



The PHS Coed Volleyball Team prepares for the challenge. Read about them in Youth Sports on page 10.



All the technology in the world can't replace a small town Postmaster like this one. Say goodbye to Joey Caywood in Tidbits on page 16.



A tree branch in the closet is an unwelcome event. Find out why on page 8.

Barnesville Commissioner Elections

The voters of Barnesville elected Luke Fedders, Bonnie Brown, and Mildred Callear as commissioners. The three commissioners subsequently selected Luke Fedders to serve as mayor in accordance with the town charter. The commissioners serve two-year terms without pay.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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George Kephart: A Servant to America and The Community Passes Away

By Rande Davis

On April 29, 2011, while attending a family reunion in North Carolina, Poolesville's George O. Kephart, Sr. passed away. Mr. Kephart remained very active despite the ailments of aging. Most recently, he served on the Board of Directors of the MOOseum and on the advisory board of the Montgomery Countryside Alliance. After a day of visiting family, he retired to bed and passed away peacefully in his sleep.

On Friday, May 6, he will return one last time to his beloved home, Chiswell Inheritance, at the corner of Beallsville and Jerusalem Roads, where the family will receive friends and family from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

His funeral will be at St. Peter's Episcopal Church on Saturday, May 7 at 3:00 p.m. After the

Second Fire In Barnesville Destroys Home

By Rande Davis

On Wednesday, April 19, a residence on Beallsville Road was reported to be on fire at about 3:00 p.m. The home is located just north of the Hilton Funeral Home and was formerly the home of the Donald Barr family. The structure was more than one hundred years old and was more recently owned by a Mr. Rutledge.

Montgomery County Police arrived at the scene and kicked

funeral, he will be interred at Monocacy Cemetery in Beallsville followed by a reception at Chiswell Inheritance.

The Monocle previously published a tribute to Mr. Kephart and his late wife Mary Ann. In respect for his lifelong contribution to our nation and community, we are honored to provide the following excerpt, with a few updates, as a tribute to him and to offer it as a fond farewell to a man of accomplishment, a concerned neighbor, and a good friend.

An Odyssey of Travel, Sailing, and Intrigue

By Rande Davis

We think if Ian Fleming, Jacques Cousteau, and Bob Vila got together to write a book, the result would be the Kephart Story. How else to explain an undercover CIA agent with expert training in seamanship and navigation spending a life with a person whose passion is old houses?

Mary Ann and George

open a locked door to release a German shepherd inside. The fire was believed to have begun in the kitchen area then spread throughout the first floor and quickly spread to the second level and the attic.

No one was home at the time, nor was anyone injured from the event. It was reported that Mr. Rutledge and his fiancée are due to be married, and the fire department was asked to retrieve a wedding ring still in the home. The ring was found in its box with no damage to it at



George Kephart, Sr. with his late wife Mary Ann.

Kephart met at and graduated from the University of Maryland. George loved to share the story of how they first met. George spotted Mary Ann sitting in front of her sorority house in despair and in tears. Her boyfriend had been taken to a hospital in Baltimore, and she had no way to get there. George decided to help her, and they spent the next sixty-seven years

-Continued on Page 15.

all. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.



Former Barr residence in Barnesville.

Family Album

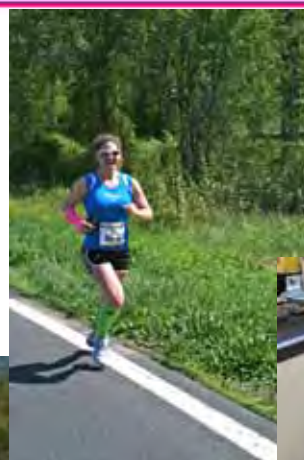


*The Family Album is sponsored by
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PHS student Jee Won Park took Best in Show in the Congressional Art contest. Congressman Chris Van Hollen congratulates her.

This hearty team from Baltimore rendezvoused in the parking lot of Elijah Methodist Church as they prepared for the next leg of the Odyssey Relay Race to benefit people with cancer.



Deirdre Weadcock was one of over 250 runners going from Gettysburg to Washington during the April 20 Odyssey Relay Run to benefit the Well Community-DC for people battling cancer.



The talented winner of the PES PTA 50th Anniversary contest to redesign the logo for the elementary school, Max Fisher from the third grade, has begun working with professional graphic artist Anne-Marie Thomas of AnyArt

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Local News

2011 BlackRock Center for the Arts Spring Gala

By Maureen O'Connell

On Friday, April 29, 2011, the BlackRock Center for the Arts held its annual Spring Gala at its beautiful facility in Germantown. Its theme this year was "Gems and Jewels, Celebrating the Many Facets of BlackRock." It is now nine years young, and as Co-Gala Chairs Tom and Melane Hoffmann so fittingly said, "As many of you know, we've been involved with BlackRock since the early days, when it was truly a diamond in the rough." It has matured over these years, and it is now an important part of the community, offering a diverse selection of local, national, and international artists on its stages and in its galleries. They also

offer educational opportunities in a variety of arts disciplines to young and old. In addressing the attendees, Honorary Chairwoman Catherine Leggett, a longtime supporter of BlackRock, reminded all that their contributions, either financially or in volunteer time, make a difference in keeping the arts alive in the upper county.

Successful centers, such as BlackRock, do not operate on staff alone; volunteers are critical. This gala gave the community a chance to offer a thank you to the many people who have worked diligently over the years to make this a reality. The honorees this year were: volunteer, Mildred Mac Vicar; community leader and BlackRock volunteer and past board member, Vicki Crawford; and corporate partner, Mid-Atlantic Federal Credit Union.

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Business Briefs

T-Mobile Meets with PACC

As T-Mobile continues its public meetings to advance placement of up to six new communication antennas for broadband wireless access in the Upcounty rural area, company representatives met with the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce at the chamber's Board of Director meeting on April 14. Hillorie Morrison, a zone manager there on behalf of T-Mobile, provided a power point presentation outlining the company's plans and goals in the coming months.

The locations targeted are in Poolesville (Jerusalem Road, Offutt Road, and White's Ferry Road), in Dickerson (Mt. Ephraim Road and Wasche Road), and in Barnesville (Old Hundred Road). The representatives told the chamber that while they prefer to mount the equipment on currently-existing facilities or on

existing buildings or structures, they also consider inside antennas that would appear to be a silo or flagpole or otherwise obscured by the natural environment.

The public hearing on the Mt. Ephraim Road site will be on May 20 before a Montgomery County Hearing Examiner at 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville. For this site, the proposal is to build a silo in which the antennas are flush-mounted to the outside of the silo.

Mr. William O'Brien, Real Estate Manager, T-Mobile Washington-Baltimore Market, told the *Monocle*, "It is our hope that we can implement a plan that increases the opportunity for broadband access, that has community support, and [that] is sensitive to the unique visual setting of the area."

Readers can review the T-Mobile presentation at www.monocleonline.com.

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Commentary

Memorial to Whom?

By Rande Davis

As the nation roars its exaltation that Osama bin Laden is no longer in a position to do us harm, we celebrate the heroic and dedicated work of our military; so many have served so bravely in this ongoing battle to stave off the threat from terrorists—many giving their lives. Building a memorial for them is an honor, and we do it proudly without controversy.

But what about a memorial to honor those from Poolesville who served the South during the Civil War?

I must admit my first thoughts were: Why? Why now? Maybe it would be better to avoid this controversy, especially in a world already deluged with hot and divisive disagreements.

When Poolesville High School student Matthew Heimbach made the proposal to the town commissioners, he made it clear that the notion was not intended in any way to honor slavery. Rather, he explained that it would be to recognize the historically-correct dominance of Southern sympathizers living in Poolesville at the time and to further educate that all who served in the Civil War “were American.”

While Northern troops marched to the music that echoed “to make men free,” I think it very reasonable to accept that the vast majority of those fighting for Dixie, especially of lower ranks, did not fight and die so that a few powerful landowners could own slaves. More likely, in their hearts, they fought and died for home and their fellow comrades-in-arms. It is difficult for us today to understand the level of state pride and identification held by Americans 150 years ago. Even General Robert E. Lee, a West Point graduate, and someone Lincoln hoped to have on his side, was torn by whom to fight

for, but, in the end, he decided he could never fight against Virginia.

As she did during our post-revolutionary time, Maryland again hedged her bets on taking sides, dragging out a decision to secede or not. On the one hand, I suspect then as now, many Marylanders depended on the federal government for their livelihood and supported the North. On the other, it should not be surprising that many living in the wilderness (yes, that is what Poolesville was back then) far from the capital, but very close to Virginia, identified with the South, indeed, considered themselves Southerners through and through; however, this was not the historically-significant role of Poolesville during the Civil War. The fact that up to 20,000 Union troops were stationed here for the better part of the war, making sure that Washington, D.C. would not be cut off from the North, was its role, and that role should not be diminished. At an auspicious moment, thousands of Southerners crossing the Potomac River to storm Washington could have completely changed history.

Jerry Klobukowski recently sent me an interesting note. While he and his six-year-old granddaughter were visiting the American Civil War Museum in Gettysburg, he noticed an interesting bit of information: Maryland citizens enlisting in the Union Army numbered 46,638 while those doing so for the South were 3,323. Many in the Union ranks for Maryland were actually from other states, but it is clear that when the final decision had to be made, Marylanders sided with the North. The young man making the proposal should be applauded for his sincere desire to give honor to those brave souls from Poolesville who fought and died so their fellow soldiers might live, and we should also applaud the thousands of Union troops who, for a short time, were Poolesvillians, too—men fully prepared

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to sacrifice their lives in like manner. I support a memorial that honors all Poolesvillians who fought, were wounded, or died during the Civil War and a remembrance that recalls the historical significance of the town's critical role in the war. Such a memorial should also give honor and remembrance to those Poolesvillians who were enslaved then

emancipated and whose freed descendants have contributed so much to the town and who, through the generations, have helped make the town what it is today.

Focus on Business

Alexanders Restaurant: Country Food— Country Pricing

By Rande Davis

When Dickerson residents Sara and Sandy Lankler conceptualized Alexanders Restaurant in Buckeystown, their theme was to offer home-cooked meals with family-friendly pricing and atmosphere. Their motto: "Country food at country prices." They have done that and so much more.

The Lanklers turned to Chef Chris Smallwood who is also from Dickerson. While he is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America (CIA) and fully skilled in fine dining and upscale gourmet cooking, he uses this training to prepare entrees with a more home cooking style that makes Alexanders unique. Although the CIA is one of the most prestigious culinary academies in the world, with many renowned

professors, perhaps Chris's best and certainly most important "professor" was his dad, Chip Smallwood. Smallwood the Elder is famous locally in his own right for his Texas-style beef brisket, and it was as a boy on a five-day trip through North Carolina with his father that Chris first developed a passion for cooking barbeque.

We didn't press Chris too hard as to who is the best cook in the family, but all he would confirm with a smile is that Smallwood Farms Catering's fame as the best in barbeque is "sometimes right, and sometimes wrong." The friendly rivalry between father and son is really a moot point, since the eater will have some of the very best barbeque he's ever had no matter who did the cooking.

Chef Smallwood's specialty and the most popular entrees at Alexanders are southern fried chicken, pot roast, and Texas-style beef brisket. As the summer approaches, pot roast will yield to steak on the menu.

Chef Chris recommends as an

appetizer his pickled corn and cherry tomato salad with shrimp on top of a fried green tomato. Another is his petite butter-milk biscuit with pimento cheese with chopped Texas-style brisket.

The desserts are prepared in-house as well with cakes and pies always available (his southern-style chocolate cake is a bit denser than standard cakes and has a hint of coffee). The ice cream and sorbets are all homemade, and with summer coming with the local farms offering fresh fruit, he recommends his peach cobbler or old-fashioned strawberry shortcake on sweet biscuit. At the height of melon season, you will want to try his melon sorbet.

While the food is down-to-Earth delicious, the ambience and atmosphere in the Federalist-style home, which was built in 1780, is warm, friendly, yet very elegant with its high ceilings, antebellum furniture and table settings,



Chef Chris Smallwood of Alexanders Restaurant.

surrounded by Civil War-themed statuary by the famed John Rogers.

Alexanders Restaurant is just one part of four venues on site available for weddings, meetings, parties, retirements, graduations, rehearsal dinners, etc. They can accommodate weddings and banquets from ten to three hundred people. Their more-recently renovated Auction House seats up to

-Continued on Page 9.

Residential, Commercial, Farm and Country Properties



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Offered at \$575,000.



Poolesville: Spacious 3 BR, 2.5 BA home in the Westerly subdivision. This comfortable home features a 20'x10' breakfast rm /laundry rm addition, office/study, family rm w/ stone fireplace, Trex deck, fenced backyard w/ 16'x8' storage shed, large lot w/ mature trees. Convenient to all town amenities. MLS#MC7546213.
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Adamstown: Prestigious 4 BR /3.5 BA brick-front colonial in Adamstown Commons. Amenities include hardwood flrs., fluted columns, built-in bookcases, 2 fireplaces (in master BR & family rm.), 3-car side-load garage, huge patio, premier corner lot adjoining open space. MLS# FR7525641.
Offered at \$549,900.



Comus: Unique 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath post and beam home nestled on 25.2+/- acs. Amenities include: two-story great room w/stone fireplace, loft, updated kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances, wood flrs. MLS#MC 7546962.
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In the Garden

A Lily a Day

By Maureen O'Connell

What is as fancy as a rose, yet as hardy and easy to grow as a weed? The daylily. This is the general nonscientific name of a species, hybrid, or cultivar of the genus *Hemerocallis*. This perennial plant gets its name from the Greek words *hēmera* "day" and *kalos* "beautiful." Its flowers typically last no more than twenty-four hours, hence its name. They open at sunrise and wither at sunset. While open, they are truly "queen for a day." An established daylily clump has many flower stems with many buds, so you are assured of blooms for many days.

Hemerocallis is native to Eurasia, including China, Korea, and Japan. There are over sixty thousand registered cultivars worldwide, but most daylilies that you find in garden centers are American hybrids. Many



The glorious daylily 'Stella d'Oro' in the author's garden.

people are familiar with the ubiquitous orange daylilies that grow wild by the roadside all summer. It is so common in many natural areas, that people think it is a native wildflower. It is not; it is the tawny daylily (*Hemerocallis fulva*). Though it sports a beautiful, vivid shade of orange, it is an unwanted, alien, invasive weed. Its underground runners can quickly overrun one's garden and escape to other areas, where they are very difficult to confine or remove. It was an early import from England to seventeenth-century American gardens. It has acquired several unscientific

names: Railroad Lily, Roadside Lily, Wash-house Lily, and, the more common, Tiger Lily.

Daylilies are the backbone plants of my gardens. Their incredible variety of size, color, form, and bloom time fits into many planting sites and conditions. They are very useful to plant amongst spring flowering bulbs, such as daffodils and tulips. You should not cut back these bulbs' stems after flowering; leave them until you can gently pull them up. They can be a little messy looking, but you can hide them behind the emerging daylily stems. Planted together in large numbers, daylilies quickly crowd out weeds. These lilies are extremely tolerant of our Monocacy weather; heat, drought, humidity, pests, diseases, and even poor soil don't faze them. They are truly maintenance free. If you want to save some money in the garden, plant daylilies. They are quick to multiply and very easy to divide, either in the spring or fall. There are some dwarf varieties, standing about two to three inches, which I plant in a small hedge fashion under my David Austin roses. I use one solid color, usually white or pink, and they form an interesting frame to the rose beds.

For me, the hardest bit about these workhorse plants is choosing ones to plant. This species offers a wide range of glorious colors, the likes of which I have never seen in any other plants. The older varieties bloom only once over a two-to-four-week period. Some newer varieties produce many more flower buds and stay in bloom for a longer period

of time or have more than one bloom cycle. The latter ones are called rebloomers; look for them.

In the heat of summer, I tend to like my garden colors to be of soft pastels: pink, rose, light blue, lavender, dove gray, and pale yellow. I am quite partial to pink daylilies, and this species does not disappoint in this color range. 'Rosy Returns,' 'Woodside Romance,' and 'Soft Summer Night' are my favorites. The legendary soft lemon-yellow 'Stella d'Oro' is considered America's favorite daylily. It blooms from early summer right up until frost. Introduced more than a half century ago, 'Hyperion' is still the standard by which new yellow daylilies are judged. It flowers prolifically and has a wonderful fragrance. Daylilies come in every shade except blue, but there are also very few in the color white. 'Joan Senior' has been around for awhile; it is a top-performing creamy white with a green throat. It is not a crispy clear white. Last year, White Flower Farm offered for sale 'Lady Elizabeth'; she sports an ice-cold white color. I bought four of them; they bloomed last year, and they have nearly doubled in size this year. Try this one; I think you'll like it.

Daylilies can happily share the garden with many other flowering plants. They can soften the bare bones look of foxglove, liatris, and delphinium, and fill in the gaps left by echinaceas, red hot pokers, and crocosmia. They are also completely happy and glorious all by themselves: A lily a day.

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Local News

Town Government Report

By Rande Davis

The Montgomery County state delegation, represented by Senator Rob Garagiola and Delegate Kathleen Dumais, came to the Poolesville commissioners' meeting on January 18 to provide their annual legislative year-end report. Delegate Brian Feldman and Delegate Aruna Miller were unable to attend the meeting.

Additionally, County Councilman Craig Rice made his third visit to the area in as many weeks to provide a brief comment on legislative matters of the county.

Councilman Rice spoke first and advised the gathering that proposed budgets would have significant adjustments prior to being finalized. He expects to see an increase in employee contributions to their benefits packages and the continuation of furloughs to bring down expen-

ditures. In addressing a question and concern of the high cost of supporting non-citizens through various benefits and on the cost of immigration overall, Mr. Rice said that the issue is larger than a county problem and is a reflection of national concern. He also expressed support for procedures to assist in the path to citizenship. Mr. Rice did not directly address the questioner's concern that Montgomery County, due to its policies, is a destination for undocumented immigrants.

Senator Garagiola said that the 428th Maryland Assembly Session passed a "fiscally-responsible balanced budget" while continuing to expend in areas of priority including education. Specifically, he reported that Montgomery County will receive a 7.1 percent increase in local aid funding, which included \$560 million for K-12 education, \$41 million for Montgomery College, and \$2.7 million for Montgomery County Public Libraries.

Delegate Dumais highlighted reducing the structural deficit by 42 percent while leaving over \$730 million in cash reserves and praised Maryland for being one of only four states that has not dipped into its Rainy Day Fund, thereby maintaining its triple-A bond rating. She pointed out that the legislature restored funds to education that the governor had proposed to be cut. In matters of healthcare, the state added \$5 million to help reduce the waiting list for services that benefit disabled Marylanders and their families. They also added \$15 million to the Developmental Disabilities Administration for services by increasing the tax on alcohol.

The state has also passed a compromise bill that will allow direct shipping from wineries outside of Maryland. While the bill does not allow direct wine shipping into Maryland from out-of-state retailers, she believes this to be a "major step in changing Maryland's archaic alcohol laws." She expressly supported the passing of the Dream Act which allows individuals, including undocumented immigrants, to receive the in-state tuition at pub-

lic institutions of higher education based on criteria of longevity and otherwise legal conduct, and also extends the period in which honorable discharged veterans may present evidence to qualify for in-state tuition.

The May 2 commissioners' meeting held discussions on two proposals. The first was the consideration of a recommendation by the Planning Commission to incorporate temporary speed bumps in the town. The recommendation was not accepted for various reasons, two of which were that temporary speed bumps would require nearly seventy drilled holes to secure it to the road, potentially damaging the road, and that, while they would be placed in areas to slow traffic to 15 mph, drivers going 25 mph or more would cause too much damage to them to warrant moving forward.


A proposed town parking ordinance (Ordinance #184) was also discussed. The ordinance seeks to further regulate and clarify allowable parking of trailers in the town and on private property and to restrict off-road parking in subdivisions where the result is vehicles parking on grass or swales. Commissioner Stump objected to the wording and specifications, deeming them to be far too broad to be acceptable to him. Link Hoewing agreed that individuals causing damage should be held responsible for the repair,



Delegate Kathleen Dumais and Senator Rob Garagiola provided an update to the town on the legislative accomplishments of the year.

but wording and specifications were too uncertain for his approval. Wording regarding allowable occasional parking on grass for parties and other large gatherings also further complicated the discussion. The proposal will be reworked for review later, and a public hearing will be scheduled once that is accomplished.

David Shneyer, director of Am Kolel Retreat Center, sought opinions from the commissioners on a possible weekday senior center at their location in Beallsville. Jim Brown suggested that he meet with various pastors in the area to determine how many seniors might consider its use. It was pointed out that Owens Park in Beallsville, which was previously used as a senior citizen center, was not refunded by the county due to low usage (less than ten people regularly used the service); however, the commissioners did encourage that he further his investigation.



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Local News

Possible Tornado Causes Damage in Poolesville

By Rande Davis

It was at 6:34 a.m. on April 28, 2011 when Richard and Kryisty Dyroff got a wakeup call they never, in their wildest dreams, ever expected.

The couple was asleep in their first-floor bedroom when a very large, old Maple tree next to their home crashed onto the roof with branches not only breaking through into a closet on the second floor, but actually penetrating the ceiling right above their heads. In fact, the wall the bed buttressed was originally an outside wall, much thicker than an interior wall. But for that fact, the tree could have very well crashed through completely into the bedroom crushing them.



Kryisty Dyroff outside of her home on Fisher Avenue right after high winds toppled the tree.

Just a bit earlier that morning, the county had sent out text messages to county personnel as an alert of an immediate tornado warning through the county cell phone contacting system. The storm was the residual of a national storm front that produced the largest number of tornadoes throughout the south into Virginia since the 1970s.

Mr. Dyroff is a police officer and, after determining that no one was injured, began cordoning off the area, taking pictures, and immediately calling his insurance company. Steve Martin of

State Farm insurance arrived at the home thirty minutes later and reported that the insurance Catastrophic Adjustment Team had reported an approximate ten thousand calls from the region which includes Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware.

All in all, Mr. Dyroff expressed great relief over the fortunate circumstances, especially considering how tragic it could have been. "Once the storm subsided, Lee's Tree Service was here that day removing the tree and placing a blue tarp over the house, the insurance company paid the tree service directly later that day, and we have a roofer coming soon

to get the house back to normal." The *Monocle* was unable to officially confirm that the high wind was a tornado, but a home on the 18100 block of Beallsville Road had its wrought-iron fence bent completely over from the winds and a large tree directly in its path was toppled away from the road and into the woods. The path indicated that it led toward the Dyroff home, which is located on Fisher Avenue at Westerly Avenue. The home is known by many in the area by its previous owner, Kathy McNamara, a former teacher in Poolesville.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Recent Crime

Burglary: 17400 block of White Ground Road, 20400 block of Mouth of Monocacy Road, 16900 block of Barnesville Road, 22500 block of Peach Tree Road.

Theft: 22200 block of Dickerson Road, 23700 block of Mt. Ephraim Road.

Theft from Vehicle: 19000 block of Cattail Road.

Assault: 17500 block of West Willard Road.

Drug use complaints: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue, 21200 block of Westerly Road, 19700 block of Fisher Avenue.

Past Crime

May 6, 1959: A twenty-three-year-old soldier from Virginia was missing and presumed drowned in the Potomac River near Edwards Ferry. The man had gone fishing with his brother-in-law who asked to be let out onto an island. When the soldier

did not return, the brother-in-law flagged down passing fishermen, and they found the boat drifting aimlessly with no sign of the soldier.

May 6, 1923: A man entered a Frederick City grocery store, announced a robbery, and shot the clerk in the chest. He made off with \$16 but was apprehended shortly afterwards by Frederick officers. He told the arresting officer that he was broke.

May 6, 1904: For the third time in four weeks, the Sandy Spring National Bank was visited by professional "cracksmen" who tried to dynamite their way into the vault. They were unsuccessful in their attempt and were chased out of town by men of the town.

May 11, 1952: A three-year-old boy was killed when a truck on a lane leading to a barn on the Poolesville area farm where the family lived struck him. The driver of the truck did not realize that he had struck the boy until he returned to his Gaithersburg home.

May 12, 1939: The Montgomery County Council ordered the

police to begin enforcing the dog licensing laws. It was estimated that only one in three dogs in the county was licensed. It was announced that owners of unli-

censed dogs would be arrested beginning May 22.

"Alexanders Restaurant" Continued From Page 5.

250, and the beautiful countryside grounds also have a gazebo and large area for outside weddings.

The Lanklers have also used the facilities to give back to our nation's heroes by hosting weekend getaways for wounded warriors and their families. That mission has since expanded so that today, the Lanklers offer retreats to wounded warriors and their families for a weeklong Florida vacation experience in private oceanfront or riverfront homes. A 501(c)(3) organization was created to provide families a financially worry-free, relaxed, pampered, welcoming environment with all the recreational amenities Florida has to offer. Reconnecting with and providing private fam-

ily time is the centerpiece of this transitional experience.

For special events, contact Ann Peot, Property Manager and Events Coordinator, who is very friendly, knowledgeable, and ready to assist you.

With a menu of your favorites and family-friendly pricing, you will want to visit Alexanders soon. While weekends and the Sunday brunch are best reserved, their luncheon hours from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. are a great time to check it out. Of course, you might just plan to take mom on Mother's Day or dad on Father's Day so they can experience real southern homemade cooking. How southern? How homemade? If having homemade scrapple on the menu isn't a clue, we don't know what is.

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Youth Sports

PHS Spring Volleyball Comes Together

By Jeff Stuart

After a win over Northwest

on April 29, the Poolesville High School (PHS) Coed Volleyball Team moved its record to 9-2, having already clinched the division. There are eight seniors on the team this spring. Paige Sekerak (committed to play at Division I Towson University) and Abbe Guertin joined the returning Lauren Rocco as veterans of the regional champions girls' volleyball team from last fall.

Loaded with seasoned athletes, newcomers Zach Zapata and Derrick Miller moved over from the boys' basketball team. Tyler Holston and Andy Mlynarczyk played football last fall. John Newberry, returning from last year, rounds out the list of seniors on the team. Justin Goldspeil and Noah Schwartz are back. Michael Beliveau (wrestling/soccer) is new to the team this year.

With a starting lineup of Zapata, Rocco, Schwartz, Sarah Kenneweg, Holston, and Sekerak, don't tell them, or Miller (Basketball All-Star), or the rest of the team that coed volleyball is not competitive. These are experienced athletes who come with a strong competitive nature.

"We're really lucky to have gained two great setters and all-around players, Kenneweg (also from girls' volleyball) and Sekerak," said Head Coach Tara Smith. "Kenneweg is an amazing player that can play a ball from anywhere on the court. Other coaches never believe she's only a freshman. We have a very strong and tall front row of boys

this year...Schwartz is a returning player and plays year-round volleyball, but the other boys have picked up the sport so well, and I couldn't be more pleased with them!" Rocco is another year-round volleyball player, says Smith. "She won our MVP (Most Valuable Player) award last year and continues to be an asset to our team. We also have Liya Ai and Catherine Liou who help out on the front row, and Lucy Tan who is a back row specialist. These three are juniors. I look... forward to having them back next year."

After an early loss to Magruder (9-3), the team plans to meet them again in the playoffs. "Our big win was against Gaithersburg (9-1). They are a very strong team, and it was an amazing match going to all five games—fun for the players and spectators!" The Falcons lost to a very deep and talented Damascus team (10-0) on April 27 and swept Northwest on April 29. "My

-Continued on Page 11.

Daytripper

Rose Hill Manor Park Frederick, Maryland

By Ingebord Westfall

In nearby Frederick is Rose Hill Manor, once the retirement home of Maryland's first elected governor, Thomas Johnson. The 43.3-acre property was purchased by the Frederick County Commissioners in 1968 and is now known as Rose Hill Manor Park and Children's Museum. From that beginning, it has been shaped into a kind of time capsule, preserving and presenting the feeling of life there from 1746 to approximately 1950. Indirectly, it reflects the heritage of Frederick County and the importance of agriculture in its history.

Rose Hill is open daily, April through October. It features the two-hundred-year-old manor house itself, an ice house, a carriage collection, a blacksmith shop, log cabin, two barns, and decorative and kitchen gardens. A farm museum was established in 1977. The farm and family building showcases exhibits that illustrate aspects of farm life, from the kitchen and carpentry shop to the broom shop. The bank barn houses hand tools and machinery. An impressive collection

of carriages—all restored—can be viewed in the Robert H. Renneberger Carriage Museum. Every October, some of these carriages leave the museum for the Rose Hill Carriage Society's carriage drive.

Museums can seem dry, dusty, and even uninviting, but Rose Hill provides a hands-on environment so that people of all ages, especially children, can get a feel for life in another time. Tours are offered, and visitors can try carding wool (and find out the meaning of the word "pop" in the song-rhyme "Pop Goes the Weasel") or help prepare a recipe from the 1800s.

Tours are just the beginning of possible reasons to visit Rose Hill. Many events are offered there, including these upcoming: Bark in the Park (May 7), Colonial Faire 2011 (June 11 and 12), and the 70th Annual Civil War Encampment (July 9 and 10). More information is available at www.rosehillmuseum.com.



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“Coed Volleyball” Continued From Page 10.

younger sister, Stephanie Withers, coaches coed at Northwest,” says Smith. “It’s always fun playing against her and her team. I am really having a good time coaching this season. We really have a great group!”

It has all come together for the boys’ volleyball team, as well. After winning just one match last season, the boys’ record stands at 6-5 this year—a notable improvement.

“We have four returning players from last year,” said Head Coach Sarah Watson. “Our main addition has been freshman Justin Lee who came in as a strong outside hitter, and I also made him into one of our setters. He came in with volleyball experience. His knowledge and confidence [have] really helped this season. Returning senior captain Jason Chang has shown exemplary leadership and has the most powerful arm on the team as an outside hitter. All of the players on the team really trust and look up to returning captain, junior Jacob Aley. He plays setter and right side hitter and has the highest serving percentage on the team.

“Newcomer senior Connor McHale has brought a lot of intensity and drive to the team. He has learned to be a great hitter, and the other players trust him to finish the play on the third ball. He suffered a severe ankle sprain with torn tendons early in the season, but after being out about three weeks, he has come back strong. Other returning

players are junior Joseph Hart (outside and middle hitter) and junior Khanh Nguyen (back row passer). Freshman Danny Martinez and senior Koji Lopez have stepped up their games from the beginning of the season. They moved into the rotation as back-row passers.”

The starters against Northwest on April 29 were Aley, Jason and Alan Chang, Lopez, Lee, and McHale. Though Northwest won in four games, the Falcons lost only 25-23 in game two and a determined effort in a thrilling game earned them a 30-28 win. Martinez served out the win. There were sterling rallies and impressive blocks by the PHS front line throughout the contest. Some close games against quality opponents seemed a hallmark of the team this year: A 25-23 loss to Walter Johnson, a 26-24 loss at Richard Montgomery, and a 25-23 win against Damascus. They never quit, and there is much to build on for next year.

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Open by appointment at other times: call 301-605-0130 to make arrangements.



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Things to Do

May 6
Family Sock Hop!
 Sponsored by PES PTA 50th Anniversary
 Come dance your way through the decades with Mr. Chiapone's band, the Rock & Roll Relics! This fun event will be at Poolesville Elementary School. This is not a drop-off event. Adults \$8.00, Students \$5.00 - includes popcorn, drinks, and one piece of candy each.
 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Asian House of Poolesville
 Live music: Smoke n Mangos
 9:00 p.m. to midnight

Super 7 Basket Bingo
 Benefit for Carroll Manor Grange #406
 Offering twenty-one games, specials, and two raffles.
 7 filled baskets, 7 purses, and 7 \$50 cash winners
 Door prizes and refreshments
 Located at Carroll Manor Fire

Station #14 in Adamstown
 Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.
 Games: 7:00 p.m.

Poolesville Green Launch Party
 Cugini's
 The Poolesville Green Launch Party will be a great opportunity to network, socialize, and learn more about Poolesville Green and local and regional environmental and energy issues with your friends and neighbors. Senate Majority Leader Robert Garagiola, County Council Members Rice, Leventhal, and Riemer, and Commissioner Link Hoewing have already confirmed! A small donation will be suggested to help us cover the cost of the food. Visit www.poolesvillegreen.org for more information.
 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

May 6 and 7
Just Another Musical?
 The John Poole Middle School Phantom Players will present "Just Another High School Musical," a show filled with music, dance, fun, and a few surprises.

Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. There will be a raffle and concessions available. All the money raised goes into future drama products and to add to the new sound system that is in the works, thanks to Brian Gross and Phoenixx Systems. For more information contact Dorald Turner at Dturner322@aol.com.

May 7
Open House at Calleva Outdoors
 Join in the fun at Riley's Lock and experience firsthand the exciting and adventurous outdoor activities offered by Calleva. This is not only fun for experienced boaters, canoeists, climbers, and other outdoor enthusiasts, but it is perfect for first-timers who want to get a feel for the fun available. There will be food and friendly camp counselors only to happy to answer your questions.
 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association Plant Swap
 Buy, sell, or swap/give away plants. Come with or without

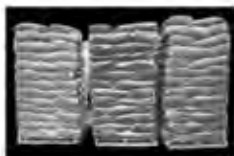
plants. Leaf Gro available for a small donation. Free compost bins from Montgomery County. Rain or shine.
 Linden Farm - 20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson.
 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Third Annual Haitian Festival
 Authentic Island Cuisine, Silent Auction, and Live Music
 Proceeds to benefit St. Joseph's in Carcasse, Haiti
 St. Mary's Pavilion in Barnesville
 Adults: \$15.00
 Children: \$10.00 (5-15)
 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

21st Annual Richard S. McKernon Youth Fishing Tournament
 Located at Collier Circle Pond off of Wootton Avenue
 Ages six to sixteen
 Cost: \$1.00
 8:00 a.m.

-Continued on Page 14.

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Sunday
9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunset Celebration At Bassett's

Saturday May 14th 5:00 -9:00 p.m.

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Call for Reservation

"Things to Do" Continued From Page 12.

May 13
Entertainment Night at Cugini's
Featuring: So Far Gone
 8:00 p.m.

May 14
International Letter Carriers Sponsor Food Drive
 19th Annual International Letter Carriers Food Drive: Stamp Out Hunger
 In support of local needs at WUMCO Help, Inc., place your non-perishable food items at your postal mailbox, and all food picked up by local postal carriers will be donated locally to WUMCO.

1st SPRINGFEST POOLESVILLE
 BBQ, Beer, and Blues Extravaganza!
 A fantastic springtime community festival in Whalen Commons featuring a special wine and beer tasting tent for those twenty-one and over. Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards will be sponsoring the wine tasting. You will get to vote for your favorite brewery and beer.

There will be professional barbeque vendors selling their mouth-watering specialties as well as backyard BBQers entering their grilled specialties of chicken, ribs, pulled pork, and beef brisket in a contest.

Fun for the whole family with local artisans, kids' games, Calleva's climbing wall, and blues music by Jay Summerour and Memphis Gold with Eric Selby. Also featured will be the blues band Soul Box.
 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunset Celebration at Bassett's
 Right after the Springfest festival, join the fun at Bassett's Restaurant outside in a tent for music, food, and fun. A cash-only event, this is also a fun time for the whole family.
 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night
 Featuring: Hard Place in the Rock
 8:00 p.m.

May 15
Ride for Life of Poolesville: First Annual Event!
 Games on horseback and individual jumping rounds
 Concessions
 Location: Tulip Pond Farm – Partnership Road, right past Sugarland Road
 Cost: \$5.00 per Truck & Trailer at the gate, \$5.00 each individual event
 Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Contact: Daphne Ross at tulippond@aol.com or Chontelle Hockenbery at c.hockenbery@verizon.net or 301-252-6308 for more info.

59th Running of the Potomac Hunt Races
 Steeplechase Horse Races
 Experience this Maryland Tradition
 Partnership Road
 Gates Open: 11:00 a.m.
 Races Begin: 12:30 p.m.

Wine Tasting – Sugarloaf Mountain Winery
 Benefit for Poolesville Relay for Life
 Time: 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Location: Sugarloaf Mountain Winery, Comus Road, Dickerson
 Cost: \$15.00 per person
 To purchase your tickets, please contact:
 Jennifer Sambataro: 301-916-3533 or jensam327@hotmail.com
 Dawn Ramos: 301-367-2776 or dmramos723@msn.com

Retirement Party for Dickerson Postmaster Joey Caywood
 All are welcome to come with good wishes as she heads off to Florida.
 Linden Farm – 20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson. Sponsored by the Dickerson Community Association, Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, and the Dickerson community.
 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

May 18
Artist Reception for Cynthia Jennings
 Ms. Jennings specializes in watercolors of area surroundings and nature.
 Refreshments will be served.
 The event will also coincide with a technology workshop at Connection Cafe
 Poolesville Presbyterian Church
 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

May 20
It's Carnival Time at PES
 Come have fun at the carnival with your family! Carnival games, inflatable bounce houses and slides, obstacle course, skee ball, dunk tank, Calleva rock wall, DJ, face painting, cake walk, food, and more.

There will also be a fabulous basket raffle with some incredible prizes (e.g., tickets to the Washington Nationals, four triple play passes to Shadowland, gift certificate to Bounce U, one year membership to Healthworks, one week free at Bar-T summer camp, etc.). Please contact Mary O'Connell at 301-349-2250 or roconnell2005@verizon.net for more information.

UMCVFD Basket Bingo
 Featuring Longaberger Baskets filled with extras and cash. Come enjoy an evening of fun and help your local fire department. Bring a friend! Refreshments available for purchase. Do not bring outside food and beverages.
 Cost: \$20.00
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Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.
 Games Begin: 7:30 p.m.
 Call 301-349-2091 for questions

1911 Silent Movie Night at Memorial
 Ken Brown, organist at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore, brings his popular silent movie program to Memorial United Methodist Church's sanctuary and will accompany the silent movies on its organ. Prepare yourselves to hear a whole new set of sounds coming from an amazing instrument! Benefit for the Church Organ Fund:
 Adults: \$10.00. Child: \$5.00
 Family: \$25.00. 7:00 p.m.

May 21
Dickerson Methodist Church
 Annual Community Yard Sale
 Vendor Space Available – Contact 301-874-3967 for details
 Variety of used items, toys, clothes, etc.
 Food and drinks
 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Community Yard Sale
 Located at Twisted Cone and Country Junction Gift Shop
 Various vendors including available food and drinks
 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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"George Kephart" Continued From Page 1.

loving and helping each other.

On the second day of their marriage, George queried Mary Ann as to whether she liked sailing. When she responded that she loved to sail, their lifetime of worldwide sailing would begin, peaking from 1978 to 1994. It was during this sixteen-year period that they would spend from four to eight months every year sailing to ports all over the world. Their thirty-six-foot sailing boat is named the Sarah Frazer after their granddaughter. It is operational to this day as a charter boat that is moored at Auckland Harbor in New Zealand.

As World War II approached, George joined the U.S. Coast Guard and was trained in seamanship, navigation, and even took flight training, becoming one of the first to be trained as a helicopter pilot. He was commissioned an officer and was made skipper of a submarine chaser, an eighty-three-foot wooden boat with the mission to find and de-

stroy submarines off the Atlantic Coast. Upon coming aboard the chaser for the first time to take command, Kephart, just twenty-two years old and literally wet behind the ears, met the boat's experienced captain named Pappy Ireland. Pappy had been captain of the ship, but the coast guard needed a commissioned officer on board for security reasons. Skipper Kephart took command and barked his first order: "Pappy, I am here to take command, and my job is to order anything you tell me to do."

After the war, George worked for IBM and then opened a hardware store in Potomac; however, George sought something more challenging and eventually went to work for the Central Intelligence Agency.

In joining the CIA, a life of worldwide travel would begin when the Kepharts were sent to Tokyo, Japan in 1953. The experience of being in Japan right after the postwar occupation was a very positive one for the family. At that point, Americans were viewed as liberators. Not only

did America free the Japanese from their history of the excesses of military rule, but the Japanese also welcomed America as an ally in their fears and concerns about Korea and the Soviet Union.

Back in the U.S. and living in Rockville, their search for a home brought them to Gray Haven Manor, a 135-acre farm on the edge of Poolesville whose previous owners were relatives of Mary Ann going all the way back to the property's origin in 1756. They renamed the property, incorporating its original patent identification: Chiswell Inheritance.

In 1957, the Kepharts were reassigned to Japan, but this time they were stationed in Kobe. After this second two-year tour, they remained in the area until being moved to Brussels in 1969 where George worked in a project that was so sensitive only six people in the government were fully aware of it.

George spent the rest of his time with the CIA in a job that had him traveling around the world so often he once calculated it to be equivalent to circling the globe eight times over. Upon retirement, the Kepharts settled at Chiswell Inheritance.

In 1972, Poolesville Town Commissioner Frank Wilson asked Mary Ann Kephart to put together a list of historic sites in the town. This request proved to be the initial stages of the development of the Historic Medley District, Inc. Joined by Winsome Brown and Luise Stevens, HMD found its vision through the restoration of the Thomas Poole House in Poolesville. Other proj-

ects include the full restoration of the John Poole General Store and restoration of the Seneca Schoolhouse on River Road. Today, Seneca Schoolhouse has become a living history museum that has allowed thousands of area students to learn the experience of a one-room school education. This museum came about because Mary Ann was instrumental in approaching Maryland's governor at the time, Blair Lee, for grant money to restore the structure.

George accepted a position with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission from 1975 to 1979. As a commissioner, Mr. Kephart cast the deciding vote that led to the establishment of the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve. He also contributed as a board member on the Barnesville School.

He is survived by son, George Kephart, Jr., daughters Perry Kephart Kapsch (Robert) and Ann Brown (Patt Robertson), granddaughters Sarah Prestemon and Amanda Brown, grandson Simon Brown, brother William Griffith, and sisters Barbara Crane and Jane Keller.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Peter's Parish and to the Montgomery Country-side Alliance.



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Thursday	7:30am - 6:00pm
Friday	7:30am - 7:00pm
Saturday	9:00am - 12:00pm
Sunday	CLOSED

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Tidbits

Poole's Store Gains Funds from State

Senator Rob Garagiola announced recently that he and the other District 15 delegation colleagues successfully sponsored bond bills that obtained \$50,000 for the renovation of the historic Poole's Store in Seneca. The funds are for the building and property which is the oldest general store in continuous operation in Montgomery County

Here He Comes



Chris Borawski is the new librarian in town.

Chris Borawski has replaced Linda Berg at the Poolesville Library following her recent retirement. He was born in northeastern Ohio but grew up in Battle Creek, Michigan and southeastern Pennsylvania. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Central Michigan University in 2001 and his Master of Science in Information degree (specializing in Library and Information Services) from the University of Michigan School of Information in 2003. He chose to become a librarian in high school when he was a student assistant in the children's room at the local public library.

His entire career has been in Montgomery County, having arrived fresh out of graduate school in 2003. He was at Wheaton before becoming the assistant branch manager at Silver Spring. Just before accepting the spot in Poolesville,

he was at Bethesda and will be at Poolesville until at least June of this year.

When not glued to the information desk or in meetings, Chris enjoys singing, traveling, hiking, swimming, rooting for his favorite baseball teams, occasionally taking in a night of contra dancing at Glen Echo, and spending time at his family's home near Lake Michigan. Chris is also the proud brother of a U.S. Air Force captain (a civil/environmental engineer turned Explosive Ordnance Disposal officer) who is presently stationed at Spangdahlem Air Force Base, Germany.

There She Goes

After twenty-eight (and eight months) years of service, Dickerson's Postmaster Joey Caywood is retiring and heading off to Florida. The Dickerson Community Association, Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, and the Dickerson community will be hosting a farewell party for her on May 15 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. We learned she is going to Sanford, Florida, right where the Auto-Train stops and only an hour from Orlando—how convenient. It's great to have a friend so close to Disney World, don't you think?

PHS Student Best in Show

Congratulations to Jee-Won Park who received Best in Show from Congressman Chris Van Hollen in the hotly-contested Congressional Art Competition at the VisArts Center in Rockville.



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Local News

**PHS GES P
Filmmakers Find
Success**

By Chantal Agnew

Editor's Note: This is the fourth article in a series of four that PHS Global Ecology Studies Program senior, Chantal Agnew, is writing for her senior project. For her first three articles, she chose to focus her series on the Izaak Walton League of America for its dedication to preserving the environment. For this article, she was requested by her supervising teacher to report on the Senior Project Field Trip to the AFI.

This year, a number of Poolesville High School (PHS) seniors in the Global Ecology Studies Program (GES P) created environmental films for their required senior projects. Every year, Global seniors go to the American Film Institute (AFI) to present their finalized films and to, hopefully, receive awards. According to the GES P science teacher, Mrs. Bailey, this year is our first with a reporter on the scene. That's where I come in.

Early in the morning at approximately 7:30 on April 14, the eleven filmmakers met up with a few of the gentlemen from the Izaak Walton League (IWLA) in the Poolesville High School Greenhouse. The IWLA representatives were there to judge the films and to give out some awards of their own. The students introduced their films and talked about the creation process, editing, the message they were trying to send with their videos, and some of the difficulties they encountered while filming or editing. Chris Hotard and Robby Fetchko discussed their film, "STOP! It's Coral Time," which was about coral reef die off in the Florida Keys and how people can make efforts to save them. Their movie was made up of underwater footage that they got themselves while scuba diving (yes, they were certified!) in the Florida Keys last summer, and restoring coral. Next, Jason Zhao and Mark Tulchinsky talked about "Footprints in the

Water," their film in which they showed the dangers that threaten the Chesapeake Bay and its environment, and they demonstrated steps that people can take to save the bay. Their movie included interviews with local businessmen and state park workers. Jason Chang did his movie, "Global Warming and You," about how rising temperatures are affecting Maryland. Mary Gillespie, Victoria Winch, and Brianna Garcia made a film about conserving energy at work and at home in which they interviewed county legislators and worked with the Poolesville Green organization. "Among Us" was an action film by Marie Roberts which portrayed invasive species as invasive aliens that she helped Seneca Park identify and battle. Lastly, Eric Holmstead and Ashley O'Keefe introduced their film, "Sustaining the Future," which discussed different green "LEED" certified buildings and the changes that we are going to be seeing in many newer buildings. After hearing about all the films, the IWLA representatives asked all of the groups different questions about their projects to sate their curiosity as well as to test the cinematographers' knowledge of their films. Mrs. Bradshaw of PHS commented to the students that what they were doing was important because "the first step to conservation is education, and videos are a powerful tool in communicating that."

Eventually, we made our way to Silver Spring and the AFI. There were films from students from John F. Kennedy High School, Roberto Clemente Middle School, Silver Spring International Middle School, Gaithersburg High School, Magruder High School, as well as PHS. From a total of seventeen, the films and the videos were split into two categories: nine short films and eight documentaries. Unfortunately, there was an issue with the software, and two of the films didn't get shown—both of which were from PHS students ("Footprints on the Water" and "Going Green for a Brighter Future").

The winning films from the short films category were: third place, "Garbage" by students from Kennedy High; second place, "The First Step" by students from

Roberto Clemente; and first place, "Coke and Pepsi" by students from Roberto Clemente. For the documentaries, Marie Roberts got an Honorable Mention for her video "Among Us" which exceeded the time limit, so it was not qualified to place higher. There was a tie for third place between "Pollution in Sligo Creek" by students from Silver Spring, and "Storytime with Sally the Cow" by students from Clemente. Second place went to Poolesville High School's Eric and Ashley with their documen-

tary "Sustaining the Future," and, ironically, first place went to one of the videos that didn't show, "Footprints in the Water," by Mark and Jason from Poolesville. After watching a pretty successful day, Mrs. Levine, principal of Poolesville High School, commented that she was "overwhelmed by the quality, content, artistry, vision, and perspective of the students' films" and she was impressed by the message that each film had.



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The Pulse

Introducing a New Crayon Color: Poolesville Green

By Dominique Agnew

When great minds think alike, great things can happen. So they did with the formation of Poolesville Green, a new nonprofit organization designed to help people connect and find information about eco-friendly products, events, and solutions. Although it's just getting off the ground this year—don't miss the launch party at Cugini's on May 6—the idea for Poolesville Green had been circling and swirling. Poolesville resident Joyce Breiner would frequently have conversations about environmental topics with friend

Lee Erickson along the lines of: "Wouldn't it be neat to have a group in Poolesville to talk about eco-friendly issues?" In a parallel universe (also in Poolesville), Tim Whitehouse also had similar conversations with friends. Finally, at Poolesville Day 2009, the stars aligned, and Tim and Joyce were introduced to each other and began (with Lee) the more serious conversation of actually turning ideas into reality.

The nitty-gritty of establishing a nonprofit now behind them, Poolesville Green is off and running with a great board of directors, board of supervisors, and volunteer staff supporting the three founders. They also want to work with the students of the Global Ecology Studies Program (GESP) at Poolesville High School (one of the board members, Maxim Gorlenko, is a GESP student). With a focus on energy efficiency and water conservation, Poolesville Green seeks to inform the public through its website and hands-on events. "We have a see it, touch it, feel it kind of

approach," says Joyce. With this in mind, Poolesville Green has already had two events.

With home energy audits in the news as a good way to determine the efficiency of a home, people wanted to see what the reality of one was like, so in January, Jim McKenna of Green Step Today demonstrated the nuts and bolts of a home energy audit culminating in actually walking through the volunteer home (Tim's home) with interested attendees, explaining as he went. The second event was a rain-scapes workshop held on March 19 wherein the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection demonstrated how landscaping can improve water quality and conservation. These events were a direct result of the interests of area residents.

Poolesville Green owes much not only to its incredible volunteers and board members, but also to Bethesda Green which has been in existence for over three years. "They have, in a sense, mentored us along the way," says Joyce. The executive director of Bethesda Green, Dave Feldman,



George Phelps (right) of Boyds explains to Ariana Alvarado, Raissa Wadjas, and Hakan Cece how he runs his car from grease from Poolesville area restaurants.

will speak at Poolesville Green's launch party at Cugini's. Other dignitaries in attendance will be: State Senator Garagiola; County Council Members Leventhal, Rice, and Riemer; and Poolesville Commissioner Kuhlman.

More events will be planned, and interested residents are welcome to visit Poolesville Green's website: www.poolesvillegreen.org. The organization has been quite pleased with the positive response thus far. "The reception from the community," says Tim, "has been very, very good," exceeding expectations.

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Local News

Beliveau Honored by WUMCO at Annual Meeting

By Rande Davis

Catherine Beliveau was selected to receive WUMCO Help!, Inc.'s annual award for outstanding volunteer contribution to the organization. She spearheaded last year's Fall Festival Walk-a-Thon held at Whalen Commons as a fundraiser for WUMCO. The event was so successful that it is now scheduled to be an annual event.

Jane Stearn spoke of confidence going forward, "We still have faith that when need arises, we will be given the means and the know-how to meet the need."

Last year, WUMCO had a significant amount of achievement in helping those in need. Among

just some of their good works was providing: housing cost assistance to twenty-one families, utility costs to sixty-nine families, medicines and procedures for fifty-three families, and giving Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets to 129 families and Christmas toys to 259 children.

Of course, the work they do is the result of a very caring community and local churches, businesses, and civic groups stepping forward with financial aid and



Catherine Beliveau gets a hug from Jane Stearns upon receiving a community volunteer award from WUMCO.

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Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

May 4, 1952 The Tuberculosis Association mobile X-ray unit was scheduled to be in Poolesville from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Residents were encouraged to get free X-rays.

May 10, 1954 The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department carnival opened at the fire department grounds at Beallsville. Fire companies from Montgomery, Prince George's, and Frederick Counties paraded from Poolesville to the carnival grounds. A tug of war between blindfolded firemen was scheduled on opening night.

May 19, 1945 Private James B. Maughlin of Boyds, Maryland was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. Private Maughlin, serving with the 36th Infantry Division in Europe, owned a farm in Boyds at the time of the award.

May 19, 1949 The Montgomery

County School Board announced its budget for the 1950 school year. Included in building or improvement projects was \$60,000 allocated for improvements at the Poolesville High-Elementary School and \$8000 for the Poolesville Negro School.

May 20, 1950 A fried chicken and ham supper was served at the Poolesville Methodist Church by the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

May 22, 1953 Jane Sangster, age thirteen, of Poolesville placed fifth in the National Spelling Bee held at the Department of Commerce auditorium. Jane correctly spelled the word "caliginous" to gain fifth place. A twelve-year-old girl from Phoenix won first place.

May 27, 1942 It was announced that 125 Washington area boys would be working on Montgomery County farms during the summer because of the shortage of manpower caused by the war. Some were billeted at the Poolesville High School where they would spend the night and be fed. Their wage was twenty-

five cents an hour.

May 29, 1950 E. Wilson Jordan of Barnesville was elected president of the Electrical Contractors Association of Montgomery County.

May 29, 1951 Miss Marylin Cole, a teacher at Poolesville Elementary School, was reported to be nursing a baby possum back to health. The animal was found abandoned and found by Miss Cole's mother. The possum had been named Phoebe.

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But wait, there is more! The evening will feature newsreels of the period and other short films; and everyone gets to sing-a-long to favorites of the day ("O You Beautiful Doll," "Alexander's Ragtime Band," etc.) The evening ends with a rousing presentation of "Waitin' on the Robert E. Lee."

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Local News

County Council Passes Bag Tax

The Montgomery County Council has approved Bill 8-11 that will create a five-cent charge on each paper or plastic bag provided by a retail establishment to a customer at point of sale, pickup, or delivery. The bill is intended to inspire consumers to use more reusable bags which, in turn, could lead to fewer bags littering the environment.

The tax, which was proposed by County Executive Isiah Leggett, was approved by an 8-1 vote. Councilmembers Phil Andrews, Roger Berliner, Marc Elrich, Valerie Ervin, George Leventhal, Nancy Navarro, Craig Rice, and Hans Riemer voted to approve the tax. Councilmember

Nancy Floreen was opposed.

The proposed tax will not apply to bags provided by a pharmacy containing prescription drugs; a newspaper bag or bag intended for initial use as a garbage, pet waste, or yard waste; a bag provided at a seasonal event, such as a farmers' market; or a paper bag that a restaurant gives a customer to take prepared food or drinks from the restaurant. The tax also will not apply if the bag is used to package a bulk item (such as small items at a food or hardware store) or to wrap perishable items (such as fresh or frozen food or flowers).

Retail establishments will retain one-cent of each five-cent tax to cover administration fees of collection. The establishment would be required to indicate on a transaction receipt the number of bags provided.

Local News

Organic Farm vs. Soccer Field Seeks Win-Win

By Kristen Milton

The battle for the Potomac's Brickyard farm site seems far from over nearly two months after the county school board voted to turn the thirty-year-old organic farm there into soccer fields.

The twenty-acre Brickyard Road property was originally intended to be the site of a never-built middle school and had been rented by farmer Nick Maravell since 1980; but on March 8, the county school board voted to give a ten-year lease to the county, which in turn will negotiate with area soccer clubs to construct four soccer fields. The decision gave Maravell until January to complete operations at the Potomac site.

A tumultuous public meeting was held April 4. Although many spoke or carried signs against the plan—citing the need to support agriculture as well as the more traditional concerns of lighting and traffic—David Dise, director of the county's department of general services, made clear that the meeting was intended to gather "input on the implementation" of the plan rather than to debate the merits.

Soccer enthusiasts welcomed the potential new playing fields, saying current fields were over-used, echoing the conclusion of a 2005 land use study by Park and Planning. "I hope people understand, from the soccer side," Jonathan Weinberg of Potomac Soccer Association told the April 4 crowd, "that there are thousands of kids out there, and we do have tremendous needs."

The lease between the county and the school board was signed April 19 and is posted on the county website. Nonetheless, a still-active petition asking County Executive Ike Leggett to consider allowing educational as well as agricultural uses on the site had garnered over 3,500 signatures from across the country by April 30. "It

ain't over 'til the fields are put in," said Caroline Taylor, director of Montgomery Countryside Alliance, starter of the petition, but she also called the petition a success even if the soccer plan continued forward.

"It's a good tool...for putting a spotlight on the fact that people value where their food comes from," Taylor said. Nick's Organic Farm has become "a symbol of the quest" for healthier community food choices.

Maravell was unavailable for comment, but Kristi Janzen, who works with him, said he had filed an appeal to the state board of education, as have a score of individuals, as well as a complaint with the Open Meetings Compliance Board. "[Maravell] is hopeful that the community will find a solution that's pleasing to the majority," Janzen said, "and hopeful that land can be part of an educational opportunity."

Janzen said that although Maravell operated a private business, his farm provided services to the public ranging from organic seed to water filtration to an example of urban-fringe agriculture. "The public does gain from having a well-functioning farm like his," she said.

Taylor said she also understood the soccer community's needs and still hoped for a solution to "satisfy all stakeholders," such as co-locating one or two organically-maintained soccer fields with agricultural education and pursuits. It was an idea promoted in an April 1 letter from Councilmembers Roger Berliner and George Leventhal to County Executive Ike Leggett. "Although this matter does not come before the Council for a vote," the two wrote, "...we believe a strategy that seeks consensus and a win-win will serve our constituents best."

There should also be an effort by the county school board, Taylor said, to repair trust with the community by having a more open process. The community and Maravell himself were given only days' notice before the March vote to terminate the lease was taken, although discussions with the county had begun in 2009. If prog-

ress could be made on any front, "it's one of those things that in the end could be a very nice positive," Taylor said.

New Planning Department Website

To help residents stay up-to-date on local development activity, the county Planning Department recently unveiled a new website.

The Development Finder website at www.MontgomeryPlanning.org/development/finder.shtm provides details about building applications to be considered by the Planning Board.

A map of Montgomery County opens the page, featuring pinpoint markers wherever applications have been filed. Those markers link to information on the proposed project. Applications for preliminary plans, site plans, project plans, and sketch plans submitted July 2010 to the present are included. The site includes only projects under review. Once a project is approved by the board, it is removed.

Community Earth Day Event
"Connecting Youth with the

Outdoors" will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon on May 7, rain or shine, at the Izaak Walton League's national headquarters at 707 Conservation Lane in Gaithersburg. Free refreshments served. Dress for the outdoors and weather.

The public is invited to explore the woods and waterways on the thirty-three-acre property as league staff and local chapter members lead a variety of conservation and outdoor recreation events.

Activities will include a gardening question-and-answer session from master gardeners; planting a rain/pollinator garden (free seeds to the first hundred attendees); building a nest box to take home; taking an invasive species tour; participating in a cleanup; and learning about honeybees. Some activities will qualify for student service hours. A youth fishing clinic for kids fifteen and under will also be offered. There will be bait and a limited number of loaner rods provided, but participants are welcome to bring their own rods as well.

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