



Ed Ross comes on board at Poolesville High School. Read about him in Youth Sports on Page 14.



No longer will we accept any excuse for getting lost in Poolesville. See Business Briefs on Page 3.



That's a pretty fancy hat for a local guy. Read why he wears it with honor, in Tidbits on Page 6.



Don't you hate it when people stand right in front of you at a concert? For closer pictures, see the Family Album on Page 2.

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

August 14, 2009

Volume VI, Number 11.

## Town of Poolesville to Appeal Circuit Court Decision

By Kristen Milton

The Town of Poolesville government still doesn't see eye-to-eye with a Montgomery County Circuit Court ruling that the case of a local optometry office should be reconsidered in light of subdivision covenants that prohibit commercial uses. According to records on the case, the local Board of Zoning Appeals has already twice considered the matter of Poolesville Vision and Contact Lens Service, run by Drs. Robin Mevissen and Tom McInnes out of their Tama home. A special exception, which permits a use not generally allowed by zoning, was granted in March 2008 and reaffirmed after a reconsideration in June 2008; however, Circuit Court Judge Joseph Dugan, Jr., ruling on a lawsuit filed by Don and Linda Barnes, who share a driveway with the Selby Avenue home office, remanded the case back to the to Board June 30.

Dugan cited concerns with the impact on the Barneses' home value and what he considered to be the board's error in not considering the subdivision's restrictions on business activity in its homes.

Saying that the case could set a statewide precedent, the commissioners of Poolesville have asked the Maryland Municipal League (MML), an association of city and town governments that advocates on municipal issues, to participate in the town's petition to the

Court of Special Appeals.

"[The Town of Poolesville] cannot delegate its legislative authority to this subdivision and that subdivision," Town Attorney Alan Wright argued in the hearing before Dugan, saying requiring the board to abide by neighborhood covenants would make developers into legislators.

In an August 6 phone interview, Town Manager Wade Yost said it would be at least two weeks before a response from the MML could be expected. No action will be taken to curtail business at the optometry office as the appeals process continues, Yost said.

During the June 30 Circuit Court hearing, the Barneses' attorney, Christopher Hitchens, said the neighbors' issues of concern included parking, privacy, conflict of interest by two zoning board members who are also Tama residents, and procedural failures in the

approval process.

"The Barneses have been treated unfairly through what I would just characterize as sort of the casual analysis that the board made," Hitchens said, according to hearing transcripts. In allowing the special exception, Poolesville's Board of Zoning Appeals required the installation of a larger parking area and placed limits on both hours of operation and number of patients seen in a day.

In his ruling, Dugan said the board did not "adequately consider" the existing neighborhood covenants in making its decision and directed them to do so.

Poolesville commissioners decided to appeal Dugan's decision in a July 20 executive session and followed with the resolution requesting the involvement of the MML as a "friend of the court" on August 3.

## Changing Roses For Changing Times

By Maureen O'Connell

How many times have you heard people say that they don't grow roses in their gardens because they are too labor intensive? They don't deny that the rose is probably the most exquisite and lavishly-scented of all of Earth's flowers, but they question whether they are worth all the work to keep them beautiful and healthy. For the last twenty to thirty years, roses' popularity fell. Changing lifestyles and our fast-paced living left little time or desire to care for a rose garden. Rose breeders saw this change and set about to breed a new type

of rose which would meet the demands of the modern gardener. He or she wanted roses that were repeat flowering, came in all colors and shades of the rainbow, and were disease-, drought-, heat-, and pest-resistant—a tall order for one plant specimen.

The rose, probably among the first flowers known to man, has traveled a long route from its earliest appearance in Crete between 1700 and 200 B.C. In the early nineteenth century, traders brought to Europe repeat-flowering roses from China. This had a revolutionary effect on the development of the rose and eventually led to the breeding of the Hybrid Teas

-Continued on Page 5.

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by Selby's Market Your IGA Hometown Food Store

Area skateboarders gave a thumbs up for the skateboard demonstration recently held in the parking lot of the town hall.



This just may be the next big band in America—The Euler 3. Guitarist Bill Euler's wingman in the center is his nephew, Josh Euler, and the upcoming heartthrob on the right is his grandson Colin Euler.



Vacation Bible School students gathered for a group picture during the United Memorial Methodist Church 2009 VBS.



Justine Hoewing and Corey Ahearn of Right On and Far Out entertained music fans with a little bit of folk and a little bit of country.

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## Business Briefs

### Get Your Running Shoes Out!

With just over one month to Poolesville Day, it is time for area runners and walkers to get their entry forms in to participate in this year's PACC 5K Run/Walk. The September 19 event is the 18th Annual 5K, and this year the route will be a bit different, starting at the Poolesville Baptist Church and continuing through Westerly.

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce enlisted the support and help of the Monocacy Lions Club in managing the event, and the Lions will be a major recipient of the proceeds from the race. The Monocacy Lions assist people in the community in a variety of ways including eye and ear health care help, holiday food and toy baskets, and many more programs where their funds go directly to individuals or groups right in the community.

Be sure to visit [www.pooles-](http://www.poolesvillechamber.com)

[villechamber.com](http://villechamber.com) to fill out and send in your entry form to be a runner or walker. There still are some spots open for businesses to sponsor the race, so for interested firms, be sure to contact the chamber right away by calling 301-349-5753.

### Have You Ever Thought of a Daytripper Right Here in Poolesville?

The *Monocle* frequently offers a feature column on Day-trippers—great fun places to visit which only require one day. Perhaps as you have visitors, you look to those articles for ideas of things to do with a short timeframe or short notice. Don't forget that the town of Poolesville has many sites very close by, and for ideas as to what you might do, be sure to check out the PACC's Historic Map of Poolesville.

Designed to inform visitors about the area's history and tourist attractions, the free maps also provide information on activities of interest like golfing, bicycling, parks, wildlife, as well as tourist sites: the Monocacy Aqueduct,

John Poole General Store and Museum, and the Seneca One-Room Schoolhouse. Farm and orchard sites like Lewis Orchards, Kingsbury Orchards, Homestead Farms, Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards, and others are also featured in the brochure. An excellent local phone listing for government, emergency, schools, police, and houses of worship is useful for locals and visitors, alike. A display stand of the map with brochures has now been set up right in Whalen Commons for

your convenience if you haven't already gotten one by visiting an area retailer.

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**Beallsville- Natural Woods:** Nice country home in rural subdivision. 3 BR, 2.5 BA rambler with additional amenities include a large family room, 21'x16' **UNDER CONTRACT** P, garage and storage shed. Minutes to Poolesville Park and the MARC train station. MLS#MC7023185. Offered at \$347,000.

**Beallsville -6.6 acs:** Cozy 4BR brick & sided bungalow w/ wood floors, 2 fireplaces, lwr. lvl recreation rm and workshop.. Additional amenities include a large deck with pastoral views and storage shed. Adjoins Woodstock Equestrian Park. Bring your horses! MLS#MC 7019052. Offered at \$359,000.

**Damascus- 13 ac. farmette:** Spacious & airy 4/5 BR, 2.5 BA home with numerous amenities including wood flrs., updated kitchen and stunning light-filled master suite addition. Additionally, the property features an in-ground pool, 2-story barn and detached workshop. MLS#MC6528211. Offered at \$1,190,000.


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# Commentary A Failure to Communicate

By John Clayton

It's a famous movie line—Strother Martin in Cool Hand Luke—“What we have here is a failure to communicate,” and as anyone who has seen the movie knows, reading the line doesn't do justice to the actual delivery in the movie. The communication failure syndrome seems to be alive and well in Montgomery County's attitude in dealing with the preservation and use of the Agricultural Reserve.

Two recent situations, both covered by Kristen Milton in our July 31 issue (available online at [www.monocacymonocle.com](http://www.monocacymonocle.com)), highlight this situation. The first is the permitting mechanism the county uses to approve large-scale charitable events. This has a specific effect on the Ag Reserve, to state the obvious, because there is all this open land out here to use. In short, an event can be approved by virtue of a Special Benefit Performance Permit as long as the organization can demonstrate its charitable bona fides. This by itself isn't a problem; the issue isn't whether events are for charity or for profit, the issue is whether anyone that lives out here gets any say in the type and frequency of events that occur. There are certainly some people who would like to put figurative walls around the Ag Reserve and keep all noisy and dusty events away from our bucolic peacefulness, and there are others who occupy the other extreme that would encourage any event that brings a little more commerce to the Upcounty. In the often-reasonable middle is the position that large-scale events are desirable, up to a point, as long as the approval process takes Upcounty sensibilities and concerns into account, and that overly-intrusive or frequent events can be controlled. There's the rub. This doesn't seem to be a concern that is supported by the present per-

mitting mechanism. Almost everyone seems to agree it's a communication issue—whether people in the Upcounty have any say in what events get approved. The concern now is that any group that can fit under the charity umbrella gets approved and is off to the races, or whatever the event may be. Local groups such as the Montgomery Country-side Alliance and the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association have made these and other points. There just isn't enough opportunity for input from the people that will be affected most by these events. We need more communication.

A more vivid example of this lack of communication would be Montgomery County's support of a mega-church that is desired by the Global Mission Church in Silver Spring. The facility would be located in Frederick County to the west of Interstate 270 near Hyattstown, but the access to the facility, which features an eighty-five-foot-high building, would be from Montgomery County's own Maryland Route 109, Old Hundred Road, a designated Rustic Road. According to many published reports, County Executive Ike Leggett blessed this approach. Was there any communication with Upcounty planning and environmental groups? Were there any public hearings? No, there were not. The Frederick County Planning Commission met in July and unanimously agreed to defer any decision for ninety days. Hopefully, this will give the Montgomery County Executive time to not only communicate, but perhaps even to listen.

*Like to comment on this article? Go to [www.monocleonline.com](http://www.monocleonline.com) and add your comments on the Monocacy Monocle blog. You can also link to the blog from [www.monocacymonocle.com](http://www.monocacymonocle.com).*

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*"Changing Roses" Continued From Page 1.*

and Floribundas of the present day.

In the 1970s, if gardeners wanted healthy roses, they had to spray for disease and pests, or the plant would be martyred by blackspot, mildew, Japanese beetles, and a host of other hungry pests. At this time, we also saw the rise of organic gardening, awareness of the health or lack thereof of the environment, and concern about killing beneficial insects. Gardeners were careful as to whom they admitted that they used chemicals to keep their roses beautiful. Wanting healthy roses became more than a term; it became a permanent demand.

For hundreds of years, rose breeders worldwide developed new roses each year, but in the late 1970s and 1980s and into the twenty-first century, they started to show a great deal of independence; they pushed roses into new directions, developing whole new classes and whole new sets of criteria for evaluating roses. Let's take a look at some of the breeders at that time, here and abroad, who were leaders in their field.

W. Kordes & Sons of Germany is one of the oldest breeding groups in the world. They have been hybridizing roses for more than a century. Many rosarians worldwide consider the elegance and simple colors of the Kordes Rose lines make them the most beautiful roses you'll ever find. Many of the breeding stock used by rose breeders all over the world came from varieties originally cultivated by the Kordes family. For the average rose grower, the most important fact about Kordes roses is that they are some of the toughest roses you'll ever find. The earliest "disease-free" roses were developed by Kordes and Noack Roses in Northern Germany, which yielded very cold-hardy roses that thrive in much of North America, some are even completely hardy to zone 4 (which includes Nebraska, Minnesota, and Montana). They are also

bred specifically to be resistant to disease, pests, fungus, and to thrive in harsh regions without chemicals or growth enhancers. Wayside Gardens is one of the only retail sources of Kordes Roses in the United States. For climbing roses, look for Kordes Rose Jasmina, Rose Laguna, and 'William Baffin.' In the Kordes Cutting Collection, consider Rose Fantasia Mondiale, Rose Magma, Rose Mondiale, and Rose Buxom Beauty. This year, I put in a new rose garden in which I planted some experimental roses, which now include the above-mentioned Kordes roses. I will keep you posted as to their success in Monocacy Country.

Any regular readers of my column know of my love for David Austin's roses; I have eighty of them growing in my gardens. He broke the Hybrid Tea mold with his English roses, which he introduced in the 1980s. He combined the wonderful scents of the Old Roses of yesteryear with varying flowering shapes, repeat flowering, and a relaxed growth habit. His roses are beautiful, tough, reliable roses. In a future column, I shall tell you about some of his beauties that do particularly well in our area.

In the United States, many gardeners consider Tom Carruth the King of roses. He has created more All-America roses than any other living hybridizer, logging nine in ten years. This year, the All America Rose Award (AARS) went to his Rose Cinco de Mayo. This rose is a blend of smoky lavender, carmine, rust-red, and burnt orange tones on 3 1/2-inch blooms, which bloom in waves all season. Julia Child would have loved her namesake rose, which was bred by Tom and received the AARS award for 2006. Its buttery yellow blooms have a heady scent of licorice. I planted these two in my new garden this year, and they are thriving with no signs of any diseases.

By now, William Radler, a Wisconsin rose breeder, is a familiar name to many gardeners. In 2000, he won the AARS award for his new rose, Knock Out. In the first year they were introduced, sales of Knock Out Roses

skyrocketed, with more than 250,000 roses sold. They are the most disease- and pest-resistant roses currently on the market. If you want low maintenance, this rose is for you. In subsequent years, Radler has introduced Double Knock Out, Pink Double Knock Out, Pink Knock Out, Rainbow Knock Out, Sunny Knock Out, and this year, White Out. He saw the demand in the marketplace for a totally low-

maintenance rose, and he bred very successfully what gardeners wanted.

The rose has come a long way from the rocky island of Crete. It began as a wildflower of no great stardom and went on to become the Queen of Flowers and the most beloved.




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## Tidbits

### Davis and Downey Announce Engagement

Rande and Laura Davis are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Juliana Davis, to John Downey, son of Rosemary and Tom Downey of Columbia, Maryland.

John and Juliana met in their undergraduate studies at Towson University, where they were both English majors. The couple remained friends after graduating in 2005 and began dating in 2007.

Juliana is currently teaching English at Albert Einstein High School and has recently completed a Master's Degree at Johns Hopkins University. John is a Regional Sales Manager for Tenable Network Security. The couple will marry in June of 2011.



John Downey and Juliana Davis.

### Congratulations to Billie Bradshaw

Poolesville High School's Billie Bradshaw was recently recognized by the Montgomery County Public Schools for her excellent work as acting magnet school coordinator. Starting this summer, she has been made the magnet school coordinator for PHS.

### Poolesville Resident Selected to Head Veterans Group

Bob Ouellette was recently selected as the Grand Chef de Gare of La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, an honor organization of male and female U.S. veterans, more commonly known as the Forty & Eight. As Grand Chef de Gare, he will preside over the state organization in Maryland and represent the state at the national level.

The Forty & Eight is committed to charitable and patriotic aims. Their purpose is to uphold and defend the United States Constitution, to promote the wellbeing of veterans and their widows and orphans, and to actively participate in selected charitable endeavors, which include programs that promote child welfare and nurses' training.

The titles and symbols of the Forty & Eight reflect its First World War origins. Americans were transported to the battle front on French trains within boxcars stenciled with the numeral 40 over the numeral 8, denoting its capacity to hold either forty men or eight horses. This uncomfortable mode of transportation was familiar to all who

fought in the trenches; a common small misery among American soldiers who thereafter found 40/8 a lighthearted symbol of the deeper service, sacrifice, and unspoken horrors of war that bind all who have borne the battle.

The Forty & Eight recognized a need for Nurses' Training in 1955, adopted a program to provide financial assistance, in the form of scholarships, to those individuals who enrolled for this training. Nationally, the Forty & Eight has provided scholarships

to 2,131 students receiving over \$1,100,000 this past year. Since its inception, the Forty & Eight has granted in excess of \$20,000,000 and graduated over 23,000 registered nurses.

For more information on the Forty & Eight and its programs, please contact Bob Ouellette at GC.robert.ouellette@gmail.com.



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## Remembrance



### Margaret L. Pearson

Mrs. Margaret L. Pearson, 86, of Dickerson, died peacefully on Thursday, July 30, 2009 at Casey House Hospice in Rockville. Margaret was the wife of the late Charles H. Pearson, Sr.

Born on October 11, 1922 in Bland County, Virginia, she was the daughter of the late William F. and Mary Burress Kidd.

Margaret moved to Montgomery County when she was six

and became a farmer's wife. She loved to fish, tell stories, go to the horse races, crochet, and quilt.

Surviving are her children, Betty Davis (Robert) of West Virginia, Mary Jane Mould of Pennsylvania, Peggy Young (Willie) of Dickerson, Barbara Jean Britton of Virginia, Patricia Diane Mack (John) of Frederick, one grandson that was raised by Margaret as a son, George Frankie Knott, Jr. of Frederick, one half sister, Hattie Reid of Rockville, eleven grandchildren, nineteen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

She will also be remembered by her special friend, Marlene Chervenak.

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# Local News

## 2009 Poolesville Day Promises To Be Crowd-Pleaser

By Ray Hoewing

Bigger and better! That's a cliché that sponsors are fond of using to hype the latest version of a product or service—and, yes, one that the Poolesville Day Committee is tempted to use in describing the 19th Annual Poolesville Day Celebration slated for Saturday, September 19.

And why not? For starters, there will be more activities than ever for kids of all ages this year. For the youngest, the Kid's Korner will offer arts and crafts, a pony moon bounce, and a clown whose balloon twisting is sure to delight. Whalen Commons will be the site of a variety of attractions for kids and teens (adults welcome, too), ranging from the Wave of Fire slide to an all-in-one

sports cage. Also, back by popular demand for the second year and sure to attract many skater enthusiasts, there will be a skateboard park.

Over eighty vendors, offering everything from homemade crafts to jewelry to furniture, will be displaying their wares, and who can pass up the great festival food? This year's event will feature a broader array of selections than ever before—one or more sure to appeal to every palate. Featured festival attractions and events include a livestock exhibit, motorcycle and classic car shows, and a farm equipment display.

It all starts, as always, with the traditional parade up Fisher Avenue (this year, starting at 10:00 a.m.). Fair-goers can look forward to marchers, bands, floats, dancers, antique cars, and equine groups.

The grand marshals for this year's parade will be Roy and Betty Jean Selby, owners of Selby's Market. There has been a Selby's Market in Poolesville since 1946, and Roy and Betty Jean have operated the business since

1974. In announcing the selection of the Selbys as grand marshals, Poolesville Day Committee Chairman Brice Halbrook said, "Our committee voted unanimously to honor the Selbys in recognition of their consistent support of community organizations and worthy causes over the years. No other business people have done more to make our community the wonderful place it is."

A trademark of Poolesville Day is the round-the-clock music provided in five stage areas. This year the festival will highlight nine local musicians including: the Sonic Cheetahs of Death, the Poolesville Band Project, the Bob Lauder Band, the Jim Bowie Band, Rude Boy River Reggae, Doug Bell, Steve Gellman, Scatterpoint, and Grasshopper. The Grand Finale musical entertainment goes country this year with special guests Scott Bandy and Texas Heat performing from 1:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. on the main stage in Whalen Commons. Scott Bandy was the 2003 Regional Finalist for the USA Network's popular Nashville Star music competition.

The committee emphasizes that the big day would not be possible without the support of donors, noting particularly the generous support of the Town of Poolesville. Other sponsors or in-kind contributors include: Huron Consulting, Covanta Energy Montgomery, Winchester Homes, the *Monocacy Monocle*, Townsend and Halbrook Mortgage, M&T Bank, Harris Teeter, Smith-Litho, and the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Sponsorships are still available, and further information can be found on the committee's website at [www.poolesvilleday.com](http://www.poolesvilleday.com).

The committee says that there is still time for vendors to sign up. "We are especially interested in more craft vendor participation," Co-Chairman Bridget Burke says. Further information can be found on the website, or anyone interested can call 301-349-2123. Volunteers who could donate as little as two hours for various tasks during the day are also needed. Any person who might be interested in helping in this capacity should call Cathy Bupp at 301-428-8927.



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## Remembrance Father Robert Zylla

By Rande Davis



Reverend Robert V. Zylla, O.S.C., of Emmitsburg, died on Tuesday July 29 at Gettysburg Hospital in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Father Zylla was born on January 22, 1927 in St. Cloud, Minnesota and was one of twelve children born to the late Joseph and Lottie Zylla.

Father Zylla was ordained a priest on June 1, 1951 and opened

the Crosiers monastery in Beallsville, Maryland in 1971. He then moved on to Mount St. Mary's Seminary to become a member of the faculty and began his thirty-eight years of highly-respected work in Moral Theology and priestly formation. Father Zylla also devotedly served as a visiting priest for St. Mary's Catholic Shrine in Barnesville, Maryland and as Chaplain for Knights of Columbus Council #2323.

Mount St. Mary's University President Thomas H. Powell, in mournfully announcing Father Zylla's death, noted, "Fr. Zylla taught at the Mount for thirty-eight years, and despite his illness, finished teaching the semester this past May. During his time at the Mount, it's estimated that he taught half of the 1200 priests who have graduated from the Mount and eighty percent of all the priests and six current bishops serving the Church in the United States today.

"Fr. Zylla was simply an extraordinary gentleman and an exemplary priest," continued President Powell. "He was a favorite of students and will long

be remembered for his gentleness, quick wit, superb intelligence, and his teaching of the works of St. Thomas Aquinas. He also held a special place in his heart for St. Odilia, patron saint of the Crosier order."

Deacon David Cahoon of St. Mary's in Barnesville eulogized his dear teacher, confessor, and friend by recalling Father Zylla's love of gardening. "Some of the best times with him were in the garden. He seemed to get such excitement and joy out of gardening, seeing the produce grow almost magically from seed. He would often remark about the Scripture lessons that he learned right there in the garden. Pruning the grapevines to make them more fruitful, marveling at the seed sown on good soil. I remember when he entered his produce in the county fair for the first time and how astonished and pleased he was to have received awards.

"For Father Zylla, the seminary was his primary love, but after that came the Knights of Columbus. This itinerant Crosier of forty-five years who traveled

out here from the Midwest touched the lives of countless people here through his service. If you think of the seminarians, the knights, the parishioners of St. Mary's, and all who have been graced by this man and all those that they touch, his legacy is staggering."

Deacon Cahoon recalled that once after a funeral Mass, Father Zylla told him, "Do not canonize me at my funeral, tell the people to pray, pray, pray for me. If they think I am in Heaven, I'll be stuck in purgatory forever!" With that thought, Deacon Cahoon closed his remarks as if he were talking directly to Father Zylla, "Father, I kept my promise. I didn't canonize you, and I asked them to pray for you. I simply shared with them the things that we all came to love about you, but, good teacher, I ask you, if you didn't make it, well then what hope do we have?"

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent either to Mount St. Mary's Seminary, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd., Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797, or to The Crosier Fathers and Brothers, Box 500, Onamia, MN 56359-0500.

## Police Blotter: Present and Past

By Jack Toomey

### Present

Assault: 17600 block of Kohl-hoss Road, Poolesville.

Theft: 17400 block of Hughes Road, Poolesville.

Burglary: 19500 block of Conlon Court, Poolesville, 19900 block of Westerly Avenue, 19700 block of Bucklodge Road, Boyds.

Disorderly conduct complaints: 19700 block of Beall Street, 17500 block of Hoskinson Road, 17600 block of Kohl-hoss Road.

### Past

**August 14, 1927** Fire destroyed two hundred bushels of wheat on the farm of John Waesche near Poolesville. Firemen from Rockville had to travel twenty-two miles to the scene and managed to save the out-

buildings and home. Neighbors dammed a stream and when firemen arrived, they had an adequate water supply.

**August 17, 1900** It was reported that a large fight happened at the picnic at Shiloh Church near Clarksburg. A quantity of cider was consumed, and Wilbert Davis was severely beaten by a group of men.

**August 19, 1924** While the annual picnic was underway at Poolesville, a group of young toughs from Washington made their way to the cashier's desk. One of them grabbed a bag containing \$120, and the group ran off. Chief Aud, Officer Gaither, and Sheriff Plummer began a search for the robbers. Gaither learned that the men had crossed the river, so he took the ferry to Virginia and caught up with the suspects near Leesburg. They were arrested and taken to jail.

**August 19, 1924** Sarah Brooke

was fined \$50 by Judge Riggs for failing to report the birth of a child.

**August 25, 1925** Charles Schaffer, the keeper of the lock on the canal at Glen Echo, was acquitted by Judge Riggs on a charge of having intoxicating liquors with the intent to sell. Schaffer admitted that he had two bottles of liquor but said that

it was for his own use.

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# Local News

## Poolesville Town Government Report

By Rande Davis

The August 3, 2009, the Commissioners of Poolesville meeting featured a presentation by town manager Wade Yost on the closeout of the town budget for Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09). The presentation encompassed both the General Fund and the Water & Sewer budget.

The General Fund expenditures totaled \$2,828,912 which was \$150,000 higher than the estimated budget. Unrestricted town reserves of \$150,000 were used to balance the budget. General fund operation expenses were over budget primarily due to the increased grant to the Water and Sewer budget and the delay of six months in the streetlight

purchase from Allegheny which consequently lowered the anticipated savings. The town was granted \$226,700 from General Funds to balance the Water & Sewer Fund. This was partly due to the very heavy rain period this past spring which resulted in a \$100,000 shortfall in water revenue from water usage.

FY2009 ended with \$1,701,621 in unrestricted reserves, with \$544,000 of that sum allocated to be spent in FY2010. Unrestricted reserves are town funds not tied to specific projects with the bulk of the money held like a savings account and generally determined by the cost of the full operation of the town for a four-month period.

The town ended the year with \$4,364,722 cash on hand. Above and beyond the above-mentioned unrestricted reserve account, cash reserves also included \$971,205 accumulated for Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for general operations and \$1,424,167 accumulated for Water and Sewer CIP.

The town realized over

\$350,000 in grant funding for capital projects in FY09

The town published a thirty-one page FY09 Close Out booklet which itemizes the revenue sources and expenditure allocations for the General Fund, Water and Waste Water Budget, and capital expenditure budget for both which is available at the Poolesville Town Hall.

At the commissioners' request, town manager Wade Yost and town attorney Alan Wright drafted proposed changes to the current Town Blight Ordinance (Town Ordinance #138) for review. The purpose was to bring clarity to items on properties that could be considered a blight and unsightly. Due to complaints

from neighbors regarding accumulating debris, trash, unlicensed discarded vehicles, construction materials, and unusually-delayed construction projects, it was determined that a more specific town regulation would facilitate addressing the problem with offending residents. Copies of the proposed ordinance can be obtained at town hall or at [www.monocleonline.com](http://www.monocleonline.com). A public hearing on the ordinance will be held on September 8, 2009 at the town hall at 7:30 p.m.

## Tidbits of the Past

**August 11, 1935** Judge Charles Woodward, Mrs. Woodward, sons Charles, Jr. and Arthur, left their Poolesville home for a tour of the New England states and Canada.

**August 12, 1939** The Electric Light and Improvement Association of Poolesville announced that it would campaign for lower telephone rates. Mayor Robert Gray said the association would ask for a ten-cent rate for a call to Rockville and a five-cent rate to Gaithersburg. At the time, a call to Gaithersburg and Rockville cost fifteen cents and a call to Frederick cost twenty cents.

**August 12, 1940** The annual picnic of the Poolesville PTA was held at Monocacy Park. Games were held, and a basket dinner was provided. August 13, 1908 During the annual picnic at St. Rose of Lima Church near Clopper's Mill, Mrs. Thomas Mills of Gaithersburg was stuck in the head by a baseball thrown by a player in the featured game. It was reported that the lady was knocked unconscious, and a physician who was nearby treated her and sent her to her home in critical condition.

**August 20, 1933** John Wright, David Ward, Billy Williams, and Byron Thompson returned from

their trip to the Chicago World's Fair.

**August 21, 1935** The last section of the state road to Washington was opened. The road extended by way of Buckeystown, Licksville, Dickerson, Poolesville, and Rockville. Ceremonies were held at the home of McGill Belt at Dickerson. In an address, the chairman of the Maryland Roads Commission advocated a minimum speed limit. He said that motorists traveling ten or fifteen miles an hour seriously impede traffic and interfere with tourists.

**August 23, 1927** Clyde Harris, deputy game warden for Montgomery County, gave notice that the hunting season for shooting squirrels would begin on September 1.

**August 24, 1941** The Poolesville Community Livestock show was held. Nine Angus, five Shorthorn, and three Herefords were entered. C. Merrick Wilson, principal of the Poolesville High School, and Edward Dunphy, the agricultural teacher, were among the judges.

**August 27, 1933** Mrs. Arthur Elgin entertained at seven tables of bridge. Mrs. Catherine Hall won first prize.



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## Things to Do

### August 15

Movies in the Park  
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Featuring: *Bolt*  
8:30 p.m.

### High School Musical 2

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Frederick  
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### August 16

Concerts in the Park  
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7:00 p.m.

### August 18

Town of Commissioners Meeting  
Poolesville Town Hall  
7:30 p.m.

### August 19

CEDC Meeting  
Poolesville Town Hall  
7:30 p.m.

Last day to register as a vendor for Poolesville Day.

### August 23

Concerts in the Park  
Whalen Commons – Poolesville  
Ernie Bradley & the Grassy Ridge Band  
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# Remembrance

## Remembrance: Jane "Sis" Poole – A Never-Ending Well of Generosity



Mrs. Jane "Sis" C. Poole, 73, of Poolesville, died on Sunday August 2, 2009 at the Frederick Memorial Hospital in Frederick. She was the loving wife of William R. Poole.

She was born on April 27, 1936 in Dickerson, and was the daughter of the late William C. and Evelyn Stottlemeyer Burdette. Sis and Bill Poole were married on February 5, 1955. The couple can thank Santa Claus for their chance meeting in 1953. Bill had completed his military duty and had been discharged from the army when he found himself back in Dickerson. In those days, a store in Dickerson named the Major Barton Store had a wonderful tradition of giving a bag of apples and oranges to area residents for Christmas. With a need

for someone to play Santa Claus, Bill was "called to duty" to play the part of St. Nick at this annual event. At some point during the festivities, Bill spotted Jane from behind his white beard. One thing led to another, and just a little more than two years later they married. Fifty-five years later, Bill still plays Santa Claus to the delight of area children.

Jane was a longtime resident of Upper Montgomery County and worked as a teacher's aide. She joined Bill in many community service activities as a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and a supporter of the Poolesville Odd Fellows Lodge 97. Jane was an art lover, painter, guitar player, and collected many works of art by local artists. Her love of music came at an early age growing up on a farm in Dickerson. Family recalled how she and her brother Bill and other family members would often spend the evenings on the farmhouse front porch singing songs. Brother Bill was joined by Rachel Spory in singing the song, "A City Where Roses Never Fade." She is remembered for her joyful personality, fun-loving spirit, com-

passionate heart, a gifted storyteller, and a collector of hundreds of beanie babies which she took pleasure in giving to children in need to help cheer them up. Her son Bill reflected on her spirit as a "never-ending well of generosity" which appropriately became even more evident by her last gift of life as an organ donor. This act of kindness resulted in saving the lives of three other persons. For readers more recently coming to the community who may not have had the pleasure of meeting her, they may know her sons Bill who was the principal at Monocacy Elementary School and Ron who works at the Poolesville Post Office. Surviving besides her husband are her children, Ronald C. Poole and

wife Karen of Frederick, Joseph K. Poole of Poolesville, William R. Poole and wife Leslee of Damascus, one brother, William Clark Burdette and wife Mary Ellen of Dickerson, four grandchildren, Shannon, Katie, Kara, and Christopher, and her cousins, Mildred Piasecki of Dickerson, Jennifer Haerberle of Damascus. She will also be remembered by her dear friends Jim and Shirley Spory. She was preceded in death by one brother, Jack Burdette. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 5216, Glen Allen, VA 23058-5216 (americanheart.org).

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Things to Do

# Youth Sports

## Ed Ross Faces Challenges As New AD Poolesville Moves up to 2A

By Jeff Stuart

Ed Ross, the Athletic Director at Watkins Mill since the 1999-2000 school year, takes the helm at Poolesville this fall, replacing newly-retired Fred Swick who held the position from fall 2006 until spring of 2009. In order to introduce him to his new home, the *Monocle* sat down with Ed for a little Q and A.

**Did you participate in high school or college sports?**

Yes, I was a three-sport letterman at Northwood High School in the middle 1970s: two-time first-team All-Metropolitan (Washington Post and Washing-

ton Star), first team All-Montgomery County (all papers), and first team All-State (Baltimore Sun). After high school, I was awarded an NCAA Scholarship for football at Virginia Tech. In addition, I was a first-team All-Montgomery County Baseball player on a state championship team in 1975, and I was a Sectional Tournament winner in wrestling.

**What are the new challenges for PHS with moving up to division 2A?**

I believe that the level of competition will remain the same for us within the county, as Poolesville has almost always been scheduled within MCPS 2A-3A divisions. As for competition in regional and state play, we will be one of the smallest 2A schools statewide, and we will need to work extremely hard to maintain our past successes in post-season play.

**What has impressed you most about Poolesville so far?**

I have been onboard as the Poolesville AD for nearly one month now, and I continue to be

amazed at the level of interest and support that I have received from the Poolesville HS administration team, the Poolesville Athletic Boosters, and Poolesville town officials. It is very clear to me that the high school is important to the Poolesville community, and I want to be as supportive as I can of the town interests in return. I have met with several PAA coaches, and I want to provide them with the support they need to build our community youth sports programs into the finest experiences possible for our kids.

**What are your biggest challenges?**

At the moment, my biggest challenge is to learn the immediate needs of our coaches and players. Since I am the newest Falcon in the nest, I want to spend time with each coach, getting to know their strengths and weaknesses so that I can provide each with the support they need to conduct the best athletic program in the state. As well, I look forward to meeting our athletes

for the first time on August 15 when we begin summer practices. I believe that well-prepared, hardworking coaches, who are also great teachers, provide the best experiences for competitive athletes, and I will do my best to support each team as equally as humanly possible.

**How do you see the football program?**

As with most high school athletic programs, it is important for us to have the best football team that our community can field, and it is my hope that our returning junior and senior players will always give their maximum effort while providing positive, hardworking leadership to the younger players. If we can achieve this immediate goal, we will have a competitive football program that the town will be proud to support.

**What do you think will be your strongest teams this fall and throughout the year?**

I will have a better under-

- Continued on Page 15.

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*"New AD at PHS" Continued From Page 14.*

standing of this situation and be able to give a more educated reponse once practices begin and teams are formed. I have seen fall sport athletes working out with their teammates for most of July, and I am impressed at the work ethic of these individuals. The commitment that these players make in the offseason is what drives the level of competitiveness throughout the seasons, and this will determine our strongest teams.

**Is there any one thing you think people should know about Ed Ross?**

Just that I am excited to be working with the Poolesville administrators, faculty, coaches, parents, players, and community members to improve on past athletic successes; and I want to be available to hear concerns and share constructive advice that might help our young people to achieve academic, athletic, and personal successes throughout their high school experience.

Ed became the county's youngest varsity football head coach in 1982 at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, where he stayed until 1987. After returning to MCPS to coach briefly at Einstein High School in 1990, Ed coached at George Mason University in Virginia and afterward with the Albany Firebirds of the Arena Football League before becoming an athletic director. Ross was selected the 2008 District 2B Maryland State Athletic Director's Association AD of the Year.

Taking a hands-on approach, Ross and assistant AD Gina Grubb were busy cutting the grass and working on the football field and surrounding area on the evening of August 7. By doing the little things, he hopes to help renew a sense of pride in the school and the athletic program. Ed has opened a sports Twitter account for all Poolesville sports fans which can be followed by using PHSAthletics. He has set up a new Poolesville High School Athletics web page: [www.poolesvilleathletics.org](http://www.poolesvilleathletics.org). Be sure to keep up with the Falcons on this site.

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