

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

May 26, 2006

Volume III, Number 6

Inside the Monocle



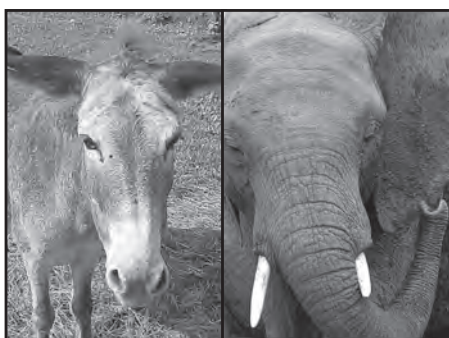
Leave? No one said you could leave. Read about Mr. Poole of Monocacy Elementary in Local News, Page 18.



There was a big turnout at the Poolesville Library's 15th Anniversary Celebration. Local News on Page 15 has the details.



"Turtle and Pond Weed," a bronze by Tony Hochstetler as shown at the Potomac Hunt Club Art Show. More in Center Stage on Page 14.



Our profiles of local elected officials begin in the Arena, on Page 9.

Thieves Steal from a Local Church

Funny How God Works

By Reverend Ken Howard

The people of St. Nicholas had planned to install an outdoor Stations of the Cross on their future building site in Darnestown in time for use in Holy Week. The rector and associate rector, the Rev. Ken Howard and the Rev. Alison Quin, had selected and purchased twenty-one large, flat stones (fourteen for the Stations of the Cross and seven for the Stations of the Resurrection to be installed later) and had them delivered to the site on a large wooden pallet. The delivery person placed them under the "Future Site of St. Nicholas Church" sign at the front of the property. Fr. Ken then arranged to meet the engraver at the site to have the station numbers etched into the stone. However, when they met at the sign, all they found was an empty pallet. All twenty-

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church in Darnestown experienced a theft of property just before Easter that at first caused a lot of shock among its congregants. After all, stealing from a church has to be a special kind of low. As the story developed, though, it took some interesting twists, and the final result was quite surprising. The rector, Ken Howard, tells the story best.

one stones had been stolen.

The initial reaction of the congregation was shock. Who would steal stones from a church? Almost a ton of

stone disappeared — in broad daylight — from a church — from under the sign.

What happened since then has warmed their hearts, and perhaps it will warm yours, too (and maybe it will even bring tears of joy to your eyes).

First, there was the good humor with which the people of the congregation took the loss. When Fr. Ken started to grouse, "How could anybody steal stones from a church?" he was reminded by a member of the congregation of Jesus' admonition, "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone," (Oy!) and the jokes just kept on coming.

Next, when Fr. Ken went back to Irwin Stone Co. to pick out and purchase replacements, the owner (who grew up on Seneca Road

— Continued on Page 19.



St. Nicholas parishioners setting up the recovered stones.

Roots and Shoots Club

By Dominique Agnew
The Roots and Shoots Club of

— Continued on Page 20.

Poolesville High School is an offshoot of the original Roots and Shoots Club (R&S) begun in Tanzania by Jane Goodall in 1991. Three years ago, Susan Frye told Ms. Joyce Bailey, science teacher in the Global Ecology Program, about the club. Ms. Bailey then mentioned the idea to some students, and, she says, "The students jumped on board."

R&S's outgoing president, senior Zainab Nejati, says, "Roots and Shoots is founded upon the idea



The PHS Roots and Shoots Club



Clarksburg Day is June 3

This is spinning as it was practiced by the early settlers of Clarksburg, and as portrayed during last year's Clarksburg Day.

The event is sponsored by the Clarksburg Historical Society.

For more information, see the Big Board on Page 8.

Family Album

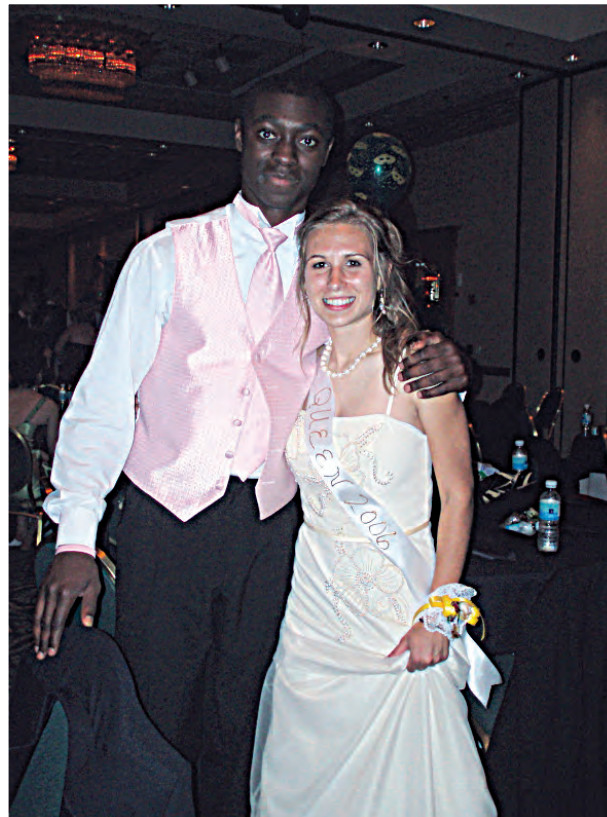
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The Barnesville Town Hall under restoration.



The Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church flea market, run by the usual suspects.



Prom King: Eniola Eboda
Prom Queen: Elaine Petro



The Hammett and Guillette families participated in the Town of Poolesville Fishing contest: Leo Guillette, Mrs. Michelle Guillette, Bridgette Hammett, Colin Hammett, Melissa Hammett, and Dennis Hammett.



Cody Worthington, Andie Shartel, and (Queen) Elaine Petro.



Part of the big turnout at White's Ferry for wounded soldiers from Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

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Focus on Business

**Roberson Plumbing Inc.:
100 Years and Counting**

By Rande Davis

In the age of the corporate buy-out, a most remarkable anniversary was celebrated this May in Dickerson. Roberson Plumbing, Inc. celebrated its 100th anniversary as a family business. Maybe even more remarkable is that it is operating in the exact building in which it originated.

A century ago, two Barnesville brothers, William and Howard Roberson, decided that the location just north of the railroad overpass in Dickerson was the perfect place to set up their fledgling business. They took apart an old mill in Barnesville and reconstructed it, piece by piece. Their father, Benjamin, had been a blacksmith out of Barnesville, and, working with him, they learned a skill that would serve them all their lives.

Today's plumbing business was yesteryear's all-purpose blacksmith shop, auto repair, gasoline, and oil service. Roberson Brothers, over the years, would focus primarily on plumbing, but they were never shy about trying something new. The

original blacksmithing business would eventually lead to plumbing. They were so respected as blacksmiths that they even taught blacksmithing and woodworking part-time at a private school at Stronghold.

Concentrating on spouting, pumps, septic installation, and complete new and repair plumbing and heating, Roberson Brothers developed away from its original blacksmith days.

Ellis Roberson grew up in the business, and in 1954, he purchased it from his dad and uncle and operated it as Ellis L. Roberson until 1971 when it became incorporated as Roberson Plumbing, Inc. His wife, Barbara, has been very active in the business as its bookkeeper from the very first days. Even though his sons, Wayne, Warren, and Larry, grew up in the business and worked hard during the summers, Ellis did not want them to automatically choose to join the family business without trying other things. Each went on to college and even tried different careers for a while. Eventually, though, all of them returned to their roots and became master plumbers themselves.

At various times, the business has had up to seventeen employees. The firm's office manager for over two

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decades was Graham Lamson who passed away in 2005.

Ellis and Barbara Roberson have always been highly involved in the community. Ellis has been a Carroll Manor Lion for over fifty years. He was a past-president of the Poolesville High School PTA, and he was the very first president of the Monocacy Elementary School PTA.

As the family gathered to celebrate one hundred years of success, friends and family came together on May 20, 2006 at St. Mary's pavilion to share with them their exceptional family history. While the Roberson sons are all quite young, and Roberson Plumbing, Inc. looks to have a long future ahead, only time will tell if other grandchildren will choose to become plumbers as well. Two grandsons have already chosen to pursue professions outside of plumbing. Whatever the others decide, Ellis will make sure they try something else to make sure the decision is right for them.

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Editorial

Enough Already – Shut Down the Few Drug Dealers in Town Now

By Rande Davis

The town is abuzz about drug use in Poolesville due to a provocative headline in the *Gazette* this past week. When a reporter from Channel 9 TV was spotted cruising around the town trying to get input on the drug "crisis," citizens became even more concerned. While *The Monocle* has come to learn about and even reported on the growing concerns of the drug use in town, we think the way the story was handled was a bit sensationalized.

The Monocle has had discussions with the police and other educational personnel about drug use at the high school, and no one denies that there is marijuana use by some students who attend high school. We reported in our October 7, 2005 issue that needles had been found at Stevens Park and that young people had been seen brazenly walking through town smoking marijuana with absolutely no appearance of concern.

The armed robberies in town this past fall led to arrests of individuals whose alleged reputation for drug dealing and use was widely known. We have been anticipating the autopsy report on Paul Stoll, the young man who was awaiting trial related to the armed robbery, to confirm if an overdose was the actual cause of his death. We will continue to report this story.

More importantly, the primary problem of serious drug use in Poolesville should not be connected to the high school. In fact, associating the problem with the high school serves more to mislead the public by not pointing to the real source of the problem in town.

We know of two places in town that are regarded by many as locations which supply drugs and alcohol to young people.

What we cannot explain is why so many people in town can report their personal and specific knowledge about drug dealers to the police, and yet nothing seems to get done. It has been nearly seven months since we first raised the red flag about heroin use in Stevens Park and, to our knowledge, not one major arrest has been made.

We cannot accept that the challenges of proving a case prevent the police from acting. We understand that it takes time to investigate and build a case. We support and know that the Montgomery County police are first rate. Nevertheless, too many people have too many leads for an investigation not to be successful. After all, this is not a big city, and drug dealers don't really get lost in the crowd here. We think enough time has come and gone since last October, and it is time that the county police slam the door shut on the few parents, adults, and young people who deal drugs in town.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

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Published and Edited by

John Clayton and Rande Davis

John Clayton
Production
Financial
301-349-0071

jclayton@monocacymonocle.com

Rande Davis
Advertising
Circulation
301-349-0070

rdavis@monocacymonocle.com

Dominique Agnew
Copyediting
dagnev@intairnet.com

Departments
editor@monocacymonocle.com
advertising@monocacymonocle.com

Monocacy Press, LLC
John Clayton, President
Rande Davis, Vice President
P.O. Box 175
Poolesville, MD 20837
301 349-0071 • FAX 301 349-5646

Contributing Writers

Dominique Agnew
dagnev@intairnet.com

Marcie Gross

sammgross@mail.com

Debby Lynn

debbylynn@comcast.net

Maureen O'Connell

mafocconnell@msn.com

Curtis Osborne

cploz@aol.com

Jack Toomey

jackt21262@aol.com

Contributing Photographer

Hilary Schwab

hilary@hschwabphotography.com

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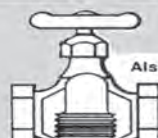
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Letters to The Monocle

The Monocle welcomes letters from responsible parties. We reserve the right to edit submissions for publication. The views expressed are those of the writer.

By Jim Garrett

We live in a unique area of Montgomery County, an area that has put a great value on its bucolic setting. We are in an agricultural preserve that puts greater value on the open land than on high-rise buildings, strip malls, and vast tracts of garden apartments. We also pay for this privilege; Montgomery County has the highest tax rate of any county in Maryland.

While we pay the same rate as other residents, we do not enjoy all the same services. For some reason, we have been by-passed by one of the most basic services that the rest of the county seems to enjoy, county trash removal. I feel that while we have not had trash service, we have had an offsetting benefit—the Beauty Spot. For those not familiar with the Beauty Spot, it is the depot for county equipment, trucks, salt, sand, and large item trash removal. The Beauty Spot lies off Jerusalem Road. On weekends, county residents have been allowed to bring

trash that does not get picked up by regular trash service. Every Saturday and Sunday, you will see cars, trucks, and minivans lining up to dispose of yard waste, old TVs, bikes, sofas, kitchen cabinets, and virtually anything not dangerous to the environment.

There have been recent rumblings that the county is considering restrictions to the Beauty Spot, or even worse, closing it altogether. What does this mean to the up-county resident? It means that you have three viable choices to dispose of your large trash items.

The first choice is to hire a contractor to come out and haul your non-household items away. I've heard that their charges usually start at around \$85.00 just to come and look at what you want to get rid of. I don't think that is a bad price for what they have to do. As a matter of fact, depending on your situation, it may be far better than option two.

The second choice is to pack up your vehicle for the trip down county to the Shady Grove Transfer Station. The transfer station puts you into one of two categories: cars or trucks. I've always felt a little out of place in my little Ford Ranger in a line full of huge commercial trash trucks, and trucks

Commentary

An Open Letter to the FBI

Dear G-Persons,

I have reason to believe that Jimmy Hoffa, the renowned and generally-believed-to-have-been-planted alleged mobster and labor leader may have been buried on my property. I would like to help you find him.

I believe he is in the large hay field on the south side of our property. The exact location is along a hill where it is difficult to cut hay, but you will notice it has a fine southern exposure and could, hypothetically, be used to grow wine grapes, should anyone ever really want to do so.

I think if you rented a backhoe, (I know of several people who could accommodate this, with sub-Halliburton overhead and G&A rates) and dug a series of parallel trenches, (four to six feet deep should suffice), I think you might find him. I will mark the spots where each trench should begin and end for the most advantageous searching. After removing Mr. Hoffa, if you would refill the trenches and mix in some organic material (I know of several sources for this as well) we can call it even. In other words--no charge from this patriot.

And no guarantee, either. Sorry.

Sincerely, John Clayton

hauling rubble and other commercial waste from construction sites. The car and mini-van line is usually a little shorter. When you consider the price of gas, the 30 to 45 minutes to get there, the waiting in line, and the trip back, the first choice really doesn't look too bad.

The third choice we have is one of the more popular choices to our friends that also live in "agricultural preserves," usually a little further south. That is the age-old rite of roadside dumping. No journey down a bucolic country road is complete

without rounding a bend and feasting your eyes on an assemblage of sofas, stoves, torn up building materials, or just plain old household trash.

Without the Beauty Spot, I don't doubt that people will use all three alternatives listed above. I would not be surprised that many people would choose option three, with a number of people doing for no other reason than to spite the county. But since we are in one of the most affluent counties in the county, we can hold our heads up high knowing that we will probably have some of the very finest roadside trash.

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Local News

Have You Ever Thought of Being a Radio Show Host?

By Tor Ofsthun

Have you ever thought about a career in radio broadcasting? Do you wistfully look back with fondness on the good old days of radio? Back then they were called disc jockeys. Wolfman Jack prowled the airwaves. Harden and Weaver, supplying good clean family fun, were the WMAL morning disc jockeys in the sixties and seventies. For listeners to classical music, one could always depend on WGMS's Dennis Owen for good-natured wry wit.

Then in the eighties, a proliferation of shock jocks flooded the airwaves. Loud, sometimes controversial, humorous or just plain rude, these shock jocks changed radio. Many people decried this new breed of radio jocks along with the increase of obnoxious talk shows on television. Maybe it was not the harbinger of the apocalypse, but at least it appeared to be an indicator of the coarsening of our culture.

Perhaps an ill omen, no doubt for some, was my own recent appearance as a guest U-Caster (DJ) at Classic Rock 94.7 the Arrow, WARW FM. The U-Caster Weekend, which started Friday, April 7 and ended on Sunday, April 9, was a promotion that allowed amateurs come in to be the disc jockey alongside the professional host for an hour or so. Contestants merely needed to go to the station's website and list the fifteen songs they intended to play and submit the entry. Then the winners were picked at random by the management.

For my part, I put in my lot not really expecting to be chosen. When promotion director Andrew Muir called me the next day to inform me that I had, in fact, been chosen to be a guest U-Caster, I was surprised and, at first, taken aback. What had I gotten myself into? A greater part of me however was thrilled and excited at the prospect.

"We came up with the idea as a group. There were several of us that thought up the U-Caster weekend," remarked Schelby Sweeney, music director at 94.7 and host from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"Actually, we did something like this years ago at WHFS," said Weasel, the evening host at 94.7 and longtime Washington, D.C. radio personality,

referring to his many years at that station. "We used to call it Radio Activity." Weasel is somewhat of a local icon himself. I remember hearing his voice again on the airwaves some three years ago when he was hired by 94.7. His knowledge of music lore is legendary.

I have always been interested in music and radio. As a child, I would do radio shows on a tape recorder that were not very unlike many contemporary radio shows: sophomoric, moronic, and sometimes humorous. I was inspired by disc jockeys like Weasel and smooth-talking Cerphe, who hosts the afternoon shift between Schelby and Weasel. Cerphe is another WHFS alumni. It was on Cerphe's show one day that I first heard my own voice on the radio.

Since then, I have been on the air numerous times, mostly on Schelby's watch during the Eclectic Lunch which starts at noon and runs for an hour or two. Listeners call in to request/suggest songs they would like to hear that mesh with whatever the theme may be on that particular day. For instance, on April 15, not surprisingly, the theme was taxes. Listeners heard Pink Floyd's "Money" and several versions of the Beatles' "Taxman." Listeners usually pick the themes as well.

I was the second U-Caster of the weekend on Friday morning. I was paired up with Schelby with whom I felt comfortable because of our previous conversations on the phone. I had set out with a few simple goals for myself. First, I did not want to make a fool of myself. Second, I wanted to make knowledgeable comments and express some of my feelings about music. Last, I wanted to enjoy the moment.

Schelby showed me around the station, introducing me to staffers and preparing me for my show. I met Mark Stevens and Steve Medley who host the entertaining morning show that precedes Schelby. They are a little wacky and witty, with a hint of the sardonic. They are not shock jocks by any means. "The weekend was the worst disaster in the history of radio," Stevens sarcastically remarked regarding the U-Cast Weekend. "The smell of flopping permeated the studio," Medley added.

The moment of truth came only fifteen minutes after I arrived at the studio. I spoke into the microphone, and, lo and behold, words formed sentences, some of them even complete. With Schelby's aid, I located the songs

that I wanted to play from the vast archives stored on computer. Then, I even pushed the bottoms to play the songs — and the promos and commercials. I scribbled down notes to read live about upcoming events and promotions. I decided which songs to play because I could not play all of my choices. I even took a phone call and somewhat grudgingly (because I was editing out some of my own picks) played a request. Best of all, I made heartfelt commentary about the songs



Radio station 94.7 "The Arrow" music director and on-air personality Schelby Sweeney and Tor Ofsthun.

and the bands that I played.

I felt pretty good when after one of my early comments Max Dugan entered the studio to tell me that I was doing very well. "You are hired!"

But it was not easy. I was nervous and very grateful to Schelby for her help. "I really liked your comments about art," she said. "You mentioned the imagery of Bruce Springsteen's 'Thunderroad.' There is great poetry in music."

Over the last couple of years, 94.7 has increasingly included more contemporary songs to its format. I remember when I first heard Pearl Jam and Jane's Addiction, two bands that I like though I thought that they were really stretching the concept of classic rock, but in retrospect, Pearl Jam's great initial album "Ten" is over fourteen years old. Can "grunge" and "progressive" be classic rock? Rock and roll actually has always been a rather broad term — consider Black Sabbath in juxtaposition with Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young.

"Our station is evolving. You cannot keep art in a box," Schelby said. "Pete Townsend likened rock and roll to a constantly changing sculpture. Great music and art is ever changing."

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ELIZABETH'S DELIGHT: Magnificent colonial w/ 4 BRs, 4.5 BAs. Dazzling two-story foyer & FR w/ Palladium windows, hwd flrs throughout main lvl, formal LR, DR w/ wainscoting & crown molding, Huge gourmet kitchen, elegant main flr library w/ bay windows & built-ins. Corner lot in private community. MLS#MC607291 Offered at \$824,900.00.



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BOYDS: Surrounded by mature trees & farmland, this cozy 3 BR, 2 full BA rambler is nestled on 3+ ac. Amenities include a lovely eat-in kitchen w/ island, living rm. w/ FP, family rm. w/ log siding, lower lvl rec rm, hardwood flrs. & above-ground pool. Convenient to MARC station, Little Bennett Regional Park & the Clarksburg & Germantown Town Ctrs. MLS#MC6018089. Offered at \$624,990.00



Mount Carmel

DICKERSON: Located atop 49.7+/- partially wooded acs., this lovely stone home, circa 1760, features 4 BRs, 2 full BAs & 2 half BAs. Main lvl LR, DR, kitchen, sunroom, mudroom/ laundry rm & powder rm. Upper lvl contains 3 BRs, 2 full BAs. The 3rd lvl includes a large BR & half BA. Amenities include wood flrs., 3 FPs, patio. Additionally, the property boasts a 2-story bank barn, in-ground swimming pool, & stone guest house w/ LR, kitchen, BR & full BA. MLS#MC6046269. Offered at \$1,250,000.00



DICKERSON: Lovely French chateau style home, constructed in 2001, w/ 6 BRs 3 full BAs, 2 half BAs & 5,800+ sq. ft. of living area. Main lvl entry foyer, LR, formal DR, kitchen, breakfast rm, family rm, den, two powder rms, & Owner's suite w/ FP, sitting area & bath w/soaking tub & sep. shower. The upper level contains 3 BRs & full hallway BA. The lower lvl boasts a recreation room, full BA, & 2 more BRs. The property sits on 2+ acs. w/ views of Sugarloaf Mt. MLS#MC6043579. Offered at \$1,150,000.00



Spacious colonial on 4+/- acs. 6 BRs/4.5 BAs & 5,500 + sf of living space. Main lvl LR, DR, newly remodeled country kitchen, sitting area w/ FP & SGD to 2 lvl deck, library, light & spacious family rm. Upper lvl Owner's suite w/ walk-in closet, dressing area & full BA, 4 more BRs & 2 full BAs. Finished lwr. lvl w/ 6th BR, full BA, storage area & rec.rm. w/SGD leading to patio. 2-car side load garage, inground pool, 2-stall barn, new driveway. Great location. MLS#MC5555585. Offered at \$799,000.00



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LOTS AND LAND

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Poolesville: Surrounded by farmland with pastoral views, this 13.5 ac. building lot has an approved sound mound perc to service a 5 bedroom residence. Partially wooded with a stream, this lot is approx. 5 miles from the Town of Poolesville, and 14 miles from Potomac Village. MLS # MC5528055. Offered at \$750,000.00

Barnesville/Dickerson: This 6 ac. Building lot offers the best of both worlds: a totally private, wooded setting with a stream and close proximity to the MARC train station. Approved sound mound perc to service a 5 bedroom residence. MLS#MC5547275. Offered at \$550,000.00

Dickerson: 18.71 ac. Currently being utilized as a tree nursery, this property consists of 2 lots with one approved perc. Lovely homesite on high elevation. Easily accessible to the Frederick area and Gaithersburg/Rockville. MLS#MC5308569. Offered at \$550,000.00

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Memorial Day Weekend

Celebrating the 400th Anniversary of Jamestown

From May 27 through June 3, the city of Old Town Alexandria starts a weeklong festival celebrating the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. Take a tour of the God-speed, a replica of a colonial ship, and attend a unique Landing Party Festival featuring live music, children's entertainment, and historic and cultural displays

Memorial Day Festivities in Rockville

On May 27-29, 2006, Rockville hosts a three-day street festival in celebration of Memorial Day with live music, children's entertainment, a parade, and more.

Weeklong Carnival in Gaithersburg

The Gaithersburg City Youth festival is a carnival that is held each year the week of Memorial Day at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. The ten-day event features rides, games, live entertainment, and a variety of foods. The festival is a fundraiser for the Gaithersburg Sports Association, a non-profit organization that

provides youth baseball, football, and wrestling activities. Admission is free. Parking is \$2.00. Hours are weekdays 5 p.m. to midnight, weekends 10 a.m. to midnight. Saturdays and Sundays are Kids Days and children ages seven and under can ride the Kiddieland rides from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for \$12.00.

Concert on West Lawn of U. S. Capital Building

The annual PBS Memorial Day concert is free and will start at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 28. The concert will feature actors Joe Mantegna, Gary Sinise, and Charles Durning. Other guest stars will be there along with conductor Erich Kunzel and the National Symphony Orchestra.

National Memorial Day Parade

The annual parade in Washington, D.C. is on Monday, May 29 and runs from noon to 2:00 p.m. There will be marching bands and veterans' units from all fifty states. The parade begins at 5th and Constitution Avenues. Sponsored by the World War II Veterans Committee, the parade includes patriotic floats and helium-filled balloons.

Will It Be a Bath or a Shower?

The Weinberg Center for the Arts presents the movie *Zo/Shower* on June 2 at 8:00 p.m. Based on the typical tale

of the modern son in conflict with the old-fashioned parent and loyal son, this movie is a little different in that it takes place in China, and the main meeting place is the bath house (the modern son prefers showers). What will happen when the bath house is condemned? The movie is in Chinese with English subtitles and is rated PG-13. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Call the box office at 301-228-2828 or visit www.weinbergcenter.org for more information.

Frederick Airport Fly-In

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is hosting its big fly-in on June 3 at Frederick Airport. This fun day at the airport includes aviation exhibits, aircraft display, and aviation seminars. There's lots to see, and it's an excellent opportunity to get up close to aircraft. For more information, visit www.aopa.org.

Look for Those Terrific Church Rummage Sales Deals

June 3 has two church rummage sales that will be sure to thrill the bargain hunter. The Poolesville Presbyterian Church has its rummage sale starting at 8:00 a.m. and going until 2:00 p.m. Additionally, Forest Grove Methodist Church is having an annual community yard sale on Saturday, June 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The

church is located on Route 28 just south of the turnoff of Route 28 and Route 85. There will be a rain date of June 10.

Clarksburg Day

Clarksburg Road and Maryland Route 355, rain or shine, Saturday, June 3rd, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. An annual festival that celebrates Clarksburg's past and the promise of its future. Sponsored by the Clarksburg Historical Society, the Old-town historical displays tell the story of Clarksburg from 1752 until 2006. Visit us and receive a free gift.

This is a day for the family to share and enjoy with games, vendor sales, demonstrations, spinning, music, contests, train ride and a trolley ride through the historic district, with over twenty historical sites. Free Park 'N Ride shuttle busses, from four nearby parking lots. For more information call 301-253-3807 or 301-428-0190. Free admission.

Odd Fellow Annual Picnic

The Odd Fellows of Poolesville Lodge 97 is inviting the community to join them for their annual widows, widowers, and orphans picnic on Saturday, June 24. Come join friends and neighbors for a fun time of music,

—Continued on Page 19.



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The Arena

Delegate Jean Cryor: Hearing the Small Voice

By Rande Davis

If you think all politicians simply use spin as the language of choice when talking to the press, then you have not had a conversation with Del. Jean Cryor (R-District 15) lately. Her direct, to-the-point speaking style ripples with enthusiasm, passion, and spontaneity. A bit of a maverick in her own party, her willingness to speak her mind may be due to her past life as a journalist. This former editor and publisher of the *Gazette* newspaper, much prefers the title of reporter to her more impressive past corporate titles. She must have been a pretty good reporter, too, since she was awarded first prize in 1993 for investigative reporting by the Maryland Society of Professional Journalism.

While her late husband, Dan Cryor, built an impressive career as a TV reporter with CBS, she began working in journalism. She started her career with a small, community newspaper in Pennsylvania called the *Suburban Wayne Times*. When she switched to the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, her investigative reporting career got off to a quick start when she got her first, front-page, below-the-fold story about a racist minister who surprisingly spewed his venom publicly even though he knew that a member of the press was present.

She left her journalism career for ten years when she was selected to head up the News Election Service, an organization that pooled election result coverage for the networks and wire services. Building a national organization that eventually grew to over seven hundred employees, she credits her ability to multi-task to her lessons learned as a mom raising three daughters.

Then a family tragedy struck when her husband died leaving her, at thirty-eight years old, alone and with three young girls to raise. Rallying her girls, she told them, "I promise you this, we will be happy again." Since the position with the News Election Service required too much travel, she looked for an opportunity that would



Delegate Jean Cryor

serve the family's needs better.

She got another break when she was able to join with a high-level political consultant, Doug Baily, as an independent contractor coordinating civic action campaigns. This professional experience gave her invaluable insight in working civic issues. Away from the job, she got active in the concerns of her community by getting involved in the Western Montgomery County Civic Association, which she eventually came to lead as its president.

After her youngest daughter graduated from college, she gained a newfound sense of freedom that allowed her to consider employment opportunities based more on her interests than on financial needs. It was

—Continued on Page 24.

Editor's Note: Over the next few issues, The Monocle will profile some of our local elected officials, beginning with this issue's articles on Delegates Jean Cryor and Kathleen Dumais. We hope these articles will make your representatives more familiar to you, both politically and personally, and perhaps get us all thinking about how to vote when the time comes in September and November. As these elections draw nearer, we will ask the major candidates in some of our local races explain, in their own words, why they are deserving of our vote.

Delegate Kathleen Dumais: Why the Worker Bees Make All the Difference

By John Clayton

Katherine Dumais was elected to the state delegation for District 15 in 2002 in her first attempt for statewide office. She is a member of the Judiciary Committee and of several subcommittees, particularly in the area of family and juvenile law. Ms. Dumais graduated cum laude from Mount Vernon College in Washington, D.C. and received her J.D. from the University of Maryland School of Law.

She was a political science and communications major in college and actually considered being a journalist, having been on her school papers in high school and college. Coming out of law school, she

had specifically planned, instead of practicing law, to be a legal journalist. "Don't ask me what that means because I can't tell you," she says with a laugh during our recent interview at her law offices in Bethesda.

We began the discussion with her observations on the coming District 15 elections, and she said that District 15 will continue to be more interesting than most districts in the county because it is the only district that has a Republican delegate, Jean Cryor, who "to be honest, I love." Ms. Dumais further described Ms. Cryor as "a phenomenal person...great to work with, and a wonderful mentor." So much for stirring up a little partisan rancor. She also said that in most of the other Montgomery County districts, the election is pretty much done with the primary, while in District 15, we have a legitimate contest in the general election. Ms. Dumais said that while this made it more challenging, it also made things a bit more fun.

She discussed the field in her upcoming reelection bid briefly, observing that a third Democrat, Craig Rice, has filed for the election, and there are also several Republican candidates. "The bottom line is: Who gets knocked off? Is it Jean, is it Brian, or is it me?" She says that with only three Democratic candidates for the three seats, she would not have to face a primary challenge and could conserve resources for the general election, when she, incumbent Brian Feldman, and Mr. Rice could possibly run as a slate with incumbent Senator Rob Garagiola.

Ms. Dumais said that the main issues affecting the upcounty portion of her district, such as "protecting the Agricultural Reserve and keeping development where it should be," are generally determined at a more local or county level, while the state delegation's role is in providing funding through the state budgeting process. Examples of where issues had



Kathleen M. Dumais



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—Continued on Page 25.

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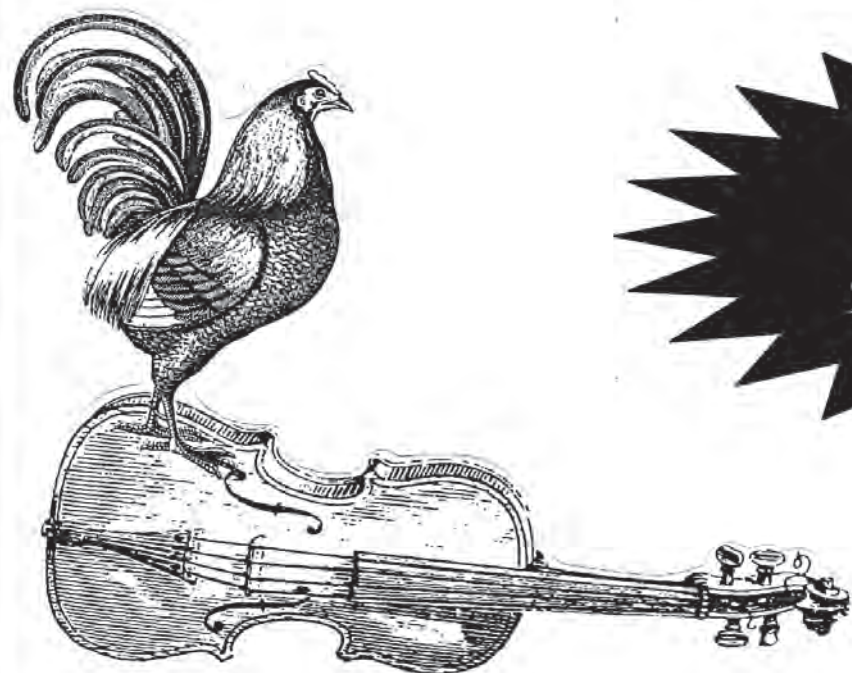
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School News More Than a Project

By Dominique Agnew

On Tuesday, May 16, 2006, the seniors of Poolesville High School's Global Ecology Program spent the day talking about and displaying

their senior projects, the culmination of a year's work in the program. Geared towards younger grades, the displays were open to the public. As some of the projects last more

than one year, juniors could consider picking up where graduating seniors left off for their own senior projects.

Most of the projects involve students working with other conservation groups. The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club helps to maintain the Appalachian Trail in this section of the trail and organizes a backpacking trip.

Senior Raquel Sosnowski has been working with Hood College's Mr. Strasser and Dr. Boucher on American Chestnut Research. Anna Aryankalayil aligned herself with members of the Agricultural Reserve to help educate the public about the benefits of the Ag Reserve. Project Wild involves teaching about sound environmental prac-



Anna Aryankalayil and her senior project.

tices to younger grades; and every year, bay grasses have been grown in tanks in the greenhouse for the Chesapeake Bay.

These were a few among the many fine projects in which students participated in activities

directly benefiting the environment. GESP science teacher Ms. Joyce Bailey oversees the senior projects for GESP. She invites anyone in the community involved in environmental work who could envision a collaboration with high school seniors to contact her at the high school.

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Center Stage East Meets West

By Dominique Agnew

What if Columbus had landed on the west coast? Think of all the sayings we would have to change: Eastward Ho! Go east, young man! The wild, wild east.

Recently, instead of traveling west, things came east, for a change. In mid-May, the Simpson Gallagher Gallery of Cody, Wyoming made its way east to the Potomac Hunt Club in Dick-



"Coconina Plateau." Geoff Parker oil on linen.

son for quite a show. The large dining hall was transformed into a gallery displaying a wide variety of genres and media. This warm setting perfectly presented what Sue Gallagher calls "art that reflects the West yet [is] not necessarily Western Art." Thus, while most of the artists represented at the show were from the West, some were not, in particular, Walter Matia of Poolesville.

A nationally-renowned bronze sculptor, Walter Matia arranged for



Walter Matia with "Turkey Hen and Poult."

the art show to take place through friends at the Hunt Club. Sue Simpson Gallagher, owner of the Simpson Gallagher Gallery says, "Walter is one of those artists who's a rarity—he wants to share the artists whom he respects." In the tradition of the artists of the turn of the twentieth century, Walter believes in both sharing clients with other artists and in sharing good art with clients. The greatest collectors, Sue says, will ask good artists whose work they should collect.

This is not the first time the Simpson Gallagher Gallery has brought an art show to the East Coast; however, it is a first for the Monocacy area. Every two years, the gallery usually has a show in Washington, D.C. In 1989, Sue, with her mother, began having shows in D.C. to showcase artist from Wyoming. Her father is former Senator Alan K. Simpson, and they wanted

to bring a bit of the West to D.C. Sue says her "parents are great patrons of the arts," and they instilled in her and her siblings a love and respect for the arts and artists. Twelve years ago, Sue opened her gallery in her hometown of Cody, Wyoming and has been supporting western art ever since.

Bringing a show two thousand miles is no easy task, and Sue could not have done it without the help of her trusty sidekick, Gallery Director Chuck Neustifter — she's from Wyoming, folks, everyone there has a trusty sidekick. Every two years, Chuck packs his Chevy Tahoe full of art and drives east with a stop in his home state of Wisconsin. They enjoy traveling with shows to keep things interesting. "I'd rather bring the art to the clients,"

says Sue. She says it energizes them and prepares them for the busy tourist season, and "it's nice to do something out of town" during the quiet season.

Sue met Walter Matia about twenty years ago when she was the curator at the National Wildlife Art Museum in Jackson, Wyoming. "The entire art world is small," says Sue, "the wildlife art world is very small." They had many friends in common in the wildlife art world, and she admires

Walter and his art greatly. She says he is one of the best sculptors in the U.S. and possibly more famous out west than here. So when Walter told her "to invite everyone in [her] gallery" to do an art show at the Potomac Hunt Club, she says, "It was an honor for us," and the show turned into "a celebratory event." The show proved to be very successful, and she looks to returning. Hopefully, we'll see her in the area in another two years.



Gallery Director Chuck Neustifter and gallery owner Sue Simpson Gallagher with Walter Matia's "African Gray Goose."

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Local News

Large Crowd Turns Out to Celebrate Public Library's 15th Anniversary

By Rande Davis

Nearly one hundred and fifty town residents, county and state dignitaries, and other supporters of the Poolesville Library came together to celebrate its fifteenth anniversary. Mark Gochnour, the senior librarian (referred to as an agency manager by the county library department) emceed the event which was set up to provide an opportunity for library staff to thank the public for its support and the many volunteers over the years.

Mr. Gochnour fondly reminisced how so many of the original two-year-olds who first attended the library's story time events are now athletes at the high school. A highlight was the awarding of certificates of achievement by area elementary students who entered posters in the library's poster contest. The certificates were arranged and awarded by state Senator Rob Garagiola.

Representing the state of Maryland, Del. Jean Cryor presented a certificate to the library and community and congratulated the community

on its success with its library service. County Executive Doug Duncan, who could not be there, was represented by both County Councilman Michael Knapp and by the library director of the Montgomery County Department of Public Libraries, Ms. Parker Hamilton.

Noting the transition from its original bookmobile roots to its current multi-faceted resource center, Mr. Gochnour related how the library eventually left its last location at PHS to its current storefront location. The community used the library so much that in 2000, they increased its space

by more than a third.

Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski spoke on behalf of the town commissioners and town residents in general when he congratulated the staff that "helped bring this remarkable place into being, and through their continued perseverance, even in the face of budget and personnel cuts, they have made this an extremely important and valued part of our community. It is unlike any other resource the county has to offer, and for the price that is paid, it is the best bang for the buck in the county."

Those students who were honored for their poster contribution were also awarded \$50.00 for first place, \$25.00 for second place, and \$10.00 for honorable mention. The students by grade were:

Kindergarten: William Field, Katie Morrow, and Leanna Choo; first grade: Tali Joy Normoyle, Melissa Hall, and Lauren Souder; second grade: Luke Glenn, Clare Smith, and Anne Hundertmark; third grade: Megan Souder, Adele Spinder, and Gracie Normoyle; fourth grade: Annie Gillespie, Patience Normoyle, and Marie Jankowski; and fifth grade: Kali Wolin, Stephanie Hall, Jake Corfman, and Matt Tallia.



State Senator Rob Garagiola had the honor of standing with the winners of the library's poster contest.

A Monocacy Moment

Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church at dusk.



Photograph by Hilary Schwab Shapiro

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Submitted by: Hilary Schwab Shapiro: Tiger and Petey

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May 28

PBS U.S. Capital Lawn Concert

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May 29

National Memorial Day Parade

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May 30

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June 3

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June 5

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Strathmore Hall

June 10

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June 10 and 11

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Poolesville High School

Football field

June 17

Preservation and Community

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Dance: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

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In the Garden

Herbal Essence

By Maureen O'Connell

Part One of Two Parts

The *Oxford Dictionary* defines an herb as a low-growing plant that has a fleshy or juicy stem when it is young. The word "herb" comes from the Latin word *herba*, meaning grass, green stalks, or blades. Today, most people grow herbs or buy them dried to use in cooking, but throughout the ages, herbs had many other uses. In the Middle Ages, every household, from the humble peasant's abode to the splendid monasteries and grandest castles, had a kitchen or utilitarian garden. Some members of the minor gentry might have had both a kitchen garden and an orchard. A king, abbot, or bishop would have had an additional park-like garden, usually walled. The kitchen garden, which was closest to the home's kitchen, supplied plants used for food, flavoring, medicinal purposes, and other household needs.

In today's fast-food society, most of our herbs come off a supermarket shelf, dried in little glass jars. While convenient, they are no substitute for freshly-picked herbs from a home

garden. Spring is an ideal time to carve out an herbal garden in your backyard. Herbs are easy to grow, either from seeds or plants, and require little maintenance. You could become a Master Herb Gardener with little trouble and few skills.

Herbs can be classified into three groupings: culinary herbs, medicinal herbs, and ornamental herbs. Most home gardeners grow herbs for use in cooking as a flavoring or for their aesthetic value. From the earliest of times, herbs were valued for medicinal purposes, and they still are today. Walk down the aisle of any pharmacy or supermarket health section and you will see herbal supplements of all kinds: Echinacea, valerian, hypericum, ginkgo, and many others. Lavender, roses, mint, rosemary, and sage are used in aromatherapies to soothe aching muscles and calm overstressed minds.

In the Middle Ages, herbs were very useful and valued as room fresheners. A wealthy English nobleman bathed faithfully every three to four weeks. A peasant, who had to haul water from long distances and heat it over an open fire, might have found this schedule excessive, and, in the cold of winter, bathing with

—Continued on Page 24.



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Local News

Monocacy Elementary Losing Mr. Poole

By Dominique Agnew

It is with an eye to the future and a part of his heart in the past that Principal Bill Poole will be leaving Monocacy Elementary — and maybe he's just a little bit crazy. In July, Mr. Poole will begin his new tenure as principal at Waters Landing Elementary in Germantown — a school he helped open in 1988 as a fifth grade teacher.

Seeking the professional challenge it would offer, Mr. Poole applied for the position this spring when he learned of the opening. Three times larger than Monocacy, Waters Landing has in place the Baldrige Academy. This program, established by retired Waters Landing principal Eve Wetten, is a continuous improvement process utilizing policies and procedures to make sure there is constant inspiration. Through the Baldrige criteria, all aspects, from instruction, to meetings, to anything that has to do with the life of the school, are enhanced and made more effective. Because Waters Landing has had the program for the longest of any school in the county

(Monocacy just began using Baldrige this year), it is a model visitation school. People interested in Baldrige visit Waters Landing to see the program in action.

Another challenge Mr. Poole is looking forward to embracing has to do with the size of the school. After five years at Monocacy (student body 230), his first principal position, he will be dealing with a school of 650 students. Likewise, the staff size will be substantially larger. He hopes to instill the same kind of openness and communication as he has had at Monocacy — an open door — and, for the first time, he will have to work with an assistant principal.

Bill Poole looks forward to new challenges and new experiences — and maybe even a few familiar faces as some of the teachers who opened the school with him are still there. On the other hand, Mr. Poole loves Monocacy Elementary. "Are you sure?" his wife asked of him recently about his decision. His response: "No, I'm not." It's going to be really tough to leave Monocacy. He spends so much time at the school that he considers the staff and students an extension of his family. "I'm going to miss the people; I'm going to miss the kids," he says wistfully. He is not looking forward to

the fifth grade promotion or the last assembly or waving goodbye to the buses on the last day or the last staff meeting. "It's going to be really hard."

For the new principal, however (the selection process has just begun), things will be great. Mr. Poole couldn't stop praising the staff at Monocacy. He says whoever becomes principal will be lucky. The teachers and staff are risk takers, outside-the-box thinkers, but always thinking in terms of the good of the students. "They routinely go the extra mile," he says. "I've never been with a more gung-ho staff than this one." There are great leaders, great teachers, and most of the nuts and bolts are in place for next year. While the small size of Monocacy presents its own unique challenges — there are fewer people to accomplish more jobs — it also has its unique benefits. "I don't spend time on discipline. My day is not filled with discipline problems," Mr. Poole says. He is able to spend time in the classroom, with the students, and with the teachers.

The new principal will also have the opportunity to have the amazing support of the parents. When something needs to be done, a parent always volunteers to do it — "it's done." Mr. Poole says, "I can never remember

that kind of energy and commitment from a parent community. It's phenomenal. It's unique."

Mr. Poole is so excited about the things planned for next year that he wishes he would be here to see them.

"It's a special place out here," he adds. "You'd be crazy to want to leave what's here."

Police Blotter

Past and Present

In April, the Montgomery County Police activated a countywide task force to address the problems associated with underage drinking, impaired driving, and drug use during this year's prom season. The Prom Task Force began on April 19 and will be in effect until June 6. Officers received the locations of all high school proms and after-prom parties. The locations of several unauthorized after-prom hotel parties were also received and arrests were made. Although prom season is almost over and most local high schools will have had their proms by the time this crime blotter is published, the Montgomery County

—Continued on Page 22.

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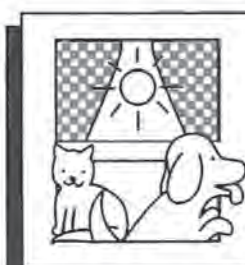
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**“How God Works” Continued
From Page 1—**

just around the corner from the site) would not hear of taking any money for them. “I heard about your trouble,” he said. “Just pick out the replacement stones, and we’ll donate them.”

Then, when he spoke to the owner of Kinnaid Memorials in Thurmont about the cost of engraving, he offered to help, too, and gave the congregation a nearly sixty-five percent discount—a significant contribution when you tally up twenty-one stones.

Finally, when he arrived back at the office, he was informed that

a member of the congregation had made a donation toward replacing the stones which the congregation was able to put toward the engraving of the new stones and which enabled them to have all twenty-one stones engraved at the same time.

The new stones arrived and were installed just in time for Holy Week. On Wednesday of Holy Week, the congregation held its first outdoor Stations of the Cross Service as the sun’s last rays graced the field that will one day hold their church building.

So if you happen to run into the person who stole the stones, please let them know that all is forgiven. It’s a God thing.

**“Big Board” Continued From
Page 8—**

dinner with ham and/or chicken, and door prizes.

**Plan Ahead for a Great Family
Time**

For many, many years, the Historic Medley District, Inc. held traditional barn dances and pig roasts for the enjoyment of the community. After nearly ten years of not holding this popular event, the Monocacy Lions Club is joining HMD in sponsoring the Preservation and Community Barn Dance and Pig Roast at Tru-land Farm, 15800 Darnestown Road

in Darnestown. This is an important fundraiser for both community groups that do such good work in the area. The ticket for the dinner and dance is \$35.00 per person and \$20.00 per person for the dance only. (For individuals twelve and under, tickets are \$12.00 for the dinner/dance and \$5.00 for the dance only.) The pig roast dinner is being catered by Smokin’ Ray and will also feature coleslaw, red potato salad, baked beans, and applesauce. The HMD crew will be providing homemade desserts. Dinner tickets include two drinks, but there will be a cash bar all evening.

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**“Roots and Shoots” Continued
on Page 1—**

that knowledge leads to compassion which inspires action.” Through this basic tenet, the club tries to do what it can to help people and the environment. One of the most interesting aspects of R&S is that there are no required projects, only initiatives. R&S members decide what they will do, who they will help, and how they will accomplish their goals.

In this past year, Poolesville’s R&S Club initiated fundraisers to send a girl to school in Tanzania and for Heifer International (remember that cute, kissable goat?). The club also became politically involved in urging Montgomery County to pass a Clean Energy bill; and the club participated in hands on activities that included invasive species removal through the Nature Conservancy.

There are over eight thousand R&S clubs around the world with members of varying ages, and the one here at PHS has taken on helping others at home and abroad.

In the words of Dr. Jane Goodall, “Roots creep underground everywhere and make a firm foundation. Shoots seem very weak, but to reach the light, they can break open brick

walls. Imagine that the brick walls are all the problems we have inflicted on our planet. Hundreds and thousand of Roots and Shoots, hundreds and thousands of young people around the world, can break through these walls. You can change the world.”

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The staff is knowledgeable about the science of fitness, understands the need to make the most of every workout, and is able to adapt to every individual's fitness goals. No matter where you are in a training program and no matter what your fitness goals, everybody feels welcome and motivated. For me, Healthworks has been a key part of maintaining cardiovascular health in my 40s and sustaining a commitment to healthy living.

A big thanks to everyone at Healthworks for all that you do!
Andrew S. Gilmour, Poolesville

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School News

Monocacy Elementary School

Building a Canal Boat

The campaign to raise money for the building of a new canal boat is going strong. The SGA has joined the C&O Canal Association and the Friends of Great Falls, both nonprofits, in their fundraising efforts to build a new canal boat to run on the canal at Great Falls. The last running canal boat has been out of commission for several years due to a few leaks. The SGA will continue selling T-shirts with a C&O Canal Association-approved design drawn by Emily Durr. The shirts sell for just \$10.00 each and are available in adult small, medium, large, and extra large. The SGA has nearly sold all 120 shirts ordered and hopes to order more. For more information, call the school at 301-972-7990.

The Sound of Music

May 31 at 7:00 p.m. is the Spring Chorus and Band concert.

It's a Bird! It's a Plane!

No, it's Mr. Poole performing a stunt for the benefit of all Bobcat Readers! The Principal's Challenge is underway! If one hundred students read at least fifty thousand minutes by June 9, Mr. Poole will perform a stunt as selected by student votes. Will

he wrestle a wrestling coach? Will he take a mud bath? Find out after the votes are tallied! Readers, keep reading and keep track of time spent reading on tally sheets.

John Poole Middle School

JPMS Wants You!

JPMS wants you to come to parent orientation night, Thursday, June 1 from 6:45 to 7:45. For parents of incoming sixth grade students, learn what to expect next year. The meeting will take place in the all-purpose room.

It's Academic in the Summer

Not the show, the students. JPMS will be offering academic summer school programs for math and literacy. There will be several programs offered for math and literacy that will prepare students for their upcoming school year. For more information, contact Mrs. Weitzel, Summer School Program Coordinator, by email Yvonneke_M_Weitzel@mcpsmd.org by phone 301-972-7979.

Poolesville High School

Graduation Time

Senior from the class of 2006 will be graduating from Poolesville High School on June 5 from Strathmore Hall. Tickets are required. Congratulations seniors and good luck in all your future endeavors.



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"Police Blotter" Continued From Page 18—

Police have assured the *Monocle* that their efforts to apprehend underage drinkers and those who supply alcohol to those who are underage will continue.

The police will also be participating in an area-wide "Smooth Operator" program during several weeks this summer. The campaign will target aggressive drivers whose driving behavior includes speeding, tailgating, unsafe lane changing, failing to yield the right of way, and running stop signs and red lights. The Montgomery County Police reminds all motorists to be aware of their responsibility to

obey all traffic laws, and to always use caution when operating a motor vehicle.

Past

May 28, 1972. Two Germantown juveniles were arrested and charged with setting a four-alarm fire that destroyed the Liberty Mill at Germantown. It was one of the largest fires in the history of Montgomery County.

May 29, 1931. Two men were injured when their automobiles in which they were riding came together in a headlong collision on the pike near Poolesville. According to police, a car driven by a Philadelphia man was attempting to pass another car on a curve when it collided with a car

driven by a man from Reisterstown, Maryland.

May 30, 1931. Montgomery County police were preparing a drive against people living in the county who are using District of Columbia license tags on their cars. A decision that was handed down in the Circuit Court has given the police the authority to begin the crackdown.

May 31, 1905. A man was arrested near Ijamsville for riding on a freight car owned by the B&O railroad without permission and with stoning the conductor after he was thrown off of the train. He was given a hearing and fined five dollars.

June 5, 1913. Charges of a sensational nature were made in a lawsuit filed in the Rockville court. Mrs. Johnson of Rockville claims that a conductor of the Washington and Rockville Railway Company made an indecent proposal to her while she was riding on the railroad. Mrs. Johnson, who is now married, says that the incident happened in 1910 when she was unmarried.

June 6, 1959. Three men escaped drowning when their small boat capsized in the rain-swollen Potomac River near Seneca. A life preserver saved the life one of the men who was a non-swimmer.

Golf Tips with Mike Aldrich Balance

Most golfers would agree that a good sense of balance is beneficial to playing golf well. I disagree wholeheartedly. Just watch those pros on TV; they always are in perfect balance. Now that is a statement that I can agree with.

The successful golfer is not in balance because of an uncanny ability to keep his balance under extraordinary conditions. Trust me, I am a pretty darn good golfer, but Cirque de Soleil has no immediate plans for me as the headline act. How is it that a good golfer is always in balance without him or her having the coordination of a tightrope walker?

The simple and correct answer is that a good golf swing does not exert any forces that require great balance. Throughout most swings, both of the golfer's feet are in contact with the ground. The golf swing is balanced in itself and does not require the golfer to catch his balance before, during, or after the motion. Sometimes golfers move the club in a manner that is not

—Continued on Page 25.

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Equestrian

Avoiding Training Injuries

By Debby Lynn

If you are contemplating one of riding's more extreme sports such as eventing or foxhunting, you will need a more-than-moderately fit horse. However, developing your horse into a true athlete requires care to avoid injury. Training for moderate fitness carries a smaller risk of injury, and the moderately-fit horse is less prone to injury than the unfit horse. Conversely, training for a higher level of fitness increases the risk of injury, and the very fit horse is more likely to hurt himself doing his job just because we are asking for more performance.

There are several things you can do to minimize the risk of training injuries. First, address the issue of pasture injury. It's a heartbreak to bring a

horse along and have him all ready for a big competition, only to find he has been badly kicked in his paddock the day before your show.

Make sure he gets along with his pasture mates. Gender segregation is a big help in this respect, as is proper herd size. The herd size your horse is most comfortable with is related to his survival instincts. In the wild, a lone horse would be very vulnerable. Horses turned out alone are more prone to injurious activities such as running the fence. Very small herd groups also tend to increase your horse's anxiety for the same reason. Overly large groups are also a problem as they can lead to aggressive behavior. The natural basis for this is competition for food in overcrowded situations. I find the optimum herd size is five to ten, unless your fields are so big the horses establish separate sub herds.

Next, make sure you are not feeding an energy bomb. Concentrated

carbohydrates cause the same rapid rise in blood sugar in horses as they do in humans. The resulting rush of energy can lead to playing up. Try to feed a low carbohydrate diet with a high fat content if you need to feed more calories.

Do everything you can to minimize stress to your horse's legs without compromising progressive fitness. Start with base fitness. Don't try to train for speed before you have slowly built up bone, tendon, and ligament fitness. Use slower work up hills rather than faster work on the flat to increase lung capacity.

Warming up and cooling down properly is essential to maintaining soundness. When riding out, I walk for the first ten minutes to allow blood flow to gradually increase to the muscles. Muscles will literally warm up, increasing in temperature. The horse's range of motion will also gradually increase. A gradual cool down after

exercise allows the circulatory system to clear lactic acid from the muscles.

Above all else, a consistent, well-planned program will help prevent training injuries. Just as weekend warriors of the human variety are most likely to suffer injury, horses trained heavily on weekends and skipped during the busy work or school week will be more injury prone. I work my horses six days per week, with one day being a long slow trail ride. The trail ride allows for the horse's mind to relax, as well as his body.

There are no guarantees, and anyone who has kept horses for any length of time can tell you: they do get hurt, but if you follow a consistent, progressive training program, you can minimize the risk of injury.

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**"Cryor" Continued From
Page 9—**

then that she joined Davis Kennedy at the *Gazette* and was given the task of developing a number of down-county editions.

When Jean Roesser (former state Senator) called her in 1995 to say that she was thinking of filing for the Maryland Senate race, Jean Cryor heard in her heart a small voice say to her, "And I am going to run for the House of Delegates." After checking out the impulse with her daughters, she not only ran but also ended up taking first place in the Republican primary that included an incumbent in the race.

Through the years, she has built up her seniority to the point where she is now the ranking minority member on the House Ways and Means Committee. This is arguably the most important legislative committee since it controls the purse strings. In addition, she has served on such important committees and task forces such as Governor's Commission on Quality Education, Transportation Task Force, Joint Committee on Community College Funding, election law subcommittee, Joint Committee on Federal Relations, and the Special Committee on Higher Education Affordability and Accessibility.

We asked her why she got into politics, and her answer was right to the point. "I have always been driven to respond to what I call 'hearing the small voice.'" For her, this defines those persons who have become frustrated by a non-responsive government. For her, it is not just the big issues but also the problems faced by individuals. When the ham radio towers went up on Sugarland Road, she could have taken a hands-off approach since it was not a state issue but a county one. Hearing the small voice of one couple, she brought the issue to the state level through committee hearings, and, while the legal aspects are beyond the state, by using the bully pulpit, the county finally responded to her initiatives by changing county law so such a construction cannot occur again without public hearings and variance postings.

How small a voice is small? How about helping a constituency with no power and no representation at all? In fact, it's even worse because they are dead. With fifteen thousand adult persons going missing in Maryland, she became aware of the frustration and near total lack of power for families trying to find a relative who has gone missing. "I was moved by a story in the *Washington Post* of a family whose father was hit and killed by a bus in a county (in which) he did not live. The man's thirteen-year-old son tried

for seventeen days to get the police to help find his father. On the eighteenth day, the family found out their father was killed only because the hospital sent them a bill. The lack of uniformity in reporting forms, the delay in responding to a missing adult, and the possible cremation of an identified body without taking DNA could have resulted in the family never knowing what happened." The old approach also required that persons making the report file in it person. "This meant that if you were a parent of a student from out of state, you could lose extremely critical time in having to come to Maryland to file the report. The first few hours are the most important time."

Starting a few years ago, with a Task Force on Missing and Vulnerable Adults, her leadership has now resulted into a new law being signed the week of May 22, 2006. The new law now requires the necessary uniformity in reporting forms, the filing of photographs (before only a description was needed) of the missing person, the requirement to take DNA samples prior to cremation and the disposal of the body. It also ensures that police departments accept the report immediately without delay (no more twenty-four to forty-eight hour delays), and does not require the concerned relative to come in person to make the report. For Cryor, one of the

best aspects of all this is that "this law can now serve as a model for other states to follow."

Del. Cryor's legislation for a No Sales Tax Week, which suspends sales taxes on clothing and shoes for one week just before the start of school, is a popular bill that has been copied by many other states.

Her goals for the coming year include improving the Maryland Estate Tax (making it closer to the Federal law), expanding the Veterans Bill which provides financial help to those who have served, and continuing to work with the Montgomery delegation to expand aid to education, the arts, transportation, and other critical areas. From her concern of overuse of classroom portables to mold in the hallways, she has been active in working with local residents to correct these problems.

While she is proud of her accomplishments over the years and her recognition in 2006 as one of Maryland's Top 100 women, she is most satisfied with and proud of the success her three daughters, Allison DiNardo, Jennifer Baldwin, and Deidre Cryor, have had personally and professionally. She jokes that they support her political career for a very good reason. "They like me being in politics because I am too busy to be over-involved in their lives."

**"Herbs" Continued From
Page 17—**

water was unheard of. For those who could afford it, heavy doses of perfume masked many unpleasant odors. If you could not afford this luxury, strong-smelling plants were strewn over floors and in bedding. These plants with aromatic foliage became known as strewing herbs. Rosetta Clarkson in her book *Magic Gardens* (Collier Books, New Ed edition, January 1992) describes a household scene from this era: "It was the custom to throw bones and other scraps from the table to the dogs, whose shaggy coats were none too clean. In time, the decaying food, rushes, and other filth caused all manner of disease-breeding vermin." So here was another reason for strewing herbs – as a pesticide. In 1557, Englishman Thomas Tusser (1524-1580) published a book entitled *A Hundred Good Points of Husbandrie*, in which he included a list of twenty-one strewing herbs. We recognize them today as basil, lemon balm, sweet fennel, germander, hyssop, lavender, santolina, marjoram, pennyroyal, sage, tansy, and winter savory.

Towards the beginning of the twentieth century, bathing became more frequent and Arrid Extra Dry replaced heavy perfumes and wilted herbs.

Over the centuries, many myths have grown around herb plants. The Greeks have a very interesting story about the creation of mint. Persephone, daughter of Zeus and Demeter and goddess of the underworld in Greek mythology, discovered that her husband Hades was spending quite a lot of time, attention, and more on a nymph named Minthe. For revenge, Persephone turned her into a plant upon which she could trod. Hades could not reverse this curse, so for his revenge, he ensured that the plant would aromatically announce its presence with each footfall. For Minthe's revenge, she became incredibly virulent and invasive. Once established, she cannot be ignored. Anyone who has tried to control the growth of this herb in his garden can relate to this myth.

Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.) is know as a soldier's herb. As the Roman centurions and their armies swept through Northern Italy and

east to Persia, it is said that yarrow grew everywhere they marched, but yarrow's value was known long before the Greeks. The great warrior Achilles learned about it from his childhood tutor, the centaur Chiron. He showed him how the herb could be used to stop the flow of blood in his soldiers' wounds. In his battles in Troy, it was used as an absorbent wound dressing and anti-coagulant. Thus, the herb's Latin name was *Achillea* to honor its Greek origin. The Greek and Roman

soldiers carried yarrow with them onto the battlefields. They packed open wounds with it to prevent soldiers from bleeding to death. The value of yarrow is not just the stuff of myths. During the American Revolutionary War and the Civil War, it was used as an anticoagulant and an antibacterial ointment.

Next issue: Starting your own herb garden.

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"Dumais" Continued From Page 9—

input from the state level include the proposed MARC station closings and programs such as Project Open Space. We asked whether she really thought that the Boyds and Dickerson MARC stations could be kept open. "It's going to take the community's help to make sure they're being utilized. At the same time, what's also important is that the Department of Transportation has to look beyond the next two months or the next two years. None of us likes sitting on (Interstate) 270 and there are ways to avoid that...to try and make transit and public transportation an easier option."

Ms. Dumais discussed the controversy over the use of portable classrooms in public schools as an example of an issue that began as a local concern but may now be addressed as a statewide issue. The issue began in Bells Mill Elementary (Potomac, Maryland) where parents raised concerns about mold and other unhealthy conditions from aging portable trailers used as classrooms. Delegate Cryor introduced legislation which the District 15 team cosponsored to move the state towards standards for green buildings or vehicles. These efforts may lead to building codes or procurement requirements for portable classrooms, certainly for the county, but possibly also statewide.

We asked Ms. Dumais how and when she decided to run for state delegate, and she said she wanted to be in the Maryland House of Delegates ever since she was a house page in her senior year of high school in Laurel, Maryland. When she finally ran, she had practiced law for sixteen years, and was active in the bar association, and while she says "she likes lawyers" she wanted to "branch out and become more involved with the community." There were two open seats in District 15 in 2002, and her firm supported her efforts, so she ran and won, although, she said that she was prepared not to win her first time out and to prepare for another run in 2006. As it was, she won a four-year term in her first attempt.

Ms. Dumais said she benefited from the fact that her father was a principal in the Montgomery County public school system, and while he retired in 1988, he had been in the school system for twenty-eight years. She said that while standing at the Giant handing out flyers or knocking on doors, she couldn't count the number of times that people—students,

parents of students, teachers—asked, "Are you related to Dick Dumais?" She also benefited from the fact that the legal community was galvanized by the entry of an outside candidate challenging the sitting judges, so that many of the attorneys that were campaigning for the official slate of judges also supported her candidacy. She adds, "My campaign was very small. I spent \$5,000 of my own money and raised \$15,000. I didn't do anything fancy with handouts, they were Xeroxed, and that's what I handed out door-to-door. I continued to practice (law), and some candidates were out evenings and weekdays." She campaigned Saturdays and Sundays, knocking on doors and talking to people at the Giant. After all, she says, "I still had to pay my mortgage."

Has it been what you expected? "I love it. It sounds corny, but I like the idea of trying to make a difference. I think I have in fact made a difference, even just in my own area of practice." She continues, "We have what is considered a citizens' legislature, and I think that is critically important, so that there are people from all walks of life. There is this misperception that it's all a bunch of lawyers. Out of 141 members of the Maryland House of Delegates, there are only twenty-four lawyers. I like the fact that there are people from all walks of life." She said that when they are actually drafting and passing the laws, whether it's in the criminal area or in her area of family law or juvenile law, it's been interesting and sometimes frustrating because she feels like there are sometimes misunderstandings. "It's been satisfying, it's been exasperating, it's been frightening, sometimes because this is how laws are really made, but overall, I just love it."

And how would she assess the current state of bipartisan cooperation? Ms. Dumais said that the inability of the two parties to work together is greatly exaggerated. Discord occurs mainly among the leadership and in the media, and as in any organization, much less among the "worker bees" who work to pass laws for the good of the state. Ms. Dumais offered two examples of legislation that depended heavily on bipartisan cooperation. One was on juvenile competency, the other was on adult competency. "Neither of these bills were my brainchildren. It's usually collaborative groups that bring them to me. The Maryland Disability Law Center brought these ideas to Brian Frosh and me in 2005. Many times, legislation takes two

years or so to get through because it needs to be tweaked. Both of these pieces of legislation really needed to be done, and we really needed people sitting at the table to get it done." During the interim between sessions, she says they had two workgroups at the table, the governor's staff, four or five of the executive agencies, public defenders, state's attorneys, and judges, and they worked through very complicated legislation in a very bipartisan fashion. "The worker bees underneath are really getting things accomplished."

She says, "If I can be the Pollyanna and the bearer of good news, we got a lot accomplished. Look at the Healthy Air Act which Brian Feldman worked a great deal on, it was a bipartisan effort, and the governor signed it early." There were also some workers' compensation issues that Brian Feldman also worked on, but these aren't the type of "sexy issues" that get picked up. "In ninety days, it's always amazing how much gets done, and if people weren't working together across the aisle, nothing would get done." The leadership can fight the battles, but "the rest of us are there trying to get something done."

"Golf with Mike Aldrich" Continued From Page 22—

a swing, and that requires the person to use his sense of balance to avoid falling down.

A true swing is practically effortless, centered around the golfer, and does not tug the golfer in any particular direction. When you are developing your swing, focus on keeping your arms supple and responsive. Do not exert undue force on the club (or on your body). This way, you will not have to depend on having the coordination of a juggler on a unicycle. Your swing will keep you centered and balanced.

Mike Aldrich is the PGA Head Golf Professional at Poolesville Golf Course. He is a protégé of Manuel De La Torre, one of Golf Magazine's "Top 50 Teachers." Mike is a highly-sought instructor, working with some of greater D.C.'s top amateurs and PGA professionals. Poolesville Golf Course offers a great golf course, top quality merchandise, and a home for your outing groups. The facility is only thirty minutes from Gaithersburg, Rockville, and Frederick.



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Local History

Father John Cuddy's Bridge

By Jack Toomey

Downtown Gaithersburg has turned into a maze of fast food restaurants, office buildings, convenience stores, some remaining homes that are mostly occupied by professionals, and a few apartments. Midway in the commercial district, a bridge spans the CSX railroad tracks. With autos traveling thirty-five miles an hour on their way to seemingly urgent tasks, drivers don't notice the signs on each end of the bridge. These are signs that give this bridge a name.

John Cuddy was born in Baltimore in 1873. He was educated at Loyola College in Baltimore and then was accepted into the St. Charles Seminary. After his ordination to the Catholic priesthood, his assignments included parishes in Frostburg and Taneytown, St. Mary's in Barnesville, St. Rose's Mission at Cloppers, and as

chaplain during World War I at the Edgewood Arsenal and Camp Jackson, South Carolina. In 1920, Father Cuddy was transferred to St. Martin's Church in Gaithersburg at the corner of Summit Avenue and Frederick Road. That year, he arranged for two army mess halls to be brought from Virginia, and the first worship services were held in these buildings. Father Cuddy also was instrumental in the building of the first Catholic school in Montgomery County. In the fall of 1925, a two-story, fireproof structure with six classrooms was opened at the corner of Summit Avenue and Frederick Road. It was said at the time that it was the finest school building outside of Baltimore. A church and convent were also planned at the site and were eventually built. As was the custom of the time, Father Cuddy lived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schwartz, parishioners. He was widely loved by townspeople, and one later remarked that Father Cuddy would never inquire about a man's religion when someone was in need.

On the evening of December 7, 1928, Father Cuddy had just returned from his priestly duty of visiting the sick. He stopped briefly at the drugstore, spoke with police officer Dosh, and then approached the railroad tracks on what is now Route 355. At that time, the road crossed the railroad tracks at a place known as Owens Crossing. The crossing was considered to be so dangerous that a guard was stationed there who was equipped with a handheld stop sign and a whistle. As Father Cuddy's car approached the crossing, a Baltimore and Ohio freight train was traveling through Gaithersburg. The watchman heard the approach of the train and stepped into the road and began blowing his whistle. For reasons that have never been determined, Father Cuddy kept driving past the watchman and into the path of the train. Father Cuddy's car was violently struck, and the debris was carried down the track. Officer Dosh and the watchman ran to the car, but Father Cuddy was dead.

Some residents expressed the opinion that Father Cuddy had suffered a heart attack and was unconscious at the time of the accident, but the police pointed out skid marks that they believed were caused by his car. Mrs. Schwartz, who lived just up the street, came to the scene and collapsed in a state of nervous exhaustion and was treated by a doctor. An inquest was held the next day, and it was determined that the accident that claimed the life of Father Cuddy was unavoidable.

As a result of this accident, a small wooden bridge was erected over the railroad and opened for traffic in 1930. When Route 355 was widened in 1988, the City of Gaithersburg suggested that the new bridge over the railroad be named after the eminent priest. Today, as we travel over this bridge, few of us notice the signs that designate the bridge as *Father John S. Cuddy Bridge*, in honor of this humble man who served Montgomery County in the early part of the twentieth century.

Tributes

Barnesville Man Saves Child's Life, Receives Silver Medal for Valor

By Rande Davis

On April 27, 2006, Walter "Joe" Brown of Barnesville was awarded the Silver Medal of Valor from the Prince George's County Fire and EMS Department for saving the life of a child in Landover Hills, Maryland.

The heroic event occurred in the early hours of the morning of November 7, 2005 when units from the Kentland (Prince George's County) Volunteer Fire Department, Station 33, responded to a house fire and a report of a possible child trapped inside.

Firefighter Brown, knowing of a possible trapped child, prepared by getting all his gear and breathing apparatus on so as not to be delayed

once they reached the scene. Upon arrival, the crew observed heavy fire coming from the front of the house. A burned citizen, who was found on the front lawn, turned out to be the grandfather of the child trapped inside. The gentleman had been burned trying to rescue the child. With heavy fire coming from both front windows and the front door, Firefighter Brown entered the home without regard for his own safety and, under extreme heat conditions, crawled past the main body of fire and reached the bedroom in the rear of the house.

After locating the unconscious child who was not breathing, he quickly determined that within just a few sec-

onds the fire had cut off his original path of entry. At the same time, other firefighters were placing a ladder at the rear of the house. Knowing this, Firefighter Brown was able to reach the back window and carry the child down the ladder to safety.

Once outside, cardiopulmonary resuscitation was performed on the child, and emergency medical crew transported the child to the hospital. En route, the child regained a pulse and spontaneous respiration and has since fully recovered.

A three-year-old sibling who died in the fire was reported to have been playing with candles or a lighter which subsequently caused the fire.

Joe Brown is a third generation firefighter who has followed the lead of his grandfather, Walter "Tubby" Stottlemeyer, as a volunteer at the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer

Fire Department. Mr. Brown's uncle, Capt. Walter "Ty" Stottlemeyer, is a career firefighter-paramedic with the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service.

While Mr. Brown is a lieutenant volunteer at UMCVFD and a volunteer at the Kentland Fire Department, he is also a career firefighter with the Washington, D.C. Fire and EMS Department. A 2001 graduate of PHS, he attended Shepherd University majoring in environmental studies with resource management. He also has two other businesses, the Patriot Land Management and Wildlife Services Co. (assisting landowners in a variety of land management needs) and the Black Dog Guide Service, which guides waterfowl hunters in three area counties. Mr. Brown is the son of Clark and Bonnie Brown of Barnesville.



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Youth Sports

Boys' Volleyball Setting the Standard

By Dominique Agnew

The Poolesville High School boys' volleyball team had its best season yet this year finishing the season with a 9-4 record and as the number seven seed for the playoffs. The boys pulled off a six-game winning streak to end the regular season.

The team began three years ago under the direction of best-dressed coach Mark Agnew. Previously, a boys' team had not been in existence for three years, so all the players were newcomers to the game. This year, a core of experienced players was able to establish itself and give many other teams a run for their money.

This year's front row was led by captain Jason Norton who consistently received high marks from all opposing coaches. As this issue of the *Monocle* goes to press, the determination for All-County players has not yet been made. "Jason is an all-around fantastic player," says Coach Agnew. "He has no weaknesses." Norton is recognized

as one of the best outside hitters in the county and possesses a killer jump serve. He led the team in aces, kills, and passing percentage.

Also strong on the net was captain



The boys' volleyball team in action.

Russell Karn (junior) in his third year on the team and his second year as captain. Russell is also a strong outside hitter, and he sets for half the rotation. His serving has improved tremendously, and he has a jump serve that is working.

Senior Manny McEleney was solid on defense. His passing was outstand-

ing, and he has a strong serve with great topspin. Junior Gavin Spadin was an important contributor to the team in becoming a consistent setter as the season progressed.

Three seniors will be graduating from the team, Jason Norton, Stephen Reed, and Manny McEleney. Says Coach Agnew, "They did a great job, and they will be missed next year." Despite losing the seniors, the prospects for 2007 are very good. "The overall improvement of the team will

help offset the loss of the seniors," says Coach Agnew. Juniors Craig Dykstra and Josh Russell have improved tremendously, and each year Russell Karn has gotten consistently better and stronger.

Adds Coach Agnew, "The younger guys have to step up, fill the void, and take the team to a higher level."

Local News

Town of Poolesville Employee Recognized as Rookie of the Year

At a recent meeting of the Maryland Rural Water Association, Poolesville town employee, Christopher Williams, was named Rookie of the Year.

Mr. Williams joined the town as an apprentice with no experience or knowledge in the field wastewater management. Citing his hard work and self-initiative, Town Manager Wade Yost recommended Mr. Williams for this honor.



Town Manager Wade Yost presents Christopher Williams with his Rookie of the Year Award.

Mr. Yost states, "After only two months on the job, and the start of the plant upgrade and expansion, the head operator resigned. Christopher immediately stepped up to take on the challenge. Using excellent communication skills, Chris kept [me] appraised on any and all problems that existed. I spent a lot of time with Christopher at the facility during the next few months. I was amazed with his attitude and willingness to learn. He was genuinely interested in the 'how and why' wastewater is treated. He was always on call during the upgrade and spent a lot of overtime babysitting the plant while certain processes were being bypassed or out of service for replacement. During this same time period, he has taken the responsibility for weekly sampling, monthly state-reporting requirements, preventive maintenance, and purchasing."

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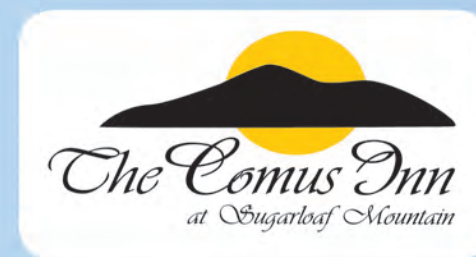
By Rande Davis

Poolesville High School's newly-appointed athletic director for 2006-07, Fred Swick, announced this past week that two key coaching positions have been filled. He was particularly pleased to announce that assistant football coach, Steve Orsoni, has accepted the offer to take over the highly successful Falcon varsity football team. Orsoni moves up from his position as an assistant coach with the Falcons.

Thomas Lang, who has been the varsity boys' basketball coach at Thomas Wootton High School, will be coming to PHS to take over its boys' varsity team. Mr. Lang is currently a physical education teacher at Wootton.

Mr. Lang told *The Monocle*, "I am excited to be heading to Poolesville to teach physical education and coach basketball as I have heard great things about the community, the school and the students."

Because Dad Deserves the Best
**Father's Day Dinner at
 Sugarloaf Mountain**



Appetizers (pick one)

Seafood Martini Salad (Blend of Seafood, Vegetables, and Greens topped with Vodka)

Lobster Bisque

Beef Carpaccio with Wasabi Vinaigrette and Micro Celery Salad

Grilled Heart of Romaine with Blue Cheese Dressing and Croutons

Main Course (pick one)

Comus Club Surf and Turf - Grilled Beef Tenderloin and Butter Poached Lobster Tail served with Truffled Mashed Potatoes and Sauce Béarnaise

Seared Scallops in Graisse de Canard served with Petits Choux and Foie Gras with a Butter Monté Sauce

Two Lightly Smoked Soft Shell Crabs Sautéed in Meuniere Butter and served with Red Pepper Risotto and Lobster Sauce

Seared Breast of Duck served with Citrus Couscous and Sake BBQ Sauce

Grilled Porterhouse Steak served with an Onion Jam and Thyme Fingerling Potatoes (\$5 premium)

Dessert (pick one)

Strawberry Shortcake with Cornmeal Sweet Cakes, Balsamic Glazed Strawberries and Whipped Creme Fraîche

Chocolate Pots de Creme served with Nibby Almond Cookies

Lemon Pound Cake with Sweet Tomato Jam and Basil Tuiles

Vanilla Bean Cheesecake with Ginger Glazed Strawberries and Candied Almonds

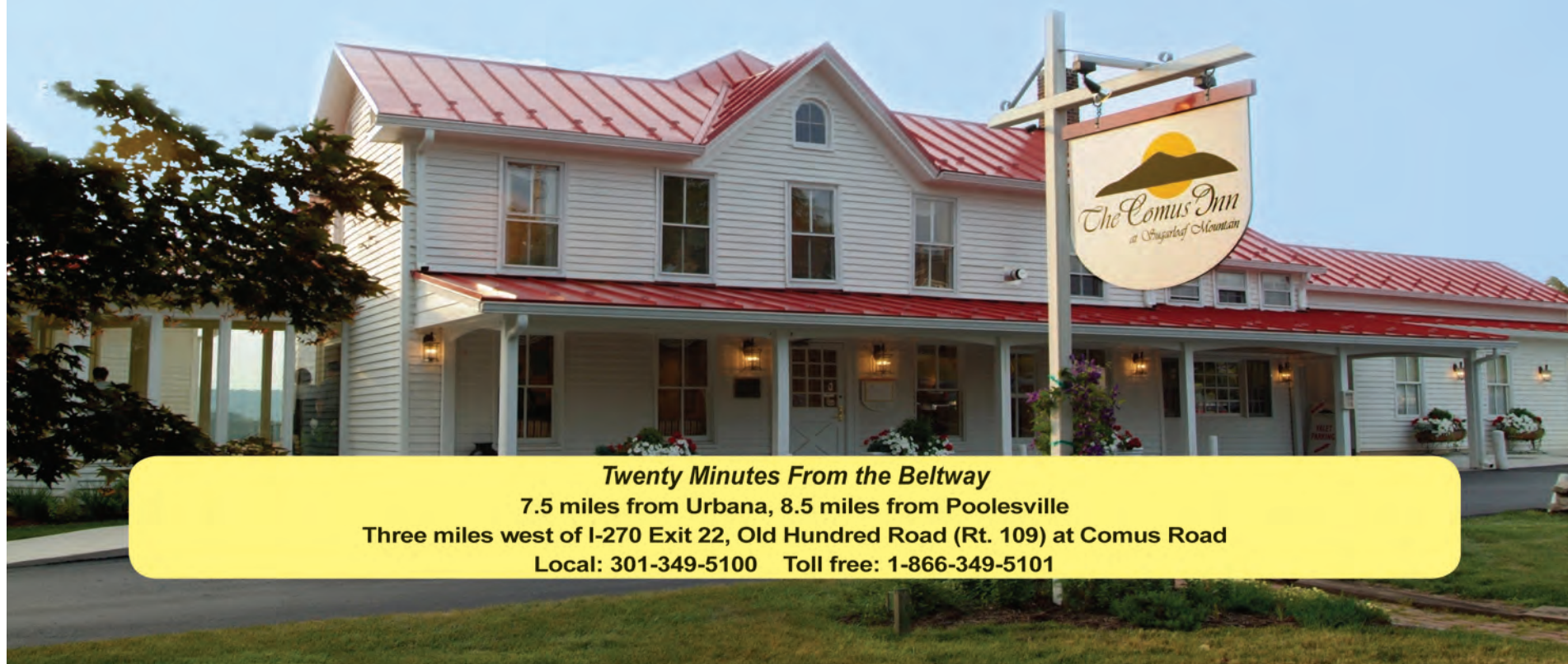


Sunday, June 18th, 2006

4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

\$69.00 per person

Reservations Required



Twenty Minutes From the Beltway
 7.5 miles from Urbana, 8.5 miles from Poolesville
 Three miles west of I-270 Exit 22, Old Hundred Road (Rt. 109) at Comus Road
 Local: 301-349-5100 Toll free: 1-866-349-5101