



This fabulous cake was made for a fabulous occasion—and fabulous man. See more pictures in Family Album on page 2.



First, try not to think about Werewolves. Now go to Center Stage on page 19.



Coree Odgen led a JPMS exercise team to first place. The details are in School News on page 14.



Cody Dorsey appears to be in control of the situation. Read about PHS wrestling in Youth Sports on page 6.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

February 17, 2012

Volume VIII, Number 23.

Multi-Alarm Fire Destroys Beallsville House

By Jack Toomey

A wind-driven fire roared through a house in the 18900 block of Beallsville Road on the afternoon of Sunday, February 12, destroying the structure. Firefighters were alerted to the fire by the homeowner and neighbors who saw billowing black smoke coming from the house which is located several hundred yards from the road. Retired Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Earl Moore said that the first arriving fire units found the two-story structure fully involved in fire.



The firefighters did what they could.

Because of the strong winds and lack of fire hydrants in the area, extra alarms were sounded for water supply. Fire departments from Frederick and Loudoun Counties responded to assist in relaying water to the

scene. Heavy smoke streamed across Beallsville Road causing some motorists to park on the shoulders of the road to watch the firefighters attempt to save

-Continued on page 8.

Poolesville: A Solar-Powered Town?

By Rande Davis

Could Poolesville become the first town powered by solar energy? That question intrigued Commissioner Eddie Kuhlman. After discussions on the notion with town manager Wade Yost and town engineer John Strong, the trio took a trip to Mount St. Mary's University to meet with representatives of Constellation Energy.

Constellation Energy has partnered with the university to develop a solar-powered campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Headquartered in Baltimore, the firm is one of the top electricity producers in the United States, operating

over thirty-five power plants in eleven states.

In the meeting with the company, it was determined that while a town-wide energy plan was not feasible, solar energy could have a significant role in powering the waste water treatment plant and allow up to six other metered lines. In addition to the plant using one megawatt, the system could provide an additional megawatt to power well pump stations and the town hall.

The cost of installation of an appropriate solar array was estimated to be around five million dollars, which would be covered by Constellation Energy and would require a twenty-year lease agreement. It was also determined that a ten-acre lot near the water treatment plant could sustain the solar array.

At the February 6 town



meeting, these findings were announced with enough interest on the part of the commissioners to instruct Yost to prepare a Request for Information (RFI) so as to further investigate whether solar energy might play a major role in the future of the town.

At the town meeting, the commissioners also considered

-Continued on Page 21.



Dr. Chet thanks the large gathering for their attendance, reassuring all that while he has retired after forty-two years of veterinary service to the community, he will remain their neighbor for a long time.



A few friends came together to help veterinarian Dr. Chet Anderson celebrate his retirement after forty-two years.



Roger Brenholtz (right), King Lion of the Monocacy Lions Club, thanks District Governor Rich Barb who has just addressed the club at a dinner meeting. (Photograph by Pete Gallo)



Chrissie Harney leads the startup meeting for the 2012 Poolesville Relay for Life.

Daytripper

The Lions Had Me at Hello: The Baltimore Museum Of Art

By Ingeborg Westfall

Call me old-fashioned, crazy, or just really strange, but massive concrete lions—their mouths wide in an imagined roar of greeting—flanking a building’s entrance always make me smile. Setting aside the convention of their use, to me they’re there to guard, to protect, to signify that what you’ll see as you pass them and enter their building is something extraordinary, something to bring wonderment, to treasure, to value. Let’s face it, giant sculptured hamsters or rabbits just wouldn’t convey quite the same feeling, although the rabbits on the decorated bus outside the American Visionary Art Museum are certainly perfect—but I digress. So it is that when I see those glorious Baltimore Museum of Art lions, whether in the springtime through cherry blossoms or in the dead of winter through bare branches, I know I’m in for a memorable visit.

I’ve written before about Baltimore’s place in my heart and memory, and how I feel that sometimes it may seem a Poor Relation of glamorous nearby D.C. Well, the BMA proves just how unfair and blighted that impression is. Make no mistake: This is a world-class museum, one of which all Marylanders can

(and should) be mighty proud.

Founded in 1914 with one painting, today, the BMA owns more than 90,000 art objects, holds the world’s largest collection of the artworks of Henri Matisse, and welcomes more than 300,000 visitors yearly. Its large and varied collections include African, Asian, and European Art, Art of the Pacific Islands and the Ancient Americas, Antioch mosaics, contemporary American Art, African American Art, American Decorative Arts, and a wonderful collection of miniature rooms meticulously crafted by renowned Chicago miniaturist Eugene Kupjack at a scale of one inch equaling one foot. In the hallway where these rooms are exhibited in glass cabinets, there’s a stool that parents can move from place to place so their young children can see the rooms at eye level. That’s just one indication that BMA wants its exhibits to be truly accessible.

What exactly is the attraction of an art museum? Must one be a student of art, or perhaps an expert in art history, an artist, or a critic dictating what is worthy of enjoyment? I don’t pretend to be any of these individuals, nor do I know more than the very basics of art (yes, the old “I know what I like”). The BMA knows that it will have visitors of widely different backgrounds, and it’s part of what makes the museum special that its written descriptions of the works, in

-Continued on Page 22.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Poolesville

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor the source of your drinking water for *Cryptosporidium*. Results of the monitoring are to be used to determine whether water treatment at Well #2 is sufficient to adequately remove *Cryptosporidium* from your drinking water. We are required to complete this monitoring and make this determination by October 2014. We did not monitor or test on schedule and, therefore, we may not be able to determine by the required date what treatment modifications, if any, must be made to ensure adequate *Cryptosporidium* removal. Missing this deadline may, in turn, jeopardize our ability to have the required treatment modifications, if any, completed by the deadline required, October 2014.

Cryptosporidium is a disease-causing microorganism that may be present in our raw water source. Out of the sixteen samples that were taken all of the results were 0.00.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

What is being done?

We will collect all required samples by September 2012.

For more information, please call Wade Yost, Town Manager for the Town of Poolesville at 301-428-8927. Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Town of Poolesville. State Water System ID#: 015-0002

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Commentary

Generica: Land Of the Same

By John Clayton

I used to travel on business occasionally, and these travels rarely took me to exciting urban locales such as New York, Miami, or Chicago. I was more likely to be in Omaha, Nebraska; Bloomington, Illinois; Jackson, Mississippi; or Columbus, Ohio. There is nothing wrong with any of those places, and the people were wonderful, but, with the exception of their older central cityscapes, they all looked the same. At some point, we always ended up on a Route 1-type of highway lined with the same restaurants and retailers we saw everywhere else. Home Depot, The Italian Garden, Best Buy, Outback Steakhouse, WalMart, Denny's, TGI Fridays, you could go on forever. My traveling companions agreed—if you dropped down out of nowhere, you could be anywhere. Nothing, absolutely nothing was unique or distinctive about where you were. One fellow introduced me to what is now a familiar label, if not an epithet: Generica. The United States of Generica reigns supreme.

With the closing of Selby's Market and the Organic Market, and the general decline of the Poolesville business sector as undeniably confirmed by the empty storefronts, I find myself thinking more and more about the sprawl of Generica.

The town itself is thriving. There are beautiful new residential developments, many churches are healthy, and clearly the government is doing just fine, evidenced by the impressive new town hall and a steady stream of lively publicly-sponsored activities on Whalen Commons. Thank goodness for that. Events on Whalen Commons and in the other public areas around Poolesville get people out of their homes and maintain an important sense of community, to say nothing of providing a local newspaper with

a steady stream of human interest photographs for publication.

It is not clear to me or to perhaps anyone else what the future holds for the not-all-that-little town of Poolesville, with a population destined for 6000. Several people have shared their thoughts with me on current business trends, for lack of a better phrase, and you know who you are and will recognize some of your observations. Are people going to shop here, regularly, as part of their weekly routines, or will this just be a bedroom community where people shop on the way home from somewhere else? A hop across White's Ferry to Leesburg, or a drive down Route 28 to Darnestown and Germantown, and you are in Generica. Maybe that's good enough.

Once, some time ago, I read a story about a popular District of Columbia bar that was closing. The owner was interviewed and said there was a steady stream of people coming in who told him how much they loved the bar, how sorry they were that it was closing, and how its demise would leave a regrettable hole in their community. His response was, "Who are these people? Where were they when I was trying to make a go of it?" Perhaps we all like the idea of places like Selby's Market and other stores being in our town more than we feel compelled to shop there to keep them alive, where we might pay more for a smaller selection than we would elsewhere. That is not necessarily bad, but it is a choice, and there are consequences.

The Town of Poolesville government and the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce work hard to keep business thriving. There are even attempts to make it more of a tourist destination, which would bring more shoppers to town to hopefully support some business ventures, and even provide some supplemental support to our local restaurants

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Rande(m) Thoughts

Where Do We Go from Here?

By Rande Davis

The uncertain commercial future of Poolesville is still on our minds. Now comes word that the Organic Market will be closed by the time you read this column. Maybe an entrepreneur will step forward and open a small grocery in the location that is pretty much ready to go just as it is—maybe not.

In the meantime, as a community, we still have to keep looking forward. The commissioners and the Community and Economic Development Committee are weighing ideas to increase the revenue base for the remaining businesses. One concept under consideration is using Leesburg, Virginia or New Market, Maryland as models. The former has a strong historical connection to the Civil War and thrives on

weekend visitors, and the latter built itself into the Antique Capital of Maryland. Is this something that has merit? Right now, businesses have a two-pronged dilemma. During the week, the vast majority of people leave the area for work. On the weekends, the residents have developed purchasing habits for necessities and other expenditures—such as entertainment—that do not help fill the weekday void in local business revenue.

It is not simply enough to expect or demand people to shop local more. To be sure, if all residents make a conscious decision to support our merchants, it will help, but, most likely, would still not be enough.

The town's Streetscape Plan, long a controversial project, has progressed in steps over the past ten years or so. You see its objective in Whalen Commons and sidewalks that make the town a more attractive and pedestrian-

-Continued on Page 10.

In the Garden

Changes in the Garden World

By Maureen O'Connell

Changes do not come quickly or often in the garden world, but this January brought two significant announcements. On January 1, the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature removed the requirement that new plant species be described in Latin. This rule was in place since 1908, but Latin was the language of botanists since the Renaissance. The binomial tradition of scientific nomenclature, such as *Homo sapiens* for humans, *Syringa* for lilacs, and *Cornus* for dogwoods, dates to the 1753 publication of *Species Plantarum* by Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus. There were several reasons for this change to naming plants in English, and they were not solely for academic ones. Botanists continually seek to create a complete inventory of the

world's plant life. This is a daunting task. It is believed that there may be as many as 100,000 plant species that are not yet known to science. Plants play an extremely important role on our planet: they are sources of materials and medicines; they are part of our food chain; and they produce the oxygen we breathe. The naming of a new plant is a laborious process, and the requirement to use Latin makes the process even more difficult and long. Practically speaking, there are fewer people studying Latin today.

Plants are in danger of extinction in many parts of the globe. Deforestation, the spread of invasive plants, and the much-debated subject of climate change threaten them. Removing Latin as the lingua franca of the naming of plant species will hopefully simplify and speed up this process. James S. Miller, dean and vice president for science at the New York Botanical Garden, welcomes this change as an important step in modernizing and accelerating one of the basic activities of bio-

logical sciences: cataloguing the world's biodiversity. "There is an urgency in describing the plants of the world," he said. "I don't think we have any capacity to understand and take care of nature unless we can identify it."

Do you know what plant zone Maryland is in? As of January 25, the Washington, D.C. region is more welcoming to more tender plants. On that date, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) unveiled a new version of its Plant Hardiness Zone Map. Maryland is now in zone 7, up from a 6 listing. This is the first update since 1990. This map of the U.S. shows color-coded zones which are used as a guide to what flowers, shrubs, and trees will survive in a particular geographical area. The higher the zone number, the warmer the average low winter temperature will be. It doesn't take a scientist to tell a gardener that these zones are shifting northward. Our winters are not as cold as they used to be; spring planting comes earlier; and the summers seem hotter. There are exceptions, such as

last winter's record-breaking temperatures and snowfall. The Department of Agriculture stopped short of making a climate change connection. Kim Kaplan, a spokeswoman for the USDA's Agricultural Research Service, said, "The map is not a good instrument for determining climate change. It's not that there hasn't been climate change; it's that the map isn't a good vehicle for demonstrating it."

I use the zone map as a basic guide. Winter temperatures are not the only factor that influences a plant's survival. Our summer's heat, humidity, and periods of drought can stress a plant as much as or more so than a cold winter. You might have noticed that in some winters with heavy snowfalls, plants can do very well. The snow acts as a protective blanket. I find that part of the challenge of gardening is experimenting with different plants that may not fit into our climactic conditions. Some years,

-Continued on Page 20.

Letter to Editor

Dear Members of the Selby and Brooks Families:

The John Poole Middle School (JPMS) Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA) would like to recognize your contributions to our school community and extend our appreciation and gratitude for all Selby's Market has done to support our students and schools over the years.

You have welcomed graciously JPMS PTSA's setups of fundraiser tables in front of your store and displays of flyers to advertise our events. You have made it more affordable for the PTSA to purchase food and supplies by providing a credit line and discounts, and have personally helped many families in our John Poole Middle School community when they were in financial and emotional need.

Selby's Market's close rela-

tionship with the school and community is hard to come by these days. Thank you for your support and contributions. Words alone cannot truly express the appreciation. You will be missed!

Sincerely,
The JPMS PTSA



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- Bob & Mariela (Poolesville Resident)



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Local News

Historic Medley District, Inc. News

The Historic Medley District, Inc. (HMD) is pleased to announce the appointment of Rande S. Davis as its new executive director. He brings to this position his marketing and public relations skills, which he developed as a co-owner of the newspaper *Monocacy Monocle* and the sole owner of RSD Marketing. The conservation organization's officers, President Maureen O'Connell, Vice President and Secretary Sharon Bauer, and Treasurer Jean Findlay, look forward to working with Rande to develop new educational and fun events, and programs for people of all ages at the organization's three properties: the John Poole House, the Old Town Hall/Bank Museum, and the Seneca Schoolhouse. Plans are already in the works to have the John Poole

House open on a regular basis with trained docents in period costumes, and featured speakers and exhibitions highlighting the historical significance of this Poolesville landmark. By early spring, work will begin on the restoration of the John Stock Arboretum, located to the rear of the house. Photographers, be on the lookout in March for the announcement of a photography contest, "Celebrating the Agricultural Reserve through the Camera Lens." The Ag Reserve is beautiful in all seasons, but it is particularly so in the spring. HMD also hopes to open the Old Town Hall more often with speakers, arts and crafts shows, and historical events, which will focus on Poolesville's role as a canal town and important site during the Civil War. Maureen, Sharon, Jean, and Rande want you to be part of this revitalization of HMD, and we welcome your support and input.

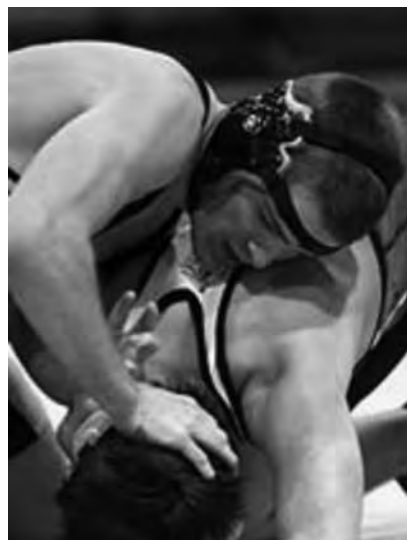
Youth Sports

PHS Wrestling: Winning Is What Winning Does

By Jeff Stuart

On December 10, 2009, as a sophomore, Poolesville's Robert Winning stepped on the mat at 140 pounds and claimed his first varsity win and his first varsity pin, with a fall early in the second period against visiting Seneca Valley.

It has become a habit. Winning, now a senior, has compiled a 25-1 mark this winter. He is the *Gazette's* top-ranked wrestler at 160 pounds. Winning's only setback came in the finals of the Damascus Holiday Tournament where he was edged by WilliamSPORT's Zach Shoemaker, 4-3. "I was pretty bummed out because I lost in the last seconds of the last



Robert Winning in action.

period, but it was a tough match. Those things kind of happen. It's just something to learn from and correct some of the mistakes that I made."

He faced tough competition in his freshman year within the team. "There was a senior, Henry

-Continued on Page 18.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Assault: 17600 block of Hoskinson Road, 19500 block of Fisher Avenue, 18400 block of Beallsville Road, 23100 block of Mt. Ephraim Road.

Burglary: 15200 block of Edwards Ferry Road.

Theft: 17600 block of Cobb Avenue, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Drug use complaints: 20000 block of Westerly Avenue, 17500 block of West Willard Road, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Past Crime

February 22, 1954 Dust from storms in the Midwest caused disruption in phone communication in the Washington area. Phones were out at two county police stations. Police Captain Carroll Miller had the phone

company route emergency calls to his home and had a radio car stationed in front of his house. When a call came in, he would relay it to the police car parked at his house.

February 24, 1952 A twenty-four-year-old Rockville model was charged with shooting her forty-two-year-old husband at their Rockville home. She told detectives that she was upset about her husband keeping late hours and his drinking habits. She said that she had spent several days in the attic of their house surviving on a jug of water and cigarettes. When her husband came home, they quarreled, and she shot him.

February 26, 1952 A seventeen-year-old Chevy Chase boy was arrested by Montgomery County Police and the FBI on charges that he had broken into the Selective Service office in Bethesda. The boy told officials that he stole hundreds of blank draft cards to sell them to boys so they could buy beer.

February 26, 1953 A Martinsburg man went on a shooting spree in the small community in

northwest Montgomery County. When police arrived, the man was firing a .32 caliber pistol from a window of his house. Five police officers surrounded the house and called for him to surrender. He eventually came out of the house with his hands over his head. The only casualty was a cocker spaniel dog that received a minor wound to the leg. He told officers that neighborhood dogs

had been bothering him.

February 28, 1955 The community hall of the Hunting Hill Methodist Church on MD Route 28 was heavily damaged by fire. Fire units from Gaithersburg and Rockville had the fire under control within twenty minutes of arrival. The pastor said that the community hall had last been used for a community supper a few days before.

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Poolesville: Cozy 3 BR, 1.5 BA split level home in the Wesmond subdivision. Amenities include a country kitchen with breakfast nook, family room with fireplace, large level lot. This home boasts an excellent location just minutes from schools, parks and shopping facilities. MLS#MC7628620.
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Dickerson: Comfortable 3 BR, 2 BA all-brick rancher on 1.25 acs. Amenities include: hardwood flrs., family rm. w/ FP & redwood paneling, country kitchen, front & side porches, 2-car garage, workshop. New roof (2009), new water heater (2010) & new furnace (2010). Located w/in 1 mile of MARC train station & State Rt 28 & less than 2 miles from the Potomac River, C&O Canal & Sugarloaf Mt. MLS #MC7695505.
Offered at \$399,900.



Beallsville/Dickerson: 3 BR, 2 full BA farmhouse nestled on 26.11 +/- acs. adjoining Woodstock Equestrian Ctr. Amenities include wood flrs., living rm w/ brick FP, large country kitchen, main lvl laundry, patio, garage, 2 storage sheds. MLS#MC7642599.



Comus: Unique 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath post and beam home nestled on 25.2 +/- acs. Amenities include: two-story great room w/stone fireplace, loft, updated kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances, wood flrs. MLS#MC 7546962.
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Local News

Melanie Hovencamp Selects South Carolina Upstate

By Jeff Stuart

Speedy senior forward Melanie Hovencamp has chosen to accept a partial scholarship to play soccer for South Carolina Upstate University next fall. This occasion was celebrated with a signing ceremony in the PHS gymnasium on Wednesday, February 1. For Melanie, who, along with teammate Ali Nesselt, received All-Gazette Honorable Mention last fall, the emphasis was on the south. "I love the south," she said. "It's a small school, so it should be an easy transition between Poolesville and there. All the people there were really nice, and the community was very welcoming." There are three players from Maryland already on the Spartan women's soccer team. "I played with Katrina Savoy (a freshman from Waldorf). She was on my club soccer team, Maryland RUSH. My coach was good friends with the SCUS coach, so

there is a connection." As for her favorite PHS moment, "I have a lot of good memories, but probably this year when I was named captain. I love the coach (Christina Mann). She is very caring and understanding."

"She attended camp at Penn State," said Everett Hovencamp, her father, "but she liked South Carolina better."

Despite spraining her ankle in preseason, Hovencamp did not miss a game last season, scoring four goals. She also had three assists. Her passing frequently put her teammates in great position to score. The Falcons were 18-8-1 the past two seasons, earning the top seed in the 2A west region last fall.

"The [Division I] scholarship is extremely well deserved," said Coach Mann. "She worked very hard for it. She was a very big part of our program. She has the intensity and the passion and the drive to do really big things. I am very excited for her. I love her and expect her to do great."

The Upstate Spartans are currently 2-11-1 but are a growing program. Hovencamp hopes to grow with them. Melanie also runs track (100m and 300m dash) in the spring.

"Beallsville Fire" Continued From Page 1.

the house.

Dolores Westerman, a neighbor, said that she happened to look out her window and saw flames. She then called a neighbor who had already called the fire department. Westerman said, "I think it's a horrible tragedy, a whole life destroyed."

Karen Young, the owner of the home, said that she had lived in the house for eleven years. She had been working on her computer when she decided to check on the fire in her wood-burning stove. When she opened the door, a hot coal fell out. She grabbed a shovel and took the burning ember to the front door with the intention of putting it in a bucket. When she opened the door, the strong wind blew the ember away, and she closed the door. About ten minutes later, she saw heavy smoke coming from the front porch and immediately

called 911.

Fire department officials determined that the origin of the fire was on the front porch and attributed the rapid spread of the fire to high winds. They said that the house was a total loss.



Melanie Hovencamp signs a letter of intent for her scholarship to South Carolina Upstate University with a bevy of fans showing their support.



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Business Briefs

Destination Poolesville: Room for More Businesses

The annual community/business fair sponsored jointly by the Community Economic Development Committee and the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce has some space available for more businesses to have vendor booths or to provide seminars. Time is running short, so don't miss out on this great opportunity to showcase your product or service to the greater Poolesville community. The day will feature vendors, seminars by businesses, and entertainment. Included in the entertainment will be demonstrations by Kicks Karate, the Midnight Players, Zumba, Denise Shores Dancers, and Hope Garden Ballet. Registration forms and all information are available at Poolesvillechamber.com.

Business Closing

Poolesville's Organic Market and Holistic Center made a decision to cease operations on Febru-

ary 15. Owners Dawa Dellamula and Dolma Johanison expressed their appreciation for the support they have received from the community. They considered expanding their product line, but determined that, for professional and personal reasons, the task would be too demanding on their time.

Dolma will continue her acupuncture practice elsewhere, and those interested can schedule appointments by calling 301-642-1759. They did state that the facility is practically a turn-key operation for any concern that might want to open a more general line grocery. Interested parties can contact them at 301-906- 8272.

Businesses on the Move

On March 1, Stephanie's Secret Gardens will be moving from its current location on Fisher Avenue in Poolesville next to Hearthside Gardens. The good news is she is staying in Poolesville, and her new address is: Willow Pond Farm, 15115 Mount Nebo Road. The expanded facility will allow her to offer more vintage accessories with room to grow.

Keith Hamilton of Wild Birds

Unlimited has moved from his Germantown facility to Clemson Corner Shopping Center in Frederick. The nature shop for aviary enthusiasts is located right across from the new Wegman's in Walkersville. He looks forward to seeing *Monocle* readers stopping by.

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Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

February 2, 1936 Mrs. Wilson Ward entertained at bridge at the Hungerford Tavern. Mrs. Emma Pyles of Poolesville was one of her guests.

February 4, 1931 A delegation of citizens from Poolesville, Seneca, and Potomac appeared before the county council. They presented a petition asking that Old River Road be improved from the end of the concrete highway at Potomac to a point near White's Ferry. They claimed that a better road would intersect with a new Virginia highway that was planned.

February 5, 1936 A heated discussion was held at the Farm Bureau meeting in Rockville. Of particular concern was the proposed repeal of the anti-steel-trap law. Citing an increase in vermin,

the bureau asked that a Number Two-style trap be inscribed with the owner's name and be visited once every twenty-four hours.

February 7, 1936 The Poolesville, Barnesville, and Dickerson Homemakers Club met at the Poolesville School. Miss Edythe Turner, county homemaker agent, was in attendance and gave an address.

February 9, 1930 The University of Maryland freshman team defeated Poolesville High School, 34-13.

Ruble scored five points for Poolesville while Elgin, Rubble, Hough, and Ball added two points each.

February 14, 1934 Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Knill gave a delightful Valentine's Day party at their home. About forty young people attended.

February 16, 1930 A 165-acre dairy farm near Poolesville sold for \$12,500. It had been owned by

William Dowd.

February 18, 1934 The senior class girls of the Poolesville High School Home Arts Club were studying child care. They gave a unique party where they each invited a mother and a child as guests.

Material for this article was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post.

"Rande(m) Thoughts"
Continued from page 4.

friendly experience. Yet, its completion is still many years in the future. Is there room for senior living facilities? How about a moderate office building to employ more people that would augment weekday spending? Do these ideas threaten our beloved small town experience? What do you think? Maybe you have a few ideas of your own. Now is the time to rally a consensus on the direction our town needs to follow. Now is the time to speak out if you have something to offer. A good place to start is to simply email your thoughts to the commissioners, or post your idea to monocleonline.com.

Local News

The ?th Annual Poolesville Day

By Rande Davis

Planning for the 2012 Poolesville Day festival had its official launch at a February 1 committee meeting at the Poolesville Town Hall. Under the new leadership of Faith Etheridge (chair) and Gina Beck (co-chair), the committee got off to a robust organizational agenda with one glitch to handle. It seems that somewhere along the way, the actual start date of the festival was misconstrued.

Recently, Frank Austin, the first chairman of Poolesville Day, notified the committee that the first festival was actually in the fall of 1992. It's not often that one can relive an anniversary, but the 2012 Poolesville Day will be the twentieth and not the expected twenty-second. Over the years, various dedicated individuals have passed on the baton of leadership for the festival. In

addition to Austin, the committee is aware that Linda Nessul, Jay Schwartzman, and Jake Perkins have chaired the event in the past. Hopefully, more information on other leaders or participants will be found so a more complete history of the event can be established.

This year, the committee welcomed Gabi Jacob (committee secretary), Sharon Armstrong, Cliff Branscome, Paul Hooper, John Rolls, and Link Hoewing as new members. Returning from last year are Cathy Bupp, town Event Coordinator, (exhibitor chair), Skip Etheridge, Kevin Schramm, Mike Bupp, Michael Shapiro, Brenda Sneed, Lynne Rolls, and Rande Davis. Davis was able to ward off a challenge to his coveted position as the official port-a-potty coordinator using the slogan, "Waste not, want not."

The group is looking for more individuals to come forward to join the committee, volunteers for specific tasks along the way, and, especially, volunteers to help out on the day of the event. Interested persons can contact Poolesvilleday@yahoo.com.



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Destination: Poolesville Community/Business Fair 2012
Saturday March 10 • 10am-2pm • Poolesville Baptist Church

Arrive in our community!

Stop outside to dispose of your confidential documents at the **shredder truck** sponsored by Corporate Network Services and clean your house of old electronics at the **Electronics Recycling truck**. Then, head inside to get your passport and visit the vendor booths. Submit your stamped passport for \$25 raffle prize drawings.

Vendors: ACS Relay for Life (Soup), Biejo Bags, Brightwell Crossing(face painting), Calleva, Capital Fence, Corporate Network Services, Dave Ashley Signs, Gail Lee Homes, Glad-I-Yoga, Hilary Schwab Photo(GS cookie sales), Historic Medley District, Hope Garden Ballet, Jamison Real Estate, Kunzang Palyuil Choling, Poolesville Day Committee, Poolesville Library, M&T Bank, Old Oaks Tea Parlor, Pampered Chef, Paoletti Construction, Drs. Pike & Valega, REMN Jeff Stempler, Stephanie's Secret Garden, The Twisted Cone (food and ice cream), WC Insurance, Weave on Studio, The Wooley Queen, **Plus more!** Admission is free!

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"Now You Know" Seminars

- 10am - 10:30am** One True Beauty: Inside and Out Inner Bliss Designs
- 10:30 - 11:00am** Relief for Itchy Eyes Poolesville Vision Service
- 11am - 11:30** Peace of Mind: Funeral Preplanning Hilton Funeral Home
- 11:30am - Noon** Demystifying Yoga Glad-I-Yoga
- Noon - 12:30pm** Buying? New vs. Resale Kettler Forlines Homes
- 1pm - 1:30pm** Estate Planning Thomas McCartin Law
- 1:30 - 2:00pm** Hand-Tied Floral Bouquet Stephanie's Secret Garden

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- 1pm - 1:30pm** Hope Garden Ballet




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HOURS

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TUESDAY	7:30AM - 6:00PM
WEDNESDAY	7:30AM - 6:00PM
THURSDAY	7:30AM - 6:00PM
FRIDAY	7:30AM - 7:00PM
SATURDAY	9:00AM - 12:00PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Tues., Feb. 21 5:30-7:30
Pancakes, eggs, sausage, etc.
Proceeds benefit WUMCO

Ash Wednesday Services
Wed., Feb. 22 6:30 am and 7:30 pm

Healing Eucharist with Anointing
Each Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Mystery History

A Spot of Beauty In More Ways Than One

By Rande Davis

Many readers have used the services of the county Beauty Spot on Jerusalem Road in Poolesville. In case you do not recognize the term, you may more readily understand its more commonly used name: the dump. Perhaps you have dropped off old appliances and other unwanted items and in doing so drove through the gates and around a white building that didn't give you any cause to think much about it at all. The next time you go, and as you sit in your car waiting your turn to unload your junk, look back at the building and recognize in it a mysterious reminder of a bygone era—an era of such radical change, that, in retrospect, it was beautiful.

Had you been there anytime between 1925 and 1949, the building that now supports solid waste, refueling, and other county services, would have looked much different. Instead of dumpsters, you might have seen a children's playground and young students playing gleefully outside on break from a more serious task that awaited them inside.

You see, the white building in question was the Poolesville Colored School, and while the Monocle has previously reported

on its existence (Fifty Years Ago: The Integration of the Poolesville School by Jack Toomey), there is even more to the story as to how that school came into existence. It was a remarkable and cooperative effort by Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald, a gentleman who once was the president of Sears Roebuck, & Co.

In 1912, Washington approached Julius Rosenwald, who had recently joined the Tuskegee Institute's board of trustees, with the notion of a rural school building program as a major effort to improve the quality of public education of African Americans in the early twentieth century South. Like other philanthropists of the time, Rosenwald was fascinated by Booker T. Washington. He agreed wholeheartedly with Washington's philosophy of black self-help, as well as the Tuskegee Institute's industrial program. The building was also one of 4,977 schools throughout the South

known at the time as Rosenwald Schools.

The Rosenwald School story begins with Booker T. Washington, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, now Tuskegee University. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Washington preached a gospel of self-help for black southerners that emphasized economic advancement through vocational education. Washington attracted support from black and white Americans who agreed that economic and educational needs should be ad-

dressed first in a long-term drive for equality.

At first, Julius Rosenwald gave Booker T. Washington permission to use some of the money he had donated to the Tuskegee Institute for the construction of six small schools in rural Alabama which were constructed and opened in 1913 and 1914. Pleased with the results, Rosenwald then agreed to fund a larger program for schoolhouse construction based at Tuskegee.

-Continued on Page 22.



This building on Jerusalem Road in Poolesville is recognized by many as the offices for the Upcounty Beauty Spot. Are you aware of its special role in county education history?



Poolsville Presbyterian Church

Lenten And Easter Services

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Poolsville, MD
301-972-7452
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Lenten and Easter Services

Ash Wednesday: February 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday: April 1 Services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday: April 5 - Agape Feast/Communion at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday: April 6 - Fellowship at 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Worship at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Services: April 8

Easter Sunrise Service

(Hosted by Boyds Presbyterian, on Sugarloaf Mountain)

Easter Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.

Easter Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.

School News

JPMS Wins \$7000 in Wellness Competition

School employees throughout the county formed teams in a fitness and wellness competition entitled MCPS on the Move and Work It Circuit. The twelve-week fitness challenge had over 4,600 registered competitors who collectively registered 30,721 hours of exercise, burning more than thirty million calories—the equivalent to losing more than 8,500 pounds.

Taking first place in the secondary education level was staff at John Poole Middle School. Kaiser Permanente awarded the school \$7,000 to be used for physical education equipment or to further health education excellence.

The JPMS team was especially motivated by school secretary Coree Ogden who was an inspiration with her enthusiasm and dedication to

daily exercising. While Coree helped to encourage the others, she found extra support from her husband, Raymond, who often joined her on her daily walks. Coree told *Well Aware eNews*, an MPCPS online publication on health matters, that she was ready for the challenge after a rough year with losses in her family and having to undergo surgery herself. She is excited that she can now put on her wedding ring and especially enjoys playing with her two young grandchildren at the park. "They love their 'new' grandmother and I am beginning to love her, too."

As an aftermath of involvement in the health competition, Coree has organized a twenty-mile walk at the end of March with a group of young women, ages twelve to eighteen. The girls and their leaders from her church will begin at 6:00 a.m. at the Washington Monument and then walk eighteen to twenty miles to the Mormon Temple in Kensington. "We are all currently training to prepare for this walk. The girls will dedicate their walk



JPMS exercise champs Darlene Umberger, Joy McIntyre, Mary Phillips, Coree Ogden, Winessa Crutchfield, Sharon Earle, and Lynn Becknell.

to a family member/ ancestor who has passed on. The purpose for this walk is to teach that we can do hard things if we prepare, do our best, and then never give up."

The JPMS team also included Lynn Becknell, Sharon Earle, Joy McIntyre, Winessa Crutchfield, Darlene Umberger, Mary Phillips, Kim Gerrie, and Amanda McGrew. For their efforts,

each member of the team was also given a relaxation spa gift certificate.

Tidbits



Shari Yesnick, a science teacher at JPMS, recently gained National Board Certification.

Yesnick Gains National Board Certification

The National Board of Professional Teaching Standards recently named Shari Yesnick, a science teacher at John Poole Middle School, as a National Board Certified Teacher. National Board Certification is awarded after the successful completion of an advanced teaching assessment program designed to recognize teachers who meet accelerated standards measuring effectiveness and accomplishment.

Of the estimated six million teachers in the United States, fewer than one hundred thousand obtain this certification. As part of the certification process, candidates complete ten assessments that are reviewed by trained teachers in their certificate areas, including evaluation of both content knowledge and teaching expertise.

Mrs. Yesnick joins JPMS teachers, Mrs. Arnold and Mrs. McIntyre, who have also earned

National Board Certification.

Help WUMCO by Dining out

By dining out on February 28, you can help feed a hungry family. Each year, a number of restaurants in Montgomery County agree to give a portion of their proceeds from their business for a specific day to a local nonprofit that provides food for qualified low-income families (the program is called Thanksgiving in February). In the Poolesville area, the participating restaurants are Cugini's and Bassett's, and the benefiting nonprofit is WUMCO-Help. That means a portion of your tab for a meal (ten percent or more) at either restaurant on February 28 will be given to WUMCO, which provides food to hundreds of worthy families every year.

Enjoying ourselves while helping to feed others less fortunate sounds like a win-win. WUMCO thanks Cugini's and Bassett's for their generosity.

WUMCO Food Collection

With the closing of Selby's

Market, WUMCO is developing new drop-off points in the area. Most area churches have drop-off points and use the first Sunday of the month as a time to encourage members to donate. The Town of Poolesville will be placing a collection bin in the town hall, and Finders Keepers on Fisher Avenue will have a collection bin inside and outside for the convenience of the public. They are also offering a ten percent discount on products purchased with the donation of three cans or dried food.

Calling All Yearbooks

Poolesville High School athletic director Ed Ross has found the following yearbooks missing from the school's collection: 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1971 through 1977, and 1984. If anyone has copies of these missing books that can be loaned or donated, please contact Mr. Ross at 301-972-7919.

To All Our Wonderful Friends:

I would like to thank all of those kind people who helped make my Retirement Party at St. Mary's Pavilion on the last Sunday in January so very special. Paula and I remain "in shock" over the huge number of folks who were able to come. We extend our deepest appreciation to the wonderful organizers, who did an amazing job, and to all of those who supplied the delicious cakes, pies and other good things. Thanks to those who took the time to write a note or letter, each of which is now a treasure for us. Most importantly, thanks for showing up. This incredibly humbling occasion will remain in our memories forever. We are reminded again of how lucky we are to live in such a special area.

Chet Anderson, DVM

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November and December – Wednesday – Sunday
Noon to 6pm Wine served until 5:30pm

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Things to Do

PAA Baseball and Softball Registration for 2012 Season

Baseball is open to boys and girls from ages three to fourteen; T-ball for three to six years old.

All games played in Poolesville. Girls' softball for ages seven to eleven. All games in Poolesville or surrounding community. Registration and information at paafalcons.com

PAA Girls' Youth Lacrosse

PAA girls' youth lacrosse will begin in late February. There will be practices two days a week during the season with games on the weekend starting in the middle of March.

The games are mostly on Sundays, and the team will be playing in the Metro Girls' Lacrosse League in Montgomery County.

Poolesville girls' lacrosse spring 2012 registration is now open. Registration forms can be found at www.paafalcons.com/girlslax. Registration will close on February 24, 2012. For more information regarding girls' lacrosse, please contact Vin Harkins at vinharkins@aol.com

February 17

PHS Girls' Basketball Home Game

Linganore High School 7:00 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Soap Box 9:00 p.m.

February 18

Couponer Class

Come learn tips of the trade from an experienced couponer. Poolesville's Sarah Broady presents such topics as: extreme couponing, myths debunked, realistic couponing expectations, and how to save fifty to seventy-five percent off your bill on a regular basis. Every participant will receive a coupon starter packet. Door prizes and giveaways. Bring a friend, earn extra door prize entries. Cost: \$20.00

Poolesville Baptist Church Family Life Center
Walk-ins welcome.

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Stu Judd and Brian White 9:00 p.m.

February 21

PHS Basketball Home Varsity Game

Quince Orchard High School
Girls: 5:15 p.m., Boys: 7:00 p.m.

All You Can Eat Annual Pancake Super

Featuring eggs, sausage, pancakes, chopped beef and gravy, and beverages.

Cost: Free will offering
Dickerson Methodist Church
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Pancakes, sausage, and eggs
St. Peter's Church
Donation
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

(Moved to Tuesday as Monday is Presidents' Day)
Town Hall 7:30 p.m.

February 22

Preschool Story Time

Poolesville Public Library
Each session begins with fun songs, two Bible stories, a simple craft, and snack.
Open to all 10:00 a.m.

February 23

Preschool (3-6) Story Time

Stories, finger plays, music, and other activities.
Requires parent/guardian.
10:30 a.m.

February 25

Spaghetti Dinner

To benefit Montgomery County Beef 4-H Club
St. Mary's Pavilion, Barnesville
\$8.00 in advance; \$10.00 at door;
children 8 and under, free
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

February 27

Book Discussion Group

Featuring Michael Tucker and Jill Eikenberry's memoir of life, love, and food in central Italy.
Poolesville Library 7:00 p.m.

Recycling – What's It All About

A forum sponsored by Poolesville Green to provide participants with an opportunity to discuss a wide range of recycling issues, including those involving plastics, paper,

batteries, electronic waste, and compact fluorescent light (CFLs) bulbs. What changes in Poolesville's recycling program would you like to see? Confused about the actual or perceived differences between policies of Poolesville and Montgomery County? Bring your questions and ideas about recycling in Poolesville. Waste management service companies, county, and town representatives are invited to share with other experts on recycling concerns.

Free

Poolesville Town Hall
7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
RSVP: PoolesvilleGreen@gmail.com, on the Poolesville Green Facebook page, or call 301-349-5052.

February 22 and 29

Café Connection

Wi-Fi and internet/computer assistance
Open to the public
Poolesville Presbyterian Church
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

February 29 to March 4

Curtains

The Theater Department at Montgomery College in Rockville will be presenting "Curtains." This may be the last time local talent Claire Jones will be on the stage in the area for a long time as she plans to finish her studies out of state. Ticket prices are \$10.00 for adults, \$8.00 for seniors and students. If interested, purchase your tickets quickly as these shows typically sell out.

March 2


Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: V6
8:30 p.m.

March 2 and 3

The Parenting/Faith Intersect: The Role of the Church and Parents

Host conference on how church and parents can work together in raising children; featuring guest speaker and author, Steve Wright.
Poolesville Baptist Church
Friday: 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Individuals: \$30.00, Couples: \$40.00



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ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22
Mass with Distribution of Ashes - 9 am, 4 pm, 7:30 pm

FRIDAYS OF LENT
Leave the Light On (Confession) - 7 pm
Stations of the Cross - 7:30 pm
Spaghetti Dinner - Family & Kid Friendly
(sponsored by Knights of Columbus) - 5 to 7:30 pm

BIBLE STUDIES
Sundays - 7 pm & Tuesdays - 10 am

All are Welcome!

What is Lent? *Lent is an important Christian season to prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent is the forty days before Easter. Lent begins Ash Wednesday and ends Holy Saturday (Christians do not include Sundays in the forty days because they celebrate Jesus' resurrection every Sunday).*

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"Generica" Continued From
Page 4.

so that the rest of us can have a Bassett's or a Cugini's to enjoy at other times.

One prominent local businessperson suggested that most people just don't care. They live here, but they don't shop here. They don't vote in town elections, and they don't go to town meetings. It's nice to have a grocery store, an organic market, a pharmacy, a hardware store, some

specialty stores and a few quality restaurants in town, but it doesn't really matter. It's a great place to live, and Generica is just a hop skip and a jump away. We can live out here, and still shop like everyone else. It's really a pretty good deal, unless you think it's more than just nice to have a viable business district in the town where you live, and you don't mind losing something unique and distinctive.

"Wrestling" Continued
From Page 6.

Field, who was varsity 130. I was behind him, and in the weight above me was Logan Wilson," he said. Despite not being varsity his freshman year, his favorite moment came that year. "I was a spot filler and didn't wrestle that match, but the team had a big come-from-behind win over Damascus. It was a really awesome moment. I was friends with a lot of the juniors and seniors. Being a small school, beating a power like Damascus was special." He also remembers going out to dinner with the team. "After a state tournament, we always go to Longhorn Steakhouse. That is always fun."

Robert, the vice president of the Class of 2012, has received a congressional recommendation for the Naval Academy. "My grandfather first sparked my interest in the Naval Academy. He graduated there in 1946," he said, wearing a Navy sweatshirt. "I remember hearing the stories. My cousins reinforced the idea. They were in the military and told me it was one of the best decisions they ever made."

"Part of my success this year has been our success as a team," said Winning. "We had a lot of guys coming back. We've been pushing harder. We've been practicing harder. The coaches have been pushing us more. It is definitely easier to win when your teammates are there with you." Winning, as in collecting wins, is what the team has done as well. After a season-opening loss to

Walt Whitman High School, the Poolesville wrestling team (11-3 overall) rolled to seven consecutive dual matches, before losing to Walter Johnson.

The Falcons, ranked third in the 2A/1A South Dual Meet Regional, defeated Clarksburg and Bethesda-Chevy Chase during the streak. In the 39-23 win at home against B-CC on January 11, Poolesville took the lead out of the gate, as David Frenlich edged Rahim Leys (3-2) at 132 pounds. Three bouts later, the Barons held a 10-6 lead, but Winning pinned Alex Matteson twenty-four seconds into the second period to give his team the lead, 12-10. Winning, Sam Dodds (195), Cesar Roque (285), and Justin Hansen (120) all recorded falls for the Falcons. Those falls, accounting for twenty-four points, were enough for the win. "The B-CC match was probably our best match of the season," said Head Coach Kevin Dorsey, "but our first big win was against Clarksburg. It was the first time we had ever beaten them." The Falcons defeated the Coyotes, 55-19, on December 13 at home, getting pins from freshmen Luke Maher (106) and Dru Corbeille (120), juniors Cody Dorsey (145), Sam Dodds (195), and Josh Womack (220), and seniors Michael Beliveau (138), Winning, and Ali Nejati (182). Senior Avery Garber (152) won by decision.

On Senior Day at Poolesville on February 4, the Falcons defeated undermanned squads from Kennedy and Wheaton, 79-0 and 75-6, respectively. The only match they lost was by forfeit.

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Though these were blow-out matches with a lot of forfeits, there were two thrilling comeback wins for PHS. At 138 pounds, Dorsey trailed early, 4-0, following an early takedown and back points scored by his Kennedy opponent, but he persevered, tied the match in the third period, and won, scoring a near fall just before the buzzer, 7-4. Earlier, at 106 pounds, also against Kennedy, Luke Maher fell behind, 5-0, before posting a fall near the end of the second period. Seniors honored were Winning, Jack McAleer (138), Beliveau (145), Avery Garber (152), Joseph Hart (152), Adam Ward (160), Nejati (182), and Cesar Roque (285).

At 5-0 in the division this year, the Falcons claimed the 4A/3A/2A title. Despite this success, they have had to overcome obstacles. Junior Cory Savage, the fourth-ranked wrestler in the MSWA preseason rankings was sick (enlarged spleen) and missed the season. He finished at 36-8 last year, placing second in the county tournament and fourth in the state. "Tyler Magaha (170) was having a great year, but he tore the meniscus in his knee last week, so he is done. That hurt," said Dorsey, who cited junior Will Korzeniewski (126, 132) and junior Cody Dorsey (138) as having really good years. "Beliveau had a good year. He got injured a little bit, but he is back now. Ali had a great year. "We were actually very good last year, but we were young. The year before, we graduated a whole bunch of seniors; we lost a lot of close matches. We should be in re-

ally good shape next year even though we are losing a lot. You expect to lose your best wrestlers. I think a lot of our younger guys are going to grow and step up. Some of our new guys and freshmen filled in nicely this year."

On February 9, the Falcons ended the dual meet season by competing in the regional dual meet championship at Glenelg High School and were defeated by second-ranked Oakland Mills (12-4). The county championship will be Friday and Saturday at Blair High School. There, the Falcons will face the top county wrestlers in their weight classes. The following weekend, the top eight wrestlers in each weight class in the region that qualified for the regional tournament will face off at Marriott's Ridge in Ellicott City. The top four finishers will qualify for the state tournament the following weekend at Cole Field House of the University of Maryland, College Park.

Center Stage

**Gypsies,
Werewolves, and
War! Oh, My!**

By Dominique Agnew

The setting for *Paw* is night in the Balkans during the sixteenth century. A cool mist looms over career soldiers as they take a break from the dangers of war in their employment of Duke Friedrich, hunting the wolves that threaten his flock. Suddenly, two wolves make their appearance, and the soldiers engage in a brief skirmish. One soldier dies, the two wolves suffer injuries and retreat. The leader of the soldiers, Markus, after embedding his sword in the flesh of a wolf, quickly follows the trail of blood so as to retrieve his sword. Markus descends in to the crevices between the rock, turns a corner, and finds...what, are you expecting a vampire? Come

on, the title of the article gives it away!—a werewolf. This isn't some little twilit teen romance about leeches. This is a story about soldiers, war, the Eastern Europe just following Medieval Times, and the sweeping changes of history—with a little help from the paranormal. The whole storyline can't be revealed, but suffice it to say the other werewolf lives just long enough to give birth and entrust the care of the pups to a gypsy on whom they imprint. Exactly—gypsies, werewolves, and—you get my drift.

Poolesville author George Crawford knows something about war; he knows a bit about soldiering; he can speak knowledgeably (in English and Russian) about the Balkans, Kosovo, and the whole region. As a recent retiree from the air force who spent many years stationed in Europe, George can write from firsthand knowledge. As for the rest, well, he did a bit of research.

Like many novelists, George frequently finds himself answering the question, "Where did you come up with your ideas for your

story?" Here we have it, an author's closely-guarded secret revealed: One evening, in his humble home in the quiet town of Poolesville, George sat on his comfortable couch watching a nature program with his wife, Traci. Remember the story about the geese that imprinted on the girl, and she had to fly them south? Yes, that's the one. Why would a military man watch a nature program? Because his wife loves baby animals. Naturally, thanks to a plastic, battery-powered remote control device, George and Traci were able to also watch a horror movie. Probably, George and Traci's conversation veered from the weather to



Local author George Crawford

work that day to their children's activities. At some point in their dialogue, Traci—not knowing the flame her words would spark—innocently asked, "What if a baby monster were to imprint on a person like the geese did?" George countered with, "What if it were a baby werewolf—cute and furry?"

-Continued on Page 21.

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"In the Garden" Continued
From Page 5.

our expectations prove true, and other years, we might be surprised with our experiments. When I was in Cape Town, South Africa a few years ago, I fell in love with the agapanthus plant which grew everywhere from roadsides to well-manicured gardens. I planted it in a container so I could put it in a protected area for the winter. For

three years now, every summer it has put out beautiful, green foliage but no flowers. Maybe this year I will be rewarded with violet-blue flower heads. This new guide map might expand the approved array of plants for a zone. This is a good opportunity to experiment with truly unique and unusual plants.

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“Solar Energy” Continued
From Page 1.

another green initiative by hearing a presentation by Joseph Inglis of SemaConnect on installing vehicular electric recharging stations in Poolesville. SemaConnect, an Annapolis-based manufacturer of the recharging station system, produces a model that costs \$4000.00 and uses eighty cents per hour to recharge a vehicle. The charge for the services currently ranges up to \$2.50 per hour. Additionally, SemaConnect has a \$20.00 per month service fee which includes a 24/7 help monitoring service.

Joyce Breiner, deputy executive of Poolesville Green, a local nonprofit organization founded to promote the appreciation, conservation, and sustainable use of natural resources, reported that while the number of electric-powered cars in Poolesville is currently only a handful, the main benefit would be in establishing the town as a location for electric car owners from outside the town who would then be comfortable visiting the area knowing the recharging station was available.

Guides for locations of recharging stations are available to all such car owners through either systems within the car or various apps.

While interested in making the service available, Kuhlman

voiced disappointment that it would require the \$4000.00 investment and asked the town manager to research to determine if other companies make the system available at no cost to the town but earn their revenue from the users of the service. Any decision on the recharging stations awaits those findings.

The town meeting continued with further discussion on the next phase of town charter revisions regarding the positioning of boards and commissions. The current town charter includes regulatory direction of specific boards, and town attorney Jay Gullo has recommended that the charter authorize such committees, but that the ordinance process is more appropriate to provide the regulations governing their role.

Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski objected to removing committees by name from the charter and reconstituting them through an ordinance. Specifically, he raised concern that should the Parks, Recreation, and Streets Committee be removed from the charter, the town could, in the future, dismantle it.

“Center Stage” Continued
From Page 19.

The seed, planted in 2010, immediately took root as George began to research his geographic area and the time period. Three weeks of research helped the story percolate, then two weeks of writing, and he had his first draft. “I got a flow once the words started coming,” he said. “I didn’t know how the story was going to end. I was as curious as the reader.”

George joined the League of Extraordinary Authors in the Herndon area as the only Marylander in the group. He asked other members to read his draft and came away with very useful feedback. “I adopted every suggestion they made.”

He finished *Paw* this past fall, then it sat snugly on his hard drive. If it weren’t for the brilliance of the women in his life (well, women, in general), *Paw* would still be sleeping in his computer. Traci had the temerity to say, “You know, nobody’s

reading that on your hard drive.” George conceded that this was a good observation. Concurrently, his sister and his daughter, both avid ebook readers, encouraged him to publish electronically. He did. His sister, a graphic artist, created the cover for him. He learned how to format, and *Paw*, at 95,000 words, is available through Amazon. George sold over two hundred copies in January without doing any sort of marketing or publicity. “I don’t want to be famous,” he avers, “I just want to write books.”


George is already at work on two other novels. The next one, *Soldiers of the Night*, which he hopes to have out by summer electronically, is a paranormal techno-thriller. “Think Tom Clancy and Anne Rice,” he says, “and combine them.” Yes, this one has vampires. *Soldiers of the Night*, again set in the Balkans, takes place in the 1990s—“right when I was there.” He’s working on edits and revisions right now. The third is a straight techno-thriller centering on counter terrorism, tentatively entitled *The Penitent*.

George draws heavily from his twenty-three years in the air force. Technically, it was a career, but he prefers to say it was his calling. “I can’t imagine having done anything else,” he says. “I loved it. I loved every minute of it. I loved the people. I loved the smell of the flight line. The only thing I can’t believe is that I got paid to do it.”

“I got to do good in the world,” he continues. “I saw people weeping with joy because they got to vote in Kosovo.” He says that if he hadn’t joined the military, he would be a Kansas farmer. “It was something I was meant to do.”


George now works for Archimedes Global, Inc., a national security consulting firm in Northern Virginia—oh, and he writes fiction in his spare time. “I don’t do this to make money. I do it because I love it.”

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“Baltimore Museum of Art”
Continued From Page 3.

plaques near the individual pieces, or their narrated descriptions on (free) audio self-guided tours, are informative and inclusive, not using off-putting terms or specialist language. True, no one is going to like or remember all the art he/she sees, but even I remember one or two: the massive, brooding *The Thinker* by the French sculptor Auguste Rodin, a large religious-themed panel by Tiffany — a piece that takes my breath away time and again when the afternoon light shines on its stained glass.

Let’s see, what have I forgot-

ten? Well, there’s the sculpture garden, lovely in any season, a gift shop with well-chosen items in a wide price range, and the in-house restaurant, Gertrude’s, specializing in Chesapeake Bay cooking, especially seafood. Of the latter, I overheard people say they were tempted to “lick their plates.”

And the good news? Admission is free to all. The museum’s website says some special exhibits may charge admission, but during my two recent visits, there was no charge for any of several wonderful ones. Go—and say hi to the lions for me: www.artbma.org; 443-573-1700.



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“Mystery History” Continued
From Page 13.

In 1917, he set up the Julius Rosenwald Fund, a Chicago-based philanthropic foundation, and in 1920, the Rosenwald Fund established an independent office for the school building program in Nashville, Tennessee. By 1928, one in every five rural schools for black students in the South was a Rosenwald School, and these schools housed one third of the region’s rural black school-children and teachers. At the program’s conclusion in 1932, it had produced 4,977 new schools, 217 teachers’ homes, and 163 shop buildings, constructed at a total cost of \$28,408,520 to serve 663,615 students in 883 counties of fifteen states.

African Americans had to contribute cash and in-kind donations of material labor to match the Rosenwald grant. By far, the largest source of funding was tax funds. The county school board had to provide public support, take ownership of the new school

property, and commit to maintaining it as part of the public school system.

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