



Diane and Richard Rose with Sam, three-time winner at the recent Bark in the Park contest at Whalen Commons. See more Family Album pictures on Page 2.



Once an Eagle Scout, always an Eagle Scout. See Local News on Page 18 to see what Secretary of Defense Robert Gates was up to.



Fox 5 didn't have time for everything Dots Elgin had to say, but we do. See Mystery History on Page 7.



Olympian Alisa Ogden is welcomed home by her mother, Corey. Read more in Tidbits, on Page 16.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

August 13, 2010

Volume VII, Number 11.

For Poolesville: No Significant Differences of Incidents of Cancer

By Rande Davis

Dr. Clifford S. Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH, director of Environmental/Health Coordination, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and Dr. Ulder J. Tillman, MPH, Health Officer and Chief of Public Health Services of Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) returned to Poolesville to provide the promised final report in their investigation of cancer concerns in Poolesville.

The forty-five-page report dated August 2, 2010 summarizes the joint findings of DHMH and DHHS on concerns raised by Poolesville residents through

Montgomery County Council Candidates' Forum

By Kristen Milton

More than a dozen current and potential Montgomery County Council members took the stage in a recent candidates' forum sponsored by the Clarksburg Chamber and Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce in Clarksburg, looking to represent the area in either District 2 or at-large capacities.

Susan Snow of Germantown, a recent college graduate who attended the forum with her mother, said the July 28 event was "long and tedious, but...I feel much more edu-

cated." Snow said she was able to get a better idea of each candidate's priorities by noting how often they returned to the same issues. "It was wonderful getting to hear everyone at the same time," she said. "I still need to narrow it down [before voting]." Although she wished there had been more people in attendance. "I came out to get an idea of what the candidates were like in person, [and to] hear questions I wouldn't think of asking."

While 2009 preliminary analysis of MCR data did not show any specific concerns about the number of cancer incidents in Poolesville, reports and concerns raised by citizens

suggested a need for further input and review from federal partners, therefore, DHMH requested assistance from the U.S. Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Several environmental concerns were raised by residents, including naturally-occurring

Democratic primary. Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce president Pat Darby said he was pleased by the



Dr. Clifford S. Mitchell, Colleen Ryan Smith, and Dr. Ulder J. Tillman presented the state and county final report on the investigation into cancer concerns in Poolesville.

-Continued on Page 21.

Present at the forum were: District 2 candidates: Democrats, Sharon Dooley, Royce Hanson, Charles Kirchman, Eddie Kuhlman, and Craig Rice, and Republican, Robin Ficker. At-large candidates: Democrats, Jane De Winter, Marc Elrich, Nancy Floreen, George Leventhal, Hans Riemer, Duchy Trachtenberg, Becky Wagner, and Republicans, Robert Dyer and Mark Fennel.

will run in the September 14

-Continued on Page 8.

Family Album



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



Montgomery County 4-H members brought this goat to the Poolesville Library to promote the county fair.




The 135th Annual St. Mary's Chicken Dinner and Festival. Photographs by Tom Amiot.



Families came to enjoy the summertime music in the park after the Farmers' Market.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Burglary: 19100 block of Dowden Circle, 20400 block of White's Ferry Road, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Stolen vehicle: 19500 block of Jerusalem Road, 19500 block of Halmos Road.

Assault: 18200 block of Darnestown Road, 17500 block of Hoskinson Road, 16900 block of White Ground Road.

Disorderly conduct/drug complaint: 20100 block of Fisher Avenue, 17500 block of Collier Circle, 17100 block of Spates Hill Road

Past Crimes

August 9, 1931 A Poolesville farmer was arrested by Montgomery County Police and charged in connection with a scheme where the threshing machines of other farmers were sabotaged. Police said that Algie Gregg placed links of chain, bolts, and stones in other farmer's wheat, so when they operated their machines, they

were badly damaged. In another case, he was said to have placed matches in the wheat which set fire to a thresher and the wheat.

August 13, 1897 During the last day of the camp meeting at Barnesville, a shooting affray broke out costing one man his life and the wounding of others.

August 14, 1909 Deputy Sheriffs Embry and Counselman spent the better part of the day looking for Edward Bradley of Rockville. It was reported that Bradley, a former constable of the county, went to the home of Mrs. Perry, knocked over a stove, became objectionable, and discharged a pistol inside the house.

August 15, 1942 Five emergency policemen were appointed by the county commissioners. They were needed to take the place of regular officers who had been drafted into military service. They were to be paid \$150 a month.

August 15, 1901 James Burch and his five-year-old son were drowned in the quarry at Lime Kiln, Frederick County. They had gone there to water their horses when the boy fell into the water and his father tried to rescue him, resulting in the deaths of both.

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Commentary

Riding the Rails

By John Clayton

The full weight of summer is upon us. While August has thus far been more pleasant than July, it's still pretty hot and occasionally very humid out there. The yellow jacket nests are showing up, there are crape myrtle petals everywhere, and if the trees over our driveway grow any thicker, the UPS guy may never come up here again. I decided this would be a perfect day to swing in a hammock, think great thoughts, and perhaps come up with an idea for a column. Unfortunately, perfect day or not, I do not have a hammock, or even two trees appropriately situated for a hammock. It would take many years to grow two such trees, and even if I started now, I know that I would worry, year after year, that I had not planted the trees in their optimal positions, and the eventual hammocking experience would be less than perfect, even on a perfect day. Considering the time involved led me to thoughts of my own mortality, and I considered how I would be remembered. I believe I will be remembered as one of the people who drove a streetcar on the last run of the Cabin John streetcar line. Surprised, are you? Read on.

First, I would like to say how pleased I am that the District of Columbia is reviving streetcars with new construction along H Street and Benning Road, and more elsewhere later as funds accrue. In my opinion, one

shared by many, the decision to mothball the D.C. streetcar system in the early 1960s was misguided, shortsighted, and just plain wrong. My memory is, and a cursory reading of various web entries confirms, that the system was replaced by buses primarily because the trolley tracks and cars interfered with the progress of the Almighty Automobile, and of course, the City Bus. It was truly a shame.

One can imagine how much better the city and public transportation would have been if the system has been retained and had been able to evolve with Metro in forming a unified and convenient transit system. The streetcars would have remained an integral part of the fabric of the city, and while they may not have quite achieved the grace and charm of San Francisco's cable cars, they would at least have had more grace and charm than metrobuses. Georgetown, for instance, has thrived reasonably well without Metro access, which the community resisted during the initial planning stages as I remember, but I think it would have been better off all along with streetcar service connecting it to the rest of the city.

My small claim to fame, which I share with my father and older sister, came about because my father, who now lives down county, read in the newspaper that the Cabin John Line would be taking its last run one day. (This appears to have occurred on January 3, 1960, I was six and

-Continued on Page 15.

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7. White Lady	16. Snow Giant
8. Sugar Lady	17. September Snow
9. Klondike	

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Youth Sports Fall Sports Preview: Falcons Are Ready

By Jeff Stuart

The *Monocle* checked in with some of the coaches at Poolesville to find out what they are anticipating for the coming fall season.

Girls' Volleyball

"We have six seniors coming back," says veteran girls' volleyball coach Fran Duvall. "Hopefully, we can gain a little size with some new young players. We have a very skilled incoming ninth grader coming in which will allow me some flexibility." The perennially-strong Falcons, last year 15-2, reached the 2A West Regional final last year. The coach is pleased that all but one of her six starters from last year will be returning. Senior Paige Sekerak, the libero® for the past three seasons (a libero is a designated defensive specialist who may enter or exit the match without affecting the number of substitutions her team is allowed), will switch to hitter to make room for freshman Sarah Kenneweg, the sister of Megan Kenneweg who helped anchor the 2008 State Championship team. "I forget she's a freshman sometimes," said Duvall. "I

expect her to be one of the better players." Kenneweg told us that she feels she is ready take on the pressure of high expectations. Seniors, Lauren Rocco (MB), Alayna Hendrix (MB), Christine Antonsen (OH), Abbe Guertin(OH), Shivani Patel (DS/OPP), and Jocelyne Mackie, also return for the Falcons. Junior setter Karishma Patel and junior Lucy Tan (DS) are also back. Hendrix, Antonsen, and Guertin started for the first time last season.

Football

"We are going to be young this year," says Head Football Coach Steve Orsini. "We have some pretty good skill people. Tyler Holston (senior) throws the ball pretty well, and we have some kids that we think can maybe get outside a little bit. Tyler has a strong arm and is ready to play when the opportunity comes." Sophomore Stanley Snowden and senior Matt Gilpin will compete for the center position. "Eric Jansson (6'3", 185) is a big, tall tight end and defensive end who has moved up from the JV...We are looking forward to having him up here. Chris Oyer (G/DE) got an opportunity to play against Potomac last year until we got hit with the swine flu. Then we had to pull some JV kids up to at least be respectable. Chris did a nice job and we were impressed with him." ©

For returning leadership, the

"PHS Preview"
Continued on Page 10.



The 2010-11 Falcon Sports Season: Are you in it?

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Local News

Ballot for Town Charter Referendum Simplified

By Rande Davis

At the August 2, 2010 meeting, the Poolesville Commissioners approved the final wording for a ballot to be used in a public referendum scheduled during the general election this coming November. The referendum is the result of a voter petition drive led by Linda and Don Barnes asking voters to reject the commissioner-proposed changes to the town charter.

Last May, the commissioners proposed twenty-four amendments to the town charter, a document that has not had any revisions since 1982. In the process of developing a ballot for the referendum, the commissioners weighed the possibility of putting each of the twenty-four amendments up for voter consideration. In the final analysis, this proved to be too cumbersome, and instead they voted to simplify the ballot to a simple up or down vote. The question on the ballot for approval or rejection will be: "Do you support the Charter changes adopted pursuant to Charter Amendment Resolution 001-10 containing 24 amendments?"

This means that a voter may be in agreement with twenty-three of the twenty-four amendments but would be compelled to reject the entire resolution should their one objection prove to be of overriding concern to him or her. In the event the voters reject the commissioners' recommendations, there will not be any way of discerning which amendments caused the voter rejection, and the commissioners will choose to simply return to the 1982 document which has served the town for the past twenty-eight years or begin the review process over.

Also at the town meeting, town manager Wade Yost reviewed a Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) close out document detailing the financial status of the town with the start of the new fiscal year, FY11, on July 1, 2010. The document presented the revenue and expenses of the town's General Operating Fund and Water and Sewer Fund through the fiscal year ending on June 31, 2010. At the beginning of the new budget year, Yost reported that the nearly \$2.8 million 2010 General Fund ended "\$67,000 to the good, held \$980,506 in unrestricted funds, and had a total cash on hand of \$4,024,602, this despite a drop of over \$200,000 in funds from State Highway revenue sharing." This was accomplished by postponing sidewalk renovation on Tom Fox Road sidewalks.

Revenue from water sales was insufficient to cover the expenses of the water and sewer fund leaving it \$166,000 short of the \$958,816 operational costs. This shortfall was covered by a grant from the town's General Fund.

Other highlights from the close out statement are: the town spent a total of \$183,451 on town projects, of which \$50,000 came from a grant, including the Fisher Avenue streetscape which cost \$22,193, \$116,348 on swale repair on Westerly Avenue, and \$35,944 for streetlight purchases.

The town expended \$324,103 for parks and recreation including \$140,762 for the new skateboard park, for which they received a \$175,000 grant, \$119,373 for development of Dr. Dillingham Park, and the remainder for the Fisher Avenue Trail system (money for this coming from developer impact fees), Whalen Commons lighting, the Wootton Tot Lot, and Halmos Park upgrades.

The cost of the new town band shell was \$214,221, \$100,000 of which came from a grant. The town gained revenue for restricted funds of \$29,038 (partial payment) on an insurance policy on the town

gazebo which was destroyed by heavy snow this past winter. Of that sum, \$28,000 was used for electricity for Dillingham Park. Developer proffer revenue was \$184,051 from Winchester Homes and \$6,250 from Kettler Forlines, which began selling homes this past spring.

The town debt service has a loan for Water and Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) of \$82,951 (interest rate of 3.5%) with a payoff date of FY12. A loan with 1.2% interest for WWTP expansion of \$74,245 and Wesmond Inflow and Infiltration \$83,601 at 1%.

General announcements included congratulatory comments on the success of the CEDC's Farmers' Market. Both events this year have resulted in well over 250 people for each event and include satisfactory reports from participating vendors. The Poolesville Military Support Group (PMSG), which donated \$10,000 to the Fisher House, presented the commissioners with a plaque from Fisher House in appreciation for the support of PMSG and the town. The plaque will be displayed in the town hall.

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Poolesville Farmers' Market

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4pm -8pm: Local vendors selling fresh produce, sweet corn, honey, artisan cheeses, specialty coffee, breads, pastries, dog treats, soaps and more.

4pm - 6:30pm: Come and enjoy demonstrations by local sports organizations.

7pm - 9pm: End the evening with Ernie Bradley and the Grassy Ridge who will play traditional bluegrass music.

Booth space is available for \$5 to all Poolesville home-based and retail businesses.



For more info and vendor applications, visit www.poolesville.com

Mystery History

Memories of Growing Up in Poolesville

By Rande Davis

As you can imagine, live television doesn't always go as planned. The recent Fox 5 extravaganza was no exception. In opening the show, Ray Hoewing did a masterful job of relating the history of Poolesville, and Dots Elgin was to be asked about what it was like to grow up in Poolesville in the 1930s and 1940s. Alas, a five-to-six-minute segment became a two-minute interview, and Dots was left with her memories and a cherry pie in hand. At least, she got a chance to get the cherry pie to anchorwoman, Allison Seymour.

The *Monocle* has heard her stories and didn't want our readers to miss out on her interesting and intriguing tales, so we sat down with Dots and asked her to recall growing up in Poolesville and to describe what may surprise those of us who were not around town back "in the old days." Though almost ninety-one years old, she rattled off some of

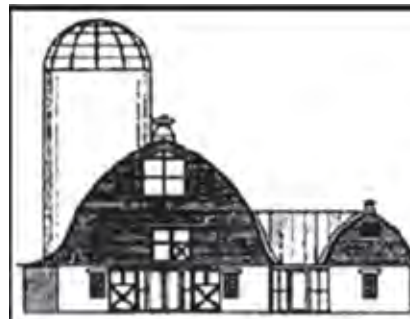
her memories as if they happened only yesterday.

Dots Jones grew up on a farm in Dickerson, and while today it is considered very close to Poolesville, back in the 1930s, she would have been thought of as an out-of-towner. She remembers going to the Dickerson School by stick buggy (an open-topped horse buggy), and that the school had a stable nearby where the horses could be kept. Her brother would join her on the buggy from the farm to the school but would then take a train to school in Rockville.

While attending Poolesville High School, when a heavy snowstorm hit the area, she had to stay in town at Dr. Elijah White's house, which is the farm home situated in the middle of Elizabeth's Delight. Through the deep snow she would ride her horse to the bus stop. Before hopping on the bus, she would "rein up" the horse and send him back riderless to the farm.

As you can imagine, much of their social entertainment came from their own creativity. She and her girlfriends banded together in a small club they called the Prissies, although it doesn't mean what we might think it means. It was more like the

-Continued on Page 8.



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Suburbia Moves into the Agricultural Reserve

At the July 22 Planning Commission hearing, the Board approved the construction of Barnesville Oaks, a 21 house subdivision ("clustering") on Peach Tree Road close to two other large suburban-style developments. Adding the new subdivision to existing homes in the area, there will be approximately 50 homes along a narrow, winding rustic road in the middle of the Reserve. Few of the inhabitants of these homes will have any direct relationship to farming.

While a significant number of residents and community activists spoke against the proposal, the commissioners felt that the clustering of 21 one-family residential lots and 3 "outlots" did not violate current laws for construction in the Agriculture Reserve.

Here are facts about clustering in the RDT zone (as expressed by Royce Hanson, the former Chairman of the Planning Board), **"The RDT zone as it now reads, does not contain a regular clustering provision. De Facto clustering has occurred ... by bunching smaller lots together on relatively smaller acreage in order to preserve as much farmland as possible. An artifact of the way the zone was written ... has allowed this sort of clustering to occur."**

Whatever we feel about this subdivision, there are crucial questions that need to be answered:

1. Do large suburban style clusters with no relationship to farming undermine the purpose of the Ag. Reserve?
2. Who will pay for the impact on traffic, road maintenance, and sewer and water resources?
3. Since suburban lifestyles and farming generally do not mix what will be the future of our food and fiber production?

Part of the answers to these questions lie in proposed text amendments to the RDT zone which have been sent to the County Council. **One of these addresses the problem of subdividing RDT land for "estate" homes which have little relationship to preserving agricultural land and farming.**

Two other future measures considered by Park and Planning staff might be even more to the point. In the current revision of the zoning code a change in title to the RDT zone to Agriculture-Conservation is sought which would allow residences as an accessory use to agriculture. Guidelines will also be developed for keeping new residences in character with their communities.



Growing up in the 1930s, these ladies formed a club called the Prissies when they were younger. Pictured are Dots Jones Elgin, Carolyn Gray Marshall, Florence White Van Emmon, Frances Shears Minnick.

"Memories of Growing up in Poolesville" Continued From Page 7.

way we use the word "bad" for "good" today. "We were far from prissy," she says. Much of their free time included board games, cards, house parties, and roller skating, often down the middle of White's Ferry Road, reaching the best speeds on the slope just after the entrance to where the county pool is today. Today, we have movies in the park, back then

"Montgomery County Council" Continued From Page 1.

approximately seventy-member audience since previous forums had drawn only twenty to thirty attendees.

Candidates were given a few minutes for opening and closing remarks, but the bulk of the two-and-a-half-hour event was devoted to answering questions from a panel of community leaders. Topics included fiscal belt-tightening, transportation, protection of the Agricultural Reserve, and special taxing districts.

While incumbents touted the benefits of experience—"I'm happy to take my hits for making hard decisions," said Council President Nancy M. Floreen (D-At large) of Garrett Park—challengers like Sharon Dooley of Olney advocated for change. "It is time for new ideas," Dooley said. "We need leadership."

All of the candidates professed support for the preservation of the Agricultural Reserve and either denounced or questioned the Clarksburg special taxing districts, created by the county to finance infrastructure such as roads by imposing special taxes and assessments on properties in developing areas but not yet implemented. "When you have a council that's beholden to the developers, you end up with things like development districts," said Robert Dyer of Bethesda.

"[Developers] are the ones making the profit; they're the ones who should pay for the infrastructure," Charles Kirchman of Germantown said.

Poolesville actually had a movie theater. One of the most popular activities was to watch the silent movies in Hempstone Hall, which today is Poolesville Hardware. Dances were a very big thing back then, especially since dance instructors were PHS senior boys.

Dots witnessed the many changes and relocations of the telephone company in town. She still remembers her original phone number: 9-F-22. To dial, one had to "crank up" the number

Councilman George L. Leventhal (D-At large) of Takoma Park said that while such special taxing areas can work when imposed early, it was too late for Clarksburg. "We cannot move forward unless we revisit the issue," he said.

Floreen agreed that the districts were currently "not equitable."

On other questions, responses were more varied. Asked for specific ways to improve the county's fiscal responsibility, several candidates said they would revisit the compensation offered county employees such as firefighters, while Dyer added potential cuts in the departments of economic development and health and human services. Royce Hanson of Montgomery Village, the former chairman of the Montgomery County Planning Board, advocated concentrating on commercial rather than residential taxes.

Poolesville Commissioner Eddie Kuhlman said he would guide the county toward living within its means. "We can't be everything to everybody anymore; that's all," he said.

Anita Anderson of Germantown attended an earlier forum for District 2 candidates but said the Clarksburg event widened her focus to include the at-large races. "I've realized I need to learn more about how the world works, or at least the county," Anderson said. "The at-large [seats] are just as important."

After September's primary election, the general election will be held November 2.

to make a call. To call home meant cranking (dialing) two longs and two shorts.

Church was central to life in Poolesville. She was baptized, confirmed, and married at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Unlike the customary Thanksgiving family dinners of today, a community Thanksgiving dinner at St. Peter's was normal. Most people did not cook Thanksgiving dinner at home. "We would all pitch in and cook the dinner for all to share at St. Peter's, although it was for the whole community, not just the congregants."

Dots was eleven years old when the Poolesville National Bank collapsed in 1930. She still remembers losing all of her \$32.40 savings which she had transferred from a piggy bank. "People lost everything, they couldn't even afford a loaf of bread, but we helped each other out and eventually got by.

Poolesville didn't have a Fox 5 Hometown Friday come to town in the old days, but it did have the Radcliffe Chautauqua. This three-day event was a traveling

tent show offering a mixture of serious professorial lectures in the morning with entertainment shows later on. They would set up the tent where the Poolesville Baptist Church is now. After the professors finished their public speaking, the audience would be entertained by a variety show of male quartets, dancing girls, and unique instrumental solos with lyre and hand bell to name but a few. Perhaps the most popular feature of the Chautauqua were the one-act plays.

Dots graduated from Poolesville High School in 1937 in a class of eighteen. She went to Baltimore to become a registered nurse and was married, as she affectionately states, "fifty-five and half years" to husband Charles Elgin, Sr., a former mayor of Poolesville. Dots is considered by many as a sort of "first lady of Poolesville." Perhaps this is so because she was the wife of a longtime mayor, but more likely because she remains first in the hearts of so many.

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In the Garden

Fall in the Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

It is mid-August; the weather is still very hot and humid; rainfall is below average; you are at the beach; and children are squeezing out the last two weeks of freedom before the school bells ring. Other than maybe ordering or buying some tulip and daffodil bulbs, you are probably not thinking of planting trees, shrubs, or perennials in the next



month or two. Think again. Most horticulturists believe that the fall is the best time to plant them for several reasons.

After the cold, bleak, gray days of winter, gardeners are mentally geared to get excited about plants for a spring garden. Mid-August brings a different mindset. You are tired of working in the garden, and there are new activities to tend to. True as this is, don't waste this window of time to get a jumpstart on your 2011 spring and summer garden plans. Trees, shrubs, and perennials planted in the spring have to immediately acclimate themselves to their new homes and begin growing immediately. They have to produce leaves, flowers, and then face summer heat and often summer drought. Plants set out in the fall have the summer's peak heat behind them, the potential promise of fall's soaking rains, and the still-warm soil to enable immediate and deep root growth. At this time, you can also get a better picture of your garden and see where it needs some rearrangement and

additional plantings. In the early spring before new growth appears, we often forget what was planted where. Remember trying to plant in spring's compacted, soggy soil? In the fall, the soil is more agreeable; it is easier to dig and amend.

The only downside of fall planting is that availability of some plants is more limited. This is changing, especially at larger nurseries. They are becoming more aware of the positive points and gardeners' interest in fall planting, and they are stocking more plants. Catalogs, such as those of White Flower Farm, Wayside Gardens, and Burpee, offer a wide range of plants in their fall catalogs.

This spring and summer season has been quite surprising for my gardens. Considering the extreme heat and dearth of rainfall, my trees, shrubs, and perennials have done remarkably well. Because of the drought, the ground has been too hard for the Japanese beetles to lay their larvae, and fungus diseases were not able to get a foothold. Here

are six great trees, shrubs, and perennials that weathered this summer and are good candidates to plant this fall.

1. Heritage River Birch (*Betula nigra* 'Heritage') – This beautiful, hardy, medium-sized birch tree is a good selection for our zone 6 location. Its tactile, salmon-colored bark peels away, leaving a cinnamon-colored skin underneath.

2. Hydrangea – This has been a banner year for my hydrangeas. I admit that they do wilt very quickly in hot weather, but they also bounce right back with a good drink of water. I strongly recommend Endless Summer, Incrediball, and the Oakleaf Hydrangea 'Snow Queen.'

3. Lilac – To me, the lilac is my most favorite harbinger of spring. Create a special lilac border and fill it with these three beautiful, fragrant varieties: the ice-blue *Syringa patula* 'Miss Kim,' *S. vulgaris* 'Lavender Lady,' and the rare, yellow-toned *S. vulgaris* x 'Primrose.'

4. Lilies – If you don't have

-Continued on Page 17.

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"PHS Preview" Continued From Page 5.



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Falcons will look to three seniors. They won three of the last five games last year with Tyler as quarterback, and Robert Winning (FB/LB) seems to be a guy the kids really rally around. "He is one of the hardest workers we have had here in years," said Orsini. "He is in the weight room all the time. He also wrestles." The Falcons count on others like receiver Marty Michaels (SE/C 6', 145) who has stepped it up this year. "He played part time last year. We are expecting big things from him." Junior Andrew Mlynarczyk (HB/LB) was one of the hardest workers during the off season. "He will be competing for the tailback position."

The early season could be very tough until they gain some experience; thereafter, the Falcons could be very competitive.

Looking at how the football season rolls out, Orsini reviewed their challenge. "We start off at Brunswick and they have Ian Fisher (6'6", 236) at quarterback; they are always tough. Then Rockville (8-2 last year) comes to us. They have Crusoe Gongbay (6', 175), probably one of the classic rushers in the county. Potomac and Maryland School for the Deaf are very strong teams." Challenges aside, the Falcons are encouraged in that they won three of their last five games. "We need to pick it up where we left off," opined the coach.

Soccer

The boys' soccer team, under Coach Christos Nicholas, is in a rebuilding mode after losing last year's captains, Alex Pfiser, Logan Wilson, and Ryan Campbell, to graduation. Senior Brendan Carney returns. The girls' soccer team, under Coach Christina Mann, is in a similar position, losing a strong group of seniors, but senior Holly Chittenden, junior Jessica Payne, and tenth graders, Hannah Patton and Victoria Yee, return.

Field Hockey

While Coach Gina Grubb's field hockey team lost to Century in the 2A Region final last year (1-0, in double overtime), they look like they will be strong contenders as has become their custom. They lost outstanding midfielder Lori Defnet and eight other seniors to graduation, but Amy Defnet returns in goal, along with Katie Duncan, Chantal Agnew, Kristina Dalton (Jr), Grace Zhang, and Jesse Tyler all returning for a strong defense. Diamond Ewell, Jamie Auslander, Kallan Ludder, and Allyson Dahlen return on offense.

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Things to Do

August 13
 Music in the Park
 Featuring: Sean Collins and the Buckbeats
 Whalen Commons, 7:30 p.m.

August 14
 Beef & Corn Family Style Dinner
 Carroll Manor Grange #406
 2793 Adams St., Adamstown
 \$14.00 per person
 \$7.00 12 and under
 Carry out available
 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

August 16
 Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting
 Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

August 19
 Plant Clinic
 Poolesville Library
 Master Gardeners Terri Pitts and Pam Hosimer will be on hand at the Poolesville Library to answer all your plant and garden needs. Registration is not required.
 7:00 p.m.

August 20
 Super Seven Bingo
 Carroll Manor Fire Dept., Adamstown
 Doors open: 5:30 p.m.
 Games start: 7:00 p.m.
 7 games Coach Pocketbooks, 7 games Longaberger Baskets, 7 games \$50 Cash
 3 Specials, 2 Raffles, King Tuts Refreshments Available
 \$20.00 per person

August 21
 Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: St. Judd and Brian White
 8:00 p.m.

Movies in the Park
 Featuring: *Up*
 Whalen Commons, 8:30 p.m.

August 25
 CEDC Meeting
 Poolesville Town Hall
 7:30 p.m.

August 27
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Whalen Commons, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
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Music in the Park
 Featuring: Ernie Bradley and the Grassy Ridge Band
 Traditional bluegrass, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

August 28
 Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: Slant Six with special guests
 8:00 p.m.

Movies in the Park
 Featuring: *The Princess and the Frog*
 Whalen Commons, 8:30 p.m.



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"Commentary" Continued from Page 4.

my sister a few weeks shy of nine years old.) As I remember my father saying (I did not interview him for this article, so I hope I have this right), he thought it might be fun to go down and be part of the festivities as the Cabin John Line was solemnly shut down. When we arrived at wherever it was we went in northwest Washington to board the last car, we were, alas, the only ones. This made four of us, counting the driver (motorman?), for the last ride of the Cabin John Line.

My memory is that at some point out in the wilds of Glen Echo or thereabouts, before the end of the line, the car was stopped, and my dad and the driver chatted and smoked cigarettes. I was a little shocked at this, knowing that smoking was forbidden on buses and streetcars, but I picked up that this was a special adult kind of moment, manly and a little illicit. It looked like fun—I couldn't wait until I could smoke. (Editor's note: All

of the people mentioned in this article wisely gave up cigarettes, and you shouldn't even start.) At some point, my sister and I got to drive the streetcar. One obviously didn't steer it, and I suppose there was an accelerator of some sort, but what I mainly remember is that there was a pedal you had to hold down or a loud bell started ringing in the back. I imagine this was some sort of dead man's switch, but I only remember that my six-year-old self had great trouble maintaining motion without that cursed bell ringing, and I believe the experience was, while somewhat fun, also to some degree more frustrating than anything, not unlike golf. Not surprisingly, I believe my sister had more success, but be that as it may, I have indeed driven a streetcar, and I rode on the final voyage of the Cabin John Line. It's not a big thing, but I'm glad my father had a notion to take us down there. It's the sort of thing I will think about on my hammock—someday.

Local News

Barnesville Oaks Plan Approved

By Kristen Milton

More than a score of new homes were approved for the single largest farm in the county at the close of a four-hour Planning Board hearing July 22 that drew a full house, mostly Upcounty residents.

Red and white signs opposing the controversial Barnesville Oaks subdivision, slated for 840 acres on Peachtree Road between Poolesville and Barnesville, were seen in the Upcounty for weeks leading up to the hearing. Of the approximately ninety citizen letters board staff received, seventy letters and a 228-signature petition opposed the development, citing concerns that the clustered houses were inappropriate in the Agricultural Reserve in prin-

ciple and could have specific negative impacts on area traffic, scenic vistas, and water supplies. "Whatever you do, don't let the Ag Reserve die of a thousand cuts," said Thomas Gutierrez of Poolesville, one of twenty-two hearing speakers. "This is one of those cuts."

Supporters of the plan, including planning staff who recommended approval, said the configuration of the new houses preserved more than ninety percent of the farmland while being screened from the rural roads and protecting environmental resources.

Planning staffer Richard Weaver said a declaration of intent to continue to farm had been filed by the property owner. The remaining farm tracts would be made up of 369 and 411 acres, cumulatively still the largest farm in the county, according to the planners' report.

Robert Jamison of Poolesville, farmer and real estate broker, said the plans complied

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with all county requirements and reflected the development rights farmers retained after the 1981 creation of the Agricultural Reserve. "I can empathize with the people in this room who are going to have to deal with traffic," Jamison said, "but somewhere we have to have real property rights respected and zoning laws respected."

"[The plan employs] no sand mounds, no special exceptions, and no child lots," said D.C. attorney Katharine Sexton, the agent for property owner Balsa-mah Corporation, citing various development tools often unpopular among Upcounty residents. "There is room for both development and agriculture to live and prosper side by side."

According to the plans, all three housing clusters, consisting of thirteen, five, and three homes, would access Peach Tree Road. Three outlots that did not pass percolation tests for septic systems would also be created and could potentially be built on

in the future. Most of the homes would be constructed in what is currently forest, which would screen them from view, planning staff argued.

Existing structures on the property include two primary and seven tenant homes which were a source of contention for many speakers who felt they should have been included in consideration of the total permitted density. The planning board eventually drafted a condition requiring the nine houses be included, a move attorney Steve Orens said the owner may appeal but which Carrier said was necessary to "take this land out of play."

In the end, the preliminary plan, including the new condition, was approved, 4-1, with Commissioner Amy Pressley opposing.

Sexton said the property currently produced hay and crops

-Continued on page 17.

Tidbits

Poolesville Olympian Returns Home with Medals and Memories

Poolesville's Alisa Ogden was one of two women on the Maryland Special Olympics bowling team. The sports competition was held in Omaha, Nebraska from July 18 to July 23. She is a dedicated athlete who worked hard in preparation for the Olympics with a heavy regimen of swimming, dancing, walking, using exercise equipment, exercise videos, eating healthy, and, of course, bowling.

Alisa, the daughter of Raymond and Coree Ogden, is a clerk at Imagination Stage in Germantown and has a wide diversity of interests including singing (she once auditioned for American Idol in Philadelphia), horseback riding, public speaking, and country music.

Alisa kept a wonderful

record of her experience during the Olympics on her blog site: Ten Pins & Courage to "Spare." One of her entries typifies her up close and personal reporting style: "Yesterday, I bowled the singles event. It was exciting as we sang the National Anthem and held our hands over our hearts. Then the games began. I tried my hardest for all three games. Last night was the awards ceremony, and I was honored to stand on the podium and to have the beautiful, seventh place medal placed around my neck. It made me cry and the applause was deafening!!"

Team Maryland proudly came away in fifth place overall, which is an outstanding performance especially for a national event. Reading her blog is an inspiring, uplifting, and entirely entertaining thing to do and can be found at alisagden.blogspot.com.



Special Olympics athlete-bowler, Alisa Ogden, and her supportive family.



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"Fall Garden" Contined From Page 9.

4. Lilies – If you don't have any Oriental, Trumpet, and/or Orienpet lilies in your garden, you are missing the most exquisite and fragrant flowers of the garden world. I recommend 'Stargazer,' 'Casa Blanca,' 'White Lace,' 'Silk Road,' and 'Leslie Woodriff.'

5. Hosta – These rugged groundcover plants offer lush tapestry for shady areas. Forget about the simple, green-with-white-edges variety your grandmother grew in her garden. Today, there are over seventy species, all of them from China and Japan. They grow in shade or partial sun, in average soil, and are not bothered by most insects and diseases. Slugs do like a bite, but that is easily controlled with slug bait. Look for these varieties: 'Patriot,' 'Venus,' 'Elegans,' 'Aphrodite,' 'Fragrant Blue,' and my favorite, miniature 'Blue Mouse Ears.'

6. Coneflower (*Echinacea*) – This plant has come a long way from its days of one color, magenta. This hardy, durable, native perennial stands up to drought, heat, deer, poor soil, and neglect. What more could you ask for? A wonderful addition to your sunny border, and they now come in a vast array of vivid colors from pink to white to lilac to yellow to orange, coral, and lime.

There are many more wonderful selections; these are just a few recommendations that have performed very well in my gardens.

"Barnesville Oaks" Contined From Page 15.

as well as serving as pasture for cattle and horses. She noted that the Potomac Hunt Club and others used the land for equestrian uses, a practice that would continue with the establishment of an equestrian easement that was one of the plan conditions.

At the start of the hearing some residents expressed concern and frustration that they were unable to contact the property owner in order to discuss conservation options. Sexton said Balsamah, a foreign corporation once known as Malsama Corporation, had owned the land for thirty years. The corporations were formed in the Netherlands Antilles.

A July 30 email from Montgomery Countryside Alliance, one of the groups in opposition to the plan, stated its intention to file a motion to reconsider the board's decision in partnership with Sugarloaf Citizens' Association.



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Local News

Boy Scout Jamboree: Arena Show

By Derrick Larson, Troop 496, Poolesville

On Wednesday, July 28, Scouts and Scouters mobilized at the 2010 National Scout Jamboree for an Arena Show. There was a long hike to get to the arena with people walking for 1½ hours to 2½ hours.

When the Scouts and Scouters got to the arena, they were amazed at how big it was. Scouts from every subcamp (there are twenty-one subcamps with a lot of troops in each) gathered in one large field which was divided into five segments, one for each of the four regions and one for the visitors.

When the Arena Show started, 860 flags were paraded down the center aisle like one big color guard. Mainly, there were

American flags, but some international flags were there, too. After that Natalie White began to sing the "Star-Spangled Banner."

When White left the stage, the 22nd Secretary of Defense, Robert Gates spoke. He congratulated Boy Scouts on their services. He also said, "The only thing I had done to distinguish me from the other high school kids was to get Eagle." These words might inspire other Scouts to earn Eagle (the highest rank) just to stand out from the crowd. Chief Scout Executive Robert (Bob) Maz-zuca also came and spoke to the Scouts. He said, "Scouting is my life. You are my life."

The Scouts were given entertainment by the United States Air Force Drill Team. They performed the "Domino Effect," when one person does something and everyone else performs the same move. They also were able to spin their weapons at forty miles per hour at a hair's breadth from their bodies. Life Scout Jerome Grant said, "I certainly couldn't do what they're doing."

Another move they did was to have one person walk up and down an aisle while everyone else was spinning their weapons really fast. The person who did this didn't even get hit by one weapon.

An army drill sergeant came to speak with the Scouts, "The Guard will always support the Scouts." He also said, "As you go through life, never let your en-

emies eat your breakfast." When he left, the United States Army Parachute Team, also known as the Golden Knights, led by Dan Cook, dropped down. First Class Scout Phillip Barone said, "It's like they dropped out of the sky because I can't see the plane," as he watched the team come down.

Virginia Governor Bob

-Continued From Page 21.



Flags start to march down the center aisle at the Boy Scout Jamboree.

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Local News

Global Church Hits New Hurdle

By Kristin Milton

A Frederick County judge has upheld a decision that denied water and sewer service to the church hoping to build on Sugarloaf Mountain.

Global Mission Church, an English/Korean Southern Baptist congregation based in Silver Spring, has spent years working toward construction of a religious complex straddling the Montgomery/Frederick County line whose first phase would include a 1,160-seat sanctuary as well as sixty-seven meeting rooms, a dining hall, and a gymnasium.

In September 2008, church representatives requested an amendment to Frederick County's water and sewer plan in order to give the church property

a higher sewage capacity. When the Frederick County Planning Commission voted 4-2 against the application, the church appealed to the court system.

In an eighteen-page opinion dated July 23, Circuit Court Judge G. Edward Dwyer said planners acted within their authority in denying the application.

In fact, Dwyer wrote, testimony provided by the Global Mission "demonstrated and emphasized" the intensive nature of their development plans. "The [planning commission] committed no error in considering the developmental issues and environmental impacts directly related to the massive size of [Global's] proposed water and septic systems," Dwyer said.

Frederick planners have since rejected another proposal from the church that estimated water and sewer needs at 4,999 gallons-per-day, one gallon short of needing the amendment. The church said it made several changes in favor of conservation before submitting the new plans,

which were defeated in October 2009

Global Mission also appealed that decision and received the support of the Frederick Board of Appeals in January when the decision was remanded back to the planning board for reconsideration. A request for review of that decision has been filed in Circuit Court by both the planning commission and Frederick County commission and is expected to be heard in September.



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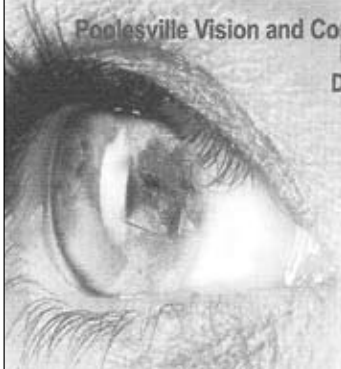
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"Cancer Report" Continued From Page 1

radioactivity in groundwater, potential air contaminants from sources near Poolesville, and other factors.

The CDC evaluation showed that the number and distribution of cancer cases within Poolesville are not significantly different from cancer in Montgomery County and Maryland as a whole during the same time period through 2003. The current report extends the analysis from 1992 to 2007. As with the preliminary report of 2009, this updated analysis also concludes that overall number and pattern of cancer cases within Poolesville are not significantly different from the pattern and number of cases in Montgomery County and Maryland.

Dr. Mitchell explained that the geographical definition of Poolesville for the study reaches beyond the town's boundaries to include the entire 20837 zip code. He described the new study as a "robust and reassuring comparison of cancer rates in Poolesville." The

Maryland Cancer Registry listed forty types of cancer with a total of 191 incidents reported. The study determined what the reported actual incidents of each cancer type were in comparison to expected rates.

Dr. Tillman encouraged residents to make their questions known to the county Department of Health and Human Services and suggested use of the county's new phone number of 311 as the helpline in having those questions addressed.

While considered a final report on current data available, Dr. Tillman emphasized that the state and county will be "following up on the CDC's recommendation that they should continue the surveillance of cancers annually, generally, and review case data for cancer concerns and recalculations of standard incident ratios as data from 2008 and 2009 come to completion."

The Maryland DHMH and Montgomery County DHHS will continue to monitor Poolesville for incidents of cancer and report again to the town in 2012. The entire report will be linked to the town's website at www.ci.poolesville.


"Boy Scout Jamboree" Continued From Page 18.

McDonnell said, "If you work hard, dream big, and follow the Golden Rule, you can accomplish anything." Caressa Cameron (Miss Virginia 2009, Miss America 2010) said, "I always held my friends accountable for what they did." She performed "America, the Beautiful." Scouting Commissioner Tico Perez said, "Scouts and Scouters are just great people."

The show ended with the United States Army Herald Trumpets playing "Heroic Fanfare" to honor 9/11.

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