



It takes a few hard men to cook a few thousand tender chickens. See the Family Album for pictures of this and other local events.



Poolesville wouldn't be Poolesville without an equestrian store. A new one just opened up and Hallie Hoffman is the manager. Read all about it in Business Briefs on page 3.



The Poolesville Day Committee named the Grand Marshal for 2011. Find out who it is in Tidbits on page 15.



Lauren and Patrick Euler, with sons Ryan and Colin, enjoyed Bill Euler's performance on Whalen Commons. More Family Album pictures are on page 2.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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A New Master Plan for Poolesville Is Emerging

By Rande Davis

What will the Town of Poolesville become? What will Poolesville look like in the coming years? These questions have been the focus of the town's planning commission in its attempt to develop a new Comprehensive Master Plan. The State of Maryland and the County of Montgomery require towns to develop six-year plans addressing the goals for social, economic, and physical changes. A first draft of such a plan has now been submitted to the commissioners for their review, comments, and recommendations. The draft is the result of months of work by the planning commission with collaborative assistance from other boards such as parks, recreation, street, and CEDC, as well as with the Poolesville

Area Chamber of Commerce and other input from residents.

This submission of this draft is only the first step in the arduous task of finalizing the Master Plan. The draft is currently on the agenda of the commissioners as they evaluate the plan, page by page, during work sessions in the coming weeks. Work sessions are separate from regular town meetings, and while they are open to the public, they are not open to comments from the audience. Once the commissioners' review is complete, a final report will be submitted for a public hearing with time for resident and voter comments and challenges, and a final vote. This work in progress is currently available for all residents to review on the town website (www.ci.poolesville.md.us). The forty-nine-page document covers goals regarding transportation, water resources, sensitive areas treatment, land use, community facilities, municipal growth, and business.

One of the highlights of the plan is for population growth to go from its current 5200

residents to 6500. In various sections within the document, the stated vision is to maintain the small-town character of Poolesville. At the same time, the goals include improving the town's appearance in the downtown/business district; maintaining the schools, and to that end, ensuring educational opportunities in Poolesville are at least equal to the rest of the county; enhancing a strong and vibrant business community; developing a pedestrian-friendly town; and further strengthening the historical (particular Civil War) representation of the town to help attract more visitors.

One of the more controversial proposals is to consider a round-about (traffic circle) at the east end of the town and an attractive architectural structure at the west end. In the area of public safety, the Master Plan has an objective to work with the county to expand the police coverage by two individuals.

-Continued on Page 10.

Introducing: Principal Doug Robbins

By Alison Shapiro

Doug Robbins, former assistant principal at Brown Station Elementary School, recently started his position as principal at Poolesville Elementary School on July 1. Since Mr. Robbins is new to the community, we at the *Monocacy Monocle* would like to take the opportunity to introduce Mr. Robbins to you.

Principal Robbins was born and raised in Richboro, Pennsylvania, an hour away from Philadelphia. Growing up, Mr. Robbins looked up to his mother who was also a teacher. In school, there were many teachers he admired, and this sparked his interest in education and teaching. When Mr. Robbins headed to the University of Maryland for college, he came to the conclusion that education was what he wanted to study due to the various educational role models he had in his life. He eventually received a master's degree in education,



Doug Robbins is on the left.

-Continued on Page 13.



*The Family Album is sponsored by
Selby's Market
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Larry Ryba provided some youthful vigor to the St. Mary's cooking crew.



Clem Meyer and Joe Ryba were part of the cooking crew at St. Mary's 136th Chicken Dinner.



A chicken here, a chicken there, it starts to add up.



Members of the PES PTA called on the Poolesville Commissioners for a grant to help celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the elementary school. The commissioners approved the grant.

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Business Briefs

New People at the Bridle of All About Equestrian

John Speelman has made some important changes to his equestrian tack and supply business, located inside Poolesville Hardware, naming it All About Equestrian, which points to the direction in which he wants to take the shop, especially in inventory, special orders, and quality horse tack and supplies. He has put Hallie Hoffman in charge. Customers will find her to be a friendly and very knowledgeable equestrian and anxious to meet the needs of the equestrians in the area.

New Owners/New Management

We welcome the new owners of Village Beer and Wine at 19710G Fisher Avenue in Poolesville (formerly Upcounty Beer and Wine) adjacent to



Raj Maskey is the manager of Village Beer and Wine in Poolesville.

Subway. The owners are particularly happy to be in Poolesville and are planning a number of changes from the previous ownership. They told the *Monocle* that they plan to expand both in-store stock and special-order capabilities and will be looking to customers for suggestions in making sure they stock the items most preferred in Poolesville. With the recent increase on sales tax on alcohol, they have made a determination to absorb that increase so that customers will not

have to pay higher prices and, indeed, look to bring special offers on a regular basis. Gehendra Raj Maskey, who prefers being called Raj, will manage the store, and he is planning on introducing new services beyond the beer and wine business, such as online money order and bill payment service.

Congratulations to CNS

The *Washington Business Journal*, in its current issue, has named Corporate Network Services of Poolesville a Top 40 Healthiest Employer in Greater Washington for 2011.

Their employee wellness program, branded “Your Wellness Counts,” is supported with a wellness committee, metrics, and budget, and includes fun group physical activities, rewards for getting annual physicals, an annual health fair, and reimbursement for participating

in athletic events. The goal of the program is to protect, support, and improve the health and wellness of all of their employees so they can be more present—physically and mentally—and in turn provide the best possible support to their clients. Karen Kalantzis said, “At CNS, wellness goes beyond our employee base—we also keep our customers’ organizations well by helping them implement the right technology tools to meet business goals.”

Errors & Omissions

In a Tidbits article in our May 20 issue, “Kelly Fund Gold Tournament and Talent Show Successful,” we incorrectly identified the singer who performed Karen Carpenter’s “Close to You.” The song was performed by Theresa Hunter. We apologize for the error.

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Commentary

Who Are Those People?

By John Clayton

Dominating a slow August, news-wise, the United States had its credit rating reduced to AA+ from AAA this past week, due, in a predominant part, to the rating service Standard and Poor's dissatisfaction with our political process. Some people are really hard to please.

There are other countries that are still AAA, among them and in no particular order, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Australia, Austria, France, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, and Canada. I hope they don't start looking down their noses at us while they sit in the AAA lounge laughing about us New World savages while we press our noses against the glass and gaze in longingly, dreaming of the days when we were AAA just like them. Quel dommage, as they say—but just to each other, not to us anymore.

It is not a total loss. Actually, there are some pretty cool countries out on the AA+ patio, namely New Zealand and Belgium. I think we could get used to hanging with them, if they'll have us. They might resent that we were so recently AAA and might suspect that we think we are better than they are. Not us, my friends—exceptionalism is dead. We're just happy to be here. Standard and Poor threatened to drop us another notch to AA if we don't shape us, putting us out on the lawn with the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, Qatar, and Slovenia, to name just a few.

Of course, the notion that this really has anything to do with the financial strength of the United States of America is total horse feathers, as we like to say out here in the Upcounty. Does anyone in his right mind, or anyone else in a rare lucid moment, really

think that our economy is weak relative to the major economies in the known world, or even to those of Middle Earth (Hobbits are all the rage these days) or the Klingon planet? The U.S.'s economy is the envy of all. We've had a few serious bumps, and we have some systemic flaws and diseconomies that haunt us from time to time, but you put our resources, political system, precious inalienable rights, GDP, Jennifer Lopez, and the 4-6-3 double play together, and we're still the top dog, even though we're clearly starting to make people nervous.

And what is making people nervous is, in one word, Congress. Not our entire political system, not our still-robust economic engine, but Congress. I noted that in a recent major poll, it was discovered that, to everyone's astonishment, a record number of people—eighty-two percent—said that Congress was doing a lousy job. I think this says a lot about the perspicacity of the American public, and I did not give it a lot of thought. What I did give a lot of thought to was the eighteen percent that think Congress is doing a good job. What exactly is the job that they think Congress is doing, let alone doing well? Who are those people?

I have really tried to parse this down to something meaningful. First, some perspective is in order. Congress has always been held in low esteem. This is not a recent phenomenon, although Congress may have achieved a nadir of effectiveness (a word S&P mentioned), or suffer from even less of its usual measure of "predictability," which was also a concern of S&P. It is not a new problem, but it seems, at least in the eyes of the S&P, to have gotten worse. I noted in reading their report that the Big Deal that the Speaker of the House and the President cooked up seemed to address the S&P's concerns, but it was not to be. Wiser heads

-Continued on Page 19.

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Rande(m) Thoughts

Better Than the Good Old Days

By Rande Davis

Whaddaya wanna do?
Dunno. Whadda you wanna do.

These are the words of kids spoken during the summer for generations on end. Oh, how I remember trying to devise a plan of action with my young friends. For as long as I have lived in Poolesville, our youth have decried Poolesville as being so boring with nothin' to do. No longer. With a varied and expanded youth sports program for the summer, the town's recreational program at Stevens Park, a scouting program that could arguably be the best in the nation, a skateboard park, and Whalen Commons alive with concerts, farmers' markets, and movie nights, not to mention the churches' youth programs and vacation bible schools, kids no longer have

to waste the lazy hazy days of summer not knowing what to do. For the older ones still stymied, I have one thing to say (in my best Archie Bunker voice), "Eh, git a job, kid."

All of these activities do not include the programs at nearby Calleva. Even the daughters of the president of the United States came out this year to take in the Calleva Experience. It's so extensive, but what really got my attention was something more subtle but very profound. Recently, Calleva held its weekly Tuesday evening fun-time get together for its staff and participants on Whalen Commons. A group of around one hundred kids came to the park in stifling heat, had a lawn sprinkler set up, shared a barbeque dinner, and then were entertained for hours by competing musical entertainers—all from the staff and

-Continued on Page 6.

Local News

Nick's Organic Farm: Open Meeting Violations

By Kristen Milton

A state advisory board has found violations of open meetings law in the process leading up to the Montgomery County School Board's decision to turn a decades-old Potomac organic farm into soccer fields.

The twenty-acre Brickyard Road property was once intended to be the site of a never-built middle school, although it has been rented by farmer Nick Maravell since 1980. In April, the county school board signed a ten-year lease with the county, who, in turn, will negotiate with area soccer clubs to construct four soccer

fields at the site. County officials have said Maravell will have a year to complete operations at Nick's Organic Farm.

Maravell and his supporters argue that neither he nor the public was given sufficient notice of or input in the decision-making process. They cite the need to support agriculture as well as concerns of lighting and traffic.

In rulings issued June 27 and July 13, the Open Meetings Compliance Board said the county school board "violated the Open Meetings Act in a number of ways" in cited closed-session meetings held in June 2010 and March 2011 that covered discussions of the Brickyard properties.

The first complaint was filed by Janis Zink Sartucci and Rosanne Hurwitz, members of the Parents Coalition of Montgomery County, and the second by Maravell and his wife.

The rulings are advisory only since the compliance board has no authority to impose penalties, but farm supporters hope the

decisions will strengthen their argument that the soccer plan should be revisited.

"The Compliance Board's decisions are encouraging news for us," Maravell said in a July 18 press release. "Community leaders have been saying all along this process has been flawed, and now, step by step, we are revealing the actual events to the public. Hopefully, this will lead to a correction."

Ginny Barnes, president of the West Montgomery County

Citizens' Association, is also quoted in the release as saying, "At last, a finding that justifies citizen concerns about the secrecy of such meetings."

The release suggests further legal action may be taken "to seek enforcement and remedy."

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Local News

Poole Store

By Kristen Milton

Although its commercial future remains uncertain, a new grant will provide tourists with more opportunities to enjoy Poole Store, once the oldest general store in continuous operation in Montgomery County.

The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission recently received a \$47,000 grant from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority for restoration work at the site.

Public interest in the 1901 store, also known as Seneca Store, has been strong since the Poole family vacated the property in December after an almost four-decade tenancy with the parks department. More than fifty people attended a January public meeting dealing with the future of the building, suggesting everything from commercial use to public/private partnerships to a

new foundation.

Peggy Erickson, executive director of Heritage Montgomery, which facilitated the capital grant, said that although the total was less than the \$50,000 originally requested by the parks department, it was a victory in a tough economy.

"This is a win-win for the community," she said. "We try hard, and we've done very well by the Upcounty."

According to the grant application, the funds will be spent on porch repair and restoration of historic doors, floors, shelving, and plaster walls. There will also be "site improvements for tourists" including benches, bike racks, interpretive markers, and pads for portable toilets.

Cultural Resources Planner Julie Mueller said she was unsure whether these projects would be contracted or performed by the department so could give no date for their completion.

The department has been similarly uncertain as to a timeline for finding a new tenant for the store. An initial six-month lease given to Farm and Home

Services, Inc. in order to provide local residents with accessible animal feed and other basics has now been extended to June 2012.

Mueller said a new tenant for the house, also located on the three-acre store site, began occupancy in June. The complex, including the store, house, and several outbuildings, is located at 16315 Old River Road.

"Rande(M) Thoughts" Continued
From Page 4.

campers. The entertainment was "Glee" quality with an attentive and appreciative audience. The park was left spotless.

Then, the next day, I was standing on my porch when a Calleva bus full of kids rode through town with the sound of kids singing some song—I could not tell which—but the telltale sound of memories being made was loud and clear. While most of the kids in the park that night or on that bus left town to head back down county, they took with them memories that some day will become their Good Old Days, all the while holding the seed of appreciation and understanding that our rural lifestyle needs to be valued and preserved.

Good times and fond memories: all this is with thanks to the town leaders, concerned residents, and folks like those who run Calleva who give our kids a great chance to have fun, stay healthy, and build character.

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Assault: 19800 block of Sedgwick Way, 21500 block of White's Ferry Road.

Burglary: 19200 block of Munger Farm Road, 19600 block of Wootton Avenue.

Vehicle theft: 17400 block of Anita Court.

Theft: 17800 block of White's Ferry Road, 22100 block of Dickerson Road.

Disorderly conduct complaints: Unit block of Hoskinson Court, 17300 and 17400 blocks of Hoskinson Road, 19500 block of Fisher Avenue, 17400 block of Chiswell Road.

Past Crime

August 14, 1952 The president of the Montgomery County Medical Society was critical of the rescue squad and the police department as the result of the

handling of a call involving a two-week-old infant. Rescue squad personnel and a police officer decided to wait thirty minutes for the arrival of a doctor instead of immediately transporting the child to a hospital.

August 18, 1969 Two teen-aged girls were killed when the auto that they were riding in went out of control on Georgia Avenue and struck a bridge abutment. The dead were identified as a sixteen-year-old Poolesville girl and an eighteen-year-old Rockville girl.

August 19, 1948 An ice cream truck driver was charged with assault with intent to commit murder after an incident in Bethesda. The driver had been fired earlier that morning and then appeared at the front door of the owner of the Fussell-Young Ice Cream Company. When the owner answered the door, the man pinned the owner to the ground and threatened him with a pistol.

August 20, 1969 A fourteen-year-old Rockville boy was found guilty in juvenile court for selling heroin. The boy admitted that he had been a heavy user of heroin and hashish for at least a year. Judge Noyes suspended a term at a juvenile detention facility when the parents declared that they intended to send the boy to a private school in upstate New York.

August 26, 1965 The daughter of a Dutch diplomat was shot and killed while picking peaches at Butler's Orchard near Damascus. Montgomery County Police in-

vestigated and found that several people had been target shooting at a farm about a mile away. A bullet from an M-1 rifle had gone astray and struck the girl in the head. The death was ruled as accidental. The father of the girl was critical of the investigation and demanded that the Maryland State Police investigate. They did and reached the same conclusion.

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Local News

LandLink Goes Live

By Kristen Milton

Hoping to serve as match-maker for potential farmers, a new online site has been created to connect property with produce.

Unveiled in July, Montgomery Countryside Alliance's new online database has attracted less than a handful of submissions thus far, but executive director Caroline Taylor hopes increasing awareness through mailings and other outreach will draw in participants.

"It takes at least a year for traction," Taylor said in an August 5 interview. "We're excited about getting it going."

The site, www.mocolandlink.org, looks to match those looking for land to farm with those offering land for long-term lease, sale or other availability.

Taylor said the roadblocks of

expensive land and labor were the key concerns expressed by potential farmers in community discussion hosted in February. "There was interest on the part of producers who needed land and consternation on the part of large landowners who wanted to have food grown but didn't know how to go about it," Taylor said. "That was, pardon the analogy, good fertile ground for getting this launched."

Taylor said property owners can benefit from agricultural tax incentives while helping those interested in growing local tabletop food products get their start.

Shannon Varley of Bella Terra Family Farm, one of the website's founders, said she personally knows the potential value of the site as a lessee of ten acres in Dickerson where her family raises vegetables and heritage breed chickens among other livestock. "Without this lease," Varley said in a press release, "there is no way that we could afford to farm

-Continued on Page 11.

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Local News

Town Government

By Rande Davis

The controversy concerning proposed Ordinance #185 that would have assigned the cost of repairs to damage done by parking vehicles on the grassy right-of-way areas in front of homes to property owners was resolved by changing the responsibility to persons doing the damage. Violators will be given notice and thirty days to make the repairs, or the town will make the repairs and charge the perpetrators. With that change, the ordinance passed unanimously. In the July 29 issue of the *Monocle*, it was reported that Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski mentioned that the town "could follow the lead of other townships by removing public right-of-way parking altogether." Mr. Klobukowski notified the paper that he was not making a sug-

gestion or a recommendation but rather that bringing up the notion was to point out the options available in resolving the issue based on what other towns have done to address similar problems.

Town Manager Wade Yost provided the budget closeout report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011. The town's budget is comprised of two funds: the General Fund and the Water and Wastewater Fund.

The General Fund closed the year with \$348,000 in the black. The town had budgeted \$2.4 million in revenue, but the actual came in at \$2.6 million. Expenses in the General Fund were \$76,000 below the anticipated budget. Revenue for FY 2011 was greater than expected with income tax revenue \$223,155 higher than anticipated, the single greatest contributor to the higher revenue. The General Fund expenditures FY2011 were \$400,000 below costs for FY2010. The town holds an unrestricted reserve fund of \$1,300,000, which is \$150,000 above the standard goal of having four months of operating cost in

reserve.

General Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for the year were highlighted by a new roof for the Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant (\$68,600), final payment on the bandshell (\$75,343), Fisher Avenue sidewalks (\$199,569— with revenue for that coming from impact fees), skatepark final payment (\$94,238), Dillingham Park paving (\$133,369), and paving of Seneca Chase (\$30,309). The town holds \$826,612 in accumulated funds for future CIP projects.

For the Water and Wastewater budget of \$964,430, revenue to the town was \$863,742. The shortfall once again was made up by a grant from the town's general fund of \$100,687. Capital Improvement Expenditures for Water and Wastewater covered items such as Alpha Treatment testing (\$41,000), Enhanced Nutrient Removal upgrade (\$86,509— Maryland Department of the Environment reimbursed), equipment (\$29,077), and inflow and infiltration (\$20,691).

Collected impact fees from the development of thirty homes were \$328,347 and are designated for public facilities, parks, wells, and sewers.

Other income for the town came from speed cameras (\$48,120) and rental of wireless antennas on the water tower (\$153,000). The income from the wireless antenna rental goes into the general fund even though the water towers are part of the water

and wastewater budget.

In new business, the town approved an \$800 grant to the Poolesville Elementary School PTSA to cover the cost of a tent rental for Poolesville Day. The tent is to hold a celebratory reception honoring the fiftieth anniversary of PES for former and current teachers, administrators, students, and all others who want to join in the festivities. A request by a local business to allow alcohol use at its company picnic at Halmos Park was voted down by a 3-2 vote. In voting for the request were: Commissioners Jim Brown and Chuck Stump. Mr. Brown was impressed with the gracious and dedicated manner by which the company (Landscape Projects) approached the Parks Board and worked with that board in formulating a process to manage the use of alcohol in the park. Mr. Stump noted that other municipalities (citing Frederick City) allow such use and that the proposed request met with his satisfaction for control.

Kuhlman, Hoewing, and Klobukowski voted against the requests. The town has an ordinance disallowing alcohol in town parks and public facilities and granted an exception to the spring festival.



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In the Garden

This Summer's Winners and Losers

By Maureen O'Connell

This has been a tough year for flowers, vegetables, shrubs, and trees in many parts of our country. This summer has brought the worst growing conditions that I can remember in my gardens. Record-breaking heat waves generated heat indexes (combination of heat and humidity) of 100° to 112° for five or more days. People and animals are not the only ones who can suffer and die from extreme temperatures. Plants and trees are extremely fragile and need extra care and attention to carry them through these stressful days.

How do high temperatures adversely affect plants? The most basic process that a plant under-

goes is photosynthesis. Simply put: it converts light into food. This is crucial to the health and growth of the plant, as it provides the energy to build the plant's cells. Now think back to your high school botany class, the rate of photosynthesis in relation to temperature takes the form of a bell curve. At low temperatures, enzymes helping photosynthesis have very little energy, so the rate of photosynthesis is slow. If the temperature increases, there is more energy and the process increases; however, if it gets too hot (85° and over), photosynthesis in many plants pretty much shuts down and there is no growth or slower growth, and the plants can be damaged. This situation is particularly evident in roses, even in those bred to tolerate heat and drought conditions. If you add this on top of foliage loss from summer diseases such as black spot, the weakened rose bush shuts down the production of new flower buds, or they are small and discolored. If there is some new growth, long exposure to intense sunlight and high

temperatures can quickly burn tender new growth on flowers and vegetables. In the high nineties, tomato pollen can burn to a crisp and stop the formation of flowers and fruit. This year, I planted eight heirloom tomato plants. They started out well, but then the growth stopped. Now, small, light green tomatoes hang precariously on the slender vines, and I doubt that they will mature. My beautiful violet Wave petunias were strong and healthy in May and June, but as the heat picked up, they grew skinny, produced fewer and fewer flowers, and in the middle of July, they waved good-bye. Crabgrass loves very high temperatures. Have you noticed that even if you have applied Pre-Emergent Crabgrass granules in the spring, this quickly-spreading, tough pest is growing everywhere? It has even crossed over from my now-brown grass lawn areas and invaded my flower beds.

-Continued on Page 13.

"Master Plan" Continued
From Page 1.

There is a stated goal to find ways to develop senior resident housing.

While the document on the website is subject to any number of changes, and some residents might prefer to review a document much closer to a final version, concerned citizens will want to get involved earlier rather than later and take the time to read the Proposed New Comprehensive Master Plan. Once the commissioners' review of the draft has been completed, a public hearing will be scheduled.



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“LandLink Goes Live” Continued From Page 8.

here. When you are farming sustainably, you put so much work and time into building rich soil that a long-term lease is really important.”

Posters at LandLink are anonymous and pay a one-time application fee to participate. The Alliance plans to facilitate early contacts among parties.

If all goes well, Taylor said another website, Labor Link, will be created to match potential laborers with farmers as well.

Hilltop Reconsideration Sought

With two requests for reconsideration filed, the Montgomery Planning Board said it would consult legal counsel to find what options remain for its oversight of the subdivision of Boyds-area Hilltop Farm.

In March, the Circuit Court of Montgomery County issued a remand order that stated the board was “directed to grant”

the preliminary plan, which had already been through more than six years of debate and discussion before regulatory boards and the court system. The board approved a plan in May that called for seven new homes on the 232-acre tract.

According to the plan, an existing home and agricultural buildings will remain on the farm site as the new homes are clustered on a twenty-five-acre parcel. Four houses will have driveways to West Old Baltimore Road, while the remainder will share a driveway emptying onto Slidell Road.

One hundred Boyds area property owners signed a petition opposing the Hilltop subdivision in 2006, and legal challenges continue in the court system. Meanwhile, both the Boyds Civic Association and a group of opposing individuals requested the board reconsider its May decision.

At the July 28 planning meeting, the last before the board’s month-long recess, board counsel Carol Rubin

asked that the reconsideration question be deferred until all the questions raised by opponents could be examined and the board properly advised.

“Because the board is under a court order, I do not want to risk the board being held in contempt for not following that order to the letter,” Rubin said.

Both Hilltop lawyer, Stephen Orens, and Jay Cinque, one of those requesting the reconsideration, agreed to the deferral before planning chair Françoise Carrier made it official. «See you in September, Mr. Orens,» she said.

Carrier said no further written submissions on the project would be accepted although she expected to hear oral testimony in the fall.

Baseball for All

A new baseball field, aimed at helping children with disabilities, opened at the South Germantown Recreational Park in Boyds this month. An August 1 ribbon-cutting was planned for the Washington Nationals Mir-

acle Field, specially-designed with a cushioned synthetic turf that allows both wheelchairs and walkers to circle the bases. According to a press release from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the field will host the Miracle League of Montgomery County, which will provide children with mental and/or physical challenges the chance to safely play baseball.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony and a brief follow-up game was to include state and local government officials as well as Nationals players, owners, and executives



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Things to Do

Donate Food to WUMCO

Summer is a sparse time for canned and package food donations, and the food pantry shelves at WUMCO are getting low. They especially need vegetables and fruit but appreciate anything you might want to donate. The local churches and Selby's Market have collection bins.

August 12 to August 20 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair

63rd Anniversary
Gaithersburg

August 12 Magician in the Park

Whalen Commons
Featuring: Magician David Breth
7:00 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Mike Wescott Band
8:00 p.m.

August 13 and August 14
Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard
Live Music in the Tasting Room
Shane Gamble (August 13)
Kenny Reddington and Joel Niswander (August 14)
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

August 17
Planning Commission Meeting
Poolesville Town Hall
7:30 p.m.

August 19
Poolesville Farmers' Market
Whalen Commons
This is the last Farmers' Market of the year, so be sure to come out for the fun.

The event features local farmers and vendors selling fresh produce, herbs, cheeses, pastries, breads, soaps, dog treats, and more. This is also Kids' Day, featuring a moon bounce, rock wall, games, balloon twister, hula hoop contest, kids' DJ with musical chairs, limbo, etc.

-Continued on Page 15.

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“New Principal” Continued
From Page 1.

and while he worked as a teacher, he also completed a master’s degree in administration.

Before heading to Poolesville, Principal Robbins taught third and fourth grades at Rosemont Elementary School and Woodfield Elementary School. He was a staff development teacher at Ronald McNair Elementary School and was an assistant principal at Brown Station Elementary School.

Mr. Robbins has a real passion for his job, and he says that he is motivated every day when he sees kids “get excited about learning.” He stated that the greatest satisfaction in his job is simply “seeing kids learn and seeing kids be excited to learn.”

Principal Robbins explained that there are aspects of teaching and being an administrator that people may be surprised to learn. Teachers spend a lot of time preparing for classes each day and spend a lot of time out-

side of school doing work. Principals spend ample amounts of time “making sure everything is well run,” and people don’t get to see the large amount of work that happens over the summer to prepare for the school year.

Mr. Robbins says that he is very excited to get started running such a great school. He loves Poolesville and is impressed by what a great town and community it is. He is “impressed by the support of staff and parents” in his new position as principal, and he is “extremely excited to have a successful first year and many years to come.”

“Wnners and Losers”
Continued From Page 10.

Enough of discouraging garden news, let’s look at this summer’s winners. This was a banner year for crape myrtle trees. While driving in our area, I have seen them thriving in brilliant shades of pink and bright red. I have always liked my butterfly bushes (*Buddleia*), but I would often forget to cut them back to the ground in the spring; they would then become overgrown and would not bloom well. This year, I planted, in a small garden, three *Buddleia* ‘Blue Chip,’ a new series of miniature *Buddleias* introduced by the Raulston Arboretum in North Carolina. I highly recommend these shrubs. This mounding, well-branched plant reaches less than two feet high and wide, and flowers continuously. It never needs deadheading, and it has not been bothered at all by our high temperatures and drought conditions. It is a definite winner. Hydrangeas have been around for a long time, and they deserve a lot of their accolades. With drought and high heat conditions, they can quickly wilt, but they usually come back as good as ever with a long drink of water. I did lose one this year to the extreme heat. The colors this year were the best I have ever seen. I do fertilize them every month with Holly Tone. My two favorite and most hardy hydrangeas are *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘Endless Summer’ and the Oak Leaf Hydrangea ‘Snow Queen.’

Some of my perennials took a beating this summer, but many of my favorites kept on blooming no matter what the temperature. They included coreopsis ‘Sienna Sunset,’ False Indigo *Baptisia australis*, *Agastache*,

coral bells *Heuchera* ‘Citronelle’ and ‘Georgia Peach.’ I love *Hostas*, and I have many varieties, but many of them wither and die in heat. The best two for heat, humidity, cold, poor soil, and even periods of drought are *Hosta* ‘First Frost,’ 2010 *Hosta* of the Year, and *Hosta* ‘Mighty Mouse.’

In the category of annuals, the first prize for heat, humidity, and drought tolerance goes to all the varieties of *Lantana*. This is one tough, beautiful, ever-blooming plant.

What can you do now to protect the plants you still have growing during extreme heat? Water in the morning before the high heat of the day sets in and the hot sun causes the water to evaporate before it reaches the plants’ roots. Even if certain plants normally are sun lovers, move them into the shade during the heat of the day. They will last longer. Don’t fertilize now. This will result in the plants trying to grow more roots, which will rob a lot of effort and energy and will weaken the plant. Generally, do not fertilize a weakened, stressed plant.

If most of your plants have given up the ghost, cut them down; they will come back next year. If they are flowering annuals, wait a while until the fall plants come to the garden centers—and remember, there is always next year. Onward and upward in the garden is my mantra.

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Youth Sports

Stepping Up to The Plate PAA Partners With Red Raider Softball

By Jeff Stuart

"We just completed the first season of our partnership with PAA (Poolesville Athletic Association). It has gotten off to a great start," says Brad Broseker, President of Red Raider Softball and 18U Head Coach. "PAA needed to have a place to put their younger girls (age 7-9) that were moving up from baseball/t-ball, and we were the perfect match since all we do is girls' fast pitch softball. We have a large number of Poolesville participants already and a big presence in the surrounding area. We currently have twenty-one teams, although we will be growing to twenty-five-plus this fall."

Poolesville High School players participating include the now-graduated seniors Sasha Trope (.324), Cheyenne Wolitzky (.394), Olivia Howell, and Amanda Haller (.368), and underclassmen Jenny Haller (.368), and Erica Hansen. All are on the 18U Broseker team.

On June 19, the 18U Red Raider Inferno, coached by Tommy Bell, won the championship of the Freedom Invitational in Eldersburg, Maryland, defeating the Reston Redbirds, 8-6. The Inferno scored three runs in the top of the first, but the Redbirds scored four in the bottom of the fourth. With the score tied, 6-6, in the fifth inning, the Raiders went ahead, 8-6, and held on through the bottom of the sixth. First baseman Carmen Frazier (Coppin State-Watkins Mill HS) had three hits and five RBI for the Inferno. Kara Cuddapah (outfielder-Churchill HS), Tori Kenno (Montgomery College-Magruder HS), and Aerial Spencer (outfielder-Charles H. Flowers

HS) had two hits each. Spencer drove in three runs. The winning pitcher was Hannah Shipley (Damascus) in relief of Bronwyn Davies (Churchill HS). On July 2, the Inferno placed third in the Maryland and Delaware USSSA States Tourney in Sykesville, and on July 9, the Raiders placed third again in the Winfield Classic in Westminster.

The Raiders 16U Black team, coached by Rick Dorsey, took second place honors on June 26 at the Summer Spectacular Tournament in Columbia, Maryland. After going 2-0 during Saturday's pool play games, the 16U Raiders downed their first opponent in bracket play, the Freedom Firebirds, and beat their second round opponent, the North Glen Lady Nitros, as well—but the Raiders came up short in the championship round against the Green Hornets. On July 9, the 16U travel squad placed second in the Winfield Classic in Westminster. Amanda Berger (first base/outfield, .313) leads the black with fourteen RBI.

The Red Raider Travel team season is not finished. The 14U, 16U, and 19U teams will travel to Williamsburg for the Busch Gardens Classic, August 5 to 7. All of the above are tournaments involving at least twenty teams.

The Raiders practices and home games are at Halmos Park on Hoskinson Road in Poolesville, but they take to the road for their away games playing in Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Frederick County, Howard County, D.C., as well as other states such as South Carolina, Virginia, and Pennsylvania in various USSSA, NSA, PONY, and ASA sponsored tournaments.

"We have a huge number of Red Raider players from nearly every high school in Montgomery County," says Broseker, "and we have players from DI and DII colleges, and Frederick, Howard, and Prince George's Counties. For the upcoming 2011/2012 seasons, we are focusing more on player development. We want to get girls excited about playing fast-pitch softball and get them

prepared to play the game properly—with confidence and passion, in high school or college. We don't open our doors only to the best players. We open them to all that want to play. We are fairly unique in this mission and have grown in four short years from twelve players to well over 350 this year. We expect that to grow above 400 by 2012. We have a dedicated group of volunteers and provide the best equipment and a safe play-



The 2011 Red Raider U18 Softball Team

Remembrance



Norman Leibrand

Mr. Norman P. "Mouse" Leibrand of Poolesville passed away on Sunday, July 24, 2011. He was the loving husband of Elsie Leibrand. Mr. Leibrand was born on June 24, 1937 in Washington, D.C. and was the son of the late George Leibrand and Gladys East. Surviving him besides his wife are two sons, Norman P. Leibrand, Jr. of Lynnwood, Washington, Roy A. Leibrand and wife Maggie of Dickerson; two brothers, Wyman "Bucky" Leibrand, and Archie East; three sisters, Barbara Close, Linda Murray, Peggy Hendon; and six grandchildren.

Ms. Elizabeth "Betty" Moore Copsey

Ms. Elizabeth "Betty" Moore Copsey passed away on July 22, 2011. Born in Frederick on October 2, 1944, she was the daughter of the late Joseph Collinson and Edna Carolyn Donahoe Moore.

Surviving are two sons, Alan Copsey (Jen) of Ellicott City, Eric Copsey of Bethesda; one sister, Carolyn Hodgkins (Earl) of Wilmington, N.C.; and two granddaughters, Rachel and Leah Copsey.

Herbert T. Dixon

Mr. Herbert T. Dixon, most recently residing in Leesburg, Virginia, passed away peacefully on August 5, 2011. He was ninety-seven years old. Herbert was born in Barnesville, Maryland in 1913 and resided there for sixty-two years. The son of Eberly T. Dixon, rural letter carrier, and Zora V. Dixon, homemaker, he had two loving sisters, Agnes Luhn of Damsacus and Evelyn Matthews of Dickerson. He was married to the love of his life, Stacy Rosamond Dixon, before she predeceased him in 1991. He leaves a niece, Nancy Cawley of McLean, Virginia, who will greatly miss her Uncle Herb.

During World War II, Herbert served in Tunisia, Naples, Rome, and North Africa under General Patton. He was the recipient of three army service medals. He spent his career as an electrician at the National Institutes of Health. Lifelong interests included saltwater fishing, travel, and reading. He had a fascina-

-Continued on Page 15.

“Things to Do” Continued
From Page 12.

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Music Concert in the Park
Featuring: Legendary blues musician Jay Summerour with some friends
Whalen Commons
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Cugini’s Entertainment Night
Featuring: Dave Bleistein
8:00 p.m.
August 20 and August 21
Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard
Live Music in the Tasting Room
Ken Wenzel (August 20)

Shane Gamble (August 21)
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
August 22
Commissioners’ Meeting
Poolesville Town Hall
7:30 p.m.
August 26
Music Concert in the Park
Featuring: Bob Lauder Band
7:00 p.m.
August 27
Movies in the Park
Featuring: *Gnomeo & Juliet*
Whalen Commons
8:30 p.m.

“Remembrance” Continued
From Page 15.

tion with all things mechanical. A faithful member of the Baptist Church, he rarely missed a Sunday service. He had a sharp mind, keen memory, and kind and gentle ways.



Herbert T. Dixon

Tidbits



Ray Hoewing Named Grand Marshal for Poolesville Day

2011 Poolesville Day Grand Marshal Ray Hoewing

For the first time, the Poolesville

Day committee accepted nominations for Grand Marshal from the general public. After reviewing submissions, the Poolesville Day committee has voted to extend the honor of Grand Marshal for the festival and the parade to Ray Hoewing. Mr. Hoewing is highly regarded in the community as a dedicated public servant and volunteer, and was selected for his contributions which include, but are not limited to: being on the Board of Directors of WUMCO, a past board member of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, co-chair of Helping Hands of Poolesville, driving for Rebuilding Together Project, which assists low income homeowners with property repairs, past president of the PTSA for Poolesville Elementary School, a long-time past member of the Poolesville Day Committee, and a leader and ardent worker at Memorial United Methodist Church. For many years, he published *Poolesville Online*, an internet newspaper covering the important news of the town. His special

love and concern for the community are also demonstrated in his publishing, in 2002, *From Indians to the Internet*, a wonderful history of Poolesville.

Mr. Hoewing had humbly rejected the nomination while being a member of the Poolesville Day committee but agreed to accept the honor this year since it came from resident Lori Kocur, a member of the public, rather than the committee. The parade that Mr. Hoewing will lead this year is already set to be one of the biggest ever, with a number of very special surprises that will be announced later once the details have been locked in.

Attention PHS Class of 1969

The 1969 graduating class of Poolesville High School is organizing a wonderful celebration in honor of the hundredth anniversary of Poolesville having a high school. The big day is planned for September 3 (Labor Day weekend) and will be at Smokey Glen Farm, 16407 Riffle Ford Road in Gaithersburg. The party will begin at 1:00 p.m., and the picnic dinner will be served from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Smokey Glen is famous for its terrific barbeque chicken and spare ribs, and there will also be three sides, dessert, soft drinks, beer, and wine. The cost is \$50.00 per person. The organizing committee is hoping everyone will also help spread the word to all past students, faculty, and other friends of PHS. If you want to find out more, email Poolesville69@aim.com or call Nancy Gallo at 301-972-4317.



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POOLESVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Poolesville Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the Draft of the Poolesville Master Plan. The hearing will be held on September 14, 2011 at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall, 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland.

All interested persons, their agents, or attorneys may appear before the Planning Commission and testify or ask questions concerning the Draft of the Poolesville Master Plan. Copies of the Draft Master Plan are available for review at the Poolesville Town Hall.

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AUGUST 19, 2011 Whalen Commons

4pm – 8pm: Local Vendors selling fresh produce, herbs, artisan cheeses, sweet corn, fruits, breads, pastries, soaps, plants, dog treats and more.

Kids Day in the Commons! We'll have a Moonbounce, Rock Wall, Games, a Balloon Twister, Hula Hoop Contest and an Interactive Kids DJ (musical chairs, limbo, etc.) It's like Poolesville Day without the lines!

7pm – 9pm: Legendary Blues Musician, Jay Summerour will entertain you with his classic sound, and he's bringing along some of his friends!



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“Who Are Those People”
Continued From Page 4.

prevailed, right? The S&P doesn't think so, and as today's market free fall suggests, not too many other people do, either.

However, if eighteen percent of the people think that Congress is doing a good job while far more people would agree that Congress isn't doing a job at all, I have to conclude that the people that think Congress is doing a good job are people who think

that Congress doing nothing is a good thing. This would be the view that government can only do bad, and that while they may manage to deliver a few services here and there, government is intrinsically evil, and the less they do, the better job they are doing. What else could it be?

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\$10⁰⁰ OFF Computerized Alignment (Regular price)

Includes:

- Front, rear, camber & toe set to manufacturer's specifications, where applicable
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\$39⁹⁵ Car Care Package

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- Lube, new filter & up to 5 quarts major brand oil (brands vary)
- Complete tire rotation
- Check tread depth on all 4 tires
- Adjust air pressure to manufacturer's specifications
- Inspect and clean battery terminals and connections
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NO INTEREST IF PAID IN FULL WITHIN 6 MONTHS*

\$250 Minimum Purchase Required. Minimum Payments Required.

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† Prices, limited warranties, credit terms and auto service offers shown are available at Goodyear Auto Service Centers.

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