

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

July 27, 2012

Volume IX, Number 10.



Everybody who was anybody was at the Poolesville Elementary School Carnival. See our special photo section on page 11 for more.



Do you recognize this house? The answer is on page 5.



The Poolesville Copacabana Club was the place to be, if you could get past the owner and his bouncer. More pictures are in the Family Album on page 2.

**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.

Poolesville Commissioners Negotiate for Town Solar Farm

By Rande Davis

The July 16 Town of Poolesville Commissioners' meeting was held in executive session as the commissioners negotiated contracts with two solar companies.

Last April, Town Manager Wade Yost issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the installation of a solar energy system to power the town hall and six additional meters for pump stations. The solar farm is to be located on ten acres of

land near the town's water and wastewater plant.

In response to the RFP, six companies made proposals, and the top two firms, based on a ranking system adopted by the town manager and town engineer, were selected for negotiation of a final contract for the work. Each firm was given one hour to negotiate terms. A decision whether the commissioners will move forward

with ongoing negotiations and enter into a Power Purchase Agreement with one solar array firm will be announced at the August 6 town meeting.



The proposed solar farm on ten acres adjacent to the Poolesville Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Time to Enjoy the Outdoors

By Ingeborg Westfall

Drive up to the office of Black Hill Regional Park and you'll see a plaque marking the site of a gold-mining pit (it never produced much ore). After that, start your visit to Black Hill's modern-day gold mine (so to speak), Little Seneca Lake. Resulting from the damming of Little Seneca, Ten Mile, and Cabin Branch Creeks, the lake's 505 acres represent an emergency water supply for the Washington, D.C.-metro area as well as opportunities for bird-watching, fishing, canoeing, beaver-sighting, and lakeside hiking. On weekends, park volunteers offer pontoon boat rides as well, three per day. (It's worth noting that the newest fishing pier and the pontoon boat are both wheel-

chair-accessible. It's also worth noting that they're seeking a new pontoon boat captain, so if you're interested...) The park also offers picnic shelters, playgrounds, trails for horseback riding, a dog park, mountain biking, four miles of paved trails, and ten miles natural-surface trails.

I've visited Black Hill many times, enjoying family-oriented teaching hikes conducted by Park Naturalist Lynette Lenz, educational resources in the visitor center, as well as solo trail hikes in the midst of winter. Lynette has observed that the County Parks system "is one of the best there is." She points out that "they know the importance of trying to maintain land and the agricultural parts of Montgomery County and the



Black Hill Regional Park

greenway system so that everything connects." It's a tribute to our parks system that (according to the Montgomery Parks

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Family Album



Singer Drew Sims wowed the crowd at the Copa Night at St. Peter's Church to benefit the Gathering Place, the proposed new senior center at Am Kolel Sanctuary.



A break in the heat brought the Memorial United Methodist Church VBS kids outside for fun.



The Reverend Tom Purdy led the kids through a trip to paradise at the St. Peter's VBS.



The Poolesville Baptist Church had an Olympics theme to carry its message Vacation Bible School message this year.

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Police Blotter Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Burglary: 17100 block of Butler Road.

Theft from vehicle: 17700 block of Dr. Walling Road.

Theft: 20100 block of Fisher Avenue.

Disorderly conduct complaints: 17600 block of Wootton Avenue, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue, 19100 block of Dowden Circle, 21000 block of Big Woods Road.

Past Crime

July 26, 1957 Police arrested Daniel Cubbage, a twenty-four-year-old farm hand, and charged him with the rape of a fifteen-year-old girl. It was reported that Cubbage had left a tavern in Quince Orchard after purchasing beer. He and the girl then went to

Cubbage's house where he tried to kick his wife out of bed so he and the girl could have sex. When the wife refused, he took the girl to a field on Route 28 where he raped her. In the meantime, the wife called the police who found Cubbage and the girl walking along Route 28.

July 27, 1957 Several county police units responded to a call on Hawkins Creamery Road. Callers reported that a man was on top of a hill using a machine gun to shoot at workers on a road project. When the officers arrived, they found that a resident had used a downed pine tree and made it look like a machine gun. His wife stood in the background setting off firecrackers. The incident came to be because of a dispute about the right of way being built by the workers. Officers brought the foreman and the would-be

machine gunner together, and the dispute was settled. No charges were placed. Captain Marion Dayhoff stated, "It looked like the real thing."

July 31, 1955 Three Rockville boys were hailed as heroes after they discovered a pile of stolen goods behind the Congressional Airport on the Rockville Pike. Police said that the boys were playing in the woods when they came upon the property that had been stolen in break-ins. Among the items was an 1830-era walking stick made out of a rail that Abraham Lincoln had supposedly split while a young man.

August 8, 1955 A Bethesda restaurant owner was charged with maintaining a gambling house. Police said that they found a pinball and an electric bowling game, and that the patrons were placing bets on

the outcome of the games. In a separate case, a newsstand owner at a neighboring store was charged with selling obscene magazines.

August 8, 1954 A Montgomery County rodeo operator was arrested and charged with perjury. Police said that the forty-one-year-old cowboy had falsely sworn that he owned a piece of property in the county where he had hoped to open a beer tavern.

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

Entertaining books by author: Mary Ann Powell

Family-oriented Horse Stories:

Emerson - \$16.00

Prince Alley Em - \$17.00

Kentucky Bred - \$10.00

Adult Drama: *Shells of My Heart* - \$17.00

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Commentary

What Kind of State Do We Want to Be?

By John Clayton

It appears another plebiscite looms here in Maryland. I am on record (*Are We All Republicans?*, June 22) against referendums in general, and now there will be another one on the November ballot challenging Maryland's recent reapportionment of congressional districts. Here in Monocacy Country, we have a front row seat to the controversy, as we are smack dab in the middle of District 6, which is considered by many the most egregious example of gerrymandering.

It should be noted that Roy Johnson's Letter to the Editor (July 13) challenging my commentary eloquently cited the redistricting referendum as an example of "a necessary right to keep the arrogance and abuse of power of certain elected (and even unelected) politicians in check." He makes a strong case, but I would note that good cases often make bad laws. Alternatively, just because I am against governance by referendum, it doesn't mean a good one doesn't pop up once in a while. I don't like the designated hitter, either, but I still smile when Jim Thome smacks a home run for the Orioles, unless it's against the Nationals.

I am admittedly a Democrat. I have admitted to such in the past, and people know that and generally tolerate me in spite of it. Some years ago, in another commentary (little noted nor long remembered), I admitted that the gerrymandered districts drawn up by Democrats stunk to high heaven, but since Republicans were doing this in places like Texas, I was fine with it. What's good for the goose is good for the gander, right? Now I have to vote on it in November. Voting is a solemn act, it can't be taken lightly. Blithely rationalizing a travesty is one thing; casting a ballot for one is quite another.

Even a hyper-partisan

Democrat shouldn't accept this just because he's on the winning side. I've always been amused by those who are totally loyal to their party, above all other considerations—party men, one might say (I'm sorry, but "party people" has an entirely different connotation; party persons perhaps?). We've all met them. "I'm a Republican/Democrat/Libertarian/Whig, no matter what—always have been, always will be. That's just who I am." This always sounds a little Soviet Union to me, this unyielding fealty to The Party. It's just not healthy. It doesn't sound American.

There are a dozen states with bipartisan commissions that control redistricting, and Maryland is not one of them. If it were, it would mean the minority party would have significant, binding input on the redistricting process, even if the majority party remained dominant. The two sides working together on a commission—and virtue does not reside exclusively with either one—might force each other to actually adhere to natural geographic and reasonably logical boundaries, with a little more fairness spread throughout the process. I'm not naïve enough to think that this will be all s'mores and Kumbaya by the fireside—it's still a political process, and the usual arm twisting and backbiting will influence the process, but it has to be better than what we have now. At least would be a fair fight.

Governor Martin O'Malley is on record saying, in effect, that even if the voters reject the redistricting plan, he'll just tweak it and resubmit. I suppose he can do that, but I think rejecting this sends a message. Perhaps this would be a step towards creating an objective process. There's not much we can do about Texas, but let's fix Maryland.

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Rande(m) Thoughts

It Was a Wild Time In the Old Town That Night

By Rande Davis

I think Bob Hope would have described the Copacabana Night at St. Peter's Church this past Saturday as "a wild night, wild, just a wild time, a wild time." You'd have to remember some of his USO performances to recall how he loved and overused the word "wild." The night was an evening of hearty laughter thanks to Berry Thompson and Reverend Tom Purdy, and extraordinary musical performances by Rabbi David Shneyer and Gene Bennett—The One Man Band. Drew Sims, the headliner, gave a performance worthy of the all the past Vegas lounge singing greats. He was simply amazing.

As someone who has qualified for the AARP for over a

decade now, the idea of a summertime gift to those who lived the 1940s and 1950s as adults really got me excited. New York's Copacabana is open today, but it is only a shadow of itself from the end of World War II into the 1950s. I made it to the Copa a couple times during my stint in the Big Apple during the 1980s but it was primarily a restaurant without the big band, big name singers, and comedians of the post-war generation.

This special event was planned to give tribute to our greatest generation, to draw attention to the plan to develop the Gathering Place, a weekday center for senior citizens at the Am Kolel Sanctuary in Beallsville, and to raise some funds toward that end. A center for them seems to make sense since those in their seventies and beyond actually lived life by getting together to have fun, face to face, not through

-Continued on Page 18.

Monocacy Foundations

Riley's Lock

By: Elisa Graf

One of things I love most about living in the Monocacy area is taking walks along the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal. I've seen some pretty amazing creatures and views along the canal and I can't help but get excited every time I come across one of the historic lock houses.

There are seventy-five locks that run the length of the C&O Canal from Cumberland, Maryland south to the District. Ground was broken on the C&O Canal project in 1828. Locks were constructed to raise and lower the water levels making travel parallel to the Potomac River much easier. Along with the locks, houses were built where men, hired by the C&O Company, lived, so they could work and maintain the locks night and day, year round.

In the Garden

Where's the Flavor?

By Maureen O'Connell

Home gardeners are now savoring one of the fruits of their labors: the tomato. If there ever was a reason for a home vegetable garden, it resides in the beautiful, red, juicy, just-kissed-by-the sun tomato. No store-bought tomato—vine-ripened or greenhouse grown—can compare with the one you pick from your own plant. Store tomatoes are often picked green, shipped long distances, and refrigerated. All of these conditions destroy texture and flavor. Most of a tomato's flavor develops close to fruit maturity; if picked green, they don't ever mature. Instead, they are forced into pseudo-maturation by enclosing them in fruit-ripening ethylene gas that softens them and colors them a weak, pinkish orange. There is no flavor for the sugars and acids that give flavor are not present. Did you ever

If you've taken a walk along the canal in our area, you've probably come across Lock 24, more popularly known as Riley's Lock. It's a small two-and-a-half story house set into the hillside built from Seneca sandstone quarried from the nearby Seneca Quarry and whitewashed to stand out to boat captains as they approached the lock. The house was built in 1829 shortly after ground was broken on the canal, but the house's namesake wouldn't move to the lock for almost sixty years. It is also the only lock house built on one of the canal's eleven aqueducts.

In 1890, John Riley, shortly after marrying his bride Roberta, took over as lock keeper at Lock 24. Riley probably understood what a great opportunity this would be for a family just getting its start. At the time, lock keepers were allowed to raise their families in the lock houses free of rent, were paid \$10 a month in the

wonder what vine-ripened means in supermarkets? They are picked at the "breaker" stage; they are showing a faint pink color. They are then placed in a warm place indoors. They might get a little red, but they will still lack flavor.

It is widely acknowledged that you can't buy a flavorful tomato in a store in February, but over the past few years, we have seen a steady loss of flavor even in tomatoes home-grown, coddled, and picked ripe. What happened? A recent study reported in the journal *Science* has found that there was a genetic reason. By chance, there was a gene mutation in tomatoes. The tomato breeders loved this serendipitous occurrence, because it made tomatoes a uniform, brilliant scarlet color when ripe. Consumers demand bright, shiny, blemish-free fruits and vegetables, so breeders began to deliberately breed it into almost all tomatoes, but, as with many so-called improvements, there is a down side. Researchers

-Continued on Page 17.

summer, \$35 a month in the winter, and were given an acre of land around the house. Riley and his wife used the land to provide for their growing family. They had a stable for horses, hens, hogs, cattle, and a garden on the small acre.

A small spring just west of the house provided them with water. Wood stoves heated the house in the cold winters, and a small kitchen was in the basement.

In the summer months, Riley would work the locks during

the day as traffic moved up and down the canal. During the winter, Riley's most important job was to maintain the locks and keep them free of damage from

-Continued on Page 8.



The lock house at Riley's Lock.

TOWN OF POOLESVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Commissioners of Poolesville will hold a Public Hearing on August 6, 2012 at 7:30 PM, Poolesville Town Hall, 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland for the purpose of receiving public comments on the following Charter Amendment Resolutions:

007-12 (Sec. 82.4A) to delete language that is in conflict with the Section outlining the qualifications necessary to hold the office of Commissioner;

008-12 (Sec. 82.20) to add a section to allow Town real property taxes to be collected by Montgomery County (which is the current practice);

009-12 (Sec. 82.21) to add a section to allow Town tax sales to be handled by Montgomery County (which is the current practice);

010-12 (Sec. 82.24) to delete outdated language which calls for individuals to be committed to the County jail for failure to pay certain fines, and add language to properly address the collection of fines and penalties;

011-12 (Sec. 82.24A) to add language defining the term Development Impact Fee;

012-12 (Sec. 82.25) to delete the entire section as it is outdated and inapplicable.

Copies of these proposed charter amendments and ordinances are available at Town Hall and on our website at ci.poolesville.md.us.

Things to Do

July 27
Poolesville Farmers' Market
 Theme: Health, Fitness, and Wellness
 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Summer Concerts in the Park
 Featuring: Last Measure
 7:00 p.m.
Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: Jay Summerour and Eleanor
 8:30 p.m.

July 28
137th Annual Barnesville Picnic
 Featuring St. Mary's famous BBQ chicken meal (eat in or carry out)
 Children's games, cakewalk, crafts, white elephant sale, music, and more
 Jousting Tournament (from noon to 2:00 p.m.)
 Noon to 7:00 p.m.
Summer Movies in the Park
Cars 2
 8:30 p.m.

July 28 to 29
HMD Cultural Event at Old Town Hall:
A Tribute to Our African-American Heritage
 This pictorial exhibit and special living history presentation is provided by the Sugarland Ethno Project under the leadership of Gwen Reese. There will be a wonderful slide show of family life over the decades, historical artifacts, and a docent to answer questions. Phymeon Lyles will portray Nettie Johnson, a slave in Poolesville who was a midwife and who also labored with the local funeral homes dressing and preparing the Sugarland deceased for wakes and funerals. She will tell her story of life in Sugarland in the early years. Connie Robinson will portray Mary Peck Bond, the daughter of an Underground Railroad conductor.
 Noon to 4:00 p.m.

August 9
Special Fundraiser for Poolesville Day
 Bassett's Restaurant
 Dine in or Carry out
 Lunch or Dinner
 Portion of proceeds donated to Poolesville Day

August 10
Summer Concerts in the Park
 Featuring: Doug Bell
 7:00 p.m.

August 6 to August 10
Poolesville Baptist Music and Arts Camp
 For ages entering kindergarten through completion of grade 8. There will be a performance on Friday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m. You may pre-register your children by emailing the PBC office at pbcoffice1@verizon.net or calling 301-349-4090. Cost: Donation of \$15 is requested.
 9:00 a.m. to noon

August 3
Summer Concerts in the Park
 Featuring: Brian Gross
 7:00 p.m.
Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: V6
 8:30 p.m.

August 11
Movies in the Park
The Muppets
 8:30 p.m.

August 4
Summer Movies in the Park
Puss in Boots
 8:30 p.m.

August 6
Town Commissioners' Meeting
 Poolesville Town Hall
 Public Hearing on changes to Ordinance 187 regarding Town Ethics Rules
 Public Hearing on proposed changes to Town Charter Particulars for both public hearings are available at the Town Hall
 7:30 p.m.

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LENDER

Remembrance

Barnesville's Sarah Evans

The *Washington Post* has reported that Sarah Evans, 55, who bred, raised, showed, and sold Field Spaniels, died July 5 at her farm in Barnesville.

A spokeswoman for the Maryland Medical Examiner's office said determination of the cause of death is pending further tests. Ms. Evans had diabetes, said her mother, Katherine Winton Evans, a past editor of the *Washington Journalism Review* and widow of the syndicated columnist Rowland Evans.

Ms. Evans worked as a dog breeder for much of her adult life. She co-owned a Field Spaniel, Ch. Evans' Rumor Has It, that won Best in Breed in 2008 and 2009 at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York.

Sarah Warren Evans was born in Chicago and raised in Washington, D.C. She was a 1975 graduate of Georgetown Day School in the District and a 1980 graduate of George Washington University.

Besides her mother, of Washington, D.C., survivors include a brother, Rowland W. Evans, of Sunnyvale, California.



Sarah Libbey Greenhalgh (photo by Douglas Lee)

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Remembrance

Daughter of Poolesville Resident Dies in Homicide

Sarah Libbey Greenhalgh, 48, of Upperville, Virginia died in her home Monday, July 9, 2012. Sarah is survived by her mother, Sara Lee Greenhalgh and preceded in death by her father William W. Greenhalgh, both of Poolesville, and sister Katherina Langton of Sante Fe, New Mexico.

Fauquier County Sheriff Charlie Ray Fox, Jr. released a statement on July 16 confirming the body was found in her burning home on Monday. Authorities say they are investigating the death of the *Winchester Star* reporter in the house fire as a homicide. Remembered most for her equestrian photography and reporting, she also freelanced for the *Washington Post*, *The Chronicle of the Horse*, and other publications.

Ms. Greenhalgh was remembered by family and friends as a bold, dynamic, and blunt woman who loved horses and travel, and who was deeply devoted to her work.

A memorial service and reception were held Friday, July 20 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville, Virginia. In lieu of flowers, tax-deductible donations may be made in memory of Sarah L. Greenhalgh c/o Oldfields School, 1500 Glencoe Road,

Sparks Glencoe, Maryland 21151 or c/o The National Steeplechase Foundation, 400 Fair Hill Drive, Elkton, Maryland 21921.

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Musings from Mama Boe

Sound the Trumpet

My Captain is a horrendous pack rat. He's almost as bad as my mother. I, however, have a low threshold for being surrounded by unusable stuff. So while I lay around elevating my post-surgery knee yesterday, My Captain took the opportunity to clean out a bunch of accumulated junk—all of it his, and very little of it worth keeping.

The eighties flowered ties: Gone.

Programs from events decades ago: Gone.

Batteries that expired in 2005: Gone (but not until after we licked 'em to make sure they were indeed dead).

There were a few nuggets worth keeping, and reasons we were glad we didn't just throw out the whole kit and kaboodle: Pictures of My Captain and his daughter during father/daughter dances for many years in a row (pictures where his now textbook-aloof teenage daughter was once clinging to his lap in white tights

"Riley's Lock" Continued
From Page 5.

ice flowing downstream.

Riley's family would call the lock house home for nearly fifteen years. Five of the seven Riley children were even born in the house. They played in the yard and watched their father work the locks each day. To Roberta's dismay, the small yard surrounding the house was hardly fenced in. A large fence would have made traffic along the aqueduct impossible. The gate was often left open and, sadly, in 1905, three-year-old Katherine slipped passed the gates and drowned in the canal. Roberta, pregnant with their seventh child, had had enough. She moved the children to a house on nearby River Road. Riley would continue to stay in the lock house

and velvet dresses; the kinds of pictures that are so beautiful, they squeeze your heart)—and a banged up, old, brass trumpet.

It turns out that My Captain used to have quite The Chops when he was younger. I've never heard him play, didn't even know he had a trumpet amongst all his copious amounts of stashed stuff.

That is one of the things I love about him: He has *so* many nooks and crannies to his personality. There are still sides to him I don't know; there are still parts of him I haven't met yet. This is not a simple man. He's not one who is easy to figure out—and he still surprises me.

He was wondering what he should do with the ol' trumpet. I suggested he give it to his son, who used to play it, but he said, "Nah, he doesn't want it." Then I suggested he donate it to the school, and he said, "Nah, it's not a good trumpet. They wouldn't want it." Then I suggested we sell it to an antique store. He liked that idea.

Then this morning it hit me that I want to hang it on our living room wall. Why? Because it is a reminder that My Captain is full of surprises—and depth—and lots and *lots* of old junk.

when necessary for work. The children would visit him during the day, and they would continue to work the land. They were the last family to call the lock house home.

Riley was also the last lock keeper until 1924 when the canal's day to day operations were abandoned. The canal suffered extensive flood damage and was no longer needed as it became easier to move goods around the state by rail or even by truck on the new state highway system.

Although the canal was no longer in use, the house was still owned by public transportation companies until it was sold to the Seneca Hotel Corporation in 1973 and then to the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1974. For over thirty years, from the 1980s until recent years, local Girl Scouts played host to visitors on

Local News

James M. McCollum Passes Away

James McCollum passed away on July 6, 2012 after a long battle with cancer. He was twenty-three. A memorial service celebrating his life will be held at 10:00 a.m. on July 28 at Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church. Following the memorial service, the family will receive those who wish to pay their respects in the Fellowship Hall. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Lombardi Cancer Center.

James's family would like to thank everyone for their support during a very difficult time. They look forward to sharing lots of "James stories" and celebrating his life!


Saturday mornings, recreating what life was like when the Rileys called the lock house home.

A modern-day visitor, strolling past the home now, can imagine the children playing in the yard and watching their father as he worked.

Local News

New Trash Collection to Begin Mid-August

In a unanimous vote, the Town of Poolesville commissioners awarded the new, \$404,000, five-year-trash-collection contract to Unity Disposal and Recycling of Laurel, Maryland. The new contract will have general trash pickup on Monday and Thursday with single-stream recycling on Wednesday. Homes will be provided a ninety-six-gallon container in which all recycling (paper, glass, and plastic) will be placed for pickup. Townhomes will be issued a thirty-six-to-forty-gallon container and may request a larger unit.



*Flags were lowered
in honor of:*

July 11: Lance Corporal Gene C. Mills III, USMC, of Laurel, Maryland, who died June 22, 2012 in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

July 20 to July 25: By order of the President of the United States: The United States flag and all State flags shall be flown at half staff to honor the victims of the tragedy in Aurora, Colorado on Friday, July 20, 2012.



Ready for some **GREAT** news about **Poolesville Veterinary Clinic...**

Dr. Peter Eeg and the Poolesville Veterinary Clinic staff are extremely excited to announce the return of two **OUTSTANDING** veterinarians to our community:

- Dr. Faith Rouco is returning to continue her veterinary career caring for our wonderful canine and feline patients as our senior associate.
- Dr. Nikki Phillips, who as many of you know spent much of her career in this area, will be providing her medical, surgical and acupuncture expertise every Thursday.

Being able to share these two **EXCELLENT** veterinarians with our community is a great source of pride for us.

Patti, Brittney, Cindy, Michael, Quentin, or Martha will be happy to schedule your appointment.

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Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

July 14, 1954 The Montgomery County school board voted to give teachers a \$200 raise. New teachers were set to receive \$3325 a year while teachers with college degrees were to receive \$5250 a year.

July 14, 1955 Maryland announced that the various counties would share in the \$7.5 million income tax windfall. Montgomery County in turn divided its share of the money and distributed it to the various municipalities. Rockville received \$36,000, Poolesville \$760, and Barnesville got \$131.

July 18, 1949 The Montgomery County portable chest X-ray unit was scheduled to visit Poolesville, Martinsburg, and Barnesville.

July 19, 1953 Hopalong Cassidy, a renowned cowboy television star, made an announcement to the parents of the country. He said that he would make an effort to tone down the violence that had been featured on his show. He specified less brutality, less gunplay, and not as much fighting.

July 21, 1948 The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company

announced that it intended to discontinue both freight and passenger service at Barnesville.

July 22, 1954 County wheat farmers were set to vote on the national wheat referendum to decide whether the 1954 crop quota should continue on to 1955. Voting was scheduled to be held at Barnesville, Beallsville, Poolesville, Darnestown, and other sites.

July 27, 1947 The cornerstone for the new Barnesville fire house was laid. Among those officiating were Judge Charles Woodward, H. L. Stephens, who soldered the box (apparently a time capsule), Father Phillip Brown, pastor of St. Mary's Church, and Charles Davis, president of the fire company.

July 30, 1952 The names of ten people who filed their petitions to be on the November ballot were announced. The petitions of Evelyn Allnutt, a housewife from Poolesville, and R. Edwin Brown, an attorney from Dickerson, were thrown out because they did not have the sufficient number of signatures.

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

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“Black Hill Regional Park”
Continued From Page 1.

Foundation) “wherever you go in Montgomery County, you are never more than two miles away from a park.”

Another aspect of the park is the Friends of Black Hill (FOBH), supporters and volunteers whose mission is “to support, promote, and sustain the nature programs and special events conducted by the interpretive naturalist staff.” This group funded the purchase of a greenhouse in which seedlings for the annual spring Native Plant Sale are raised. I’ve been to the sale often, purchasing many of my native plants. Because of FOBH and their educating me about the endangered status in this area of Maryland’s state insect, the Baltimore checkerspot. I can hear the snickering now—a state insect?—but

its decline in numbers alarms those of us who admire the beauty and value of the presence of this tiny creature that sports the state’s colors. I’m raising the white turtlehead, the butterfly’s host plant, doing my part to help it make a comeback in this area. Denise Gibbs, another naturalist at Black Hill, taught the Brookside staff during the establishment of the Wings of Fancy exhibit, so you know Black Hills knows butterflies.

As I write this, I’m assuming that most readers, like me, live in or near the Agricultural Reserve. Why? Perhaps for the beauty, the closeness to the heritage of this part of the county, our conviction that life in the country is better, a bit more sane. As Lynette Lenz says, “I’ve sped by (Upcounty parks) and never realized that these wonderful wild areas exist right in the middle of this urban area, and

I think it’s been proven that people who spend time in nature or the outdoors just have a healthier outlook on life.”

Do take the time to drop by Black Hill and have a good look around the visitor center. There’s a huge amount of educational information available, as well as listings of family activities offered by the park. You can also visit the local library and pick up the guide to County Parks and Recreation

activities. Even more information is available at the website: www.montgomeryparks.org/facilities/regional_parks/black-hill.

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Tidbits

Barnesville's Warfel Store Sold

The Historic Medley District, Inc. is pleased to announce that they have entered into a sale agreement for the Warfel Store with 308 Management Group LLC and Blacknall House Partners of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The Warfel store is located next to the Barnesville MARC train station on Route 109. Plans are underway for its renovation in keeping with its best possible use. HMD looks forward to working with this group as a Participating Partner. They are confident that the finished project will be an attractive and historically-accurate building which will be an asset to the community.

Registration for Poolesville Day

The cutoff for registration for Poolesville Day is August 15. Any applications after that date are subject to availability and will cost an additional \$75.00. All who are planning to have a vendor booth should visit poolesvilleday.com and open the vendor application to make sure they are registered before that date.

Aggarwal wins \$5,000 scholarship in the 2012 Project Math Minds Competition

For the second year in a row,

Pushkar Aggarwal, a sophomore at Poolesville High School, has been awarded a \$5,000 scholarship in the Project Math Minds Competition sponsored by the Actuarial Foundation through Mu Alpha Theta (MAT). Project Math Minds is an actuarial-related project designed for Mu Alpha Theta students to work on during the school year. Students compete for college scholarship money provided by the Actuarial Foundation. Winners present their projects to other members of the Honor Society at the Mu Alpha Theta National Convention.

The purpose of the Project Math Minds assignment is to introduce the student to the math used by the actuarial profession to manage risk. This year's assignment challenged participants to complete an estimate of the total cost of attending college and the financial return after leaving college. Participants were asked to choose three different schools, three different financing assumptions, and a desired profession in mapping out their estimates. Actuaries develop and evaluate these projects.

While there was no single correct or incorrect answer, projects were rated on the participant's ability to demonstrate thoughtfulness and understanding of concepts related to finance and the time value of money. What makes the students think like an actuary in this project

are the assumptions and the financial implications of these assumptions. As Pushkar put it, "The challenge encouraged me to tackle a real world problem and forced me to find answers based upon systems thinking. The competition is a driving force in generating the interest of students in the risk and return on investment industry."

Falcons Named to All-Gazette Teams

Congratulations to Falcons Cory Blair and Hunter Pearre for achieving honorable mention on the All-Gazette baseball selection. Kudos also to Essence Scott, a junior at PHS, for making the All-Gazette softball team as an outfielder and to Chase Weaverling for making the second team in track.

Fire Prevention Ambassador Sought

The Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association hosts a fire preven-

tion ambassador's contest. They are looking for entrants in the following categories: Miss Fire Prevention: young women, ages sixteen to twenty-four, single, never married, not pregnant, and no children; Junior Miss Fire Prevention: girls ages five to ten; and Little Fire Chief: boys, ages five to ten.

Applicants must enter by August 1. For more information, please contact Courtney McHenry at mcfireprevention@yahoo.com or by calling 240-482-9870.



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“In the Garden” Continued
From Page 5.

found that the gene that was inactivated by the mutation serves the important role in producing the sugars and aromas that provide the essence of a tomato: flavor.

What price are we willing to pay for pretty fruits and vegetables? Go into the produce section of any grocery store. The cucumbers are fat, waxy, and bright green; the peppers come in beautiful shades of green, red, yellow, and orange; the apples are picture perfect; the corn harbors no worms; the radishes are uniform and solid red. They are not the results of Mother Nature’s influence. Man has stepped in and added a little bit of his own agricultural plastic surgery. We expect tomatoes to be red all over, but left to their own growth patterns and timetables, ripe tomatoes would normally have a ring of green, yellow, and white at the stem end.

Tomatoes are big business in the food industry. They are not just eaten raw; they are the

foundation ingredient in many products: ketchup, canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato soup, salsa, and many more. This mutation gene also made it easier for growers to determine when the tomatoes are ripe, and this means money for the agro business. In the past ten years, there have been many other studies of the tomato and its life cycle. Dr. Ann Powell, a plant biochemist at the University of California, was studying weed genes. She put these genes into tomato plants, which she said “are the lab rats of the plant world.”

The fruits turned a dark green, like a green pepper, but the leaves remained a light green. Gene mutations in plants often have surprising results, which can set up different chain reactions. The possibilities of genetic engineering are endless, and the results may not always be for the better. Were the genetically-engineered tomatoes involved in many recent studies more flavorful? We will never know — and because Department of Agriculture regulations forbid the consumption of experimental

produce, no one has tasted them.

It was not that long ago that I used to look forward to the first juicy, home-grown tomatoes. With the first bite, the flavor would jump out, and its sweet juices would drip down my chin. If any of you Monocacy gardeners have such a tomato, kindly send me one.

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COMMISSIONERS OF POOLESVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on August 6, 2012 at 7:30 PM at 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland for the purpose of the Commissioners of Poolesville receiving public comment on Proposed Ordinance 187, Section 2.22 through Section 2.30 of the Poolesville Code of Ordinances to include the new law requirements for Local Government by the Maryland State Ethics Commission.

Copies of this proposed ordinance are available at Town Hall.



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"Rande(m) Thoughts"
Continued From Page 4.

a virtual world. They know more about conversation over a clothesline than online. They know more about how someone is really feeling by seeing the look in their eyes than trying to read between the lines of twitty-witty comments.

A need for a meeting place for this and other groups has led some in the community to think that maybe someday building a community center is a good idea. Hey, getting people together shouldn't be a revolutionary idea—but putting the building first is really putting the horse before the carriage. I think we need to develop the educational and social programs a center might host first, and if successful, then a discussion of constructing a costly building to host them might begin. "Build it and they will come" is nothing more than a great slogan for a great movie; otherwise, it is a fiscal horror

show. By working to establish a center for seniors, we can see if our seniors want such a thing without the cost of added infrastructure. This process could work for other groups as well. Perhaps someone wants to start a community band. No, I don't mean a rock band, more like a marching band (we used to have one, you know). Quilting club, anyone? Wait, we already have a vibrant quilting club that meets at the town hall.

Space? Structure? That's not the key issue. Our greatest generation used what they had. They held dances at the Old, Old Town Hall, the one that holds the Friendly Thrift Shop. Movies? That was at what we now call Poolesville Hardware. Poolesville Day is a big event, sure, but not as dramatic or more popular than the three-day traveling extravaganza they called the Chautauqua. They didn't need a building for this extensive educational, cultural, and entertaining event, just a huge tent set up where the Poolesville Baptist Church is

now. No, it's not brick and mortar we need. It's ideas for programs and leaders to guide them first, and then, only then, should we consider building a community center for Poolesville.

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With seconds on us – it is all you can handle!

Sweet Potato Biscuits with Molasses Butter
She-Crab Soup and Brunswick Stew
Fried Green Tomatoes

Chicken and Barbeque Platters with Sides
Adults: \$15.00 Children Ten and Under: \$9.00

THURSDAYS

WINE NIGHT: 50% OFF ALL BOTTLED WINES

Limited Seating

Reservations Strongly Suggested: 301-874-1831



Don't Miss Sunday Brunch: 11:00-3:00 Every Week



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QUICK LUBE OPEN - 15 MINUTE OIL CHANGE

GET REBATES UP TO **\$160**

with the purchase of a set of four Assurance[™] ComforTred[™] Touring or other select Goodyear[™] or Dunlop[™] tires on your Goodyear Credit Card.

Hurry in! Offers valid July 1 through August 31, 2012.



Hurry in! Sale ends August 13, 2012.



GOODYEAR
Integrity[™]

A Popular All-Season Tire With Many Original Equipment Vehicle Fits

\$75²⁵

P205/65R15	803	\$91.25
P195/65R15	803	\$93.25
P225/60R16	803	\$99.25
P225/70R16	803	\$116.95

\$0,000 Road Life Limited Warranty
S&L price. Other fees, taxes and prices available.



GOODYEAR
Assurance[™] ComforTred[™] Touring

A Premium Tire Offering A Smooth, Quiet Ride And Refined Handling

\$173⁶⁶

225/60R16	V58	\$160.57
235/65R17	V58	\$182.83
235/60R17	V58	\$201.49
P235/60R18	V58	\$214.95

\$0,000 Road Life Limited Warranty
S&L price. Other fees, taxes and prices available.



GOODYEAR
Eagle GT[™]

All-Season Performance, Great Handling And Style

\$99⁹⁸

205/60R15	85W	\$107.25
205/55R16	85W	\$120.50
235/55R17	85W	\$173.23
245/40ZR18	85W	\$190.88

\$0,000 Road Life Limited Warranty
S&L price. Other fees, taxes and prices available.



GOODYEAR
Assurance[™] Fuel Max[®]

A Fuel-Efficient Tire That Provides Confident Wet And Dry Traction

\$167¹⁹

215/70R15	V58	\$127.38
P185/60R15	V58	\$135.91
225/60R16	V58	\$141.50
P205/60R16	V58	\$143.88

\$0,000 Road Life Limited Warranty
S&L price. Other fees, taxes and prices available.

GET UP TO **\$80** by Mail-in Rebate when you purchase a set of four select Goodyear[™] or Dunlop[™] tires.
OR
DOUBLE YOUR MAIL-IN REBATE UP TO **\$160** when you make the purchase on the Goodyear Credit Card.

NO INTEREST IF PAID IN FULL WITHIN 6 MONTHS*

\$29⁹⁵
Oil, Lube & Filter

Includes:

- Lube, where applicable
- New oil filter installed
- Up to 5 quarts major brand oil (brands vary)

FREE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE (regular price)

SAVE!
The "Sliding Scale" Coupon

If your vehicle service totals:	You will receive this discount:
\$50.00 - 99.99	\$5.00 OFF
\$100.00 - 149.99	\$10.00 OFF
\$150.00 - 199.99	\$15.00 OFF
\$200.00 or more	\$20.00 OFF

\$10⁰⁰ OFF
Computerized Alignment

Includes:

- Tire center, camber & toe set to manufacturer's specifications, where applicable
- Steering & suspension, or adjustment of thrust line, depending on alignment type. (Many front-wheel-drive vehicles today require rear wheel adjustments at an additional cost.)

\$39⁹⁵
Car Care Package

This service includes:

- Lube, oil filter & up to 5 quarts major brand oil (brands vary)
- Complete tire rotation
- Check brake pads on all 4 tires
- Adjust air pressure to manufacturer's specifications
- Inspect and clean battery terminals and connections
- Top off all fluids under the hood
- Examine all belts and hoses for cracks and proper tension
- Brake inspection

HELP SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!

When you purchase select Goodyear tires, you help Goodyear contribute up to \$250,000* to the Support Our Troops charitable organization.

Valid on purchases made between July 1, 2012 and August 31, 2012.



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