

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

June 1, 2012

Volume IX, Number 7.



There were lots of happy winners with Global Ecology projects at the Izaak Walton League. The details are in School News on page xx.



You may not know this soldier, but you may recognize his drawing. To find out more, read Mystery History on Page 13.



A familiar face is serving as co-chair for Poolesville Relay for Life 2012. Read more in Tidbits page 7.

**First Sunday for
WUMCO**

Area churches collect non-perishable food items and donations for the WUMCO Food Pantry the first Sunday of each month.

Help WUMCO assist those in our area who need our help.

State of State Report to the Town

By Rande Davis

All State District 15 representatives attended the May 21 Poolesville town meeting to provide its annual end-of-session report to the commissioners.

The state delegation chairman Brian Feldman led off the report by presenting a recap of the results of the special session called by Governor Martin O'Malley. The special session followed the passing of a so-called Doomsday Budget by the general assembly at the end of the regular session. The doomsday moniker has been used to describe the proposed additional \$512 billion in spending cuts targeted to balance the state's budget (the general assembly is constitutionally mandated to balance its budget each year).

Among the proposed cuts in the budget from the regular session were: elimination of the Geographical Cost of Education (GCEI) grants (\$128.8 million), reduction of educational

funds provided to school districts by state formula (\$70.9 million), reduction of agency operating expenses by eight percent (\$50 million), reduction of funding to state public universities by ten percent (\$38.5 million), reduction of funding to community colleges by ten percent (\$19.9 million), reduction of grants to private colleges and universities by ten percent (\$3.8 million), elimination of state employee Cost of Living Adjustments (\$33.8 million), elimination of five hundred state jobs (\$30 million), and reduction of funding to the library and state library network system (\$5 million).

Emphasizing the success of Maryland K-12 education by pointing to its number one national ranking, Feldman expressed the goal to maintain that success as a reason why the legislature voted to increase taxes on the wealthiest fourteen percent of Marylanders

gotten. Poolesville finished 9-8, overall, and 5-0 in the division. A mid-season five-game winning streak buoyed the PHS season effort. An 11-6 win at Watkins Mill on April 25 clinched the fourth straight division title for Head Coach Laurie Wohnhas's squad.

In the top of the first, Alexa Raines walked, and third baseman junior Essence Scott blasted a run scoring a double. Watkins Mill scored two in their half of the inning and two more in the home second to take a 4-1 lead, but the top the fourth featured



The District 15 State Delegation and their hosts from the Town of Poolesville: Delegate Brian Feldman, Delegate Aruna Miller, Commissioner Eddie Kuhlman, Delegate Kathleen Dumais, State Senator Rob Garagiola, Commissioner Jim Brown, Commissioner Brice Halbrook, Commissioner Chuck Stump, and Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski.

(single persons making more than \$100,000 or couples making more than \$150,000). He pointed out that the remaining eighty-six percent of Marylanders will not have an increase in income taxes.

The delegation's report also stated that the action in special session saved 1,300 teacher positions, limited university

two Falcon home runs, and the game belonged to the Falcons. Junior Julia Duncan singled, and shortstop junior Kelsey Carnahan belted a homerun over the left field fence. Raines and Scott added back-to-back singles, and first baseman senior Amy Defnet smashed a homerun over the fence to give the Falcons a five-run inning and a 6-4 lead. The Falcons added another run at the top of the fifth. Junior Kelly Hughes walked, and senior Jenny Patton sacrificed Hughes over

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PHS Softball 2012 True Grit and Another Division Title

By Jeff Stuart

Despite losing star senior pitcher Patti Maloney (torn ACL) just before spring practice, the Falcons softball team persevered. Junior Jennifer Haller (twenty-nine strikeouts) and sophomore Madison LaManna (twenty-six strikeouts) got lots of pitching experience they might not otherwise have

Family Album



This crew from Landscape and Nature Discoveries, Inc. volunteered their services to clean roadsides and beautify downtown Poolesville by planting flowers donated by Gardens by Garth. Amanda Warfield, Debbie Warfield, Garth Seely, Sean Lyons, and Evan Habib.

Lauren and Gail Lee were celebrated by friends for their appearance and success on NBC's The Biggest Loser show.



Poolesville Green provided free rides in the fully-electric Nissan Leaf during Springfest.




A beautiful day, fun games for kids, entertaining music, great barbeque, and some beer and wine tasting drew a large crowd for Poolesville's Springfest 2012.




Rabbi David Shmeyer (second from right) leads an organization committee for a new senior center at the Am Kolel Sanctuary in Beallsville. The ecumenical service is joined by a number of area churches in advancing the center to be called The Gathering Place.

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Daytripper

Take Part in the Sailabration!

By Ingeborg Westfall

No, I'm not getting overly creative with language. Sailabration refers to an upcoming week-long event in Charm City itself, Baltimore. Planned for the week of June 13 to 19, Sailabration is part of the celebration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. It begins June 13 with the arrival of more than thirty-six vessels, including U.S., British, and Canadian Navy ships along with tall ships from several countries (the U.S., Ecuador, Colombia, Indonesia, and Mexico). From June 14 to 18, free tours of the naval vessels and tall ships will be offered. Additional festivities include Angels over Baltimore on June 16 and 17, featuring the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels. On those same two days, there will be a Star-Spangled Festival with U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine, and U.S. Coast Guard aircraft on display at a nearby airport.

I visited the Inner Harbor and Fort McHenry in late May, and even without the Sailabration, it's definitely an area where everyone can find as much to do in a day as his or her energy will allow. When I mingled with the crowds, I could well believe the statement on a street sign that credited Baltimore's Inner Harbor with welcoming more visitors annually than Disney World. Its many shops and wide range of eateries, from burger places to pizza to

seafood and pubs, make it hard to explore it all in a limited time. Plus there's the National Aquarium and any number of harbor cruises. I'm usually indifferent to such sightseeing boat rides, but the one I went on offered an entertaining and informative narrative describing the places we passed and their parts in America's history.

Of course, one of the best reasons to visit the Inner Harbor, anytime, is to experience Fort McHenry. In August 1814, the British were attempting to capture Washington, D.C. and Baltimore. Their efforts in Washington were successful and the Capitol and White House were burned. The flames, in those days before electricity, were visible in Baltimore forty miles away. Three weeks later, a fleet of nineteen British Naval vessels and five thousand soldiers moved on Baltimore, known as "an anti-British hotbed." Around daylight on September 13, 1814 and continuing through a night of lightning and rain, the British Navy carried out a bombardment of the fort with bombs, rockets, and cannonballs, some 1500 shells. Baltimore citizens watched from Federal Hill, wondering if their city would be torched as well. One of the volunteers at the fort during the battle wrote, "We felt like pigeons tied by the legs to be shot at."

Another American watching as he was held under British guard on a truce ship on the Patapsco River was a Georgetown lawyer, Francis Scott Key. Even if we're all familiar with the rest of the story, it's worth reviewing it at Fort McHenry. Run by the National Park Service and

with a newly-renovated Visitor and Education Center, the fort provides a real feel for this part of our nation's history. I found the introductory video moving, the exhibits and printed information engrossing. Park Rangers offer tours and talks throughout the day. After one of their talks, you'll remember the size of that large flag (forty-two feet by thirty feet), what it was made of (wool bunting), where it is now (the Smithsonian National Museum of

American History), and who was paid around \$405 for its making (Mary Pickersgill).

If you're looking for a fun and educational way to celebrate this summer, look no further than Baltimore's Sailabration. As the saying goes, it has something for everyone, and there's lots more scheduled than I've been able to mention here. For more information, visit www.StarSpangled200.com.

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Commentary

Memorial Day

By John Clayton, Jr.

For many of us, and I hope most of us, Memorial Day is a very moving time. We remember those who have passed on before us, and especially those who have given their lives, in sacrifice, for going to war to preserve our freedoms. I won't try to improve on the dozens of sentiments I have read over the years about this (as if I could), but I wanted to observe the day in some way to honor and remember those who have gone into the madness and horror of mortal combat for our benefit. They live and perhaps die in experiences that the rest of us, no matter how well it is explained, can only imagine.

My father, John Clayton, Sr., fought in World War II. He was an infantryman in the 14th Armored Division and fought his way through France and into Germany from late 1944 to the end of the war. He usually carried a Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR), an automatic weapon, typically carried by one member of a squad of about a dozen men. Along the way, he was in the Battle of the Bulge, and in other large-scale engagements remembered vividly by many, if not by the rest of us, and was in a combat unit until the end of the war. He remained in Europe for a period afterwards, as was the custom. While he is an accomplished writer, holder of a doctorate from Yale, and a former university professor and telecommunications executive, he only recently wrote down many of these memories. I decided to present a small sample in tribute to our troops in service and in combat, now and then.

I almost never saw the big picture, as during a barrage I was too busy trying to get the rest of me inside my helmet. I do remember being on a ridge and looking out at a tank battle going on. It was pretty hairy—these huge pachyderms ponderously moving back and forth as they fired, their shells skipping across the field as the target had moved or suddenly

turning into a ball of fire. Never envied tankers and hated being around them. They drew fire.

Of course, that's the way my platoon thought of me. The Jerrys would very rapidly identify my automatic fire, zero in, and respond with mortar fire, which is how I lost several ammo bearers. The mortar rounds had a thirty-yard killing range that was funnel shaped, so if you were flat, your chances were pretty good. I had one hit so close, I could reach out and touch the blackened crater in the snow. May have been the one that hit my first ammo bearer, Warren Valenze from Staten Island, with a small fragment in the head. I've told the story many times—how I took off his helmet and used the bandage from a pouch we all carried to wrap around his head, how we were ordered to pull back to the relative safety of a ditch beside the road, how I squirmed backward in the snow, unable to drag Warren, and finally dropped with my BAR into the ditch with the rest of the platoon, including our seriously-wounded platoon leader, a lieutenant, and our seriously-wounded platoon sergeant, and how one of our sergeants, D'Arilio, said to my squad leader, Sergeant Barnhardt, a cabinet maker, "Barney, you're senior, I guess you're in command," and how Barney—who like all of our non-coms had been in the National Guard—shook his head, saying, "It's all yours, D.A.," and how D.A. proved to be a superb combat commander, and how the medic in our ditch tried to reach Warren twice, but each time was driven back by the volume of fire that made the trip suicidal, and how as he sheltered beside me tried to speak, but couldn't, so he took out a small notebook, wrote in it, and showed me what he was unable to say: I tried.

I do still dream a fair amount.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I would like your readers to recognize a neighbor who has contributed much to making this a better community—mostly entirely out of the limelight. That neighbor is Cherise Pranievski, and the community service I am talking about is her tenure as a member of the WUMCO Board from the mid-nineties until her resignation in January of this year.

Excerpts from a letter of gratitude that the board sent to Cherise recently notes some of the extraordinary contributions that she made to WUMCO's work in serving the less fortunate among us:

During your long service on the Board, you were active and involved in so much of our work that it would take a far longer letter to mention all of them, let alone describe their significance in our ability to meet the emergency needs of hundreds of local individuals and families.

We recall your efforts to orga-

nize the part of the Walks for the Homeless in the schools some years ago that were sponsored annually by Fannie Mae. As the community affairs representative of Covanta, you were the advocate for our programs that translated into thousands of dollars of monetary and in-kind donations from the company. For many years, you worked tirelessly to bring joy to hundreds of needy youngsters at Christmas time in a variety of capacities: picking up Toys for Tots from the Frederick marines; as "shopper" to ensure that suitable gifts were provided to every needy child; as the one who spent literally dozens of hours each holiday season in sorting and preparing the toys and staffing the distribution site. For years, you saw to it that a suitable prize was donated by Covanta to support our raffle at Poolesville Day and often helped man the booth.

We could easily expand on this list, but of at least equal importance was your role in the

-Continued on Page 21.

Local News

Town Government Report

By Rande Davis

Commissioners Approve 15% Increase in Water Rates

The Poolesville Commissioners approved a fifteen percent increase in town water rates. In doing so, they rejected their own earlier proposal to set a quarterly sewer fee of \$15.00 per tap per quarter. The commissioners had introduced the fee as a way to help minimize a subsidy that transfers funds to the town's Water/Wastewater (W/WW) budget from its general fund. The new water rates are anticipated to balance the W/WW budget and eliminate the subsidy practice.

After hearing from residents who objected to the fee as being unfair to small water users, the commissioners instead voted to raise water use rates so that all users will pay only based on their own personal level of consumption.

For many years, the annual W/WW budget fell short in revenue from sales of water and had to receive a grant (subsidy) from the town's general fund to cover a deficit.

One reason for the deficit is that lower level users of town water have had rates below cost. Some opponents to the subsidy also point to non-taxpaying properties (schools, churches, and the county pool) that are not being charged a fee for Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) within the W/WW budget.

Those opponents argue that it is unfair to taxpaying property owners to not charge a fee to the tax-exempt proper-

ties. While all properties (taxpaying and tax-exempt) pay for water used, only property taxpayers contribute to the water treatment plant CIP costs.

It has been proposed that the town could charge tax exempt users for CIP costs either through a separate fee or through a similar process used for taxpaying properties.

One reason why previous commissions chose not to extract CIP revenue from the churches, schools, and pools is that most of their members, students, and swimmers already contribute to the CIP costs through their personal property taxes.

The new water rates are anticipated to balance the W/WW budget and eliminate the subsidy practice.

In addition to the new fifteen percent increase in water rates, the commissioners also discussed automatically authorizing a potential increase in rates of up to two percent based on operational costs of the water and sewer system. This would be an ordinance change requiring a public hearing. These costs can fluctuate for various reasons due to weather, cost of supplies, etc.

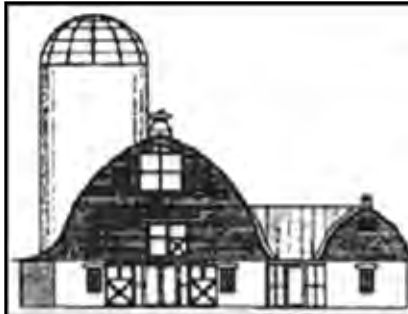
The approved new water rates are as follows, per thousand gallons used: -

For 0 to 30,000 gallons, the rate increases from \$7.05 to \$8.11; for 30,001 to 40,000 gallons, the rate increases from \$7.90 to \$9.08; for 40,001 to 50,000 gallons, the rate changes from \$8.73 to \$10.04; and over 50,001 gallons used, the rate increases from \$9.58 to \$11.02.

FY2013 Budget Approved

With final adjustments to the proposed town FY13 Budget that includes the new water rate

-Continued on Page 20.



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

June 2012

"Protecting our rural legacy"

How to contact us:

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association

James Choukas-Bradley, President

Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road

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Visit our Web site: www.sugarloafcitizens.org

Change at the Helm

I have completed my first month as the new President of the Sugarloaf Citizens Association (SCA), and I love what I see. I find an organization that is strong, committed, nimble, tuned in, and dedicated, with a growing membership that is representative of the diverse perspectives of the residents of the Sugarloaf area.

The SCA has been an advocate for the protection of the rural character of Sugarloaf Country since 1973. Under the stewardship of our outgoing President, Anne Sturm, SCA has continued to thrive and has grown in important ways. Her shoes will be impossible to fill, but I vow to do my best to follow in her footsteps. As immediate Past President, Anne remains a member of SCA's Executive Committee, and I will rely heavily upon her for advice and counsel.

(SCA's well attended Annual Meeting at Linden Farm on April 28 with keynote speaker County Council member Craig Rice was covered extensively in the Monocacy Monocle's May 4 edition).

Sugarloaf's 4th Annual Plant Swap at Linden Farm on May 12 under the leadership of Board Member and Land Committee Chair Ellen Gordon, was a great success.

On May 21 I had the honor of presenting SCA's awards to graduating seniors from Poolesville High School's Global Ecology Magnet Program, under the leadership of the Ag Reserve's own Joyce Bailey. The B-CC chapter of the Izaak Walton League hosted several community members and organizations to recognize the outstanding environmental projects completed by graduating seniors. SCA awarded several projects for their potential contributions to the health and well-being of the Ag Reserve and presented recipients with a copy of Sugarloaf Regional Trails' book, Circling Historic Landscapes and a small stipend. Check out the winners on SCA's website, www.sugarloafcitizens.org.

I will be reaching out to many of you in the Ag Reserve community for input, insight, and involvement in the coming weeks and months. Should any of you wish to contact me, I would welcome talking with you. Please feel free to send me an email at jchoukasbradley@mbolaw.com, or call me at SCA's office number (301) 349-4889.

Paid Advertisement

Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Disorderly conduct complaints: 18000 block of Cattail Road, 17500 block of Kohlhoss Road, 19600 and 19700 blocks of Fisher Avenue, 19800 block of Westerly Avenue, 16700 and 23300 blocks of White's Ferry Road, 18600 block of Bucklodge Road, 16600 block of West Willard Road.

Historical Crime

June 1, 1932 A Washington chauffeur was charged with manslaughter after a three-car wreck in Hyattstown. Police said that the chauffeur's car first stuck an oncoming vehicle and then went out of control and struck a man standing beside a parked automobile.

June 4, 1932 Judge Peter declared in a Circuit Court hearing that most defendants who came before him had been the products of a broken home. He then sen-

tenced two Washington youths to ten months in the penitentiary for the robbery of a couple who were parked on a secluded portion of the Conduit Road. At first, the young men claimed that they had been robbed; but, after questioning by officers, they admitted that they had intended to rob the couple, but the woman in the car had produced her own gun and then shot one of them in the hand and the other in the abdomen.

June 5, 1932 A Cabin John man was arrested after he fired a shotgun at two teenaged girls. The man said that he had warned the girls about trespassing on his property. When they came over to feed the ducks in a pond, the man fired, striking both girls in the legs.

June 18, 1933 Police Officer Webb Hersperger was killed when his police motorcycle was hit head-on while he was driving on the Darnestown Road near Quince Orchard. Hersperger, a Poolesville resident, was on his way to work the day shift at the Bethesda station. He was the second Montgomery County officer

to be killed in the line of duty.

June 21, 1932 A Bethesda man was charged with perjury after changing his testimony in a Circuit Court trial. The man had told officers that he had been robbed by two unknown men while driving on Persimmon Tree Road. He also said that he had purchased whiskey from a resident of Glen Echo. Police raided the home of the Glen Echo man and seized a quantity of whiskey. At the trial, the robbery victim denied that he had purchased the whiskey. Judge Woodward ordered him held on a charge of perjury.

Some of the material in this column was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post.

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Local News

**Relay for Life
Excited for 2012**

With only a few days left before the 2012 Poolesville Relay for Life (PRFL) at Whalen Commons, the organizations are anticipating a strong showing and level of support from the community. Already, PRFL has nearly 250 participants and twenty-seven teams. They will need a bit of an energetic push in these last few days to reach their goal of \$50,000. Funds raised at last count were just over \$36,000, but with some last-minute donations and supporters, they can make the goal.

This year Bob Dorrough and Roy Selby will be the Honorary Chairs of The American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Poolesville 2012. Together they will help PRFL attendees Celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, Remember loved ones lost to the disease, and Fight Back against a disease that takes too much.

On November 1, 2011, Bob

Dorrough was diagnosed with mesothelioma, a rare type of cancer that primarily affects the lining of the lungs, but can also affect the heart, abdomen, and other organs. Through the efforts of his doctors and nurses, friends, family, and endless prayers, Bob's cancer has remained stable. Bob is the father of Chontelle Hockenbery and Chrissie Harney, the co-chairs of the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Poolesville. Bob first joined this fight to Remember his wife, Glenna Dorrough, who lost her battle to liver and lung cancer in July 2005.

In 1995, Roy Selby was diagnosed with prostate cancer and underwent surgery at Johns Hopkins hospital in Baltimore. Throughout the years, Roy has maintained a treatment plan that has kept his cancer at bay, until December of 2011. His PSA numbers were on the rise, and doctors felt it was time to take a different plan of action. Through the efforts of his doctors and nurses, friends, family, and endless prayers, Roy's PSA numbers continue to drop and maintain a good level. Cancer has touched his life in a very personal way and he continues to Fight Back.

Cancer has touched the lives of Bob and Roy in a very personal way

and they continue to Fight Back and, together, PRFL will Celebrate their journey along with many others'.

If you haven't made your PRFL commitment or donations, there are number of ways to help. First, you can find a team to make a donation to by visiting the PRFL website: www.PoolesvilleRelay.org.

Another way to help is to participate in Paint the Town Purple Days (June 4 through June 9). Residents and businesses are encouraged to decorate their properties in purple and to collect donations from neighbors or customers by using Relay for Life "Feet" or "Cupcakes" which are special cards that can be displayed in store windows. The suggested donation is three to five dollars. Purple ribbons can also be purchased for decorating as well. All proceeds contribute to help reach the goal.

The event's opening ceremonies will be June 9 at 2:00 p.m. with the Survivors' Lap. There will be performances and activities for persons of all ages throughout the day. From 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., there will be a concert by

Kenny Ray Horton, and then from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., the Rock-N-Roll Relics will perform.

New this year is a NOVA blood drive from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Luminaria Ceremony begins at dark on Whalen Commons. This event encircles the park with candles glowing in bags, each with the name of someone who passed due to cancer or who is surviving the disease. This is a wonderful and simple way to contribute and can easily be done at the last minute.



Poolesville Relay for Life co-founders, Chontelle Hockenbery (left) and Chrissie Harney (right) hug the honorary co-chair for 2012, Bob Dorrough.

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June 2 - 8:00 p.m.

FELIX SOHO

June 9 - 8:00 p.m.

RON KEMP

June 15 - 8:30 p.m.

SOOKY JUMP

June 16 - 8:00 p.m.

JAY SUMMEROUR, ERIC SELBY, AND BILLY T.

June 22 - 8:00 p.m.

JAY SUMMEROUR AND ERIC SELBY

June 23 - 8:00 p.m.

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Things to Do

June 1
 Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre presents:
 Pas de Dudes – Where country meets classic
 Under the artistic direction of Fran Ichijo, featuring guest performers from the Kirov Academy, Point Park University, and Bowen McCauley Dance. Performances can sell out early, so tickets should be purchased as soon as possible. For more information, visit www.HGBCT.org.
 Poolesville High School Auditorium
 Adults: \$10.00
 Students: \$7.00
 7:00 p.m.

Bingo – Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary
 Featuring Longaberger baskets filled with extras, Vera Bradley bags, and cash. Twenty games, specials, door prizes, and raffles. Refreshments are available for purchase. Do not bring outside

food or beverages.
 Doors open: 5:30 p.m.
 Games: 7:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$20.00

Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: Smoke N Mangoes
 8:00 p.m.

June 2
Annual Community Yard Sale
 Dickerson Methodist Church
 Loads of second-hand goods and plenty of food
 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: Felix Soho
 8:00 p.m.

UMCVFD Pig Roast
 Dinner of pulled pork, beef, beans, coleslaw
 Fire hall at 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville
 Sandwich: \$5.00
 Platter: \$7.00
 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

John Poole General Store and Museum
 Visit the first commercial estab-

lishment in Poolesville built in 1793. Featuring local historical Civil War and Native American artifacts on display.
 Free
 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

June 9
Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: Ron Kemp
 8:00 p.m.

June 9 and 10
Poolesville Relay for Life
 Annual fundraising event for the American Cancer Society. Join the PRFL teams as they walk the park in tribute to those lost to cancer and those surviving with cancer. Games, activities, music, food, and performances.
 Whalen Commons – Poolesville Opening Ceremony and Survivors' Walk – 2:00 p.m.
 Music Performance:
 Kenny Ray Horton – 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
 Rock-n-Roll Relics – 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 Luminaria – Dusk
 Sunday Closing Ceremonies at 7:00 a.m.

June 9 through 16
58th Annual Carroll Manor Fire Company Carnival
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June 15
Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: Sooky Jump
 8:00 p.m.

June 13 to June 19
Star-Spangled Sailabration
 An international parade of ships will sail into Baltimore on June 13 to launch Star-Spangled 200 marking the bicentennial of the War of

-Continued on Page 21.

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In the Garden

Pesticide Linked To Colony Collapse Disorder

By Maureen O'Connell

Bees are back in the news, and the information is alarming. It focuses on the possible cause of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). In 2005, beekeepers and farmers in the United States and Europe noticed a dramatic decline in the number of honeybees. Some were reporting losses of thirty to ninety percent of their hives. This is not the first time we have seen significant loss of bee populations; but, today, losses are different. The main symptom of CCD is simply no or a low number of adult bees present in a hive; there is a live queen and no dead bees in the hive. Often there is still honey in the hive, and immature bees are present. The loss is due to uncharacteristic bee behavior: Adult bees are failing to return to

the hive as if they have lost their navigational abilities. Those left in the hive will starve to death without the worker bees supplying the hive with food.

Many studies have been conducted to find the cause of this disorder, but none were conclusive. Viruses, fungi, mites, insecticides, and stress were offered as explanations. One theory was that the bees were being killed by cell phone signals; specifically, the transmissions were interfering with the bees' navigational abilities. In the end, there still was not enough cause-and-effect connection to pin the problem to any one factor. Now, you might ask, what the significance of some bees dying is. This situation is bad news not just for honey lovers. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), one third of the United States (U.S.) food supply depends upon pollination from bees. The economic value of bees in the U.S. is estimated at \$14.6 billion; to the world economy, it is \$212 billion.

There has not been much

new information about CCD until recently. In the May 22, 2012 issue of *The New Yorker Magazine* there was an article entitled "Colony Collapse Disorder and Pesticides." It mentions Dave Hackenberg, a Pennsylvania beekeeper, who was one of the first people to draw attention to CCD. He did not believe that the causative factor was a virus, a fungus, a mite, or stress. He blamed it on a new class of pesticides called neonicotinoids. In hindsight, many noted scientists think that he was onto something.

Neonicotinoids are synthetic analogues of the natural insecticide nicotine. They were developed in the 1990s and are commonly used in agriculture and backyard gardening products. The specific pesticide is imidacloprid. They are fast-acting systemic insecticides that disrupt the nervous systems of the insects that destroy crops or the flowers in your garden. How do they affect bees? Bees can be exposed to this highly-toxic substance in two ways: through nectar from plants or through high-fructose corn

syrup. The nectar is toxic because the corn seeds or other seeds are commonly treated with imidacloprid before being planted. Being a systemic pesticide, it is taken up by the vascular systems of the growing plants. Many beekeepers feed their hives with corn syrup after harvesting honey. The syrup is made from corn crops which have been treated with imidacloprid, and the cycle continues.

Three fairly recent studies have implicated neonicotinoids, and specifically imidacloprid, as the direct cause of CCD. British scientists published in the journal *Science* the results of a study which raised bumblebees on a diet of pollen, some of which had been treated with imidacloprid. The colonies receiving the treated pollen showed significantly-reduced growth rates and produced fewer new queens. In April, the results of a more accusatory study conducted by scientists at the Harvard School of Public Health were released.

-Continued on Page 16.

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NEW LISTING at 18340 Cattail Road, Poolesville, MD 20837 - 26.196 +/- acres with a 4 BR Craftsman style home surrounded by plenty of wide open, fenced property. Perfect for the equestrian enthusiast - it has a 4 stall barn, 4 run-in sheds and fenced pastures. Also has a built-in pool and hot tub. Has solar panels on the house and barn and its own wind mill to help keep the costs down. The beautiful timber-framed home has a spacious and inviting open floor plan. Please call for more information and to see this wonderful property! Offered at \$1,299,000



NEW LISTING at 6786 West Stonewall Court, Adamstown, MD - This 2 story 4 BR all brick home sits on 3.15 +/- acres and is just a half mile from historic Buckeystown, MD and a short distance from Frederick. It's situated in a small neighborhood subdivision on a cul-de-sac street. Please call for more information and to see this beautiful home! Offered at \$469,000



Clarksburg-Hickory Hill: Just listed! Well-maintained 3BR. 2.5 bath rambler on .62 acs.; finished basement w/ kitchenette, dining area, living rm/bedrm & level walk-out exit. Fresh paint throughout. Oak floors on main lvl. Little Bennett GC & Park only 1/4 mi. from home. Clean quiet neighborhood. MLS#MC7800047. Offered at \$329,000.



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School News

Award Recipients for The 2012 Global Senior Projects

In a ceremony at the chapter house of the Izaak Walton League of America's Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter in Poolesville, local civic organizations presented awards to students for their senior projects in the Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School. Each of the groups present selected their own awardees. The IWLA B-CC Chapter also gave one thousand dollars to each of its award winners.

Lathrop E. Smith Outdoor Education Center

Lindsey Newingham for her outstanding work in environmental education.

Montgomery Countryside Alliance

First Place: Katie McFall and

Taylor Karlin for their photobook on the C & O Canal

Certificates of Merit went to: Lexi Klein, House in the Woods Community Supported Agriculture (SCA); Jennifer Price, original research on equine parasites; Mariyam Sheidu, Kripa Shyamakrishnan, and Kunying He for their work with microcredit; and Megan Connaughton, environmental education.

IWLA-BCC Chapter

Hope Dunlap for her documentary on the Billy Goat Trail at Great Falls.

Lindsey Newingham for her outstanding work in environmental education with special needs students.

Betty Rosenbaum for her outstanding work in environmental education.

Tariq Beidleman and Jordan Psaltakis for their original research on American Chestnuts, "American versus Chinese Chestnut Tree Genetic Variants and Growth."

Huy Lam for his original research on Auroral Kilometric Radiation.

Katie McFall and Taylor Karlin for their photobook on the C & O Canal.

GenOn Energy

Taylor Karlin and Katie McFall for their photobook on the C & O Canal.

Ricardina Maita and Emma Stevens: Removing Invasives/Planting A Meadow at Little Bennett Park.

Nicholas Stopak: Bay Grasses and Shad Raise and Release Program

Maddy Chin and Crystal Clauser: Environmental documentary, "The American Chestnut Tree: An Insider's View Point."

Robert Fitzgerald: Certifying My Yard As a Natural Wildlife Habitat.

The Forestry Board

Maddy Chin and Crystal Clauser for their Environmental Film: "The American Chestnut Tree: An Insider's View Point."

Tariq Beidleman and Jordan Psaltakis for "American vs. Chinese Chestnut Tree Genetic Variants and Growth."

Amy Defnet and Rebekah Miller for long-term tree study and "Adopt-A-Tree at Poolesville High School."

Karthik Ganesuni for "Comparison between Vernal and Permanent Pools in Hardwood Deciduous Forests of the Mid-Atlantic."

Alexander Pike for "American Chestnut Test Plots and Demonstration Orchard."

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association

Jennifer Price: "Your Horse Just Might Have a Parasite."

Karthik Ganesuni: Comparison between Vernal and Permanent Ponds in Hardwood Deciduous



Emma Stevens and Ricardina Maita were among the winners at the Izaak Walton League B-CC Chapter.

Forest of the Mid-Atlantic.

Tariq Beidleman and Jordan Psaltakis: "American vs. Chinese Chestnut Tree Genetic Variants and Growth."

Amy Defnet and Rebekah Miller: Long term tree study and Adopt-A-Tree at Poolesville High School.

Alexander Pike: American Chestnut Test plots and Demonstration Orchard.

Carrie Cheug: Green Wall original research.

Amy Clayton and Sophia Stypeck: Hydroponics, Victory Garden and Rainscapes.

Monocacy Garden Club:

Ricardina Maita and Emma Stevens: Meadow Restoration at Little Bennett Park.

Anna Clayton and Sophia Stypeck: Hydroponics, Victory Gardens and Rainscapes.

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Foundations of Monocacy

Mount Carmel

By Elisa Graf

The Smiths' house is over on Wootton Avenue, the Joneses live out 117 in that big old house, and we just love to shop at that little antique shop in downtown Clarksburg. We drive through Barnesville and Dawsonville without even stopping to think about the millions of people who have passed through the same intersections for hundreds of years. What were their lives like? Why were they here? How have the businesses they started, the buildings they constructed, and the games they played affected our lives today? I hope that with this new column, we can dive into the past and discover how the foundations laid by the founding fathers of the Monocacy area have created what we know as today.

Our first adventure back in time is to visit an old plantation. Mount Carmel sits along the east side of Route 28 headed from Beallsville toward Dickerson, just beyond Martinsburg Road. It is not clear what parts of the puzzle-like home were built first, but it is clear that they all date back to the late 1700s to early 1800s. The evolution of the home is evident from its facade. The main building is a two-story sandstone structure joined to the west with a smaller one-and-a-half-story wood frame house. Around the back on the north side of the main house is a one-and-a-half-story stone kitchen. Attached to the frame structure are two one-story stone buildings. There is also an additional stone building once used as slave quarters just beyond the main house.

From the beginning, Mount Carmel has always played an important role in the history of the Monocacy area as have the families that lived within its walls. In 1799, Hezekiah Veitch helped divide Montgomery County into five election districts which included the Medley District in which much of the Monocacy

area is located. Thomas Veitch, a relative of Hezekiah, was the first to own the land on which Mount Carmel stands today and, most likely, was the first to build on that land in the late 1700s. Thomas was a justice of the second county court, a slave owner, and a successful tobacco farmer. At this time, tobacco was one of the most popular and successful crops in the region.

Thomas passed the plantation down to his daughter Mary and her husband John Trundle before the turn of the nineteenth century. The Trundles continued to add onto the home and grow tobacco on the land. In 1816, their daughter Mary was born. She inherited the plantation along with her husband Richard Gott in the early nineteenth century. They raised seven children at Mount Carmel. Their daughter, Sarah, born in 1837, left the plantation to marry a well-known local Civil War hero, Elijah Veirs White.

Records suggest that Mary and John continued to pass Mount Carmel down to their children, and that it played a small role in the Civil War. On September 9, 1862, the plantation hosted Colonel Stonewall Jackson just before the Battle of Antietam. There must have also been some sort of skirmish around the plantation as there is a "miniball" from a Civil War-era gun embedded in one of the exterior walls.

Sometime during the mid-nineteenth century, as many plantation owners and farmers found, the tobacco crops were seriously depleting the soil of its nutrients, and the crops were failing. The Gott family decided to switch their crop to wheat and built a small grist mill south of the home along the Little Monocacy River. The plantation seemed to be thriving. In 1862, as many as nine slaves were working on the land, in the mill, and in the home at Mount Carmel; however, as the

-Continued on page 18.

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Tidbits

PHS Continues to Shine in National Rankings

Poolesville High School has once again been recognized for excellence by major publications.

The *Washington Post's* Challenge Ranking placed PHS at #54 nationally and #1 in Maryland.

Newsweek/Daily Beast ranked the nation's top 1000 schools and placed PHS at #81 nationally and #1 in Maryland.

U.S. News surveyed nearly

22,000 schools for their Best Schools article and placed PHS at #105 nationally and #4 in Maryland.

It's a Hole-in-One-Again!

Congratulations to Ross Koeser of Poolesville in getting a hole-in-one at the Norbeck Country Club on May 23.

Playing from the senior tee on the third hole, he used a hybrid six iron for the 150-yard shot. Even more remarkable is that this was his third ace.

Musings from Mama Boe

Particular Bottoms

I participated in a 5K recently.

Don't be impressed, I walked the entirety. I think it's easier on my arthritic knees to walk, but if we're going to be honest, even before my knees were arthritic, the only thing that truly might make me break into a run would be if I were late for dinner or something equally as stressful. Now that I think about it, I'd still run for that—or at least powerwalk (I haven't missed a meal since sixth grade, and I'm not about to start now).

During this 5K, I noticed that yoga pants are apparently what one wears to this kind of event now. Not \$5.00 cotton knit shorts from Kmart (with holes). This poses a problem for me because I like the \$5.00 cotton knit shorts from Kmart: They are roomy; they are stretchy; and they hide the multitude of past sins which currently reside on my thighs and hiney.

Yoga pants are clingy, and when you are a big gal like me, clingy is bad—very, Very bad—and then if you add fast movements like running, which in turn causes jiggling within the clingy stuff: Oh Dear.

Have you ever studied physics? Do you know the concept

of inertia? Objects at rest like to stay at rest; objects in motion like to stay in motion. I am afraid if I started motion down where those pants are, it would take a serious amount of effort to get it to stop. Dare I say, Herculean.

I don't want to take that risk.

Let's be honest here. I have never set foot in a house of yoga in my life (or is it yoga studio? Yoga gym? What do they call those places?). I would feel like such a hypocrite—and, please, anyone looking at me in a pair of yoga pants would be like, "Uh, yeah. Riiiiight, lady. Like you could even touch your toes on a bet."

Well, hey, I could probably do it for chocolate.

Anyways, no, I'm not going to be jumping on that particular bandwagon and buying yoga pants. I will stick with my *el cheapos* from Kmart, thank you very much.

Though I might spring for a new pair—without the holes.



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Mystery History

The Mystery of The Map

By Rande Davis

Have you ever seen the hand-drawn map of Poolesville during the Civil War that accompanies this article? Framed copies hang in a number of businesses in the area and can be found in even more homes. It is intriguing in its detail and answers quite a few questions about the town, the local roads, and the military encampment at the time, but it also raises other questions. Who drew it? Is it accurate? Why was it drawn? What ever happened to the troops garrisoned here? What was life like for the troops living here at the time? In addition to these questions, most people do not know that there are a number of peculiarities about the map, and even one big error made by the artist.

During the Civil War, between troop movements and actual confrontation with the enemy, soldiers living in encampments faced long periods of boredom. Playing games such as cards, checkers, dominoes, and chess along with telling tall stories and singing songs helped to pass the time. Keeping diaries and writing home were also major activities during these lulls in action.

It was not uncommon for family members of soldiers to make a visit to their camp during these times and bring gifts and supplies to their loved ones. These items would have been things that had a touch of home or were in dire short supply. Often they were goods

that were important for better health, such as patent medicines for self-doctoring, tourniquets, and handkerchiefs. Other non-regulation items were purchased by the troops from regimental sutlers, a term that describes the private sector suppliers of goods who followed the army.

The artist was John W. Sturtevant (pictured on the front page). He had plenty of time to draw this detailed map during the colder, quieter days of December just before Christmas. He drew the map to mail home to his family. He was a first sergeant in Company G of the 14th Regiment of the New Hampshire Infantry. He advanced in rank through the war. He became a second lieutenant in May of 1863, first lieutenant in January of 1864, and finally a captain in January of 1865. He was wounded twice in September 1864 at Opequan, Virginia.

When the 14th New Hampshire left Poolesville, they had their first battle on September 19, 1864 at Winchester, Virginia. In that battle, the unit had eight officers killed and five wounded. This tragic loss of the officers in just one battle placed the unit among the leaders of Federal regiments in this regrettable category. I think we can safely assume that that these unfortunate circumstances played a major role in Sturtevant's rapid promotions.

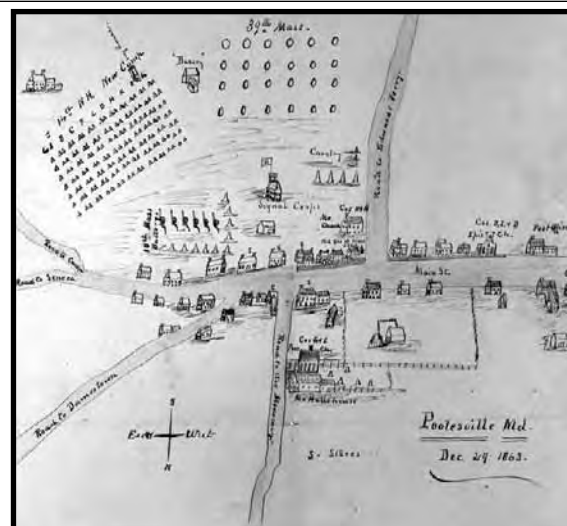
It took nearly 115 years for the map to find its way back to Poolesville. Dr. Francis A. Lord, an American history professor specializing in the Civil War and whose maternal grandfather served in the 14th New Hampshire, eventually became the owner of the map, and his estate sold it to the Historic

Medley District.

Regarding the peculiarities in the map, perhaps the most important to note is that one of the major roads leading into town does not exist today. On the map it is marked, "road to Dar- nestown," and at first glance, many think it is Fisher Avenue, but it is really Coxen Road. While Coxen Road no long exists, a part remains on Whalen Commons.

That small section is named Beall Street and is the location of the Poolesville Town Hall. During the Civil War, Coxen Road continued its path into town directly behind what is today Finders Keepers and advanced directly in front of the John Poole General Store.

On the map, the artist made one very personal note that is a bit hard to notice and provides the answer as to why he drew it in the



This Civil War-era map of Poolesville was drawn by a soldier in the 14th New Hampshire Infantry.

first place. In depicting the tent locations of the various companies of the 14th just above the mark for the location of G Company, the artist left a tiny personal note intended for his family, simply stating "my home." I guess if you can't buy a post card, the next best answer is

-Continued on Page 15.

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Local News

Look Who Came to Dinner

By Kristen Milton

Poolesville school officials recently made another attempt to discover if the way to an education board's heart is the same as to the proverbial man's: through the stomach.

As at past meetings, school cluster members treated visiting Board of Education members to a full sit-down meal at cloth-covered cafeteria tables during their May 14 visit to the town rather than the finger foods more usually served at such events, but in spite of pulled pork, collard greens, and homemade desserts, Poolesville Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski said the group received little encouragement on the issues foremost on its list of concerns. "I think the answers were the answers we were hoping

not to hear but kind of expected to," said Klobukowski, the event coordinator.

Board of Education members cycle visits through the schools regularly, making a stop in each cluster approximately every three years. "Board members really enjoy meeting with PTA members," school board member Pat O'Neill (Dist. 3) said in a phone interview, "having a snapshot that's a little longer than the three- or four-minute [budget] testimony."

Poolesville is unique in the spread provided by PTA funds. "We've always thought if they come out this far, we ought to treat them a little more special," said Klobukowski, who serves as the town commission's education liaison.

"Poolesville has long had a tradition of feeding us well," O'Neill said. "Board members enjoy that since they may be coming straight from work, and it's nice to be fed like that rather than cookies."

The May 14 event included student performances and a high

school tour before attendees—including cluster representatives, school principals, and others—settled in for a question-and-answer session. Familiar concerns raised included expanding the accessibility of courses offered elsewhere in the county, fast-tracking the high school modernization now set for 2021, and finding ways to increase the cluster's population either through transfers or boundary changes.

Poolesville Elementary School PTA president Tiffany Ayers said tour leaders made sure to point out the high school's "too-small cafeteria" as well as nails showing through the gym roof and other challenges but were advised to support efforts to keep the current modernization schedule on track.

O'Neill said the cluster's desire to advance the modernization was her key impression of the meeting. "It's really a question

-Continued on Page 20.

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"CW Map" Continued From Page 13.

to draw your own.

It is clear he did not draw the map for strategic reasons but for personal use, but in mailing it home, he made a major breach of security. The map could have been quite valuable to Confederate troops who occasionally harassed the Union soldiers during their stay here. On the other hand, since Poolesville was primarily a confederate sympathizing town, there could have been any number of residents willing to supply the information to southern troops.

Another peculiarity is that, unlike most maps, north is at the bottom of the map not the top. Was this because the regiment was in a defensive posture located as a barrier against attack on Washington and poised to be readily able to move toward Virginia or simply because it is the bird's eye view for his intended recipient: his family up north?

According to historian Francis Lord, the artist made a mistake in writing the date as December 29, 1863. Lord has determined that the unit left Poolesville prior to this date and did not return. If it was December 29, 1862 not 1863, perhaps the error was the kind that can be easily made at the time of yearly transition from one year to the next.

This map depicts one of the most important eras in Poolesville's history, a history that this year is marked by the 150th anniversary of a significant skirmish in the Poolesville area. That story will be told in a later edition of the *Monocle* closer to its September date.

Note: Information for this article was obtained from the archives of the Historic Medley District and comes from an article written by Dr. Francis Lord in the May 1973 issue of *New Hampshire Profiles* and from filed correspondence between HMD and Dr. Lord.

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“Pesticides” Continued From Page 9.

Their research suggests that “nerve-agent pesticides cause a huge drop in the number of queens and disrupts the bees’ ability to find their way back to the hive...Leader of the study, Professor Alex Lu, claims to have found ‘convincing evidence’ that imidacloprid is the likely culprit for the sharp decline since 2006 and the phenomenon known as Colony Collapse Disorder in which adult bees abandon their hives.” Over the course of study of twenty-three weeks, ninety-four percent of the bees in hives exposed to imidacloprid died.

In the past several years, many countries in Europe have banned the use of this class of pesticides as a precautionary measure. The results have restored bee populations. Where does the U.S. stand? There is no ban. CCD remains a mystery in the U.S. for too many people. Many of the studies of CCD have

been conducted by the agrochemical industry and companies who manufacture these suspect pesticides. The German agricultural giant Bayer markets these nicotine-derived chemical pesticides. This seems a lot like hiring a fox to guard the chicken coop. On the May 11, 2012 *Nightly News* with Brian Williams, he spoke about research conducted by Purdue University that indicated that neuro-active insecticides chemically related to nicotine may be the potential cause of CCD. In this report, Dr. David Fischer, Bayer CropScience Environmental Toxicologist, denied the connection between neonicotinoids and CCD.

September 2012 will be the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of Rachel Carson’s book, *Silent Spring*, her seminal study on the effects of pesticides on wildlife. What little we have learned.

In *Silent Spring* Rachel Carson said this about systemic pesticides:

The world of systemic insecticides is a weird world, surpassing the imaginings of the brothers Grimm. It is a world where the enchanted forest of the fairy tales has become a poisonous forest. It is a world where a flea bites a dog and dies ... where a bee may carry poisonous nectar back to its hive and presently produce poisonous honey.

“The hives were dead silent,” Lu, the author of the Harvard

study, said of the boxes of bees treated with imidacloprid. “I kind of ask myself: Is this the repeat of *Silent Spring*? What else do we need to prove that it’s the pesticides causing Colony Collapse Disorder?”

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"State of State Report"
Continued From page 1.

tuition increases to three percent instead of thirteen percent, avoided double-digit increases in tuition to community colleges, and saved 15,000 scholarships for Maryland students.

Delegate Feldman reported that Maryland saw 49,000 private sector jobs created within twelve months, and this is part of the reason why the state has a relatively low 6.6 percent unemployment rate (5.5 percent for Montgomery County) and is ranked eighth in the nation.

Feldman also discussed the proposed shifting of the cost of teacher pensions from the state to the counties. He expressed the state's frustration in being responsible for pension costs while county school boards set teacher salaries without any state involvement.

The final decision changed from having the counties pay the pensions to having them share those costs with the state. The plan is to phase in the county contribution over a four-year period. The process will eventually result in the counties' paying for one-third of the pension costs.

In her part of the presentation, Delegate Kathleen Dumais, after accentuating the difficulties of the legislative sessions, pointed to the non-budgetary accomplishments in Annapolis and, in particular, to a right-to-counsel bill that was passed through her role as vice chair of the Judiciary Committee.

The bill addresses the prob-

lem of accused misdemeanor violators who did not have the benefit of legal counsel and who have ended up in jail up to thirty days or more. Under this legislation, accused misdemeanor violators who face a potential penalty of ninety days in jail or less will instead receive citations and will be released until proper counsel has been obtained and their case properly adjudicated. Her legislation allows for exceptions to the citation process for certain egregious misdemeanors (most often of a sexual nature) so as to address public safety concerns.

Delegate Aruna Miller, in her first appearance at a town commissioners' meeting, reported on other legislative accomplishments that came from the Ways and Means Committee on which she sits. First, she reported on legislation that changed the allowable age to drop out of high school from sixteen to eighteen. The objective of the bill is to reduce the number of the 9,500 students who drop out of Maryland high schools each year.

She also reported on a new family farm preservation act that reduces the tax burden on farm estates from sixteen percent to five percent.

She concluded her remarks by expressing her appreciation for a recent tour of Poolesville High School and expressed her concern for the "holes and cracks in walls, rooms without windows, students eating lunch by sitting in hallways," but pointed to the limitations of a state delegate regarding such issues, observing that such concerns are the province of the county boards

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of education.

Senator Rob Garagiola, for his part, reiterated some of that which was presented by the delegates but added to the presentation by highlighting that the state government increase in revenue is smaller than the overall cuts, that there has been a net decrease in state employees, and that the reduction in retirement pensions and the special session resulted in real "belt-tightening."

He expressed disappointment in state transportation funding but expressed the hope that expansions in gambling and table games would allow some of those funds to go to transportation infrastructure needs.

Senator Garagiola also spoke of the state's leadership role in alternative energy, expressing particular support for solar and wind energy. He stated his expectation that within an eight-year period, solar energy could be equivalent to traditional energy and even be competitive with it. He expects alternative energy to have a positive effect on the cost of traditional energy sources

by reducing overall demand for those sources of energy.

In responding to the concern of Commissioner Kuhlman over the town's reduction in State Highway Transportation funds (the town previously received as much as \$220,000 per year while it is currently projected to receive only \$43,000), Senator Garagiola told Kuhlman that the state highway funds to municipalities cannot be increased as the state does not have enough money to meet its own transportation and highway needs. He added his opinion that an increase in the state's gas tax will become necessary at some point.

Commissioner Klobukowski articulated that the state is not doing enough to cut costs, pointing out that the sacrifice and challenge in the private sector has resulted in unavoidable job loss and that state employees should not expect to be exempted from the pain of recessions and a poor economy.

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GREAT GIFT IDEA

“Mount Carmel” Continued
From Page 11.

once again sits unoccupied.

Civil War came to an end and the industrial revolution was about to be in full swing, times were obviously changing. The Gott family would continue to farm the land in and around the area, but in 1910, the grist mill ceased its operations. According to the 1900 U.S. Census, John S. Gott was still farming in Barnesville, and while he did not own slaves, as it was no longer legal to do so, he did still have two servants living with him and his family.

Mount Carmel is an incredible example of the agricultural history of the region from the nineteenth century. Many other homes and buildings give us a tangible link to this past, and, with a little digging, we can uncover what we are missing even as we unknowingly encounter it every day.

Elisa Graf has been living in Poolesville since July 2011. She has a Bachelor's degree in Art and Architectural History from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a Master's degree in Historic Preservation from Georgia State University. Elisa is passionate about uncovering the past that we encounter in our day-to-day lives that we might otherwise never know exists. If you have questions about a specific historic property that you would like to see featured in, "Monocacy Foundations," she can be reached at foundationon-themonocacy@gmail.com

As the early part of the twentieth century wore on, Mount Carmel was abandoned and fell into disrepair. The Miller family rescued the home in the mid-twentieth century, and by 1973, the home had been completely restored and reconstructed. That year, it was surveyed by the Maryland Historical Trust and added to the state's list of historic properties. It appears that since then, Katherine Hallambauer has also owned Mount Carmel and briefly used the land for farming in the late 1990s. Sadly, today it



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Youth Sports

PHS Boys' Tennis Moves Toward the Top

By Jeff Stuart

"Our season so far has been very good with excellent performances from both our singles and doubles lineup," said senior boys' tennis team captain Sean Dao, with his team at 4-0 before the spring break. "Our first singles (Freshman Dennis Wang) has been extremely dominant with very few games lost in any of his matches so far and no sets lost. We attribute our success to hard work both off the court and on the court. Our players have been very active during the off season and have worked very hard to improve for this season. Our biggest match was against Springbrook. That was one of our tougher matches. We lost second singles. We didn't expect their first couple of singles

players to be that good, but we pulled through and got a 6-1 win. Dennis pulled through 6-3-6-2. We are pointing to the Sherwood match because we lost to them last year, and that put us out of the running for division champions. Quince Orchard and Sherwood have been notoriously tough for us." The Falcons defeated Watkins Mill, Einstein, Springbrook, and Rockville in the early going.

The Falcons returned from the break with a match at home against Quince Orchard on April 11. They were without Wang who was participating in a tournament in Los Angeles. Dao's first doubles partner was also missing that day. It was sunny but cool when the match began, and PHS seemed to be doing well. A few matches were completed, then rain and sleet forced the remainder of the match to be postponed. The match was resumed some ten days later with QO the apparent winner, though the results are in dispute due to a differing QO lineup than the one that began the match. Quince Orchard moved down to Division II last year.

For the Falcons, Wang and junior Andy Neti are first and second singles. Senior captain Rahul Rangunathanand and junior Prateek Mechineni are third and fourth singles. Junior Cory Lathem and Vinay Sriram are first doubles. Dao and junior Neel Viridy are second doubles, while Michael Liu and Nick Kibbey are third doubles.

The Falcons won at Blake on April 12 and lost at Churchill on April 14, 6-1. Against Churchill, Dennis won a tough match in

three sets against their first singles, Will Szamosszegi. Neel and Sean took Churchill's second doubles to a second set tiebreak and lost.

PHS swept Clarksburg, 7-0, at CHS on April 20; lost to RMHS at home on April 24; and beat Sherwood at home on April 26 to move their record to 8-2. Head Coach Holly Dacek played at Churchill and the University of Arizona.

"Dennis is looking forward to the counties and hopes to go far," said Dao.

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“Town Government” Continued
From Page 5.

schedule, the commissioners approved the new budget.

Changes to the final budget from the last public draft include updated revenue and expenditure figures, cancelation of an employment position in the water department, holding off of any new hires, increased Chesapeake Bay and administrative fees, and data on revenue from the speed camera.

In the final budget, the commissioners approved the West Willard sidewalk project and \$7,500 for a new market survey at the request of the Community Economic Development Committee that is designed to help identify and attract new business opportunities. Jerry Klobukowski was the only commissioner to vote against approval of the new budget.

Assistance Sought for Economic Development

Seeking to advance the economic prospects of the town

and to provide new employment opportunities, the commissioners approved a proposal to contract for consulting services with Orion Ventures, LLC (Orion) whose CEO is former county councilman Mike Knapp.

Orion is tasked with the objective to seek new strategies for economic development of the town, to identify businesses and industries most conducive for town economic growth, and to recommend possible governmental incentives and marketing tools to help attract the targeted prospects. Once an economic development plan is established, Orion, working with town representatives, will establish a pathway to reach the established goals, one of which is to increase daily employment in the community by 75 to 150 employees.

An example of opportunity to be explored by Orion would be Poolesville’s unique position in the Ag Reserve which might be advantageous in attracting agricultural firms and services or related

environmental education and institutional programs.

While the initiative is not tasked to specifically attract a new grocery store, Knapp suggested his work might be helpful to that goal.

The initial agreement is for three months at \$8,400 per month.

Potomac Edison Obtains Town Support against New County Regulations

Potomac Edison sought the support from the commission for the electric company’s effort against new county regulations related to the removal of trees.

“Look Who Came to Dinner” Continued From Page 14.

of money,” she said. “We would like to see every single high school in the county new and modern, but Poolesville High School is just flourishing academically with the *Newsweek* listing and all.”

Days after the May 14 visit, the high school was included on *Newsweek’s* annual list of the nation’s 1,000 best. The school was last modernized in 1978.

PTA members also raised the question of course equity for the cluster. “If a student at our school wants to take a course available elsewhere, they should be able to take it—[whether the class size would be] two or 22,” Klobukowski said.

Coordinated video-conferencing may eventually solve the issue, but until then, O’Neill said, “a critical mass of kids” will be required to offer certain classes; however, O’Neill said Poolesville students have many opportunities available. “MCPS has invested in the magnet program there—much

Potomac Edison objects to “excessive and unwarranted costs” of the regulations, costs they would be forced to pass on to consumers and would delay the tree trimming activities that are in response to county and consumer concern over potential power outages.

The commissioners voted 3-1-1 to send a letter of support for Potomac Edison’s position to the county council. Voting against the proposal was Jim Brown with Brice Halbbrook abstaining.

to the dismay of some other schools in the county because it creates a brain drain—but we have invested in Poolesville,” she said.

Ayers said in written comments that she did see some reason for hope in the possibility of enlarging the cluster’s population through shifting boundaries.

“With the overcrowding of schools county-wide and a lack of funds to continue to build new schools, the board did signal that they may look at boundary changes down the road,” she said. “This would bring a needed influx of students to MES and would be welcomed by those families who are indeed close to MES and want their children to attend the school.”

Klobukowski said the event was worthwhile in that cluster members received direct answers to their concerns even if they did not get immediate promises of change. “We were hopeful that some of the stuff would have made an impression on the tour,” he said. “We think we made our point.”

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“Things to Do” Continued From Page 8.

June 13 to June 19

Star-Spangled Sailabration

An international parade of ships will sail into Baltimore on June 13 to launch Star-Spangled 200 marking the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the penning of the National Anthem, including more than forty ships, including the U.S. Navy, British, and Canadian “grey hulls” and tall ships from around the globe. The week-long celebration will feature public tours, land-based activities, and an air show with a forty-five-minute performance by the famed Blue Angels on June 16 and 17.

Various sites at the Inner Harbor in Baltimore.

“Softball” Continued From Page 1.

to second. Carnahan doubled to drive Hughes home.

The Wolverines threatened in the sixth, but a brilliant catch by outfielder Duncan robbed WMHS’s Maria Sanchez of a home run to stop the rally. Junior Sarah Beautz, Hughes, Duncan, and Carnahan all crossed the plate in the top of the seventh. Watkins Mill batters led off the bottom of the seventh with a triple and double, but LaManna, in relief of Haller, struck out the last two batters to end the rally.

The Falcons split two international tie breaker games and four one-run games. Close games, nail biters, have been a hallmark of this team the past few seasons.

On April 12, the Falcons trailed at Seneca Valley, 9-4, in the seventh, but they touched SVHS pitcher Megan Harris, a former Falcon, for six runs to take a 10-9 lead. Raines, ignited by the rally, lined a two-strike pitch over the right fielder’s head. Scott, Defnet, and Howard all contributed hits, but Hughes’s three-run double to tie the score at nine was the big hit of the inning.

With surgery on her ACL just two days away, Patti Maloney made her only plate appearance

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June 16

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June 16 and 17

Montgomery County Ag Reserve Photo Contest

The Historic Medley District is sponsoring this event featuring the favorite pictures by local photographers of landscape, building, animals, and people of the Ag Reserve. Winning selection will be announced at a reception at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. The John Poole General Store will also be open to the public.

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in that seventh inning, precipitating a mound conference by Seneca. Harris, her former pitching partner, walked her. Patton was the pinch runner for Patti. She later scored on the hit by Scott. The Eagles won the game in the bottom half of the inning, but the energy from the comeback carried over. The Falcons won six of their next seven.

On Friday, April 13, Maloney’s ACL surgery went well.

Defnet and catcher junior Morgan Howard led the team in the regular season with sixteen RBI. Scott had thirteen RBI, Carnahan twelve, and Hughes ten. Scott led the team with a .518 batting average, Howard was second at .354, followed by Defnet at .327, Carnahan at .321, and Duncan at .300. Haller won six games, and Lamanna two.

In the playoffs, the tenth-seeded Falcons outlasted the seventh seed, Winters Mill, 10-8, in the opening round. They lost a heart breaker, 3-2, at second-seeded Liberty in the second round.

Seniors Defnet and Maloney earned First Team All-Gazette honors. Carnahan earned second team mention. The core of this team returns next year. With speed on offense, and defense being a key attribute, they should be a dominant force in the county.

12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

June 17

John Poole General Store and Museum

Visit the first commercial establishment in Poolesville built in 1793. Featuring local historical Civil War and Native American artifacts on display.

Free

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

June 19

Poolesville Library SpecialEvent: Mad Science of Washington, “Spectacular Science!”

Bubbling potions and cool chemical reactions offer lots of excitement and turns students onto science. An incredible visual introduction to some basic principles of science. Suitable for children in grades K-5. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, Inc. A summertime program for children and families.

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

June 22

Cugini’s Entertainment Night

Featuring: Jay Summerour and Eric Selby 8:00 p.m.

June 23

Cugini’s Entertainment Night

Featuring: Dave & Dave 8:00 p.m.

June 23 and 24

15th Annual Montgomery County Heritage Days

You do not have to go away to get away. This two-day celebration presents the history of the county through its thirty-seven historical sites each offering tours and exhibits. There will be fourteen musical performances and plenty of children’s activities along the way. The C&O Canal/Western Montgomery County venues have eleven sites all within thirty minutes of Poolesville. Edwards Ferry Lockhouse is open to the public with tours by the Park Service. There will be an extraordinary Civil War-era living history musical performance by Doug Jimerson and Clarke Buehling, nationally-renowned reenacting performers, on June 23 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be special displays at the John Poole General Store and photos of the Ag Reserve in the Old Town Hall. Free

Hours: noon to 4:00 p.m. each day

“Letter to the Editor” Continued From Page 4.

governance of the organization, as member of our Board. Because of your commitment to our mission, your knowledge of the community, and your business experience, you were able and willing to lend your wisdom to our decisions and policies, from the routine to the critical. As a senior director, you helped “tutor” newly-elected directors; you were always conscientious in attending meetings and took seriously your responsibility to participate in

discussions and decision-making; you were frequently called on to take the lead on new projects.

In a word, we hope that you realize and are proud of the many ways that you served WUMCO and thereby helped make a better life for hundreds of your fellow residents.

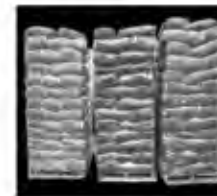
We are a better organization today because of your service over the years.

Sincerely, Ray Hoewing
Member, WUMCO Board of Directors

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- June 9 - Car Show -- *Gates open at 4 PM*
 Music by "The Shades"
- June 10 - Super Seven Bingo - and Food Only
Opens at 2:30 -- Bingo starts 4 PM
- June 11 - "Bob Plunkard Band"
- June 12 - "Brush Fire"
- June 13 - **PARADE NIGHT**—*Line up 6 Pm. Carroll Manor Elem. School*
 Music by "Knight Brothers" to follow
- June 14 - "JR Country"
- June 15 - "Sticktime"
- June 16 - "Allen Brown & Friends" == **Drawing of \$1000 Raffle**
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