



King Lion Dennis Davis presents Edwin Brown with one of the highest awards to which a Lion can aspire. See the Pulse on page 13.



Falcon football ended on a super high. Read about the team in Youth Sports page 19.



Megan Roldan, and Grace and Ellen Beal are excited about performing the Nutcracker with the Joffrey Ballet at the Kennedy Center. Read more in Center Stage on page 12.



2010 MCA Royce Hanson Award winner Tony Cohen.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

November 19, 2010

Volume VII, Number 18

Stump and Brown Sworn in as Commissioners

By Rande Davis

Tom Kettler, chairman of the town's Board of Elections, officially reported the results of the election for town commissioner at the November

8 town meeting. Jim Brown was re-elected with 698 votes while Chuck Stump took the second spot with 573. Jennifer Kasten, the third candidate in the race, fell just eighteen votes short with her 555 vote total. The town has 3,348 registered voters, so the turnout for this off-year election was thirty-one percent as compared to only fifteen percent for more recent special elections for the commissioner position.

Mr. Kettler also reported that the referendum rejected the proposed changes to the town charter, last revised in 1982, by a vote of 575-369, and by overwhelming proclamation, approved officially changing the chartered name of the

town from the Commissioners of Poolesville to the Town of Poolesville. That vote was 909 to 94.

Prior to the swearing-in ceremony of the new commissioners, former commissioner Lori Gruber was presented with a plaque of appreciation for her service. Commissioner Stump stated that he looked forward to the new position and "thanked all the voters who turned out, especially those who supported him." Commissioner Jim Brown commented that he wanted to keep Poolesville going in a positive direction. He thanked both supporters and opponents and stated that he was gratified by the quality of all the candidates in the election.

After the official swearing-in, Eddie Kuhlman was unanimously re-elected as the president of the town commission, and Jim Brown, after impressively getting sixty-seven percent of the vote total, was elected to replace Jerry Klobukowski as commission

-Continued on Page 8.



Election winners Chuck Stump and Jim Brown are administered the Commissioner's Oath of Office by Commission President Eddie Kuhlman.

2010 Royce Hanson Award

By Maureen O'Connell

On Sunday, November 7, the Montgomery Countryside Alliance (MCA) presented its 2010 Royce Hanson Award to Tony Cohen at Button Farm, Black Rock Road, Germantown, Maryland. This award, named after its first recipient, Royce Hanson, is in recognition of outstanding commitment towards the protection of Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve. The crisp, cool, sunny

day and the rustically beautiful sixty acres of the farm in Seneca Creek State Park provided a fitting setting to celebrate the glory of the Ag Reserve.

Mr. Cohen has been described as a historian, author, and explorer of the American past. He has served as a consultant to the National Parks Conservation Association, Maryland Public Television, and NASA.

This award cites, in particular, his contribution to the on-going success of the Ag Reserve, through his work at the Button Farm Living History Center. Mr. Cohen is the



Oakley Johnson, Royce Hanson, and MCA President Diana Conway at the MCA Royce Hanson Award ceremony.

founder and president of the Menare Foundation, Inc., a

-Continued on Page 18.

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by
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King Lion Dennis Davis presented WUMCO's Jane Stearns with the first annual Monocacy Lions Humanitarian Award at the club's 70th anniversary dinner.

Joe Gaffigan attaches a commemorative pin to Ed Brown in recognition of sixty-eight years as a Lion.



Joe Gaffigan reads a letter from the Lions International President congratulating the Monocacy Lions on their seventieth anniversary. Also pictured is King Lion Dennis Davis.



Kudos to the scouts of Troop 496 who collected 5,511 pounds of non-perishable food for the supply bank at WUMCO. The twenty scouts and friends put in ninety-six hours of service with the twelve adults clocking in sixty hours. Way to go!



Troop 496 scout, Cole McKemey, stocks some of the food collected on November 13 for WUMCO.



Lori Gruber receives a plaque of appreciation for service to the town as she leaves her position as Poolesville town commissioner.



Members of American Legion Post #247 salute in appreciation of all veterans who have served or serve the nation. Pictured are: Steve Robillard, Paul Kelly, and Bob Hernandez.

In The Garden

The Flowers of Winter

By Maureen O'Connell

As I write this article on November 9, I still have some flowers in my garden that have escaped the past week's chilling frosts. In the upper garden, David Austin's Sharifa Asma hangs on with several fat buds, just waiting to open when I bring them into the warmth of the house. Mr. Lincoln has also defiantly set out one very large, bright, red bud. It also promises to unfold in the house. I am afraid that the hungry deer have stripped Julia Child of all of her leaves, while at her feet, the self-sown, hearty, pink Wave petunias are blooming as if it were July. My middle garden is more exposed to the elements, and the phlox 'David,' the dahlias, the salvia, the Moonbeam coreopsis, and all of the roses have turned in for the winter. My Lamb's Ears still look wonderfully green, soft, and fuzzy; they often remain that way all winter. Nearer to the house, the two huge pink Knockout roses are still covered in hundreds of flowering buds—attention, brown thumb people, there is another reason why you should grow these roses. But, my garden and I know that my well-loved flowers are facing very soon their Last Hurrah for 2010. This does not mean that I shall not have flowers all winter. For the next several months, my garden will be in my house. For those who say that they have no



Believe it or not, you could grow orchids.

success growing flowering plants indoors, throw that idea away. The key rule is to select plants that can adapt to your house's environment; you don't need a greenhouse to have flowers. Here is a list of five of my favorite flowering plants that can grow and thrive in an average house's conditions, no matter what color your thumb is.

African Violet – Many people think of this plant as old-fashioned and grandmotherly. I suppose that every home at one time or another had a little purple one stuck in the corner of a window-sill. It would gather dust on its wooly leaves and maybe bloom once a year. Well, look again; there is a whole new world of African violets out there with a wide variety of flower forms and colors. Forget about the usual guidelines of care: careful watering (don't let the water touch the leaves), high humidity, bright, but not direct light. More African

-Continued on Page 22.

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Creagerstown: Stone farmhouse and outbuildings on 197.67+/- acres. Spectacular views of the Catoctin Mts. and Monocacy River frontage. MLS#FR7382137. *Offered at \$2,000,000.*

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Commentary

Addressing the Problem

By John Clayton

More than once, I believe, I have dredged up the old saw that everyone hates Congress, except they kind of like their own congressman and keep sending him or her back in there. I guess this year was a little different, because

they followed through on hating Congress, with an added dose of hating the party-in-power, or even more accurately (Just say it!) they hated the Democrats. They (well, not Maryland), voted them out.

What bothered me most about the election was not the partisan shift but the wiping out of the middle. Perhaps this isn't really true, but it is my perception. As I have read, the solid right-wingers and the solid left-wingers all come from pretty safe districts that reflect their views, and they have relatively

Rande(m) Thoughts

Autumn Leaves, Rushing River, and Thanksgiving

By Rande Davis

I was recently thinking about the intriguing power of the shore for soothing the human psyche. I am pretty sure all of us have had the same thought in the summer while at the beach. Is there anything more relaxing than leaning back in one of those beach half-chairs, toes being swallowed by the wet sand of the rising tide, the sun setting over the shoulder, with the rhythmic beat of the waves hypnotically focusing our attention on nothing at all—only to be interrupted by the occasional solo chime of a seagull? It's pretty primal to say the least. I like to think of it as nature's massage of the soul.

Even though it is autumn, I had a similar situation a few weeks ago when I went on a weekend retreat on the shore of the Hudson River. Although it was late in the season and the leaves had lost a bit of their fall glow, it was still a stunningly-beautiful spot surrounded by the hillsides of changing leaves as they were about to make their departure. Going back to the Hudson Valley is a going home kind of thing for me. My

earliest elementary school years were spent in Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, and we lived near there for a good part of the 1980s while I made the two-hour commute to Rockefeller Center each weekday.

This weekend getaway is becoming a tradition as, for a number of years now, each fall, I have joined a group of men on a retreat to the Holy Cross Monastery overlooking the Hudson River almost directly across from the Vanderbilt Mansion and just a skipping stone's throw from FDR's Hyde Park home. While I know it's not exactly like a weekend in Vegas, I can assure you that what happens at the monastery stays at the monastery, and what stays at the monastery is most of the stress-filled baggage of the previous year. There is something to be said about seventy-two hours of quiet, aloneness, nature, introspection, and prayer so as to fully drain the batteries before recharging for another hectic year of news, views, and interviews—an autumn retreat soothingly perfect prior to Thanksgiving and the holidays.

Whether your shore line is the Atlantic Ocean or Chesapeake Bay, the Potomac or Monocacy, the creek at Deep Creek or a spiritual harbor in your heart only you know about, I wish you a grateful heart this Thanksgiving, knowing that in life, gratitude, although seemingly a simple goal, is life's most profound achievement.

little trouble getting elected. The election seems to have made mincemeat out of Democrats who were trying to survive by being a little Republican and Republicans who were returning the favor. They were trying to work with the other side to make things happen. What a bunch of maroons. They're gone. Good riddance. Congress now looks like a seven-ten split.

The truth gets completely lost in slogans, platitudes, and outright epithets, on any number of topics, and for all around truth-avoidance, deficit reduction is king. It is an important issue that can no longer be discussed in rational terms without slogans and rock-throwing. There are others, but none hold a candle to deficit reduction, which everyone is in favor of and no one wants to do anything about. Cut taxes? Okay, the deficit gets worse. More stimulus for the economy? High speed railroads? Subsidize ethanol and electric cars? Ditto. Where do we cut? Well, there's always a lot of waste and fraud, right? We'll cut that. Just cut

something from them, not from me, okay? That's why I was so encouraged by the initial report of the Commission on Deficit Reduction, or more accurately, the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform. This is where the chickens are really coming home to roost. It's about time.

The report is a treasure trove of third rails that no politician would touch, but those third rails are where all our money goes. I don't care if you are a Tea Partier or a charter member of MoveOn.org—you don't want your or your mom's Social Security or Medicare compromised. I understand; neither do I.

The history of this commission is enlightening. The commission was originally to have been approved by Congress and could have produced more binding recommendations, but it was defeated in reasonably bipartisan fashion, and most prominently by those who wouldn't support an independent commission unless

—Continued on Page 8.

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Local News

Commissioners Table Decision On Home-Based Businesses with Shared Driveways

By Rande Davis

The town commissioners voted to table a decision on Town Ordinance Resolution #183 that would not permit homeowners of shared driveways to apply for permission for a home-based business that would result in increase in driveway traffic.

Last month, the Appellate Court dismissed a lawsuit that sought to have the granting of a home business permit by the town to a local eye doctor reversed. In the fall of 2009, the town changed the ordinance requirements for home businesses on shared driveway properties to prevent the granting of such permits if the business caused a "material increase in traffic" on the driveway. Based on this change in wording, the Appellate Court dismissed the lawsuit and directed that the matter go back to the Circuit Court which is expected to then refer the matter back to the town's Board of Zoning Appeals for review using the change in wording of the previous ordinance.

This process is anticipated to take up to ninety days.

Last month, more than nearly a dozen residents voiced strong support for granting a home business permit to the eye doctor. Based on that testimony and the decision by the Appellate Court, the commissioners tabled a final decision on Resolution #183 until the Board of Zoning Appeals reviews and make its recommendation.

The commissioners did vote unanimously to approve two other resolutions. Resolution #181 amended the town's sign ordinance liberalizing weekend use of

temporary signage by area businesses. The other, Resolution #182, added to the town zoning code the stipulation that the town is not responsible for enforcing private covenants and deed restrictions regarding private property homeowners.

In other matters, the commissioners informed John Paukstis, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County, Inc., who was in attendance, that the commissioners were united in their opposition to waiving the developer impact fees and other park fees for their proposed townhouse project in Poolesville. No commissioner could cite even one person voicing favor for the waivers, and the general consensus was that expressed public sentiment was overwhelmingly against the idea. Mr. Paukstis stated that he would report the decision back to his board of directors and informed the commissioners that any decision on the program will not be made until sometime in February at the earliest.

The commissioners voted 3-0 (Hoewing and Klobukowski recused themselves from the vote) to accept a new lease proposal by AT&T for its antenna on the town water towers. The new lease proposal would increase the monthly rent from \$1800 to \$2900 per month in four consecutive five-year agreements. The vote did require that the lease insert a statement that costs of repair or the moving of the antenna due to tower maintenance would be charged to back to AT&T.

Town Manager Wade Yost reported that the town has gained a grant of \$60,000 from the Maryland Board of Public Works toward a tot lot at Dillingham Park behind Selby's Market and near the skateboard facility. He also reported that the installation of new sidewalks on Elgin Road will begin next month.

With Commissioner Brown recusing himself, the commissioners voted to move Resolution #007-10, a proposal recommending increases in the fee structure for various town services to a public hearing. The details of the resolution and a copy of the new Fee Rate Schedule are available at town hall.


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Remembrance

Vera L. Seymour

Mrs. Vera L. Seymour, 88, a long-time resident of Poolesville, more recently residing in South Carolina, died November 1, at her daughter's home in Florence.

Vera was the assistant treasurer at St. Peter's Episcopal Church for thirty-one years and was also a member of the American Legion Daniel-Jeffers Post 247. Appreciated for her caring and gentle demeanor, she was a friendly and outgoing individual who especially enjoyed the children in the community. Once in the 1970s, a class from Mrs. Grace Shepherd's preschool at the Presbyterian Church visited her dry cleaner business, which at the time was located where Bassett's Restaurant is today. The children so enjoyed their day with Vera, that at graduation (with caps and gowns and all), the class was asked whom they wanted for their "commencement" speaker. They all voted for Vera.

She was the wife of the late William L. Seymour, born in Sully County, South Dakota, and was the daughter of the late Joseph E. and Mary Weischedel Flood. She is survived by her two children, David L. Seymour (Zenaida) of Hercules, California, Mary C. Wunder of Florence; two sisters Alice West, Minnie Mae Claggett both of Pierre, South Dakota; five grandchildren, Anne Yumang, Sandra Seymour, Edna Vivo, Timothy and Patrick Raison, and six great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, it is requested that donations be made to a charity of your choice in Vera's name.

Sally White Boland

Mrs. Sarah "Sally" White Boland, 85, of Dickerson, formerly a long-time resident of Gaithersburg, died October 27, at her home in Dickerson. Born October 4, 1925 in Poolesville, Maryland, she was the daughter of the late Benjamin and Sarah White. She was the wife of the late Joseph M. Boland, to whom she was married for thirty-five years, and was predeceased by her siblings, Jane Blair and Florence Van Emon.

Sally graduated from Poolesville High School in 1943 and attended Strayer Secretarial School in Washington, D.C. Her husband Joe was a Nationwide Insurance agent in Gaithersburg for thirty years. Sally worked with Joe and was instrumental in making that business a success. She was an avid reader and enjoyed playing bridge. She was a member of the same bridge club for over fifty years.

She is survived by her three daughters: Teresa Boland of Jacksonville, Florida, Kathryn Jamison and her husband Jamie of Dickerson, Mary Haugh and her husband Bill of Middletown, and three grandsons, Joseph, Patrick, and Michael Jamison, all of Poolesville.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Carroll Manor Volunteer Fire Co., P.O. Box 7, Adamstown, MD 21710 or FMH Home Health Care Services, attention Ken Coffey, Frederick Memorial Hospital, 400 W. 7th Street, Frederick, MD 21701.



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SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

November 2010

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Linden Farm
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Airstrip in the Agricultural Reserve

Private and commercial air fields or airstrips are not permitted in the Master Plan of the RDT zone. Airstrips to be used by a farm are permitted through the Special Exception Process. Sugarloaf Citizens' Association (SCA) is strongly opposed to any airstrip that is not associated with farm use. To our knowledge, there are no farmers in the RDT zone doing their own crop dusting. Most farmers contract with a commercial firm since crop dusting is a very specialized and tightly regulated process.

Dr. Bob Gillespie, 22620 Peach Tree Road in Boyds, MD has been trying to get a private airstrip on his property since 2006. In the present appeal before the Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings (Case No. S-2778), Dr. Gillespie clearly states that the use of the airstrip will be "strictly for recreational flying on a periodic basis." The fact that he owns a small farm which grows hay has nothing to do with his proposed use of his airstrip. SCA feels that Dr. Gillespie does not understand the intent of the Master Plan in only permitting airstrips by special exception when associated with a farm. SCA opposed the original appeal in 2006 and we oppose the present petition. In addition, many neighbors are also opposed due to safety and noise considerations. We also agree with their concerns and feel that this section of Peach Tree Road is definitely not suitable for an airstrip since there are many residences in this area.

SCA has stated its opposition to Case No. S-2778 and we plan on attending the hearing on **Friday, the 10th of December 2010, at 9:30 a.m.** The hearing will be in the Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, Second Floor, Davidson Memorial Hearing Room, at 100 Maryland Avenue, in Rockville, Maryland.

We urge our members to write individual letters in opposition to this airstrip.

Letters cannot be emailed without a signature.
If you plan to fax your signed letter, the number is (240) 777-6665. If you mail a signed letter the full address is:

Katherine Freeman, Executive Director
Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Technical issues prevented the *Monocle* from obtaining current crime reports for this issue.

The Montgomery County Police Department is now in the business of running escort websites to catch the potential customers who use them.

Police said in a statement Monday that the department's vice section "is now operating legitimate internet sites where prospective customers are currently providing place of employment and contact numbers as if they are communicating with the now-defunct service. These contacts are being utilized to arrange john stings and to identify individuals on the demand side of human trafficking."

The taking over of the escort websites is one of several initiatives the county's police department says it's employing to crack down on human trafficking. Officers are also reaching out to sex trafficking victims to encourage them to report crimes committed against them.

Police also say they've successfully infiltrated the Erotic Review, a website that enables users to share information about prostitution and to rate prostitutes.

Past Crime

November 19, 1900 A shooting affray broke out at the Poolesville oyster supper. It was said that an argument broke out between Jacob Plummer and Hokless Hall. When

Plummer invited Hall outside to settle the matter, Hall refused. Plummer then drew a revolver and shot Hall in the shoulder and hand.

November 20, 1927 Grayson Palmer, the son of a Barnesville farmer, was killed when his automobile was struck by a Baltimore and Ohio train at Darby's Crossing which was one mile east of the Barnesville station. Marion Dayhoff, the driver of the car, and his brother, Ellis, were injured. The car was carried four hundred feet before the locomotive stopped.

November 20, 1969 Two Poolesville brothers were sentenced to four years in prison for cattle rustling. As the judge pronounced his sentence, Roger Webb and Lee Webb ran from the courtroom and were met by a hail of gunfire from deputy sheriffs. The Webb brothers were located in an apartment on Monroe Street. Roger Webb was found to be wounded in the buttocks. They had been convicted of stealing four Guernsey heifers from a Poolesville farm. November 21, 1969 Doli Pratt was arrested and charged with breaking into a sheet metal company at Germantown. Police said that they followed footprints in the snow to locate Pratt who had stolen payroll envelopes from the building.

November 22, 1924 The Montgomery County grand jury indicted county police officer Leroy Rodgers and Lee Ball, a resident of the Poolesville district. They were charged with the alleged whipping of Littleton Poole who had been accused of improper sexual relations with a young girl.

Commission, graciously stepped aside from that position so that Chuck Stump, who has been a member of the Planning Committee prior to running for office, could take that slot. Hoewing was assigned to the Community Economic Development Committee.

With the rejection of the revised town charter, decisions on this matter will await the results of the State of the Town meeting on January 10 and further feedback from the community.


"Addressing the Problem" Continued From Page 4.

it agreed up front not to include tax increases in its recommendations. A number of prominent politicians were for the commission before they were against it. Therefore, the commission was created by the president, not by the Congress.

This isn't a game for little ideas. Little ideas aren't going to get us off our profligate ways, the problem is too big. The commission has recommendations that affect the structure of the tax code, including eliminating the mortgage interest tax deduction and increasing gasoline taxes. Income tax rates go down, but many other tax goodies disappear. The plan proposes cuts in domestic spending such as farm subsidies and healthcare, defense spending including overseas bases, foreign aid, Medicare, and Social Security.

The smart money is saying that the changes are way too radi-

cal to be approved by Congress, and one would be hard pressed to find anyone saying anything nice about any of the recommendations. Many oxen have been yoked. The process is just beginning. Perhaps it will lead somewhere useful, which would be an improvement over the current level of discourse. It's not really up to the politicians, either. It's up to us. We hold the votes. We're who they are afraid of.



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"Stump Sworn In" Continued From Page 1.

vice president. In voting for committee assignments of responsibility for each commissioner, Jerry Klobukowski, in recognition for his hard work in matters of education, was again voted as the commissioners' representative to the Poolesville School Cluster committee. Jim Brown was voted to continue on the Parks Board. Link Hoewing, who previously was the liaison to the Planning

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The winner from the November 5 contest was Janice Stottlemeyer.

Entries must be received by 3:00 p.m. the Friday following the date of this edition of the Monocle. The winner will be announced in our next issue.

Things to Do

It's not too late to order your holiday fruit from the Odd Fellows Lodge #97. They can take your order through the weekend of November 19 to 21. Call Dale Nestor for specifics at 301-349-5450.

Holiday Gifting Ideas

For those having special holiday spirit, here are some wonderful ideas to help others.

For Soldiers Serving in Combat Zones

American Legion Post #247 is sponsoring a drive to provide care packages for soldiers serving in combat zones. Those wishing to contribute can drop off their gifts in a collection box at the Poolesville Town Hall. The collections will continue through January 1, 2010. Anyone aware of a local person currently deployed should email Paul Kelly at paulkellywh@gmail.com to have the person added to the mailing list. The legion is grateful to town staff and the commissioners for their support of this program.

The items needed are: any kind of toiletries, baby wipes, aspirin, antacid, sunscreen, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, small toys, and candy that they can pass out to kids, deflated soccer balls, playing cards, magazines (old is fine; sports, hunting, and guns are the most popular types), handwritten notes of support, pictures drawn by children, homemade baked goods, and used movies or TV episodes on DVD.

Toys for Tots at UMCVFD
Jeffery Eck reports that the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program is now in full swing at the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department. The community is encouraged to contribute a new and unwrapped toy. The U.S. Marines Corps Reserve distributes all toys locally through the Toys for Tots program.

Toys for Tots collection boxes are now in place at Shear Elegance Hair Salon, Selby's Market, Poolesville Hardware, Healthworks Fitness Center, Cugini's Pizza, Kristopher's Pizza, Harris Teeter, and the UMCVFD in Beallsville. Your contribution will put smiles on the faces of our firefighters and, most importantly, on the faces of the children who receive the gifts.

November 18, 19, and 20

Come prepared to hoot, howl, and roll with laughter!

Join the Midnight Players of Poolesville High School for their fall show, "The Worst High School Play in the World," a full-length comedy by William Gleason. It's the year A.D. 1243, and the land of Saxonia is in turmoil! Friar Rico and Belinda tell the story of Prince Ivanha and his epic journey from palace cradle to the depths of the forest. While King Isadore is off fighting in the Crusades, his brother, the evil Prince Viscera does everything in his power to keep the Prince Ivanha from rightfully inheriting the throne. It's up to Ivanha's mother, Queen Nina, and his sister, Princess Corsicana, to keep him out of Viscera's clutches, assisted by Friar Fred. Madness ensues! "Return to those thrilling days of yesteryear when men were men, women were women... and squirrels were squirrels!"
Adult: \$10.00 Student: \$5.00 (Purchased at PHS Box Office after November 12)

Reservations made through jlh.temp@verizon.net

PHS auditorium

Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 p.m.

Saturday: 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

November 19, 20, and 21

ALOG's WinterGlow 2010

Art League of Germantown

Art Show and Sale

BlackRock Center for the Arts

Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

-Continued on Page 16.

Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

November 1, 1949 The last passenger train departed Frederick at 4:55 p.m. The Public Service Commission had given the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad permission to discontinue passenger service between Hagerstown, Frederick, and Brunswick. Among the passengers were Mary Simmons of Adamstown who said that she had used the train to travel to high school and college. Also on the train was Mrs. E. Feages of Lime Kiln who had been riding the train for fifty-five years.

November 9, 1955 A Thanksgiving Day dinner was served at the "Poolesville Church." The menu consisted of baked turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, stewed tomatoes, rolls, and homemade pies. It was decided to hold the feast on this date instead of Thanksgiving Day as had been the tradition.

November 9, 1956 Police Sergeant Gorman Butler was elected mayor of Poolesville. The town's

seventy voters cast sixty-three votes for Butler, sixty for Mrs. James Titus, the manager of the high school cafeteria, and fifty-two for John Titus, a county roads employee. All three would serve as commissioners.

November 11, 1949 Rose Lewis of Boyds wrote to the Washington Post and declared: "You're probably right when you say that radio giveaway program competitors expect the world to give them something for nothing, but my chief objection to them is that they are a waste of time because my chances of getting that 'something for nothing' are one jillion to one."


November 13, 1946 White's Ferry was scheduled to open after being closed for five years. A government surplus scow was to do the towing of the ferry. R. Edwin Brown, part-owner of the boat, announced that it would carry four cars per trip and would make crossings of the Potomac on call.

November 18, 1949 Roberta Stevens, a junior at Poolesville High School, won third place in

the countywide essay contest. She was scheduled to read her essay on radio station WGAY on the next Saturday.

November 21, 1947 An old-fashioned community fair was held at the Poolesville High School. Hundreds of townsfolk and those from the surrounding communities flocked to the affair. Over one thousand entries were submitted in such categories as fruit, vegetable, poultry, corn, and weaving. The grand prize for the best poultry display went to Alfred Poole. Other prize winners were Nevin Hoffracker, Robert Stabler, and Charles Belcher.


Grand champion of the pet show was a coach dog owned by Jack Rutter. Johnny Ricketts won the prize for the boy accumulating the most points. In the household class, Mrs. Charles Kohlhoss gained first place with a homemade bedspread, and Ms. Barbara Lewis was awarded first prize in the canned meats class.



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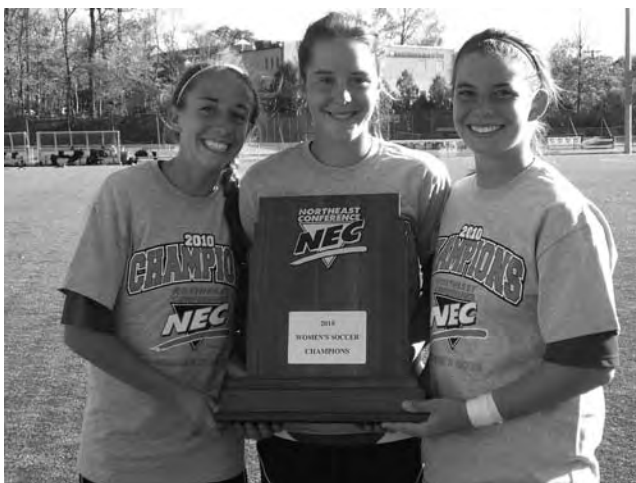
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Tidbits

Quilters Send Relief to Those Giving Relief

The Village Piecemakers is a group of about forty members, mostly (but not all) women who love to quilt and sew. Each year, they select a charitable organization to support through their avocation. This year, they decided to support the Mennonite Relief Center by sewing quilt tops, supply kit bags, diapers, and caps. The items are sent first to the Cumberland Relief Center in Marion, Pennsylvania and then to people in need around the world. They have been working since last February, and with a goal of 860 items, they succeeded in beating that goal with 1837 which included 791 supply kits and 817 diapers. Tina Grove, a representative from the Cumberland Relief Center attended their November 9 meeting to accept the last fruits of labor which also included six beautiful quilt tops made from nine-patch blocks. The Village Piecemakers meet on the second Tuesday evening of each month at the Poolesville Town Hall and welcome newcomers.

PHS Graduate Plays on College Championship Soccer Team



Steph Boulter (right) and her St. Francis University teammates, are headed for the NCAA Division I soccer playoffs.



The Village Piecemakers completed their annual project to help a worthy cause. This year they chose the Mennonite Relief Center.

Steph Boulter, a 2010 Poolesville High School (PHS) graduate and girls' varsity soccer player who also played for the Bethesda Riptide and Freestate United, always dreamed of playing college ball. Well, her dreams came true and more. She earned a spot as a starting freshman for St. Francis University, Division 1 – North East Conference (NEC). St. Francis has gone on to win the championship this season in the NEC and is now headed to the NCAA playoffs. Congratulations to St. Francis and to Steph.

PHS Students Named as Semi-Finalists in Science Competition

Raja Ratna Ayyagari and Lucienne Park were named semifinalists in the Siemens Science scholarship competition. The Siemens Competition seeks to highlight and award outstanding high school students nationally in the areas of science, mathematics, and technology. This year, 2,033 students registered for the competition and only 312 were named as semifinalists.

Veteran Day Memorial Ceremony at Whalen Commons

American Legion Post #247 held a brief Veterans Day Memorial service at Whalen Commons that was attended by twenty residents. Commander Bill Poole, recovering from a broken leg, attended the event and welcomed with appreciation those who took a few minutes of time to remember those who have and are serving the nation in the military. Post Sergeant-of-Arms Steve Robillard read a proclamation issued by President Obama. After the ceremony, the post held the drawings for their annual raffle ticket sales. The winners were: Walter Stottlemyer (grand prize: 46" flat-screen TV), Bill Bliss and Maggie Lauer

(\$50.00 gift certificates to Bassett's Restaurant), Ross Koeser (large pizza from Cugini's), Kurt Behrend (four passes to the Civil War Museum in Frederick), Mike Phillips (2010 U.S. Mint coin proof set), Peter Pederson (uncirculated coin sets), Dave Schuster (four passes Historic Ships of Baltimore), and Jessica Edington (set of Military Teddy Bears).

What's new at the Poolesville Library?

You may have noticed that, along with rearranging the shelves to provide more quiet working areas and consolidating some collections, they have moved the books-on-CD section to the front shelf, relocating the DVD collection. The big news, though, is the installation of an automated self-checkout console for those who would rather not wait in line. These devices are common at the larger libraries, but with staffing at critically low levels throughout the system, a self-checkout console is a valuable addition, even at a small branch library like Poolesville's. It can prevent backlogs at the checkout counter while allowing librarians to spend more time answering questions and assisting patrons in other ways. Those who simply want to grab it and run can readily do so. Come on in and check it out, and if you're a public-spirited sort of person who's willing to spend a few hours a year helping to make our own library a more welcoming place, ask Library Manager Linda Berg about the Library Advisory Committee (LAC). This is the group that brings you the annual used book sale on Poolesville Day, as well as sponsoring library programs throughout the year for young and old alike. The LAC also uses the funds raised from the sale of used books to procure off-budget items for the library, such as new shelves, decorative items, and magazine subscriptions. So think about joining the LAC; they're a convivial bunch, and, over the years, they've done a lot to make the Poolesville Branch Library a better place.

Center Stage

Local Ballerinas To Perform with Joffrey

By Dominique Agnew

On September 19, six ballerinas from Poolesville's very own Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre (HGCBT) auditioned for the November Joffrey Ballet performance of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* at the Kennedy Center. All six made it: sisters, Grace and Ellen Beal; sisters, Suzanne and Ellie Creedon; Megan Roldan; and Kira Wathen. The girls range in age from nine to thirteen years old.

The girls have been putting in long hours, rehearsing every weekend. Most of them have roles as soldiers. Suzanne, because she is more experienced, will dance the role of a lead Polichinelle, a part she has done before. Ellie will dance the

unique role of a Russian doll. Fran Ichijo, founder and artistic director of HGCBT, is especially pleased with them because they received a compliment for working extra hard. At one point, they were a little behind, so they took the initiative to request extra studio time from Fran to be able to put in the hours they needed to get better. "I was really proud of them," Fran says.

The Joffrey Ballet, based in Chicago, brings its *Nutcracker* to the Kennedy Center every other year for Thanksgiving weekend. This year's performances will be from November 24 to November 28 with both daytime and evening show times. "It's a lovely *Nutcracker* to see," says Fran, "one of the nicer ones to see. They do a great job."

Fran founded Hope Garden Ballet in 1997 with just a handful of students. That handful has grown into a full-fledged academy and dance troupe, the Hope Garden Ballet Academy and HGCBT, respectively. The dancers frequently audition for



Kira Wathen, Ellie and Suzanne Creedon, Megan Roldan, and Ellen and Grace Beal relax during a break from rehearsing the *Nutcracker* with the Joffrey Ballet.

and are accepted to productions of the larger professional companies, and every year, Hope Garden puts on a concert in May and December at Poolesville High School (PHS). This December is no exception.

Noel Notes will take place on December 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the PHS auditorium. The concert will feature excerpts from the *Nutcracker* and *A Christmas Carol*. Expect to see birth, re-

birth, ghosts, special effects, a little singing, some humor, and some of the best dancing from the *Nutcracker*, including straight Mariinsky choreography. It will be a huge set and very dramatic. "I know people will really enjoy it," says Fran. There is no doubt about that.

Tickets (\$10.00/adult; \$7.00/minor) can be reserved at the HGCBT website (www.hgcbt.org) and purchased at the box office.



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The Pulse

Monocacy Lions Celebrate Seventieth Anniversary

By John Clayton

The Upcounty Monocacy Lions Club gathered at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant in Frederick to observe the seventieth anniversary of the club's charter. This makes the Monocacy Lions one of the oldest and most successful clubs in the greater Washington area. The Monocacy Lions are part of District 22C, which encompasses Delaware, Southern Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Montgomery County, and are the westernmost club in the district.

The club presented exhibits and a program which highlighted the events and customs that have been a part of the club's long history. The program was introduced by Monocacy King Lion

Dennis Davis, and conducted by Monocacy Lion Dan Yates. Current District 22C Governor Sandi Halterman congratulated the club on its history and accomplishments; the keynote speaker, Past International Delegate Joe Gaffigan, a well-known and popular dinner speaker in the Lions realm, spoke of the many contributions to the local community and to the Lions' global effort to assist the blind that have accrued from so many years of service. Mr. Gaffigan also read and delivered a commemorative letter from the Lions International President Sid L. Scruggs III.

The sole surviving charter member of the Monocacy Lions is Harry C. Rhodes. Monocacy Lion William Price, his nephew, read a lively letter from Mr. Rhodes commemorating the occasion.

In celebration of the club's history, Monocacy Lion Edwin Brown, the club's longest serving member at over sixty-eight years, described the early years of the club. He included an anecdote

from the 1940s when the club was meeting at the Barnesville Town Hall, and some ladies sympathetic to the Lions were attempting to cook dinner in the basement underneath the stage. Mr.

Brown was club treasurer at the time, and he had apparently neglected to pay the gas bill. The stoves wouldn't light up, to the consternation of all present. Mr. Brown was followed by Dee Willard, a member for fifty-five years, who talked about the club in the 1960s. Both Mr. Brown and Mr. Willard alluded to those old days when membership was strictly controlled, with a secret ballot for new members to replace departing members. The vote had to be unanimous, so a prospective



King Lion Dennis Davis presented Bill Jamison with the 2010 Lion of the Year award at the Monocacy Lions 70th Anniversary Charter Dinner.

member could easily be black-balled and denied admission to the club.

Other Monocacy Lions continued with the walk through the club's decades. Jack Davis presented the 1960s, Dan Yates the 1970s, and Roy Selby the 1980s. Gary Burdette, also a former District Governor, discussed the club in the 1990s, and Kitty Ayers brought the presentation into the

-Continued on Page 14.

Poolesville Holiday First Friday December 3rd 5:30-9pm

SPECIAL EVENING HOURS AT LOCAL SHOPS with free Refreshments & Holiday Shopping and Specials at participating area Restaurants

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Participating Businesses with tables at the New Town Hall:

Dancing Grass design, Glad-i-Yoga, Catriona's Castle, Pampered Chef, Little Luxuries by Lulu, Hope Garden Ballet, Old Oaks Tea Parlor (Limited space left, contact info@poolesvillechamber.com)

Participating Restaurants:

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"Monocacy Lions" Continued From Page 13.

twenty-first century.

Several club awards were presented, most prominently, the Melvin Jones Award, the highest award a club can bestow on a member, which went to Edwin Brown, and a new award, the Monocacy Lions Humanitarian Award, which was presented to Jane Stearns of Western Upper Montgomery County Help, or WUMCO. This is the first award the Monocacy Lions have designated for community service by a non-Lion "whose activities best symbolize the ideals of Lionism." Joe Gaffigan also presented a special Lions pin to Edwin Brown in recognition of his long service to the club. King Lion Dennis Davis presented a number of club awards, headlined by the Lion of the Year award to Bill Jamison, and the Lion of the Years award, celebrating service over the long haul, to John Repass.

Focus on Business

Glad-I-Yoga Opens New Studio

Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

What a pleasure it is to find a business relocated in Poolesville and not gone for good. Patrons of Glad-I-Yoga can be reassured that proprietor and instructor, Maria Briançon, offers the same welcoming and stress-reducing yoga classes for all age groups in her new location on Fisher Avenue (next to Poolesville Hardware). Previously located at MUDO USA, a martial arts studio near Selby's that closed its doors after five years in late summer, Glad-I-Yoga celebrated its grand opening in mid-October with a reception for old and new friends alike.

Glad-I-Yoga offers vinyasa flow-style yoga classes (a fitness

type of yoga) that combine breath with movement to maximize students' ability to build their strength, increase their endurance, improve their flexibility, and reduce their stress levels.

Like so many practitioners of holistic health disciplines, Ms. Briançon's business is a reflection of her own passion for yoga and its benefits for a twisted pelvis injury she sustained years ago and continues to feel today. As a serious student of yoga, she became certified in 2004 after her mentor and instructor encouraged her to put her passion to practice. "She told me I'd be an excellent instructor. Who doesn't get excited to hear these words from a mentor?" recalled Ms. Briançon. "I knew I loved what I was doing." She first offered free classes at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville and marvels that some of the first people she taught there followed her from one location to another over the years, including her kitchen

-Continued on Page 15



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Poolesville Outside



Poolesville



Poolesville

"Glad-I-Yoga" Continued From Page 14.

and a friend's basement—where there was space.

Her new studio is like a dream come true. "I love this place. It is calming. It is soothing. Any stress that I am feeling from the outside completely melts away when I walk inside." It's not hard to see why: The studio is fresh and bright with new fixtures and polished floors.

Poolesville resident and Glad-I-Yoga student April Leese-Thompson agrees. "A Monday class can completely wipe away the stress you bring with you."

Currently, the studio averages about twenty students per week. Ms. Briançon offers affordable classes across a variety of levels for students at any age or life stage. It's important to her that her studio becomes a safe and comfortable place for her students to meet their own challenges. "I wanted to share with them what I have gained from my experience," Ms. Briançon explained.

Glad-I-Yoga is not a body twisting, overwhelmingly-complicated workout that leaves its students perplexed and sore. Rather, it embraces the eight limbs of hatha yoga based in health and breath with movement. It is not holding poses for a long time, though with practice and repetition, a student will get better at holding posture correctly, said Ms. Briançon.

Ms. Briançon suggested that the best thing about yoga is that it gives students time between positions to take a moment alone with their breaths and reflect about how the position makes them feel. "It's about what feels good, what doesn't, and you don't have to push harder if you're not feeling benefit. It's not like aerobics, where it's go, go, go all the time. Yoga is all about getting in touch with you."

That's not to say that yoga isn't adaptable to your energy level. If you have a lot of nervous energy, fast music and a lot of poses may help you to work through it. On the other hand, if you're an athlete or have a job

where slow stretching is important, yoga can also provide that approach.

If you've never done yoga before, Ms. Briançon suggests talking to her first, so she can help assess your needs and goals, which she bases somewhat on age and ability, then she can recommend a class level. If your knees can't handle the pressure, for example, she may direct you to a slow-flow class.

She also offers an abridged Pilates class and yoga classes for children: Glad-I-Play.

"The people who come to me work toward a goal and find over time that they can do things they never thought they could. Stiffness they've had over time goes away, or stress from a day job can be pushed away to help you reenergize. Yoga is really great for everybody. It teaches you to go inside yourself. It doesn't matter how you look on the outside if you don't feel good on the inside," Ms. Briançon explained.

Glad-I-Yoga offers classes on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at a variety

of times. Beginning in January, Tuesday classes also will be available. For more information, check out the website: www.Glad-I-Yoga.com.



Maria Briançon and Glad-I-Yoga in their new location



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.....and when I stepped into the beautiful winter quiet, its silence took my breath away."



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*"Things to Do " Continued From
Page 9.*

November 19

Longaberger Basket Bingo with Vera Bradley Bags
UMCVFD Auxiliary - Beallsville Fire House
Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.
Games: 7:00 p.m.

November 19 and 20

Christmas Attic Sale
St. Peter's Parish, 20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville
1000's of Christmas decorations and ornaments, artificial greens, trees and lights.
Bake Sale and pecans
.Friday: noon to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-349-2073

November 20

Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Fatima Council #6901,
Annual Art Auction
There will be art available for purchase for everyone's taste and budget in all media and price ranges, including original oil paintings, animation cells, and sports

memorabilia. The preview begins at 7:00 p.m., and the auction starts at 8:00 p.m. The cost is just \$10.00 per person or \$30.00 for a family of four. There will also be a silent auction, raffle, and door prizes, plus a complimentary assortment of hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, and refreshments. For more information, call Kevin Carmack at 301-349-2274.

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: The Haunts
Starts at 8:00 p.m.

Annual Open House & Holiday Bazaar

Kunzang Palyul Choling
18400 River Road, Poolesville
Exotic imported gifts, large collection of minerals and crystals, unique silent auction gifts, children's corner, African drumming, reflexology, reiki, astrology, and food and refreshments, plus a bake sale to benefit parrot sanctuary.
Everyone is invited, free admission.
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

November 25

bullying prevention, conflict resolution, and friendship skills, this year marks the first cluster-wide coordination effort to identify and end bullying in our community. The schools marked the awareness campaign with theme days throughout the week.

According to Peg Arnold, seventh and eighth grade counselor and counseling department chairperson at JPMS, cluster school counselors met over the summer as part of the Poolesville Pride Initiative to examine how to collaborate on anti-bullying strategies. At JPMS, bullying prevention was a topic for more than five years as part of the National No Name Calling Week observed in October and served as a unique springboard for Blue Ribbon Week at the middle school. "It's a good fit with our five core values of pride, integrity, respect, dedication, and effort, and a way for students to learn how to show respect throughout their lives," said Ms. Arnold. Likewise, school counselor Janet Beaudoin of MES

Happy Thanksgiving!

November 26

Black Friday Pajama Super 7 Bingo (PJs optional)
\$20.00 per person
Seven Games for Longaberger Baskets
Seven \$50.00 cash games
Raffles, special games, King Tuts Refreshments available
Carroll Manor Fire Company
2795 Adams Street, Adamstown
Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.
Games: 7:00 p.m.

Basset's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Chris Compton
10:00 p.m.

November 29

Book Discussion Group
Poolesville Library
Featuring: Then We Came to an End, by Joshua Ferris
Copies available at the checkout desk. 7:00 p.m.

December 3, 4, and 5 and 10, 11, and 12

Countryside Artisans Tour
Visit www.countrysideartisans.com

com for specifics

December 3

Fifth Annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony and First Friday Holiday Local Shopping
Come capture the true spirit of a small-town holiday celebration. Twinkling lights, performances by local choirs, and the aroma of chestnuts roasting will transport the child in you to memories of holidays past. Enjoy ice-carving demonstrations, visit Santa's Workshop, and stop by the Town Hall to view the Children's Tree. New this year, climb aboard the Holiday Express for a trip around the Commons!

Be a part of the true meaning of the holidays by bringing a new, unwrapped toy to support WUMCO. Toys will be distributed to local families needing assistance this holiday season. Refreshments available to purchase include: beef brisket, country ham sandwiches, homemade soups,

-Continued on Page 17.

School News

Poolesville Cluster Schools Strive to End Bullying

By Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

It takes a village, as the saying goes, to create and sustain a supportive environment. The Poolesville Cluster schools put extra effort into their bullying prevention strategies November 8 to November 12 with the cluster-wide Blue Ribbon Week – We Have the Power to Get Along Initiative. While each individual school, Monocacy Elementary School (MES), Poolesville Elementary, and John Poole Middle School (JPMS), works throughout the year to make students aware of age-appropriate strategies for

has been teaching bullying prevention strategies to students for many years.

An assembly featuring Olney, Maryland-based Project Change and its You Have the Power (YHTP!)—Bullying Prevention Peer Education Program marked the end of Blue Ribbon week November 12 at JPMS. Monocacy and Poolesville Elementary Schools also hosted the group. At JPMS, the assembly featured power-point and video presentations by Sherwood High School students Meghan Siliman and Jenn Morrison showing the damaging impact bullying can have on students' lives and tips for ending a bully's control.

It's a story JPMS eighth-grader Corrine Wallace sadly knows all too well. As a guest speaker



Corrine Wallace (right) from John Poole Middle School spoke movingly during the anti-bullying Blue Ribbon Week about the tragedy of losing her cousin Montana Lance of Dallas, Texas to school bullying. With her is Guidance Counselor Peg Arnold.

at the assembly, Corrine bravely shared her personal story of losing her nine-year-old cousin, Montana Lance, to suicide last January in Dallas, Texas. Montana was a target of bullies. From the looks on their faces, Corrine's

-Continued on Page 23.

"Things to Do " Continued From Page 12.

roasted chestnuts, and funnel cakes.

Begin your holiday shopping now! Stroll through Town and enjoy the Historic Medley District Winter Craft Show at Old Town Hall (5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and PACC First Friday Events, which include special offers and late hours at area retail stores.

Sponsored by these Poolesville merchants: Selby's Market, Total Automotive and Diesel, House of Poolesville, Corporate Network Services, Potomac Valley Surveys, Fine Earth Landscaping, McDonald's, Kuhlman Lawn Service, Mallow Construction, Capital Fence, Don Hoffacker Air Conditioning and Heating, Stephanie's Secret Garden, and Kettler Forlines Homes
Whalen Commons
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Jay Summerour

8:00 p.m.

December 4
Breakfast with Santa Claus
UMCVFD Beallsville Fire Hall
Enjoy the fire department's traditional, all-you-can-eat Santa Breakfast of scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, juice, fruit salad, and coffee. Come warm your tummy and your heart as you view the electric toy train layout, watch the Christmas classic "Santa Is Coming to Town," and have the kids give Santa their wish list. Instant photos available or you may take your own pictures.
12 years and over: \$7.00
3 through 11 years: \$5.00
Under 3: free
7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Breakfast with St. Nicholas
St. Peter's Church
Come enjoy a pancake breakfast and hear the story about the jolly gent before he moved to the North Pole.
Starts at 9:00 a.m.

Annual Father Lawrence Memorial

American Red Cross Blood Drive
St. Mary's Catholic Church
Barnesville Pavilion
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Contact: John Phipps at 301-972-7292 to register or to notify that you will donate blood

Annual Odd Fellows Seniors, Widows, and Widowers Christmas Party
All senior citizens and their friends are invited and welcome.
Door prizes, entertainment, and Ham Turkey Dinner.
Free
RSVP: Spencer Schmidt at 301-461-1289 or Richard Norwood at 301-349-5102
Memorial United Methodist Church 1:00 p.m.

Lost-N-Found
Lost -N- Found, a contemporary Christian band, is performing at the newly-opened Connection Café at Poolesville Presbyterian Church from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. There is no cover charge, and all are welcome. Refreshments will be available. Visit www.poolpres.com or call Carolyn McFall at 240-672-

2236 for more information.

December 9
Storytime for Toddlers
Poolesville Library
Stories, fingerplays, and music
10:30 a.m.

Special Event: Dickerson, Maryland: Rocks, Roads, Rails, Residences, and Residents
An illustrated presentation on Dickerson's history and architecture co-sponsored by Dickerson Community Association and Historic Medley District, Inc.
Historian Eileen McGuckian used maps, public records, research, interviews, and observations to survey eighty-five properties in the town between April and September 2010. Residents are invited to bring photos, memories, maps, and documents on Dickerson to share.
Poolesville Museum (Old Town Hall), 19933 Fisher Avenue
For more information, call 301-972-8965 or email phileen3@verizon.net
7:30 p.m.



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"MCA Royce Hanson Award"
Continued From Page 1.

national nonprofit organization which works to preserve the legacy of the Underground Railroad through this historic farm site. Hidden away on Black Rock Road, near route 28 and Darnestown, this heavily-wooded piece of land is Maryland's only living history center depicting nineteenth century slavery and plantation life. This 1850s farm includes a Civil War-era barn, historic outbuildings, livestock pens, heirloom vegetable gardens, a slave cemetery, and the Button Farm House, circa 1927, which serves as Menare Foundation headquarters. The farm invites the community to become part of its history through many events and programs: Annual Juneteenth Celebration, Underground Railroad Summer Camp, historical tours and day trips, archaeological digs and expeditions, lectures

and presentations, school presentations, and period craft demonstrations and classes. The facility is also available for special events, family reunions, birthday parties, picnics, and camping.

This unique, living, historic farm in the Ag Reserve owes its existence and vitality to one man, Tony Cohen. When you listen to him talking about Button Farm and its mission and dream, you can understand and appreciate his passionate love of what he does. He takes history "out of the books," and puts it into your hands. Tour the raised-bed vegetable gardens (the food is donated to Manna Food Bank) enclosed by humble tree limb fences; smell the smoke from the many, small wood bonfires that were gathering places for the slave residents; and in the Demonstration Field observe artisans, crafters, and encampment demonstrations.

Tony Cohen has been a good

steward of this historic piece of land. His work is just one example of what we can offer to the residents of Montgomery County and other localities within the boundaries of the Ag Reserve. Too many historic and open land sites have been lost due primarily to suburban development and poor zoning policies. People like Tony Cohen provide the impetus and passion that the Ag Reserve needs to continue in its mission to protect farmland and open spaces. Contrary to what some people think and say, the Ag Reserve is not taking us backward and stopping needed business and residential development; it is holding together a slice of quality of life that is rapidly disappearing in too many parts of our country. As Royce Hanson, the architect of the Ag Reserve, said, once the land is gone, it is gone forever. The success and survival of this Land Treasure depends upon our eternal vigilance to keep it. In the closing remarks of the presentation, Oakley Johnson of the MCA said, "Those present here today know and appreciate the value of the Ag Reserve; it is our job to spread the word that the Ag Reserve is not just for the enjoyment of a few Upcounty residents; it is here for the entire Washington metropolitan area."

Congratulations and thank

you, Tony Cohen, and happy thirtieth anniversary, Ag Reserve. May you have one hundred more.

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Youth Sports

PHS Football 2010: Bits and Pieces — and a Whole Lotta Effort

By Jeff Stuart

There is no sugarcoating it. This has been a tough season for the Poolesville football squad, but it's not due to lack of effort. The closer scores this year indicate that the Falcons have been a more competitive team than in recent seasons. We talked to Coach Steve Orsini to get his take on the team, the season, and the progress being made. Here is his perspective:

"We really don't have an impact player or a big play maker. I can't complain about any of the kids' effort. We play aggressively. Defensively, we swarm to the ball. Everybody moves to the ball. They did a nice job of containing Rockville's Crusoe Gongbay, the county's best rusher. They are giving us the best they can. They are not quitters, and they really work their tails off. We try to get them to compete in practice. I tell them, 'Don't ever let somebody beat you—in anything. Life is a contest. Right here on the football field is one of the toughest contests. Make the effort. You might not win every battle, but you are going to win more than you lose.' The kids have hung in there. It is frustrating for them, too."

As to some individual efforts, Orsini told us:

"Nikolay Henze, a tenth grader, has done a fantastic job at corner. Against Watkins Mill on a third and short, they did a little hitch pass. He was right in the kid's face and makes the tackle. They didn't get the first down. Offensively, he had a couple of big runs for us, eight or ten yards—big for us. He plays hard every play. He is an outstanding player.

"Robert Winning (junior) at

fullback is another. Ben Pysler (senior) has done a nice job at middle linebacker, center, and guard. Marty Michaels (senior, SE/DE) has given us a lot. Tyler Holston might not be as on fire as he was last year, but he still commands the huddle. He is giving us his best effort. Darryl Lang (senior) has stepped in at quarterback and has done a good job. Chris Oyer (G/DT) and Evan Habib (SE/C) have given us great effort. Both are juniors. We pulled up Jaylen McCaine (sophomore, DT) from the JV. He didn't play as a ninth grader.

"But we have made a lot of mistakes and at the worst possible times. Before the Einstein game, I told the kids, 'Let's see if we can play football without penalties and turnovers for a whole game.' Well, in the first half, we drove the ball well, but two fifteen-yard penalties killed us. We were at their thirty with twenty-four seconds left in the half. We threw a little screen, and it was picked off and they scored. The fourth quarter we had no penalties and no turnovers. We played the way we were capable of playing. In the last seven minutes, we just took the ball down and scored. We kicked to them, tackled the guy down around the two-yard line, forced a punt, and scored again. The kids focused. It was unbelievable. Einstein is a good, physical team."

R.J. King (100 yards rushing) scored twice in the fourth quarter to tie the game at 14-14. The other team scored first in the overtime, but Holston answered with a four-yard touchdown pass to C.J. Lee (eight catches that game). Rather than send the game to a second overtime, the Falcons gambled and won on Henze's two-point conversion run (22-21).

In a brief overview of the season games, Coach Orsini observed:

"Against Williamsport, we had more passing and rushing yards, first downs, and time of possession. At homecoming, we had thirteen first downs as compared to just seven for Williamsport. We moved the ball but just



The 2010 Poolesville High School varsity football team.

couldn't score. Against Rockville, we played a great ball game, but we had three turnovers. With the score 7-0, we were on the eighty-yard line, but we got an offside penalty that set us back. Then we get back down to the three-yard line and we get a holding penalty. We score but got an off sides penalty again. The touchdown is called back. Working the ball, we still get back to third and goal, and then the ball is intercepted.

"Against Maryland School for the Deaf, we them out in the second half. That was great football. We just needed to play that way for forty-eight minutes."

At Wheaton, the Falcons scored twice in the third quarter to take a 33-28 lead, but failure to convert the last two extra points cost the Falcons the game.

Working hard during practices and during games, the

Falcons closed out 2010 on an outstanding note: they beat Kent County 44-0.

What will it take to get better?

"We have to get stronger.

In practice, we flip big tractor tires. We lift twice a week. It is helping, but you really need to get stronger in the off season. There are five kids in school who wanted to come out for the team after school started. Our policy is that you have to show up in August when practice starts to be on the team. So we did not let them play. They could help next year if they get out for summer practices."

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Grass is the most natural form of food for equines, although it has some inherent risks. Good-to-excellent pastures can provide all, or nearly all, of the nutritional requirements for most equines, along with free access to potable water and mineralized salt blocks. Well-kept pastures provide essential roughage for the gastrointestinal system, as well as carbohydrates and proteins for growth and development, along with most of the essential minerals and vitamins. Unlike stalled animals, who have to have their diets supplemented for carotene found in leafy, green plants and vitamin D, from sunlight, pasture is essential for brood mares, animals at rest, and young equines; however, early spring grazing, fall grazing after new growth stimulated by later summer/fall rains, too much pasture time, or too rich a pasture can be risky for overweight animals, those with insulin resistance and Cushings Disease, most smaller ponies, and those animals with a history of laminitis or founder. For safety, it is best to graze pastures after the grasses are taller (six to ten inches), mature, and higher in fiber. Similarly, equines worked to moderate or high levels, or those with insufficient time to graze (less than four hours a day without a muzzle), may not acquire enough nutrients from pasture grazing alone and must be supplemented with high-quality hay and grain. As a rule of thumb, horses without a muzzle can ingest six pounds or more of pasture each hour, and if left to their own devices, will graze sixteen hours every day.

Just what makes up a good or excellent pasture? Variables include parasite loads, rainfall levels and patterns, types of soil and grasses, drainage, minerals in the soil, climatic variations, weed levels, and rotational grazing patterns with little or no overgrazing. Your Soil Conservation Service can

assist you with soil tests that can reveal a need for nitrogen, phosphorus, lime or other fertilizers (natural or synthetic), and at what levels and types. Keeping weeds at bay, rotating pastures, and removing manure in small pastures or harrowing in large pastures in less humid climates will all enhance pasture quality and improve the pasture or hay yield. Removing the manure is important, as a horse produces roughly fifty pounds of manure a day, and parasite eggs in manure are only killed by extreme heat or cold, a major drought, or a severely-dry climate.

A key ingredient that many overlook is the type of pasture grass and its nutritional value. All pasture grasses can be assessed in terms of their crude protein value (as a percentage), their digestible energy in megacalories (one million calories) per pound (Mcal/lb.), fiber (as a percentage), and their trace nutrients, such as calcium, potassium, and so forth. For example, most equine enthusiasts know that alfalfa is rich but don't know why. With 0.31 Mcal/lb., late-growth alfalfa is the highest of all common pasture grasses in terms of digestible energy, except for smooth, mature brome at 0.40 percent. It also offers five percent crude protein, but is surpassed by smooth, early-growth brome at 5.6 percent. If an equine needs high fiber, which grass is best? Again, we would turn to alfalfa, late growth, at 0.40 percent (versus full bloom at 0.28 percent), and clover (early growth) at 0.44 percent, versus orchard grass (early bloom) at 0.06 percent or timothy (early or mid) at 0.11 percent.

The types of grasses used in making a good-to-excellent pasture differ according to whether or not it will be a temporary pasture, a permanent pasture, or both. Temporary pastures last only a year or two of year-round, intense grazing, whereas permanent pastures are intended for a decade or more before intense revitalization. The temporary pasture will be so overused that its plants can never develop deep roots and is, thus,

-Continued on Page 22.

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"Winter Flowers" Continued From Page 3.

violets are killed by overwatering than anything else. I have ten plants that bloom faithfully all year. I water them when the soil is dry; I fertilize them with African violet food whenever I water; I wash the leaves with a little dishwashing liquid when they look dusty, and they sit in on a table in full sun in the kitchen. They reward me with luscious pink, purple, white, lavender, and rose blooms all year. What more can you ask of one plant?

Begonias – You may consider begonias as summer outdoor plants, but many varieties make excellent houseplants that can bloom all winter in average house conditions. I find that the fibrous rooted types, like waxed-leaf, angel-wing, and hairy-leafed varieties are the most reliable repeat bloomers. I brought indoors a few weeks ago a very large pink angel-wing one. My only complaint is that its profuse blooming leaves many fallen flowers on the

floor. That is a small price to pay for a super flowering plant.

Bromeliads – They are sometimes called urn plants, as they grow in rosettes of leaves that form a middle water-collecting cup. This member of the pineapple family likes bright light. They can be a little tricky to bring into bloom, but their flowers often last for weeks or months.

Clivia – If you have a brown or even black thumb, this plant is for you. If you often forget to water your plants, this one is for you. If you have a second home and would like to keep plants there, this one's for you. It thrives on neglect; you would kill it with kindness. This amaryllis relative is grown from a bulb and it needs to be pot bound to flower. They can be a little hard to find in local garden centers; I buy mine from White Flower Farm. They only bloom once a year, in shades of peach, yellow, or orange, but their broad leaves are attractive year round. Their lily-shaped blooms last for several weeks.

They are not cheap to buy. I thought the one I bought, *Clivia miniata* (called the perfect houseplant), was expensive at \$52, but I noticed in White Flowers Farm's fall catalog that they now offer *Clivia Victorian Peach* (10" terracotta pot) for \$475. A decade of breeding for the best peach color, I guess, justifies its high price. If any of my readers buys one, let me know how you like it.

Orchids – Don't tell me you can't grow orchids in your house if you haven't tried the phalaenopsis orchid, known as the Moth Orchid. This is the easiest, most reliable, and longest-blooming of orchids. I have five of them; three of them are five years old and have bloomed every year. I give them bright, indirect light, warm temperatures during the day, and cooler temperatures at night. I water them when the bark-like soil is a little dry, and I fertilize them and mist their sword-like leaves about once a week during their growing season. Buy

yourself a present this week; buy an orchid.

Last week, I visited several garden centers in our area that offer houseplants. I found a huge selection of very healthy-looking, attractive flowering plants. Welcome flowers into your house this winter; all souls need a winter garden to carry us through the cold, gray days ahead.

"Pastures" Continued From Page 20.

more susceptible to drought, overgrazing, and hoof damage. Fine cool-season grasses such as annual or perennial rye grass, clover, alfalfa, and wheat are all useful in temporary pastures, even if starting and maintaining them is labor intensive. By contrast, permanent pastures rely on native grasses and herbs, as well as cropped perennial grasses such as those found in Pasture Mixes. These pastures will have well-developed root systems that can handle erosion, heavy traffic, and drought.



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"Blue Ribbon Award" Continued
From Page 16.

tearful account clearly had an effect on her classmates.


"The YHTP! assembly will help Monocacy students know how to speak up for themselves and others if there is a bullying situation and also that they should get an adult to help and support a classmate or themselves so that the power is taken away from the bully," explained Ms. Beaudoin.

For more information about bullying prevention in your student's school, contact the guid-

ance office or ask your student. Information about the YHTP! program is also available at Project Change's website: www.projectchange-md.org.

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