

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

July 16, 2010

Volume VII, Number 9.



Mid-July and the yard is getting away from you again? Read In the Garden on Page 8, and fight back.



These two had a blast at the Farmers' Market. More pictures are on Page 11.



There was a pie contest at the St. Peter's Community Dinner, and these were the winning bakers. More pictures of more events are in the Family Album on Page 2.



Read about Truman, and how he depends on the kindness of others, in the Pulse, on Page 3.

New Poolesville Park Dedicated and Skateboard Facility Opens

By Rande Davis

The Town of Poolesville celebrated the grand opening of its new skateboard facility on July 11. Begun in August of 2009, the cost of the skateboard park itself was \$150,000 with the supporting infrastructure adding approximately \$90,000. Of the \$240,000 total, the town received a grant from the state of \$175,000 through the sponsorship of a bond program by Senator Rob Garagiola and through the support of the Montgomery County delegation of Brian Feldman, Craig Rice, and Kathleen Dumais. The quarter-acre facility is but one aspect of the new 3.77-acre park named after former

commissioner Dr. Thomas Dillingham. Dillingham Park was purchased by the town for \$507,000 after obtaining an open space grant of \$288,000. Future plans for Dillingham Park have not yet been determined, although a possible community town center is one of the possibilities under discussion.

Dr. Dillingham was honored for his twenty years of service as a town commissioner and for his various leadership roles as a past commission president and vice president and as liaison to the Parks Board. As a commissioner, Mr. Dillingham also served the town as its representative to the Maryland Municipal League (MML), an association of cities and towns in the state. He served in various leader-



Commissioners Link Hoewing and Jim Brown cut the ribbon officially opening the Poolesville skateboard facility, which is the first piece of the new Dr. Thomas Dillingham Park, named in recognition of the former commissioner's service to the town.

ship roles on MML's Board of Directors as its vice president as well as on various other committees throughout the years. For his work with the MML, he was honored to be selected by

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News Show to Broadcast Live in Poolesville

The WTTG Fox 5 Morning News will be broadcasting live from Whalen Commons in Poolesville from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 23. This is part of the news station's Hometown Fridays series. The on-air personalities of Tony Perkins, Allison Seymour, Steve Chenevey, Molly Harris, and Gurvir Dhindsa will present up to thirteen segments on Poolesville and will broadcast from the park and various other sites around town including the old bank building in the center of town.

Hanson and Kuhlman Enter Primary for County Council

By Rande Davis



Poolesville Town Commission president and now county council candidate Eddie Kuhlman

The Democrat Party primary contest to nominate a candidate to run for the

District 2 Montgomery County Council seat vacated by Michael Knapp's decision not to seek re-election became even more crowded with the filing of Royce Hanson from Montgomery Village and Poolesville's Eddie Kuhlman.

Filing just before the deadline on July 6, both men issued statements regarding their candidacy.

Mr. Hanson, who at the end of June retired as chairman of the Montgomery County Planning Board, stated, "I want to use my experience and proven decision-making skills to help restore the county's fiscal health and ensure the county is as good a place to live and work for my granddaughters, and their children, as it has been for us."

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Family Album



*The Family Album is sponsored by
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Chip Smallwood and Father O'Reilly of St. Mary's Church are joined by other volunteers at the recent Maryland Cattlemen's Association picnic for wounded warriors at Ft. Detrick.



The ladies enjoyed the pasta dinner offered at St. Peter's Parish's Community Dinner: Pauline Bell, Florence Randolph, and Diane Boyd.



David Breth, a high energy magician, entertains some of the nearly two hundred in attendance for his show in Whalen Commons on July 12.



The many volunteers from the Maryland Cattlemen's Association picnic for wounded warriors at Ft. Detrick.

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The Pulse

Spotlight: Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary

By Alison Shapiro

Most people have the desire to do good for others when given the chance but have a hard time expanding their circle of empathy outside of just our own species or even the animals we call pets; however, there is a special place that I know of, the Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary, which extends a hand all the way out to farm animals, the gentle creatures who are usually overlooked when we think of helping animals.

The sanctuary is located right here in Poolesville on 15200 Mt. Nebo Road, and a long gravel pathway leads to a home that is heaven for the animals that are lucky enough to be there. The animals at the sanctuary were taken there because they were abused, neglected, or abandoned by their previous owners. The four-hundred-acre sanctuary is home to forty-four pigs, seventy chickens, nineteen goats, fourteen

sheep, fourteen cows, two horses, two mules, five bunnies, and two peacocks, as well as countless wild birds, fish, deer, and geese that live in peace without the prospects of being hunted or dying an unnatural death.

Poplar Spring is a non-profit organization that is supported entirely by donations from the public. The sanctuary is run by two very special people, owners Terry Cummings and Dave Hoerauf, who have devoted their lives to providing a safe haven for farm animals where they will not be killed, eaten, or abused. They decided to start the sanctuary after renting a house on the farm and witnessing the abuse of cows by a farmer on the property. When they tried to report the incidents to the Humane Society, they were told that farm animals were exempt from the anti-cruelty laws. They could not believe that this was true, so they did some research and learned of the horrible treatment that many farm animals endure. They talked to the owner of the farm to see if they could start a sanctuary

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Letters to the Editor

I'm writing in regard to the recent article in the *Monocle* about the Ag Reserve and what should and shouldn't be allowed to occur in its boundaries.

I'm a resident of Poolesville. I moved to town after spending all of my childhood and most of my adult life living in other areas of Montgomery County. I think the pull to Poolesville was directly related to the peace, charm, and openness we all find once we leave Route 118 in the rearview mirror. My career, all thirty-seven years so far, has been spent in education and most of the time in environmental and outdoor education. Over 20,000 students a year participate in school programs that focus on the outdoor world. We like to think we were green before green was popular, but the truth is green has always been popular and always will be.

The Ag Reserve was established not only for the enjoyment of open space but also to be used as an outdoor learning area. Calleva has long been a promoter of the Ag Reserve and the very open space we all cherish. By having children and adults exposed to the outdoors, they learn the value of keeping nature natural and not destroying the very thing they love so much. Camping in the woods is not the same as having a motel; singing around a campfire is not howling at the moon. Any of the great naturalists from John Muir to Rachel Carson (who lived in Silver Spring) would say how important their childhood was because of the time spent in the woods, creeks, rivers, and under starlit nights to the work they did to save our natural areas in their later lives.

Having Calleva in the Reserve protects the very ideals for which the Reserve was set up. They are a great neighbor and steward of the Reserve and should be recognized as such.

Bill Kraegel
Poolesville

SCA's Response to Calleva's Open Letter in the June 25, 2010 *Monocacy Monocle*

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association acknowledges that we have many common goals with Calleva, especially its efforts to promote local food production in Montgomery County's Agriculture Reserve. While a Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) has not yet been submitted to the County that would allow Calleva a special exception to the legal regulations that prohibit camps, schools and the sale of overnight lodging in the Reserve, we are aware that a draft copy has been circulated to gain support. As one of the volunteer organizations that watch for violations of the laws that protect the Reserve, we are stating our preemptive opposition to a single exception to the rules.

Calleva owns other properties in the region outside the Reserve where camping programs are legal. When they acquired land at the Martinsburg location in 1998, they were informed that zoning laws prohibited camps and schools. Knowing that, Calleva has persisted in requesting special exceptions. In 2004, Calleva submitted a ZTA to establish a camp as a "child day care center." SCA opposed the move with legal representation, and the exception did not proceed. A proposed ZTA was circulated in 2005 to allow an outdoor education facility on Calleva property that also did not proceed. In 2007, Calleva was mentioned in the Hudson Bay Outfitters website as a location offering overnight camping to the general public. A road sign indicated the same service. The County responded with a notice of violation on June 25, 2007.

SCA's primary mission, since its establishment in 1972 as a non-profit citizens' group, has been to support the even handed application of the laws established to protect the Agricultural Reserve; a treasure that has specific regulations in place

to maintain its viability for food and other related agricultural activities. We are not singling out Calleva. We have also opposed other worthwhile enterprises that did not comply with the zoning regulations.

SCA's concerns also include water and safety issues affecting the Ag Reserve. Camps, schools, and other businesses create increased traffic on rustic roads used by farmers with large equipment and trailers. Large groups of people also require additional waste treatment facilities and use water resources in an area with a limited supply.

As we stated in our June 11 Newsletter in the *Monocle*, there are many wonderful services offered by Calleva. We would be thrilled if the services that are not in compliance with the laws protecting the Agriculture Reserve could be offered on properties they own that are zoned for those activities. We acknowledge the sentiments of Calleva supporters who have contacted us, and we will continue to support the legal activities that take place at the

Martinsburg Road site.

Our position is simple and consistent. The rules governing the Agricultural Reserve were put in place to protect a vital resource that we need now and in the future: the ability to produce food and provide areas for other vital agricultural practices close to our homes. We believe in a uniform policy that protects that resource, no matter how desirable services outside those regulations may be. We call on County officials to enforce the laws and procedures that govern the Reserve. We ask Calleva to follow the guidelines and operate their business in compliance with the regulations established to protect the area. And we urge the entire community to embrace the Reserve's special qualities and support the effort to keep it an area preserved for agriculture.

"Letters to the Editor" continued on
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Commentary

Good Case, Bad Law

By John Clayton

There has been a difficult issue afoot over the last few editions of the *Monocle*. It concerns Calleva, the robust local outdoor education and activity company and its longstanding desire to allow overnight camping on its property in the Agricultural Reserve. This is a violation of the regulations protecting the Ag Reserve, specifically a prohibition on offering "overnight accommodations to the general public," and would require a special exception. The Sugarloaf Citizens' Association (SCA) took issue with Calleva's efforts in our June 11 issue. This sparked two letters to the editor in our June 25 issue: one from from Alex Markoff of Calleva and another from a citizen supporting Calleva. There are a couple of more letters in this issue. Also, the SCA has run another paid advertisement in this

issue, which is how they disseminate their monthly newsletter. For the record, Calleva is also a regular and significant advertiser in our paper.

The letters in support of Calleva have highlighted the outstanding role it plays in bringing the outdoors to so many people. You would be hard pressed to name an organization, let alone a local organization, that does more to promote the wise and proper use of the outdoors, and its activities are helping to safeguard a very large tract of open land and woods in the Ag Reserve. In short, its bona fides are impeccable, and many have spoken to this, including the SCA. Is this, however, the issue at hand?

The question isn't whether Calleva is a worthy and important organization—it is. The question is whether this particular activity, desirous in many ways, opens a door to further chipping away of the protections of the Ag Reserve—a chink in the armor, so to speak. Will allowing overnight campers

help the next venture that wants to ever so slightly weaken the protections that have been set up? For Calleva and its supporters, the solution is in the writing of the zoning text amendment that would be needed to support its activity. How tight can a zoning text amendment be written? I don't think there can be a requirement that the next petitioner has to be as admirable as the Calleva organization if it wants to make its particular use of the Ag Reserve a reality. People I respect have told me that such an amendment could open the door to allow camping on this site and slam the door shut on similar petitioners. Could it really? I would love to support Calleva for any number of reasons, but I cannot shut my ears to what the SCA is saying as they stand up for the Ag Reserve.

In the best of all possible worlds, people would camp in the deep woods of Calleva's property, and it would hurt no one, but it seems to take a lot of effort and vigilance to

make this the best of all possible worlds. Does every good idea get its own little exception? The attorneys like to say that good cases often make bad laws, a phrase that keeps running through my mind as I consider this issue. My problem isn't with Calleva's idea, it's with the next really great sounding idea, which won't be as good, or as innocent, or as desirable, but will it have an easier time getting approved because Calleva was able to circumvent the rules? The balance of risk versus reward, for me, points to letting the rules of the Ag Reserve stand.

(Note: the views in this commentary are solely those of the author.)

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Daytripper Monocacy Battle Anniversary

By Dominique Agnew

The Confederate Army, after having just walked hundreds of miles from Petersburg, Virginia, west and north through the Shenandoah Valley, was planning on attacking a mostly-defenseless Washington, D.C. from the north. Lieutenant General Jubal Early (of ferry fame for us) was leading the attack.

Although small in scope, the battle that ensued is historically a relevant one. The plan was for the Confederate Army to sweep down into the capital from the north while another army would free confederate soldiers imprisoned at Point Lookout and head north to join Early's troops. In short, the

mostly-inexperienced and heavily-outnumbered Union troops, led by Major General Lew Wallace, were able to hold off the Confederate troops at the Battle of Monocacy for a full twenty-four hours, allowing the capital to be fortified with new troops. After the battle, it was deemed too risky by the Confederates to try to take Washington, D.C., and that was the last attempt ever made during the Civil War.

The Monocacy National Battlefield Memorial is relatively young, having opened in 1991. Much of the land was purchased in the 1980s with one farm being acquired as recently as 2001. In 1928, a bill was passed in Congress authorizing a national park, but the funds were not made available for another fifty years. Interestingly, it was a survivor of the battle who petitioned Congress. Glenn Worthington, of Worthington Farm, one of the stops on the auto tour, was six years old and watched much of the battle from the basement window of his family's farmhouse. He later

wrote a book about his experience, *Fighting for Time*.

This summer marks the third anniversary of the opening of the new visitor center on Urbana Pike (Route 355) just south of Francis Scott Key Mall. The center is not only the starting point of a self-guided auto tour, it also provides details of the battle and of the Civil War as a whole through hands-on activities and vivid vignettes. Visitors can try on a soldier's jacket to test the fit. The lives of the farmers on whose land the battle raged is brought to life with details of their daily travails. Other interesting facts are revealed in the visitor center as well: After the Civil War, Major General Lew Wallace wrote Ben Hur. Who knew? A quick step outside onto the terrace, and the view of the land remains mostly unchanged with original farmhouses still standing.

The self-guided auto tour can be expanded to numerous walking trails of varying lengths. From the Best Farm to the Monocacy Junction, from

the Worthington Farm to the Thomas Farm to Gambrill Mill, history buffs can take in the skirmishes of the battle at their leisure. Many activities are available for children, as well. Brochures and maps are available in the visitor center.

Being right in the Monocacy area, the Monocacy National Battlefield makes a perfect short day trip. It can even be enjoyed on the way to other activities in nearby Frederick or just as a short excursion for itself. The park is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except Thanksgiving, December 25 (that's Christmas Day), and January 1 (this one's sometimes called New Year's Day). Entry and all programs are free to the public.



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Can You Afford a Horse (or Pony)?

By Carol Rae Hansen,
Director, Equine Therapy
Associates

During a recession, or its immediate aftermath, well-bred, young, attractive, and even well-trained horses and ponies can be found for a song, some even for free in particularly depressed, rural areas. They are like the ads for Steinway grand pianos six stories up in Manhattan: "Free if you can move it!" The latter illustrates the hidden conundrum in even a free horse or pony. Looking the gift horse in the mouth for potential medical and or structural concerns via a pre-purchase exam by a qualified veterinarian is a first step, but we also need to consider the recurrent costs of that free or low-cost horse or pony, in addition to its purchase price, if any. There

are a host of other compelling reasons for extremely careful financial analyses before leaping into purchasing any horse or pony. These include long-term moral and legal responsibilities towards them, the seriousness of the level of interest, their health situation, their suitability for the job(s) intended for them, their pre-purchase evaluation cost and their purchase price, maintenance costs if not stabled at home (regular board, feed, supplement, blanketing, holding for the vet and farrier), construction and or maintenance costs for keeping the equine at home (barn/stable/run-in construction, fencing, etc.), regular vet, dentist, and farrier visits; equipment costs and apparel, transportation costs, insurance (liability, medical, and/or mortality, if needed), catastrophic coverage for acute injury or illness, and wear and tear on the family drivers, automobiles, psyche and/or the environment. The recurrent costs for the average horse or pony run into several thousand dollars per year and up, even for equines

kept at home.

If you cannot comfortably afford several thousands of dollars annually for equine health and care for decades, and thousands more for lessons, transportation, and or equipment, don't buy a horse or pony! Instead, consider a variety of other lower-cost but still satisfactory options: borrowing an equine for a set term with specific options (i.e., a specified number of rides per week), a full or partial lease, taking lessons, exercising an equine for others if you are an accomplished rider, and/or volunteering at a rescue or lesson facility. Leasing a quality horse or pony from an established farm that specializes in such options, which might have several appropriate animals in your size and price range, with training commensurate with your level of riding ability, is the closest to equine ownership, and it offers a safe trial. Increasingly, equine welfare and rescue organizations, as well as the general public, have come to regard horse or pony ownership as a life-long obligation, and leasing

is a superb option to consider as you or your child grow physically and in ability. Indeed, many of us have purchased a leased equine, after carefully evaluating its suitability and personality.

Honestly assessing the strength of your interest in equines is an equally vital part of evaluating whether or not you can afford a horse or pony. Sadly, the individual who prematurely acquires an equine and then loses interest, often subjects it to an uncertain future—and sometimes to neglect. The equine rescues are more than full of horses and ponies acquired with insufficient thought about whether or not the owner had adequate funds, commitment, time, and interest in them. Membership in the 4-H Light Horse Project, the Pony Club, or the Old People's Pony Club, for two years or more, beginning at age six (4-H), the Pony Club (age eight), or as an adult (OPPC), is a satisfying, deeply-rewarding, and educa-

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In The Garden

The Second Chance Garden

By Maureen O'Connell



Readers, let me ask you a question: How do your gardens look? Even with the most diligent care,

I venture to guess that they are looking a bit stressed and less than picture perfect. The dog days of summer have arrived very early in many parts of the country. June was the hottest on record since 1943, with sixteen days of temperatures ninety degrees and over and rainfall below normal. July languidly slipped into town carrying temperatures in the triple digits, and the forecast for the rest of the summer is for above-average temperatures. Even in years of favorable conditions for gardens, by mid-July, many people have lost the dewy-eyed optimism and boundless enthusiasm of May and June. Spring and early summer annuals and perennials have matured; flower production slows down, and insects and diseases often get the upper hand. You are left with gaping holes in your flower beds and borders. Before you close the door to your garden this year, let's see what we can do to give our gardens a Shot in the Arm. With a little bit of work, gardens in our area can continue blooming until the end of October.

Pruning. When the foliage has yellowed, cut back to the ground any spring and early summer blooming plants. I have a very beautiful, large, white bleeding heart plant (*Dicentra s. 'Alba'*); I think it is the most exquisitely-delicate of all the bleeding hearts. It is about ten years old, and every year it comes back better than ever. After the blooms fade, the foliage remains green up until about the end of June. Growing behind it is a coral bell (*Heuchera villosa*

'Carmel'). She has large, fuzzy leaves that change from bright gold to shades of apricot as the seasons progress. She does very well in hot, humid climates and is very vigorous. She is the last of the coral bells to bloom, so she patiently waits for the bleeding heart to finish her show before she takes over the stage. On the spot where the bleeding heart is planted, I don't want to disturb the roots and the soil that she is planted in, so I place a pot of New Guinea impatiens over it, and all get along well.

Deadheading. There are many perennial and annual flowers that will rebloom if spent flowers are removed. Zinnias, marigolds, verbena, heliotropium, calibrachoa, petunias, geraniums, lantana, and coreopsis respond well to a haircut several times during the summer. Knock Out roses have many pluses, but they can look quite messy if they are not deadheaded. I have two pink ones planted together near a side door of my house. They are now about six feet tall and four feet wide. It is quite a job to remove all the spent blooms, but they look tidier and put out new growth rapidly.

Replace Plants. If you have an area in the garden where the plants have totally given up the ghost, yank them out and put in new plants. Local garden centers still have plants for sale, and sometimes they are discounted. Let me tell you about a few plants that I have that never disappoint. I cannot say enough good things about coral bells. They are insect and disease free, and resistant to heat, humidity, drought, and deer. Look for these varieties: 'Brownies,' 'Autumn Leaves,' 'Citronelle,' 'Caramel,' and the best, 'Frosted Violet.' They do well in shade to part sun. Another favorite plant of mine is lavender. This bushy, fragrant perennial thrives in the Provence area of France under, dry, sunny conditions, so it takes well to our poor soils, heat, and dry spells effortlessly. 'Hidcote Blue' and 'Munstead' are two well-recommended varieties. I have found that one of the

best-performing annuals in our climate is the lantana. It blooms straight through to late October.

Succulents. I have a spot on my patio that receives direct sun all day long. No container plants did well there. Last year, I planted three different succulents in a shallow terra cotta planter in this location, and they thrived beyond my expectations. They wintered over in a shed row of my barn and popped back to life in May. I have had very good luck with sedums (especially 'Autumn Fire'), sempervivums, and aeoniums. I have seen these recently in local garden centers. Sometimes, they are in the houseplants area.

Fresh mulch. Buy a few bags of mulch and top dress your beds. You will be surprised how much this spruces things up. Don't forget to weed.

Fix it. This is your Second Chance Garden. There are still a good two and a half months left for our gardens, if you put a little work in now. Gardens are too good for the soul to throw in the trowel yet.



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Local News

New Daycare, New Bridges, New Neighbor

By Kristen Milton

After six years of searching for a Clarksburg daycare site, the Goddard School believes it has found one on Frederick Road, and the Planning Board approves. In a June 10 hearing, the board gave its blessing to the proposed business, including a parking waiver that would allow sixty spaces where the standard calculations call for eighty-nine. The Board of Appeals was expected to make the final decision on the parking issue after a June 21 hearing.

"We realize that's a pretty hefty waiver," attorney Debra Borden told the board; however, Goddard believed it was justified in the interests of reducing the environmental impacts of increased impervious surface, she said.

Goddard already operates facilities in Rockville and Columbia, and the parking at those sites was evaluated as part of the planning staff decision to support the waiver request. Roughly one third of the schools' clients had multiple children in the program, further reducing the need for spaces. "We really think that our parking will not be a problem," Borden said.

The Clarksburg Goddard School facility would be located on undeveloped lots at 22010 and 22014 Frederick Road once intended to be part of the Tapestry Development. The approximately five-acre property would include a 13,000-square-foot daycare and a 7,500-square-foot facility for afterschool care, as well as a basketball court, playing field, and pavilion. "The ten-year-olds don't like to party with the two-year-olds," Borden said in explaining the need for separate buildings for the school-aged and preschool students.

The board received about a dozen letters of support from

residents throughout the county, mainly Goddard parents, citing the benefits of job creation and improved childcare options. Summerfield Crossing Homeowners' Association in Boyds also voiced support, although its letter advocated traffic improvements as well.

There was no community opposition expressed, according to planning staff.

White's Ferry Bridge Work Planned for 2013

Construction is still nearly three years away, but plans are coming together for two new bridges on White's Ferry Road expected to cost more than \$4 million.

According to county spokesperson, Esther Bowring, work on the two bridges will take place during the summer of 2013, scheduled not to conflict with the school year. The larger bridge has an estimated cost of \$2.2 million and the smaller, \$1.8 million.

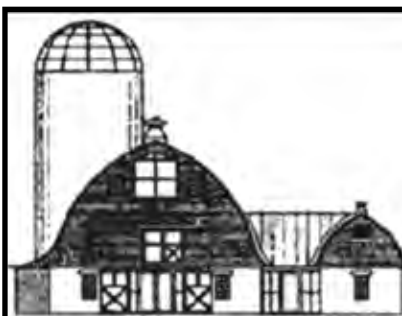
The bridges were the subject of a June 9 public meeting at Poolesville Elementary School where traffic detours and the possible impact on White's Ferry were topics of concern to the citizen audience.

The proposed detour will take drivers along Wasche, West Hunter, and Beallsville Roads for nearly three months as the bridges are reconstructed separately, the work estimated to take five weeks at each location.

Poolesville Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski said after the meeting that county staff could have been more informed about the conditions of the detour roads. He said Martinsburg Road was a possible alternate road.

Malcolm Brown, owner of White's Ferry, said he was concerned about business during the construction. When White's Ferry Road was closed for fifty days in the summer of 1998 for the construction of a \$475,000

-Continued on Page 18.



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The Problem of Spot Zoning

Calleva's proposed circulation of a draft Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) requesting special permission for the organization to operate outside the rules governing the Agricultural Reserve raises an important policy issue. Special exemptions create areas of Spot Zoning that chip away at the foundation of laws and regulations that were established to preserve the Agricultural Reserve.

The establishment of the Reserve was a bold and far-sighted move back in the 1970's and 1980's when it was not obvious how important it is to produce food close to our homes. Montgomery County today is a far different place than it was then. Development has transformed Germantown into a major city and Clarksburg is not far behind. With housing and retail outlets across the river in Virginia and similar construction moving south from Frederick County, the Reserve today appears to be an island in a sea of buildings and roads. This trend is likely to continue.

The rules that were adopted to protect the Reserve were fragile and had too much wiggle room allowing land use which does not support agriculture. Since governance is often driven by politics, there were compromises that eroded the needed protection for farming. Still, Montgomery County can be proud that it is one of the few governing bodies in the country that has attempted to protect its food production capabilities.

Spot zoning is a threat to our agricultural legacy. If current or future politicians are allowed to chip away at the already imperfect laws that protect our food producing resources, we will slowly lose what so many have worked hard to achieve. Some call it the death of the Agricultural Reserve by a thousand cuts.

Whether by ZTA, Special Benefit Permits, broad interpretations of Child Lots, or other attempts to circumvent existing regulations, we could lose our farm land, including its water resources. The Department of Permitting Services has authority to enforce the Zoning Ordinance but a lack of enforcement has become a serious threat. SCA and many other like-minded organizations will continue to raise objections to all attempts to erode our farm production. **We appeal to all citizens in our area to join us in this effort.**

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Tidbits

Poolesville's Clarke is an AU Graduate

Lindsay Kathryn Clarke, daughter of Robert and Sue Elin Grier Clarke of Poolesville, Maryland, graduated May 8, 2010 magna cum laude from American University with a double major in International Service and Economics. Lindsay also studied abroad at the University of Edinburgh in their UK Economics Honours Programme. Lindsay was a 2006 graduate of Poolesville High School.

Lindsay was inducted into Sigma Iota Rho (International Relations Honor Society), Omicron Delta Epsilon (Economics Honor Society), the National Society for Collegiate Scholars, and the Golden Key International Honour Society.

As a member of the Greek Fraternity, Chi Omega, Lindsay served on the Executive Board, was head Recruitment counselor for the university's Pan-Hellenic Council, and director of public relations for AU's Greek Week activities. Lindsay completed internships with two government agencies and the national Foundation for Teaching Economics and will be employed by the U.S. Federal Government.

Ms. Clarke wishes to thank

her many supporters over the years from Poolesville High School, the Poolesville Athletics programs, and St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

Dots Elgin Takes Overall Blue Ribbon in Pie Contest

St. Peter's Parish hosted a community pasta dinner on June 30. Nearly two hundred local residents came by for the dinner and to witness a Pie Baking Contest. Dots Elgin took the overall blue ribbon racking up the highest score of the twelve pies entered in the contest. The dinner was so well-received that another is being planned. No word on what kind of contest, if any, will be featured.

Guilmartin Takes Command
Lieutenant Colonel Eugenia (Gingee) Guilmartin, daughter of Judy Ohr of Poolesville, took command of the 385th Military Police Battalion, Fort Stewart, Georgia in June. The 385th is assigned to the 16th MP Brigade XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg. Prior to coming to Fort Stewart, Lt. Col. Guilmartin was stationed in Afghanistan. She also has served a tour in Iraq. She is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York and holds a PhD in political science from Stanford University,

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Local News

UMCVFD Extends Gratitude

The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department (UMCVFD) wishes to extend its heartfelt thanks to the sponsors of the 2010 Poolesville Traditional Fourth of July Family Fireworks, including the generosity of Mike Rubin (property owner), the Commissioners of Poolesville, the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Jamison Real Estate, and Selby's Market. Without these magnanimous sponsors, the fireworks show would not be possible.

We also wish to recognize and thank the Monocacy Lions Club, Poolesville Odd Fellows, and Capital Fence for their support of the fireworks. The Jim Bowie band was terrific. We thank Doug Bell for his wonderful entertainment at the west end of the spectator area.

The UMCVFD wishes to

thank Poolesville Scout Troop 496 for their excellent job organizing the parking and completing the cleanup on the morning after the event. Through their efforts, the property is restored to its pristine condition, with no sign that thousands of people were there the evening before. We are grateful for the Poolesville Scouts for their hard work.

Greatest thanks go to the community for attending. "I was most appreciative to the community for showing their support through their attendance," said Jeff Eck, 2010 Fireworks Committee chairperson. "I am grateful for everyone's patience and understanding of the parking and exiting as we work to continuously improve this experience."

Results indicate that over eight hundred cars were parked, which is an excellent turn out.

Upper Montgomery's Fire Chief Earl Moore summed up the event, "Our career and volunteer personnel strive for safety in everything we do. The Fourth of July celebration is an illustration of this and our ongoing service to the community."

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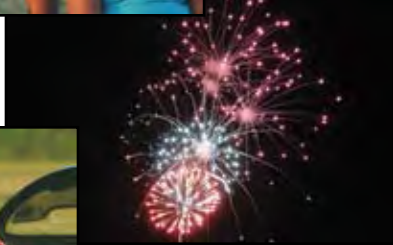
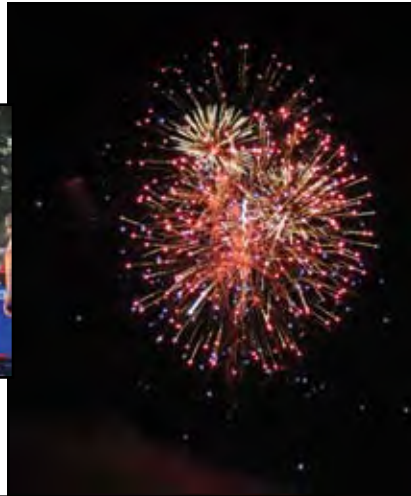


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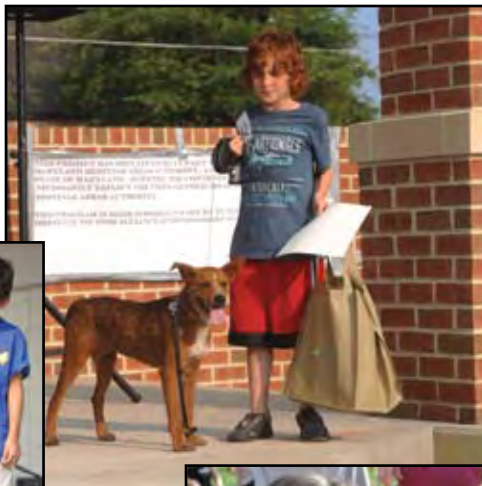
Fourth of July 2010

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Farmers' Market

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crimes

Burglary: Poolesville Baptist Church, 17500 block of West Willard Road.

Theft: 17000 block of Hillard Street, 19800 block of Beatriz Avenue, 17500 block of West Willard Road, 20500 block of Darnestown Road.

Assault: 19600 block of West-erly Avenue.

Disorderly conduct complaints: 17400 block of Hoskinson Road, 17600 block of Kohlhoss Road, 19900 block of Westerly Avenue, 17300 block of Chiswell Road, McDonald's at 19630 Fisher Avenue.

Past Crimes

July 16, 1942

Montgomery County participated in the first blackout drill of the war. County police had their hands full going from house to house reminding people to turn off their lights.

July 18, 1907

Sheriff Gott received a clue as to the whereabouts of the man who had shot Mr. Souder of Redland. Gott and his posse were searching an area near Redland when last heard from.

July 19, 1905

Frederick Sheriffs Grimes and Darner were involved in an exciting chase. Mr. Weller had gone out into his yard when he found Thomas Wall in the act of robbing his henhouse. Weller struck Wall with a shovel and Wall fled leaving his coat and hat. Grimes and Darner then tracked Wall to his house in Frederick where they arrested him.

July 23, 1908

Another disastrous storm

visited Montgomery County and did much destruction to cattle, crops, and buildings. Some of the oldest residents said that they could not recall so many storms as in the ten-day period just past. There was over \$50,000 of damage with much stock killed in the fields.

July 24, 1935

The county commissioners rescinded their previous order that would have prohibited police officers from drinking alcoholic beverages while off duty. Following a meeting with all of the sergeants of the police force, the commissioners changed their minds.

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Local News

Prolonged Discussion On Charter Revision Petition Dominates Town Meeting

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Commissioners' only agenda item for their July 12 meeting was to introduce a proposed resolution calling for a public referendum on recent changes to the town charter. Last spring, the commissioners proposed and voted to accept twenty-four amendment changes to the town charter. The last time such a review was made was in 1982; however, a petition drive to require a public referendum on the proposed changes, spearheaded by Linda and Don Barnes, was successful in obtaining the required number of voter signatures.

Subsequently, commissioners submitted town Resolution #003-10 setting the date for the referendum to coincide with the general elec-

tion in November. The proposed resolution also provided a sample seven-page ballot listing each of the proposed twenty-four amendment changes, a description of each change, and a yes or no block for the voter to express his/her approval or rejection of the change.

Town Resolution #003-10 will now go before the commissioners for further discussion and revision, and once the commissioners vote to approve a final document, open and public discussion on the resolution will be scheduled as an agenda item at a future town meeting. After such a public hearing takes place, a binding vote on the resolution will be made.

In comments concerning the proposed resolution, Commissioners Kuhlman and Klobukowski expressed their hope that the commissioners find a way to establish a less complicated ballot. Kuhlman also recommended that the town review and adopt an instructional manual guiding the process for public petitions for special referenda similar to one published by the Board of Elections (BOE) for the State of Maryland.

Kuhlman noted that while the current petition did not technically meet some of the specific requirements of the state guidelines, the town nevertheless decided to accept the petition as valid based on its intent rather than using a strict interpretation of the state guidelines. For example, the state does not allow nicknames to be used by signing voters, and each page of the petition should have had an affidavit signature line verifying that the petitioner witnessed each signature. It was suggested that had a strict interpretation of the petition been made, the petition would not have met the requirement of having at least twenty percent of Poolesville registered voters.

During the open comments on the agenda section of the meeting, Mr. Barnes supported Kuhlman's call to publish and handout petition guidelines similar to the state BOE. He stated that having such a document would have been very helpful to him. He also expressed disappointment that the commissioners had not done enough to rein in more public involvement in the process of the charter review.

What followed Mr. Barnes's comments was an unusually lengthy and very frank dialogue between him and the commissioners on the process of the charter revision. The commissioners expressed a shared disappointment with Mr. Barnes in the lack of public involvement during public meetings and during four open-work sessions, where revision suggestions were discussed by the commissioners. Mr. Barnes observed that residents, especially newcomers, may feel out of place in attending or approaching commissioners and suggested that there might be more the commissioners could do to invite such participation. Commissioner Hoewing opined that after twenty-two years of leadership in community PTA work, he was still mystified as to how to expand citizen involvement beyond "the usual small group of volunteers who get active." He also suggested that perhaps the topic of charter revision itself did little to ignite public interest. He also pointed out that on other town issues, such as wind turbine

-Continued on Page 15.

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Local News

**Vandalism
Increases in
Poolesville**

By Rande Davis

The early morning hours of June 23 saw a rash of vandalism throughout the town of Poolesville.

Several acts of vandalism affecting Poolesville High School's new building, including graffiti and an attempt to start a fire, occurred June 23 at approximately 3:00 a.m. The fire marshal's office is conducting an investigation of the incident in conjunction with the police department. Fortunately, there were no injuries, and damage to the building is not extensive. School maintenance crews cleaned and repaired the building.

Poolesville Community Preschool had its storage sheds spray painted and one broken into. While nothing was taken, the graffiti had to be painted over.

A number of homes in the Hunter's Run development on Tom Fox Avenue experienced more costly damage. Bill and Michelle Roche had two automobile tires slashed as did Chris and Sheri Hall and Buzz and Carol Lee. For Tim and Suzanne Shorts, not only were two tires slashed, but a car antenna was bent in half and the driver's side mirror smashed.

A citizen organization, Poolesville Neighborhood Watch, comprising nineteen residents has picked up their awareness activities in response to the vandalism. Since the June incidents, there has been at least one other act of vandalism reported of a car that was keyed in Seneca Chase. Citizens who have any further information may call Officer Dixon at 301-840-2575 and email poolesvillewatch@msn.com.

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*"Town Governement" Continued
From Page 14.*

usage or closing of public schools, public participation was more than readily available. Commissioners Gruber and Brown expressed that revision of the charter was exactly the kind of thing they were elected to do and that voters, in electing them as commissioners, entrusted them with the detailed review of a charter revision. Going forward, and in preparation for the petition vote in November, the commissioners committed to various public venues for discussion and formal debate on the charter amendments and invited the leadership of the petition drive to fully participate at such events.

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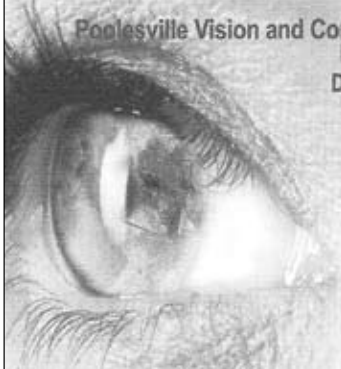
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"Afford a Horse" Continued From Page 7.

tional way to assess whether or not you have more than a passing interest in riding and equine sports. Generally speaking, if you are still gung ho about horses, ponies, and riding after taking lessons seriously for two years, or after seriously participating in the 4-H or the Pony Clubs for two years or more, you may well have a more than passing interest in equines that might warrant purchasing a horse or pony. Just make sure that you have the cash required to back up that interest!

"Letters to the Editor" Continued from Page 4.

Editor:

Ever since last year, my son has eagerly awaited the end of the school year at Phillips Andover so he can once again start work early at Calleva as a junior counselor. It can't be the wages they pay as that barely covers just the cost of gas. Instead, it's the overwhelming spirit of its campers and the contagious enthusiasm of the staff that people first notice. Beyond that, however, it's the dedication of its staff and counselors to instill environmental ethics to each of its campers, no matter how young, through demonstrations and learning by example. From leave-no-trace camping to Leave No Child Inside, its emphasis on experiential learning and using the outdoors as an educational center for leadership training make it comparable to such notable outdoor leadership groups as NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School), whose history included originally training instructors for Outward Bound.

So it was with some interest that I attended Calleva's open house after reading the ad placed in the *Monocacy Monocle* from the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association that Calleva might be seeking a zoning change in the Ag Reserve that would only benefit Calleva or allow other entities like a motel to come into the Ag Reserve. In the context of the current discussion over the zoning amendment, how does

"Poplar Springs Sanctuary" Continued From Page 3

for farm animals, and the owner approved and kicked out the cow farmer.

The most recent animal to join the sanctuary is Truman the pig. Truman had been purchased by a group of boys for a pig roast, but when the boys decided against killing the pig at the last minute, they let him go at the C&O Canal, thinking he could survive in the wild. Truman had been wandering around and apparently ended

any organization like Calleva that serves as a bridge between the Ag Reserve and the urbanized communities around D.C.—that supports sleeping with the stars and leave no child inside—instill these values to our youth while depriving them of the quintessential overnight experience? I heard Alex Markoff at the open house say that he would support strict wording in the zoning amendment to keep these changes to the type of organizations that would treat the environment in the same manner and spirit as Calleva. Thus, operations like motels, lodges, or camp facilities à la Yogi Bear Jellystone Park campgrounds would be prohibited in the Ag Reserve. The largest event—and by far the most well known—that Calleva holds in the area is the annual Haunted Forest, which also provides the most scholarships to its summer camps for the needy.

There is no shortage of summer camps in the D.C. area. I think we are very fortunate to have in our area an organization like Calleva—unique in how well its 165-acre Calleva Farm is integrated with its educational programs. The Ag Reserve could use more organizations like Calleva to preserve its heritage and ensure that future generations will learn to appreciate the value of an Ag Reserve area with even greater understanding and passion through personal experience under the stars.

Peter Wong
Poolesville, MD

up on MacArthur Boulevard where he was luckily found by the Humane Society. Truman is now about six months old and happily resides at the sanctuary.

I was lucky enough to help out the sanctuary this past May when I planted flowers at the pig barn as part of my gold award project for girl scouts. When deciding on what to do for my project, I knew that I wanted to do something that had meaning to me and in which I wanted to make a difference. With my love of animals and interest in animal welfare/rights, I knew that helping out Poplar Spring would be the perfect thing to do. I want to thank all friends and family that donated to my project and Hearthside Home and Garden for providing flowers and mulch for my project.

Although my project has helped the sanctuary in a small way, the sanctuary could still use a lot more help and donations. The sanctuary is in need

of volunteers as well as funds, yard sale donations, quality hay, stamps, six- or eight-foot folding tables, and a portable winch. One of the sanctuary's biggest expenses is the feed for the animals, and gift certificates for the feed store can be bought at the Southern States Cooperative in Frederick or online at www.southernstates.com. The sanctuary has a website at www.animalsanctuary.org where donations are also accepted. The sanctuary also has two events coming up, the Montgomery County Farm Tour on July 24 and the Open House on September 26. Knowing that you have helped an innocent animal have a permanent place to live the rest of its life out in peace can in turn bring peace.

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**"Town Skateboard" Continued
From Page 1.**

them for their Hall of Fame for public service in 2007.

Commission president Eddie Kuhlman thanked Senator Gara-giola and the state delegation for its financial support of the skateboard park. Mr. Kuhlman told the Monocle that he was gratified to see how well the skateboard facility had been used in its first few weeks of service prior to the grand opening and noted that with a continued similar use, it will be a great benefit to our youth and become an asset to the community.

Commissioner Jim Brown, who has served as the commissioners' liaison to the Parks Board and a leader in the community in youth programs and development, thanked the Parks Board for their lengthy service in working through the difficult task of bringing the skateboard park to fruition. He extended particular thanks to Butch Zachrel and Tim Pike.

Mr. Brown also expressed special appreciation for the youth in the area that helped make the

new park a reality. He said, "To all of the young people in the audience, you should know that this is your skate park. You came to the meetings, you pushed the town to figure out a way and a place to build it, you helped design it, and now, we present it to you to use and respect it. As you go through school and then work and life later on, you'll find you will meet challenges that you think you may not be able to overcome. Take a minute and look back on what you've accomplished here. Through your persistence and hard work, you've made this park happen. This should tell you that you can accomplish anything if you work hard at it. Thank you for doing what you've done. Because of your efforts we stand here today—but with this ownership comes responsibilities. We absolutely expect you to respect the park, help police the park, keep the park clean, don't let someone paint it up, don't let people do dumb things here. You want to show us you deserve what we all have accomplished here? Then you need to take care of it. We expect only the best."

Mr. Dillingham, in acknowl-

edging the honor of having the park named after him, stated, "I am deeply humbled and appreciative to the town commissioners for their vote to name a park in my honor. I can earnestly say that I enjoyed serving the Town of Poolesville in various capacities over a twenty-year span, and I would like to especially thank the voters who allowed me to serve them. As I have said many times before, I love this little piece of paradise called Poolesville. I have to also thank my wife and family for their support while I served the Town of Poolesville. I was gone from home many, many nights. Further, I am looking forward to Poolesville having its own community center in the park. Also, I hope the kids that use the skating area will be sure and take extra safety precautions and to show their appreciation to the town by taking pride in keeping the park free of litter."

**"Hanson and Kuhlman" Continued
From Page 1.**

Mr. Hanson served as the Planning Board chair from 1972 to 1981 and was reappointed to a second term from 2006 to 2010.

Eddie Kuhlman, president of the Commissioners of Poolesville, has served as a town commissioner for fourteen years and has been the president of the commission since 2002. He told the Monocle that he would like to use his executive experience as a town commissioner to help bring fiscal responsibility back to the county. "I believe a return to strong fiscal responsibility, traditional values, and working on solutions for our residents are now critical steps that need to be taken to keep the county going in the right direction."

District 15 State Delegate Craig Rice, Sharon Dooley, and Charles Kirchman had previously filed for the nomination. On the Republican side, Robin Ficker of Boyds, a long-time community activist, will be running uncon-

**"New Daycare" Continued From
Page 9.**

bridge, the ferry lost nearly half its revenue, he said.

According to a county budget, the County Biennial Bridge Inspection Program identified the bridges scheduled for replacement as in need of upgrades to safely carry all legal loads.

New Neighbor in Dickerson

A Dickerson area farm was unanimously approved for a new house at a recent Planning Board meeting, and two other homes are possible in the future.

The 115-acre Aigner property, located on the west side of Old Hundred Road near the Thurston Road intersection, currently hosts a home and out-buildings. Pre-preliminary plans approved by the board June 17

created a thirty-acre lot for the current home, a twenty-seven-acre lot for the future home, and left the remaining land in an outlot with the potential for two more houses in the future. The land is located in the Rural Density Transfer (RDT) zone, which requires at least twenty-five acres per home.

Property owner Olga Aigner said the new home would be occupied by her daughter's family.

"They love the property," Aigner told the board. "We are trying very hard to have them close to us." The Aigners also have two sons, she said.

The new home will not have frontage on Old Hundred, which will reduce its visibility from the designated Rustic Road. The plans also do not affect the road through the property that currently provides access to the adjacent W.O. Sellman House, a historic site.

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Things to Do

July 16

Music in the Park
Whalen Commons
Featuring: Bill Euler
7:00 p.m.

July 17

Farmers' Market
Sugarloaf Vineyards
Locally-grown products such as farm-fresh produce, organic meats, barbeque, cheeses, flowers, butter products, eggs and poultry, herbs, vinegars, and honey bee products, as well as handcrafted items by local artists and artisans.
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Movies in the Park

Whalen Commons
Featuring: Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
8:30 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: So Far Gone
8:00 p.m.

July 22

Poolesville Library Special Event
The Wright Stuff
Journey back in time to witness ways in which scientific inventions from the hot air balloon to the rocket have given us the ability to fly.
A summer program for children and families.
2:00 p.m.

Poolesville Library Special Event

Plant Clinic
Master Gardeners Terri Pitts and Pam Hosimer will be on hand to answer all your questions about plant and garden needs.
7:00 p.m.

July 23

Fox 5 Morning News Show
Broadcast Live from Whalen Commons
Thirteen Local Segments
Area Resident Encouraged to Visit
6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Music in the Park

Whalen Commons

Featuring: Drew Simms
Vegas- and Broadway-Style Songs
7:00 p.m.

July 24

Farmers' Market
Sugarloaf Vineyards
Locally-grown products such as farm-fresh produce, organic meats, barbeque, cheeses, flowers, butter products, eggs and poultry, herbs, vinegars, and honey bee products, as well as handcrafted items by local artists and artisans.
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Movies in the Park

Whalen Commons
Featuring: The Blind Side
8:30 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Winter Moon with the Grottoes
8:00 p.m.

July 26 to July 30

Barnesville Baptist Church VBS
Theme: Saddle Ridge Ranch
Pre-school to adult
Free
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

July 29

Poolesville Library Special Event
Maryland Agricultural Fair
The teen Royal Court will share book, song, a simple craft, and information about the county fair.
2:00 p.m.

Poolesville Library Special Event

Plant Clinic
Master Gardeners Terri Pitts and Pam Hosimer will be on hand to answer all your questions about plant and garden needs.
7:00 p.m.

July 30

Poolesville Farmers' Market
Whalen Commons
Celebrate Local Artisans – meet and talk with the artists offering an array of handcrafted items. See demonstrations by weavers, soap makers, etc.
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Music in the Park

Whalen Commons

Youth Sports

Changes in the CHS

Coaching Lineup

By Jeff Stuart

For the first four years of its existence, the Clarksburg High School athletic coaching staff has been remarkably stable, but this spring, Cliff Elgin resigned as head basketball coach in order to spend more time with his family. Last winter, Elgin guided the Coyotes to their first winning season (12-11).

His departure opened up a vacancy and created ripple effects. The school's junior varsity coach, David McCloud could not fill the position because, while he is employed in school security at Clarksburg, he is not a teacher. Head Football Coach Larry Hurd was named to succeed Elgin. Hurd pre-

Featuring: So Far Gone
7:00 p.m.

July 31

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Farmers' Market

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10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Movies in the Park

Whalen Commons
Featuring: Finn on the Fly

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Paul Riegert
8:00 p.m.

viously coached boys' basketball in Montgomery County for eight years, at Northwest (one year) and Poolesville (seven), leading the Falcons to four regional championships. He was both the football and basketball coach at Poolesville for several years. "We've got the program in a nice spot. Larry's going to be very successful, there's no doubt in my mind," Elgin said. Larry Hurd, Sr. and Wayne Clark will be varsity assistants. McCloud will remain the junior varsity coach with Bob Marshall as JV assistant.

The ripple effect of the basketball appointment was that new AD Jeff Sullivan still had a vacancy to fill. Hurd had also been the head softball coach. Sullivan named Danielle Carpenter to fill the position.

Carpenter served as the varsity softball coach at Connelly School of the Holy Child for the past six seasons. During her tenure, Holy Child won the ISL regular season championship in 2006 and the ISL tournament championship in 2010. With her strong connections to the community, Carpenter, a math teacher and softball coach at Rocky Hill Middle School and director of the Clarksburg Sports Association softball camp for the past decade, seems like the natural choice. Hurd helped to establish the Coyotes as one of the better softball programs in the county. Competitive in their very first season, the girls won their first-ever softball division title this spring and reached the Class 3A West Region final before falling, 2-1, to top-seeded Blake. Carpenter hopes to continue that success.

A native of New Jersey, Carpenter graduated from Lenape Regional High School in 1998 and was named to the All-South Jersey, all-county, all-area, and all-conference softball teams all four years and was the Burlington County Player of the Year in 1997. She played softball at the University of Maryland from 1998 to 2002. As a junior in 2001, she compiled a 5-1 record with an 0.66 ERA.

She was named to the 2000-2001 ACC and Maryland Intercollegiate Athletics Scholar-Athlete honor rolls and graduated from Maryland in 2002 with a degree in Math Education.

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