



*The river birch "Heritage" will beautify your neighborhood. See In the Garden on page 18 for the skinny on more trees.*



*The Daytripper takes in some Maryland history, back when a tea party was just a tea party. You may be surprised by what she found out, on page 8.*



*Friesian horses are movie stars? Find out in Equestrian on page 8.*



*The ground trembles, a dull roar engulfs you — it's another earthquake! Not. See the Family Album on page 2 for a complete explanation.*

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

*Keeping An Eye On Local News*

*A Biweekly Newspaper*

*August 26, 2011*

*Volume VIII, Number 11*

## **Poolesville Man Charged In Series of Burglaries**

By Jack Toomey

A team of quick-thinking neighbors and fast-acting police officers meshed and resulted in the arrest of an eighteen-year-old Poolesville man after the burglary of a home in the 17300 block of Fletchall Road.

On August 17 at about 9:45 a.m., a neighbor looked out her window to see an unfamiliar man in the backyard of her neighbor's house. She saw him walking around, hiding in bushes, and trying to open locked doors. Finally, the man began kicking at the back door. The neighbor called the police and elicited the help of another neighbor who happened to be

home. The second neighbor spoke to the police dispatcher and gave a description of the burglar who, by that time, had kicked down the rear door to the house. Possibly alerted by the responding police cars, the suspect then ran from the back of the house, crossed Fletchall Road, climbed a fence, and disappeared into the backyards of houses. The police units then fanned out over the area and stopped a man fitting the description as provided by neighbors at Hoskinson Road and Chiswell Road. After a short time, the officers arrested the man and took him to the Germantown Police Station.

Michael Ryan Denoon, age 18, of the 19600 block of Wootton Avenue, Poolesville, was charged with First Degree Burglary, Destruction of Property, and Theft. He was committed to the Montgomery County Detention Center in lieu of bond. Detectives later obtained a search warrant for his residence and



*Marie Easterday inspects her damaged rear door.*

found stolen property from other burglaries. Denoon was also charged with the burglaries of another house in the 17300 block of Fletchall Road and one in the 19600 block of Wootton Avenue that happened in the previous week.

A review of court records revealed that Denoon has previous arrests for First Degree Assault and Possession of Drugs

-Continued on Page 17.

## **Earthquake Hits Area**

A 5.8 magnitude earthquake struck the metropolitan Washington area shortly before 2:00 p.m. on August 23. The center of the earthquake was about nine miles outside of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and tremors were felt as far away as Michigan, Massachusetts, and North Carolina.

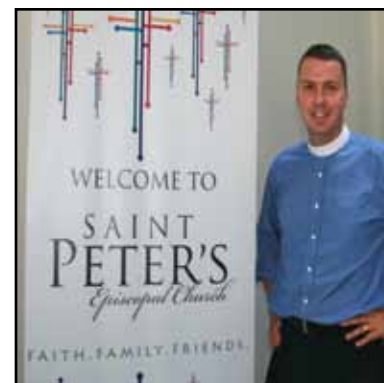
In Washington, D.C., many buildings including the Capitol and Pentagon were evacuated and flights at the airports were halted. The Washington National Cathedral's central tower was damaged, and the Cathedral was also evacuated.

Here in the Upcounty, the ten- to fifteen-second tremor shook buildings and rattled windows. The sound and vibration was likened to that of a passing subway car.

## **Father Tom Purdy: Leading St. Peter's Church Forward**

By Rande Davis

This August is the third anniversary of Reverend Tom Purdy's call to St. Peter's Episcopal Church. For Father Tom, his journey to Poolesville began as a boy at St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Church was an important part of his upbringing as he was active in Sunday school and as an acolyte. The notion of becoming a priest, while present in his youth and teen years, was solidified while working his way through college.



*Reverend Tom Purdy*

He and his older brother Scott are the children of Sue and Phil Purdy of Millersville, Pennsylvania. His father, a navy veteran, works for Pennsylvania Power and Light, and his mom developed her interest in Reiki Healing and eventually opened a practice in

-Continued on Page 10.



**Family Album**



*The Family Album is sponsored by  
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*These little girls really got into the dance and music of "YMCA" at the last Farmers' Market of the year.*



*America's 911 Foundation Memorial Motorcycle Ride came through Frederick County on its way to New York.*



*Althea Collins assisted magician David Breth with an amazing trick.*



*Most of the members of the Whit family enjoyed the Farmers' Market, but one found it a bit tiring.*



## Business Briefs

### OMHG Can Help You Relax

Kelly Serra of the Organic Market and Holistic Center is a registered massage practitioner who is available locally to help clients relax or recover from injury at the Organic Market and Holistic Center of Poolesville. Appointments are available most days of the week for massage and deep tissue work. She offers a one-hour appointment for a traditional relaxing Swedish-style massage, and there are additional services that Kelly can offer such as deep tissue focus on problem areas in the back, shoulders, or neck (inquire about extra services and to know what additional charges may be incurred). Upon request, a client is offered abbreviated seated massages for those who may have never received treatment and want to sample or if a client just needs a quick "tune up."

The holistic center also offers acupuncture by two Tai Sophia Institute alumni as well as treat-

ments by a reiki master. These are ancient and traditional styles of healing medicine and modalities which are offered by trained and certified practitioners to promote wellness of the mind, body, and spirit.

### The Corner Mexican Grill Has Many New Changes

If you haven't been by the Corner Mexican Grill lately, you may not be aware of the many new things at the restaurant in Poolesville. Their new menu items include a varied Sunday brunch selection from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They have always offered Sunday breakfast, but now they will have a special meal. Their new Peruvian-style Rotisserie Chicken can be purchased by the quarter, half, or even whole. For Redskin fans, they have a special price on nachos for snacking during the game. That offer runs only during game time. Every day at the Corner Mexican Grill brings a new special offer and perhaps most surprising, their menu will now offer a number of Italian specialties.

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*Keeping An Eye On Local News*

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# Commentary

## Summer Ends Again

By John Clayton

This issue will pretty much mark the end of summer as we know it. Most of September is still technically summer, with the hot days, thunderstorms, and yellow jackets to prove it, but we all know the nights will be getting progressively cooler, vacations will be over, Poolesville Day will happen, and the kids will be back in school. I love the summer and continue to regret the speed at which it passes, although it doesn't really move fast, it is just short. Winter seems to last forever. We start getting cold, dreary days in October or November, and then we are still getting them in April. The span of beautiful hot weather—and sticky awful hot weather—is much shorter; however, late summer and early fall is probably the most gorgeous time weather-wise here in Monocacy Country, so I should be grateful for what's coming next, as one should always be.

There are things I worry about as summer prepares to come to a close. Some worries aren't really season-specific: Will the stock market totally destroy my IRAs? Will Rick Perry ever head up the Environmental Protection Agency? Will free-ways be built through the Ag Reserve? Will Dennis Kucinich ever become Secretary of Defense? Will I live long enough to

see the Washington Nationals in the World Series? Will my children live long enough to see the Washington Redskins make it back to the Super Bowl? And will the Columbia Record Club ever track me down and make me buy more albums? These aren't seasonal concerns, I grant you, but they do weigh on my mind.

As I try to coax this column into coherency, my office has started shaking. What? Is that what I think it is? Yes, it is. There is a rumbling sound, and, for a second, I think that perhaps an F-18 or some such beast has come in close for a closer look at our donkeys, but, in the same instant, I realize that the rumbling has ended. The animals, including our unflappable donkeys, are unimpressed. Even the totally flappable horses are calm—no one is running around looking scared—they're just munching away. I walk around outside and everything looks normal. I return to my office with the intention of either checking the web for earthquake news or Googling "schizophrenia" when Maureen O'Connell calls and confirms what I experienced. As she is our garden writer, I accept that anything below or touching the ground is her bailiwick, so I consider her testimony authoritative.

My daughter is on the road, so I try to call her to make sure she's all right, but it seems the cellular system is jammed. I wonder why everyone else thinks they have to make a telephone call at times like this.

That's my earthquake story. What was yours?

### The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

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## Local News

# Ag Leaders Feted At the Fair

By John Clayton

About fifteen years ago, Kitty Cooley of Barnesville thought it might be nice to have a luncheon at the fair “just to thank all the committee people” who worked so tirelessly to make the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, and for that matter Montgomery County agriculture, what it is. That small luncheon for certain invited guests is still just for invited guests, but the roster has grown considerably.

This year’s Agriculture Leaders’ Luncheon was attended by over 130 people who packed a dining room in the Heritage Building of the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. The lunch, just to get the important things out of the way, featured food from the Golden Bull restaurant,

beef from the Robert Stabler family, and fresh sweet corn, tomatoes, and cucumbers from, where else, Lewis Orchards. Not surprisingly, a gaggle of local-elected officials showed up, highlighted by County Executive Ike Leggett, and including County Councilman George Leventhal (At-Large), State Senators Jenny Forehand (District 17) and Roger Manno (District 19), State Delegates Brian Feldman (from our own District 15) and Eric Luedtke (District 14), and Gaithersburg Mayor Sidney Katz. The Maryland Secretary of the Department of Agriculture Earl Hance was present, as was Poolesville’s Eddie Kuhlman, a member of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Following lunch, the Ag Center Leadership Award went to Billy Willard, presented by last year’s winner, Dan Leaman. Bob Raber of Dickerson was placed into the Montgomery County Agriculture Hall of Fame, and observed, during his remarks, that the Upcounty “could have looked like Fau-

quier County if not for the efforts of some of the people in this room.” Billy Willard gave an Agricultural Preservation update, which included the progress of the Building Lot Termination Program, intended to reduce the fragmentation of agricultural land into residential development. David Weitzer gave an Agricultural Advisory Committee update which concerned deer management programs. Mr. Weitzer noted in particular that the county’s Deer Donation Program, intended to reduce crop damage from overly-populous deer herds, has been bolstered by a contest sponsored by Patriot Land and Wildlife Management.

In his remarks, County Executive Ike Leggett said that the county “radiates diversity” and benefits from a “vibrant agricultural community” and “people dedicated to preservation.” He praised the farmers and landowners in the room for dealing with “confusing and difficult regulations.” Mr. Leggett

alluded to his own bona fides as a “country person,” explaining that he grew up in Louisiana as the son of a sharecropper and that he had picked cotton and cut cane. He said that it wasn’t until he was in college that he faced corn that wasn’t on the cob and chicken that wasn’t on the bone.

Councilman Leventhal told the *Monocle* that he always tried to make it to the luncheon as August family vacations allowed, and that he “likes to see the farm families and the younger generation, which is the future of farming.” He observed that this was what put food on our tables. “As the bumper sticker says,” he added, “No Farms, No Food.”

## Residential, Commercial, Farm and Country Properties



**Poolesville:** Cozy 3 BR, 1.5 BA split level home in the Wesmond subdivision. Amenities include a country kitchen with breakfast nook, family room with fireplace, large level lot. This home boasts an excellent location just minutes from schools, parks and shopping facilities. MLS#MC7628620. Offered at \$265,000.



**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 \$535,000.



**Beallsville/Dickerson:** 3 BR, 2 full BA farmhouse nestled on 26.11+/- acs. adjoining Woodstock Equestrian Ctr. Amenities include wood flrs., living rm w/ brick FP, large country kitchen, main lvl laundry, patio, garage, 2 storage sheds. MLS#MC7642599. Offered at \$599,999.



**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. Offered at \$650,000.



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## Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

### Current Crimes

Burglaries: 17300 block of Fletchall Road, 19600 block of Wootton Avenue, 19700 block of Fisher Avenue.

Thefts: 17500 block of Collier Avenue, 17300 block of Hughes Road, 17000 block of Spates Hill Road, 23000 block of Mt. Ephraim Road.

Vehicle theft: 19800 block of Darnestown Road.

Thefts from vehicles: 19600 to 19700 block of Selby Avenue (four cases).

Disorderly conduct complaints: 17600 block of Kohlhoos Road, 19900 block of Spurrier Avenue, 19500 block of Jerusalem Church Terrace.

Drug use complaint: 19500 block of Fisher Avenue.

### Past Crime

**August 30, 1943** A Somerset County man was sentenced to a term in the House of Corrections for violating the "Loafers Law" also called the "Work or Fight" law. Stanley Day, who had previously been convicted of the same offense in Montgomery County, had served a half of a day in jail. The law was originally drafted to help Montgomery County farmers who would hire farm laborers only to see them disappear after two days of work.

**September 16, 1943** Two young men were being sought by police after they robbed a Silver Spring filling station of 1600 gas rationing coupons. The owner had been asked to do a grease job for a customer, and while he was distracted, the youths entered his office and stole the coupons that were equivalent to 1500 gallons of gas.

**September 17, 1943** Two Georgia men were arrested by county police while tending to their still on Avery Road. Two fifty-gallon stills and seven barrels

of mash were seized by Officers Ward and Purdum. It was said to have been the first still discovered in that area of the county since 1937.

### Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

**August 4, 1935** Mr. Ramsey, who had just returned from living in Russia for six years, gave a talk at the Poolesville Methodist Church. His address was entitled, "Conditions and Hardships of Russia."

**August 5, 1934** A variety show was held at the Poolesville School. Brooke Johns, Maryland farmer and former stage show star, entertained, performing ten acts. Proceeds benefited the Monocacy Cemetery.

**August 16, 1934** Two deputy game wardens were appointed by authority of the governor. Archie Neel of Poolesville and William Thompson of Boyds were sworn in.

**August 18, 1934** Judge DeLashmutt of the Police Court gave an address to the Young Men's Democrat Clubs of Poolesville and Barnesville. He called on them to support the Democratic ticket in the upcoming election.

**August 19, 1934** Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Tetlow entertained at a picnic and dinner held at Monocacy Park.

**August 22, 1937** Mr. and Mrs. Merrick Wilson traveled to Hooper's Island to attend the wedding of Miss Gretta White and James Duggan.

**August 25, 1935** The Dickerson Round Table met at the home of Miss Sallie Brown. Miss Edith Turner gave a talk on "Helps to the Consumer."

-Continued on Page 14.



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## Local News

# Town Begins Review of Petition Ordinance And Charter Revision Process

By Rande Davis

The Commissioners of Poolesville introduced consideration for possible changes in the ordinance governing the voter petition process and the re-introduction of the revision process for changes to the town charter.

Previous recommendations to charter changes were turned down by the voters at the last election after a lengthy and controversial petition drive and public debate. A short discussion led to the recommendation that the town attorney, Jay Gullo, provide a redline document with his recommendations. A redlined document provides

previous text along with suggested alterations.

Those recommendations are to be presented at the next town meeting and, should agreement be reached, a public hearing will be scheduled.

Before adjourning to executive session to further review the Planning Commission's proposed new Town Master Plan, the commissioners approved two capital improvement contract awards. An In-flow and Infiltration maintenance contract was awarded to Lyttle Utilities for \$22,340 and another to Cylos, Inc. for curbing and gutter work on Tom Fox Road for \$61,812. The town is in the process of developing a Poolesville Notification System (PNA) by compiling a list of residents who would like to be included in an email alert system with the purpose of alerting residents to water main breaks, storm damage cleanups, public hearings, and other important information. To receive notifications, just send an email to [townhall@lan2wan.com](mailto:townhall@lan2wan.com) and request to be included. At any time, you can be removed from the list by simply clicking on the "unsubscribe" link.

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### A Deer Donation Program in Sugarloaf Country

At a recent meeting of the Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee, Jeremy V. Criss, Agricultural Services Manager, reported that **property** damage attributable to deer-vehicle collisions in the top ten states in the U.S. is estimated close to four billion dollars. The state of Maryland is ranked in the 11th or 12th position with deer-vehicle collisions estimated to number 31,888 and property damage at almost \$99 million.

In response to a 2004 landowner survey which revealed increasing problems caused by the white-tailed deer population, Montgomery County launched a Deer Donation Program as part of an expanded deer management plan. This initiative encourages farmers and hunters to harvest more deer in a responsible manner by providing local deer collection sites. The one in Poolesville is located on Whites Ferry Road. This program has been a great success, providing over 49,000 pounds of venison to local food banks over seven years. It is administered in partnership with the William F. Willard Farm and Patriot Wildlife Management Services.

Why are we devoting our monthly newsletter to this particular item? The program has been a huge success, but could expand with the help of private donations. During the last seven years the program invested \$140,000 (which is only \$20,000 a year) but the value of this investment is estimated at close to \$260,000 based on meat collected and the value of the grain saved (one deer is estimated to consume up to 2,000 pounds a year). This is a great opportunity for individuals as well as businesses to help make our roads safer, help our local farmers, help feed those in need, and preserve beautiful open spaces and forests.

Please consider supporting the Deer Donation Program with your tax deductible contribution made out to: Montgomery County Extension Advisory Council MC-EAC, c/o Chuck Schuster, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, Maryland 20855.

Visit Montgomery County Department of Economic Development - Agricultural Services for more information:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agstmpl.asp?url=/content/DED/AgServices/aginitiatives.asp>

**Mark your calendars. SCA Potluck in the Barn—  
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## Daytripper

# Hampton National Historic Site

By Ingeborg Westfall

I was reminded recently that 2011 marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, and that, in turn, reminded me of a Maryland site I visited recently whose success rose with the nation's Revolutionary War and declined with the end of the Civil War.

It's the Hampton National Historic Site in Towson, and its story begins in the mid-1700s—and yes, it's one more story of a family that became fabulously wealthy from the efforts of one enterprising individual, Col. Charles Ridgely, who in 1745 bought 1,500 acres from a larger tract called Northampton. During his life, he expanded the holdings to 11,000 acres. His son Charles Ridgely, Jr., known as the Captain, inherited the land. In 1760, Colonel Ridgely and his sons



The Hampton Historical site in Towson, Maryland.

Charles and John established an ironworks on a tributary of the Gunpowder River. From 1775 through 1783, during the Revolutionary War, the company supplied arms to the Patriot cause, the resulting money enabling the captain to begin building the Hampton mansion. It's a sixteen-bedroom Georgian mansion, constructed using stone quarried from the property, covered with stucco and scored to resemble limestone. Its lovely pastel-pink color results from iron oxide in the compound used in the stucco.

After the Revolutionary War, Hampton continued to grow. Captain Ridgely, having produced no heirs, offered his nephew Charles Ridgely Carnan the largest portion of the estate, provided he take Ridgely as his surname. Carnan agreed and became the second master of Hampton. Between 1790 and 1829, he expanded the family's empire to 25,000 acres with ironworks, beef cattle, grain crops, thoroughbred horses, coal mining, marble quarries, mills, and mercantile interests. In 1815, he was elected governor of Maryland.

The Civil War years, 1861 through 1865, along with the changes the war brought to the state and the country, marked the beginning of the decline of the Ridgely empire. After all, only the systems of indentured servitude and slavery had enabled the Ridgely family to prosper. It took the long hours of work of more than three hundred slaves to keep the estate a showplace.

I've given here only a brief overview of Hampton. Sixty acres of its once 26,000 acres (half the size of modern-day Baltimore), are now maintained by the National Park Service. There's much to see, admire, and learn from—good

-Continued on Page 11.

## Equestrian

# The King's Horse

By Rande Davis

The once-famous Mr. Ed said, "A horse is a horse, of course, of course," and we might agree but with one exception: the Friesian, a very graceful horse that becomes something more, something romantic and mystic. It is the horse of the knights, famous for its long waxy mane and tail, and beautiful feathering about the fetlocks near its hooves. It is a majestic equine, a warhorse of epic fame, courageous yet superbly friendly, a wonderful workhorse yet possessing a prideful and graceful gait, and a horse that was nearly extinct (down to three stallions) and has been threatened on more than one occasion. The bold breed has been made even more famous in recent years with starring roles in movies like *Lady Hawk*, *Zorro*, and *Chronicles of Narnia*.

Originally bred in Friesland, a province in northern Holland, it became the preferred horse in the middle ages. Today, the breed is thriving again, with over thirty thousand worldwide and around four thousand in North America. and one of the significant contributors to this success is Beallsville's Wish Upon A Star (Dutch for star) breeding program at Persistence Farm on West Hunter Road.

Owned by Steven and Kamilla Feys, the farm breeds and sells this gallant horse internationally. Steven and Kamilla share their avocation while both maintaining separate careers. Steven owns Seneca Wealth Strategies, LLC, an independent firm associated with Raymond James Financial Services. He began his career in television advertising in New York and Chicago, as part of a team that helped launch the Fox Network. After investing in the 1980s, he was drawn to a career in the world of finance, working with companies such as Smith Barney and Morgan Stanley. In 2008, he joined the independent side of the finance industry by affiliating with Raymond James Financial Services. As a trauma one emergency room nurse, Kamilla brings her medical and emergency care



Fridse – King of Persistence Farm

expertise to the program. With her education and training coupled with his financial planning expertise, they have been developing their enterprise since 1990, breeding, stabling, and training their horses, all the while, helping to advance the Friesian historical role in draft (plow) work to include show and dressage.

Raised in Bethesda, Steven fell in love with the Sugarloaf Mountain area, and he and his wife purchased their farm from Herman Greenberg, a generous contributor to the Ag Reserve and the developing Montgomery County Equestrian Center.

Their love of animals and breeding began with Great Danes and with Steven's Belgium family-line and childhood love of horses. They brought this breeding expertise to Friesians. Persistence Farm is a fifty-three-acre facility with twenty-three stables. The goal for Wish Upon A Star Friesians breeding program is to "match a mare with a stallion who will best complement her conformation and movement, and who will also offer the best inbreeding coefficient possible. This helps to produce an ideal Friesian foal who should develop into a spectacular mature adult." The Feyses have earned an international reputation for meeting that goal.

The queen of the stables is Sarah, a twenty-two year old preferent mare who is so gentle, she is safe around even very young children. Their state-of-the-art laboratory and embryonic transfer capability includes

-Continued on Page 17.





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- DAILY SPECIALS
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“Rev. Tom Purdy” Continued  
From Page 1.

Pennsylvania.

After graduating from Penn Manor High School in Millersville, he enrolled at Millersville University planning a major in biology. To afford college, Father Tom worked his way through school at United Parcel Service and to cut costs, lived at home. Since the college was just across the street from his high school, the commuting was easy, to say the least. Although he had enrolled as a biology major, he instead chose to pursue a double major in Psychology and Philosophy. As an undergraduate, that was the second most significant life-changing event coming from his college years. His most important was meeting his wife Donna. She majored in Business Administration with a focus on accounting. The final decision on the priesthood would not come until after their marriage.

After he graduated from Millersville University in 2000, the couple married. While much thought and consideration on entering the seminary existed and discussions had begun with the Bishop of Central Pennsylvania, the couple decided to put all their effort initially into their marriage before making a final decision about the seminary. After two years, they decided that the call to the seminary was profound and reintroduced the discussion on that choice with the bishop. Tom’s one-year discernment process began at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Middletown, Pennsylvania.

In the fall of 2002, Father Tom entered the School of Theology at Sewanee: The University of the South. As Tom began his studies, Donna taught at a preschool and

worked at the Blue Chair Bakery and Coffee Shop as a weekend baker. When the full-time baker (also a spouse of a seminarian) left, Donna was made the baker in recognition of her obvious talent—a talent eventually to be heartily appreciated by the folks at St. Peter’s.

After graduating with a Master in Divinity degree from Sewanee and being ordained in 2005, Tom rejoined his home parish at St. James in Lancaster as an associate rector. St. James is a large church with over eight hundred families and an ordained staff of four. While assigned at first as associate rector with responsibilities for youth ministry, stewardship, and outreach, the rector of St. James, Nathan Baxter, was elected Bishop of the Central Pennsylvania Diocese. With that election and an interim priest appointed, the search for a replacement began. As a result of these changes, Tom found his responsibilities multiplying. This situation gave the young priest more experience in a short period of time than otherwise would have been the case.

Being appointed to one’s home parish right out of seminary is unusual, but he found that the benefit was in lessening the time it takes to build relationships and trust among the congregation. He is fond of his time at St. James where he was blessed with “many gifted and talented clergy and lay persons to learn from.”

With many changes at St. James, the Purdy’s felt it was a right time to broaden their experience, and while he was aware that St. Peter’s Church was seeking a priest, he did not approach the congregation. As it turns out, other forces were at work. He received a letter from the Diocese of Washington encouraging him

to apply as they felt it might be a good fit. In the fall of 2007, his application was submitted, and it would not be until August of 2008 that he would join St. Peter’s.

After more than two years with an interim priest and a long interviewing process, the St. Peter’s congregation was relieved to finally move on with a full time priest. At the time, the church was in the middle of a building project, and that alone can be more than enough pressure for most congregations. To have to also deal with the search for a rector only compounded the strain on the church. Having Tom accept the call to St. Peter’s was a calming relief for the congregation as well as a new sense of stability.

Tom is known as a vibrant

and vigorous leader possessing a wonderful sense of humor (he offers a Holy Humor Sunday and sermon once a year that would make any standup comedian proud), musical talents (he treats the congregation to occasional chanting of prayers that would make any monk proud), and skills in communication and technology that have benefited the church. Donna and his two girls, Eva and Calleigh, have warmed the hearts of the congregation.

We wanted to know if Tom encountered any surprises about St. Peter’s these past three years. He said he is still amazed at the

-Continued on Page 19.



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“Daytripper” Continued  
From Page 8.

and bad—the many original furnishings generously donated by the Ridgely family, the mansion itself, the farmhouse the family downsized to, the formal gardens, the ice house (the Ridgelys were one of the first Maryland families to have ice year-round—asparagus and garlic were two popular ice cream flavors of the time), the family cemetery, the Maryland Champion trees, and the list continues. What meant the

most to me were displays about the work, the drudgery, and the everyday chores that went on behind the scenes. I tried to imagine the lives of the slaves, remembering that they were forbidden by law to read or write. At Hampton, you can read lists of chores, side-by-side descriptions of people as family members and as workers (“grandfather, teacher, husband,” and “too old to hoe, but can feed chickens”) and much more. Hampton has much to teach about Maryland’s history, and does it well—lessons not easily forgotten.

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2:30pm - 3:45pm  
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7:30pm - Whalen Commons Park  
(Raindate: September 18th - 7:15pm)



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# Youth Sports Ed Ross Looks Forward to The 2011/2012 School Year

By Jeff Stuart

The *Monocle* recently sat down and talked with Poolesville

Athletic Director Ed Ross about the coming school year.

MM: What's new this year at PHS?

ER: Let's start out with our new football coach, Will Gant, and his new football staff. Practice has started. There has been an above average turnout, and there is an air of excitement about the newness of the program—which is natural. Steve Orsini had the program during a difficult time. He followed Larry Hurd who

had some great years here. We lost so many coaches and teachers with the opening of Clarksburg. Steve helped us transition through that period. We are looking to build on what he accomplished. The JV and the Poolesville little league programs have been successful recently, so there is a lot of optimism.

MM: What about the playing facilities?

ER: Our booster club has completely redone our baseball field. We now have the nicest facility that you will see in the county. We are adding bleachers and a fence at the softball field, and we are working on our football stadium as well. We've already got a new Bermuda turf field that I am proud of. That was a PHS Booster Club supported project. Now we are focusing on the entrance area. We are going to have concrete steps and paved walkways where there were just dirt paths. We are going to work on our practice facility in the back as well. It is now mostly hard clay. Over the years, the top soil has just blown away, so we are going to irrigate and seed that and fence it and make that state of the art; and we will improve the soccer and field hockey practice areas.

MM: What do you expect from a completion standpoint?

ER: I think it's going to be another good year. Our girls' teams are strong. We have some great players and coaches. Gina Grubb, field hockey, and Fran Duval, volleyball, always field strong



PHS Athletic Director Ed Ross looks forward to the 2011/2012 athletic season.

teams—and Christina Mann is back with the girls' soccer team. Coach Christos Nicholas is also back with the boys' soccer team. They had a really tough year last year with a young group of kids. Those kids have matured another year and are really hungry to step it up and restore that program to where it has been.

MM: What impact does the PHS Magnet School Program have?

ER: Well, it has been around for many years. It only affects the athletic program in a positive way. We get additional students to come to our school, and, of course, that strengthens us academically, as well.

MM: You built an academic support program for athletes at Watkins Mill when you were there. What are you doing along those lines at PHS?

ER: At Watkins Mill, there was a real need because of a significant number of athletes at the time who were academically ineligible, so there was a critical need. That is not the case at PHS. We have a group of students that excel—to the extreme. The ineligibility rate is very, very low, but the student-athletes have a heavy

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-Continued on Page 19.

## Tidbits

### Bob Ouellette Elected American Legion District Commander

The American Legion, Department of Maryland, Southern Maryland District (SMD) has elected Bob Ouellette, of Poolesville, to be the 2011-2012 District Commander. Legionnaire Ouellette is a member of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, American Legion Post 295 serving the greater Gaithersburg-Germantown area. The Southern Maryland District comprises the counties of Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St Mary's and has forty-nine American Legion Posts with over seventeen thousand Legionnaires.

Legionnaire Ouellette's dedication to the Four Pillars of the American Legion led him to form Operation Provide Comfort (OPC), the flagship program of American Legion Post 295. Operation Provide Comfort has assisted countless wounded and

sick warriors and their families with personal and compassionate need while rehabilitating. Commander Ouellette's mission this year is to promote Lyme disease awareness. Lyme disease is reaching epidemic proportions in Maryland, especially Montgomery County.

### Edwards Ferry to Join C&O National Historic Park Program

On August 11, the Chesapeake & Ohio National Historic Park celebrated the inclusion of Edwards Ferry as part of their Canal Quarters Interpretive Program. Visitors can learn more about life on the C&O Canal by staying in a historic lock house for a day and night. Interpretive media, household tools, and furnishings reminiscent of different periods of the canal's history convey the living conditions of a lock keeper's family as it may have been during the 1830s, at the time of the Civil War, the turn of the twentieth century, or the 1950s. To fully experience life at that time period, visitors will be

given the opportunity to spend the night at the lock house with the scheduled opening on October 22.

The Canal Quarters Interpretive Program is a cooperative effort between the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park and the C&O Canal Trust, a not-for-profit friends group.

### PHS Class of 1981 30-Year Reunion

Members of the PHS Class of 1981 are encouraged to meet on September 23, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the PHS Homecoming Football Game, to be followed with an informal get-together at the Asian House of Poolesville. The following night, 1981 classmates will rendezvous at Casey's Lounge in Frederick at 7:00 p.m. For more details, including hotel arrangements, call Melanie (Carroll) Psaltakis at 301-801-6185.

### PHS Graduate Heads to China

Seth Shibelski, a 2009 graduate of Poolesville High School,

left on August 20 to study in Chengdu, China as part of a language immersion process. He is in his junior year at the University of Maryland where he is studying Chinese Language and International Business. He will return to College Park in January.

"Tidbits of the Past"  
Continued From Page 6.

**August 26, 1934** Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bodmer of Poolesville had the Bodmers of Mt. Ranier, Maryland as guests.

**August 27, 1933** Mrs. Arthur Elgin entertained at seven tables of bridge. Mrs. Catherine Hall won first prize, Mrs. Thomas Perry second, and Mrs. Arthur Carpenter Elgin won the guest prize.

**August 28, 1933** Nineteen majors were appointed to canvass Montgomery County merchants in connection with the president's committee on reemployment. Among those appointed were Thomas Darby of Darnestown, Lawrence Chiswell, Barnesville, and J. Furr White of Poolesville.

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Summer is a sparse time for canned and packaged food donations, and the food pantry shelves at WUMCO are running 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 26 to August 31

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Last Weekend

August 26

### Music Concert in the Park

Featuring: Bob Lauder Band

Whalen Commons, Poolesville

7:00 p.m.

August 27

### Movies in the Park

Featuring: *Gnomeo & Juliet*

Whalen Commons, Poolesville

8:30 p.m.

August 29

### Mother's Day Out Program

St. Peter's Church

9:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

September 2

### PHS Girls' Volleyball

Home versus Quince Orchard

High School

6:30 p.m.

### Music Concert in the Park

Featuring: Mindy Miller

Whalen Commons

7:00 p.m.

September 5

### Labor Day

September 7

### PHS Boys' Soccer

Home versus Springbrook High

School

7:00 p.m.

### Community Dinner

St. Peter's Church - Open to all

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

September 9

### PHS Football Home Game

Versus Richard Montgomery

High School

6:30 p.m.

### Music Concert in the Park

Featuring: Soulbox

7:00 p.m.

### Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: The Galt Line

8:00 p.m.

September 10

### 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Lord's Acre Festival

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be musical entertainment, vari-

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ever-popular Apple Butter sale will highlight a bake sale and outside food including hot dogs, BBQ sandwiches, and popcorn.

Of course, the luncheon by the Crafty Ladies and Gents will feature their homemade soups.

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

September 11

### Inter-Faith Remembrance for 9/11

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to give honor to the victims and

heroes of that tragic day.

Whalen Commons, 6:00 p.m.



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**"Friesland Horses"**  
Continued from Page 8.

ultrasound and round-the-clock video of the birthing stable to monitor pending births.

After buying the farm property, which dates back to the 1840s, Steve and Kamilla started from scratch, building their home, campus of barns and stables, and the offices for Seneca Wealth Strategies,

**"Burglary Suspect"**  
Continued From Page 1.

with the Intent to Distribute.

The owner of the burglarized home, Marie Easterday, was called at work and came home to find the police at her house. She later told a *Monocle* reporter, "I look at it as my number was up. I slept well last night and am thankful that my house was not ransacked and my animals were not injured."

A *Monocle* reporter also spoke with a group of residents in the neighborhood, and the common theme was

LLC. They have three children, daughter Seneca, and sons Jack and Nick. Persistence Farm has had open houses in the past, and they hope to begin doing so again. Offering training and riding lessons, the Feyses enjoy visitors and are very welcoming to groups wanting to schedule a visit to the farm.

that neighbors should be on the lookout for suspicious characters. One person said that he had lived in Poolesville for a long time and that even though someone's house was damaged, he thought that this incident was an excellent example of neighbors looking out for each other.

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# In the Garden

## Leaves for Neighborhoods

By Maureen O'Connell

In 2010, the Montgomery County Planning Department launched a tree-planting program called Leaves for Neighborhoods. Its goal was to increase the county's tree canopy on residential property. To encourage you to plant trees in your yard, the county will give you a \$25 coupon which you can use towards the purchase of a tree with a retail value of \$75 or more at participating local nurseries and garden centers. Visit the website, Leaves for Neighborhoods, to download a coupon and see the list of nurseries and garden centers. The reimbursement offer began May 31, 2010 and will expire May 31, 2012. You can also find a list of qualifying trees. Some of them are native to Montgomery

County and Maryland. Native tree species are usually healthier and more drought- and pest-resistant than non-native, invasive tree species.

Why should trees be a part of your landscaping design? Most importantly, they provide very valuable environmental benefits. Trees protect the soil and help prevent erosion. Air quality is improved as they absorb carbon dioxide. The quality of our local water in streams, rivers, and tributaries has been deteriorating quickly over the past several decades. Pesticides, fertilizers, and animal waste have entered our waterways and polluted them. Trees can help tremendously by filtering storm water runoff before it enters the water source. Homeowners can benefit economically by planting trees in their yards. Studies have shown that trees can increase residential property values by as much as fifteen percent. Shade trees can cut air-conditioning and heating bills by fifteen to thirty percent. Trees can also shield your house and

land from destructive winds. On top of all these benefits, think of the beauty of trees. A well-landscaped lot with flowers, shrubs, and stately trees can make a huge impact on your property.

Autumn is the perfect time to plant trees. As the weather cools and the first frosts blanket the ground, plants become dormant. Usually, the soil is still warm enough for some root growth to carry them through the winter. Come spring, they will have a head start, and their already-established root system will be better able to adjust to the warming weather.

Our weather conditions can be very unforgiving and tough on trees. In the past several years, I have lost about ten very large white pines, six tall black locusts, and many Leyland Cypresses. Drought, extreme heat, ice, snow, and wind took their toll. Leyland Cypresses are handsome, fast-growing plants. For these reasons, they became very popular as privacy hedges; however, they have limited root support and are usually the first trees to blow down in a strong wind storm. They also cannot handle heavy ice or snow loads. Here is a list of other trees that I would not recommend planting: hackberry, Norway Maple, Silver Maple, Mimosa, Lombardy Poplar, Cottonwood, willow, older species of Bradford Pear, and Black Locust.

What are good trees to plant in our area? Red maples are one of my favorite trees. They have strong trunks and branches. Their crowning glory is their beautiful leaves. From spring until fall,

they change from bright green to golden orange to brilliant red. Look for this new variety: 'Ryusen.' It is more heat- and sun-tolerant than many. The Yellow Poplar or Tulip tree is very hardy. In the spring, they have pale whitish-green tulip-like flowers. Dogwoods are very popular yard specimens. Be careful, though, which variety you buy for dogwoods are very susceptible to the disease anthracnose. 'Appalachian Spring,' 'Wolf Eyes,' and 'Firebird' are three good, reliable, disease-resistant ones. I cannot say enough good things about the River Birch 'Heritage.' It is a beautiful specimen with attractive peeling pinkish-cinnamon colored bark. This past winter its delicate limbs were bent down to the ground with heavy snow. As soon as the snow melted, the limbs sprang back up with no damage. Others to consider are: American Holly, Redbuds, and the red cedar *Thuja* 'Green Giant' and *Thuja* 'Steeplechase.' Thirty-one years ago, we planted twenty-two small Norway spruce trees up our driveway. They have now grown quite tall and fat. They have taken heat, drought, wind, snow, and ice, and they still look beautiful. I highly recommend this conifer.

You have a month or more before tree-planting season. Take this time to do some research on what trees would be an asset to your yard. Don't forget to download your coupon from the county; it's a good deal. You can download as many as you want. You have no excuse; bring Leaves to your Neighborhood.

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“AD Ross” Continued From Page 13.

academic workload, so we start practices at 3:30. That gives them a chance to do their homework, meet with teachers, and so on.

MM: Any other general comments or things you would like people to know?

ER: Yes. This is my third year here at Poolesville. The first two, I just learned my way around for the most part. I have worked with some really great people. I can't mention them all. The leadership of the Booster Club by Jeff Oyer has been outstanding. No matter what we seem to need in support of our sports teams and facilities or support, there is always someone willing to step up and say, "I can do that," whether it is fixing a hose bib behind the stadium or an ice machine, or mowing our grass. I look forward to that, even more so this year. It's a great place to be. That support is critical to us.

“Rev. Tom Purdy” Continued From Page 10.

church's outreach program helping a community near Richmond, South Africa. He is also pleased with the zeal which the young teens have in developing their monthly CRE-8 Service. This is an evening service created by St. Peter's youth who, with Father Tom and lay leaders' guidance, are responsible for the liturgy, message, and music. St. Peter's continuing ministry with children is another source of great joy. He is also impressed with the faithful commitment of time, talent, and financial support from a congregation the size of St. Peter's.

This past spring, he introduced three services on Sunday. The early service is a traditional Rite I service with pre-1979 Elizabethan language, the middle service is a family-friendly shorter service with more contemporary liturgy and music, and the late morning is the traditional, standard-issue Rite II service with choir.

Father Tom hopes to guide the church in its renewed mission of community outreach providing more events and services to the general community at large. Current examples of this are the low-cost family and community dinners, a community garden to support WUMCO, support of scouting, Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous, offering a flu clinic, and providing meals and volunteers for the Frederick Mission for Homeless. St. Peter's hopes to continue to be a true community congregation.

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