persons in the upper western part of the county. Through their tireless dedication and her continuation of that good work, WUMCO was expanded in its mission and the number of persons they help.

In times of personal crisis, individuals and families are helped with assistance in payment of rent and mortgage, utilities, medical, or other critical expenses, transportation to and from medical services, and for medicine when insurance, government, and other private support is not sufficient. They also have a food bank stocking essentials to help fill in when emergency food shortages occur and by providing holiday meals and toys.

The local Boys Scouts are considered to be part of one of the premier scouting programs in the nation. The committee is working with Steve Robillard, Montgomery County Commissioner of the National Capital Council of the BSA, to honor the scouts by featuring them in a

number of ways on Poolesville Day. Along with their designation as an honorary grand marshal, the plans are still being finalized on a variety of exciting and entertaining ways the scouts will participate in the parade and other festivities.

Along with an array of terrific local bands and performers, a highlight of the festival is the headliner band that takes center stage each year. This year, the Poolesville Day Committee has doubled the excitement of the headline entertainment by co-billing the Cheaters and the Nighthawks, both nationally- and internationally-recognized bands.

The Cheaters, out of Annapolis, Maryland are a classic and southern rock band with a modern edge, which, in the summer of 2009, were the opening act for Kid Rock and Lynyrd Skynyrd in Virginia. In addition, the band has played alongside such national acts as ZZ Top, the Pretenders, the Stray Cats, Shooter Jennings, REO Speedwagon, Led Zeppelin, the Wailers, and Roger Clyne & the Peacemakers.

The Nighthawks are one of the top musical acts to come out of Washington, D.C. and have been performing for thirty years. They are known for their mixing of blues, rock, and soul—along with rockabilly and swing. They were recently honored by the Washington Area Music Association at its twenty-fourth annual Wammie Awards for winning best duo/group and best recording, for 2009's "American Landscape" in the Blues/Traditional R&B category.

While teens and adults can be excited about the outstanding musical entertainment, the younger children will be equally excited about a new lineup of additional kiddie rides that are in the process of being selected for the event.

With the excitement building, the deadline of August 25 for exhibitors is fast approaching. The Poolesville Day Committee always looks forward to the

-Continued on Page 12.



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Contact HMD for further information. Space is limited!



DID YOU CATCH HMD ON FOX 5 NEWS?

Pictured is our own *Amanda Westly* being interviewed by *Gurvir Dhindsa* at the John Poole House during the Hometown Friday broadcast from Poolesville on July 23rd, one of three segments featuring HMD & its historic sites.

Amanda (*aka Miss Darby*), can usually be found at the Seneca Schoolhouse on River Road, creating an authentic "Back In Time" school day experience for local students.

Seneca Schoolhouse, a 19th century one-room school house, is available for field trips, parties, visits & events!

For more information, visit our website.

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Public Hours: Sept. 25 & 26, Oct. 2 & 3, 10am-4pm

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July 30 to August 22

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See Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. www.adventuretheatre.org for more details.

July 30

Poolesville Farmers' Market Whalen Commons

Celebrate Local Artisans – meet and talk with the artists offering an array of handcrafted items.

See demonstrations by weavers, soap makers, etc.

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Music in the Park

Whalen Commons

Featuring: So Far Gone, 7:00 p.m.

July 31

135th Annual St. Mary's Chicken Dinner and Fair St. Mary's Church Pavilion – Barnesville

If you have never attended this uniquely-historical festival, do not wait another year. After more than thirteen decades and tens of thousands of chickens, it is safe to say that they have perfected how to barbeque chicken. Bring your knight in shining armor and enjoy an afternoon of jousting, Maryland's official sport. Games, handy crafts, produce, yard sale, homemade baked goods (by church ladies—you can expect only the best), cake wheel, and even more awaits you.

Eat in and/or carry out.

Dinner Cost: \$12.00 (Children under twelve dining in are free) Noon to 7:00 p.m.

Farmers' Market Sugarloaf Vineyards

Locally-grown products such as farm-fresh produce, organic meats, barbeque, cheeses, flowers, butter products, eggs and

poultry, herbs, vinegars, and honeybee products, as well as handcrafted items by local artists and artisans.

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Movies in the Park

Whalen Commons

Featuring: Finn on the Fly

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Paul Riegert

8:00 p.m.

August 2 to 6

Poolesville Summer Camp Program

Stevens Park

Theme: Camp Rewind – Manhunt, Crafts

Ages 6 to 12

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

August 2

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Town Hall

7:30 p.m.

August 4

Parks Board Meeting Poolesville Town Hall

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Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

July 1, 1959 The county council turned down a rezoning application that would have allowed a two-hundred-acre parcel on White Ground Road, Boyds, to be rezoned from residential to industrial to permit the building of a rock quarry.

July 4, 1959 The ninety-eight-year-old Mountain Chapel at Comus was reopened for services after being closed since 1919. The chapel, which had fallen into disrepair, was the only Episcopal church between Urbana and Poolesville.

July 11, 1956 The Montgomery County School Board received a resolution from the PTA of Poolesville High School opposing the integration of the Poolesville schools.

July 14, 1920 It was announced that the Clarendon Club of Virginia would play Sid's

Lodge of Poolesville at a later date. The game scheduled for the fourteenth was cancelled due to heavy rain.

July 20, 1958 Glenn Goldburn, an attorney from Poolesville, announced that he would run for the vacant seat on the county school board.

July 23, 1920 The county commissioners appointed James H. Watkins to be dog tax collector for the Poolesville and Barnesville districts.

July 23, 1911 Twenty-five women of Poolesville and vicinity organized the E. V. White Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy. Miss Nana Hays was selected as president.

July 24, 1918 Sheriff William Aud announced the appointment of Elgin Poole as deputy sheriff for the Poolesville district.

July 31, 1918 The Marines of Washington's Navy Yard defeated the Poolesville team, 7-1. Both Cubitt brothers, Luhn, and Lodge struck hits for the losers in a game played at Poolesville.

participate in the pageantry: watch the race, stroll the streets, buy a scarf with all the *contrade* emblems, hoist a Chianti in a toast to your favorite, and join in the festival. Standing room is free in the square, and the winning *contrade* celebrates all night, with the winning horse the guest of honor.

"Palio" Continued From Page 3.

the most famous in the world, which is banked of trucked-in dirt and sand layered over the weathered cobblestones, just for this occasion. Each lap is about a third of a mile (350 meters), and the inevitable false starts add to the excitement. A *contrade's* horse can win without his rider, as they are often upended by fellow *fantini* or simply slide off the saddleless horse.

Siena welcomes visitors to

"Effects of Oil on Plants" Continued From Page 7.

much a symbiotic relationship.

The greatest threat from this oil leak disaster is its effect on the whole food chain. It is often overlooked or unreported that oil interferes with the germination and growth of marine plants. Tiny plants such as kelp and phytoplankton serve as the bottom of the marine food chain. When oil slicks contaminate these plants, there is a catastrophic effect on the food chain as the oil toxins are passed along to the fish that feed on them. This process continues exponentially and could eventually cause untold disturbances in the world food market.

This disaster is especially poignant and relevant to me. Last month, I wrote an article about the pristine Okavango Delta in Botswana that I visited in May. This area is a shining example of the benefits of wetlands to protect fragile ecosystems that support both man and animals. It would be tragic to see it being

threatened and destroyed by man, as the people of the Gulf region are seeing their economy, culture, coastal waters, and wetlands being destroyed.

"Poolesville Day Committee" Continued From Page 9.

return of our local businesses and civic groups, but they cannot make any assumptions; therefore, no matter how long any group may have been part of Poolesville Day, the reservation and payment must still be sent in before the due date. If your business or civic group still has not sent in an exhibitor form request and payment and/or registered for the parade, please note that time is fast running out. The committee has also put a call out for even more craft vendors to add to the lineup. Go to www.poolesvilleday.com for all the information you need.

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Youth Sports

Summer Update On Youth Little Leagues

By Jeff Stuart



Over the July fourth weekend, the Upper Montgomery Athletic Club (UMAC) Baseball's 11U baseball team qualified for the Cal Ripken Mid-Atlantic Regionals, winning three games and losing one, 3-1, at the Cal Ripken State Tournament in Elkridge, Maryland. Ryo Fabre, Alex Rojas, Nathan Onderko, and Lee Ervin all hit home runs during the state tournament. UMAC's pitching was solid, led by Ben Weishaar, who opened the tournament against Severn and then pitched four quality innings against Bowie in a pivotal fourth game. "The

boys played with heart and character," said Coach Bob Weishaar, "staying focused notwithstanding temperatures in excess of 100 degrees." The boys will continue to practice during July and early August to prepare for UMAC's first trip to the 11U 46/60 Mid-Atlantic Regional Tournament, which will run August 6 to 10. The tournament is being hosted by the Severn Athletic Club at Severn-Danza Park.

The UMAC 12U 50/70 All-Star team made it to the championship game of the Cal Ripken Maryland State Championships by defeating Mt. Airy, 2-1, in a very tight ball game on July 14th at Utica Park in Frederick; however, they were defeated, 12-2, in the title game by the Calvert County Youth league team on July 15. The Cal Ripken 12U Mid Atlantic Regional Tournament will be held at New Netherwood Park in Springfield, Pennsylvania from July 28 to August 2.

The UMAC 10U Team won the School's Out Summer Classic on June 19 and 20 at Taylor's Field in Boyds, hosted by UMAC.

For the first time, the Poolesville Athletic Association is running a softball program this summer, partnering with the Red Raiders program for the girls. The

program will be targeting girls from seven to nine years of age, but some six-year-olds may join. The Poolesville Athletic Association will be using the especially-soft softballs to introduce the girls to fast pitch and will slowly ease them into using the regular softballs. Also, PAA will be running a fall baseball program for first-time kids that played in the spring who will move up to the

next age group. There will not be a T-ball team in the fall. T-ball kids move to 7U, 7U moves to 8U, and so on, up to 12U. 12U spring players will also move up and will play as part of a Montgomery County Baseball Association team. Registration forms are on the website: www.poolesvilleports.org.

Business Briefs



M&T Bank Appoints Bhargava


On July 8, 2010, M&T Bank an-

nounced the appointment of Alka Bhargava as branch manager of the Poolesville office. In her new role, she will lead the M&T Branch team's outreach to individual and business owners by understanding their unique needs and delivering personalized solutions that help custom-

ers reach their goals.

"Banking is my profession, but helping others achieve their financial goals is my passion," said Bhargava. She has more than fifteen years of experience in financial services, including nine years at M&T Bank. Bhargava is a resident of Poolesville and has spent a majority of her time at M&T involved in the Poolesville community. She holds an M.A. in child psychology from Agra University in India.

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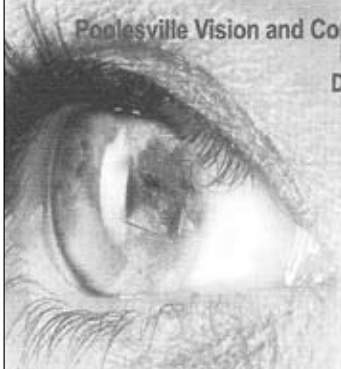
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"Trope Ballet" Continued

From Page 1.

tan Ballet Theatre in Rockville. With the discovery, they also learned that if he took just one ballet class at MTB, he could attend on scholarship. Considering where he's gone with ballet, it's funny that he hesitated about taking that first ballet class. His natural talent landed him the role of the Nutcracker Prince in the Nutcracker. After two years at MTB, he transferred to the Maryland Youth Ballet in Silver Spring.

By this time, Eric was a sophomore at Poolesville High School, leaving early from school to make the forty-five-minute drive to his ballet classes at MYB which were six days a week—not easy on the parents. That summer, Eric travelled to New York for a summer program at the Lincoln Center where he earned the notice of the School of American Ballet (founded by George Balanchine). The decision to leave home at such a young age wasn't easy. In retrospect, Eric says it was the best move for him.

"I don't think I would be where I am now if it wasn't for the school," he says. While at SAB, Eric attended the Professional Performing Arts High School for his education, a public school in New York City near SAB attended by a wide variety of young professional and pre-professional artists.

After high school (he graduated from high school in New York, while his two triplets were graduating from PHS in 2008), Eric felt he needed another year of training before he was ready for auditions, so he attended Fordham University Lincoln Center Campus. Twenty-some auditions later (in two months' time), and he was a member of the Pennsylvania Ballet. As a dancer in the Pennsylvania Ballet II, he is part of the company's outreach and educational program. This eight-member troupe performs at various Philadelphia schools, from kindergarten to college, teaching the art form and history of ballet through excerpts of famous ballets.

Apart from PBII, Eric also comes back to Poolesville to teach, as well. "It's nice to be at home and to be teaching kids from [my] hometown," he says. In June, he was able to step into the role of teacher at the Hope Garden Children's Ballet based in Healthworks in Poolesville and give the boys pointers on partnering and lifting girls. "It was cool, especially, to work with Poolesville kids," he adds.

In the meantime, Eric plans to stay with the Pennsylvania

Ballet. "I like the company, I like the repertoire," he says. He felt at home with the company right away. Based on how much he enjoyed his first year, he plans to stay a few more years. It will be interesting to see where his career will take him in the future—where the next company or the next city could be just a few leaps away.

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