

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

October 9, 2009

Volume VI, Number 15.



The Clarksburg High School Band performed in China. It's our second story on the front page.



Fourteen Poolesville Days and still smiling. Read about Doug Bell in Center Stage on Page 6.



The Mobile Science Lab came to a local school—our front page story.



Scouts from Troop 496 cleaned up. More pictures of other events on Page 2.

Mobile Science Lab Comes To Monocacy Elementary

By Rande Davis

The students at Monocacy Elementary School recently became water quality investigators thanks to a one-week visit by a mobile science lab sponsored by the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation (MAEF) and school parents, Laura and Kevin Savage, owners of Savage Acre Farms in Barnesville, one of the last of five remaining dairy farms in Montgomery County.

A trip to the mobile science lab allows students to be real scientists for a day, investigating problems using scientific methods and equipment. Students, working

in teams, hypothesize, experiment, collect data, and draw conclusions during hands-on activities that are related to everyday life.

During our visit with Mrs. Soderstrum's fourth to fifth grade class, the students performed scientific experiments in an investigation around the theme of well contamination.

Other themes offered by the lab are wetlands, water quality, "foods we eat," and environmentally-friendly products related to farming.

Mrs. Soderstrum's students, separated into teams of three, had to investigate a reported hypothetical concern about polluted pond water on farms located in the town of "Fruitville." Their goal was to find which pond was polluted



Instructor Caroline Menne gave guidance on water quality control experiments for Monocacy Elementary School students.

and what the source of the pollution was. After determining which pond was polluted, they cross-referenced the results with a map showing various possible sources to determine the cause and to find a solution to the problem.

Caroline Menne of MAEF,

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CHS Band Comes Home From China

by Kristen Milton

The Clarksburg High School fight song echoed in the ears of more than two million

spectators in China last month as students performed in the Shanghai Tourism Festival Parade. The trip, September 9 to 14, was the culmination of years of effort and a defining step in building the marching band at the four-year-old high school, said Music Director Chuck Orifici. "They really started doing it right," he said.

"It was a big push for our program."

For the sixty-five students who made the trek, the adventure introduced new foods, culture, and in some cases, new instruments as orchestra and chorus

students learned to use marching band gear in order to join the fun.

"It's China," sophomore Paul Kim said simply, explaining his decision to take up the trombone. "It was like a once-in-a-lifetime-chance thing," said cymbal-player Diana Atcha, a junior.

Orifici first participated in the parade in 2005 while teaching at Northwest High School but said when he was invited back three years ago with his new band, county administration had a variety of concerns, including the length of time students would be out of the classroom. To combat the concerns, students wrote letters and raised money while 216 staff members signed a statement promising full support to the traveling students. In the end, fundraisers were supple-

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Students from the Clarksburg High School Band during their recent trip to China.

Family Album



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

Sophia Conlon gets some surprise candy from a clown at the Lord's Acre Festival. Poolesville's Rick Arnold is a very close friend of the clown.



Members of the Dickerson United Methodist Church got ready to welcome visitors to their annual Apple Festival.

Winning foursome of the 2009 Monocacy Lions Golf Outing was Academy Heating & Air Conditioning: Wayne Bassler, Joe Strasnica, Bob Nibert, and Bill Gold.



Liam Stakem, grade 3, gives new Principal Chris Siedor a high five as he arrives at St. Thomas More Academy on the first day of school.



Kids from all over had a fun time rollicking at the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department open house.

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In the Garden

The Great and The Good

By Maureen O'Connell

The Brits have a saying when asked who was invited to a social/business event; they often answer the Great and the Good. With this in mind, every fall, I give my garden a report card. I record the results and check it next spring when I plan my garden plant selections. So, here is my 2009 garden list of the Great and the Good.

The year 2009 was an unusual one in the garden. There were a lot of cool, rainy days in spring and early summer—and this weather pattern can often set up conditions for many fungal diseases—so I was very surprised that none of my plants showed any signs of blackspot, rust, or powdery mildew over the summer months. As for pests, I think I might have seen no more than ten Japanese beetles. This year has probably been the best one I have ever seen for my plants.

The backbone of my shade gardens is the hosta. The early spring rains gave my many different varieties plenty of moisture to get a good, strong start. They are planted under a line of white dogwood trees which anchor a long, narrow garden. The leaves of the trees protect the hostas from the strong rays of the sun all summer. If you think that these plants are too common, look again. They have come a long way from your grandmother's of dark green zones surrounded by bands of white. Many new and interesting varieties have come on the market in the last several years. This genus of foliage plants has seventy species, all of them from China and Japan. From these, hybridizers have produced hundreds of highly-attractive and hardy crosses. While hostas are grown mainly for their foliage, they do put

out white lily-like flowers on tall, graceful stalks. Most years, these flowers are attractive but not very abundant and dazzling. This year, they outdid themselves with huge, fragrant flowers and giant leaves that looked like they were on steroids. Hostas now come in many color patterns. You can find them with yellow borders, glossy, dark green leaves, and subtle shades of powder blue, grayish blue, and blue-green. The varieties that did super well in my garden this year are: 'Fragrant Blue,' 'Komodo Dragon,' 'White Christmas,' 'Elegans,' and my favorite, the delightful miniature 'Blue Mouse Ears.' Starring with the hostas in the shade gardens were bleeding heart (*Dicentra spectabilis* 'Alba'), *Helleborus niger*—Christmas Rose, Cinnamon Ferns, Ostrich Ferns, and the Japanese Silver-Painted Fern. They all get an A-plus.

Many plants in my sunny gardens also received A-plus-es. This was a banner year for the Phlox 'David.' He is the most dependable, repeat-blooming, and mildew-resistant phlox I have ever grown. Huge heads of sparkling white, heavily-fragrant flowers bloomed all summer (if you removed the spent flowers). Coral Bells (*Heuchera*) have been around for quite a while, but they never came in such delicious colors that you find today: bright gold, apricot, burgundy, chartreuse, violet, amber, and bold purple. This year, I used more plants that are more noteworthy for their foliage and not their flowers. Coral Bells is a good example. I planted three varieties: 'Caramel,' 'Citronella,' and 'Frosted Violet' (my favorite). Located under several dogwood trees, they received morning sun and afternoon shade. This native, American perennial is tough, vigorous, weather-resistant, and trouble free. It resists heat, humidity, drought, and even deer. I highly recommend it for our area.

More gardeners should use coreopsis in their perennial

borders. To anthropomorphize this plant, I would describe him as a plant with a sunny disposition. It is one of the easiest perennials to grow, thriving with little care in sun or light shade, and it is completely disease and pest resistant. 'Moonbeam' was named one of the top ten perennials of all time. A newcomer this year to coreopsis selections is 'Sienna Sunset.' The blossoms are orange overlaid with burnt sienna and fading as they age

to a rich salmon. Both of these plants started blooming in May, and they are still going strong. My fragrant shrubby lavender varieties, 'Munstead' and 'Hidcote Blue,' had another great year with little help from me. Give them full sun and well-drained soil and they will grow for years.

The Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) has been the

-Continued on Page 17.

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Boyle: New Price! Lovely, meticulously maintained 1900s style home 1797/- sq. ft. This home boasts 4 BRs, 3.5 BA's, walk-out lower level w/ full kitchen & fireplace, gourmet patio & near-pool-look garage. Located within walking distance of Black Hills Regional Park and one mile from MARC train station. MLS#MC 7150026. Offered at \$464,000.


Poolesville-NOW AVAILABLE! 10 placed estate lots with approved septic systems and wells installed. Lots range from 5 to 78 acres, and include riding trails protected by permanent easements. For more information, please call Jim Jamison, text 201

Gentlesville - 6.6 acres! 4 bdr 4 1/2 bath brick & sided bungalow w/ wood floors, 2 fireplaces, w/ lot recreation mt and workshop. Additional amenities include a large deck with pastoral views and storage shed. Adjacent Woodstock Equestrian Park. Bring your horses! MLS#MC 7010027. Offered at \$359,000.




Poolesville-25.11 ac. hdy. lot! Bring your horses! This beautiful lot is partially wooded and adjoins an equestrian easement on the north side. Great location in an area of fine estate type properties on large acreage. An 18-hole private golf club is located less than a mile away and the Woodstock Equestrian Center is approx. 2 miles from the property. MLS#MC 7172860. Offered at \$475,000.

Damascus- 1.54 acres! Lovely 4 BR 3 BA brick Cape Cod home in the center of town. Mixed town center zoning (MXTC). Ideal property for law office, doctor's office or private residence. Amenities include office w/ 2nd and built-in bookcases, kitchen with breakfast area, recreation room w/ 1/2 bath, side porch and 2-car garage. MLS#MC 7170873. Offered at \$999,000.

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Things To Do

Don't Forget Markoff's Haunted Forest and The Enchanted Forest, open evenings all month. See ads this issue or visit www.markoffshantedforest.com.

October 9 and 10

St. Peter's Fall Rummage Sale Household items, clothing, linens, jewelry, furniture, gardening, tools, toys, and more Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

October 10

Life is Good Pumpkin Festival Day of old-fashioned fun, carve pumpkins, with great music, crafts, and lots of games for kids and adults. Proceeds will benefit the Life is Good - Kids Foundation.

Clarksburg Town Center Intersection Public House Road and Ebenezer Chapel Drive Visit www.NewlandPumpkin-Festival.com or 301-526-1648 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Fall Fest Poolesville Poolesville Presbyterian Church Food, Fun, Shopping, and Door Prizes Nine vendors offering variety of gifts, crafts, and services. Youth fundraiser, perfect for pre-holiday buying. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Crab Feast All-you-can-eat Crabs, Crab Soup, Fried Chicken, Beverages, & much more. \$35.00 per person Call for tickets: 301-874-2755 Carroll Manor Fire Co. Adamstown 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

October 13 Monocacy Lions Blood Drive Poolesville Baptist Church 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Walk-ins Welcome

October 15 Poolesville Library Storytime : TWOS - Stories, fingerplays, and music. Pre-registration is NOT required. Two-year-olds may attend with their parent, guardian, or caregiver. 10:30 a.m.

October 16

Local *Phenomenon*

Would you like to see a show for free? Well, it could happen! Mike Super, winner of NBC's 2007 hit show *Phenomenon*, is wagering his psychic abilities against the price of the tickets for this appearance at the Weinberg Center for the Arts. Mike Super, before an audience of Frederick City officials, will reveal his prediction of the headlines that appear in the newspaper on the day of his show, October 16. The catch? These predictions will have been recorded over a month before the show! The prediction was placed in a locked *Frederick NewsPost* newspaper box on top of the Center's marquee on September 17 and will remain there until the day of the show. The key to the box was safely placed in the vault at PNC Bank in downtown Frederick. The prediction will remain locked and chained until October 16 when Mike reveals his predictions. Don't miss out on this challenge. Buy your tickets early and guarantee that you have a chance at a refund if Mike is incorrect. Prices range from \$20.00 to \$30.00 and kids under the age of 16 are only \$12. Tickets are on sale now at the center box office, by phone at 301-600-2828, or online at www.weinbergcenter.org.

October 17 Third Annual Party Silent Auction and Fundraiser On behalf of LAND (Landscape and Nature Discoveries)

Seldom Scene Since its inception in 1971, the Seldom Scene has thrived on playing bluegrass a little differently than everyone else. If other bands used a fiddler, the Seldom Scene used a Dobro; if others relied on old standards, the Seldom Scene played rock classics like J.J. Cale's "After Midnight." Through skilled musicianship and an urban approach to bluegrass, the Seldom Scene has become one of the most influential—if not the most influential—bluegrass band of their time. See them at

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the Weinberg Center for the Arts at 8:00 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$20.00 to \$30.00. Tickets are on sale now at the center box office, by phone at 301-600-2828, or online at www.weinbergcenter.org.

October 18 C&O Trust Benefit Signs of Life Exhibit: Featuring: Works of Robert Buelteman Cocktails & hors d'oeuvres, casual attire, family friendly

This benefit will support the work of the C&O Canal Trust, the official "friends" group of the C&O Canal National Historical Park, including its exciting new Canal Quarters program. Canal Quarters, set to launch in October, will allow people to stay overnight in a lockhouse and experience life as it may have been during a bygone era on the Canal. Three lockhouses, including the one at Pennyfield, have been painstakingly restored and furnished to evoke different eras in the canal's history.

The Artists Circle Fine Art 13501 Travilah Road North Potomac, Maryland Tickets from \$50.00 Call: 301-714-2233 for more information.

Some Like It Hot (1959) Marilyn Monroe stars in Billy Wilder comedy classic. Weinberg Center for the Arts 2:00 p.m. Adults \$6.00/Students/seniors \$4.00

October 17 and 18 Grape Stomp 2009 Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard, 18125 Comus Road, Dickerson Join in the fun. Great music, food, vineyard and winery tours, tastings of award-winning wines, kite flying instruction and demonstration, and contest of grape stomping skill with prizes. Free wine glass and engraving. Free for those under twenty-one years of age. Bring your own chairs. Admission:

Health

Canine Influenza: The Emerging Threat

By Julia Langfitt, DVM and Peter Eeg, DVM

With all the concern over the swine flu and as we enter the flu season, it's important to be aware of the current status of Canine Influenza. This virus has not yet been seen in Poolesville; however, it has been confirmed within an hour's travel time. There are numerous cases in Northern Virginia, and most kennels in that area are requiring animals to be vaccinated before boarding. Unconfirmed cases have been reported in Baltimore and Carroll Counties.

The virus will generally present itself with signs of fever, lethargy, and a mild cough. Of the dogs that contract the virus, approximately ninety percent will

show symptoms. The infection will run its course and the animal will experience a full recovery. A small percentage, however, will experience complications that require veterinary attention, some of which may be fatal.

While mildly dangerous, the virus is highly contagious. Dogs are contagious for several days before they begin to feel ill. They will spread the virus during this time. Approximately eighty of the dogs exposed to the virus will be infected, although the virus is not transmittable to either humans or non-canine pets.

Veterinary clinics now carry the vaccine that is available. It requires two vaccinations, administered three to four weeks apart. Your pet will not have viral protection until seven to ten days after the second shot is administered. Due to the lag time to get an animal protected (four to six weeks from the date of the first shot), it's important to make sure that pet owners have plenty of advance notice.

With Thanksgiving and the

winter holidays right around the corner, the expectations are that many people will be traveling and/or visiting boarding kennels; therefore, dog owners are encouraged to evaluate their dogs' risk. Are they exposed to other dogs in kennels, grooming facilities, dog parks, etc? Do you expect to be traveling for the holidays? If so, you should consider getting your dog vaccinated.

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Center Stage

Entertainment: It's in the Genes

By Dominique Agnew

If you live in and around Poolesville, you've probably heard Doug Bell perform his wonderful blend of original songs and songs made famous by artists such as Jimmy Buffet, James Taylor, and the Beatles. At Poolesville Days (fourteen of them!), Sunday nights in the park at Whalen Commons, Relay for Life, Swim for Sarah, and at countless other events, Doug has come with his guitar and his voice, and he has entertained the masses.

While he's been performing for most of his adult life, one would be surprised, considering his ancestry, that music didn't come completely naturally to him. His mother was a professional musician, a pianist; her

parents performed vaudeville. One grandmother did burlesque; a grandfather danced in movies; one uncle won an Emmy for sound editing; and a nephew gets air time on the radio. Doug must have been born tap-dancing while playing a musical instrument, right? He laughs at it now, but it must have been befuddling when he failed a music course in seventh grade. He thought he "was not destined to play music." He tried the marching band for one year and decided that heavily-structured music wasn't the right vehicle for him. Of course, he was in a band in high school. When he was in the tenth grade, his band was noted for "how bad we were." By the time he was in twelfth grade, the band got the vote for "how much better we got."

Doug spent his early years in Los Angeles at the beach until his family moved to Maryland when he was in the eighth grade. "Lord knows why we moved here," he adds. That was about when he

started on the drums. He took private lessons on drums for four years which have him enough of the basics to transfer to other instruments—a little self-taught piano and a lot of self-taught guitar. Why the guitar? Throw in a little vocals and "girls like it—then I really started working on it," Doug says of his discovery.

In college, he honed his performances by usually playing for free during other bands' breaks. Then when he graduated and realized he wouldn't make any money in radio management, he went back to school for a second degree in computer science. This degree was funded by his music. He partnered with Dave Pugh—another musician who is still performing—to play music full time, and in this way, supported himself while paying tuition.

He laughs as he recounts that other people his age, twenty-four or twenty-five at the time, were buying townhouses and having children. "I was in a bad teenage

movie," he says, "but having a great time playing music, funding college." Sometimes he slept at his parents' house; sometimes he slept in a car. He learned a lot about life, and best of all, he met his wife Kathy. "I was very lucky to do this," he adds.

The bad movie came to an end, and Doug got a job in the computer industry, but he always kept his hand in the music, mostly the charity gigs for which he's well-known and loved, and also a few paying, professional gigs. As a consultant, his life was too unstructured to do too much with the performing. "The most I could handle was the summer barbecue tour," he admits.

Since this past January, however, Doug's consulting days are over, and we will be seeing and hearing much more music. Somehow, in the weakening economy, Doug landed a sweet deal with the largest

-Continued on Page 8.

Youth Sports

PHS Field Hockey: A Sister Act

By Jeff Stuart

If the Poolesville field hockey team feels like an extended family, it should. Sisters Lori Defnet (a senior midfielder) and Amy Defnet (sophomore goalie) lead the way with another pair of sisters, Shelby Dahlen (senior goalie), and Allyson Dahlen (sophomore midfielder-forward), on the team. Long time Falcon field hockey fans may recall that oldest Defnet sister, Holly, anchored the Poolesville defense from the fall of 2004 to the fall of 2007, making the Frederick News Post first string All-Area team in 2007. She is a sophomore on the track team at Salisbury this year.

"I have had many sisters come through my program throughout my ten years here at PHS," says Head Coach Gina Grubb, "and many have gone to

play at the college level." Other key players to watch are senior defensemen Dakota Bierly and Dara Craze.

Coach Grubb's Falcon field hockey has established itself as a perennial power. Following last year's 10-4 record, an overtime 2-1 win over Churchill in the season's third game highlighted the drive and hopes of this early season. Only Poolesville (5-0) and Whitman (5-0), a state semifinalist last year, remain undefeated. The two teams meet at Whitman on October 20.

"The Churchill game was very intense," said the coach. "Churchill scored in the first minute of the game and it was back and forth for the rest of the first half. Within the first two minutes of the second half, Lori Defnet scored from an assist from Emily Jones to tie the game 1-1. We had many opportunities, but Churchill's goal keeper kept us from converting. During the overtime, both teams had chances, but, again, the goal keepers had some great saves. With about thirty seconds left, a penalty stroke

-Continued From Page 12.

Business Briefs

Thinking About Joining PACC?

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) is sponsoring a get together for members at a wine tasting at Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard in Dickerson, Maryland on Wednesday evening, October 14, 2009, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for chamber members and their guests to enjoy a fun, relaxing evening, and if you are considering joining the chamber, this is your opportunity to meet the members. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served. The cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. For further information, you may call the PACC at 301-349-5753 or go online to the PACC website: www.Pool-villeChamber.com.

The PACC now has over 110 members and is growing. The chamber provides businesses with marketing opportunities through its Community Telephone Directory, spearheads the "Buy Local" program, markets the Poolesville

Area on both a statewide and regional basis, encouraging the Heritage Tourism initiative, monitors of government actions affecting business, such as the Poolesville Six-Year Master Plan, and provides networking opportunities for chamber members such as this Wine Tasting and a Christmas party.

The chamber's community services include, in addition to the directory, provision of a Welcome Kit to new area residents, sponsorship of the Poolesville Day 5K Race and an annual golf tournament, and awards of funds for education and to area community service groups like WUMCO Assistance Project and the Monocacy Lions Club. PACC also supports the Poolesville High School Post Prom Party and the fourth of July fireworks.



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"Doug Bell" Continued From Page 6

privately-held software company in the world, Statistical Analysis Software. "I'm the luckiest man in America to have gotten that job," he says. "I'm very, very fortunate." He goes so far as to call it Life Changing. Not only does he have a regular paycheck and job security, he gets to go back to his first love, performing. With the bad economy, though, it's not the easiest thing to get the paying gigs, but they're starting to come in. "We'll see how the return to pro status goes." Don't think that means you won't hear him at the local benefits in town. They're important to him, and he will definitely continue. He will also offer guitar lessons: how to play, how to sing, how to follow music.

Doug loves music, he loves the guitar, and he loves his guitar. Music was, and is, a huge influence in his life from his early family to everything he cherishes most. He claims that his entire adult life was formed around the

guitar—but not just any guitar. The Martin he plays was bought for him by his mother in 1977, and it's his favorite guitar. "I'll never sell it," he says. He credits the guitar for paying for his studies and meeting his wife. Now, with their eldest child leaving for college, he hopes the guitar will again pay for school—his daughter's.

While there are many very good musicians in town—"It's amazing how much good talent is in [Poolesville],"—Doug says he's not an artist. "I consider myself an entertainer."

Doug's next gig will be at a Crab Feast at the Buckeystown Pub on October 17 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



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School News

JPMS Principal Comes Home: An Interview with Charlotte W. Boucher

By Rande Davis

When Charlotte Boucher came to John Poole Middle School as its new principal this past sum-

mer, she came to much more than a new job—she came home. She resides with her family on the same Dickerson farm where her mother was raised.

This local lady comes from a family of educators since both parents, Albert and Charlotte Chakan, were teachers in Montgomery County. The Chakans' love story began after they met in the PHS cafeteria during a teachers' gathering where Boucher's mother was the guest speaker. They were married at St. Peter's Church where

both Boucher and her brother, John, were baptized.

Mrs. Boucher attended Vanderbilt University and got her Master's degree from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. Her primary focus has been English, but she has also taught French.

Her route to back to Poolesville was far from a straight line, though. After she was married, the couple moved to Michigan where she taught high school while her husband Doug was earning his doctorate in biology from the University of Michigan. While their children, Johnny and Ellen, were young, they lived a year in Costa Rica and six years in Montreal while Doug taught biology at the University of Québec and McGill University.

Valuing her educational experience in Montgomery County (she is an alum of Richard Montgomery High School), they returned to the area where she was a teacher at Wood, Briggs Chaney, and Baker Middle Schools.

When Rocky Hill Middle School opened, she became its




John Poole MS Principal Charlotte Boucher has come home

assistant principal. She then served as a countywide school program supervisor for secondary English and coordinated the International Baccalaureate program at Richard Montgomery High School. Prior to coming to JPMS, she was the principal of Eastern Middle School in Silver Spring.

MM: What was your reaction upon being appointed to JPMS?

Boucher: I was thrilled, and I continue to feel like I have won the lottery! When Mr. Bishop retired,

-Continued on page 10.



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"JPMS Principal" Continued From Page 9.

I felt like a golden opportunity had opened for me to bring my experience and commitment to education home to my own community.

During my childhood, my family lived in Rockville, but I spent my summers and vacations with my grandparents in Dickerson. I have fond memories of going to church at St. Peter's, anticipating the Fire Department Carnival in Beallsville each August, and enjoying the Christmas lights that went up in Poolesville each December. They look very much the same now as they did fifty years ago. MM: Most new positions have pros and cons. Care to share what they were?

Boucher: I share the concerns all of us do about our children's futures. I cherish the blessing of a small community where we can all know each other and be personally invested in every child, but I want to make sure our kids don't miss out on the opportunities and resources that are available in bigger settings.

It's a great pleasure to see our students in a variety of contexts, and it helps understand who they are and how we can serve them better. For example, Poolesville Day showcases so many of our kids with their sports teams, service projects, animals, etc. I don't mind being in the phone book and running into parents at the post office. It helps us communicate naturally. MM: What's new from your administration?

Boucher: Well, don't look for any extreme makeovers. JPMS is already an excellent school with strong teachers who provide our children with wonderful educational opportunities. I'm committed

to making it easy to communicate throughout the school community. The school newsletter—the Back Pocket—has been published online at the website twice a month. I'm looking to get it out on a weekly basis with a more personal focus—more photographs, for example

We opened the school year with a flag-raising ceremony, and I like that sort of thing. Kids benefit from feeling like they belong—to their families, to their school, and to their country. I will take advantage of any opportunity that presents itself to emphasize those ties.

In September, I taught an evening class on study skills for sixth graders which is a four-lesson sequence about getting organized, taking notes, building your memory, and studying for tests and quizzes.

Of course, the big program change is PBIS: Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. It is a wonderful program that emphasizes establishing and teaching core values that we expect to see reflected in the choices students make. At John Poole, it's organized around Timberwolf PRIDE: Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Effort. I believe in these values personally and am a strong advocate for helping children become thoughtful about their own values and the actions based upon them.

MM: Any closing comments?
Boucher: Just a profound sense of gratitude that I can live and work in our wonderful community.



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Tidbits

Local Girl Scouts Take Another Step to Save the World

While most of Poolesville's children were taking advantage of a beautiful Poolesville Day to enjoy the attractions and connect with friends, two Girl Scouts from Troop 5946 were working to help children at the Shady Grove Adventist Hospital's pediatric unit.

Grace Beal and Anne Hundertmark are collecting items to donate to the pediatric unit. The effort is a



Junior Girl Scouts from Troop 5946: Gretchen & Anne Hundertmark, Ellen Beal, Kaitlin Slattery, Grace Beal

part of their project to earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award.

For Poolesville Day, Anne and

Grace created a booth where the Girl Scouts sold fudge, dipped pretzels, and conducted games of skill for children to win prizes. The money collected from the booth is being used to buy items needed by the pediatric unit. Other girls from Troop 5946 who assisted at the booth were Ellen Beal, Gretchen Hundertmark, Ali Nichols, and Kaitlin Slattery.

But the girls' effort is not ending with Poolesville Day. Grace and Anne have set up collection boxes at Healthworks and Selby's in Poolesville to gather more items. Shady Grove Adventist Hospital has noted that they especially need:

- Boxes of bandages with characters
- First year sippy cups
- Bubbles and pinwheels to help children with respiratory problems practice breathing exercises
- Pull ups, overnight pull ups (for older children with digestive problems)
- DVDs (new or used) - No R rated, up to age 19
- Hot wheels cars
- New stuffed animals (small like

-Continued on Page 12.

"MES Science Lab" Continued From Page 1.

the class instructor, held the students' rapt attention even within a tightly-spaced "trailer." She took them step by step through the scientific process from discovery of a problem to its solution. The experiments are designed to excite the students and, from our observation, it was successful in doing so.

Other agricultural areas of discovery through the mobile laboratory are lessons about vegetables/fruit, wheat and oats, nursery/greenhouse, beef, poultry, dairy, pigs, sheep, and the importance of exercise and healthy living.

Kevin Savage told the Monocle that he was pleased to help bring the lab to the school since it teaches the kids, among other things, about where food comes from, something easily forgotten in today's supermarket/fast food lifestyle.

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**"PHS Field Hockey" Continued
From Page 7.**

was called, and Cara Craze scored to give Poolesville the win." Churchill beat Poolesville, 2-1, in overtime in the fifth game of the season last year.

The Lady Falcons opened 2009 with a 1-0 win over Richard Montgomery at home and were able to capitalize on a free hit coming into the circle by defender Dakota Bierly and the goal scored by Emily Jones with about five minutes left in the first half. "We had many other opportunities to put the ball in the net but just couldn't capitalize," said Grubb. "We have strong defense, and I am working now to develop our offense." Goalie Amy Defnet and the defense held the Rockets to only three shots on goal.

Poolesville hosted Damascus by beating the Hornets, 2-0, outshooting their opponents, thirteen to zero. Emily Jones and Karissa Harris scored with assists from Chantal Agnew and Jami Auslander. Amy Defnet in goal led the Falcon defense.

Following the dramatic win at Churchill, the Falcons recorded their second and third shut-outs of the year, winning 4-0 at Rockville and 5-0 at home against Kennedy.

About five minutes into the Kennedy game, Lori Defnet scored on a breakaway, firing a hard shot that rattled loudly off the lower back wall of the goal. She scored again on a corner a few minutes later on an assist from Craze. Craze scored on a penalty stroke, and Jami Auslander scored with a Karissa assist to round out the half. Poolesville led 4-0. About five minutes into the second half, Dakota Bierly scored with an assist from Allyson Dahlen to close out the scoring. Lori Defnet rolled her ankle in the second half and was taken to the locker room. She did not return to the game.

Their final two home games of the season are against Bethesda-Chevy Chase (10-2 last year), October 15, and Quince Orchard (9-3 in 2008), October 22. Poolesville, the number two

"Tidbits" Continued From Page 11.

Webkins or beanie babies) that can be used as rewards for children that had to have a medical procedure or test

-Prizes/reward items for younger children (infants and toddlers) like baby rattles

-Happy meal toys

Grace sees this as important work. "I remember what it was like when I had to stay in the hospital for a few days," she says, "so I want to make [the experience] better for other kids." Anne thinks that the toys and DVDs are especially useful. "Just think how you would feel if you were in the hospital for a long time with nothing to do!"

The collection boxes will be in place until October 16. People can also contact the girls to make contributions at bridge@abmedia.com.

seed in 2008, lost to Glenelg in last year's region final, ending a seven-year reign as region champs. The Falcons are looking for a deep run in the 2A playoffs this year.

Recycling Program Expanded

Montgomery County's recycling program expanded to accept a number of additional items. Starting on September 21, items placed in the blue recycling container can include non-hazardous aerosol cans like whipped cream, spray cooking oil, deodorant, hair spray, shaving cream and caps. Be sure the aerosol cans are completely emptied before recycling.

More items can now go in the mixed paper recycling program. Containers for milk, juice, frozen foods, etc. can now be recycled, as well as, cardboard ice cream containers and lids, paper coffee beverage cups, and fruit and produce boxes. Want to know more? Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/News/Blog/solidwasteBlog.



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13-Oct	Girls' VB	Rockville	6:30 p.m.
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Youth Sports

Coyote Field Hockey Team on A Turnaround

By Jeff Stuart

While scoring goals has been a problem for Clarksburg the past few seasons, the Cougars have been known for their stingy defense—not this year. The offense has come alive. The Coyotes (2-4 in county play) scored eleven in their first five games led by junior Katie Bertrand (forward/midfielder) with five goals and five assists. Among the top scorers in the county, Katie scored four goals and had three assists closing out the final game in September, earning Athlete of the Week honors at Clarksburg. “Katie Bertrand is my most experienced player,” says Head Coach Sissy Natoli. “She is one of my captains and has been starting on the varsity squad since

her freshman year. She is a very talented and coachable player who has an amazing work ethic. Katie is a great leader and role model, excelling on the hockey field and in the classroom. She is always pushing her teammates to play harder and to raise their level of play.”

On the first real crisp, cool day of fall, Bertand finished off the scoring with a late goal on September 29 as Clarksburg won its second in a row, defeating Watkins Mill, 4-0, at the Coyote Canyon. In that game, Olivia Pond had the game’s first goal as Herietta Lee also scored in the first half. Pond and Bertrand had second half goals.

Even with the improvement in offense, the Coyotes lost their first six games overall, despite playing respectable hockey against tough competition. They opened their season with a 5-2 loss at Churchill. At the Magruder tournament, Clarksburg dropped a pair of matches, losing both by just 3-2 to Holton-Arms and

southern Maryland powerhouse Leonardtown despite goals from Bertrand and Megan Lin.

At home against a hot Paint Branch team, Katie Bertrand got Clarksburg started early with a goal just three minutes into the game and another about ten minutes later. The Coyotes controlled the first half, but a goal late in the first half cut the Clarksburg lead to 2-1. A goal by Paint Branch’s Lindsey Janoskie gave Paint Branch their first lead with about five minutes left. Just a minute later Olivia Pond found the net for Clarksburg to tie the game at three each; however, Paint Branch senior, Kelly Jenny, scored the game winner for the Panthers with just about two minutes left in the game.

The match at Wootton gave the Coyotes their first win of the year. They defeated the Patriots, a state semi-finalist last

year, with just a few minutes in the second overtime.

Zeona Walker-Latney, a junior forward/midfielder, scored both goals with assists from Bertrand and Anna Hackett, another junior forward/midfielder. “We have been playing good hockey but couldn’t seem to pull out a win, so it was a great effort by my kids, stepping it up and pushing for our first win,” said a patient Coach Natoli. In addition to Bertrand, Coyote captains are seniors Herietta Lee, Mayte Valdivia, and Raju Mishra (goalie). They are hoping their hard work will pay off in the second half of the season.



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"CHS Band" Continued From Page 1.

mented by donations ranging from \$5,000 from Tangent Software to \$200 from the school's Horticultural Club, and several teachers served as chaperones to tutor band members in China.

Of course, schoolwork was far from the only thing the students had to occupy their time. Food, lodging, and sightseeing were provided by the Chinese government, and while the group stayed largely in Westernized areas, they found much to admire in outings to the Oriental Pearl TV Tower, Jade Buddha Temple, jade carving factory, and other sites.

Luis Rosales, a junior whose grandfather is a landscaper, was especially impressed with the Yew Garden. "It was just interesting; the architecture, all these plants that don't grow here." Senior Robert Smith was proud of his feat in acquiring fake Rolex and Northface gear from street vendors while senior Matthew Sheary touted his achievement in eating an entire bowl of fishball soup.

Food was a challenge for many students, although they had been somewhat prepared by the culture and history sessions Orifici taught in the months leading up to the trip.

"It's not Panda Express," said Rosales, who recalled a bite of fish head as his least favorite food experience and sesame duck as the best.

"By the end, we did give them some opportunity to eat American," Orifici said. "They were real troopers with the

food."

The highlight of the trip was a performance in the parade which kicks off the annual tourism festival in the area. Groups from around the world, including Brazilian samba dancers and a fan dancing troupe, made up the thirty-six performing groups and twenty-two floats.

"It was phenomenal," said senior Patrick Taylor, who learned the trumpet and took his first plane ride for the experience, "walking down the street with all these bright lights and neon and people."

"They were really glad to see Americans," Orifici said. "Everyone wanted to touch the kids, high-five them. One group wanted me to hold their baby and get pictures with me."

The memories are good in spite of heat, minor illnesses, and an asthma attack, which the band members struggled through together, developing a strong sense of pride and camaraderie along the way.

The impact of the trip on a struggling band program may be long-lasting, Orifici said. From thirty-four students last year, the band has grown to seventy-two this year. Only a handful of those who went to China have chosen not to continue for the regular season.

"In any big project, you have those pivotal moments where you know if it's going to be a success or a failure," the director said. "I think this was one of those moments for us."



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"Great and Good" Continued From Page 3.

official Maryland flower since 1918, and it loves our climate. The Goldsturm Strain does particularly well in Monocacy country with very low maintenance. Echinacea, commonly called the coneflower, is a North American genus in the Daisy family that also does very well in our climatic conditions. They produce big, bright flowers from late June until the first frost, and then (if you don't deadhead), the seeds in the large cone of the heart of the flower provide nourishment for birds well into December. If you like dramatic and unusual colors, you'll love the coneflowers in the Big Sky series: 'After Midnight,' 'Sundown,' 'Summer Sky,' 'Sunrise,' 'Sunset,' and 'Twilight.'

I have saved my favorite plants for last—the rose. This year, with concern for the environment, I changed my maintenance program for my roses. I cut back spraying with chemicals for disease and pests. There are many natural products on the market that yield good results. The catalog Gardens

Alive is a good resource. I was pleasantly surprised at how well all my roses performed this summer. This was probably the best year I have ever seen. The nine new roses I planted in June have established themselves and are still producing gorgeous blooms. I recommend them all: 'Cinco de Mayo,' 'Mr. Lincoln,' 'Buxom Beauty,' 'Julia Child,' 'William Baffin,' 'Pink Promise,' 'Fantasia Mondiale,' 'Mondiale,' and 'Color Me Pink.'

Spring-flowering bulbs are not the only plants that do well with fall planting in our Zone 6. All of the above plants are available now in local garden centers and garden catalogues such as Wayside Gardens and White Flower Farm. By planting now, they get a good head start on developing roots to carry them into next spring. The only exception I make is with roses. I prefer to plant them around mid-May.

You might have your own list of the Great and the Good. These are the ones that we should invite back to our gardens next year.

"Things to Do" Continued From Page 4.

Ages 21 and over
\$12.00 at SMV store in advance or online at smvwinery.com/purchase.htm
\$15.00 at door
Noon to 5:00 p.m.

October 19 to October 23
PES Book Fair
Get ready to Read Around the World and visit Poolesville Elementary School's Scholastic Book Fair from October 19 to 23. We are open Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. to noon. For your convenience, there are extra shopping hours on Wednesday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Thursday night 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.. This event is one of PES PTA's largest fundraisers. Please come check out our great selection of affordable children's books—all reading levels are represented, from infant board books on up to young adult and more.

October 20
Poolesville Library
Special Event: Family – A puppet presentation entitled Penguin's Playground. Be there as the playful, multi-talented penguins join their good friends for a Hot Time at the South Pole! Presented by Bob Brown Puppets
7:00 p.m.

October 22
Poolesville Library
Three to sixes – Preschool, Kindergarten. Stories, fingerplays, music, and other activities for children, with parent, guardian, or caregiver. Pre-registration is NOT required.
10:30 a.m.

October 23
Basket Bingo
Carroll Manor Fire Co. Adamstown
20 games, 3-specials, 2-raffles, King Tuts
\$15.00 per person
Call 301-831-8362 for info

October 24
Calling All Pink Floyd Fans! The Machine performs live!
Weinberg Performing Arts Center – Frederick
The Machine, America's premier Pink Floyd experience, has forged a twenty-year reputation of excellence, extending the legacy of Pink Floyd, while creating a legacy all their own
Tickets range from \$20 to \$30. To purchase tickets, call the Weinberg Center for the Arts at 301-600-2828, or visit www.weinberg-center.org
8:00 p.m.

October 31
Plan on St. Mary's Church's 80th Annual Turkey and Ham Dinner
St. Mary's Pavilion in Barnesville

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Local News

Commissioners Seek Revenue Due to Shortfall In State Transportation Funds

By Rande Davis

The commissioners moved to cover a shortfall in town revenue due to a \$225,000 reduction in funds expected from the State Transportation Highway Users fund due to balancing the state budget.

At a previous work session, the commissioners considered a number of options to cover this shortfall in the 2010 budget. Those options were: use cash from the unrestricted reserves account; abandon the proposed Whalen Commons bandshell project; abandon the approved

skateboard park project; delay road repair projects; abandon the Hunter's Run sidewalk renovation project.

In the end, they voted 4-1 to cancel the sidewalk renovation project in Hunter's Run. Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski dissented.

In reaching this decision, the commissioners chose not to cut the skateboard park or bandshell project since both are heavily funded by state grants which would be lost if postponement were approved. The skateboard park is paid for by a state grant of \$175,000 and the band shell has a state grant of \$100,000. A contract to build the skateboard park has been awarded but has not yet been signed by both parties.

The other options of using unrestricted cash reserves or cutting other road projects did not have any support from the commissioners.

The sidewalk renovation project for Hunter's Run had \$250,000 budgeted which covers the \$225,000 shortfall leaving a balance of \$25,000 to be allocated

elsewhere.

While no decision on the balance was reached at the meeting, discussion centered on using the excess funds toward infrastructure improvement costs for Parcel 840. Parcel 840, located behind Selby's Market, includes the site for the skateboard park, parking area, and possible other future town uses not yet determined. While cost of the skateboard park itself is covered by the grant, the estimate to make the necessary infrastructure improvements—lot grading, sidewalks, curbs, stormwater management, etc.—is estimated to be \$130,000.

Controversy erupted as to whether these additional infrastructure costs are attributable to the development of the skateboard park alone or would be there with or without the park. While curbing, storm drainage, etc. would be required for any use of the property by the town, certain grading costs would be required prior to installing the skateboard park and are attributable to the park alone. No decision to use the \$25,000 toward that purpose was made and Commissioner Klobukowski suggested that county support be sought or citizen volunteerism be looked into prior to the town covering these costs in the budget. The commissioners decided to review this possibility and the cost estimates prior to allocating the excess funds toward that infrastructure expenditure.

Residents living at Westerly Road and Whites Road gave public testimony of their dissatisfaction with proposed ameliora-

tion of inadequate swale slopes adjacent to their properties. The current sloping of the drainage swales does not conform to allowable standards and poses safety concerns to residents when mowing their lawns. The proposed solution that one property was to have buried pipes which would have smoothed out the swale while the others were to have grading-only was the cause of the objection. The commissioners voted to make the additional changes requested by the residents providing the cost estimate did not exceed the funds already set within the budget.

The recently-proposed town ordinance changes covering zoning on shared driveways (Ordinance #174), a limitation of authority of the planning commission on reviewing and recommending special exceptions (Ordinance #175), restriction on vehicle public street parking (Ordinance #176), and road construction standards (Ordinance #177) were all passed. Changes to Ordinance #175 suggested by residents Don and Linda Barnes to change the wording from "review and recommendation" to "review and comment" was accepted and approved.

In other matters, the town approved the submission of a resolution required by the State of Maryland defining the town's management policies of debt service.

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Current Crimes

Burglary: 17400 block of Hughes Road, Poolesville.

Theft from vehicle: 17100 block of Cubitt Court, Poolesville.

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

Past Crimes

October 7, 1964 Five teenagers were arrested in Poolesville after a vandalism spree that involved the smashing of the windows and windshields of over two hundred cars. Police said at the time that the night-riding youths had traveled around residential areas of the county hurling rocks and railroad spikes at cars parked on the street.

October 9, 1900 One man was killed and another seriously wounded at the picnic at Germantown. Groups of men from Boyds and Germantown argued and then clashed in what authorities described as a riot. Howard Hall of Germantown was killed, and Nathan Doy of Boyds was criti-

cally injured.

October 13, 1961 Four employees of the Drug Fair store in Wheaton were arrested after police found the book Tropic of Cancer for sale at the store. Since the controversial book had been released numerous arrests had been made around the country.

October 17, 1942 The chief of the Bethesda Volunteer Fire Department was drowned in flood waters that swept across River Road near Seven Locks Road. Chief John Buell had taken his tow truck to a location where a motorist was trapped by raging waters, and as he attempted to attach a tow line to the car, he was swept into a creek. His body was later found several hundred yards away.

October 15, 1898 Authorities reported that a great number of robberies were committed on a Baltimore and Ohio train as it passed through the county side from Martinsburg to Washington.



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