



Clarksburg's Derek Hall clearly makes the tag in time, and we're sure the umpire got it right. Read about CHS baseball in Youth Sports on Page 18.



Cast members of the Pooleville High School Midnight Players entertained the crowd at the Pooleville Business Fair. Check out the pictures on Pages 12 and 13.



Once the snow melted it was just a matter of time. Read about Pooleville baseball in Youth Sports on Page 18.



Happiness is finding a bunch of Easter eggs. More pictures of other events are in the Family Album on Page 2.

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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## Mishap on the Potomac

By Jack Toomey

The first warm weekend day of spring saw the reopening of White's Ferry after a week-long closure due to flooding and dangerous waters. At about 4:00 p.m. on March 20, a boatful of over twenty cars and fifty people boarded the General Jubal Early on the Virginia side of the Potomac River, and the ferry set out on the short trip to the Maryland side of the river. Just before the ferry reached the boarding ramp, it slid off the steel cable and began drifting down river. Onlookers could see a large tree caught underneath the ferry boat.

The ferry operator used the propulsion systems on the side of the vehicle to slow the drifting ferry while some passengers got out of their cars to watch the drama unfold. Malcolm Brown, the owner and operator of White's Ferry, was notified and got into a small boat and sped down the river after his craft. A line was

attached from the boat to the ferry, and, slowly, the ferry was towed back up the river. Karen Toomey of Gaithersburg was a passenger and said that she noticed some large trees and logs floating down the river. She saw the ferry operator begin to run from the back to the front of the ferry while it started floating sideways. She remembered thinking, Oh great we are going to go floating down the river. She said that the ferry operators did a great job in controlling the runaway ferry. Another passenger, who lives in Leesburg, said that he saw a large log hit the ferry and knew that the result was not going to be good. He was surprised that the ferry did not travel further down the river and was impressed on how quickly the employees reacted. The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Department dispatched a complement of rescuers and small boats to the scene, but they were not needed during the incident.

Malcolm Brown told the Monocle, "There is [always] a possibility that this

can happen. It is a boat, and a boat floats down the river." He explained that during the week-long closure, a new type of lubricant had been applied to the ferry cable and that when a large tree floated underneath the ferry, it caused the vehicle to slip off its clamps and break free of the cable. Brown said that he always has equipment on hand to bring the ferry back upstream; however, nothing of this sort had ever happened. He said that he greeted everyone who alighted from the ferry and did not receive one complaint.

White's Ferry remained closed for another day and reopened on March 21.



Malcolm Brown tows the Jubal Early back upstream.

## Poolesville Turns Out for The Spring Business Fair

By John Clayton

The multi-purpose room at Poolesville Elementary School was packed with twenty-nine vendors, a steady stream of entertainers, and passersby who came in out of the wind to check out the Poolesville Area Spring Community Business

Fair 2010, specifically entitled "Passport through Poolesville." The day's attendance is estimated to have been between 300 to 350 people. Judging from the comments of vendors, organizers, and attendees, the event was deemed a success and may lead to at least a second annual event next year.

The event was sponsored jointly by the Community Economic Development Committee and the

-Continued on Page 6.



Cathy Bupp, Town of Poolesville Recreational Director and Community Economic and Development Committee events coordinator, and Hilary Shapiro president of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, organized the business fair.

Family Album



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

The Cub Scout Pack 694 Pinewood Derby 2010 was held at the Poolesville Baptist Church. The pictured winners were Ethan Rolls (5th place), Garrett Wallace (4th place), Paul Szafranski Jr.(2nd place), and Darby Johnson (1st place). Standing to the rear are Jim Cannick (Race Official) and Doug McKenney (Pack 694 leader). Not pictured are Danny Geehreng (3rd place) and Aidan Auel (Coolest car).



Bernie Jankowski's Flames celebrated their second place finish in the Potomac Valley DII Championship. Photo includes John Poole Middle School students Kristen Drimmon (standing next to Bernie) and Marie Jankowski (seated far right).



The Poolesville High School Boosters and student athletes loaded up mulch in an annual rite of spring.

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## In the Garden

### Exterior Design

By Maureen O'Connell

What a winter it has been for our gardens. By the time you read this article, it will be mid-April, and, hopefully, you will have removed the fallen tree limbs and totally-uprooted, mature trees from your lawn. My boxwoods, Leyland cypresses, and old, tall knockout roses are still quite bent over from many weeks of heavy snow sitting on their branches. My David Austin roses survived fairly well; a light pruning was all they needed. I did have two hybrid tea rose beds completely buried under the limbs of a forty-foot white pine tree that fell in their path. Luckily, their new growth had just begun, so I think I can save them.

Let us put this behind us now and remember The New Yorker Magazine's noted garden essayist Katharine S. White's saying: Onward and upward in the garden.

In our homes, be it a large colonial, a small townhouse, or an apartment, we coordinate interior design ideas to make our living areas attractive and fully usable. There is not, usually, one large, open area or one all-purpose room. There are a series of small, medium, and large rooms connected by hallways, foyers, and staircases and illuminated by windows, doors, and skylights. If you are lucky, you might have various nooks and crannies that add interest and color. The layout of our gardens should similarly have a mixture of outdoor rooms. Strive to view your garden and lawn areas as extended rooms of your house which need exterior design ideas.

Our outdoor living area—which I shall call the garden—is often composed of a grass lawn, flower beds, shrubs, trees, patios, decks, walkways, and garden accessories. What constitutes its exterior design? First of all, we need to create a framework on which a garden grows. The very roots of the word garden

mean enclosure. Ever since man first cultivated a garden, be it for food crops or pleasure, he set up a fence or some sort of perimeter as protection from hungry, wild beasts. Today, we might not have "wild beasts at our doors" (rabbits, squirrels, moles, and deer do not count as beasts), but enclosure connotes another thought. Without some structure, there is no garden; you have an unmarked field or a wide open lawn to mow and, maybe, some pretty flowers on the edges of the lawn. That is not a garden. Enclosures or boundaries lend a welcome to all who enter its space. Gardens are rooted in the earth, but the limitless sky is their ceiling.

What goes into making the totality of a garden? Let's start with fences. There are many different types of fences, and interestingly, they can each depict a specific time in history. Pick your own historical theme. Very often, the style and architecture of your house can guide you. Do you want the look of an English cottage garden, a Victorian landscape, the picket fences of Cape Cod or Williamsburg houses, a cultivated French garden with wooded allées and parterres, or a simple contemporary look? Gates can be a utilitarian back or side gate that leads onto an alley or street, artistic ironwork or latticework, or a simple, elegant Chinese moon gate. If your garden is divided into sections by fences, shrubs, trellis screens, or hedges, an interior gate will emphasize the transition between one garden room and the next. There is an aura of wonder in a door mysteriously left leading to another garden within a garden. Remember Mary Lennox and The Secret Garden. In Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland, Alice wonders, "How shall I ever get into that beautiful garden?"

Paths and walkways are our guides to our gardens. They are often made by themselves—animal tracks in the forest, the Lab-made path between my screened porch and the back door to the house, the bare stretch of dirt between your children's swing set and the kitchen door, and the well-worn path in front of my house that is

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the daily route for my geldings on their way to their front paddock. You might not have preferred these specific locations, but they are there because they lead directly to a destination, be it a few feet or a hundred yards away. A more artistic pathway could lead to a sheltered teak bench where you relax each evening as the sun sets or to a beautiful stone bird bath. These paths are especially enticing if they are lined with flowers of a single color.

Structures are another avenue to express artistry in your gardens.

There are trellises, be they bamboo teepees, cedar tuteurs, or metal obelisks that can give your plants climbing lessons. You can be more creative and provide you and your plants shelter under arbors, pergolas, and arches.

In Claude Monet's garden at Giverny, just outside of Paris, I remember seeing a small plaque in the garden quoting Monet: I never could have become a painter if I was not first a gardener. Add some exterior design to your garden this year and bring alive its artistry.



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## Letter to the Editor

I agree with John Clayton that the proposed closing of the Beallsville Post office illustrates trends in both business and government today; however, I respectfully disagree with John in that I don't think that these trends are new or that our small-town Poolesville Post Office is somehow an example of the Walmartization of our country. These perfectly-normal trends have been in effect since, at the dawn of human civilization, the first business opened and the first government was formed.

The United States Postal Service is like a business with the revenues brought in being equal or slightly greater than the expenses. Unfortunately, the USPS is losing several billion dollars per year. Like all businesses, the USPS has several choices. The most desirable choice is to increase revenues. Since it already enjoys a government-mandated monopoly of one hundred percent market share on first class mail, the USPS will have a tough time finding more customers here. Raising prices is another way of increasing revenues, but the USPS is already facing stiff competition from alternative private sector services like the internet, email, Fed Ex, and UPS. Making mail and package delivery more expensive will likely lose revenue by driving more customers to these alternatives.

If increasing revenues is not possible, the other option for a business is to cut costs. Every business should be consistently monitoring wages, rent, equipment, buildings, and other costs. Eliminating one day of delivery per week and closing small post offices seem like very reasonable ways to accomplish cost cutting.

There is a reason why Selby's Market, the *Monocacy Monocle*, and Fine Earth Landscape do not have a Beallsville location. It is simply more cost efficient to confine our physical plant to as few locations as possible. Back a little further in history, do we think that the first merchant who set up shop outside the Garden of Eden rented a second shop on the next block in order to serve the same clientele? Cost efficiency also explains why there is no public library or a police station in Beallsville.

The USPS is also like a government program, and we can draw some lessons here as well. Whether it is a large government program like the home mortgage deduction and farm subsidies or a smaller one like local post offices, there are beneficiaries who will rally against any reduction in any government program. It is human nature to want every possible service that benefits Me. Unfortunately, it is also human nature to want Someone-Other-Than-Me to pay for it. Whether that person is Corporations, the Rich, Welfare Cheats, or future generations, it is always someone else whom we hope will pay the tax bill.

Since Someone-Other-Than-Me is not interested in paying more fees and taxes either, we Americans are simply borrowing the money. One day, we will find that Uncle Sam's super-triple-platinum credit card bill (currently holding an eight trillion dollar balance!) has reached its credit limit. Until that time, we will just keep clamoring for every benefit without really thinking about who will be footing the bill.

**Bernie Mihm, Jr.**

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The Monocacy  
MONOCLE  
*Keeping An Eye On Local News*

## Business Briefs

# Welcome to The Organic Market and Holistic Center of Poolesville

By Rande Davis

A new enterprise has opened in Poolesville at the former location of Jon's Video on Elgin Road. The Organic Market and Holistic Center of Poolesville (OMHC) is owned and operated by Buddhist nuns in the Tibetan tradition. The organic market section offers an array of organic and natural foods and products including vegetables, fruits, drinks, poultry, soups, breads and crackers, eggs, and other grocery items. "We will be working with local organic farmers in season to bring fresh produce daily," says co-owner Dawa Dellamula. This Swiss native with an entrepreneurial spirit is well regarded for her enthusiasm and excitement, reflected in her observation, "The community [was] so supportive even on the first day. It just makes me happy to come to work."

Organic food is produced without using most conventional pesticides; fertilizers made with synthetic ingredients or sewage sludge; bioengineering; or ionizing radiation. It is produced by farmers who emphasize the use of renewable resources and the conservation of soil and water to enhance environmental quality for future generations. Organic meat, poultry, eggs, and dairy products come from animals that are given no antibiotics or growth hormones.

The holistic center will feature the services of an acupuncturist, nutrition consultant, and herbalist. Co-owner and acupuncturist, Miki "Dolma" Johanison M.A., M.Ac., L.Ac., began her acupuncture training at Tai Sophia Institute and, in 2009, launched a successful individual practice at Poolesville Family Acupuncture; now her clinic will

reside at OMHC of Poolesville.

Chris Hodgson is the Market Manager and the store will be open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Of course, OMHC has a website [www.itsbetter4you.com](http://www.itsbetter4you.com) which offers a newsletter, blog, and twitter space to facilitate communication from the business to its customers.

Mirant Mid-Atlantic, LLC  
Bowls for Kids' Sake

Mirant Mid-Atlantic, LLC proudly supported its employees from both the Morgantown and Chalk Point electric generating stations located in Southern Maryland in the annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake Bowling Tournament. Mirant employees had five bowling teams participate in the event held at the AMF bowling center in Waldorf, Maryland on Sunday, March 21, 2010 and, through employee pledges and raffles, raised over \$13,000 to benefit the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization.

Bowl for Kids' Sake is the signature fundraising and awareness program of Big Brothers Big Sisters nationally and in Maryland. The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters is to help boys and girls grow up to be confident, competent, and caring young adults.



*The team at Organic Market and Holistic Center of Poolesville is comprised of manager Chris Hodgson and owners Dawa Dellamula and Dolma Johmanison.*

## Things to Do

April 16  
PES Book Fair  
Final Day  
Open to Public  
9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Family Night with Ice Cream Social  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

April 16 and 17  
The Midnight Players are presenting Rogers and Hammerstein's South Pacific, one of musical theatre's most enduring and beloved shows, including musical numbers such as: "There is Nothing Like a Dame," "Bali Ha'I," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair," and "Younger Than Springtime."

Tickets are \$5.00 for students and \$10.00 for adults. Performances are on April 16 at 7:30 p.m., and April 17 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

April 16, 17, 18  
Countryside Artisan's Spring Studio Tour  
Open studios across the area  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
[www.countrysideartisans.com](http://www.countrysideartisans.com)  
See Center Stage this issue

April 17  
Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Annual Meeting  
Gothic Barn at Linden Farm  
20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson  
Featured Speaker: Royce Hanson, Chairman, Montgomery County Planning Board  
9:30 a.m.

Area Youth Invited to Compete in Pitch, Hit, and Run Competition  
The Poolesville Softball League is hosting the Aquafina® Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit, and Run competition. Competitors are divided into four age divisions: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14. Winners will have a chance to compete free of charge and possibly advance through four levels of competition, including team championships at major league ballparks. The national finals will

be at the 2010 MLB™ All-Star Game.

The area competition will be at the Beallsville Fire House ball field on April 17 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Participants will need a birth certificate and must fill out a registration/waiver form. For questions, you may call Mark Kuhn at 301-349-2027.

Hyattstown Mill Project - Artist Reception  
The Hyattstown Mill Arts Project, a cultural and arts organization based at the historic mill in Hyattstown, Maryland, will have a watercolor art exhibit by Irene Kelly through May 30. They will also have a free artist reception on April 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and a song circle from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Bring your voice and/or instrument. Songs will include old Irish ballads to the Beach Boys and beyond. Open to all. The Mill is open 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and events are free. For more information, visit [www.hyattstownmill.org](http://www.hyattstownmill.org).

April 17 and 18  
Spring Events on the C&O Canal National Park Week, the annual celebration of our national parks, begins the weekend of April 17 and 18 and will kick off at the C&O Canal with the Canal Pride Days volunteer events and one of three Canal Quarters open houses. The first two projects of Canal Pride Days, which has engaged over 1,500 volunteers since its debut in 2008, will take place on the mornings of Saturday, April 17, at Great Falls, and Sunday, April 18, at Pennyfield, near Potomac. Immediately following the volunteer event on Sunday, historic Lockhouse 22 at Pennyfield will be open to the public from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. The open house is free and light refreshments will be provided. Visitors will be able to tour the inside of the restored lockhouse, flip through scrapbooks of historic photographs, and learn more about Canal Quarters, the in-

-Continued From Page 15.

*"Poolesville Businesses Fair"*  
Continued From Page 1

Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, and followed on the heels of a business fair last year organized by local graphics consultant Berry Thompson. Mr. Thompson took a turn at the front booth at this year's fair and told the Monocle that he was pleased with the progress of this year's effort, and with the added involvement of the CEDC and PACC.

The event coordinator for the CEDC, Cathy Bupp, said that she worked with Hilary Shapiro and Karen Kalantzis from the PACC to organize the event. Ms. Bupp said she was pleased with the turnout, with the number of vendors, and with the steady stream of attendees during the day. "It's been great," she said, a sentiment that was concurred with by both Ms. Schwab-Shapiro and Ms. Kalantzis in subsequent conversations.

Entertainment on the PES stage was provided throughout the day by the Denise Shores Dance Studio, the Poolesville Youth Symphony Orchestra, Brian Gross, Doug Bell, Bill Euler, the Hope Garden Ballet, Junior Jazzercise, and Poolesville High School's Midnight Players.

Tom Kettler of Kettler-Forlines Homes said he brought "a ton of documents" that were collected during a reorganization of some sales offices to the free shredding provided by All-Shred, a Frederick shredding company, which fired up its shredding truck as boxes of paper were carried in. The shredding service was sponsored by Corporate Network Systems. Ms. Kolantzis, CNS's CEO, said that they brought the shredder in as a community service, to build interest in the business fair, and to highlight her company's information technology and security services. The truck had gone through 2800 pounds of paper and was still shredding at midday.

Mr. Kettler said that advance advertising and the pres-

ence of the shredding service had contributed to the success of the business fair, which he said provided visibility for many home-based businesses that didn't have the higher profile enjoyed by more visible businesses. PHS student Alex Pike also noted the positive impact of the signs that he had set up around the area during the previous week.

Jeff Foster, a local realtor, said he was happy to be there, trying to network and pick up clients, and that he was confident the real estate market was coming back. He highlighted the upcoming expiration of the government's homebuyer tax credits on April 30 as one more reason consumers should act quickly on home purchases.

Realtor Frank Jamison was also manning a table and told the Monocle that a day talking to the crowd at the business fair was probably even better than spending it at an open house.

Dennis Stillson of Cugini's, the well-known Poolesville restaurant, was handing out pizza and said that "while most people already know us, it's good to be visible and out in the community." Mr. Stillson, who was assisted by his beautiful wife Lynne, who was carrying in the pizza, also expressed pride in being in business for twenty-five years, and observed that people were coming out in support of the community. "Poolesville is a unique place," he said.

Attendees got their passports stamped, and several \$25.00 gift certificates to any PACC business (of the winning passport's choice) were given out from drawings throughout the day.

Hilary Schwab said, "This event begins to fulfill one of my goals as newly-elected President of the Chamber to increase visibility for all of the 100-plus businesses that belong to the Poolesville Area Chamber."

## Commentary

# An Extremely Inconvenient Truth

By John Clayton

Relax, folks. You can read this, and I promise Al Gore won't jump out from behind the tree he was hugging. I'm talking about a more inconvenient truth than the adverse effects of greenhouse gases—I'm talking about distracted driving—or driving while talking on your cell phone. In its infinite wisdom, the state legislature is moving forward to make cell phone use without a hands-free device, while driving, a crime. Good law or bad law? Almost certainly a law that will probably have very little effect on distracted driving, but the problem they're trying to address is real.

Please spare me the nanny-state comments. This isn't serving trans-fats in restaurants, or smoking on the beach, or open-carry permits, or motorcycle helmets, or even guys working as waiters at Hooters. Please also spare me any comments about our precious freedoms. This isn't one of them. This is driving and safety, and you know as well as I do that when you're talking on your cell phone, if the call is important at all, your attention will be consumed by that call. You know it's true.

I'm not writing this to try and persuade you about anything; I want you to think about how deep into denial you will have to go to persuade yourself that you are driving as safely when you are talking on your cell phone as when you are not. The proposed law will allow hands-free devices, which I suppose is some help, because if you are glancing at your phone while trying to find a directory entry, or dialing a number, or, heaven forbid, typing out a text message, you probably are on an entirely new plane of inattentiveness. We can also add to the list navigating your Ipod, playing with

your GPS, and a myriad of other behind-the-wheel activities that may or may not include rechargeable batteries.

The problem is distraction—a lack of attention to anything except the bare minimum it takes to point your car in a safe direction, follow the lights and signs, and avoid hitting anything right in front of you. Checking your mirrors? Maintaining an awareness of what is going on around your vehicle? Glancing under and around parked cars watching for little running feet? Knowing what you can or can't do if that moron up ahead pulls out? You're not doing that. You're not driving the car, you're just aiming it.

And, please, if you are one of those people I see breezing through grocery store parking lots while chattering animatedly on your phone, just stop here. You will not understand what I am talking about.

We all take the call, at least some of the time. You're late for an appointment and need to let them know you're on the way. Your spouse calls to work out the never-ending question of who picks up which kid. You need to solve a workplace problem. The boss calls, and even knowing better, we all take that call. We will now take it more furtively and perhaps more quickly, but we will take the call.

I have no studies or statistics—I refer to that which is self-evident. Distracted driving means you are more of a menace than you would be if you were paying attention to the road. When you are talking, you are actively engaged in an activity that consumes your attention.

What bugs me about all these laws and raises my nanny-state hackles is that a modicum of consideration on the part of certain people might make others feel less likely to need more laws. Maybe more of us could just decide not to make chatting a part of our driving experience, and even though we still might take that important call, we could make

*-Continued on Page 16.*

# Commercial Display

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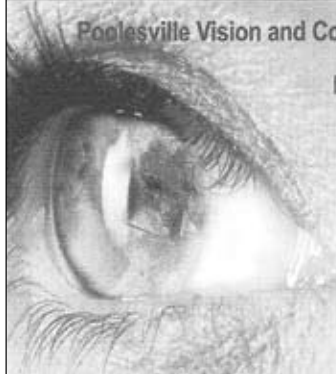
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See current updates to Things to Do

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# Center Stage Spring Studio Tour

By Dominique Agnew

Finally, spring has arrived, and we once again marvel at the beauty around us: beautiful yarns and handmade woolen items, fine arts, handmade jewelry, wood creations, hand-crafted or painted furniture, metalwork, blown glass, and pottery. All these creations can be found in the local studios of the Countryside Artisans, a group of fine artists and artisans whose studios are located in and around the Ag Reserve. Find the map in a local brochure or online at [www.countrysideartisans.com](http://www.countrysideartisans.com), hop on your horse, your bicycle, your motorcycle, or into your car, and spend a day or two visiting and admiring the local works. With Mother's Day and Father's Day just around the corner, it may also be a great place to find that truly unique gift.

This year's spring tour features fifteen studios and encompasses the slightly triangular geographic area between Poolesville, the greater Damascus area, and Middletown. The studios will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Friday, April 16 through Sunday, April 18. Each studio will have a yellow flag to help you find your way.

Kidera Designs in Woodbine is the first studio on the tour. Would you prefer an outstanding landscape painting from the brush of Brenda Will Kidera or a unique metal sculpture, usually whimsical bells, from the hands of Ed Kidera? Either way, their works are incredible and sure to please.

Studio two is Linda Phillips's Something Earthy Pottery Studio in nearby Laytonsville. The hand-built and thrown pottery works come together to unite the beautiful and the practical. From a wide assortment of bowls, cups, and plates to vases and statues, the earthiness of her works evokes warmth and energy. Linda Phil-

lips also offers classes in six-week sessions.

Laytonsville is also the home of Art of Fire, a glass-making studio located in a converted dairy barn. Foster, Theda, Todd, Bruce, Josh, Keith, and Steve create unique glass pieces that are "fun, functional, art—to be enjoyed." Step into their working studio and gallery and enjoy the warmth of their glass furnaces. If you find yourself inspired to not only admire their work, you may be interested to know they also offer glassblowing classes. Wouldn't that be a unique gift?

The peculiar, the funny, the beautiful, the quirky, the practical, they all come together at Niswander Ceramics, a new studio on the tour located in Damascus featuring original pottery and sculpture by Laurie Niswander. Here are a few names of some of Niswander's works, then come to the studio to see if your imagination matched the reality: Newt Jar, Franken's Stein, Gnome Sitting in the Necessary, and Little Green Monster Mug.

Iron Antler Forge, also located in Damascus, features the work of metal sculptor, Daniel Stuart. Prepare to be surprised by the intricate details and sheer genius of these metal creations. You'll undoubtedly find yourself saying, "I didn't know that could be done with metal, a hammer, and a forge."

While in Damascus, do not miss going to the 2 Griffins fine woodworking studio. They offer an incredible array of furniture, collectibles, and hand crafts. "We create functional art for your home and office."

Housed in an old dairy barn, Dusty Road Pottery Studio is located in Dickerson near Sugarloaf Mountain. Artist Jennifer Hamilton offers not only a wide selection of incredible pottery pieces, she also offers parties, private lessons, and a variety of classes for varying ages, including summer camps, in her spacious barn/studio.

Some may say it's not art, but others would vehemently disagree. Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard and Winery at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain produces

award-winning fine wines from French-certified vinifera clones. Tour the winery and taste the chardonnay, merlot, and cabernet while you nibble on cheese.

The next stop is Morningstar Studio. Tina Thieme Brown, featured previously in the Monocle, charms guests with her beautiful botanical drawings and whimsical watercolors and paintings. Copies of the two books she has illustrated, Sugarloaf: The Mountain's History, Geology, and Natural Lore and An Illustrated Guide to Eastern Wood-

land Wildflowers and Trees, are available for sale, as well as ink or hand-colored botanical drawings, prints, paintings, cards, and kits for the aspiring artist. These all make unique gifts for art lovers and nature lovers.

Dancing Leaf Farm and Sugarloaf Studio, studios ten and eleven, respectively, are located right next to each other and share the same driveway entrance for the tour. Entering Dalis David-

-Continued on Page 11.

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# Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

## Current Crimes

Disorderly conduct complaints: 17600 block of Kohlhoss Road, 17100 block of Spates Hill Road, 19710 Fisher Avenue, 17400 block of Hughes Avenue.

Drug/Liquor offenses: 17400 block of Hoskinson Road, 19500 block of Hughes Road, 19400 block of Jerusalem Road.

Assault: 19200 block of Hempstone Avenue, 18400 block of White's Ferry Road, 19100 block of Dowden Circle, 19800 block of Darnestown Road.

Burglary: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue, 19100 block of Cattail Road.

Theft from vehicle: 15000 block of Sugarland Road.

## Past Crimes

April 16, 1948 A twenty-two-year-old Boyds man was severely burned while inspecting the gas tank of his stalled truck. Police said that the man got out

of the truck with a cigarette in his mouth and then opened the gas tank when it exploded.

April 17, 1977 The Montgomery County SWAT team was called to the 16400 block of Budd Road after other officers were fired on while trying to serve a warrant. The suspect eventually surrendered and was charged with assaulting police officers.

April 17, 1948 Herbert Berry of Buckeystown was critically injured when his car crashed into a telephone pole on the Dawsonville-Boyds Road. Berry was pinned underneath the wrecked car until a passerby came to his aid. Police reported that Ellis Shackelford of Boyds pulled Berry free of the wreckage.

April 24, 1951 A twenty-six-year-old Poolesville fisherman drowned in the swift waters of the Potomac River after betting his fellow fishermen that he could swim to the other side of the river. Police said that Charles

# School News

## CHS Has Strong Showing at Science Fair

Clarksburg High School students came home with a strong performance at the recent Montgomery County Science Fair, which is affiliated with the Intel International Science Fair.

The senior class team of Luke Catherine, Ian Grissom, Jeff Hong, and Eric Hong took first place with the Army Award for Engineering with their Laser Harp, designed and built as a Capstone Project at Clarksburg High School. The group also won second place in the Science Mont-

gomery Engineering Division Nivetita Ravi took first place in the Chemistry Division with her project entitled: Investigation of Nano-Structured Super-Hydrophobic Coating on Structural Substrates.

Hurt was fishing just above Chain Bridge when he dived into the water wearing his heavy clothing and boots.

April 30, 1977 A fifty-five-year-old Gaithersburg man was killed when he was struck by a truck on Route 28 near Blackrock Road. Police reported that the man was walking along the road

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**POOLESVILLE-WESMOND:** Spacious 3 BR/2.5 BA townhouse w/3 finished lvls. MLS#MC7283183. Offered at \$229,900.



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**Local News**

**Fundraiser for Local Family of Cancer Victim**

By Kristen Milton

With golf, food, and talent show acts on the agenda, organizers say a memorial event benefiting a Poolesville family who recently lost a wife and mother to cancer will be fun as well as meaningful.

"It's a big loss...We just want to encourage him that we're not going away; he's not alone," John Kelly said of Fred Kelly, now a single father to three daughters, aged fifteen months to four years. "It's really a warm occasion for us."

Fred Kelly's wife Betsi passed away in January of renal cancer. Her illness was the impetus for Fred Kelly's pressing the county to look into the possibility of an Upcounty cancer cluster in 2009. The study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention received media attention but did not find evidence of unusual cancer rates. Betsi Kelly was pregnant with her youngest daughter when she was diagnosed with cancer in October 2008.

John Kelly of Kensington met Fred and Betsi Kelly, no relation, about eight years ago when the couple was dating, although they lost touch for a time as the couple moved to Poolesville and raised their three daughters. Kelly was part of a prayer group that met in support of Betsi as she battled cancer and is the moving force behind the first Kelly Memorial event, based on his own family's golf reunions in Cape Cod.

"I'm from a big family in New England, and we've had losses, and people have rallied around," Kelly said. "I just wanted to do something for the [Kelly] family because I was really touched."

Community support has been strong, John Kelly said, as both businesses and individu-

als have pledged their support for the event, which will include a tournament at the Poolesville Golf Course as well as a talent show and benefit at Poolesville United Methodist Church. High school volunteers will help staff the benefit.

"I'm not a professional organizer, but I'm kind of encouraged," said Kelly, whose only previous contact with Poolesville was through occasional golf excursions. "It's a nice little town," he added. "At the cleaners, a lady said, 'I'll just give you a donation today, but I can't make the party, is that okay?' I just about fell over."

John Kelly said the benefit party will include catered food and a DJ as well the entertainment of the talent show. Raffle prizes range from gift certificates at the NailSpa and Basset's to free computer repair and resume writing tips to gift baskets and floral arrangements.

A month before the event, Kelly was anticipating about thirty-five golfers and one hundred partygoers, including family members traveling from out of state to show their support. Kelly said about half the money raised will likely be applied toward expenses and the rest will go to the Kelly Children Fund to assist in raising the three girls. An anonymous donor has also offered matching funds for every \$100 donation up to \$10,000, he said.



Betsi Kelly

**To attend**

The golf tournament, to be held at 10:30 a.m. on May 3 at the Poolesville Golf Course, will be an eighteen-hole scramble with various prizes awarded in both men's and women's categories. The \$85 fee includes cart, range balls, a goodie bag, merchandise credit, and lunch.

A benefit party at the Poolesville United Methodist Church will kick off at 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$20.00. Raffle tickets and talent show entry fee additional. The talent show will have a three-judge panel and a \$100.00 top prize.

Tickets will be available up to the date of the event and at the door. For more information, contact John Kelly at 301-792-7653 or jkelltwo@aol.com. More information is also on the web at [www.ofheavendesigns.com/kcf](http://www.ofheavendesigns.com/kcf).



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*"Artisan Tour" Continued From Page 8.*

son's studio at Dancing Leaf Farm, the eye is drawn from floor to ceiling by the myriad colors and textures of her dyed yarns. The yarn is hand-spun from the fleece of her own flock. Ms. Davidson has designed various knitting kits and patterns to appeal to the many interests of knitters. Other potential gifts for sale in her studio include buttons and jewelry.

Susan Percy of Sugarloaf Studios shows her art through her prints, paintings, and photographs. She has her own press and utilizes various media to create her prints. Her art captures her field studies, and custom-framed digital prints convey the exquisite beauty found just outside her door. Although nature is a primary inspiration for much of her work, she does not limit herself—rather her art is not limited. She also has icons, etchings, hand-printed cards, and—because choosing the perfect work of art can sometimes be so personal—she offers gift certificates.

Tiewyan Artisans of Dickerson is an artist collective featuring the varied works of artists, Bev Thoms, Joanne Strehle Bast, Sharon Janda, and Paige Garber.

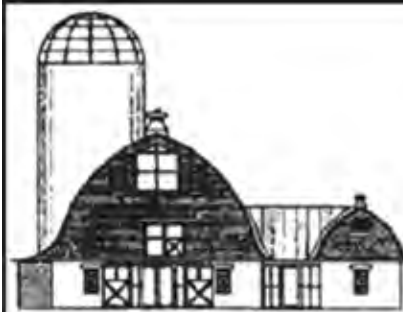
Most are members of the Potomac Fiber Arts Guild, so don't be surprised to find art to wear, scented silks, felted works, and woven works. In addition, there will be jewelry and oil paintings.

Alden Farms, close by in Beallsville, is a well-known garden shop in the Washington area. Unusual garden sculptures and art created by owner David Theriault make splendid gifts for the home or the garden.

Claire Howard of Lindenwood Farm of Poolesville was featured in December in the Monocle. If your own flower garden does not provide you with enough flowers, take home one of her original paintings and add her effusion of color to your décor.

Kiparoo Farm is the last stop on the Studio Tour in Middletown. Annie Kelley runs this rustic and beautiful studio, the home of "beautiful sheep, shiny fleece, and lustrous yarns." As you drive up to the barns, you can greet the sheep that supplied the wool (although the sheep are not anywhere near as colorful as the yarns). To her surprise, children who visit her farm on field trips, still ask where the wool comes from—right outside.

**The Monocacy MONOCLE**  
*Keeping an Eye on Local News*



**SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**  
**April 2010**

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**Sugarloaf Citizens' Association**

Gary L. Valen, President  
 Linden Farm  
 20900 Martinsburg Road  
 Dickerson, MD 20872

Visit our Web site: [www.sugarloafcitizens.org](http://www.sugarloafcitizens.org)

**Special Invitation to Sugarloaf's Annual Meeting**

The Officers and the Board of Directors of the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association (SCA) issue this special invitation to our Newsletter readers to attend our **Annual Meeting on April 17, 2010 starting at 9:30 a.m.** and ending around noon at the Gothic Barn located at **20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson, Maryland.** We have an exciting program this year, including a talk by **Royce Hanson, outgoing Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.**

We will also hear presentations from youth recipients of our Piedmont Environmental awards program, and reports from SCA officers. There will be an opportunity for your participation in a public round table to help SCA establish its future agenda and to hear issues that may be percolating in our upper Montgomery County and southern Frederick County communities.

The election of officers and board members will be held at the annual meeting. Voting is reserved for Sugarloaf members in good standing as of March 17, 2010. The following is the slate of Officers and Board members for 2010-2011.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| President:      | Anne Sturm     |
| Vice President: | Anne Cinque    |
| Treasurer:      | Chris Kendrick |
| Secretary:      | Betsy Lyman    |

In addition to the Officers the following Board members : Julia Bellet, Tina Brown, Jim Brown, Jay Cinque, Eric Cronquist, Jim Evans, Ellen Gordon, Richard Hill, Jane Hunter, Libby Lawbaugh, Dolores Milmoie, Carol Oberdorfer, Linda Pepe, Gil Rocha, and Gary Valen.

Your attendance at the meeting will provide an opportunity to walk around Linden Farm, a restored classic dairy farm from the last century. The Gothic Barn is a converted dairy facility that preserves some of the original architectural features but also provides an excellent meeting facility.

Please attend the meeting and get to know more about the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, our efforts to preserve the legacy of the Agriculture Reserve in Montgomery County and the farm land in Frederick County, and meet the people who volunteer as stewards of our rural heritage.

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# Poolesville Spring Business Fair

Photos by Hilary Swab Photography



Jeanette Broadwater of Avon Products.



Julie Clendenin of Calleva Outdoors is joined by an associate.



John Kelly, attending on behalf of the Kelly Fund golf outing, chats with Berry Thompson of 20837 Biznet.



Corporate Networks Services sponsored a shredding service at the fair. Pictured are Karen Kalantzis, Denise Jacklin, and Gabi Jacobs.



Alain Briancon and Tim Pike chat with Frank Jamison (right) at the Jamison Realty Booth.



An estimated 300 to 350 people visited the twenty-nine vendor booths at the Poolesville Spring Business Fair.



So and so and Joy McCartin and Renetta Funk of Old Oaks Tea Parlor won the best booth \$25.00 gift certificate at the fair.



Java Cruiser supplied fresh coffee and other drinks.

# Poolesville Spring Business Fair

Photos by Hilary Swab Photography

*Suzanne Kijowski of Wooly Queen and a visitor to her booth.*



*Dr. Robin Mevissen of Poolesville Vision and Contact Lens Services welcomes a visitor to her booth.*



*Dawa Dellamula of Organic Market and Holistic Center of Poolesville.*



*Members of the JPMS Leo Club, sponsored by Hilary Schwab Photography and the Monocacy Monocle, provided face painting.*



*JPMS Symphony Youth Orchestra performers brought their talents to the event.*



*Fran Ichijo directs members of her Hope Garden Ballet.*



*Nicole Ehrentraut of Equiscovery is joined by Lenox Knudson.*



*The Junior Jazzercisers did a workout to work up the crowd.*



*Fred Rosenberg visits with Joy Zucker-Tiemann of Pampered Chef.*



*Members of the Denise Shores Dance Studio.*

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April 16, 17, and 18, 10am to 5pm

For Spring Tour information visit [www.countrysideartisans.com](http://www.countrysideartisans.com)

DIRECTIONS: Rt.495 to River Road Potomac exit, Left at the Bretton Woods "T" (rt 190). Follow River Rd. extended, right on W. Williard Rd., Left onto Westerly Rd. ( follow signs) OR Rt. 270 to 28W, left onto 109, Right at Fisher Ave., left on W. Williard Rd., right onto Westerly Rd. ( follow signs)

*"Things To Do" Continued From Page 5.*

novative new program offering visitors the chance to stay overnight in historically rehabilitated lockhouses.

The Canal Quarters lockhouses have been furnished to evoke different eras in the canal's history. The furnishings in Lockhouse 22 at Pennyfield Lock will show what life was like during the establishment and construction of the canal in the 1830s. A full schedule of events can be found on the C&O Canal Trust's website, [www.canaltrust.org](http://www.canaltrust.org).

**April 18**  
Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve  
Numerous county organizations have collaborated to host a Local Food Speaker Series. The events will feature sustainable farming journalist and author, Steven McFadden, author most recently of *The Call of the Land: An Agrarian Primer for the 21st Century*.

His book was voted among the Best Books of 2009 by Food Systems Network NYC, a local food advocacy group. Mr. McFadden has spent the last two decades writing about Community Sponsored Agriculture (CSAs) and Sustainable Farming. His newest book provides a road map for communities seeking food security and sustainability, highlighting the connections between our food, the economy, our health, and our shared environment.  
On Sunday April 18, at 1:00 p.m., Mr. McFadden will read from his new book and host a local food discussion at The Lodge at Little Seneca Creek, 14500-A Clopper Road, Boyds, MD 20841.

Sponsored by: Montgomery Countryside Alliance, Sugarloaf Citizens Association, and the Menare Foundation. For more information, contact: Kristina Bostick, Conservation Associate with Montgomery Countryside Alliance ([kristina@mocoalliance.org](mailto:kristina@mocoalliance.org) or 301-602-4013)

**April 22 to April 24**  
Super Rummage Sale  
Another fabulous Rummage Sale at St. Peter's Parish is just around the corner, so come and have fun and shop for bargains! There are thousands of household items, clothing for the whole family, books, electronics, furniture for every room in your house, jewelry, linens, baby equipment, toys, sporting goods, tools, gardening items and one of a kind treasures. To donate your unwanted stuff, drop off anytime between Saturday, April 10 and Monday, April 19. Hours are Thursday, April 22 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Friday, April 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, April 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm. St. Peter's is located at 20100 Fisher Avenue in Poolesville. Call 301-349-2073 for more information.

**April 22**  
Earth Day  
All day events by L.A.N.D. at John Poole Middle School

**RiverSmart Film Festival**  
RiverSmart presents eight short films about innovative, environmentally-sensitive practices, see entries of Watt's Up poster contest, discuss Montgomery County's Rainscapes rebate program, learn about AquaBarrels rain barrels, meet Fred Tutman, Patuxent River keeper. For more information, contact Karen Scharff at 301-353-8282.

**Threes to Sixes**  
Poolesville Library  
Fingerplay, stories, music  
10:30 a.m.

**April 23**  
Basket Bingo  
Come for a fun evening and help support the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary while attempting to win beautiful Longaberger baskets and Vera Bradley bags. There will be raffles, door prizes, and special bingos. Refreshments are available for purchase including great homemade food and desserts. Firehouse located at 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville, Maryland. Doors Open: 5:30 p.m. Games Start: 7:00 p.m.

**April 24**  
40th Anniversary Earth Day celebration and the 75th Anniversary of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. Interactive wildlife exhibits for the whole family. Izaak Walton Way of West Willard Road in Poolesville. Free admission and free lunch. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**April 26**  
Bully and Cyber-Bullying Workshop  
The Poolesville PRIDE Committee has another great evening planned in helping to equip the children with the skills needed to be safe on the internet as well as

## Local News

### Decisive Action Highlights Town Meeting

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Commissioners' meeting was highlighted by decisive action on two new ordinances, twenty-four amendments to the town charter, and final decisions on the town's 2011 budget and tax rate.

**FY11 Budget and Tax Rate Decisions**

Facing nearly a \$300,000 shortfall in income tax and state highway funds, the commissioners brought their \$2.4 million budget into the black by \$2,200 through various actions such as elimination of funding for a number of set-asides for future capital projects, freezing salaries of non-contracted employees, and other miscellaneous adjustments such as cutting back on attendance by commissioners at state governmental conventions. The approved budget also maintains an unrestricted, rainy-day fund of approximately \$1,000,000 and projects cash-on-hand of over \$2.2 million. To achieve these budgetary goals, the commissioners approved a tax rate of \$0.1594 per \$100 of assessment. The FY2011 budget contin-

in school. This program includes topics on exploration of websites related to bullying issues, review of MCPS Bullying Policy, and bullying prevention programs in public schools. For more information, contact Monica Garrett at [monica@vintagefaux.com](mailto:monica@vintagefaux.com). Poolesville High School. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Poolesville Library Book Discussion Group  
Jane Austen's Persuasion  
7:30 p.m.

**April 27**  
PHS Spring Concert  
7:30 p.m.

ues the controversial practice of transferring general fund revenue to cover a \$117,000 shortfall in the water and waste water budget. This so-called grant process is controversial since properties that are tax exempt (schools, pool, and churches) do not pay for water and waste water operational costs through property taxes, which subsidizes county and other tax-exempt property owners at a cost to taxpaying property owners.

The commissioners had expected last year's change in water usage rates would reduce the need for the grant; however, the full benefit of the water rate change will not be known until the end of this summer but is not expected to fully cover the \$117,000 grant. Commissioner Kuhlman, using property assessment tables and standard tax rates, estimates that revenue from the tax-exempt properties would cover only \$7,000 of the grant if their share of W/WW operational and capital projects were collected through the standard tax process.

While a complicated issue, the concern of the grant can be a bit simplified by understanding that it costs the town \$7.67 to produce 1000 gallons of water. Currently, ninety-three percent of all water users pay less than

-Continued on Page 19.

## Local News

# County Pays Premium Price for Burtonsville Tract

By Kristen Milton

In a time of penny-pinching, the markup on land purchased late last year by the Planning Board from developer Artery Group has raised some eyebrows.

The land, approximately 53 acres in Burtonsville adjacent to McKnew Local Park, was part of 184 acres purchased by Artery in December from the Gould Family in preparation for construction of the long-planned Fairland Development. The cost, according to Jim Troy, editor of a local real estate newsletter, and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission was \$5.04 million for Artery and \$8.75 million for the county.

In essence, the county bought the land for almost three times more per acre than the developer although still saving about half the appraisal price.

Artery Group did not respond to requests for comment.

"It's sickening," said Poolesville commissioner and real estate agent Eddie Kuhlman, who referenced the December purchase at a February town meeting. "If they can afford to do that, they've got more money than God...It just seems like a gluttonous abuse of tax dollars."

But county officials say that given the amount of time that Artery held the contract on the land, the amount of effort that went into the Fairland project, including a 2004 rezoning, and the fact that the money used was dedicated to land purchase only, the markup was fair and the purchase a sound budget decision.

"It's a tough one," Councilman Mike Knapp (D-Dist. 2) of Germantown said. "There are about five different pieces here,

and if you look at just some of them, you might reach the same conclusion [Kuhlman] did, but it's more complicated than that."

"[Artery] had [the land] under contract for nine years; they spent millions of dollars taking it through a rezoning process," said William Gries, the land acquisition specialist for county parkland. "When you look at what their investment was, it wasn't a windfall for Artery. I think it was a very fair price, actually a good price, for the county."

Gries said the purchased land was slated to host 117 homes if it remained as part of the Artery subdivision project.

It would have been preferable if an earlier board had moved to acquire the land, Knapp agreed, but that didn't change the conservation value of the purchase.

"Wouldn't it have made sense to have done this on the front end rather than pay more for it later? Well, yes," Knapp said, "but none of us were there at the time, so we were presented with the choice we had."

The County Council approved the purchase in July. Funds came from the Advance Land Acquisition Revolving Fund, accumulated when the state was reimbursed for Intercounty Connector highway acquisitions and earmarked for conservation.

"That money couldn't be used to pay employees," Knapp said, emphasizing that the funds could not have closed gaps in the county's operating budget. "It can only be used for property acquisition...This was a nice piece of property to acquire."

According to a presentation given to the County Council, the fifty-three acres along the Montgomery/Prince George's border hosts rare and endangered species in a mature Coastal Plain forest. Preserving the land also protects water quality in a Little Paint Branch tributary, among other benefits, the report said.

*"Commentary" Continued From Page 6.*

short work of it and pull over if it gets involved. Maybe instead of banning smoking on the beach, the cigar lovers could refrain when the families are around and light up late in the day when the families have mostly gone home and the dogs are chasing frisbees in the surf. Maybe it wouldn't be so bad to occasionally see someone openly carrying a firearm in public if we could be spared the knuckleheads who want to carry them into coffee shops, or libraries, or political rallies solely for the purpose of being provoca-

tive or intimidating. Maybe the Hooters guys could shave their backs once in a while. Maybe if we just made a point of telling restaurants we don't want to consume trans-fats, and we placed our business accordingly, we wouldn't need more laws and bureaucracy. Maybe Wall Street will put our interests above theirs. Maybe people will drive out of Poolesville without going twelve miles over the speed limit with the same care and consideration that they drive into Poolesville. Okay, I know. Now who's fooling himself?

## Local News

### Stanley M. Dietz, Poolesville Attorney, Passes Away



Stanley M. Dietz

Poolesville resident Stanley M. Dietz passed away on April 6, 2010 after a long illness. Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1927, Mr. Dietz was a navy veteran of World War II. After the war, he attended George Washington

University on the G.I. Bill completing both his undergraduate studies and his law degree.

Mr. Dietz practiced criminal law in Maryland and the District of Columbia for over forty years and had the distinction of winning a first amendment case before the United States Supreme Court in 1962. A well-known attorney, he helped established the First Amendment Lawyers Association and traveled the nation extensively on legal matters associated with first amendment issues. He retired from his legal practice in 1995.

Mr. Dietz is survived by his beloved wife of thirty years, Jeanne Bowes-Dietz, an English Composition Assistant at Northwood High School. The couple has lived in Poolesville for twenty-five years. He is also survived by his five children, Teresa Dietz, currently living in California, and Inga Dietz, both from a previous marriage; and three sons, Tristan B. Dietz, Seth C. Dietz, Trevor L. Dietz; and two grandchildren, Tony and Blake. A memorial fund donation may be made in his honor through the Alzheimer's Foundation of America website [www.alzfdn.org](http://www.alzfdn.org).

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## Youth Sports

# Clarksburg, Poolesville HS Baseball Teams Sharp on Opening Day

By Jeff Stuart

Opening day is always special, and there was some exceptionally well-played baseball in the season openers for both Clarksburg and Poolesville High Schools last month. The Coyotes were the home team at Wims Field on Tuesday, March 23—a chilly and windy afternoon. Richard Montgomery trailed 2-0 going into the top of the seventh. Clarksburg's senior pitcher Derek Hall gave up one run on three hits over six innings, but the Rockets rallied for four runs to take a 4-2 lead. The Coyotes rallied for two in the bottom half of the inning to send the game into extra innings. Junior first baseman Brody Milligan had two hits, including the game-winner in the bottom of the eighth.

Clarksburg lost at Sherwood (10-6 in 2009) two days later, 3-0. Brady and Andrew Lyles combined to give up just one earned run, but Andrew had the only hit for Clarksburg. The Coyotes lost

to Gaithersburg at home 10-0 just before spring break.

In the early season, Milligan and Hall (2B, P, C) lead the team with .333 batting averages. Junior Palmer Scalzi (SS, P) is another player to watch.

"Building the program has been a tremendous experience," says Head Coach Will Gant. "We have been able to develop traditions, instill in the players how we want them to conduct themselves as a ballplayer and student. Our expectations for this year are to make a run in the playoffs. I have a solid group of players that have been with us for three or four years."

Poolesville's scheduled home opener against Richard Montgomery on March 24 was rained out, so the Falcons opened their season at Magruder on Thursday, March 25, just before spring break. The weather was more suitable for baseball, warm and sunny, but, again, there was a strong wind. The Falcons played well but fell short, losing 3-2. Drew Karlin and Jimmy Tyler combined for six solid innings of work holding the Magruder offense to three runs on seven hits. Karlin struck out seven. The Colonels, scoreless through four innings, scored two in the fifth.

Ben Pyser and Anthony Caputo scored for the Falcons who answered with two runs in the top of the sixth to tie the game. Tanner Werkmann was one for

two. Alex Miller drove in a run with a sacrifice fly. Senior Brad Bachman, battling the wind, made a diving catch of a pop fly in right center in the bottom of the second.

Keys to the Falcons success this year will be Karlin (LHP-1B), Tyler (SS-P), and Werkmann (C-P-3B).

"We're really excited. We have a lot of veteran leadership," said Head Coach Ted Gardiner. "We have twelve of our fifteen returning from last year, and we're in the 2A for the first time."

The Falcons ended the 2009 season 8-7 with an exciting 5-4 win over Williamsport in the playoffs before losing to Smithburg in the second round.



Poolesville Falcon southpaw Drew Karlin fine tunes his cut fastball.

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**"Town Government" Continued  
From Page 15.**

this amount per 1000 gallons; moreover, over and above these production costs, there are capital project and debt service expenses. While everyone pays for water usage, it is to these expenses that tax-exempt property owners do not contribute. Commissioners have the stated goal to reduce or eliminate the grant process but remain undecided how to do so.

**The Town Charter Amended**

The commissioners approved twenty-four amendments to the town charter. The last time this was done was in 1982. Most of the changes were mundane verbiage changes to modernize the document. For example, the Board of Supervisors of Elections was changed to Board of Elections and the Board of Zoning Appeals becomes the Board of Appeals. The amendments also eliminated specifications on matters no longer handled by the town such as licensing of dogs or collecting of taxes. The town no longer collects taxes directly but gets its tax revenue through its share of taxes collected by the county; therefore, past charter instructions on collecting taxes was eliminated.

Perhaps the most controversial change was an amendment allowing for potential payment of salaries for commissioners. While a majority of current commissioners are on record as against payments to commissioners, the change would allow a future commission to do so. Should a future commission decide to create a salary structure for commissioners, it would require that no commissioner could receive a salary until he or she stood for re-election, allowing the voters to decide the worthiness of paying said salary.

Nearly as controversial is a change that allows the commissioners to adopt a budget even though such a decision might not allow time for a referendum on the proposal. This proposal does not apply to budgets with proposed tax rates resulting in seven percent increase in revenue.

Currently, by statute, any budget with a seven percent or

more increase in revenue is subject to the referendum voter process. That does not change under the alteration in the town charter.

What has changed is that when the commissioners determine that the proposed tax rate will not result in a revenue increase of seven percent or more, they may adopt that budget without allowing enough time for a referendum prior to implementation of the budget.

Other, so-called controversial issues came from inaccurate reports of relatively mundane changes in the charter. For example, while day-to-day supervision of the town manager duties will be the purview of the president of the commission, all matters of hiring, firing, payment, etc. will remain under the control of the commissioners, collectively, and not under the control of one commissioner as reported elsewhere.

Although reported that the town is creating industrial zones, the truth is just the opposite. Since the town does not have any industrial zones, they eliminated reference to such zones in the new charter.

The town has available copies (in print or online) of the nineteen-page charter changes clearly showing each proposed amendment change.

**Alternative Energy Approved—Finally**

After more than one year, countless hours of investigation by the planning commission and others, two public hearings, and additional hours-long work sessions by the commissioners, Ordinance No. 178, for Alternative Energy Systems use within the town, was unanimously approved. Commissioner Klobukowski seemed to speak for all of the commissioners in stating his reservations about various aspects of the proposal but voting for it since advancement of alternative energy within the town takes precedence over specific objections or preferences.

Regarding wind turbines, last minute changes removed ground-mounted, monopole

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wind systems in residential zones, while still allowing for roof mounted systems. Site plan submissions are now required for all requests for wind system permits. The most controversial part of the ordinance, wind turbines in the central business district, allows a traditional-style wind turbine system. Any resident considering wind, solar, or geothermal energy systems should review the ordinance available through the town hall and consult with town representatives.

**Miscellaneous Matters Decided**

The commissioners also approved Ordinance No. 180 which adds requirements for underground storage tanks and also approved a budget request of \$1,640 by the Community and Economic Development Committee to launch a farmers' market in Whalen Commons. The CEDC has decided to hold the farmers' market the fourth Friday in June through September, scaled back from an every-Friday evening

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5/15 – Chris Compton  
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**VARSITY SPORTS HOME GAMES**

Date	Sport	POOLESVILLE	Time
4/16	Volleyball	Richard Montgomery	Boys: 5:15 p.m. Coed: 7:00 p.m.
4/17	Tennis - Boys	Wootton	10:00 a.m.
4/17	Softball	Watkins Mill	12:30 p.m.
4.17	Baseball	Watkins Mill	1:30 p.m.
<b>4/20</b>	<b>Tennis - Boys</b>	<b>CLARKSBURG</b>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>
4/20	Lacrosse-Girls	Seneca Valley	7:00 p.m.
4/21	Tennis - Boys	Einstein	3:30 p.m.
4/22	Baseball	Seneca Valley	3:30 p.m.
4/22	Softball	Seneca Valley	3:30 p.m.
4/22	Volleyball	Northwest	Coed: 5:15 p.m. Boys: 7:00 p.m.
4/24	Lacrosse - Girls	Wheaton	10:00 a.m.
4/24	Lacrosse - Boys	Wheaton	12:00 p.m.
4/26	Tennis - Boys	Paint Branch	3:30 p.m.
4/26	Volleyball	Churchill	Coed: 5:15 p.m. Boys: 7:00 p.m.
4/27	Baseball	Einstein	3:30 p.m.
4/27	Softball	Einstein	3:30 p.m.
4/27	Lacrosse - Boys	Churchill	7:00 p.m.
<b>4/28</b>	<b>Track and Field</b>	<b>CLARKSBURG &amp; Wheaton</b>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>
4/29	Lacrosse - Girls	Richard Montgomery	7:00 p.m.
Date	Sport	CLARKSBURG	TIME
4/16	Lacrosse - Girls	Watkins Mill	7:00 p.m.
4/17	Tennis - Boys	Watkins Mill	10:00 a.m.
4/17	Baseball	Einstein	1:30 p.m.
4/17	Softball	Einstein	1:30 p.m.
4/19	Volleyball	Bethesda-Chevy Chase	Coed: 5:15 p.m. Boys: 7:00 p.m.
4/20	Lacrosse - Boys	Blake	7:00 p.m.
4.22	Baseball	Blake	3:30 p.m.
4/22	Softball	Blake	3:30 p.m.
4/22	Tennis - Boys	Springbrook	3:30 p.m.
4/23	Lacrosse - Girls	John F. Kennedy	7:00 p.m.
4/26	Volleyball	Whitman	Coed: 3:30 p.m. Boys: 5:15 p.m.
4/28	Softball	Quince Orchard	3:30 p.m.
4/28	Tennis - Boys	Einstein	3:30 p.m.
4/29	Baseball	Quince Orchard	3:30 p.m.
4/30	Volleyball	Einstein	Coed: 3:30 p.m. Boys: 5:15 p.m.
4/30	Lacrosse - Boys	Northwest	7:00 p.m.

**Tidbits**

**Clarksburg AD Retires**

Mike Riley, first athletic director at Clarksburg High School, has decided to retire after thirty years with the Montgomery County Public School system. Previously, Mr. Riley was the AD at Poolesville High School. He will be joining the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School in Rockville, Maryland. The Monocle will provide an interview with Mr. Riley in the April 30 edition.

**Do Your Artistic Talents Include Coming Up with a Logo?**

Poolesville Presbyterian Church is holding a logo contest for its new internet cafe, Connection Café. The café will open in the fall of 2010. If you would like to submit a logo concept, your entry can be as big as 8 1/2" x 11" (hand drawn) or two megabytes (digital file). Submit logos to Jerome Hobart at romeshark@aol.com or mail to Logo Contest c/o PPC, PO Box 68, Poolesville, MD 20837 by April 31. Church members will vote for the winning logo in May. The winner will receive \$50.00 cash plus additional gifts. Questions: Carolyn McFall 301-349-0897.

**Baseball Collectible Items Still Available to Help Breast Cancer Research**

Poolesville's Mark Kuhn has returned from a fund-raising event in Virginia that featured sports memorabilia for sale with proceeds going to breast cancer research. On hand at the event were former New York Yankee Bobby Richardson and former Yankee and Senator Jim Coates, both of whom personally signed a number of items such as pictures, baseballs, baseball bats, paper weights, etc. Although limited in quantity, these items can still be purchased to benefit the charity, and they make terrific gifts, as well. If interested in purchasing any of the items for yourself or for others, you can reach Mark at 301-349-2027.

**Poolesville Student Named to Phillips Academy Winter Honor Roll**

Brandon P. Wong of Poolesville (20837), a member of the Class of 2012, has been named to the honor roll at Phillips Academy for the winter term. To be named to the honor roll, students must maintain at least a 5-point grade average on a 6-point scale.

Phillips Academy, also known as Andover, is a coeducational, non-profit, independent high school of 1,100 students, known for its extensive and rigorous academic program. Founded in 1778, the Academy is comprised of a diverse community of teachers and students. For more information, visit the Andover Web site at [www.andover.edu](http://www.andover.edu).



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# School News

## Students Participate in History Day

By Dominique Agnew

On March 20, the Montgomery County Historical Society sponsored its eleventh annual history competition, "Innovation in History."

One class of eighth graders at John Poole Middle School took on the challenge of going beyond the school library to do more thorough historical research and to draw their own conclusions. In so doing, they learned to appreciate and enjoy history as a discipline.

Beginning in October 2009 and under the tutelage of teacher Mr. Whalen, students chose their topics having to do with technological innovations that propelled American history. Then they conducted extensive research,

including primary and secondary sources, with the help of media specialist Mrs. McIntyre. Some of the different topics included the cotton gin, barbed wire, and the water wheel. Then they presented their results as either a written paper, an individual or group exhibit, or a web page.

Various projects were then selected to represent the school at the History Day held at Richard Montgomery High School. The students who represented JPMS were: Whitney Carmack, Rebekah Chittenden, Christina Christou, Alex Garcy, Anne Gillespie, Brian Habib, Courtney Holston, Joey Ingler, Charles Lyles, Danny Martinez, Charlie Miller, Carly Stoliker, and Chris Thompson.

Chris Thompson's exhibit on the telegraph received third place for a special Civil War award. He was also one of the winners for the Junior Individual Exhibit and will represent Montgomery County in the Maryland History Day Competition.

Principal Charlotte Boucher

had strongly encouraged JPMS's becoming involved in the competition and is enthusiastic about the students' success. "I'm hugely proud of our kids and our staff," she says. "This is a very competitive event, and for us to have such strong entries and even a winner going on to the state competition shows the high caliber of our students' work. I'm really looking forward to seeing Chris do well at the state competition."



JPMS students participated in a history fair: Charles Lyles, Mr. Whalen, Courtney Holston, Christina Christou, Rebekah Chittenden, and Mrs. McIntyre.

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