



Berry Thompson at his first annual 20837BIZNET Business Fair. More pictures are inside.



Bailey Bodell, formerly of the Barnesville School, is moving on to bigger things. See Tidbits on Page 15 for more information.



The Falcons huddle up. See it in Youth Sports on Page 8.



Ray Hoewing received a big award. Read all about it in Business Briefs on Page 3.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 20, 2009

Volume VI, Number 1.

Fire Damages Poolesville Home

By Jack Toomey

Montgomery County fire officials credited a smoke detector with saving the life of a Poolesville man shortly before a fire swept through his family's home at 17100 Hoskinson Road on March 6.

Tyler Smith was asleep in a second floor bedroom shortly before 8:30 a.m. when he was awakened by the alarm of a smoke detector and the presence of smoke in the house. Smith was not able to escape from the house by using the stairway, so he managed to call 911, broke out a window, climbed out onto a second floor roof, and jumped onto the driveway. The first firefighters who arrived on the scene were confronted with heavy smoke and a fire that had spread to the second floor and attic area. They called for other fire companies to respond and then

began their assault on the fire.

Tom Long, a neighbor, had just returned from the store when he saw smoke coming from the house. He then saw two volunteer firefighters arrive in their own vehicles followed by the first fire engines. Edwin Smith, the owner of the home and father of Tyler Smith, said that his family had lived in the house for twenty-seven years. Neighbors and friends stopped by the house to offer condolences and assistance.

Peter Piringer, a spokesperson for the Montgomery County Division of Fire and Rescue, said that the smoke detector most likely saved the life of Tyler Smith. He added that preliminary investigation revealed that the fire had most likely started in a kitchen area and was accidental in origin. Damage was estimated at \$500,000. Piringer added that since November, firefighters have been going door to door in Montgomery County offering to check smoke detectors and batteries. He said that because of this effort, over 500 smoke detectors have been



Firefighters at work at 17100 Hoskinson

installed and 600 batteries have been replaced. Piringer said that the use of working smoke detectors to save lives could not have been better exhibited than in this fire. He urged residents, "Get into a lifesaving habit; it is one of the easiest things that a family can do."

Editor's note: In response to the extensive fire and smoke damage to the Smith home, an account in the name of Friends of Rusty and Susan Smith Family has been established at M&T Bank to assist the family in their recovery needs. The family has

-Continued on Page 12.

Funds Approved for Woodstock Equestrian Center

By Maureen O'Connell

At the March 10, 2009 meeting of the Montgomery County Council, the Montgomery County Planning Board requested a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) amendment and a FY09 Supplemental Appropriation for Phase II facilities of the Woodstock Equestrian Center in Beallsville, Maryland. The request was submitted because the source of funds, which include

a donation of \$250,000 from the William Rickman family, \$250,000 from state bonds, and \$180,000 from a state aid grant, was not available when the FY09 CIP was adopted.

The Phase II facilities that are proposed to be funded by this appropriation include a 230-foot by 350-foot outdoor riding ring with terraced seating and berms; rough grading for

-Continued on Page 19.



In 2004, the members of the Friends of Woodstock Equestrian Park took the very first ride at the site. Pictured are Tracy Morgan (Cleo), Kyle Kirstein, Annetta Maier (Freya), Donna Kinsella (Tribe), Lydia McMartin, Karen Kraushnar (Frolic), and Lee Greenburg.

Family Album



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The Business Fair wasn't all business; it was a great day for kids, too.



Students from Hope Garden Ballet, located in Healthworks, were happy to meet the Easter bunny at the recent 20837BIZNET Business Fair in Poolesville. Barbara Hillard of M&T Bank is the bunny's close, personal friend.

Senator Rob Garagiola visited Selby's Market and was presented a t-shirt signed by kids from the Poolesville skateboarding community. Sen. Garagiola was influential in securing an Open Space grant for the land for the proposed skate park.



Scott Hollander, president of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, presents a donation of \$2,500 to the executive director of WUMCO, Jane Stearns.



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Business Briefs

By Rande Davis

PACC Annual Dinner Honors Hoewing

The annual Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce dinner held at the Izaak Walton League in Poolesville highlighted achievements and contributions of the organization in 2008, as well as selecting its Business Person of the Year.

As the evening for the dinner arrived, it appeared there would be no Business Person of the Year Award—or so it seemed to Board of Director member, Ray Hoewing. What Mr. Hoewing didn't know was that the board, without his knowledge, had selected him through email vote. Ray Hoewing was honored for his outstanding contribution and service to the community through his publishing of the Poolesville Online newspaper. POL ceased its five-year run late in 2008, and in presenting the award, PACC president Scott Hollander cited Hoewing's dedication to the chamber, WUMCO, his church, Hospice Care, as well as various other civic-minded contributions. They also applauded Mr. Hoewing for the quality of POL, his hard work and accuracy in reporting news to the community.



The partners of Shear Elegance, the new hair salon in Poolesville, share their excitement over the new venture: Karen Benson, Tracey Cabrera, Nancy Deadrick, Patti Harner, and Denise Morgal.

On the occasion of the announcement that Laura and Tom Yeatts would be moving from the area, Laura Yeatts was given a gift certificate as an expression of appreciation for contributions to the chamber, especially in the area of website management. While changing residences, she will remain active in the chamber and as a realtor in the area.

Scott Hollander presented Jane Stearns, executive director of WUMCO, with a \$2,500.00 donation from PACC. The chamber, currently with 110 members, had a successful 2008 in representing the business community, providing scholarships, donations to civic causes, working with the CEDC on the Poolesville Historic Map, assisting in Poolesville Day, and managing the annual 5K race among this year's highlights of activity.

The board member terms of J. D. Slagle and Laura Yeatts expired; John Speelman and Jeff Stempler were elected to fill those openings.

Welcome to New Business: Shear Elegance Hair Salon

At a grand opening celebration held on Sunday, March 8, Shear Elegance Hair Salon opened its operation in Poolesville at 19623 B Fisher Avenue, the white building east of McDonald's. The new

venture is the partnership of Karen Benson, Tracey Cabrera, Nancy Deadrick, Patti Harner, and Denise Morgal. The facility was recently redesigned in creative and striking colors with much of the work being done by the husbands of the owners. The hair salon features service for all ages including creative colors for girls and hair cutting for men. The service will be open every day except Sunday with the operating mantra: Image is Everything.

Saying Goodbye to Another Business

The Poolesville Getty Station has closed its operation with no immediate prospects of a replacement. Along with gasoline and a service shop, the facility offered convenience products. It was also the bait and tackle supplier for area fishermen. The recent closing of Jon's Video, in light of the national recession, also raises concern for our area.

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Commentary

Five Years So Far

By John Clayton

This issue begins our sixth year of publication as the *Monocacy Monocle*. We have completed five years. I thought this deserved a little historical perspective, and I cruised the web for what was happening in March 2004 when our first issue came out. Sadly the Spanish people suffered their worst terrorist attack in Madrid on March 11, 2004, leaving 311 as solemn a number in that country as 911 is in ours. Otherwise, the world seemed to be business as usual, with Palestinian-Israeli squabbles, a contentious presidential election in progress here in the United States, controversies over same-sex marriage and the prison at Guantanamo Bay, indictments at Worldcom (corporate malfeasance rearing its ugly and persistent head), Iraq, Iran, Haiti, Libya, Pakistan, Mars—they're all in the news. John Allen Muhammad, the Beltway sniper, was sentenced to death in Virginia. (Well? We're waiting.)

My favorite by far in this exercise, from March 1, 2004: "The People's Republic of China puts in place new rules for the trading of derivatives by financial institutions, part of a broader process by which China has in recent years sought to integrate its own economy with finance capitalism around the world." Good thinking, guys. Welcome to the party.

Locally, of course, I turned to the March 5, 2004 edition of the *Monocacy Monocle*. Our lead article described the biggest changes looming for the Monocacy area. These included: a new Poolesville Town Hall (done); the Woodstock Equestrian Park (still cooking; refer to this issue's front page article); a new Town Hall for Barnesville (done); building expansion for St. Peter's Episcopal Church (done); and the renovation and reopening of the Comus Inn (done). The issue is on our website, www.monocacymonocle.com, if you want to see

more.

A review of each March also shows where we have been. In March 2005, the front-page story was the Poolesville United Memorial Methodist Church's "Old Parsonage" building, rescued by the Historic Medley District. (The *Monocle* even dedicated a new coat of paint to some of the rooms.) In March 2006, Dr. Jerry Weast, Superintendent of Montgomery County Schools, spoke at John Poole Middle School. In 2007, the resignation of a Poolesville town commissioner, Roy Johnson, sparked a special election—some things never change. In 2008, we reported on a tornado in Dickerson, and here today we report on a house fire, devastating to a well-known local family. Let's hope we have fewer disasters to report as the years go on.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the loyal advertisers that have endured with us throughout the years. From our very first issue, advertisers who have remained with us fairly consistently (and in a few cases, without fail) include Jones Premium Builders, Poolesville Veterinary Clinic, William Price, C.F.P., C.P.A., and Gail Lee, Realtor. Over the next few issues, as we worked our way from eight to twelve, and to sixteen pages, we also picked up regular advertisers Absolute Auto, Jamison Realty, Bassett's, Pike & Valega, D.D.S., Poolesville Small Engine, Poolesville Tire and Auto, Our Lady of the Presentation, St. Peter's Parish, and Violinsanity. This period also saw the debut of some loyal seasonal advertisers such as Fine Earth Landscaping, Bob's Bikes, Kuhlman Lawn Service, and Alden Farms. We have other steadfast and occasional advertisers who didn't necessarily pop up in the first five or six issues, but please know we love you too. For more details, please carefully study and patronize the advertisers in this issue.

As a final tribute, my colleague Rande Davis and I are grateful to long-time writers Dominique Agnew (also our long-time copyeditor), Maureen O'Connell, and Jack Toomey. More recently we are pleased to have added Kris-

The Monocacy MONOCLE
Keeping An Eye On Local News
 Published and Edited by
John Clayton and Rande Davis

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ten Milton, Jeff Stuart, and Carol Rae Hansen. Debby Lynn was our long-time equestrian writer, and Curtis Osborne (another long-tenured Monocle writer) and Frederic J. Rohner also chime in with articles on a regular basis. Hilary Schwab provides us with professional-level photography, and Karie Legambi of WhipSmart Graphics takes all this and lays it out beautifully for publication. We appreciate all of these efforts.

As for the future, we will see what we shall see. The economy is not being kind to anyone right

now. Print media companies in general, and perhaps newspapers in particular, are facing some tough sledding. We are trying to branch out in our own way, both geographically (although never to lose our Upcounty focus) and technologically, and we will expand more content onto our website and perhaps to a weblog as well. Who knows what the future will bring?

Thank you for reading the *Monocle* and helping us to make it this far.



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In the Garden A Floral Treasure Chest

By Maureen O'Connell

Africa, the world's second largest and second most populous continent, is a land of vast diversity. Its geography encompasses wide ranges of climate, fauna, and flora. When many people envision Africa, they see dense jungles with some of the world's most exotic animals and

large, rolling savannas where antelopes, cheetahs, elephants, and lions roam. I recently visited South Africa and the region around Cape Town and the Cape of Good Hope. This area is a powerhouse of floral and marine biodiversity of great global significance.

Cape Town is a beautiful, cosmopolitan city situated at the base of Table Mountain, a vast, moody mountain that rises sharply from the coastal plain. The local people consider it a special place. While it is an icon for the Western Cape and all of

South Africa, it is a spiritual center that uplifts every day those who live and work in its shadow. Nowhere in the world is there such a dramatic mountain only minutes from a large cosmopolitan city. You cannot escape its watchful eye. My hotel room, on the Victoria and Alfred waterfronts, faced it and its frequently-changing faces. The mountain is called Cape Town's weatherman. The winds, clouds, and coastal storms first roll onto "the tabletop" and quickly descend to the city. In the blink of an eye, the weather could change from dark, menacing, heavy clouds to brilliant sunshine and clear blue skies, then back again. On a clear day, you can stand on the dock area of the waterfront and look straight out to Robben Island. This is where Nelson Mandela and many other anti-apartheid activists were imprisoned during the 1980s and 1990s.

The area just south of Cape Town and down to Cape Point is all part of the Table Mountain National Park. This area is one of Africa's seven unique United

Nations Economic, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites. Within this area is the fantastically mega-diverse Cape Floral Kingdom. Carl Linnaeus, the Swedish botanist considered the Father of Taxonomy, described it as "this Heaven on Earth." The statistics of this region are so mind-boggling that it places the Cape Floral Region (CFR) in a league all its own. Consider these facts. It is one of the oldest plant kingdoms in the world. It is the smallest and the richest of the world's floral kingdoms and the only one to be completely contained within one country, with nearly 9,600 species crammed into only 0.04% of the Earth's land surface. To put this in perspective, consider that the Boreal Kingdom covers the entire northern hemisphere, that is, forty percent of the Earth's surface including most of North America, Europe, and Asia. The CFR has similar botanical status—but covers only a thousandth of this area.

-Continued on Page 18.

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Local News

Draft Budget for FY2010 Set for Public Hearing

By Rande Davis

After two months of reviewing and going through many work sessions to prepare for the new FY2010 draft budget, town manager Wade Yost presented an overview of the proposed fiscal plan for expenditures from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Prior to a final vote for approval, there will be a public hearing on the proposed budget at the town meeting on March 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the town hall. Copies of the draft budget are now available at the town hall.

The town budget, not unlike a personal budget, includes anticipated expenditures to be made in the coming year as well as setting aside funds for future designated projects. It also estimates revenues from all sources for the coming year.

Poolesville has two such budgets to prepare: one for General Operations and another for Water/Wastewater operations.

The FY2010 general fund draft budget, as presented, anticipates total revenues for the 2010 fiscal year at \$2,697,700. Expenditures are estimated to be \$2,691,600 which would leave a positive balance of \$6,067.00. Within that budget, the breakdown of expenditures is \$1,788,600 for operations; \$588,000 for capital projects in the general fund, and \$315,000 for capital projects on the water/wastewater side of town operations.

The draft budget anticipates general revenue to decrease about \$8,000 and presupposes a tax rate of .15 per \$100 of real property value; the rate for FY2009 was .16 cents per \$100. It also proposes transferring \$92,000 from the general fund to cover revenue shortfall on the water/wastewater budget. The proposed changes in water rates reduced this shortfall from \$180,000 but will still require

a "grant" from the town to Water/Wastewater Treatment operations.

Outside of the day-to-day operations, how does the town propose to spend money? The FY 2010 general fund, if approved as proposed, would cover the following costs: the replacement of administrative computers, software for the water billing system, a band shell for Whalen Commons, a new roof for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) building, repairing swales on Westerly Avenue, a sidewalk retrofit for Hunter's Run, (Americans with Disability Act (ADA) upgrade for Steven's Park, new lighting for Whalen Commons, upgrading the tot lot at Wootton Heights, altering ball field #3 at Halmos Park, additional holiday lighting, and miscellaneous equipment needs. There are also funds for developing plans for a skateboard park, and, as reported elsewhere in this issue, state grant money may be made available for the completion of this project within FY2010.

Within each current budget, the town also allocates money for future projects. This process of accumulating funds is necessary, particularly for the more expensive projects. As an example, funds in this budget are set aside for repaving Seneca Chase in FY2011 which spreads the cost of the project over more than just one year. The FY2010 draft also has the unrestricted funds account (cash reserve not restricted or tied to any specific need) of \$2,255,398. This reserve money comes from the Elgin Property Proffer (\$50,000), Winchester Homes Proffer (\$1,150,000), and the balance previously set aside from FY2009. The town historically keeps cash reserves equal to four months of town operational costs to safeguard against any unforeseen problems or emergencies. Since the fund now holds roughly twice that much, the town is proposing to use some of the funds for paying off a W/WTP loan (\$222,903), to adjust swales on Westerly Avenue (\$152,000), and to retrofit sidewalks in Hunter's Run, (\$250,000).

Youth Sports Upset Bid In Playoffs Falls Short for Clarksburg

By Jeff Stuart

In the first round of the 2A West region basketball playoffs, eleventh-seeded Clarksburg nearly pulled off the upset of sixth-seeded Middletown. The Coyotes trailed by nine points late in the second half, cut the lead to 39-36 with two minutes to go, but they were forced to foul, and Middletown was a perfect 6-6 from the free throw line from that point.

In the final thirty seconds, a Detric Hodge three-pointer and a Sam Collins free throw cut the Knights' lead to 45-42, but the Knights' Chris Pirrone hit the last pair of Middletown's free throws with 10.6 seconds remaining. Hodge hit another basket with

three seconds left, but the Knights escaped with a 47-44 win. Chris Viqueira led the Coyotes with thirteen points; Collins had eight.

On Monday, January 5, the Clarksburg boys' basketball team began the New Year by beating visiting Watkins Mill 59-56. Viqueira scored eighteen points for the Coyotes. Collins had fifteen. It was the Coyotes' second win of the season. The Coyotes were a significant threat in the second half of last season, but Chris Cabrera, the leading scorer, and forward Boubakeur Bayou, had graduated. Collins, a junior forward, Ace Clark, and Detric Hodge, a junior guard, took their places in the starting lineup. Jeff Gatling, a junior guard-forward, suffered a broken wrist in the second game of the year.

The Coyotes would not win again until the regular season final on February 24 against Einstein, Hodge, with twelve points, and Barron White with ten led the Coyotes to a 54-45 win and their second highest point total of the year. All three coyote wins this season came at home.

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Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

March 2, 1913 Mrs. William Talbott returned to Rockville after caring for her mother, Mrs. Clara Hall, who lived at Poolesville.

March 3, 1932 A committee was formed by the Poolesville Community League for the purpose of reducing electric light rates. Judge Charles Woodward, John Oxley, Mrs. Julius Ward, and Mrs. Parker were named to the committee. Similar groups were being formed in Barnesville and Dickerson.

March 3, 1922 Sandy Spring High School defeated Poolesville High, 37-3, in a game of basketball at the Sandy Spring Hall. W. Poole scored the only points for Poolesville.

March 4, 1934 A square dance was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Heflin at Poolesville.

March 10, 1935 The Home Arts Club of Poolesville High

entertained at the Mother and Daughters Banquet in the school auditorium.

March 18, 1934 The Poolesville High School Travel Club made an excursion to Washington, D.C. They visited the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Post Office, and the Washington Post building.

March 21, 1921 The Montgomery County schools held their annual oratorical contest at Rockville. First prize in the category of the larger elementary schools was awarded to Miss Esther Grubb of the Poolesville School.

March 21, 1932 William Windsor, Barnesville farmer and the vice president of the Montgomery County Farm Bureau, was selected as foreman of the grand jury. Judge Woodward addressed the jury before they began deliberations and stressed the need for secrecy in all matters.



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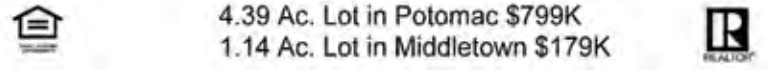
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Local News

**Poolesville
Water Rate
Public Hearing**

By Rande Davis

Poolesville commissioners held a public meeting on their proposal to raise water rates that would go into effect with the new budget on July 1, 2009. In the past, a \$180,000 shortfall in revenues to the water/wastewater budget was corrected by transferring money from the town's general fund. The new water rates would reduce this subsidy to \$92,000.

The town's cost to produce 1000 gallons of water is estimated at \$7.50. Under the previous rate system, the town's water rates ranged from \$5.36 to \$7.05 per 1000 gallons of usage up to 30,000 gallons per quarter. Users of more than 30,000 gallons per quarter paid rates ranging from \$7.90 to \$9.58 per 1000 gallons.

The anticipated average household increase in monthly charges for water is estimated to be \$7.00 to \$8.00 per month.

The public hearing regarding proposed changes in the water rates in Poolesville resulted in three statements to the commissioners.

Conrad Potemra asked the commissioners to look at rates for seniors on fixed incomes and low users and opined that changes in the higher user rates could be used to assist those in this situation. "They (large users) are the ones that should bear the brunt of this. I think you should look at it again. I think we are hitting the wrong people and sending the wrong message." He further encouraged the commissioners to find ways to cut costs or to be more efficient in water and sewer operations.

Bob Pierce objected to having the cost of capital improvements in water and sewer operations being paid from the general fund budget. He believed the higher users should pay more and that those users who do not pay prop-

erty taxes (churches, schools, and pool) unfairly benefit since they do not pay the taxes that cover the cost of capital improvements in the water and sewer operations.

Roy Johnson, in a four-page letter submitted to Commissioners Brown, Yeatts, and Klobukowski, also objected to the new rate proposal as unfairly

benefiting large users and non-taxpaying users at the expense of those in the lower usage rates. In Poolesville, non-taxpaying large users are the schools, the pool, and the churches. Mr. Johnson's full proposal and the town's response to the proposal are too long to be reproduced here, but both are available to read at www.monocacymonocle.com.

Youth Sports

**Falcons Boys'
Basketball
Season Ends
After Two
Playoff Wins**

By Jeff Stuart

The Poolesville boys' basketball team (19-7) had one last thrilling rally left before their season came to an end with a 56-53 loss at Brunswick in the 1A West semifinal on Wednesday, March 4. The Falcons trailed by eleven with just two minutes left, but a couple of free throws by Brendan McFall (junior) cut the Railroader lead to nine. Then David Schramm (junior) took over, hitting two three-pointers to bring the score to 53-47. After another defensive stop by the Falcons, David was fouled on his next three-point attempt and sank all three free throws to tie the score. Brunswick took the lead with just ten seconds left. McFall fouled out on a charging call, and Brunswick made one of two free throws to lead by three. A half-court shot by Kevin Baker (junior), who led all scorers with twenty points, rimmed out as time expired. Poolesville was without senior captain Chris Soper (center), who was unable to play due to a foot and ankle injury suffered in practice after an opening round playoff round against Clear Spring.

This was the third meeting of the year with rival Brunswick. On February 10, in perhaps their biggest win of the season, the Falcons beat the Railroaders, 41-33, after losing to the Railroaders, 60-44, in

the season's third game, before the largest home crowd of the year. McFall finished with a game-high fourteen points, sinking several crucial fourth quarter free throws. Poolesville upset the Railroaders in the playoffs last season.

Poolesville's last win of the season was a surprisingly easy 44-25 triumph over Smithsburg in the quarterfinals. Even though McFall had picked up two early fouls and had sat much of the game, he finished with ten points. Baker had a game high fifteen points. The Falcons started the second half on a 10-0 run with offensive and defensive contributions from Derrick Miller (sophomore) and Kevin Cabrejas (junior). They held Smithsburg to just three points in the third quarter. Schramm hit a long three-pointer at the buzzer to put his team up 21-13 at the half.

Poolesville began the playoffs with a defensive statement, shutting out Clear Spring at home for the entire first quarter, winning 57-38. McFall scored a team-high twenty points; Baker scored eighteen. Soper had an outstanding game, finishing with ten points and pulling down several rebounds.

After losing four of their first six games in December, the Falcons (19-7) rocketed into the New Year with six straight wins. Following a two-point last-second home loss to Seneca Valley (22-3) at home on January 29, they again won six straight, before losing another close one at Urbana, 40-37, in overtime on February 19. But they won their final two games of the season on the road and earned the second seed in the east section of the 1A West Regional.

With the return of many star players next season, the future is bright indeed.



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High School Varsity Home Games

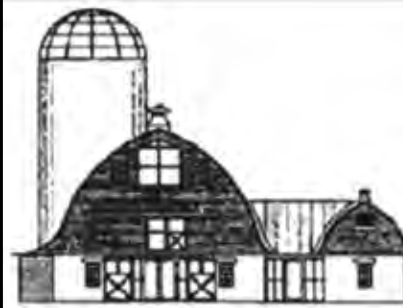
Sport Updates: www.phsboostersclub.com and www.digitalsports.com

Poolesville High School Varsity Home Games

Boys' Lacrosse:		Girls' Lacrosse:	
3/20	Churchill at 7:00 p.m.	3/23	Watkins Mill at 7:00 p.m.
3/27	Wheaton at 5:15 p.m.	3/27	Wheaton at 7:15 p.m.
4/1	Northwood at 7:00 p.m.		
Baseball:		Softball:	
3/21	Watkins Mill at 1:30 p.m.	3/21	Watkins Mill at 1:30 p.m.
3/27	Rockville at 3:00 p.m.	3/27	Rockville at 3:30 p.m.
3/31	Seneca Valley at 3:30 p.m.	3/31	Seneca Valley at 3:30 p.m.
4/2	Northwood at 3:30 p.m.	4/2	Northwood at 3:30 p.m.
Tennis - Boys:		Volleyball - Coed and Boys	
3/20	Quince Orchard at 3:30 p.m.	3/20	Watkins Mill C/5:15; B/7:00
3/23	R. Montgomery at 3:30 p.m.	3/23	Seneca Valley C/5:15; B/7:00
3/26	Walter Johnson at 3:30 p.m.	3/31	Springbrook C/5:15; B/7:00
OUTDOOR TRACK:			
4/1	Paint Branch at 3:30 p.m.		

Clarksburg High School Varsity Home Games

Boys' Lacrosse:		Girls' Lacrosse:	
3/25	Poolesville at 7:00 p.m.	3/25	Poolesville at 5:00 p.m.
		4/1	Wheaton at 7:00 p.m.
Baseball:		Softball:	
3/24	Quince Orchard at 3:30 p.m.	3/24	Quince Orchard at 3:30 p.m.
3/28	Kennedy at 1:30 p.m.	3/28	Kennedy at 12:30 p.m.
3/31	Damascus at 3:30 p.m.	3/30	Damascus at 3:30 p.m.
Tennis - Boys:		Volleyball - Coed and Boys	
3/20	Wootton at 3:30 p.m.	3/25	B-CC C/5:15; B/7:00
3/25	Poolesville at 3:30 p.m.	3/30	Damascus C/5:15; B/7:00
3/31	Damascus at 3:30 p.m.		
OUTDOOR TRACK:			
3/24	Springbrook and Magruder at 3:30 p.m.		
3/31	Einstein and Rockville at 3:30 p.m.		



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER March 2009

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Gary L. Valen, President

Linden Farm

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Dickerson, MD 20872

Visit our Web site: www.sugarloafcitizens.org

ALERT!

County Threatens AgReserve ... Again!

Sugarloaf Citizen's Association has learned that the Montgomery County Council may be studying a proposal to move yard trim **collection and grinding operations** from the designated Gude landfill to the area once proposed for the so-called Site 2 landfill in the Agriculture Reserve. Sugarloaf strongly opposes such a move.

Site 2 is located in the same area as the County's Solid Waste Incinerator and the Yard Trim Composting Facility. Close by is the Mirant Power Plant with a coal ash landfill on the site. The proposed move would add another environmentally undesirable operation to the already existing industrial land uses occupying more than 1000 acres in the Reserve.

The Agriculture Reserve was never envisioned as a location for industrial operations not wanted in more urban sections of the County. Since most yard trim comes from urban areas it makes sense to grind it there and not add more truck traffic to already heavily used roads in the Reserve, particularly since many of these roads are designated rural/ rustic low volume roads. The land presently leased for agriculture in this area would be taken out of production thus reducing the County's agricultural economic base. One of the more serious issues in a proposal to use the Site 2 property for these operations is the threat of contamination of all drinking water in the Upcounty since Site 2 sits above an EPA-designated Sole Source Aquifer.

SCA has written to the County Council urging it to consider the environmental, public health and safety considerations triggered by the suggested move of yard trim collection and grinding to the AgReserve which would further add to decades of environmental abuse already suffered by the Upcounty.

At Sugarloaf's **Annual Meeting on April 18** (beginning at 9:30 a.m.) at the Gothic Barn on Linden Farm there will be opportunities to hear more about this and all the other issues that affect the Agriculture Reserve. **You are invited! Please come!**

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Local News

Yeatts

Resigns as Commissioner

By Rande Davis

With the surprise resignation of Tom Yeatts as commissioner of Poolesville effective March 23, many questions have been raised. As to his replacement, the town has to schedule special elections within sixty days. Candidates wishing to run for commissioner: must file prior to 4:00 p.m. on April 6, must be a town resident, and must be at least twenty-one years of age. The special election is set for May 5 in the town hall.

The *Monocle* asked Mr. Yeatts to participate in our version of an exit interview to provide the community with the details of his decision and to get his opinion on various aspects of the position, as well as living and working in the town.

MM: Tell our readers your reason you leaving.

Yeatts: We have an opportunity to build a house on Laura's dad's farm; he passed away in 2004, and we've been wrangling with Howard County about releasing the lot to us since then. It's been our dream to build a house on the family farm, and it looks like we could get started as soon as a few weeks from now. We're very excited and eager to build. The farm is in West Friendship, about a forty- to forty-five-minute drive from Poolesville. Since Laura will continue to work selling real estate from our Gaithersburg office, you'll see her yellow SMART car around. We will continue doing business in Poolesville.

MM: What are your thoughts about the experience of living in Poolesville?

Yeatts: We've all loved living in Poolesville. It's a truly unique town—close enough to major employers and the D.C.-metro area, yet worlds away. Driving those nine miles from Gaithersburg to Poolesville is like driving back in time. People wave to you, know

you by name, and look out for you in this town. What a great place to raise our kids.

MM: What about your experience as an elected official and serving on the commission.

Yeatts: I had a wonderful time being a commissioner and serving with a great group of civic-minded guys. While people may have differences of opinion with the commissioners, it's very obvious to me that every single commissioner has sincerity, integrity, and puts the interest of the town first. Wade Yost's management of the town is superb, and our town staff is also to be commended for their obvious pride and dedication.

MM: Any parting advice or thoughts to give about the town and/or commissioners?

Yeatts: One of the things that impresses me the most is our town's financial health. Reading a certain publication can cause one to believe we are in a crisis, when nothing is further from the truth. The town has seen solid stewardship with many of the infrastructure loans from the state being paid off early. We have over \$1.6 million in unrestricted reserves in the current budget, enough to run the entire town for over six months if no other funding came in. How many municipalities can say that? In the current environment, that cash cushion proves the wisdom of the town's financial management. The commissioners and the town manager should be commended for such stewardship.

MM: You have lived, volunteered, and worked in Poolesville. What has that been like?

Yeatts: I've had the pleasure of building two businesses in Poolesville: a technology company and a real estate team. I've worked with some very diverse and intelligent people from the town. We are more cosmopolitan than we let on. Living here has been great. Laura and I would receive regular calls from our fellow high school parents, letting us know the whereabouts of the kids—not great for the kids, but excellent for the parents! The public schools in town are topnotch, and our kids will remain friends with some of their classmates for the rest of their lives. That



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WINNER FROM MARCH 6 ISSUE: RICH HOWARD

The Monocle was in the Fine Earth Landscaping ad on page 17.

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



Tom Yeatts, who resigned as a commissioner, setting up a special election in May.

speaks volumes for the town.

MM: What did you least like about living in Poolesville?

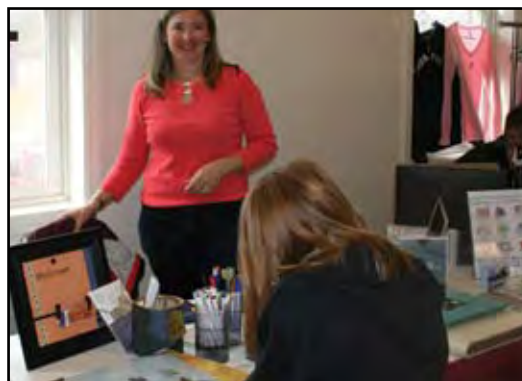
Yeatts: Honestly, the least attractive thing about Poolesville is that so-called "newspaper," the *Western Montgomery Bulletin*. Now that I'm no longer in public office, I feel more compelled to set the record straight. You can believe almost nothing printed in the WMB! The list of honor roll students may

be the only thing reported correctly in that periodical. Mr. Janet continually bemoans the town's streetscape plan, the town's budget, and constantly writes about how the commissioners "may be violating Maryland law." Yet he is the one taking maximum advantage of the law, specifically the first amendment. Printing outright untruths—and repeating them—does not make them true. I have yet to hear one constructive comment from the editor, either in person or in writing, and I find that disappointing. I only hope visitors to the town don't take that paper seriously.

MM: Anything else you would like to say?

Yeatts: I have many friends in the town of Poolesville, and to them I would like to say thanks. Thank you for supporting me as a business owner, a commissioner, a parent, and a friend. Look for me on Poolesville Day.

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Equestrian

To Blanket, or Not to Blanket ... That Is the Question!

By Carol Rae Hansen,
Director, Equine Therapy Associates

After a long, albeit not especially hard winter, horse owners and caretakers are increasingly inclined not to blanket or sheet the equines under their care. Is that wise, prudent, and healthy for the

equines? This article will help you make that decision. Your decision should always hinge on the animal's health and safety.

Why do we blanket and or sheet our equines? We do so for the following reasons, in rough hierarchical order of health and safety: to replace a winter hair coat for fully- or largely-clipped animals doing heavy work in the cold such as racing, fox chasing, and or showing; to supplement a natural winter hair coat on partially-clipped animals (i.e. a trace clip) on especially cold and or windy days or nights; to compensate for animals who routinely grow inadequate natural hair coats for genetic or

medical reasons (i.e. some Arabians and thoroughbreds, as well as some of their descendant breeds); to assist elderly, the very young, or infirm equines, and or animals with insufficient body fat (consult your veterinarian); to compensate for animals with inadequate wind and or weather shelter, and/or to cope with animals who habitually refuse to use their shelters, i.e. herd leaders on watch; to cope with unusually wet, windy, and or exceptionally cold weather; to promote blood flow and comfort for stalled horses; to assist all

animals who are not easy keepers, if they are medically vulnerable; to assist animals in cooling off safely after vigorous exercise (as with Irish mesh or wool coolers); to keep animals cleaner.

Are there disadvantages to blankets, rugs, coolers, and or sheets? Indeed there are, and all equine caretakers take a very big responsibility and risk in adding an artificial covering on their animals. Dr. Wendy Coren of Equalign, an equine chiropractor, says that all

-Continued on 13..

School News

Mr. Poolesville 2009

By Chantal Agnew

Mr. Poolesville 2009
By Chantal Agnew

High School Musical has now come to Poolesville High School. This time, however, it was merely the theme for this year's Mr. Poolesville competition. The eight boys vying for this year's coveted award were: Matt Capozzi, Henry Giovanetti, Dylan Haas, Christian Hellwig, Dan Kator, David Shapiro, Moki Tran, and Dan Wolohojian.

The boys—boys?—no—the men came onto the stage dancing to High School Musical music, after which they all modeled their favorite casual wear outfits followed by some crazy outfits that demonstrated all of the sports in which they participate. Next, they all showed off their many talents including: dancing, standup comedy, funny skits, and more dancing. After these eight equally entertaining talents, a video was shown featuring each of the men's favorite teachers contributing comments about the contestants.

The formalwear portion of

the competition dazzled the crowd with the eight dashing young men wearing—you guessed it!—Formalwear. Each Formal Gentleman was presented to the audience escorted by a lady or two of his choice.

While the judges deliberated diligently on who should make the cut to the Final Five, a slideshow of the contestants' cute baby pictures was shown.

Finally, the Final Five figured on the scene: Matt Capozzi, Christian Hellwig, Dan Kator, David Shapiro, and Dan Wolohojian. They were each asked a Final Question in which they answered what they planned to do to help the deteriorating state of the environment.

The Question was answered five times—by five different contestants. The judges had to yet again put their heads together to make the Difficult Decision as to who could possibly win. Fortunately, the audience didn't have to watch the judges sweating. Instead, they listened to tales told by parents of the Five about the Five's funny, childhood antics.

At last, the moment everyone was waiting for—the coronation of our Mr. Poolesville 2009, who just happened to be one of the Final Five, who could be none other than (drum roll, please): Christian Hellwig! Congratulations, Christian.

"Fire Damages" Continued From Page 1.

found temporary residence on Fletcher Road in Poolesville. In addition to the building damage, the damage to their household goods and personal items was nearly complete. Once the home is renovated, they will still need to furnish the household. Persons wishing to make a donation or to assist the family may do so by sending a check to the attention of Dennis Conti at M&T Bank, 19616 Fisher Avenue, Suite M,

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"Equestrian" Continued From Page 12.

coverings should allow all equines to "eat, stretch, lie down, and get up" comfortably. Disadvantages include: over-heating or under-heating an equine through not taking off a blanket or rug on a warm day (i.e. over 50° F.) or crushing the natural insulation of a good natural coat; not fully resetting a blanket or sheet daily to avoid rubs and movement constrictions (i.e. restricting the movement of the shoulders through inadequate

shoulder fullness or gussets); multi-daily monitoring of blankets or sheets to ensure that the equine's coat is not wet underneath, that surcingles, buckles, and leg straps are correctly placed; creating unsafe situations when covers are too small or too large; creating biomechanical concerns through restricted movement; and routine repairs and laundering of covers for safety and comfort.

What requirements must be followed each time a cover is used? Covers must be matched to the weather and temperature; proper

fit must be taken into account for height, weight, breed characteristics, type of wither, and stable versus turn-out use; the blanket or sheet must be placed high on the neck and then gently slid into place to smooth the hair in the direction that it grows; covers must move with the animal, not against his/her motion; covers must be reset daily; hind leg straps must be criss-crossed. If you see shoulder or wither rubs, including hair loss, or tenderness upon palpation on the shoulder or sternum, you probably have an ill-fitting blanket or sheet. The same is true if your equine refuses the cover by putting his/her ears back, although temperature may be the reason for refusing the blanket or sheet, as well. Remember that equines have a comfort range almost ten times that of humans: 40° F. to 80° F. versus 71° F. to 75° F. for humans. Remember to respect your equines' needs and good sense. They will thank you.

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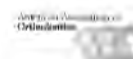
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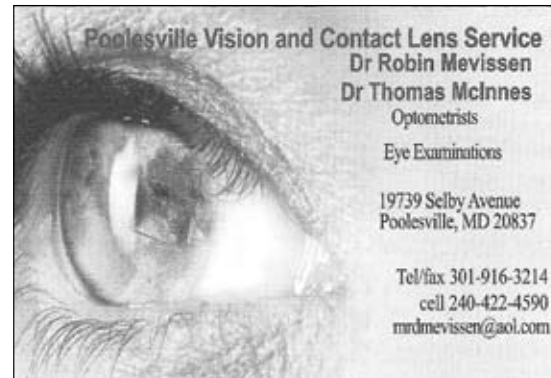
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Tidbits

Thanks, George

George Deyo of Westerly Avenue in Poolesville has just stepped down as chairman of the town's Parks Board after a long ten years as a volunteer on that committee. George had a big hand in many of the changes in town this past decade, and Whalen Commons is just one of the changes he and the committee helped bring about. Mr. Deyo was honored with an appreciation plaque from the town, as well as a commemorative American flag on a beautiful triangular display case.

Career Day

John Poole Middle School hopes this year will be their best Career Day yet. It will be on Thursday, April 23, also known as Take Your Child to Work day. Parents and community members will bring information and insights about careers to the eighth graders. It will be a full day with parent and community presenters and several local TV celebrities. If you would like to be a part of this day as a presenter or a volunteer, please call the

counseling office at 301-972-7980.

Barnesville School Graduate Wins Division One Scholarship

Bailey Bodell, a Boyds resident and a four-year letter winner at St. John's College High School in Washington, D.C., has accepted a scholarship to play soccer at the University of Maryland College Park. Ms. Bodell was a two-time first team Washington Post All-Met and two-time honorable mention All-Met. Among many other honors, she also played club soccer for the Laurel Wildcats and helped them to back-to-back state cup championships. She also helped her high school team, the St. John's College High School Cadets, to three WCAC champions. Ms. Bodell is also a member of the De La Salle Scholars Program, a member of the National Honors Society, and the National Spanish Honors Society. She chose Maryland over Cornell, George Washington, and Bucknell. Ms. Bodell is also a graduate of the Barnesville School.



After over ten years of voluntary service, George Deyo stepped aside as chairman of the Poolesville Town Parks Board. Town Manager Wade Yost presented him a plaque and commemorative flag in appreciation.

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Things to Do

Local News

State Grant for Town Skateboard Park Possible

Butch Zachrel announced to the town commissioners at the March 9 town meeting that Senator Rob Garagiola had offered to assist the town in obtaining \$200,000 in state grant funds for a skateboard park. The senator told Mr. Zachrel that applications for the Bond Bill Project grant would have to be submitted to the senator's office in time for legislative committee meetings on March 14.

This specific opportunity for a state grant was unanticipated and presented a dilemma to the commissioners. Although under discussion for over two and half years and even after \$60,000 has been budgeted toward this process, no final approval for a skateboard park had been made—until now. In a 4-1 vote, the commissioners approved the concept of a town

skateboard park without committing to specific operational or design specifications. Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski voted against approving the park at this time since he believed it was "putting the carriage ahead of the horse." However, without the vote, the opportunity presented to obtain the Bond Bill Project grant may have been missed. The \$200,000 grant requires matching funds which could be in hard (dollars) or soft (in kind) funds. Since the town has budgeted \$60,000 in funds for developing plans for a skateboard park, they believe they can use the value of that portion of Lot 840 for skateboarding use to meet the soft funds requirement. It is expected that if the grant is approved, final design and operational plans would be adjusted to the sum of the grant, and it is also understood that the grant would require construction in 2009.

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Things to Do

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Baseball Camp

Baseball Camp with Bethesda Big Train pitching coach Bill Sizemore is now open; the discount for early registration ends on March 31. For more information or to register, visit www.CSAsports.org.

March 20 and 21

Used Books and Media Sale St. Peter's Parish, at 20100 Fisher Avenue in Poolesville, is having its used book and media sale on Friday, March 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday, March 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come browse from a wide selection of inexpensive used adult and children's books, videos, DVDs, CDs, audio tapes, records, and computer software. Enjoy a cookie from the bake sale while stocking up on some excellent reading material. Why pay bookstore prices when you can shop at St. Peter's? Donations are welcome and can be dropped off at St. Peter's at any time. For more information, call 301-349-2073.

March 20

AARP Tax Assistance for seniors Poolesville Library 10:30 a.m. Call 240-277-2577 for an appointment

Basket Bingo

The UMCVFD Auxiliary Doors at 5:30 p.m. Games at 7:00 p.m. \$20 at the door

March 21

The Maranatha Community Church of God is holding a Community Family Health Fair, "Staying Healthy at Any Age," from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Maranatha Community Church of God, 123 Byte Drive, Frederick, Maryland. As part of this event, two local physicians will deliver health messages. Dr. Jacqueline Douge, Deputy Health Officer of the Frederick County Health Department, will speak about

women's issues and heart disease in women. This presentation is based on the Frederick County Health Department's recent partnership with the Heart Truth campaign. Dr. Stephen McKenna (a general surgeon), will speak about men's health issues and prostate cancer. The fair is free and open to the public.

Italian Dinner for Poolesville High School Music Programs

PHS Music Boosters "Italian Dinner Night" will be from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Poolesville Baptist Church Social Hall. The dinner will feature a buffet dinner (pastas, meatballs, salad, pizza, and garlic bread) catered by Cugini's Restaurant, with fancy specialty desserts for sale and live entertainment by PHS ensembles. Tickets are \$15 per diner, seniors (60 and over) \$12, kids under six are free. Family discounts: four for \$50, five for \$65, and six for \$80. The proceeds will benefit the PHS Music Department: instrument repair, sheet music, and festival expenses. Reservations can be made by emailing phs1music@yahoo.com, or by telephone: 301-349-4050 (Stephanie; leave message) or 240-388-5029 (Heidi).

Friends with You

A John Denver tribute band, Friends with You wants to take you home to the mountains via country roads at the Weinberg Center for the Arts at 8:00 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$30. For more information, visit www.weinbergcenter.org or call 301-600-2828.

Rummage Sale!

Poolesville Presbyterian Church Benefit for youth mission trip. Contact: crbeliveau@verizon.net or 301-972-7452 8.30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

March 21 and March 28

Join in Springtime Roadside Cleanup Projects Landscape and Nature Discoveries, Inc. (LAND) wants you to know that you don't have put up with trash along the roadside. In fact, they have a way for you to help do something about it. Their rallying cry: "It's

time to do something about it." You can join their troupe of concerned citizens with trash bags for cleanup on March 21 at Route 109 from Poolesville to Beallsville to Barnesville. The group will meet in the Healthworks parking lot at 1:00 p.m. The cleanup crew will be out again on March 24 to tackle Barnesville Road, and the meeting place is the Barnesville School at 1:00 p.m. Only middle school ages up to adult for this project.

March 25

Open House St. Thomas More Academy Buckeystown 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

March 26

Hairspray: The Musical (2007) Weinberg Center for the Arts 7:00 p.m.

March 27

AARP Tax Assistance for seniors Poolesville Library 10:30 a.m. Call 240-277-2577 for an appointment

F3 First Annual Frederick Film Festival

The 2009 Frederick Film Festival, the new film event bringing premiere films, film professionals, and special film events, has completed its selection of films for the March 27 to 28 event. The two-day event will feature some fifteen feature films and dozens of short films spread over two venues: The Weinberg Center for the Arts and the Cultural Arts Center. Opening night of the event features Baltimore filmmaker John Waters, writer and director of such films as *Hairspray*, *A Dirty Shame*, and *Serial Mom*. Waters will headline the night's events on March 27 at 8:00 p.m. at the Weinberg Center. His inventive style and his desire to make "trash masterpieces" have made the Baltimore native the patron saint of comedic and "not quite mainstream" film. Waters is the author of five books and is also a photographer. The opening night of the F3 event will showcase Waters giving his presentation of his

-Continued on Page 18.

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"A Floral Treasure Chest" Continued From Page 5.

The CFR occupies less than four percent of the area of southern Africa and is home to forty percent of the subcontinent's flora of 22,211 species. Seventy percent of the 9,600 plant species of the CFR are endemic, that is, found nowhere else on Earth. It also contains 112 Red Data Book (endangered) species of fauna and also an endemic bird area.

Table Mountain National Park owes its incredibly rich species diversity to the many different, topographically-influenced microclimates that occur on the peninsula. Its flora is unusual in that it includes species typical of strictly winter-rainfall areas, as well as species whose ranges extend eastward, where more rain falls in the summer. While hiking through different areas around Cape Town and the Cape of Good Hope, I noticed one particular type of vegetation that was dominant. It reminded me of some areas I have seen in the hills around Scottsdale, Arizona and the maquis on the island of Corsica. This flora of the CFR is called fynbos, fine bush, a shrubbery

which consists predominately of proteas, the national flower of South Africa, ericas (heathers), restios (reeds), and geophytes (such as lilies). Fynbos grows on the coarse-grained, low-nutrient acidic sands characteristic of this region. What I found very interesting was that its growth extended from mountain peaks, down hill slopes, across the coastal plains to the seashore. Typically, these areas are prone to summer droughts, constant wind, and recurring fires. Fynbos plants are renowned for their ability to regenerate after, or withstand, fire. I have recently mentioned in my columns the value of planting native plants. Here is another example, in South Africa, of the wisdom of this practice.

The CFR is home to many plants familiar to gardens in our area: Bird-of-Paradise, pelargoniums (true hardy geraniums), euphorbia, daisies, nicotiana, heliotrope, and daylilies. In the vineyard area east of Cape Town, I saw many roses, even some of David Austin. Iceberg was a very popular rose in many of the gardens I visited. The flower of

this area that I will remember the most is the beautiful, regal agapanthus. Its cobalt-blue blooms were everywhere, from roadside ditches to well-cultivated gardens. I have always wanted to plant some in my garden, but I never got around to it. Now I will; I have ordered several. Unfortunately, they might be annuals in our climate zone; I doubt they could survive our winter temperatures.

The beauty and biodiversity of the CFR is both a blessing and a curse. The Table Mountain National Park, which is within its region, is partly an urban park surrounded by the city of Cape Town, which relies heavily on the tourist economy. Over four million people visit this region every year. They have a large impact on the ecosystem of the mountains and the sea. Fortunately, many national and international organizations are involved in balancing the need for biodiversity conservation and eco-tourism revenue. UNESCO's recognition of the CFR as a World Heritage Site was a very important step in guaranteeing that "this Heaven on Earth" will

be protected for future generations to enjoy. It does not have the dramatic impact of Victoria Falls or the Pyramids. No, it demands that you get down on your hands and knees and take a closer look in out-of-the-way places. There are amazing plants just centimeters high. They are the little succulents and delicate, brightly-colored single flowers. There are wonderful birds that flit from bush to bush. There are small, fluorescent blue lizards that effortlessly slither from stone to earth to plants. There are mysterious random groupings of cairns scattered near the crashing waves of the Cape of Good Hope. Nearby one can watch wild, leggy ostriches graze on sparse vegetation. On the narrow, winding roads leading down to the water's edge, baboons leap off the craggy ledges above the roadway. Many of them jump onto the roof of your car and pound the windshield begging for morsels of food. I cannot adequately describe the beauty and wildness of this area. You must see it to begin to understand why the Cape Floral Region was honored with a listing as one of the most special places in the world.

"Things To Do" Continued From Page 17.

spoken word piece, "This Filthy World."

Please visit www.weinbergcenter.org for details on one-day or two-day passes, as well as special rates for accommodations to stay the weekend.

March 28

Carroll Manor Lions Club Bingo
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\$50 per game

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Doors open 5:30 p.m.

Games start at 7:00 p.m.

March 29

United States Army Band
Weinberg Center for the Arts
Free Concert

3:00 p.m.

March 30

Staying Alive Laughing
Armed with an abundance of unpretentious Southern charm and laser-sharp wit, Chonda Pierce has been entertaining audiences from coast to coast for more than a decade. An in-demand standup comic, television hostess, and best-selling author, Pierce has parlayed her gift for storytelling into a multi-faceted career. Catch her live at the Weinberg Center for the Arts at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$25. For more information, visit www.weinbergcenter.org or call 301-600-2828.

Throughout April: Earth Day Can Be More Than One Day
Want to participate in Earth Day programs? Begin by learning what's already being planned throughout the county: Check the Volunteer Center website at www.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/ Volunteer to view the latest listing of planned events and to look for contacts and organizers in your

area. Check back regularly as this list can change daily.

April 1

Art League Meeting
The Art League of Germantown will meet at 7:15 p.m. in the Gallery at the BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, Maryland. The guest speaker, Todd Hansen, will talk about creating hand-blown glass works of art. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, go to www.alog.org, or email artists@alog.org.

April 3

AARP Tax Assistance for seniors
Poolesville Library
10:30 a.m.
Call 240-277-2577 for an appointment

The Three Musketeers (1921)
Weinberg Center for the Arts
8:00 p.m.

April 4

21st Annual Potomac River, Watershed Cleanup
This is a student service learning opportunity to help improve the environment. Once a year, there is a big effort to clean up the Potomac River and its huge watershed area which encompasses some of West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. The C&O Canal Association is sponsoring a number of sites along the Potomac River which include Carderock, Great Falls Tavern, Swains Lock, Violettes Lock, and Riley's Lock. The project is from 9:00 a.m. to noon. If interested, please contact Jim Heins, coordinator of these sites at vip@candocanal.org.

Remembrance

**Dale Miller
Carnahan:
The Wind beneath
Falcon Wings**



The death of Dale Miller Carnahan, a 2008 Poolesville High School graduate, brought about an outpouring of condolences and concern from hundreds of residents in the area. The attendance at the funeral held at Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic Church on March 6 overwhelmed the facility with more than 600 persons filling the sanctuary and overflowing into the vestibule.

This heartfelt tribute was a reflection of the young man's personality and character and his impact on his fellow students and adults alike. It was also attributable to the Carnahan family and their dedication to community youth sports for many years.

Sports became central to Dale early in life through soccer, and

*"Funds Approved for Woodstock"
Continued From Page 1.*

two smaller rings and an expanded parking area; a working well with two, frost-free hydrants; renovation of a garden/barn structure for storage of jumps and maintenance equipment; a gravel service drive for maintenance vehicles, a stone dust trail from the parking lot to the new ring; and directional and way-finding signage. With county

his enthusiasm grew through the years with his participation in baseball, football, and basketball.

As his closest friends shared their remembrances of Dale, two words were oft repeated in expressing their thoughts and his impact on their lives—heart and humor. The stories they shared told of a young man whose gentle humor and determined dedication brought meaning and joy to their relationships. These personal characteristics exhibited in high school sports were also apparent even in his earliest sports experiences.

Bernie Mihm, one of Dale's very first coaches, saw in him traits that helped define the young man. Mr. Mihm shared with the Monocle this story about Dale: "I am pretty sure the first team Dale played on was the Fireballs, a first and second grade boys' soccer team that I coached. I can still remember what I said about Dale at the end of the first season during the award dinner. I mentioned something about his dad being the smallest lineman at Poolesville High School, yet he played with a great competitive spirit. I said that you could see that very trait in Dale. He was not the biggest player on our little soccer team, not by a long shot, but what he lacked in size, he more than made up for in heart and competitive fire. I don't know why I remember this story as I don't remember what I said about any other players on that team, even my own son."

Jim Brown, past president of the Poolesville Basketball Association (PBA), who knew Dale well and is close to the Carnahan family, shared these stories about him.

council approval, the planning board would begin design in the current fiscal year, begin construction early in calendar 2010, and complete the Phase II facilities of Woodstock Equestrian Center in mid-2010. All of these improvements were presented to the public in a public hearing in February.

The county council approved the requested action and declared that it is necessary to act without delay in the public interest.

"Two memories about Dale stand out in my mind. The first involves Dale playing basketball during his eighth grade year. He had severely broken his leg trying to block a kick during football season and now faced missing his final PBA season due to the injury. Dale worked hard to get back, and in the final game of the year, he got on to the court and nailed a three-pointer to help the team to a win. His coach (Brian, his dad) quickly shuffled him off the court before the other team realized he couldn't play defense—not on one good leg! The important thing was [that] he made it back and he contributed. Recently, a neighborhood group of sixth grade boys found themselves without a coach for the upcoming basketball season. Dale, who had a hard time saying no to anyone who needed his help, stepped up and coached the boys—and then came back the next year and did it again. By all accounts, the boys had two great seasons thanks to the newly-minted 'Coach' Carnahan. That was Dale for you."

Larry Hurd, another one of Dale's coaches, expressed similar sentiments about him, and in reflecting about the Poolesville community and its ability to rally in difficult times, he attributed much of that to people like the

Carnahans. "I have such respect and admiration for Dale and the Carnahan family. They really are great examples as to why this community is so great."

Friends and family of Dale are not mystified by these characteristics. The expression being a "chip off the old block" is almost, but not quite exactly right in Dale's case. For Dale it would be blocks since Brian and Cathy Carnahan have modeled these attributes throughout their lives. Brian was an avid athlete in high school and has spent many years coaching football, basketball, and baseball for Poolesville youth. Cathy Carnahan was a top basketball player in high school and attended and played basketball at North Carolina. She has coached girls' basketball for many years as well as coaching a group of Poolesville boys in the high school recreation league.

Mrs. Carnahan spoke about Dale and his competitive drive which may have come from a strong spirit in an undersized body. Dale never hit a home run, but Mrs. Carnahan reflected on the ten-year-old boy whose life was saved through the donation of Dale's heart. "Dale would have been so pleased knowing that. He finally hit his home run."

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