



Christmas in March? It could be. Read our tribute to a well-known local stalwart on page 10.



Washington Post columnist Tracy Grant visited these students. Find out what she had to say in School News on page 9.



Broadcast live from Poolesville! Get the scoop in the Family Album on page 2.



The "Spirit of Freedom" is a sculpture and a memorial that you should see. The Daytripper will tell you how, on page 3.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 2, 2012

Volume IX, Number 1.

PHS Swimmers Make a Big Splash:

Boys and Girls Sweep 2AW Regional - Boys Win State, Girls Second

By Jeff Stuart

Competitive swimmers and divers generally don't want to make a splashy entrance into the water, but by winning the MPSSA State 2A Swim Meet at University of Maryland at College Park's Eppley Recreation Center on February 25 and by sweeping the regional meet just the week before, Poolesville High School made a big splash, and this time, it's a great thing.

At states, the boys finished first, with 179 points to 121 for runner up Stephen Decatur. The girls finished runner up to C. Milton Wright High School (170.5), scoring 157 points. The PHS combined total of 336.2 was the highest of any team in the competition.

It takes a bit of determination to swim for PHS. The

swimmers practice twice a week at the Germantown Indoor SwimCenter in Boyds which is over twenty minutes from PHS. There are also two dry-land practices a week at the high school.

"We hope to swim fast," had said Head Coach Jonathan Leong, while preparing for the post season meets, and swim fast they did, and the excitement began to grow as the post season advanced. Going into the season Coach Leong knew he had junior Diana Hanson and sophomore Xavier Laracuate returning. Both placed in the top twenty at Metros last year, but he also knew he had a deep and talented incoming freshman class including Dorit Song, Lindsay Knapp, Katie Dahlen, Tony Kim, and William An.

This past Saturday at the state competition, Laracuate won the boys 100-yard freestyle (48.85). Then went on to place



Coach Leong and his PHS swim and dive team celebrate their win in regional competition.

third in the 200-yard IM. Junior Jake Rubenstein was third in the 200-yard freestyle and fourth in 500-yard freestyle.

Additionally, sophomore Jack McCarty was fifth in the 100-yard butterfly and sophomore Jacob Weiss was sixth. In the 100-yard breaststroke, senior Liu finished fifth and senior Huy Lam eighth. Lin was sixth in

-Continued on Page 22.

'We Were a Proud School' The 1962 PHS Basketball Team and How They Won the State Title Fifty Years Ago

By Jack Toomey

Poolesville High School coach Robert Mowen had every reason to be confident as his boys' basketball team took the court for its first practice in November 1961. His team had advanced to the state semifinal game two years before, and his 1960-1961 team had been respectable. As he looked at the group of players assembled in the tiny gym, he saw a promising group, some of whom had come up from the junior varsity team; Otho Thompson, Leonard Ramey,



Ron Magaha with his 1961 State Champs trophy.

Louis Naylor, Edward Sewell, Robert Lawson, Danny Yates, Ronald Magaha, and Russell

-Continued on Page 18.



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Family Album



Poolesville Green, local environmental advocates, held a seminar on recycling issues at the Poolesville Town Hall on February 28.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church's served up pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, and sausage at its annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner.



Lori King, Betty King, and Connie Stiene enjoy some pancakes and sausage at Dickerson Methodist Church's annual pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday.



CNBC's Emmy-winning journalist, Diana Olick hosted her show Realty Check from Brightwell Crossing's model home on February 24 as cameraman Pat Puglisi helped her with the sound system.

Daytripper

Downtown's U Street Corridor: For Historians and Foodies Alike

By Ingeborg Westfall

I'm an unabashed foodie. Point me toward Vietnamese pho, Thai green or red curry, Indian lassi, Swiss rosti potatoes, Greek taramasalata, and I'm so there, plate in hand. I'm not saying it has to be foreign, although that's often a good thing. What I enjoy isn't prissy or expensive food, or food that I can't identify or even pronounce without a translator. No, I'm talking about real, honest food with an imaginative flair.

What goes best with good food? Well, to balance the indulgence, I go in search of something new, information to make me think, reconsider, maybe set me back on my heels (mentally speaking). Don't get me wrong: I like the familiar, returning to what I'm comfortable with, but there's something energizing about what Paul Harvey used to call "the rest of the story."

That's how I came to visit Busboys and Poets Restaurant and the African American Civil War Memorial and Museum. I'd read the description of the restaurant: a "place to take a deliberate pause and feed your mind, body and soul" and was aware that it had three locations in the D.C. area. I chose its flagship location in what's referred to as the U Street corridor, an area long known as the cultural center of a vibrant African American com-

munity. Until the 1920s, when New York's Harlem overtook it, it was home to the largest urban African American community in the United States. The restaurant's name is a tribute to Langston Hughes who worked as a busboy before he became a noted poet. Owner Andy Shallal, an Iraqi artist, established it in 2005, shaping it into a community gathering place. Along with the social activist portraits and the quotations on the walls, the restaurant houses a bookstore and offers space for poetry readings, music, lectures, films, and private events. The food consists of eclectic, imaginative offerings ranging from burgers and sandwiches to vegan entrees. Sweet potato fries? They've got 'em. Tofu? Ditto. Portions are generous, service is friendly and prompt. It's a welcoming place that reminded me of my college years and long hours nursing a cup of coffee. Now it's a latte and WiFi!

After that, I explored the African American Civil War Memorial and Museum, which defines its mission thus: "[to] preserve and tell the stories of the United States Colored Troops and African American involvement in the American Civil War." The memorial, Spirit of Freedom, is a bronze sculpture that portrays three infantrymen and a sailor in battle-ready posture. Central to the memorial is the Wall of Honor, listing the names of more than 200,000 African American soldiers. This is what I meant when I used the phrase, "set me back on my heels." The numbers blew me away: 3.5 million

-Continued on Page 20.



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Commentary

Life Goes On

By John Clayton

Now that Major League Baseball's Spring Training has started, I can resume my favorite way of wasting time when I should be working: reading about baseball in general and the Washington Nationals in particular. This is the optimism season, when all will go right and the Nats will get into the playoffs—then who knows what can happen. When the season starts, I will be reminded once again that other teams also have some pretty good players, as well as their own young players who have progressed another year closer to their peak abilities, and that some of your players get hurt, or disappoint, etc. Today, however, the sun is shining, the woodpeckers are walking upside down on the tree trunks, and all is right with the world, or at least a small part of it.

Be that as it may, work beckons, and I have to justify all the time I've spent watching the Republican presidential debates. When you hear the word "debate," what comes immediately to your mind? When I was ten years old, my immediate answer would have been "it's what you use to catch de fish," and that's not a bad answer on a sunny day in late February, but, this year, it clearly signifies a testy parade of Republicans seeking their party's nomination. A quick call to our research department (aka Google) suggests that they just had their twentieth debate. I admit to watching a significant number of them, but a good deal less than half. I have read about most if not all of them, and that should be enough. My actual watching has also been in the more recent debates with the field winnowed down, although I did catch some classic Perry and Cain moments early on, I'm proud to say. It was harder to watch when the stage was crowded with the likes of that Pawlenty fellow who bailed early, Michelle Bachman, and that guy who was Obama's ambassa-

dor to China.

Now there are four. Admittedly, I am not particularly fond of any of these guys, but we can chalk that up to partisan sensibilities and move on. I have my reasons, believe me, but we're not that kind of paper, and none of my reasons would be particularly compelling, to say nothing of original. The personal interplay among the candidates has become the most interesting thing about the debates, at least to me. Romney and Gingrich have been clobbered by each other and the others so many times that they seem pretty oblivious to it, taking their blows with sort of a weary good humor. Santorum, however, looked a little shaken by being the target of their firepower. He's been pretty good at dishing it out, but seemed to be a little worried about taking it, as if a normal person would ever progress this far in this type of process. Ron Paul, and stop me if you've heard this one before, continues to be Ron Paul. His opponents now affect this amused, gotta-love-our-crazy-Uncle-Ron demeanor when he goes on about his views on the world. It's all very collegial.

Newt Gingrich is easily the most fascinating person to watch, and I'm not even sure I would have bothered if he weren't still in the race. Love him or hate him, he's a sharp dude, and you can't stump him. He may ultimately shoot himself in the foot, but he's going to come back with something that shifts the topic back in his favor, or at least encourages us to see it in a slightly different way. Figuratively speaking, he's very quick on his feet. He's like someone you play golf with who always bombs a long shot off the tee. Sometimes it rockets 250 yards down the center of the fairway, and sometimes it's a towering slice that flies off over the trees out of sight, but you're going to say "Whoa!" every single time.

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Rande(m) Thoughts

It Can't be Eight Years Already

By Rande Davis

It's the eighth anniversary of the *Monocacy Monocle*, so I thought I might turn the tables and interview myself.

What has been your biggest surprise?

Most days, I would answer that I didn't expect the time to go by so fast. On others, I am just left wondering: How did we make it?

What has changed from the first days?

We started out in black and white, went color, struggled a bit at first, but with a new printing press installed by *Frederick News-Post*, we turned the corner on that. Today, there are many more online opportunities to get a quick look at the news, so we strive to bring more in-depth and personal information. Still, print is the journal of record. You don't fill a scrapbook with

emails and internet conversations. From the first few issues, we have grown to an experienced staff of dedicated individuals who have developed into a solid team.

What has pleased you the most in publishing the paper?

For me, it is doing articles on some of our most valued citizens: seniors, leaders, volunteers, etc. Being able to give a certain degree of honor to these people and their contributions is very fulfilling. Also, I am pleased to report on issues with accuracy and no agenda.

Any regrets?

The space limitation of print media is regrettable but a fact of life. It's a challenge, for example, to cover a three-hour meeting and come back and put it in seven hundred words or less, sometimes with no time to spare. It's also a challenge to get a broad selection of articles so as to appeal to as many readers as possible within available space. One regrettable result is pictures not being as large as we would prefer.

-Continued on page 16.

Business Briefs

Movie Rentals at Cugini's

Cugini's Restaurant has recently accepted the Redbox movie rental vending machine that had been in Selby's Market. Video customers now can rent overnight movies through the machine located in the dining area.

Selby's Market Employee Hired by Harris Teeter

Alice Scott, a cashier at Selby's Market, has been hired as a cashier at the Harris Teeter in Darnestown. She promises to keep us updated as other employees from Selby's find work there. Also, the store now carries the *Monocacy Monocle* in a news display next to the newspaper rack located in front of the service counter.

Local News

Restaurant Denied Request For Expansion

By Randé Davis

A request to the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners (MCBLC) by the Asian House of Poolesville (AHOP) for expanded service on a planned outdoor facility resulted in a rare special meeting of the Town of Poolesville Commissioners.

Michael White, describing himself as a friend and advocate of AHOP, was the spokesperson for the restaurant in an interview with the *Monocacy Monocle*. Mr. White provided a tour of the progress to date for a patio space behind the restaurant that would offer outdoor dining, drinking, live-band music, horseshoes, and volleyball. Speaking on behalf of the owners, he stated that they

would also like to attract special events like weddings and other receptions.

The plan requires the permitting approval of the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners, and a public hearing occurred on February 16, 2012. Prior to the hearing date, the Town of Poolesville placed yellow public hearing notifications at homes and facilities adjacent to AHOP.

A discussion on Facebook brought the plan to the attention of the general public in a lively pro and con dialogue. The town commissioners discussed what level of recommendation they might make before the MCBLC at a rare special commissioners meeting called to hear from the restaurant owners and the general public.

At that meeting, commissioners heard from Mr. White on behalf of the owner, Linda Chi, as well as from residents opposing the expansion.

Mr. White made assurances that live music would leave the

patio area by 9:00 p.m.; however, neighbors testified to past disturbances by the music late into the night and raised concern about the expected increase in noise of a large crowd of people drinking outside during the summer months.

Commissioner Kuhlman, at one point, required Linda Chi to come forward for testimony since Mr. White could not be identified in an official capacity as someone responsible for statements made or for assurances of proper management should the plan go forward.

Mr. Kuhlman further pointed out the expanded use would also require additional parking spaces that would radically alter any plan for volley ball or horseshoes.

Mr. White represented the position of the owners as not being responsible for behavior once removed from the restaurant in the event of unwelcome behavior, and that their duty would be to notify the police.

-Continued on page 17.

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Local News

Minor Damage Reported in Fisher Avenue Fire

By Jack Toomey

Rush hour traffic was disrupted on the afternoon of Tuesday, February 21 when a fire alarm was sounded for smoke inside the Hearthside Home and Garden building at 19900 Fisher Avenue. Numerous fire department units responded and, upon arrival, found smoke coming from the building. Firefighters entered the building and identified the source of the fire. Other firefighters climbed to the roof and cut a hole to allow access to the area where a small fire was burning.

Police officers closed Fisher Avenue for about a half an hour and diverted traffic around the scene which drew many onlookers.

Steve Goldberg, the owner of the building, said that he was working in the garden section when "a nail went awry and hit a wire." Apparently,

that caused an electrical reaction and a spark traveled up the wire into the attic of the building where it caught fire. Goldberg said that the building was filled with smoke when he called the fire department. Damage to the electrical system and the roof caused his business to close for a few days.

Montgomery County Fire Department Captain Oscar Garcia told the *Monocle* that responding units found smoke in the building and a small fire on the roof. The cause of the fire was electrical in nature and damage was estimated at \$6,000.

In other news, fears of a major fire at the Strong Mansion on Sugarloaf were put to rest. Late in the afternoon of Sunday, February 19, someone called Frederick County Central Alarm to report that smoke was coming from the mansion.

Many fire units from both Frederick and Montgomery Counties sped to the scene only to discover that the source of the smoke was a controlled burn operation on a nearby farm. Upon finding no fire at the mansion, the units returned to their stations.

Tidbits

Agnew Makes Dean's List

Wagner College is pleased to announce that Chantal Agnew of Poolesville made the Dean's List for the Fall 2011 semester, which requires a minimum 3.70 GPA.

Former Barnesville Resident Wins Fellowship

Nicholson Price, son of William Price and Cherry Barr of Barnesville, has been awarded a fellowship at the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School. Mr. Price will be a fellow at the center for two years and will reside in Boston for the duration of the fellowship.

The Petrie-Flom Center, founded in 2005, is a Harvard center dedicated to interdisciplinary research and debate of cutting-edge issues in health law policy, biotechnology, and bioeth-

ics. The founding vision of the Petrie-Flom Center is to promote scholarly inquiry that breaks away from existing disciplinary lines and brings the totality of these disciplinary methodologies under its compass. The center is not an advocacy center but is dedicated to the nonpartisan promotion of important new ideas and empirical findings.

Mr. Price grew up in Barnesville and was a student at Monocacy Elementary School. He is a past recipient of scholarships from the Monocacy Lions and the Retired Postmasters.



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School News

PHS Students Recognized for New Invention to Help

Disabled Persons

Three Poolesville High School students designed and created an invention that is making a difference in the community.

For the national Ability I Design Challenge, the high school juniors, Alice Huang, Marianne Zhao, and Roberta Lock, invented an apparatus that helps newspaper employees who have special needs.

They came up with the idea for their newspaper-packaging device in their Research and Design class. The device helps disabled employees who work for the Gazette News Network to insert newspapers into plastic delivery bags.

The Design Challenge encourages students to develop assistive technologies that empower people with disabilities to overcome barriers to employment. Each team worked with a nonprofit organization to complete the challenge. The trio was named finalists in the challenge and will present their invention at the national conference this March. The challenge was to design a system that would improve productivity in the workplace.

JPMS Teacher a Panelist at Prestigious Education Forum

On February 8, Krista

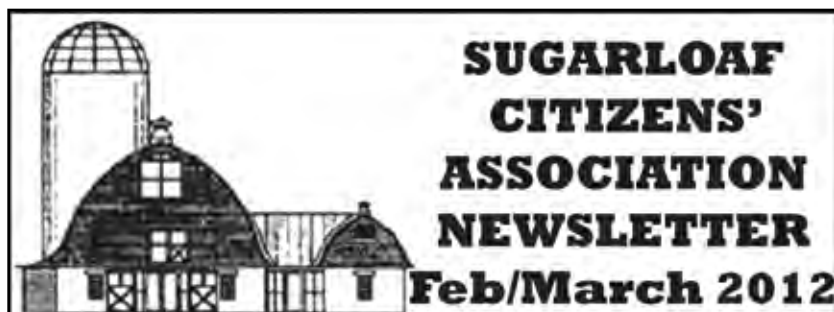
Vega, a special education teacher at John Poole Middle School, participated as a panelist in the release of a study that evaluates parent and teacher support for timely, actionable assessments that monitor individual student performance.

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) and Grunwald Associates LLC produced the study. NWEA is a not-for-profit group dedicated to helping kids live their dreams. The study, entitled "For Every Child, Multiple Measures: What Parents and Educators Want From K-12 Assessments," gauges the assessment needs of parents, teachers, and district administrators—those with the most practical and personal experience with the day-to-day impact of assessments and accountability. The study comes at a pivotal time as policymakers are considering a new blueprint for education improvement and significant education reform initiatives are currently underway.

As part of the presenting team, she had the opportunity, while in Washington, to share the study findings with the education policy members in the Senate and House of Representatives.



JPMS teacher Krista Vega was part of a prestigious panel that met with Congress.



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What's Coming to the Ag Reserve?

Monday, March 12, 7:30 pm Linden Farm: Steve Silverman speaking to community, re: Horticultural Zoning Text Amendment (see below)

Saturday, April 28, 9:30 am Linden Farm: Craig Rice speaking at Sugarloaf Annual Meeting.

Montgomery County's Department of Economic Development hopes to promote more horticultural and agricultural jobs in the County by proposing what is called a Horticultural Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA). Sugarloaf applauds these goals and wants to achieve them while assuring the protection of the Ag Reserve's soil and water quality as well as quality of life for all stakeholders.

As indicated above, Steve Silverman, Director of the Office of Economic Development, who initiated this ZTA, has kindly agreed to make a presentation of the proposed amendments and field questions. Sugarloaf notes that the amendments will allow "by right" many changes in the areas of agricultural processing, landscape contracting, nursery operations, horticulture, and wood processing. Currently, most of these activities are monitored through the Special Exception Process which helps protect surrounding neighbors as well as water quality and soil conservation. The proposed ZTA itself is available on our website, www.sugarloafcitizens.org.

The complexity of the challenges involved in the proposal is illustrated by the following. Last month, SCA received materials concerning a property on Whites Ferry Road. The writer provided the complaints and inspections of this property over several years because of stench, smoke and extremely loud noise before sunrise and throughout the day. Google Earth photos show a large-scale footprint of heavy commercial activities impacting neighbors as far away as Wasche Road who report that this has been going on for ten years. Although the Department of Permitting Services seems to have responded to these complaints, the illegal business is still operating. Click on "Whites Ferry Road Paper Trail" at www.sugarloafcitizens.org to read these documents.

This kind of violation has been going on under the current "Special Exception" process because of insufficient enforcement of existing zoning codes and insufficient consequences to the violator to deter abuse. **What protections will be in place if—under the proposed ZTA—this type of activity will take place "by right?"**

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Remembrance

Ila Pauline Allnutt

Mrs. Ila P. Allnutt, 86, formerly of Poolesville, died on February 9, 2012. She was the wife of the late Robert E. Allnutt. Born on May 12, 1925 in Smyth County, Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Grady and Aubra (Thompson) Hubble. Surviving are her children, Robert Allnutt, Jr., Marilyn Stream, Dolores Covey, Janet Williams, John Allnutt, Dennis Allnutt, Joseph Allnutt; one sister, Faye Thompson; eighteen grandchildren; and eighteen great grandchildren. Interment was at the Boyds Presbyterian Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org).

James Ellsworth Knudson

Mr. James E. "Ells" Knudson, 76, of Dickerson, died on February 2, 2012. He was the loving husband of Marilyn Neeley Knudson.

Born on January 20, 1936 in Washington, D.C., he was the son of the late James Kaiser and Ruth (Ellsworth) Knudson. Surviving besides his wife are his children, James (Cynthia), Kenneth (Lola), Daniel (Jill), Timothy (Lisa), and Kristine Aase (Flemming). Interment was in Brigham City Cemetery, Brigham City, Utah on Saturday, February 11.

Rogar L. Odette, Jr.

Mr. Rogar L. Odette, Jr., 55, of Poolesville, died on Thursday January 26, 2012. He was the son of the late Rogar L. and Joan (Long) Odette. Surviving is one daughter, Dawn Boswell (Alan); two sisters, Stephanie Ransom and Charlotte Schroder; three brothers, Steven, Charles, and John Odette; and three grandchildren, Mary, Samantha, and James Boswell.

Carroll E. Bennett

Mr. Carroll E. Bennett, 82, of Dickerson, passed away on Thursday, January 12, 2012. He was the husband of the late Laura A. Bennett. Born on September 10, 1929 in

Kensington, Maryland, he was the son of the late Glenn and Fedora (Thompson) Bennett. Surviving are his three sons, Steve, Scott, and David. Interment was in in Parklawn Memorial

Gardens, Rockville, Maryland. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Barnesville Baptist Church, P.O. Box 69, Barnesville, MD 20838.

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In the Garden

Wake Up Your Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

A garden lives through all of our four seasons. While it responds to the Earth's position with respect to the sun— spring, summer, autumn, winter, it offers us a kaleidoscope of pictures: the new awakenings of spring; the vibrant colors and scents of summer; the muted tones of fall's flowers and shrubs; and the stark, skeletal frames of winter landscapes.

For years, I have always planned my active return to my gardens around St. Patrick's Day. This might vary by a week or two, depending upon the weather. Sam, Tom, and I now have a serious purpose to our garden walks. We must assess the damage, or lack thereof, that winter has inflicted upon our garden residents. As of this date, I predict that the gardens will have sustained little long-lasting damage—so it is now time to wake up our gardens. I can think of no better way than an infusion of color from spring-flowering shrubs. Besides adding color, shrubs

can perform many roles in the garden. They can create a privacy hedge, anchor a hedgerow of shrubs and perennial flowers, or define an island planting scheme. There are shrubs that bloom in one season or many. Let us now look at some that bloom in the spring; are recommended for our Planting Zone 7; are deer resistant; and are generally pest and disease free. That is a tall order, so don't be surprised to experience some exceptions.

Nothing reminds me more of the arrival of spring than the sweet, heady fragrance of lilacs. Lilacs have been around for a long time. The variety 'Sensation,' introduced in 1938, has certainly stood the test of time. This shrub sets masses of purple blooms with creamy white edges. It is ideal as a specimen planting. 'President Lincoln' is considered the best blue common lilac. This is a reliable, fast-growing variety with long trusses of single, blue-lavender flowers. In 2009, horticulturist Tim Wood of Spring Meadow Nursery in Michigan developed a new re-blooming lilac, Bloomerang. There are other re-bloomers on the market, so what gave this variety the spotlight? Accolades such as "the

-Continued on Page 22.



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School News

A Report from Tiger Tales: Remembering Tracy Grant

By Maddy Peek and Kelsey Szaf-ranski

On Wednesday, February 15, 2012, Mrs. Black, the media specialist at Poolesville Elementary School, introduced the fourth and fifth graders to *KidsPost* editor, Tracy Grant. *Tiger Tales* reporters were seated in the front rows and were prepared with many questions for Ms. Grant. *Tiger Tales* reporters from the fall and spring sessions took turns asking Ms. Grant their questions.

Ms. Grant told us that she started as an intern reporter and decided that she liked being in control, and the editor has control. We found out that Ms.

Grant likes to write in the shower because most of her writing is done in her head. She gets many ideas from her kids and the world around her. She even asked our group to come up with some ideas and send them to her. We were surprised to learn that the *Washington Post* is the only newspaper in the United States that has a dedicated news section designed for kids. The *KidsPost* runs five days a week and is also available online. We were disappointed to discover that the *KidsPost* does not accept articles from kids, but we understand that kids deserve to have trained reporters writing for them just like adults.

Ms. Grant was kind enough to stay after for the reporters to ask more questions and for us to take some pictures. We are very appreciative that Tracy Grant could visit, and we are glad we had the chance to interview her. We enjoyed learning about her and what it takes to put together the *KidsPost*. Next time you get the *Washington Post*, make sure to ask your parents to find the *KidsPost* so that you can read it

Youth Sports

Distance Runners Lead PHS Indoor Track Effort

By Jeff Stuart

"It was another successful season," said Poolesville High School Head Indoor Track Coach Mike Trumbull. "With the new standards to get into the regional meet, our kids had to work much harder, and the hard work paid off. We did not get as many to states this year as we have in the past, but all the athletes were running their best times of their careers each week. We had four athletes qualify for states, senior Jordan Psaltakis (1600m), sophomores Chase Weaverling (3200m) and Chelsie Pennello (1600m/3200m), and freshman Claire Beautz (1600m/3200m). Distance coach Prasad Gerard did

a great job of getting these four ready to compete at a high level. "Senior Jordan Psaltakis ran a personal best in the 1600m to finish in fifth place overall. He ran a very aggressive race from the beginning that put him in a great position to run the race he did. It was a great way for him to end his indoor career with Poolesville.

"Chase Weaverling ran a personal best in the 3200m and finished sixth overall. He had been trying to crack the ten-minute barrier in the two mile all season and was finally able to achieve that feat after all the weeks of hard work at practice.

"Chelsie Pennello finished third overall in the 1600m with a blistering kick in the final 100 meters. She came back a few hours later and ran a personal best in the 3200m to finish sixth overall. Chelsie has put together solid performances each and every week. She has worked hard all season and is expecting to continue her success from the

-Continued on Page 11.

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Tribute

Smokey the Bear Is Alive And Well in Dickerson

By Rande Davis

When it comes to volunteer service groups, there is none more vital than the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department (UMCVFD), and when you speak of the firefighters, there is none who has been more vital than the recently-retired chief, Earl Moore.

Moore stepped down as chief this past January after twelve years at the helm, and after more than fifty years of firefighting service, he still plans to stay active as a volunteer. No one who knows him is surprised at that.

Large in stature, he almost



Chief Earl Moore: fifty years of service.

reflects the firefighting icon, Smokey the Bear. Like Smokey, his passion for the fire service has guided him throughout his life.

On November 4, 1941, Earl was born in his aunt's home (Betty Titus Watkins), and with her and Dr. White at his delivery, he came into this world "big, burly, and hollering."

He has lived in the Poolesville area his whole life and attended Poolesville High School.

Before he could graduate, his father had a serious injury and, as the oldest of six siblings, Earl was called to duty ahead of his time and needed to seek employment (he went on to gain his high school diploma later). To make ends meet, he worked on farms before landing a job with George Hilliard at Poolesville Plumbing. Too young to join the fire department, he followed Hilliard, who was the chief at the time, on calls, helping out in any way he could.

In 1959, he volunteered and became what he describes as a fire department fanatic. Young men need good mentors, and Earl had the best in George Hilliard, Bill Griffith, and Bill Bliss. Proving himself as a volunteer, he was encouraged by Bliss and Hilliard to consider making firefighting a career. In 1963, the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department put out a notice that they were to hire eleven firefighters, and, with his mentors' support, he applied for a position. He was the last of

eleven chosen and the only one not from Rockville. Throughout his thirty-year career as a professional firefighter, he continued his education by taking classes at the University of Maryland and attending multiple seminars and conferences in emergency services and firefighting.

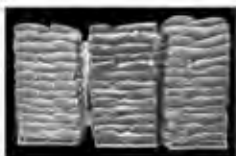
In addition to his service as a fireman, he joined the Maryland National Guard, advancing to the rank of sergeant in light weapon mechanisms with the 115th Infantry and the 29th Infantry.

Rockville was an exceptionally-busy location for a fire company, and even on his last day as a professional in 1992, they had between fifteen and eighteen alarms within twenty-four hours.

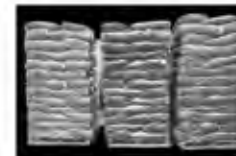
Shortly after his retirement from Rockville, he became very active with the UMCVFD and became chief in 1999. In those fifty years, he cannot begin to compute how many fire calls he

-Continued on Page 16.

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“Indoor Track” Continued
From Page 9.

cross country and now the indoor seasons into the spring track season.

“Claire Beautz steadily improved throughout her first indoor track season. She finished just behind Chelsie in the 1600m to garner fifth place overall and then went on to run a strong last half mile in the 3200m to run a personal best and a third place finish. Claire is a very talented runner who really came into her

own the past month of the season under the guidance of Chelsie and Coach Gerard. We expect big things from her this spring season.”

At the 2A MPSSAA Indoor Track Championship held at the Prince George’s County Sports Complex on February 20 and 21, the girls, with nineteen points, finished twelfth, just a point out of a tie for seventh and six points out of fifth. Sophomore Pennello’s third place finish (5:29.58) in the 1600m and sixth in the 3200 totaled nine points. Fresh-

man Beautz’s fifth in the 1600 and third in the 3200 (11:53.39) added ten more team points.

The boys totaled seven points, finishing twenty-second, with Psaltakis (4:38.01) finishing fifth in the 1600 for four points and Weaverling (9:57.86 3) finishing sixth in the 3200 for three more.

In the 2A West Regional, hosted by Middletown High School and held in Hagerstown, junior Nusrat Molla finished eleventh in the girls 500. Pennello (5:25.45 and 11:58.140) and Beautz (5:40.65 and 12:05.47) were third



The PHS Girls' Indoor Track Team

and fourth in the 1600 and second and fourth, respectively, in the 3200.

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**Layer Cake Contest—enter your best layer
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Fitness After 50

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For information call Jeri Hough at 301-972-1372
Tuesdays and Thursdays
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

March 2

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: V6, 8:30 p.m.

March 2 and 3

The Parenting/Faith Intersect: The Role of the Church and Parents

Poolesville Baptist Church will host this conference on how church and parents can work together in raising children; featuring guest speaker and author, Steve Wright.
Poolesville Baptist Church

Friday: 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Individuals: \$30.00; Couples: \$40.00

March 3

Poolesville Commissioners' Budget Work Session
Town Hall 9:00 a.m.

March 5

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

March 7

The Connection Café
Offering free WiFi and computer use with available help and tips. Enjoy a cup of coffee as well.
Theme of the Week: Christian Gamer – Can we “game” and maintain a Christ-like posture in the world.
Poolesville Presbyterian Church
17800 Elgin Road
Free

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

March 7

Community Dinner
St. Peter's Community Dinner
Ham, potatoes, green beans, salad, and more.
Layer cake contest—open to all. Prize ribbons will be awarded and the cakes will be served.
Adults \$5, kids \$3
St. Peter's Parish
20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

March 9

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Jay Summerour, Billy Thompson, and Eric Selby
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March 10

Destination Poolesville: Annual Community/Business Fair
This is a fun fair for the whole family to enjoy. Over thirty vendors on hand to present their products and services with individual seminars on personal beauty tips, relief of itchy eyes, yoga, estate planning, home buying, hand-tied floral bouquets, and even peace of mind funeral pre-planning. Corporate Network Services is sponsoring the Shredder Truck again this year, as well as an electronic recycling truck for computers and other technology. Bring all your personal documents to be shredded and any old electronics for recycling. Over thirty local businesses (retailers, service companies, and home businesses) will present their products and services

-Continued on Page 21.



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Destination: Poolesville

Community/Business Fair 2012

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| 10:30 - 11:00am | Relief for Itchy Eyes | Poolesville Vision Service |
| 11am - 11:30 | Peace of Mind: Funeral Preplanning | Hilton Funeral Home |
| 11:30am - Noon | Demystifying Yoga | Glad-I-Yoga |
| Noon - 12:30pm | Buying? New vs. Resale | Kettler Forlines Homes |
| 12:30pm - 1pm | 5 Steps to an Organized Desk | Organized Kaos |
| 1pm - 1:30pm | Estate Planning | Thomas McCartin Law |
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“Rande(m)Thoughts”
Continued From Page 4.

What’s the hardest part of doing the paper?

Meeting deadlines. I have a sign on my desk that reads, “I love deadlines, especially the whooshing sound they make as the go flying by.” The pressure builds as we get to the close. Often we are proofing an issue close to midnight, not exactly my best time for performance.

What should the readers know that you think they don’t?

This is not *our* paper, it is *their* paper. I expected much more news, photos, and tips would come our way. While we are in

newspaper format, our approach has more similarities to a magazine. Timeliness plays a part, but, also, we strive for a cross section of items more identified with a lifestyle magazine. We have many different columns that anyone could send information about—like Tidbits, Things to Do, Business Briefs—yet few readers take advantage of these to contribute items.

Where do you expect to be in another eight years?

Right here covering the community news, highlighting individuals of achievement, and bringing a sense of pride in what we do and celebrating the shared life of our readers.

“Earl Moore” Continued From Page 10.

has been on: some simple calls, others extremely tragic. Some calls still bring a mistiness to his eyes like the time an infant died in his arms or the incident of three young children drowning. “It’s when the little children are victims of tragedy that is the

hardest to take.”

Things have changed a lot over the years and not all for the better. When he started, most of the homes had been built in the 1940s or before and had been constructed with more substantial lumber which was more fire resistant than many materials used to build homes later. His only regret

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was not pursuing advanced education early so as to benefit from advancement opportunities. The best of the fifty years is easier for him to answer. “It’s the lifelong trusted friendships made knowing and recognizing that a team is only as good as the trust and bonds developed.”

Married in 1963 to his wife, Suzanne, who is also retired after thirty-seven years with NIH, she

will join him as they have more time for their other great passion in life: outdoor sportsmanship and travel. They have traveled through every state in the union with perhaps their favorite being Alaska, but, when not on the road in their forty-foot recreational vehicle, you can expect our Smokey the Bear to be right where he has always been: providing guidance and good will to the community they service.

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"AHOP Licensing"
Continued From Page 5.

Commissioner Klobukowski rejected this notion from his personal history of growing up in living quarters above his father's bar in Broadalbin, New York. He noted that control and security of a facility like AHOP is the full responsibility of the owners and should not be left to "calling the police" as the only option.

After the town meeting, the commissioners listed restrictions on the use of the outdoor facility they would recommend should the MCBLC approve the permit.

At that public hearing, the licensing board accepted one letter from a resident in support of the expansion and three against. Representing the restaurant were Mike White and Linda Chi. Testifying at the hearing was Montgomery County Police Officer Finch of the Germantown Police Station.

The MCBLC, in recapping Officer Finch's testimony and their unanimous decision, provided the following statement to the *Monocle*.

Officer Finch, MCPD, Germantown Police Station, stated there were fourteen calls for service in the

past ten months resulting in arrests. He testified that in January of 2012, two arrests of band members were made in the parking lot for narcotics use. He reported poor control of the dark parking lot. He further stated there have been many arrests for drug use in the parking lot, including DUIs and fights. He voiced his concern for the safety of residents and for police officers.

In making their decision, the MCBLC stated that they were "not convinced that the facility would manage the outdoor space well." The MCBLC voted to deny the outdoor cafe extension.

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“State Champs” Continued
From Page 1.

Burdette were some of Mowen’s key players. They were not tall; however, they were very fast. Mowen envisioned a fast-breaking and pressing team that could take advantage of Poolesville’s small gym that was only seventy feet long. Today, that Old Gym is used for physical education classes, but in the 1960s it was the only gym. At best, 150 spectators could fit into the gym before the fire marshal closed the doors.

In those days, schools with less than 200 students were grouped into the Class C division. Because there were very few Class C schools in the Washington area, Poolesville played the bigger Class A schools such as Whitman, Springbrook, Gaithersburg, and Einstein. They also traveled to play Harper’s Ferry High School, Brunswick, and other schools in Frederick County.

Bob Lawson recalled that none of the players actually lived in the town of Poolesville. All were from the surrounding communities of Jerusalem, Big Woods, Sellman, Dawsonville, or lived on farms. There were no playgrounds near Poolesville in those days where basketball players could hone their skills. Except for playing during PE classes or in the gym after school, athletes had no place to play basketball unless they put a hoop on the side of a barn. There were barely fifty boys in the eleventh and twelfth grades. In 1962, Poolesville had a graduating class of thirty-three students.

Leonard Ramey, a retired Montgomery County school teacher, was one of the leading scorers that year. He had attended the segregated schools until eleventh grade. He had never been exposed to basketball until junior high school. He described the team as “small but fast.” Coach Mowen was a “great coach who would help you understand. He told you what he wanted you to do and never tried to put a square peg in a round hole.”

Ron Magaha, now a general contractor in the area, lived on a farm near Sellman. He said that

he and his brother erected a basket on the side of their barn, and that the Ramey brothers would often come over and they would play basketball outside. Magaha had attended school in the old two-story Poolesville School that had a very small gym. When he advanced to ninth grade and the old building was demolished, today’s Old Gym became the new gym. He added that the team just “ran and ran, and most of our points were from layups.” Magaha recalled that Coach Mowen was a great inspiration. “We had tough times with integration coming in” but the black and white players blended well under Mowen’s guidance. Magaha also recalled that none of the players owned basketball shoes, so Mowen bought black Converse shoes for the team.

Mowen had come to Poolesville in 1953 quite by accident. He was living in Florida and took a trip to visit a relative at the Patuxent Naval Air Station. One day, he decided to take a drive and ended up in Rockville. He saw the Board of Education building and went in. He inquired about teaching jobs in the county and was given the name of the Poolesville principal. He interviewed and was hired on the spot. After being hired, he drove to Poolesville, and when he entered town, he saw no one except for an elderly gentleman sitting on the front porch of a store. He thought to himself, “What have I gotten myself into here?” He said that on the first day of basketball practice in 1953, he entered the small gym to find a line of boys dressed in white T-shirts, jeans, and heavy boots. He knew then that he had a hard task ahead. In his tenure at Poolesville, he coached every sport. In addition, he said, “I was a one-man operation. I coached, sold tickets, and swept the floor.” Mowen said, “I saw great potential in Poolesville, and when I finally left, I knew that I had succeeded.” Mowen, who is now eighty-five years old, lives in North Carolina.

The team, whose mascot and nickname at the time were the Indians, started the 1961-1962

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season by beating Middletown, 54-36. Ed Sewell and Otho Thompson led the scorers. In early January, the team traveled to the YMCA in Washington to play Woodward Prep. The boys easily handled the Prepsters, 45-32, and Sewell again led the scorers while Danny Yates added ten points. A week later, the Indians squeaked by Maryland School for the Deaf. Otho Thompson, who went on to be a successful attorney in Baltimore, led the way with twenty points. In February, the team beat Bullis, 53-41, and Leonard Ramey scored fourteen points. Later that week, the team traveled to Gaithersburg to avenge their only loss of the season. The Indians beat Gaithersburg, 61-56, and Sewell scored a game-high twenty-five points. In late February, the boys clinched a spot in the Class C playoffs by beating Springbrook. Magaha remembered that when Poolesville traveled to down county schools, opposing players would ask how their football team had done. The other teams did not realize that Poolesville was too small to have a football team. Poolesville didn’t field its first junior varsity football team until 1973.

By the time the playoffs started, the team was down to eight players due to various reasons. Mowen brought two players up from the junior varsity. They had finished the regular season with sixteen wins and only three losses. Mowen knew that all of his players would be needed because the playoff games would be played on much bigger basketball courts.

On March 9, the team board-

ed a school bus and traveled to the University of Maryland. Most of the players had never seen Cole Field House before. Ramey said, “It was the biggest basketball arena that I had ever seen.” He recalled that Ed Sewell had a great deal of trouble when the team was warming up because they had never seen glass backboards before. When Sewell’s warm-up shots fell short of the basket, Mowen took him aside and encouraged him to concentrate on shooting from the side of the basket. Lawson said, “It was a big deal for us.” Magaha remarked that “it was the biggest thrill of my life.” Busloads of students and townspeople made the trip to College Park to support the team.

Their first-round opponent was Emmitsburg High School. In a low-scoring affair, the Indians prevailed, 41-38. Lou Naylor’s two foul shots with seconds remaining sealed the win.

Two days later, Poolesville faced Crisfield High from the Eastern Shore for the state title.

The Indians led, 17-11, after the first period and then went on a tear with fast-breaking tactics to lead, 32-15, at halftime. In the second half, they cruised and won the first state championship in school history, 67-47. Ramey said that the court was so big that it caused him to suffer from cramps for the first time. Naylor had twenty-four points in the championship game. The next day, the PTA hosted a big dinner for the

-Continued on page 19.

“State Champs” Continued
From Page 18.

team. Magaha recalled the feeling of winning a state championship. He said, “We were a proud, proud school, a proud, proud team.”

A few weeks later the *Washington Post* announced its All-Metropolitan and All-Maryland teams. Lou Naylor was selected as first team All-Maryland.


In the fall of 1962, an experienced squad took the court. Many of the same players from the year before were on the team, and with the addition of Eugene Hamilton and Ellsworth Naylor, the Indians had high expectations.

They cruised through the regular season beating schools such as Thurmont, Springbrook, Peary, Damascus, and Whitman. Poolesville was featured in a *Washington Post* headline story when they defeated the Longfellow School, 94-11. When the playoffs started, the Indians hosted Margaret Brendt High from the Eastern Shore. The team took advantage of their band box gym

by routing the visitors, 102-41.

Now accustomed to Cole Field House, the Indians recreated the magic from the year before by beating Robert Moten High, 67-64, in overtime. The coach of Moten admitted that his team had been worn down by the better-conditioned Poolesville team. Ed Sewell scored twenty-three points. They then prepared to face Garnett High School in the championship game. Using a fast breaking offense, the Indians cruised to a 99-77 victory and won their second consecutive state championship. Sewell led the way with thirty-four points, Ramey had twenty-four, and Otho Thompson scored twenty-two.

It has been fifty years since these young men brought home the state championship to a tiny town in northwest Montgomery County. The players are now in their sixties, but they are just as proud today as the night that they carried home the championship trophy to a very proud town.



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"U Street Corridor"
Continued From Page 3.

soldiers fought in the Civil War; in 1861, there were 4.2 million African Americans living in the U.S., 3.8 million of whom were enslaved; around 179,000 African American men served in the Union Army, 37,000 of whom died in the conflict, yet black Americans couldn't vote until 1870. Those numbers and

the information displayed at the museum led me to explore several websites to try to understand a bit more about the Civil War and about its tangled, complicated history. I was struck by the quotation from Abraham Lincoln: "Without the military help of the black freedmen, the war against the South could not have been won." As I write this, I'm aware that February is Black History

Month. Prolong the celebration by visiting one or both of these sites. They offer much to enjoy, ponder, and learn.

The restaurant's website is

www.busboysandpoets.com (202-387-7638), and www.af-roamcivilwar.org (202-667-2667) is the museum's site.

"Life Goes On" Continued
From Page 4.

The last candidate in this debate, who is almost unrecognizable to me, is Barack Obama. Listening to these folks demonize his every move, it's hard to believe he's the same person we see on the news and on the web, let alone with Michelle and the girls. If this seems familiar, it's because the Democrats gave George Bush the same treatment during the last few debate cycles. Different folks, same strokes. Speaking of the Democrats, it's a shame they didn't have debates this time. Maybe there would have been a couple of leftwing firebrands like Dennis Kucinich or Ralph Nader to needle him for being too soft, maybe a more intel-

lectual left-winger like Howard Dean to really get under his skin. Maybe a Blue Dog conservative or two would have delivered some shots from the other side. It might have been fun, and maybe we would have learned something. It's a strange year. The party roles are reversed, with the Democrats playing nice among themselves and the Republicans eating their own. It will be interesting to see where it ends up, but as long as the Nationals lock up Ryan Zimmerman in a long term contract, life will go on. After all, presidents come and go every four years, but when was the last time we had a Washington team on the upswing?

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“Things to Do” Continued
From Page 13.

While visiting with vendors, there will be entertainment all day including a Zumba demonstration, performances by our very own Midnight Players, Denise Shores Dance Company, and the Hope Garden Children’s Ballet Theatre. Music will be provided by Quality DJ Mobile Services.

Mystery Dinner

St. Peter’s High School Youth presents a mystery dinner, “Storm Survivors.” The event will feature an enjoyable dinner prepared and served by the youth, followed by a mystery to be solved. Choose from a list of fun characters and reserve your dinner by contacting Tara at tms9799@gmail.com or the church at 301-349-2073 to request a return call. Tickets are \$15 for students ages twelve to eighteen and \$20 for

adults. This is a fundraiser for a summer 2013 mission trip by St. Peter’s High School Youth.
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March 11, 18, and 25

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speed went it left the road and hit the pole. A seventeen-year-old in the back seat was not injured.

March 7, 1955 Three Montgomery County ninth grade girls decided to run away to Florida, but their journey was halted in North Carolina by an alert motel clerk. Police said that the girls failed to arrive at school and that their parents were notified. Hours after police began an investigation, they received a phone call from Raleigh, North Carolina police. The girls had apparently run out of money and had sought refuge in a motel, and the clerk called local police.

March 9, 1958 An eighteen-year-old Rockville man was charged with six driving infractions including drunken driving after a wild high-speed chase in Rockville. Police officers had spotted the car speeding through downtown Rockville and pursued it for several minutes until the car crashed into a tree. The front seat passenger was rushed to Suburban Hospital with a fractured skull.

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Games begin: 7:00 p.m.

Annual PHS Staff vs. Student Basketball Game

Fundraiser by the PHS Music Boosters

March 16, 1955 Police Chief Charles Orme, who was raised in Barnesville, announced that he would retire at the end of the month. He had served as chief from 1936 to 1940 when he was removed because of a political realignment in the county. In 1946, he again was appointed chief and served until his retirement.

March 17, 1953 Farmers from Montgomery County descended on Annapolis to testify in favor of a bill introduced by Delegate Gilbert Gude. Farmers had complained that beer bottles thrown

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March 16 and 17

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from moving automobiles had landed in their fields causing punctured tires and damage to machinery. They also said that broken glass had been introduced into hay balers and then fed to cattle. Gude’s bill would have reimbursed farmers from alcohol tax money.

Some of the material in this article was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post.

Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Assault: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Burglary: 20300 block of White’s Ferry Road, 16100 block of Blackrock Road, 23200 block of Peach Tree Road.

Theft: 19600 block of Shores Drive, 17600 block of Cobb Avenue, 19500 block of Fisher Avenue, 15100 block of Montevideo Road.

Drug use complaint: 18900 block of Peach Tree Road.

Disorderly conduct complaints: 19900 block of Fisher Avenue, 19200 block of Wasche Road.

Past Crime

March 5, 1956 A nineteen-year-old boy was killed and his passenger critically injured when his car went out of control and struck a pole on Travilah Road near Route 28. Police said that the car was traveling at a high rate of

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**“Swim Team Wins State”
Continued From Page 1.**

the 100-yard backstroke and An, seventh.

The PHS relay teams also had strong performances. The boys (Liu, Laracuate, Rubenstein, Lin) took first in the 400-yard freestyle relay in 3:24.13. The team of Rubenstein, Lam, McCarty, Liu placed fifth on the 200-yard medley relay, and PHS finished third in the 200-yard freestyle (McCarty, Laracuate, Miller, Lin).

In the girls’ competition, Hansen finished first in the girls 200-yard IM (2:11.08) and in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:07.51).

Song won the 100-yard freestyle (53.88) and placed second in the 200-yard freestyle (1:57.34). Dahlen was fourth in the 100-yard butterfly and the 500-yard freestyle.

Poolesville girls (Knapp, Jih, Hanson, Song), took first in the 400-yard freestyle relay (3:44.72) and Dahlen, Hanson, Jih, Song placed second in the 200-yard medley relay (1:56.41).

In the boys’ diving competition, Justin Goldspeil was ninth (240.60), and Zach Greenwald (231.25) placed tenth.

A week earlier, PHS had a dominant regional performance in which the PHS boys outpointed second place Oakdale of Frederick County by nearly seventy points, 336-269. The Falcon girls finished with 375 points, forty-three points ahead of Oakdale.

Montgomery teams,

which have opted in the past to compete in the DC Metro Swimming event rather than states, joined Maryland’s regional and state competitions this year.

Coach Leong has been at PHS since 2005 and also coaches for the Rockville-Montgomery Swim Club. He loves the sport, seeing it as physically and mentally demanding on the athletes but having it all in that it is fun, competitive, and great exercise. His philosophy is simple: to put the athletes in a position to do their best and make swimming a lifelong passion.

“I really like the challenge of motivating the young swimmers I have to continually improve themselves on their journey down the pool. High school has a unique blend of fun and competition. I have gained so much from swimming/coaching, I simply try to have fun and share my experiences with whomever happens to be in my lanes. It’s easy to be a good coach when you have great kids, and let me tell you, I could be considered a “great” coach with these kids. They are fantastic. They are the headliners.”

**“In the Garden” Continued
From Page 8.**

most compact, heaviest-blooming dwarf lilac ever grown” and “a flower machine for four months” accompanied its introduction to the garden world. Growing to a height of four to five feet and a spread of three feet, it is excellent for small spaces or to grow as a low hedge.

Forsythia is an old-time favorite. I still remember from my childhood the large, bright yellow shrubs that lined one side of the garage. Left unpruned, which they did many a year, their arching sprays covered the garage’s windows, crept down the steps to the lower patio, and came close to taking over the lawn. The French variety ‘Show Off’ is a compact version with golden flowers that are brighter, larger, and stacked more closely together than older varieties. For a different look, combine it with its white cousin *Abeliophyllum*, White Forsythia. This shrub is the only species in this Korean genus. It belongs to the olive family, as does the common *Forsythia*. This combination of yellow and white flowers with the dark green foliage of both makes a striking display.

White Flower Farm’s catalog says that “the best antidote to winter is a planting of Witch Hazels.” Depending upon the weather, this upright, spreading

shrub delivers its first big color display in late February or early March. ‘Harvest Moon’ takes a different route; it flowers after its leaves have dropped in the fall. No garden should be without a witch hazel.

About ten years ago, I bought for my husband Jim’s birthday a tree wisteria ‘Texas White.’ I have always loved the powerful scent of wisteria, but the vine variety demanded a very strong support on which to grow, be that a fence, a pergola, or the side of your house. True to the nature of any vine, it can get quite out of hand and smother anything on which it rests. Tree wisteria are pruned to take on the form of a tree; this takes quite awhile to get started and even more time to keep it from reverting back to what it wants to be: a vine. Jim’s wisteria is now quite large and old. Every summer it secretly sends out shoots underground that somehow land up in my next door rose garden, where they twist and weave over every plant in their path. I forgive Mr. Wisteria for this nasty habit because nothing can compare to his wonderful, heady fragrance that perfumes the whole of Middle Garden.

There are many more spring flowering shrubs that can make a big impact on your garden design. Visit your garden centers and/or flower catalogs as soon as the ground becomes workable. The above-mentioned shrubs usually sell out early, so hurry—it’s time to wake up your garden.

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Southern Cuisine Family Style

With seconds on us – it is all you can handle!

Sweet Potato Biscuits with Molasses Butter
She-Crab Soup and Brunswick Stew
Fried Green Tomatoes

Chicken and Barbeque Platters with Sides
Adults: \$15.00 Children Ten and Under: \$9.00

THURSDAYS

WINE NIGHT: 50% OFF ALL BOTTLED WINES

Limited Seating

Reservations Strongly Suggested: 301-874-1831



Don't Miss Sunday Brunch: 11:00-3:00 Every Week



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Chrisler Homes, LLC is an award-winning custom builder with over two decades' experience building the area's finest homes. Whether you're looking for a deck, basement, or the home of your dreams, our expert staff can guide you and turn your dreams into reality. Our commitment to quality and customer satisfaction is second to none.



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Joe Hetrick, President
chrislerhomes@verizon.net

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Mon-Fri: 7am-6pm
Most Saturdays: 8am-3pm



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