



Aubrey Marion Selby, born April 9, would encourage you to read Tidbits on Page 3 for all the details and more.



If it's spring this must be the Post-Prom Committee car wash fundraiser. More pictures of local events are in the Family Album. On Page 2.



Pete Dilonardo of Dickerson presented Sugarloaf Citizen's Association President Gary Valen with a vintage activist poster.



Sherri Lyn Robbins, of Robbins and Geshen, will play Funky Folk at the Spring Jam Fest.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

April 24, 2009

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Election Forum Shows Consensus Among Candidates

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) Public Forum for candidates for Poolesville town commissioner was held on April 19 at the town hall. The attendance was slightly larger than the forty-seat capacity. The forum provided responses to over a dozen questions with far more agreement among the participants than disagreement. In fact, no candidate challenged any response by an opponent. While the format provided insight into the candidates' individual priorities on key issues, the necessary time limitations for answers from the six candidates restricted detailed

responses.

In welcoming the gathering, Scott Hollander, president of the PACC, invited the audience to submit questions of their choosing on note cards provided.

Brian Hundertmark, who has moderated the last eight public forums, reviewed the questions categorizing them by subject matter so as to minimize redundancy. Each candidate was given sixty or ninety seconds to respond to each question, and the order of answering was started by random selection.

Robert Pierce who was unable to attend due to a family obligation and business commitments that required his attention as the result of an illness of a business colleague.



The candidates for Commissioner of Poolesville: Front row: Joyce Breiner, Lori Gruber, and Jennifer Kaston. Back row: Joshua Maisel and Roy Johnson, Bob Pierce could not attend the forum due to professional obligations.

His opening statement was read by Scott Hollander.

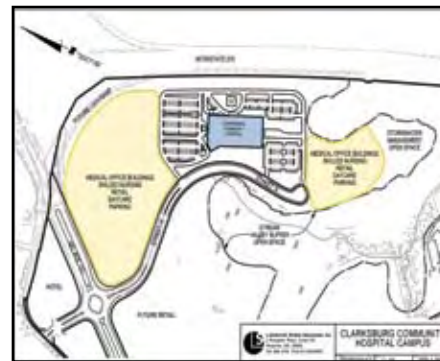
Understandably, the PACC submitted the first questions as to how a candidate might improve the business environ-

- Continued on Page 18.

Adventist HealthCare Seeks State Approval for A New Hospital in Clarksburg

By John Clayton

Adventist Hospital has continued to move ahead on its plan to build a new hospital and medical campus along the Interstate 270 corridor in Clarksburg. On Friday, April 10, Adventist HealthCare formally filed a Certificate of Need (CON) with the state in support of the new construction. This followed a formal letter of intent filed in February, in accordance with procedures set out by the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC), which can approve or deny the



The proposed Adventist HealthCare Clarksburg Medical Campus.

plans.

The Upcounty now has two major hospital construction initiatives pending. Holy Cross Hospital is seeking to construct a ninety-three bed facility in Germantown on the campus of Montgomery College. Holy Cross filed its letter of intent back in August 2008 and filed its CON two months

later in October.

In a statement released by Adventist HealthCare, President and Chief Executive Officer William G. "Bill" Robertson said, "We are very pleased that so many residents and organizations recognize that our comprehensive medical campus and hospital is the best plan for meeting the healthcare needs of residents in upper Montgomery County and lower Frederick County... We now look forward to continue working with our community partners and state health officials to expand access to care in the region in the most cost-effective manner."

The sixty-acre Cabin Branch site, located at Interstate

- Continued on Page 17.

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by
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Ann and Dick Bauer (left) enjoy the company of Linda and Joe Butt at the spaghetti dinner at the Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church.



Kyle Broady and Cherry Barr gave blood during the recent Monocacy Lions Club donation drive at the Poolesville Baptist Church. Assisting our givers were David and Helen from the Washington Hospital Center.



Emma Taylor from the PHS Global Ecology Studies Program received a grant from the SCA.

Poolesville High School students Naki Desalegn and Andrew Karlin, with their teacher Dr. Teresa Mallow, received a grant at the SCA meeting.



Sarah Krizek of the Audubon Naturalist Society received an environmental grant from the SCA.

At the Sugarloaf Citizens Association Annual Meeting, Laura Lill and Rachel Heney accepted a grant for a butterfly garden at Forest Knolls Elementary School.



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WINNER FROM APRIL 3 ISSUE: MARY PHILLIPS
The Monocle was in the MAAC SERVICES HARDWOOD MULCH ad on page 10.

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.

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Tidbits

Local Artist Recognized

Susan Due Percy, of Barnesville, was recently selected as one of the Top 100 Women in Maryland for 2009 by Baltimore's Daily Record. She is recognized for her "professional achievement combined with leadership in the community and commitment to mentoring." She will receive the award for her many years of volunteering at NIH and the Children's Inn at the Meyerhoff Hall on May 11.

60 Years and Counting

Paul M. Jeffers was recently honored by the Poolesville American Legion Post #247 for sixty years of continuous service to the organization. Mr. Jeffers is a charter member of the post.

Jeffers served during World War II in the navy on a "submarine chaser" ship. Most of his service took place in the Panama Canal Zone protecting it from Axis attack. The Daniel-Jeffers American Legion Post #247

honors Paul Jeffers's brother who was killed in action during World War II. Mark Jeffers, also a brother of Paul, was in attendance to give honor to his brother's long service to the American Legion. American Legion, Department of Maryland, Commander Gail Murdock and District Commander Tom Gilman assisted Post Commander William Poole in celebrating the service of Mr. Jeffers.

Newest Selby Arrives on the Scene

Michael and Corrine Selby are the proud parents of a new daughter, Aubrey Marion, who was born on April 9, 2009 at 1:05 a.m. The beautiful baby weighed seven pounds, twelve ounces and has two older sisters, Charlotte and Addison. Aubrey is also the newest granddaughter of Roy and Betty Jean Selby.

Bottling at the Winery

In March, Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard finished bottling two thousand cases of 2007 Chardonnay, 2008 Pinot Grigio, and 2008 Stomp. Several of the

vineyard's customers pitched in on the bottling line, and the winery will be offering these wines for tastings and sales by early summer. This April, they will bottle another two thousand cases of Circe, Comus Reserve, Cabernet Franc Reserve, and Cabernet Sauvignon. If you would like to see the bottling process in action, you can email info@smvwinery.com for details.

Beauty and the Beast

The Poolesville High School Midnight Players is presenting its rendition of the classic musical Beauty and the Beast on April 23, 24, and 25. Ms. Gail Howard will once again be directing the musical production.

Students involved in the show include Bailey Kerr and Hilary Templeton as Belle, Preston Henry as Gaston, and Billy Lewis and Matt Dicken as the Beast, joined by more than seventy other Midnight Players taking the roles of actors and actresses, as well as tech crew, and pit orchestra members. The pit orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Darryl Clark, while music

is headed by Mrs. Christine Pappas, and choreography taught by Ms. Michelle Orey. Ms. Nanci Niebauer, Mrs. Beth Fayard Jones, and Mr. Jeff Jones are in charge of the fantastic costumes for the play, and the tech crew is under the direction of Mr. Matt Johnson.

This production of Beauty and the Beast is meant to reach both young and more mature audiences, and the Midnight Players believe that a good time will be had by all.



Paul Jeffers (second from right), originally from Barnesville, was honored for sixty years service with the American Legion Daniel-Jeffers Post #247. Sharing the occasion with him were (left to right) his brother Mark, Maryland Commander Gail Murdock, Post Commander William Poole, and District Commander Tom Gilman.

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Commentary

On the Commissioner Race

By Rande Davis

On May 5, the town of Poolesville will have its second special election for commissioner in nearly as many years. With the opening created by Commissioner Tom Yeatts's impending move to family property outside of the area, six candidates have stepped forward to offer their time, their talents, and their judgment on behalf of the town. Congratulations to them and to the town.

The good news is we have half a dozen candidates for commissioner. Even better, we have improvement in the range of diversity. Why is that important? Because diversity broadens perspective, which creates a wider variety of questions, which then increases the chance of getting it right. Failure often comes more from the questions not asked than the answers given. When things go wrong one of the most oft-stated queries is: "Why didn't I think of that?" Could it be the right question just was not asked? So we start with a slate of candidates that offers the potential to ask more questions, in turn, the commission might make better decisions.

For many voters, experience will be the deciding factor. What role does governmental experience have in the selection of a commissioner? If your only yardstick is experience and attendance at meetings, then the selection will be simplified. Only Johnson and Pierce have credentials with town government experience. Is it possible, however, that there are qualities as or, even potentially, more important in Poolesville than town governmental experience?

Are we electing someone to fill an executive position or a position that is more legislative in nature? How you answer that may determine how you vote. If you see the commissioner's

role as an executive with the subsequent powers inherent in an executive, then experience may be the primary criteria. On the other hand, we are a town with a paid manager having the benefit of a consulting engineer for technical matters, and both are supported by a dedicated staff of employees. Through this system, we expect the commissioners to collectively consider options on town matters, listen and understand those options, weigh cost-benefits, set direction, and set in motion the actions by others to achieve those objectives and goals.

Here is what I believe. When commissioners understand their role as "trustees of judgment" the system works at its best. When commissioners confuse that role and assume mini-executive mindsets, the town ends up with acrimony, turf battles and conflict.

One of the reasons why this town is so unique and so successful is that our commissioner system has worked well. In saying that, understand, there are commissioners whom I prefer over others, whose judgment impresses me more than others. And, understand, I do not agree with every decision they have made. I do think that, collectively, they have gotten more things right than wrong.

Financially, we are very sound. While most governments today suffer deficits, our issue is more what to do with the surpluses. The debates are about where to spend or not spend money, not in how do we raise more funds to stay afloat. The infrastructure changes that have come to the town have sustained its historical character rather than distracted from its heritage. Growth, although possibly too slow for sustaining a strong future, at least, has not come too quickly to overwhelm us or to cause us to lose the precious character of the town.

Now it may disappoint you that I am not going to endorse a candidate. One reason is that I

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Commentary

Upcounty Downcounty

By John Clayton

This past week, I attended the annual meeting of the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, which is covered elsewhere in this issue. (In the interest of full disclosure, I am a dues-paying member of the group, and the SCA buys advertising space in the Monocle for its monthly newsletter.) During the meeting, a number of familiar development threats were revisited. The primary threat, and Council President Andrews referred to this, is that there isn't much more land to develop in the county, and what is left, and the cheapest land left, is out here in the Ag Reserve.

Since our open land more and more becomes a sitting duck for development, we need to be very aware of how and why the rest of the county might value the Ag Reserve. After all, what's

in it for them? We can talk about sustainable agriculture and oxygen production from trees and grasses until we're green in the face, and yes, most people like to hop in the car once in a while and show the kids some horses and cows, but there has to be more. Various speakers at this meeting in years past have made cautionary statements to this effect, that it isn't enough just for us to love the Ag Reserve; we need down county residents to love it as well.

The topic in question concerned large events occurring in the Ag Reserve that can be held without sufficient review and control based on a special permit—a "Special Benefit Performance Permit." With this permit, it was said that one can hold an event of any size out in the Ag Reserve, and the people out here don't have a thing to say about it. The event apparently has to be a benefit of some sort—hence the name. The concern expressed was that events may be too large

-Continue on Page 23.

Center Stage Spring Band Jam Fest

By Dominique Agnew

Five bands, three hours, one location—forget Woodstock, this is a Jam Fest. Was Woodstock sponsored by a local library? I think not. Did Woodstock raise money to support library programs? Should we laugh out loud? Finally, was Woodstock the brain child of a mild-mannered library manager? We all know the answer to that one.

After years of having the thought niggling in his mind, Poolesville Library Manager Mark Gochnour has given rein to his brain—and the Library Advisory Committee (LAC) under the aegis of Lynne Rolls, chair of the LAC. Saturday, May 2 will go down in history as the first annual Spring Band Jam Fest, a free concert featuring local talent under one roof (the blue sky of Whalen Commons) organized for the sole purpose of showcasing local talent. “Doing something like this has been in the back of my mind for so many years,” says Mark. While he acknowledges that many bands get to play at Poolesville Day, they’re frequently spread out all over town, and Mark has had this “germ of an idea” to create

a venue just for musicians. “We finally decided to make it happen,” says Lynne.

They’re getting a little help from their friends, as well. Brian Gross of Phoenixx Systems will be instrumental in donating his time to set up the sound system and to pick up and set up the stage. “We’re very grateful that he’s providing the sound system,” adds Lynne.

Also, April Leese is donating her time to paint faces. The proceeds from face painting and the sale of refreshments will go to the LAC fund that supports various library programs including the summer reading program, poster contests, and puppet shows.

Of course, the artists are donating their time and talent as well. Hitting the stage first will be perennial favorite, Doug Bell. Well-known for his brand of, as he calls it, “tourist music,” his acoustic performances are always well-appreciated and loved. Following Doug is crooner Drew Simms. He has an amazing voice, particularly if you favor the Vegas/Lounge/Broadway singers like Frank Sinatra, Mel Torme, or Robert Goulette. Youngest Son, an impromptu collaboration of three musicians (Scott Geshen, Brooke Robbins, and John Rolls) who are each the youngest sons of their respective parents, will debut a wide and varied background of musical experiences from classical to

country, jazz to big band, rock and roll to Broadway tunes, converging in classic acoustic rock. Then the duo of Robbins and Geshen will take the stage (different Robbins, same Geshen). Sherri Lyn Robbins and Scott Geshen call their style Funky Folk—music for the mind, body, and spirit. The closing band will be the Poolesville Band Project. Formed years ago

by Paul Hooper to perform in only one Poolesville Day and then to disband forever, they continue to entertain the crowds at multiple Poolesville Days and concerts in the park. Fortunately, Forever hasn’t arrived yet.

Mark and Lynne are pleased with the lineup for the inaugural Jam Fest, but Lynne admits, “We haven’t even scratched the surface” of talent in our area. “We could make it a three-day event” instead of the three hours from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. When that happens, I propose we call

it Whalenstock (and that we pick up the trash afterwards—something they didn’t do at the other big concert—what was it called again?)

“Bring your own blankets and chairs,” advises Lynne.

“Bring your own picnic or visit local restaurants,” recommends Mark.

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Doug Bell will be one of the featured performers at the upcoming Spring Jam Fest at Whalen Commons on May 2.

**Joyce Breiner
Direct Statement to
Readers of the Monocacy
Monocle (April 15, 2009):**

The Town of Poolesville is a fantastic place to raise a family. Prior to moving from Gaithersburg in 2002, I worked in Leesburg, Virginia and was one of those commuters traveling through Poolesville on the way to and from White's Ferry. On my trip home, I would always think, "Gee, if I lived in Poolesville, I'd be home now" instead of just halfway in my commute. Even more so, when we moved to Poolesville, I really felt like I "came home."

I grew up in south central Pennsylvania in a rural farm community on the western edge of the Harrisburg Metro region—western Montgomery County feels so much like that area to me. Because many of my uncles, aunts, and cousins had

farms, I understand and appreciate the need to balance rural and growth concerns. I like to call Poolesville "the first small town you come to outside of Washington, D.C."

At the Poolesville State of the Town meeting in January 2009, I called on the commissioners to establish practice and policy to routinely include sustainability, energy efficiency, and other "green" initiatives and considerations in the conduct of town business for this year and beyond. As a result, Green Initiatives was recently announced as one of Poolesville's four priorities for 2009. This was very gratifying, but the work has just begun. It is one thing to identify an issue; it

is another to be a part of the answer, and I am ready.

I look forward to working with fellow commissioners in resolving and addressing issues such as the skate park, the cancer cluster study, town budget, subdivision regulations, alternative energy sources, and utility ordinance updating. In addition to continuing to support varied sports opportunities, I believe fostering cultural arts opportunities for the young and old alike is a way to ensure our community is well rounded and provides outlets for the interests of all citizens.

Also, from my perspective, while women are all individuals and do not represent a set voting block, I do believe there is a place for a woman's perspective and voice in the Town of Poolesville, and that includes a seat at the governing table.

I invite you to check my website at JoyceBreiner.home.comcast.net for additional information and updates.

Many thanks go to the Monocacy Monocle for this opportunity to introduce myself to you. Thanks for reading and please vote May 5!

Sincerely,
Joyce

**Lori Gruber
Family: Husband – John;
children - Jessica, Nicole,
Allison, and Victoria
Employment: National
Institute of Standards
and Technology,
Administrative Support
Clerk
Resident: 25 years**

Hi, my name is Lori Gruber, and I'm running for the office of Town Commissioner for the town we all know and love—Poolesville. I have been a resident of Poolesville since my parents moved here in 1984. I graduated from Poolesville High School in 1988 while watching the Seneca Chase development being built in my backyard. I lived in Bethesda from 1993 to 1994 when I brought my husband, John, back to Poolesville. We bought our home here because we couldn't imagine raising our children anywhere else.

I believe that personal involvement is what makes Poolesville special. I have been involved in PAA, Girl Scouts, Poolesville Piranhas' Swim Team, PES PTA, volunteering at both PES and JPMS, Poolesville's Relay For Life, and the 4th Saturday bowling league (a mostly Poolesville, thirty-team league).

I take pride in this community and look to maintain the small town grace we have all come here in search of. I wish to enhance our town's atmosphere, maintaining community events (Poolesville Day, Relay for Life, Town Youth Fishing Tournament), and our environment through our Parks and Fields and streetscape projects. I believe we need a community center, not just for the youth, with game rooms for our older generation to maintain social activity. We need to maintain the relationship the town has with our school system and to protect and maintain our independent water supply and wastewater treatment.

If elected, I pledge to use my abilities, within the structure of town government, to represent all of our citizens while helping to achieve our shared goals.

A vote for Lori Gruber is a vote for a long-time resident with an unquestionable commitment to community service, progress, and the protection of the Poolesville "way of life." Thanks for your time and see you on May 5!

**Roy Johnson
Family: Wife – Carol; four
grown children
Employment: President,
Potomac Ship Engineering,
Ltd. (Marine Technical and
Ship Construction)
Mobil Shipping and
Transportation, marine
affiliate of Mobil
Corporation
Residency: 17 years (past
town commissioner for ten
years)**

Experience, open-mindedness, and a solid reputation for the betterment of Poolesville.

I decided to seek election for the remainder of Commissioner Yeatts's term for several reasons. First, I was approached by several citizens who believed that, during previous terms of office, I always fought for what I believed was best for Poolesville (and not for some personal agenda), and my record of previous accomplishments was second to none. Also, I have some personal concerns that the Town's budget is becoming a political document, rather than a solid implementation plan for the next five years.

For the first time in more than a decade, new home construction in Poolesville is on the horizon. In addition to integrating new residents, homes, facilities, and costs into the fiber of our town, there are the long-standing issues of quality water supply and adequate, reliable wastewater service. With more than ten years' experience, I believe I have the knowledge and background to address all these issues from my first day back on the job.

While previously in office, I tried to avoid unnecessary rhetoric, cut to the issues, and display good decision-making skills. I am proud of the many accomplishments I brought to the town and its government during those years. For example, I completely overhauled the town's budget development and tracking procedures. Since that time, the budgeting process has been simplified, budgets always balanced, and current, accurate information readily available.

I strongly believe that the budget, from development to implementation, is the most important commissioner duty of all. It sets our priorities, guides our decision-making, and provides the blueprint for the year. The current budget shows many un-

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funded projects and no plan to fund any of them. For example, almost twenty years ago, the old commissioners had the foresight to realize the town needed an adequate town hall facility. A project was established, and funding was implemented. That's why the new facility was built without a mortgage and without any increase in taxes. More than half of the cost of the building was in place ten years before the current site was even selected; that's foresight and planning. Today, we have lots of projects under discussion, but there is no plan and no funding, only talk. I'd like the opportunity to once again tie all the pieces together: needs, planning, funding, and implementation.

Vote Roy Johnson for dedication, experience, and independent leadership in Poolesville.

Jennifer J. Kasten, Ph.D.
Family: Husband – Mark;
children – Ryan and Jacob
Employment: Abt
Associates, Consulting
firm for Federal
Government
Residency: 1 year

Having grown up in a small rural community in Northern Illinois, moving to Poolesville this past year felt like coming home. My husband and I purposefully chose Poolesville when we relocated from Washington State because of the quality of its schools and the sense of community it offered. While I have only been in Poolesville a short time, I have already grown to love the community, actively involving myself with PES through the PTA and Tiger Tales. My desire to preserve the small town qualities of Poolesville while still providing for the needs of town residents is the primary reason I chose to run for Town Commissioner. I bring a fresh perspective to the position that I believe will benefit town residents. Through my work as a Senior Policy Analyst and as a public administrator, I have extensive experience in public policy, program evaluation, outcome evaluation, and performance measurement including cost-effectiveness. In my professional position, I manage several multi-million-dollar federally-funded projects. I take my role as financial administrator of these funds very seriously, valuing efficacy and effectiveness. I will bring these same values to the role of Town Commissioner.

I believe in a responsible town government that can keep expenses in check while addressing the concerns that threaten the quality of life residents living in Poolesville have grown to appreciate. I am committed to maintaining the town's heritage. My goals are to provide the residents of Poolesville with open and responsive government. I plan to work collaboratively with the Poolesville business community to ensure the needs and expectations of town residents are met and to ensure the economic health of the town. If elected Town Commissioner, I bring public administration, program management, and fiscal management skills to the position. In my profession, I have learned the value of communication and finding common ground in addressing controversial issues. I will use these skills to advocate on behalf of the community. My life is blessed both professionally and personally. I am fortunate to share it with my husband of fifteen years, Mark, and our two sons, Ryan (nine) and Jacob (six). Being a policy analyst, wife, and mother provides me the sustenance to use my education, training, and experience to serve the community of Poolesville. I respectively ask for your vote in the May 5 special election.

Joshua Maisel
Family: Wife – Christie;
children – James and Jacob
Employment:
Partner, Benning &
Associates, Inc.
Land planner, Maryland
registered landscape
architect, ISA
Resident: 10 years

It is important to me that Poolesville continues to be a town that can sustain itself and its local merchants. I believe we need to step back and take a look at the big picture of what our town is and how we can maintain and improve the community we live in. As a practicing land planner, I feel that our town needs some moderate growth to improve and maintain the local businesses and public schools. I also feel that our community can lead the way in how a small town can become more environmentally friendly. I support Poolesville Hardware installing a windmill, and I would like to see more of our town take advantage of wind and solar power. I would like to explore the possibility of installing a windmill at our sewage treatment plant. We could provide our own power for the treatment plant and for possibly some of the remote well locations thereby cutting down on our operating expenses. I was also very happy to see the new town hall have pervious paving installed in the new parking lot to decrease storm water runoff. These solutions and other options are available to our town as it grows.

We need to also support our local community more. I have not enjoyed watching our local businesses close their doors during this rough economic time. We need these businesses to flourish for our town to maintain the quality of life that we have all grown to enjoy. It is so wonderful that we can walk to the grocery store, the hardware store, auto repair shops, restaurants, a public library, public schools, parks, and so much more. I would also like to see our town remain a safe place for us to live. It is not acceptable to me that the new play equipment by my home was defaced by vandals in a matter of weeks. Our children need safe places to play. I also support the skate park, skating has been around for a long time and has become a very popular sport in recent years. Our kids of all ages need places to go and exercise, just as it is important to have baseball diamonds, tennis courts, and basketball hoops. Our kids deserve a place where they can skateboard. I believe Poolesville is a great place to live and that we can all make it even better.

Bob Pierce
Family: Wife Patricia;
children Chris and Sean
Employment: President
of Wetlands Training
Institute Inc. and Wetland
Science Applications, Inc.
Residency: 15 years

I want to thank the Monocle for this opportunity. For many, local government just happens as we go about our hectic lives. Most of us don't even consciously rely upon it. Nevertheless, it is important that the right decisions are made for the right reasons.

As background, I was a Poolesville Planning Commissioner for eight years, drafted two Town Master Plans, a ground-water study, the Forest Conservation Act Ordinance, plans for a trail system through town, and actively worked to get the middle school built. I have worked with youth sports and the high school, including Odyssey of the Mind, Moot Court, the Environthon, Global Ecology, and was the high school wrestling coach for five years. From the late 1990s to 2007, I concentrated on the two Maryland-incorporated businesses over which I preside. In 2007, I began paying more attention to town government when our well water supply was adversely impacted by the test on the Schraf well.

I am running for office for numerous

reasons. Three that are among the most important are:

I believe that government's first and foremost responsibility is to its existing residents. The commissioners ultimately must do what they perceive is best for all residents; however, they must always carefully consider each resident's views, especially those that disagree with their judgment. I want to know about what other residents perceive as problems so they can be fixed.

The commissioners have not been proactive when it comes to taking action on radon and other contaminants that are elevated in the town water supply. Rather than waiting for years to see "conclusive" proof or a final EPA standard, town government needs to tap into residents with technical backgrounds to evaluate and make recommendations on this and similar critical issues on an ad hoc basis—and then act. Serving a multi-year term is daunting, but many residents are willing and able to work on a short-term task force basis.

Funding for water and wastewater is being mismanaged, and the end result is that we all pay higher property taxes than are necessary. Despite the fact that it is the single biggest user in town (three schools and a pool), Montgomery County pays none of the cost of capital improvements and debt service. The commissioners have ignored the recommendations of a 2004 funding management study done specifically for the town.

Vote on May 5. I do my homework and am willing to take a stand for what is in the best interests of the residents of Poolesville.

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Equestrian

Concussions Part II Return-to-Play Rules: Protecting Yourself

By Carol Rae Hansen, Ph.D.,
Director, Equine Therapy Associates

Copy this column, put it in your glove compartment, tuck it into your helmet, and share it with friends who love sports, as well as their coaches and families. Annually, 1.4 million Americans suffer a brain injury. Unless you, your family, friends, coaches, and teammates know the rules for concussion management, you run the risk of suffering the tragic consequences of British actress Natasha Richardson: death through inaction.

Virtually no one outside an emergency room knows how to handle brain injury. Americans lack a coordinated response system designed for schools, colleges, semi-professional athletic unions, summer camps, rodeos, boxing rings, horse shows, ski slopes, or skateboard parks. After the ski patrol was not allowed to transport Richardson to an emergency medical facility, the American Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists revealed that there isn't even one certified brain injury expert employed on U.S. ski mountains. If brain trauma specialists had a higher profile where we are most at risk, would horrific outcomes occur less often?

Consider the startling odds for concussion injuries for the twelve to fifteen million American equestrians: show injuries are not the most common source of concussion, rather, pleasure riding leads to most injuries, with head injuries being the most common reason for emergency room visits—and death. The human skull is grand protection, unless you are riding unprotected: horses can gallop at sixty-five kilometers per hour (thirty-nine m.p.h.), while our skulls can shatter with an impact

of but seven to ten kilometers per hour (four to six m.p.h.).

Your essential armor is a correctly-fitting ASTM/SEI-approved helmet, with a correctly-adjusted, snugly-fitting harness (contact Dr. Elizabeth Green at the University of Vermont Extension Service for a full-color \$2.00 Helmet Fitting Poster: 802-656-2070 or email marcia.purvis@uvm.edu). The proof is in the pudding. Jockeys now required to wear helmets suffer fewer head traumas than pleasure riders. The U.S. Pony Club's mandatory helmet requirement lowered their head injury rate by twenty-nine percent, and in the United Kingdom, the number of riders entering the hospital dropped by forty-six percent after helmets were redesigned and used routinely.

Who is most at risk? The National Electronic Surveillance System suggests that the most vulnerable for head injury are aged five to fourteen and twenty-five to forty-four. The Equestrian Medical Safety Association says in their online helmet safety data (www.emsaonline.us/helmet_safety.html) that any rider who suffers a head injury faces a forty percent chance that he/she will suffer a second injury. They also note that any rapidly-growing brain from childhood through young adulthood faces the additional risk of "second impact syndrome," wherein massive brain swelling leads to sudden death when a second injury wracks the brain before recovery from the first. Hospitalization for massive head injuries can run \$25,000 a day in the U.S., with lifetime care costing more than the typical three-million-dollar liability insurance umbrella. For that reason, "return to ride/play" must be an essential element in all of our calculations.

If you fall, can you "return to play/ride?" Follow these rules: know the Key Signs and Symptoms of concussion ("seeing stars," having little or no memory of just before/just after the fall, nausea/vomiting, aggressiveness or irritability, headache, drowsiness or fatigue, poor memory and forgetfulness, dizziness, confusion, blurred vision, poor concentration,

and/or inability to follow simple instructions); and ask Key Questions (what is your name, what day is it, what's the date, where are you, what town or show are you in, etc.). If the rider answers all the Key Questions correctly and has none of the Key Signs of concussion, a Green Light is called, and the rider can get back on and continue. If the rider misses questions or appears confused, a Yellow Light is called, and the rider is observed on the ground for fifteen minutes. If the rider then has no Key Signs or Symptoms

and answers all the Key Questions appropriately, he/she can get back on and continue. However, if one or more Key Signs or Symptoms continues after fifteen minutes, a Red Light is declared, with riding or competition over for the day. The rider should never be left alone, and should be given immediate medical assistance. If there is any loss of consciousness, even for a few seconds, the rider should immediately be taken to a medical facility.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

The Montgomery County Police Department's Animal Services Division will sponsor six rabies vaccination clinics this year. Maryland law requires that all dogs, cats, and ferrets over the age of four months be vaccinated against rabies. Failure to vaccinate an animal as required may subject the owner to a \$500 fine.

The clinics, running from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., will be held at the Montgomery County Animal Shelter located at 14645 Rothgeb Drive in Rockville on the following Sundays: April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, August 16, and September 20.

At the clinics, the rabies vaccinations will be administered by a participating veterinarian at no charge for dogs and cats owned by residents of Montgomery County. There will be a minimal \$4.00 charge for ferrets and out-of-county pets. All dogs

must be leashed. Cats and ferrets must be in carriers or otherwise contained. County residents, as well as residents of the City of Rockville and the City of Gaithersburg, will be required to purchase a pet license if their pet is not currently licensed.

Present

Montgomery County officers responded to the following locations in Poolesville to investigate reports of disorderly persons: McDonald's 19600 Fisher Avenue, 19000 block of Hempstone Court, 17400 block of Anita Court, and the 17300 block of Seneca Chase Park Road.

Montgomery County officers responded to the following locations in Poolesville to investigate reports that drugs were being used: 19100 block of Hempstone Avenue and the 19100 block of Wootton Avenue.

April 7 Weapons offense. 20100 block of Wootton Avenue. Police investigated a complaint that someone was in possession

of a weapon.

April 7 Assault. 19900 block of Fisher Avenue.

April 9 Commercial burglary. 17700 block of Elgin Road.

Past

April 24, 1935 Percy Line, the thirty-four-year-old driver of the school bus that collided with a Baltimore and Ohio express train at Rockville, was ordered held for the grand jury. Line had been driving a Washington County school bus on a field trip to the University of Maryland when he attempted to cross the railroad tracks in Rockville. Fourteen students were killed in the collision.

April 26, 1926 The farm of a Martinsburg man was visited by a squad of Montgomery County officers who found a whiskey still, corn whiskey, and a quantity of mash. He was jailed on a bond of \$300.

May 1, 1951 Two Montgomery County officers were suspended from the police force for one month for taking a nap in

their squad car. The officers were working the overnight shift and did not answer their radio when called and admitted that they were asleep.

May 4, 1970 A Clarksburg man was shot to death, and a Gaithersburg man was critically injured in a shooting at the Ox Yoke Inn in Germantown. Police said that a shootout broke out at approximately 11:30 p.m., and that it was possible that the dead man and injured man had exchanged shots.

May 6, 1903 An explosion at the Dickerson stone quarry killed one man and injured three others. The men were preparing a hole for a dynamite blast when the accident happened. The quarry supplied stone to the District of Columbia for street construction.

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Youth Sports Poolesville Softball: Thrill And Agony

By Jeff Stuart

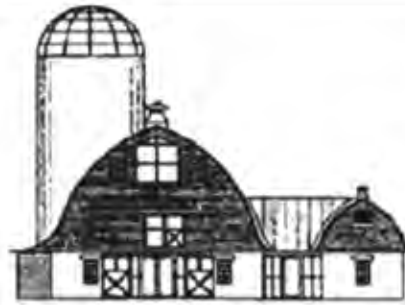
The thrill of victory, and the agony of defeat came in rapid succession for the Poolesville softball team (5-2) in a busy first week of April. The thrill came on Monday at Paint Branch. With two outs in the top of the seventh, freshman Patti Maloney ripped a bases-loaded triple to tie the game against visiting Paint Branch. Moments later Patti scored the eventual game winner sliding under a tag on a passed ball with Megan Foy at bat to propel Poolesville to a critical 7-5 win over their division rival, the Paint Branch Panthers. Trailing 6-2 when the final inning began, the Falcons rallied. Outfielder Lori Defnet (on her birthday) started the inning off with her second hit of the day. Christy Wyne beat out an infield hit. Nicole Stottlemeyer scored Defnet with a single to center. Jen Bateman walked to load the bases. The Panthers nearly survived the no-out threat, getting two quick outs by forces at home on grounders before Maloney's shot into the right field gap for a stand-up triple clearing the bases. Trailing by only a run, Paint Branch had one last chance, but freshman Magen Harris struck out the first batter in the bottom of the seventh and got the next on a ground out before giving up a double. Appropriately, the hero

of the afternoon, Maloney, fielded an infield pop up to retire the last batter. Co-captain Megan Foy singled home co-captain Jackie Winning and Maloney with the first two Falcon runs with a third inning single. The Panthers went 11-7 last season, losing in the 3A West region semifinals.

The agony came on Tuesday at home against Seneca Valley as the Falcons lost 16-12 in an extra inning game. On a beautiful spring afternoon, the Falcons led 8-1 after three innings. Foy had a two-run single, Maloney had two hits. Freshman Amy Defnet and Christy Wyne also had hits. Poolesville scored in each of the first four innings, posting a five-spot in the second. Magen Harris gave up a run in the first but kept the Eagles scoreless in the second and third. The top of the fourth, however, was a problem. Harris got two quick strikes on Seneca's leadoff hitter, Amy Heckhaus, but Heckhaus fouled off several tough pitches before singling to left. After an infield hit, Eagles' Pitcher Jenny Arruda lined a three-run homer to left center, cutting the Poolesville lead to 8-4. Arruda would also double and triple on the day. Importantly, Seneca got stopped in the bottom half of the inning, holding the Falcons scoreless for the first time. Eight runs in the next three gave the Eagles a 12-10 lead, but the Falcons got one back in the bottom of the sixth. After Harris held the Eagles scoreless in the top of the seventh, Sasha Trope beat out a hit after Kelly Rosenberg flied out to open the bottom half. Then Lori Defnet walked and Maloney singled home Trope to tie the game. The

game went to an international tie-breaker in the eighth (where a runner starts on second base to begin the inning). A three-run homer by Olivia Nicholson and a triple by Arruda were the big hits in the top of the eighth for Seneca Valley.

-Continued on Page 20.



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER April 2009

"Protecting our rural legacy"

How to contact us:

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association

Gary L. Valen, President

Linden Farm

20900 Martinsburg Road

Dickerson, MD 20872

Visit our Web site: www.sugarloafcitizens.org

MIRANT – Our Power Plant Neighbor

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association attempts to pay close attention to any environmental actions in Montgomery County that would affect the quality of life in the Upcounty. When a Sugarloaf member raised concerns about the likelihood that Upcounty residents were in the same danger as residents of Tennessee where a power plant ash pond burst spreading ash mud over many acres, we requested a briefing from the officials at Mirant's Dickerson power plant.

On March 9, at the SCA Board meeting, Misty Allen, Director of Mid-Atlantic External Affairs, made a PowerPoint presentation of the ash handling at the Dickerson plant. We were assured that Mirant is taking adequate steps to protect this region from the dangers of the ash by-product resulting from coal combustion. We learned that here at Dickerson ash is stored in a dry condition using advanced techniques, including a clay liner above the sub-base which is above the water level, compaction, and earth and vegetation to cover the infill of dry fly ash. The Tennessee plant used a pond to store the ash and when an earthen dam broke, the ash mud was spread over the neighborhood. Misty Allen assured us that Mirant is ahead also by employing recent technology including scrubbers, washed coal and bag collection of fly ash that rises after coal combustion. The fly ash that is collected is either stored at the Westland 278 acre landfill or commercialized for a variety of uses, including replacement for Portland cement.

We all know that power usage in our region will increase. Mirant acknowledged that the Obama initiative to increase the use of alternative 'green' power is crucial to meet future needs. Still, Mirant will need to burn coal for years to come and the resulting ash by-products will always be a concern. SCA will continue to monitor the situation and we have a pledge from Mirant to continue the dialogue about ash or any other issue that might affect the environment. Our community will benefit from continued watchfulness as well as transparency in the actions of our industrial neighbors.

Things to Do

For continual updates visit:
www.monocacymonocle.com

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.

From Now until May 10 The Literary Horse Exhibit

Just in time for the exciting America's Polo Cup, the Poolesville Library is hosting "The Literary Horse: When Legends Come to Life," an exhibit featuring equine photographer Vanessa Wright's outstanding work where the modern horse is compared to Great Literary Equines such as Black Beauty,

Cervante's Rocinante, Flicka, Misty, and many others.

April 23 to April 25 Rummage Sale at St. Peter's

Just around the corner is another fabulous Rummage Sale at St. Peter's. As we are all trying hard to Go Green and to Recycle, this is your perfect opportunity. Remember the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle! Reduce by cleaning out your unwanted stuff and donating it to St. Peter's. Drop off anytime between Saturday, April 4 and Tuesday, April 21. Reusing and Recycling are easy to do by shopping at the Rummage Sale, so come, have fun, and shop for bargains. There will be household items, clothing, books, electronics, furniture, jewelry, linens, baby equipment, toys, gardening and sports items, one-of-a-kind treasures, and so much more. Hours are Thursday, April 23 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday, April 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information, call 301-349-2073.

Beauty and the Beast Performance

The Midnight Players will present Disney's Beauty and the Beast on Thursday, April 23 at 7:00 p.m., Friday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, April 25 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Tickets for the show are \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students. Tickets will be sold at the school box office weekdays beginning Thursday, April 16 from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. and from 2:15 to 2:45 p.m. They will also be sold at the box office thirty minutes before each performance. Tickets may be reserved on line by emailing Mrs. Lisa Templeton at jlh.temp@verizon.net. Advance tickets are strongly advised.

April 24 to April 26 Shades of Spring 2009

The Art League of Germantown (www.alog.org) will hold its spring art show and sale at the BlackRock Center for the Arts. Featuring original art, affordable prints, jewelry, pottery, stained glass, and small works, the show will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on April 24 and April 25, and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on April 26 with an artist reception from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

April 25 Our Lady of the Presentation Community Yard Sale

Vendors can reserve a space for \$20.00 by contacting Anne Beers at 301-972-7516 or Rosemary Ferrigno at 301-349-5942. Church Parking Lot 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Button Farm Living History Center Earth Day Celebration

There will be a Girl Scout Gold Award event at Button Farm Living History Center at 19820 Black Rock Road in Germantown presented by Poolesville High School student Natasha Shangold. This is a family event for fourth graders and up. Come visit environmental informational booths, watch demonstrations, participate in a

scavenger hunt, and learn about the historical farm. Admission is free and everyone is encouraged to bring their own garden gloves. The festivities run from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and in the event of rain it will be offered on April 26.

Rebuilding Together 2009

Volunteers for Rebuilding Together will join to improve the home and life of an elderly family in Dickerson. They are seeking helpers to assist. Volunteers do not have to have any professional skills to help. Primary objectives will be painting and other cleanup work, so bring work clothes, gloves, and appropriate footwear for some outdoor work. Any tools for painting or light carpentry repairs would be most helpful. The work day begins at 8:30 a.m. at 19150 Martinsburg Road in Dickerson.

April 26 Boys Negro School Open House

The Boyds Historical Society is pleased to announce they will hold an open house at the historic Boyds Negro School the last Sunday of each month, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Visit the school, watch our video, browse our book collection, and share your interest in local history with others from the community. All are welcome, please stop in!

Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre will host its first annual Wine and Cheese Garden Party at Alden Farms (19215 Beallsville Road, Beallsville, Maryland) from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. There will be good food, good friends, good shopping, and good entertainment. The Poolesville Youth Symphony Orchestra Ensemble and the Hope Garden Ballet dancers will be performing. Alden Farms will donate twenty percent of the proceeds from the garden party to benefit Hope Garden Ballet. For more information, contact LynnRMiller@comcast.net.

-Continued on Page 12.



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UPCOMING SPECIAL MUSICAL EVENTS



Return Engagement
Guitarist
Bill Euler
May 2 - 8:00 p.m.

NOW OFFERING BEER & WINE!

"Things to Do" Continued From Page 11.

**May 2 and May 30
Crop to Cure Scrapbooking
Fundraiser for Poolesville Relay
for Life.**

There are two days planned and each will run from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served along with beverages and snacks throughout the day. There will be goodie bags, door prizes, contests, and a silent auction. The registration fee is \$50.00. For more information, contact: info@croptocure.com.

**May 2
Spring Band Jam Fest**

Local bands and live music on Whalen Commons in Poolesville. This is a free event sponsored by the Poolesville Library Advisory Committee. The music begins at 1:00 p.m. with continuous performances until 4:00 p.m. by some of the area's most popular entertainers, including: Doug Bell, Drew Simms, Youngest Son, and Robbins & Geshen.

Awake and Sing, It's Spring!

The Frederick Children's Chorus, under the baton of artistic director Judy DuBose, will present its spring concert at Tuscarora High School at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for students. For more information, call 301-845-2451 or visit www.fredcc.org.

Personal Ponies Benefit at Alden Farms

Personal Ponies invites you to a relaxing evening of good shopping, good food, and good friends in the gardens at Alden Farms in Beallsville, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A percentage of all sales that evening will go to support Personal Ponies at Chasin Dreams Farm. For more information, call Denise Chasin at 301-349-2161 or email d_chasin@hotmail.com or visit www.personalponies.org or www.aldenfarms.net.

Germantown Historical Flea Market

On the first Saturday of the month from April to November, the Germantown Historical Society holds its flea market at the Germantown MARC Station parking lot on Route 118 in Germantown.

St. Thomas More Academy Wine, Beer, and Food Festival

St. Thomas More Academy will have its third annual "Grapes and Gifts Galore" event to benefit its parent-teacher organization. Sponsored by Frederick's Brewers Alley and the Frederick Wine House, this is a beer-, wine-, and food-tasting extravaganza. This is an adult only festival featuring hors d'oeuvres, chocolate fountain, decadent desserts, great music, door prizes, handmade quilts, and a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance and \$30.00 at the door. Call 301-874-9014 for more information or visit the website at www.stmamd.org.

Yard and Bake Sale

Dickerson Methodist Church. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**May 4
Town of Barnesville Election—
Three Commissioners**

Doors are open from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Voting is at the Town Hall, parking is available at the Barnesville Baptist Church.

**May 5
Poolesville Special Election—
Town Commissioner**

See the candidates' statements elsewhere in this issue.

**May 6
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. Our guest speaker, Linda Phillips from Something Earthy Pottery Studio, will give a talk and demonstration on pottery. Admission is free. For more info, visit www.alog.org.

**May 7
Poolesville Youth Symphony
Orchestra**

Second Annual Spring Concert, John Poole Middle School Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. Mr. Robert Fogleman, Director Admission/Donation: \$5.00 per family

**May 9
Lions Pancake Breakfast**

The Monocacy Lions will hold a pancake and sausage breakfast at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Proceeds will benefit the Monocacy Lions Foundation and the many local service projects that the Monocacy Lions sponsor. Tickets are \$7.00, children ten and under \$4.00, and children under two are free. Tickets are available at the door or by contacting Gary Burdette at 301-916-3098.


**Arc of Montgomery County's
3rd Annual Beat the Odds Event**

Tickets are still available

for this special evening on the campus of the Universities at Shady Grove, 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville. The gala is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the county's largest organization assisting individuals and families affected by developmental disabilities, and will include music, live and silent auctions, raffles, and gaming of all types. The evening will begin with a reception at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner and gaming from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight. "Winnings" from the evening will be exchanged for eligible chances in a raffle at the end of the evening. Ticket prices were reduced from previous years and this year are priced at \$75.00 per person. All attendees must be age 21 or over.

Catherine Leggett, wife of Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett, and Marianne Mardirossian, wife of business leader Aris Mardirossian, have agreed to again serve as co-chairs of this year's Beat the Odds event.

-Continued on Page 13.



2 Crop Dates:
Saturday, May 2
Saturday, May 30
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
21000 Fisher Ave. Poolesville

Proceeds benefit Poolesville's Relay For Life
www.poolesvillereelayforlife.org

Your \$50 pre-paid registration fee includes:

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- Goodie bag
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More details & registration information can be found on our website:
www.croptocure.com

Phantom Croppers:
If you believe in supporting cancer awareness and finding a cure but you are unable to attend one of our events, then please consider participating as a "Phantom Cropper"!! Check out our **Crop To Cure** website for more details.

For more information contact: Louann at info@croptocure.com

"Things to Do" Continued From Page 12.

Information about Beat the Odds, including how to purchase tickets, can be obtained at 301-984-5777 ext. 244 or dougg@arcmontmd.org. Admission and raffle tickets also are available by visiting the Arc's website at www.arcmontmd.org and clicking on "Casino Night."

Poolesville Youth Fishing Tournament

The Richard S. McKernon Youth Fishing Tournament will be held rain or shine from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Collier Circle Pond. The cost is \$1.00 for ages six to sixteen. Prizes to be awarded.

Community Yard Sale for a CURE

Poolesville Relay for Life Wave Runner team is holding a community yard sale at the corner of Routes 28 and 109 (the old Staub's Restaurant site) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost for

vendors is just \$10.00 per space and any items left over that vendors prefer not to have back will be given to Hands of Love. Mark May 9 on the calendar. To reserve a space, contact Kristen Lewis at 301-330-5128.

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Haitian Festival

St. Mary's Catholic Church of Barnesville presents a Haitian Festival, featuring authentic island cuisine, silent auction, and the chance to sponsor a child or teacher. This fundraiser at the St. Mary's Pavilion from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. will raise funds for St. Mary's twin parish, St. Joseph's, in Carcasse, Haiti. Buffet prices are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children aged five to fifteen. Reserve your seats by May 5. For more information, contact Jack Reid at 301-943-8962 or jcr57@aol.

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Youth Sports

Clarksburg Softball Rolls On Despite the Weather

By Jeff Stuart

The Clarksburg girls' softball express (4-1) is anxious to return to the Maryland state tournament, but they have to take care of regular season business first. Early season rain and cold have slowed down the express, but when the Coyotes returned to action after spring break on Thursday, April 16, the weather was sunny, and the temperature was comfortable. Junior Riley Wilson shut out and no hit host Watkins Mill. Clarksburg won, 13-0, in a game shortened to six innings because Clarksburg led by at least ten after five innings, putting up five runs in the first—mostly due to walks. The Coyotes had only one hit in the first. Erin Bloodgood singled to right to drive in a run. They had only a few hits in the afternoon. Amber Ratliff's fourth innng double to right was the most solid hit of the day. She would have had her second

triple of the year, but she slipped on the wet ground after rounding first.

Clarksburg has been largely unchallenged so far. They opened the season on March 21 with a 15-0 stomping of Churchill away. They put up eight runs in the sixth inning. Briana Gomez and catcher Bloodgood each had two hits and two RBIs.

Sophomore Taleen Doukmajian, an early-season sensation, and Caitlin Scalzi also had two hits each. On March 24, in their home opener, they defeated Quince Orchard, 13-3. The Cougars scored twice in the top of the first, but the Coyotes quickly tied it at two-all in the bottom half. Doukmajian, Scalzi, and Amber Ratliff each had three hits and three RBIs. Wilson held QO to just four hits. The Coyotes put the game away with four in the third inning, pounding out thirteen hits. Michelle Sloan also drove in two.

On March 30, the Coyote express was shut down temporarily by visiting Damascus (6-0), a state semi-finalist last season and a perennial power. The Hornets won, 5-0, on a cold and blustery afternoon. Doukmajian collected three of the Coyotes' four hits. Junior pitcher Riley Wilson, uncharacteristically, surrendered eleven



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hits with five strikeouts. She was outpitched by the Hornets' Megan Alexander, a Covenant Life Transfer, who gave up just four hits and struck out nine.

The march to the playoffs resumed on April 2 as the Coyotes headed into the break with a 16-0 win at Rockville, scoring eleven runs in the first. Bloodgood led the charge with three hits and two RBIs.

The remaining schedule will be heavy due to the rain-outs. A key game with Blake

(6-1) is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22 (results were not available in time for the printing of this issue). Two games remain with Poolesville: May 1 at Clarksburg and May 6 at Poolesville.

Local News

Dead-Locked Vote Prevents Wind Turbine Installation

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Planning Commission deadlocked in a vote that would have allowed a one-year test permit for an energy-producing wind turbine on the property of Poolesville Hardware owned by John Speelman.

Despite gathering over 350 supportive signatures in favor of installing the wind turbine, the planning commission voted 2-2 on a motion that would have allowed Mr. Speelman to erect the wind turbine for the purpose of using it as a model to assist the town in developing new ordinances regarding a variety of alternative energy devices. Commission Chairman George Coakley and member, Chuck Stump, voted for the test, while commissioner representative, Link Hoewing, and Robert Bachman voted against it. The fifth board member, Cal Sneed, was not in attendance, and the tie vote essentially killed the motion to allow the test.

Mr. Hoewing reframed the discussion to allow the wind turbine away from just a pro and con approach about alternative energy since "there are many other sources of alternative energy including solar and geothermal, so we are not against alternative energy." For Mr. Hoewing, the issue, at this point, is more about establishing zoning guidelines appropriate to wind turbine use. In researching various other zoning ordinances in other jurisdictions, he pointed to specific guidelines regarding "setback" restrictions as the kind of thing the town needs to consider prior to approving even a test. As an example, a fifteen-foot setback restriction in zoning establishes a space beyond the height of

the turbine from a neighboring property to prevent a possibility of it falling into a neighboring lot. Carlos Fernandez, owner of the wind turbine distributorship, pointed out that in such an event, it was much more likely that a building would "hit the turbine before a turbine would hit a building" since the wind turbine is designed to withstand up to 180 m.p.h. wind gusts.

Many other considerations were brought up as possible concerns. "How many wind turbines" could be allowed in the business district? Is the modern wind turbine in line with the "historical character limitations" set forth in the master plan? Are height restrictions appropriate? And what, if any, other use, safety, or aesthetic considerations should they be established?

Under the motion presented, many of these issues would have been under review through a permit that would allow installation but would require automatic removal of the wind turbine within one year unless the town voted to approve its use based on zoning criteria established after the review process.

Part of the delay in the decision-making process is based on an anticipated review and possible revision of the five-year master plan that comes due in 2011. In moving toward the master plan review, the town expects to address alternative energy sources so that new zoning laws can reflect the new emphasis on encouraging their use. The objective would be to tie the new ordinance into the master plan revision process.

According to town attorney Alan Wright, since current zoning does not list wind turbines for possible exception to the zoning ordinance, the only legal aspect of approving a wind turbine is based on what is termed approving "accessory" use to the property. An example of accessory use would be adding a garage to a home if the zoning law did not specifically allow garages.

There was much discussion as to the relevance of the wind turbine being within "character" of the town. This, of course, is

subjective. As regards the wind turbine, its "historical character" is supported by the observation that water pumping windmills have a strong history of being within townships going back many generations. Whether or not it is in the character of the town to turn to alternative energy is still being decided. While an overabundance of wind turbines within the business district was raised as an objection, it was also pointed out that setback restrictions would greatly limit the

number of properties qualifying for installation.

When a show of hands was requested as to who at the meeting had visited the site in Dickerson to view and consider the operation of the wind turbine, Mr. Coakley was apparently the only one who had done so.

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Local News

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Annual Meeting

By John Clayton

The Sugarloaf Citizens' Association held its annual meeting at the Linden Farm on April 18, featuring an opening address by Montgomery County Council President Phil Andrews. Elected officials at the meeting included Barnesville Mayor Pete Menke, and Montgomery County Council members Mike Knapp (District 2), Nancy Floreen (At Large), and Marc Elrich (At Large).

Mr. Andrews, who is from District 3, which includes our down county neighbors in North Potomac and Gaithersburg, led off with a discussion of the county's ongoing budget woes and highlighted the work that must be done on three upcoming Master Plans for Germantown, Gaithersburg West, and White Flint. Mr. Andrews suggested that the first two in particular could have significant effects on the Upcounty in coming years. He also highlighted other Planning Board issues such as the Interstate-270 corridor, with emphasis on an upcoming Environmental Assessment and

other I-270-related issues such as toll lanes and the Corridor Cities Transitway. Mr. Andrews acknowledged the success and uniqueness of the Agricultural Reserve, citing it as the county's "crowning achievement." Several significant development items were in the pipeline for the Planning Board, with debates over familiar controversies such as sand mound septic systems and tot lots. He said that Planning Board Chairman Royce Hanson would be offering proposals that "might pass the council." Mr. Andrews noted, to an appreciative audience, all of the lovely open space one can see from the air in Montgomery County over the Ag Reserve, as opposed to Fairfax County, Virginia, which, by comparison, has been surrendered to suburban sprawl.

Mr. Andrews closed his prepared remarks with some cautionary notes, mentioning those that would push for a second crossing over the Potomac between Virginia and some unspecified Upcounty route. He said it was inevitable that advocates of the Inter-County Connector would look to connect their new road to a river crossing somewhere north of Rockville, as many have predicted. He reminded the audience that "there are those out there who would threaten the Ag Reserve." He also encouraged Upcounty folks to be active in the development of the Germantown and Gaithersburg West Master Plans. "Be aware and testify."

Mr. Andrews was joined by council members Floreen, Elrich, and Knapp for further discussions and questions from the audience concerning federal stimulus money ("some help, not a panacea," according to Mr. Andrews), and the role of more develop-

ment in stimulating economic growth in the county. Another question concerned the council's apparent proven unwillingness or inability to pursue zoning violations in the Upcounty, and that enforcement seemed to depend solely on citizen vigilance. After some discussion, it was confirmed that action on such violations is indeed complaint-driven, implying that the process was not likely to improve.

Mr. Elrich discussed what he believes to be the failure of the county to fund adequate fire departments, roads, and schools, and that developers were not being taken to task for these contributions. "If the developers don't pay, the taxpayer will." He said the county needed five more fire stations and 165 more people to staff them. "Stay tuned and stay engaged." Ms. Floreen defended the county's efforts to keep up with schools and infrastructure issues, and discussed the difficulty of finding revenue to support subsidies for public transit and other critical issues. She said that "some cuts were coming," but that they were "not too drastic."

Mr. Knapp discussed the Building Lot Termination Program, which helps to preserve open land as transferrable development rights (TDRs) are sold to allow higher development densities down county. He also cited the need for economic growth in German-town—"100,000 people and 20,000 jobs"—to keep people off the roads by allowing them to work closer to home. He praised (I think) the SCA crowd for being "an active group," and that he "was never at a loss for what everyone thinks."

One question that the council members promised to pursue concerned the fact that while many Virginia and West Virginia residents use the MARC train, West Virginia apparently pays to support MARC, while Virginia does not. Ms. Floreen noted that "regional issues are tricky," but all three council members agreed that the question should be pursued.

Poolesville resident George Kephart, a former member of the Planning Board, bemoaned the fact that development standards for adequate public facilities such as roads, schools, and firehouses were not being maintained by the current council and planning board, and that standards have been changed for the worse with regard to acceptable traffic congestion on county roads. Mr. Kephart expressed his opinion

- Continued on Page 22.

SCA Grants Awarded at Annual Meeting

Piedmont Environmental Grants were awarded for four environmental projects.

Sarah Krizek of the Audubon Naturalist Society won funding in support of a children's summer camp program with a special focus on Agricultural Reserve issues.

Emma Taylor of Poolesville High School received an award in support of the Bay Grass Project to help with the planting of grasses for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Ms. Taylor is part of the Global Ecology Studies Program at Poolesville High School. The GESP coordinator is Joyce Bailey.

Laura Lill and Rachel Heney of Forest Knolls Elementary School received a grant for their butterfly garden which has been developed with native plants.

Andrew Karlin and Naki Desalegn of the Poolesville High School Science, Math, and Computer Science House received a grant for their work on a microalgae bioreactor to produce biodiesel. With their teacher, Dr. Teresa Mallow, they are working with scientists from the National Institute of Standards and Technology.



Montgomery County Council members Mike Knapp and Nancy Floreen fielded questions at the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association annual meeting.

"New Clarksburg Hospital"
Continued From Page 1.

270 and Route 121 in Clarksburg, would include a one hundred-bed hospital, a skilled nursing-care center, physician offices, outpatient treatment facilities, a daycare center, and other related uses. The hospital would include all private rooms, an eighteen-bed obstetrics unit, and a full-service emergency department. According to Adventist HealthCare, the campus has received all major land-use approvals from Montgomery County, with a final site plan to be filed later this year. If approved by the state, the hospital could open as early as 2013. Adventist HealthCare has been planning this project for seven years; in 2006, they began operating an emergency care center in Germantown.

Holy Cross Hospital has touted the benefits of sharing a location with Montgomery College, with the potential of shared clinical and educational space such as laboratories and classrooms, expanding faculty and

mentors, increased support for students, and continuing education for mid-career professionals. "Holy Cross Hospital is deeply committed to access to high-quality healthcare services for our community, today and tomorrow. Our plan makes a major contribution toward that goal by improving primary care access and expanding hospital capacity to serve the needs of our growing and aging population," said Kevin J. Sexton, president and CEO of Holy Cross Hospital.

The fact that two health care entities in Montgomery County are separately proposing new hospitals in the Upcounty area has caused some legislative wrangling over the decision process. The MHCC has six-month review cycles, and the Holy Cross CON came in during the last 2008 cycle, while the Adventist CON is being considered in the first 2009 cycle. By law, MHCC may not docket, or consider, an application until it has made a final decision on each previously docketed application for a similar project, which means the decision on Holy Cross would

be made before the Adventist proposal could be considered. Legislation co-sponsored by District 15 Senator Rob Garagiola would have required the DHCC to consider the two proposals together, but the General Assembly took no action on the bill. Thomas M. Middleton, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and Peter A. Hammen, Chairman of the House Health and Government Operations Committee, sent a letter to the executive director of the MHCC, Rex W. Cowdry,

M.D., and expressed their concern that the current process is inadequate for the task at hand. Nevertheless, as the law requires, the MHCC will consider the Holy Cross Hospital proposal first. They do not have to accept one and deny the other; the commission can reject both, approve one and reject the other, or approve both.

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Remembrance

Mary Shaw Williams

By Jane Perry

Mary Shaw Brown Williams was born in Barnesville on August 3, 1917, while the country had recently entered into the fighting that became known as the First World War. She lived through times of peace and peril,

through the Great Depression, Second World War, and numerous other historic events, large and small. Courtesy of friends, the Lillard family of Barnesville, she had a seat across from the reviewing stand at the first inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and heard him say, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." With her friend (and future husband's first cousin) Julia Williams, she watched the parade at Roosevelt's second inauguration. She saw a great

many presidential elections and voted last, at age 91, in the 2008 presidential election.

Mary Shaw, as she was known to all, was ill during much of her senior year in high school, so she graduated in 1935 from Rockville High School instead of the year earlier. After high school, she attended Strayer Secretarial College in Washington and soon secured a job as a secretary in a patent law attorney's office in the city. She



Mary Shaw Williams

-Continued on Page 23.



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"Public Forum" Continued From Page 1.

ment in Poolesville. Mr. Maisel proposed responsible growth within the limits of the master plan which currently would take the number of homes from its current 1600 to 2000. Mr. Johnson suggested that a liberalization of the current town sign ordinance to better meet the needs of local businesses. Mrs. Breiner suggested looking to internet services (like Google) that might better promote local businesses. Jennifer Kasten offered continual and improved support of the Community Economic and Development Committee (CEDC) and the market research as a means to further assist local businesses. Mrs. Gruber suggested that the development of a town community center might also improve the business climate.

Other questions offered sought answers to cost-saving ideas, the problem of vandalism, lack of youth activities, concern of balancing their personal and professional needs with demands of being a commissioner, project priorities, and tension that might exist between preserving Poolesville versus improving Poolesville. All candidates believed that preserving and improving the town can coexist.

On the issue of traffic safety, Maisel and Briener emphasized repositioning speed cameras closer to school zones. On traffic safety, Johnson sought revisiting a four-way stop sign at Wootton Avenue and Fisher Avenues,

something that Gruber also approved doing. Kasten, in agreeing with these suggestions, also recommended the possible use of more targeted patrols. Mr. Maisel opined that the town, as taxpayers of Montgomery County, justifiably deserves more police patrols from county police.

While all candidates provided statements of support for more alternative energy use such as the proposed wind turbine at Poolesville Hardware, Kasten and Gruber specifically expressed the need for further study for permit guidelines.

As to concern over water and water quality issues, there was no stated divergence from the group over the town's current policy of considering the results of the study on cancer occurrences within the town. Mr. Maisel seemed to speak for all candidates in reflecting on the need to rely on experts for guidance. Mr. Johnson called for the need for the town to charge the county for "their share" of the costs of capital improvements in water and wastewater systems.

On the question of being able to work with the current commissioners, all voiced their willingness and ability to work with the other commissioners to achieve goals, and, also, all candidates stated their desire to foster good communication between themselves and voters through availability by phone, email, or in person to readily discuss issues facing the town with any resident.

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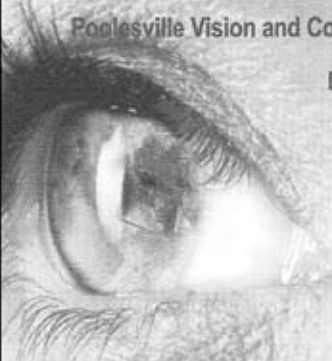
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"PHS Softball" Continued From Page 10.

There was little time to brood, and the thrill was back on Wednesday afternoon. The Falcons traveled to Whitman on Wednesday, April 1, defeating the Vikings, 16-3. The freshmen stepped up. Amy Defnet and Maloney both hit grand slams, and Harris again pitched well. Winning had four hits, three RBIs and contributed a leaping catch of a soft liner to stop a rally. Foy played another outstanding game at short. "Sometimes we don't appreciate how well she does," said head coach Laurie Wohnhas. "We just expect her to make the play every time. She and Winning provide a lot of strength in the middle infield."

On Thursday the Falcons returned to Poolesville and rolled into spring break with a victory over Northwood, 17-0, in five innings. In her pitching debut Maloney tossed a no-hitter, striking out 13. Maloney, Winning, Foy, and Lori Defnet each had multiple hits.

This seesaw of wins and losses began on a rainy Saturday, March 21, when Poolesville

opened its season by blasting visiting Watkins Mill, 18-3. The Falcons scored ten runs in the third inning and never looked back. Every girl in the Falcons lineup had at least one hit. Foy and Maloney each had three hits with a triple. The Falcons also played error-free ball, successfully executing a rundown between third and home.

Three days later Poolesville visited Richard Montgomery, losing, 6-2. The Rockets (14-5 last season), one of the county's strongest teams, jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first and added three in the fourth. The Falcons finally got on the scoreboard in the fifth.

Another three days after that, the Falcons returned to Poolesville and to the winning side of the ledger, beating Rockville, 11-0, in five innings. The Falcons scored five runs in the first inning on just one hit, benefitting from several walks. Poolesville again played errorless defense. Maloney led the offense with four RBIs. Nicole Kirchoff and Kelly Rosenberg registered their first hits of the year.

"It is early in the season to say who has surprised me," said

Wohnhas, "but freshman Magen Harris has been doing a good job pitching allowing only one walk in three games. Megan Foy has continued where she left off last year and is hitting the ball

extremely well. Seniors Jackie Winning and Jennifer Bateman have surprised me with how well they are adjusting to a new position, catching. They are improving every game."

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See current updates to Things to Do

Local News

World Championship Polo Coming to Poolesville

By Rande Davis

The America's Polo Cup competition is headed to Poolesville on May 9 at the polo grounds on Hughes Road. This is a world-class, Olympic-level competition with attendance estimated to be between 3,000 and 8,000 spectators.

The America's Polo Cup features the United States versus

Australia, and the event will be televised. Actor Robert Duvall will be filming a major motion picture, guests from the White House are expected, and there will be an airplane that flew from Pearl Harbor as well as four Black Hawks doing a flyover that afternoon. There will also be F/A-18s and Navy Dive tanks on display. Entertainment will include Huey Lewis and the News as well as a performance by American Idol's Michael Johns. They expect the fireworks display to rival our Fourth of July celebration. The Monocle will offer a full, feature article in the May 8, 2009 issue.



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"Sugarloaf Annual Meeting"
Continued From Page 16.

that proper guidelines had been developed to handle these issues, but that they were not being followed or enforced. He expressed confidence that the presence of his former colleague Royce Hanson on the Planning Board would help alleviate the problems. He also said that while the county once helped to control growth in areas such as Poolesville, it was no longer helping at all.

Newly-re-elected SCA President Gary Valens presented his report, highlighting primary areas of SCA concern such as roads and the effects of increased traffic, and water quality. He cited the association's accomplishments during the year, such as less development than feared in the Woodstock Equestrian Park, increased parkland in the Thomp-

son Corner project, and some successes with Mirant Power with regard to pollution abatement and construction traffic. Above all, he reminded his audience that the SCA was concerned about what is happening in the Ag Reserve now, but also about how it will be twenty or thirty years from now. He said, "SCA is concerned about people who will come later."



Council President Phil Andrews addresses the SCA annual meeting.

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*"Mary Shaw Williams" Continued
from Page 18.*

was undoubtedly an excellent secretary—meticulous, great at typing and stenography, always good at spelling and grammar. Sadly, tragedy touched Mary Shaw, her mother Emily Poole Darby Brown and sister Elizabeth Brown Allnut in 1939 when her father William Clifton Brown died unexpectedly.

In 1941, she made the only move she would ever make—from Barnesville to Poolesville—when she married Rodger Walter Williams, Jr., known to many as "Weets." The working girl left her office work behind to become a farm wife and full-time mother. Three children were born to Weets and Mary Shaw: Rodger Walter III, William Clifton, and the only girl, Emily Jane. Eventually, Mary Shaw would be known as "Nan" to grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. The Williams had been married for nearly forty-six years when Weets passed away in 1987.

Mary Shaw always said that she did not know how to cook very well when she first married.

If that was ever really so, this situation certainly changed over time. She was known throughout her life for her delicious and plentiful meals. Many folks still have fond memories of her homemade rolls and bread. Weets raised Black Angus beef cattle, and the farm supplied beef, chicken, and pork, as well as eggs and fresh vegetables, for family meals. The pickle she made was well loved and prized as gifts. Folks who were sick often welcomed her baked custard. Aside from the rolls, she was probably most well-known in Poolesville for her grand "Buckeye Cake," a pound cake made from a recipe of Weets's grandmother in a beautiful antique fluted pan. For some years, the Buckeye Cake would take a Grand Champion and First Prize ribbon in the community fair held at Poolesville High School. One year, she was encouraged to enter the cake in the large Montgomery County Fair. Alas, the beautiful Buckeye Cake did not take any ribbons. Mary Shaw was persuaded to enter the cake once again the following year. This time, the judges praised the beautiful cake, awarding it the

Grand Champion ribbon.

Like many in the community, Mary Shaw believed in helping out wherever she could. She was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Upper Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department, and helped at dinners and the annual fair. She was a member of the Monocacy Homemakers group. An active communicant at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, she helped for many years with church events, including the fall turkey dinners, the homes tours, bake sales, and rummage sales.

It has been recalled by family members that Mary Shaw often repeated a favorite family joke: "If you live around Poolesville and you're not a Brown, Gray, White, or Green, you're a Williams."

Mary Shaw's long and caring life came to a peaceful close on April 7, 2009. Family members and numerous friends alike will always remember her for her warmth and gracious manner,

ever smiling and with a kind word to all.

Mary Shaw was the beloved mother of Rodger Walter Williams, III (Gwen) of Frederick, William Clifton Williams (Bonnie) of Poolesville, and Emily Jane Perry (William) of Herndon, Virginia. She is survived by grandchildren: Rodger Walter, IV, David (Teri), Bradley, and Amanda Williams, Patricia (Terry) Jacobs and Rodger Perry. Mrs. Williams was also survived by seven great-grandchildren, numerous great-great-grandchildren and one niece, Sally Allnut Hunter. She was preceded in death by a grandson, William Griffith Perry. The family would like to thank Melyssa Campbell, Pat Smith, and Dorothy Fox for the care given their mother.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Monocacy Cemetery, P.O. Box 81, Beallsville, MD 20839.

*"Upcountry Downcountry"
Continued from Page 4.*

or inappropriate for the venue at which they are held. Several events were singled out. One was the upcoming America's Polo Cup competition on May 9 at the polo grounds on Hughes Road, which is expected to attract 3,000 to 8,000 people, according to an article elsewhere in this issue, and the other was the soccer matches at the Muldoon property on Route 109. While I understand the need to manage and control such events and to consider the effect on immediate neighbors, I was more disconcerted by what I inferred to be a this-is-our-open-land-and-we-don't-want-you-to-use-it attitude.

If for-profit events are masquerading as benefits to qualify for Special Benefit Performance Permits, then I agree that a more effective permitting review is needed, but I am concerned by the thinking that we need a way to prevent such events. In fact, I think the soccer matches at the Muldoon property and the polo

event on Hughes Road are just the type of events we need, with proper management of course. These events bring people out to appreciate open land, not to mention supporting local restaurants and other businesses while they are here.

We absolutely want to avoid the establishment of permanent facilities that would repeatedly host large events. The proposed eventing center at the Woodstock Equestrian Center is a concern, although funding issues seem to have kept that at bay, at least for now. I certainly would not want a clone of the Maryland Soccerplex located in Boyds to be established anywhere out here, but when people need a big field to put on a public event, for profit or not, they should be able to pass some intelligent requirements, rent some port-a-potties, have their event out here in the Ag Reserve, and take their trash with them when they leave. Hopefully, they will be grateful that such open land exists—as we are.

*"On The Commissioners" Continued
From Page 4.*

am still deciding. Hopefully, you attended the candidates' forum sponsored by the Poolesville Area of Commerce. If not, then you still have time for more research.

First, make up your mind as to what are your priorities, and then decide who among the candidates best gives voice to those priorities, whose judgment best reflects you, your family, and your interests. Take the time to read, listen, learn, and use your judgment. In this issue, the Monocle provided space for each candidate to make a statement, and we reported on the forum. We have also offered additional space to candidates to post information on our website (www.monocacymonocle.com) the Monday after the distribution of this issue. Check it out.

Furthermore, you still can go to <http://poolesvilleblog.wordpress.com> to gain more opinions and possibly statements from each candidate. You might even call the candidates yourself. Finally, you still have those you know personally and whose judgment you trust to help you. You don't need me or any newspaper to tell you how to vote. While it is important to vote, it is probably more important to educate yourself first. Voting just for the sake of voting is not something I personally advocate. How nice it would be if just voting really fulfilled our responsibility. If you haven't already, we urge you to take some of the steps recommended here, and, hopefully, you will be satisfied with the results of your decision.

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