

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

*Keeping an Eye on Local News*

*A Biweekly Newspaper*

June 27, 2014 • Volume XI, Number 7



*Mutts Gone Nuts wowed 'em at the first summer festival. More pictures are in the Family Album on page 2.*



*Retiring PES teacher Bill Harris got a special gift. Read all about it in School News on page 3.*



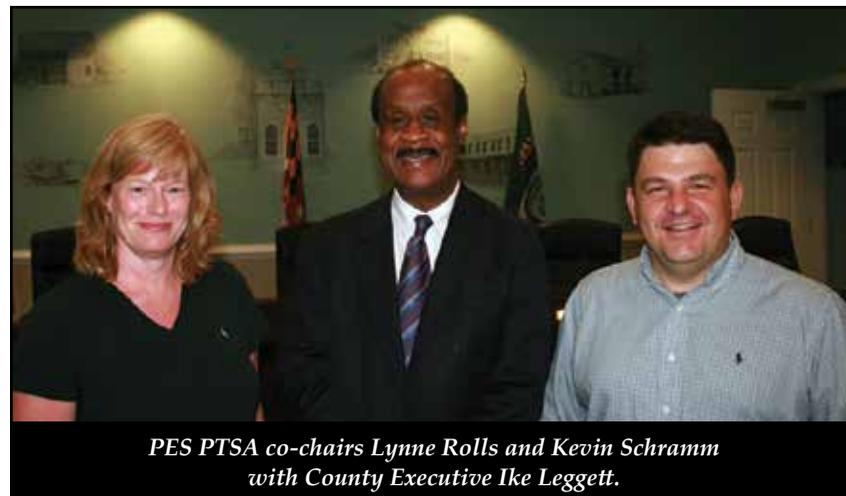
*Ed Brown, owner of White's Ferry, hosted the Poolesville Military Support Group picnic. See our collage on page 13.*

## *Leggett Hits Town Hall Meeting En Route to Reelection*

By Rande Davis

The final public candidate forum at the Poolesville Town Hall on June 19, sponsored by the Poolesville Elementary School PTSA, featured County Executive Ike Leggett, who won his party's nomination for another term on June 24. The summertime attendance was about a third of previous forums. The more intimate environment allowed for an informal group discussion over the previous question-and-answer format.

In making his third appearance in Poolesville in as many weeks, Leggett related his experience as a youth in growing up in a small farming town in Louisiana in a house not much larger than the conference room of the event. The seventh of thirteen children, he gave credit to his mother, a woman with no more than six years of education, for stressing the importance of education. "It was from her I learned that education was the great equalizer, the key, the



*PES PTSA co-chairs Lynne Rolls and Kevin Schramm with County Executive Ike Leggett.*

foundation that allows one who works hard and plays by the rules to make it."

In the discussion of issues, Mr. Leggett emphasized that his primary interest is education and called it the crown jewel of the county. In answer to inquiries about getting more funds for education for Montgomery County from Annapolis, he pointed to two things that hinder that from

happening. The first is what he called the "equalizer" requirement by the state to allocate funds to school systems based on community financial needs that ultimately shifts resources from the affluent areas to the more impoverished areas; nevertheless, the county has had a seventeen percent increase in funding. Receiving more funds

**Continued on page 20.**

## *Robert Sinclair, Jr. Appointed New Principal at JPMS*

Robert J. Sinclair, Jr., the new principal for John Poole Middle School, met with parents on June 17. Mr. Sinclair, who officially starts his tenure in Poolesville on July 1, has seventeen years of educational experience, having taught classes ranging from Algebra I to pre-calculus at both the high school and middle school levels. For the past ten years, he has served as a middle school administrator, most recently as principal at Redland Middle School in Rockville for the past six years.

As an educator, Mr. Sinclair is dedicated to setting high targets for the students while providing

them with the support and motivation they need to hit those targets. He was attracted to John Poole Middle School for a variety of reasons, including its strength in character education and its location in a small town, and he expects the experience here will be an opportunity to develop new skills and continue his educational growth. Simply put, he "felt it was a perfect match."

In a note to parents, he stated, "As we begin our journey together, I believe the first thing you will find is that I am passionate



*Robert Sinclair, Jr., the new principal at JPMS.*

**Continued on page 3.**

### *Schedule Change*

*Our next issue will be July 18.*

*The entire schedule is available at*

*www.monocacymonocle.com*

# Family Album

Photograph by Peter Gallo



Roger Brenholtz received the Melvin Jones Fellowship award from King Lion Josh Maisel and his fellow Monocacy Lions. This award is one of the highest recognitions for service for a Lions Club member.

Photograph by Peter Gallo



Two new members were sworn in as Monocacy Lions at the club's seventy-fourth annual Charter Night celebration. Walt Pritchard, sponsor, new Lion Garland Johnson, District Governor Dee Hawkins, new Lion Robert Jones, sponsor Charlie Glass, King Lion Josh Maisel.



Poolesville's summer weekday camp has begun.



These first to third graders played at the Baptist Church during the PBA basketball camp.



Billie Poole came out to enjoy the nice weather, the farmers' market, and the dog show.



Family, food, and fun at the farmers' market in Poolesville.



The first summer event drew a large crowd to see Mutts Go Nuts and Gina's Soul Party band.

## School News

### PES Teacher Bill Harris Retires

The music man of Poolesville retired from his thirty-nine-year teaching career which began in 1975 at Poolesville Elementary School. While music has been his primary vocation, he has also had a passion for travel and tourism, so he plans to be a tour guide in Washington and to lead tours to New York City. He also plans to do some substituting at PES occasionally just to keep in touch.

Harris, a native Washingtonian who lives in Germantown, inherited his grandfather's legacy as a singer. He had his first singing solo at age nine when he sang in his church's children's choir. He loved to entertain the students and will be long remembered for his

he was selected by the 1991 PHS graduating class as its commencement speaker where he spoke of the importance of faith and friendship.

At a retirement party held at the House of Poolesville on June 13, he was given a special framed memento whereon each student in the school had written a comment of gratitude or best wishes to him in a small square.

Three other retiring PES staffmembers were also honored at the June 13 event:

Teachers Aileen Dunkleberger (sixteen years at PES) does not have any set plans yet and David Weisberg (twenty-seven years) will continue teaching in Atlanta, and custodial service worker Michael Tibbs (thirty-six years) jovially announced his only plan is to actually retire and relax.



*PES retirees Bill Harris, Aileen Dunkleberger, Michael Tibbs, and David Weisberg.*

robust joy of music and for his lively personality that was the hallmark of his educational style. His surprise performances at school Halloween parades were always big hits and were awaited with great anticipation by children and parents anxious to see what costume or character he would be. One year, he dressed as the fat lady of the opera and sang from the roof of the school. Another time he dressed as Father Time.

Mr. Harris loved to teach all types of music. He felt it important to teach the multicultural aspects of music, and he loved to teach patriotic songs such as "The Star Spangled Banner," blending his lessons with the history behind the music. Always one of the very most popular teachers at PES,

### JPMS Named a 2014 National School of Character

The Character Education Partnership (CEP), a national advocate and leader for the character education movement, named John Poole Middle School a 2014 National School of Character (NSOC). The NSOC program recognized JPMS as a school that has demonstrated its use of character development to drive a positive impact on academics, student behavior, and fostering a positive educational climate.

The NSOC program is not a competition, but rather an opportunity to go through a rigorous process of feedback and coaching, as well as recognition for growth and excellence in the area of

**Continued from page 17.**

## Local News

### Two Priests with Local Ties Ordained At Cathedral

Victoria (Vikki) Clayton of Barnesville and Sarah Colvin of Washington Grove were ordained as Episcopal priests on Saturday, June 14, at the Washington National Cathedral. Rev. Clayton, Rev. Colvin, and four other candidates were ordained by Bishop Marianne Budde of the Washington Episcopal Diocese.

Clayton is a long-time member of St. Peter's Parish Episcopal Church in Poolesville, where she began her process of discernment. Colvin served as a seminarian at St. Peter's for a period of time during her path towards the priesthood, and her daughter Anna Howard is a graduate of Poolesville High School, as are Clayton's two daughters, Elaine and Anna.

Both women were recently graduated from the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria. As is customary in the Episcopal Church, they were ordained as transitional deacons last winter, in preparation for the priesthood six months later.



*George Wong, Cameron Soulis, Sarah Slater, Bishop Marianne Edgar Budde, Melinda Artman, Sarah Colvin, Victoria Clayton.*

**Continued from page 1.**

### New Principal at JPMS

about working to meet the needs of our students. I frame this passion around what I expect for my own children in their education. I believe that the best way of developing well-rounded students is through collaboration between home and school. I am always available and willing to work with you to support our school and the work we do." Mr. Sinclair, a techie at heart, plans to augment communication through his own blog.

Principal Sinclair hails from Long Island, New York. He graduated from the State University of New York at Oswego and obtained his Master's in Education from Bowie State University. He and his wife Sandy have two children, Taylor in sixth grade and Ethan in third grade. His personal interests start with his family and include computer technology, soccer (he played in high school and college and coached varsity), and he admits to being a New York Jets fan. He credits his dad, a math teacher for thirty-five years, as being his inspiration for his career.

## Commentary

### South of the Border

By John Clayton

Living as close as we do to the Commonwealth of Virginia, separated only by a moderately-sized river (which Maryland owns, by the way), it is hard to not follow Virginia's escapades. How could two states that are so close geographically be so totally different, given their many similarities? Both states live and thrive at the federal trough, given that we surround the nation's capital, that ever-flowing, recession-inoculating font of contracting revenue. So in that sense, Virginia is two states, where Northern Virginia is a more liberal extension of the District of Columbia, and the rest of the state keeps at least one riding boot firmly in conservative red-meat America, with enough clout to keep a red state from turning any worse than purple. The bulk of Maryland's population is wrapped around the Baltimore-Washington urban corridor, with heavily Democratic numbers sufficient to maintain a virtual one-party state, to the consternation of the more rural areas of the state, primarily east and west, which continue to significantly vote Republican.

For all of the differences between the two states, from taxation, the death penalty, gun restrictions, or abortion rights, to name but a few, the one in the limelight right now is healthcare. Specifically, this refers to the use of federal funds from the Affordable Protection, uhh, Patient Care, er, you know, Obamacare. Twenty-six states, including Maryland and the District of Columbia, have implemented Obamacare in some way and accepted money for Medicaid expansion to the poorest of all. Maryland, in its zeal to implement the program, and unencumbered by the partisan squabbling that might have impeded its work, rolled out possibly the most dysfunctional healthcare website in the United States. Our lieutenant governor, taking full credit before he realized he was barely involved at all, has ridden this to electoral success as the Democratic nominee

for governor. It wasn't pretty, but the state made universal healthcare a primary goal, which I think was the right call.

Twenty states, including Virginia, refused the Medicaid offer, and four other states have plans for alternative uses of the funds to expand insurance coverage to their neediest citizens. Virginia is not one of them. Virginia's House of Delegates has refused to allow the use of the federal funds to expand Medicaid in any way. The new Democratic governor agreed to a compromise State Senate plan for using the funds, but the House of Delegates, which just regained a Republican majority with the resignation of a Democratic legislator, has remained unanimously steadfast. The governor has controversially set off a new battle by vowing to unilaterally spend the Obamacare money, in some as yet undefined fashion. Two-party states really are a lot more entertaining.

I admit to being stumped by the Virginia legislature's refusal to accept federal money that would purportedly provide access to improved healthcare for 400,000 of its poorest citizens. I have attempted to understand the objections, and there are two that appear dominant. The first is a refusal to countenance anything that has anything to do with Obamacare—period, full stop. This is not accompanied by any indication of a desire to solve the problem by other means, but, in fairness, perhaps they don't see a problem to be solved. The second prominent objection has to do with the fact that the federal government will pay for one hundred percent of the cost through 2016. In 2017, five percent of the burden of the program will be thrust upon the states, and the feds will continue paying ninety-five percent. A corollary to that, from some parties, is the fear that even more of the costs of caring for such people in one's own state could accrue beyond that. Clearly, these folks are not going to be conned into having to spend their own tax money to expand access to health insurance to their own citizens.

Continued on page 19.

## Rande(m) Thoughts

### The Washington Senecas

By Rande Davis

Not now, I'm too busy. That was my first thought when the outcry of the team name Redskins came into the headlines again this past week. The world is going crazy at a rate that surpasses the 1960s, and the big news item seems to be the Redskins name.

If our current world circumstances were a Broadway play, I cannot decide which musical better describes our times: *Stop the World I Want to Get Off* or *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World*. Nevertheless, while the IRS loses two years of emails, the patent office decision on the trademark use of the term Redskins steals the show.

What gives the name Redskins meaning? Words do have meaning, and meaning is defined by the times in which they are used. While the use of the term redskins was used negatively in the past,

as it is used by the team today, it is not negative, or at the very least, not intentionally. Someone offered the idea that what they really should do is keep Redskins but drop the name Washington for being too embarrassing. They might have something there.

We in Poolesville certainly know something about offending without intention. After all, we "insensitively" heralded our school sport teams the Indians in the past. We changed to accommodate (after we voted incorrectly to keep the Indians mascot and were forced to change). Of course, we didn't mean offense but, never mind, apparently some did find it so. Nowadays, when using an adjective, the definition is not based on the user of the word but the recipient. There was a time when, in literature, scholars sought the meaning of the author. Not now. Under the new proposition, scholars need to seek the meaning as defined by the reader or listener and not just the majority of them, but a significant composite of the group of readers/listeners will do.

Continued on page 19.

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## Town of Poolesville Town Government Meeting

By Rande Davis

### Stoney Springs Phase I Approved by Commissioners

The Poolesville commissioners voted to accept as completed Phase I of the Winchester Stoney Spring development at the June 15 town meeting and to release the bond held by Winchester Homes to assure that all infrastructure construction required by the town has been completed by the developer. The infrastructure projects include items like storm water run-off drains, sewer, streets, and sidewalks. The town's consulting engineer, John Strong of Nobis Engineering, provided a statement of completion to the commissioners stating that only some minor landscape projects remain to be completed but that Phase I can be designated as complete, and the town no longer needs to require that Winchester Homes hold bonds totaling over \$3 million, which guaranteed Winchester would finish the job.

### Low-Income Town Residents Now Eligible for County Aid For Home Improvements

The commissioners approved on a unanimous vote Resolution 003-14 - Community Development Block Grant Program. Montgomery County has funding within its budget from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that is designated to assist low-income families in making home maintenance upgrades. Such funds could potentially be used for heating upgrades, new siding, or window replacement. The total amount available is \$25,000 annually and would be allocated on a first-come basis. The grants will be awarded until the full \$25,000 has been allocated.

### Town Slogan Survey Results Announced

Town Manager Wade Yost announced the results of a recent survey of various slogans to be

used as the theme on its new website and for marketing of the town for commercial and residential purposes. The winning slogan was: *Poolesville—Small Town Character, Down Home Charm.* The commissioners decided not to take action to approve the slogan but decided upon a delay to reflect on the slogan's appropriateness. The main objection is that the slogan's theme, in a variety of ways, is already used by many towns in the state and does not appeal to the commissioners in a unique and exciting way.

### Town Manager Reports on Heavy Rain

Wade Yost reported that the town's wastewater treatment plant has been able to adequately handle the heavy rains that have fallen this year. To date, the town has already had thirty inches of rain. The town averages forty-five inches of rain for an entire year. The result is that the treatment plant, during the recent heavy torrential rains, has had to handle up to 900,000 gallons of sewer water a day which is in excess of 750,000 gallons per day for which the town is licensed by the Maryland Department of the Environment. The plant has a two-million-gallon-per-day capacity.

### Miscellaneous Town News

The latest information on the Tractor Supply Company scheduled to rent the Selby's Market site is that the firm is setting a January 2015 opening date with some possibility it could occur earlier in the fall. Regarding the Dollar General store to be built on Fisher Avenue across from the Poolesville Town Hall, it appears that storm water management issues are under control, and a green light to move forward may come by July.

The town voted to approve resident Lee Johnson to the town planning commission.

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See current updates to  
Things to Do



### Poolesville Baptist Church Soccer Camp

Jun 29 - Jul 2

6:30 to 8:00 pm

Ages 6 thru

completed 5th grade

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## Things To Do

June 27 to August 1

### Poolesville's Summer Camp

Pre-school through elementary ages. Games, sports, trips. Total cost for all summer: \$30.00 per child. Contact the Poolesville Town Hall at 301-428-8927.

June 28 and 29

### Montgomery County Heritage Days 2014

Countywide auto tour of history with forty historical, educational, entertaining, and fun-filled sites for the whole family. Sites are open from noon to 4:00 p.m. each day. Plan a full weekend or just visit the local sites, including the John Poole House, the Old Town Hall Bank Museum, Seneca Schoolhouse, Sugarland Ethno-History Project's historic St. Paul Community Church, Edwards Ferry C&O Lockhouse, the Boyds Negro School, Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard, White's Ferry, Hyattstown Mill Arts Project, and the Warren Church and Historic site. Complete brochure available at retailers and online at [heritagemontgomery.org](http://heritagemontgomery.org).

June 29 to July 2

### Poolesville Baptist Church Soccer Camp

Ages six to completion of fifth grade. Visit [pbcsummercamps.com](http://pbcsummercamps.com). 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

June 28

### Read to a Dog

Poolesville Library special program. Stop by the library and read aloud to one of our certified therapy dogs. This program is designed for young and beginning readers and for those who are looking to improve confidence in reading skills. 10:30 a.m.

July 1

### Mad Science Presents: Up, Up, and Away

Poolesville Library special program. This spellbinding special event introduces children to the principles of air and pressure. Hot air balloons, vortex generators, and even a hovercraft will help children understand the power of air. Sponsored by the Friends of

the Library, Montgomery County. 2:30 p.m.

July 2

### PASC Activity Senior Center.

Game Day. Poolesville Baptist Church. 1:00 p.m.

### Café Connection

Computer assistance service. Stop by for coffee, chat, check email, or get help.

Poolesville Presbyterian Church. 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### Community Dinner

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville. Barbecued pulled pork, hot dogs, and a great array of homemade side dishes, plus desserts. Free. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

July 3

### Little Hands Create

Poolesville Library special event. Discover and create with the wonders of salt dough! Kids will make their own rainbow batch to play with and take home. Registration and adult help required. 10:30 a.m.

### PASC Event

Senior Center. Tai chi with Maria Briançon of Glad-I-Yoga. Poolesville Baptist Church. 1:00 p.m.

July 4

### Annual UMCVFD Fourth of July Festival

Music, food, snacks. Gates open: 6:30 p.m. Fireworks at 9:00 p.m. or at dark. Hughes Road Polo Grounds. \$5.00 per car.

July 5

### John Poole House and the Old Town Hall Bank Museum

Featuring actual post-Colonial trading post and Civil War museum. Noon to 4:00 p.m.

July 7

### Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

July 7 to July 11

### Vacation Bible School

Ages three to grade six. Poolesville Presbyterian Church. 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

July 9

### PASC Event

Senior Center. Zumba Gold with Karen McPhatter. Poolesville Baptist Church. 1:00 p.m.

### Café Connection

Computer assistance service. Stop by for coffee, chat, check email, or get help. Poolesville Presbyterian Church. 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

July 10

### PASC Event

Senior Center. Butterflies: Beautiful Pollinators. Floral arrangements to attract them. Poolesville Baptist Church. 1:00 p.m.

July 11 to July 13

### The Blue Hearth July Sales Event

Vintage décor, rejuvenated furniture, great gifts. Special sales weekend to benefit WUMCO. Blue is forgoing its usual ten percent commission, and some vendors will also give up to ten percent of their sales to be donated to WUMCO. Participating vendors are: Art & Soul, Kendall Taylor Home, Walnut Grove, and Redeemed Interiors. Shoppers who donate three canned goods will receive another five percent off their bill. 19964 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville. Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5:00 p.m.

July 12

### Pit Barbeque by UMCVFD

Featuring pulled pork, roast beef, and great sides. Behind the firehouse. 11:00 a.m. until food is gone.

### John Poole House and the Old Town Hall Bank Museum

Featuring actual post-Colonial

trading post and Civil War museum. Noon to 4:00 p.m.

### Movies in the Park

Featuring: *Frozen* Whalen Commons. 8:30 p.m.

July 13 to July 17

### Poolesville Baptist Church VBS

Theme: Creation Wars: Journey through an epic battle of good versus evil. Family Center. 5:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

July 14 to July 28

### Vacation Bible School at St. Mary's Catholic Church

Theme: Camping in God's Creation. Pavilion in Barnesville. 9:30 a.m. to noon

July 16

### PASC Event

Senior Center. Bocce Ball. Whalen Commons. 1:00 p.m.

### Café Connection

Computer assistance service. Stop by for coffee, chat, check email, or get help. Poolesville Presbyterian Church. 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

July 17

### Montgomery County Ag Fair Royalty

A prince and princess of the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair will visit from 4-H with a farm animal to pet. Sing "Old MacDonald's Farm"! Hear an animal story and make a craft. Poolesville Library. 10:30 a.m.

### PASC Event

Senior Center. Woodcarving workshop. 1:00 p.m. Tai chi by Maria Briançon of Glad-I-Yoga. 7:00 p.m. Poolesville Baptist Church.

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**Local News**

**SoccerPlex Prepares for Final Phase**

By Kristen Milton

More than a dozen years after the first soccer players stepped on its fields, the Maryland SoccerPlex in Boyds is prepared to complete its facilities, which consist of approximately two dozen indoor and outdoor fields, adjacent to the South Germantown Recreational Park, that opened in October 2000.

The May 22 planning board memo summarizing the status of the site's public/private partnership said the planning board received an amendment in April proposing completion of the third and final phase of the SoccerPlex. The two fields would be constructed on the north side of Schaeffer Road and would be fully funded by the Maryland Soccer Foundation that runs the site. Work would begin in fiscal year 2016 with construction ending in fiscal 2017. Administrators of the SoccerPlex are required to submit an annual report under the provisions of their partnership.

While the memo noted that a public hearing would be scheduled "in the near future," the construction was not mentioned during the May 1 presentation by Trish Heffelfinger, the foundation's executive director. Heffelfinger summarized the site's renovations, attendance numbers, and community endeavors since her last report, including hosting coat and cleat drives and a partnership with Germantown's Matsunaga Elementary School.

The SoccerPlex will host the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships in July, in which eighty-eight of the nation's top teams will compete. Heffelfinger said the facility bid for the hosting role, which she said would bring over \$4 million in economic impact to the local area. The SoccerPlex last hosted in 2003.

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## Focus on Business

### Poolesville Athletic Club and Café 107: Now Open in New Location

Poolesville Athletic Club (formerly Healthworks) and Café 107 are open for business in their new location at 17610 W. Willard Road, the brick building across from the Friendly Thrift Store. The health club offers a full-range of exercise equipment, including a few new pieces. An adjacent building is used to house the wide-variety of cardio and fitness classes that are offered through the club. Business partners, Dan and Doreen Fowler, are the proprietors of both the health club and café.

Dan Fowler, an avid bicyclist, said he was thrilled when the health club, originally housed in the old Selby's Grocery store, became available four years ago in downtown Poolesville. Although not from Poolesville, Fowler was familiar with the area from his frequent visits to local attractions like Sugarloaf Mountain, Great Falls, and his trips across White's Ferry. Fowler said he changed the name from Healthworks to Poolesville Athletic Club because he wanted the name to reflect the community where the business is located.



Dan Fowler at the new location of the Poolesville Athletic Club.

Café 107 offers a refreshing selection of menu items, including wraps, bagels, muffins, and other snack items. Customers can order grilled wraps like the Classic Club, Pizza Wrap, or the Tuna Fit, or build their own wraps from their wide variety of toppings. Included on the menu are breakfast bagels that feature eggs, cheese, and bacon or ham.

Additionally, the café serves fresh-brewed coffee, cappuccino, espresso, hot chocolate, fruit smoothies, and cold soft and juice drinks. The seating area includes both tables and chairs with window views of downtown Poolesville, and comfortable sofas for lounging. Wi-fi is also available.

The gym and the café are open from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekends. A sign outside of the building encourages passing bicyclists to stop in for refreshments. The Fowlers look forward to welcoming residents and passersby to their new facility to grab a bite to eat and to see all that Poolesville Athletic Club and Café 107 have to offer. To see the café menu or the current list of class offerings, visit their website: [poolesvilleathleticclub.com](http://poolesvilleathleticclub.com).

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## Local News

### Clarksburg-Area Park Master Plan To Be Revisited

By Kristen Milton

Laying groundwork for the arrival of a hundred-year-old carousel will be the primary objective of the Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park Master Plan, planners agreed last month. The 290-acre park is currently operating under a master plan approved in 1995. The update will have three main goals, approved at the planning board's May 22 meeting: In addition to planning for the installation of the Ovid Hazen Wells carousel currently located at Wheaton Regional Park, planners hope to determine if a future Clarksburg Community Recreation and Aquatic Center can be constructed at the park as well as incorporating two historic properties in other areas of the park. "You want to arrange these amenities in such a way that they help each other," parks director Mary Bradford noted. "People like destination parks; they like going where there's lots to do, so that's what we'll probably end up with here if we're lucky."

Ovid Hazen Wells currently hosts the Red Wiggler Community Farm as well as soccer, baseball, and softball fields, picnic shelters, and a playground. A condition of its donation to the commission in 1981, however, was the eventual relocation of the carousel. "It's a major issue," planning coordinator Rachel Newhouse said. "The people of Clarksburg want it, so that's what this plan will focus on."

While the area now has the population to support the popular attraction, Newhouse said, the support infrastructure such as restrooms, electricity, and a protective

structure all need to be provided. Funding for the carousel's removal and reassembly will also be included in upcoming budget discussions.

Board member Mary Wells-Harley noted that the removal of the carousel will be "a big loss to the Wheaton area." Newhouse said the department was looking at replacement options, including a solar-powered carousel, for Wheaton Regional Park. Meanwhile, input of the community is being sought in developing the master plan update. A webpage has garnered such suggestions as a Frisbee golf course, amphitheater, and tennis courts, as well as the idea of leaving the undeveloped portions of the park in their current "pristine" condition.

One opponent of the aquatics center idea wrote: "Why would Clarksburg want a bunch of Germantownians invading with a ton of people every weekend? Put [the] aquatic center at the SoccerPlex in Germantown and leave Skylark [Road] alone."

Newhouse said property adjacent to the current recreational area was recently advertised for sale and might facilitate the construction of the aquatics center if acquired. Expansion of the Red Wiggler Farm, which is working on its own strategic plan, is also possible.

"We just keep hearing from the community how much they love that farm," Newhouse said. Several online commenters mentioned the farm's good work in providing both local produce and employment for the developmentally disabled.

The board unanimously approved a schedule for the master plan update that would result in a staff draft being completed in July; a public hearing in September; and final approval in November.

The project webpage, including community comments, is located at [www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkPlanning/Projects/ovid.hazen.wells](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkPlanning/Projects/ovid.hazen.wells).

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## Tidbits

### Wisdom for Youth of all Ages

The fifth grade class at Poolesville Elementary School celebrated its graduation this past June 11, and Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski passed on some very wise words. He challenged the students to reach their full potential. "It is up to you to unlock your potential. Your teachers and parents can help, but you have to believe in yourself, never give up or settle for mediocrity. Seize this opportunity that has been given to you and to honor those who have gone before us."

He prepared them for the difficult challenges in life by standing up to them, stating, "There is one thing worse than failure. That is the regret of not having tried. It is the recognition that you could have attained a goal, but did not, could have succeeded, but did not try, were offered an opportunity, but let it pass. When you reach my age, and yes you will be as old as me some day, you do not want to be telling yourself 'I wish I had,' 'I should have,' or 'I could have.' Education is one of the keys that will enable you to avoid regret in the future, but you must choose. The other keys are perseverance and initiative. For education gives you knowledge which helps create ability, ability helps create competence, and when you combine competence with initiative and perseverance, you have a created

a formula for success in your lives and the ability to accomplish what you never thought possible."

### PBA Summer Camp Has Its Largest Turnout

Congratulations to the coaches and staff of the Poolesville Basketball Association (PBA) for having their largest attendance with 220 student participants in its summer program. The first camp fifteen years ago had only forty kids. PBA exists to offer basketball training, advanced playing opportunities, and to teach good sportsmanship to pre-high school youngsters who reside in the Poolesville school district. The camps were divided by grade levels with the pre-K to third grade at the Poolesville Baptist Church gym and the other grades up to grade eight at the new PHS gym. Participation is fully coed. This concept is credited for the outstanding high school girls' basketball teams through the years at PHS.

PHS coaches Fred Swick, Kenny Kramek, Ted Gardiner, and Jamie Morningstar run the program with the help of Assistant Athletic Director Gina Grubb and high school student counselors.

The five-day camp features fundamentals training with rotating games, so that no player is idle for long, and each plays three games a day. The program runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is fun yet rigorous. The summer regular season for PBA runs until the end of July taking a one-week break for the camp.

### Dickerson Man to Serve As Maryland's U.S. Army Emergency Preparedness Office

Mark Maier, a Dickerson resident and partner in McGuire-Woods LLP's Tysons Corner office, was promoted to full colonel in the U. S. Army Reserves and took over as the U. S. Army emergency preparedness officer for Maryland this June. In the new position, the colonel will coordinate the federal government's response to requests by the State of Maryland for military assistance to civil support and

homeland security. The post was created in the aftermaths of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina to improve emergency search and rescue, security, transportation, medical care, and communications during times of crisis.

### Dean's List Recognition

Wagner College announced that for this past spring 2014 semester, Poolesville's Chantal Agnew was named to the "A" Dean's List, which requires a 4.0 grade point average.



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## Youth Sports

### Young Team On the Rise

By Jeff Stuart

The PHS boys' tennis team finished the 2014 season in a respectable second place in Division III, losing in the final doubles match to first-place Sherwood, four matches to three on April 9 at Sherwood. That was the Falcons' only loss in the division. The boys, who finished 6-5 overall, started off the season with wins over visiting Watkins Mill (7-0). After 6-1 losses to Churchill and Whitman, the top two schools in Division I, they won four straight Division III matches. They beat Rockville (4-3), Einstein (5-2), and swept both Springbrook and Northwood. The Falcons came close to defeating Northwest, the second place team in Division II on April 23. They lost the next day to top Division I power and county runner-up, Wootton, 6-1, and finished the regular season on April 26 with a 7-0 sweep of Division IV rival, Seneca Valley.

despite this and the weather-related interruptions that affected all MCPS spring season schedules. The lineup we used throughout the season also saw ongoing changes stirred up by injuries and other conflicts. Aside from any outside factors, I felt the team was strong and proved it on the court.

"[Rising senior]Dennis Wang (first singles) most notably led the team in matches while several other players like Rahul Menon never disappointed and pulled through at critical points in the season. With the exception of the Sherwood match (that determined whether we would be first or second in the division), the team properly demonstrated what we were capable of and continued to improve until the last match. Next year, I believe we will be more than capable of winning our division and improving even more." Kibbey will return as team captain next year along with co-captains, Wang and sophomore Oliver Lock, the third singles

The captains of the 2014 season were seniors Vinay Sriram (second singles) and Rahul Menon (fourth singles).



The 2014 PHS varsity boys' tennis team.

"The dynamics of the team have definitely undergone adjustments," said junior Nicholas Kibbey, who played first doubles along with senior Michael Liu this year. "At the beginning of the season, we had eight returning players and chose seven new players to make our roster. Previous years there have been as little as two new recruitments to the team, but the team bonded well together

Freshman Coleman Martinis and sophomore Chris Johnson, both in their first season, played second doubles, and sophomores Anish Prasanna and Andy Lum played third doubles.

Juniors Krishna Gajjala, Archis Sathe, and Derek Zhang, in their first season playing tennis, and freshmen Kartik Krishnan and Chuan Chen were alternates.

Continued on page 18.

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## Garden

### Camelot's Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

Many years ago, an old gardening friend said to me that he didn't want to die in June, since that was the best month in his garden. As we approach July, I also feel that touch of nostalgia for the glories of a June garden in full bloom. It might not be Camelot perfect, but, all things considered, it puts on the best show of the season. In my Shady Lane garden, the pristine white blooms of Bleeding Heart 'Alba' float above the fragrant, small, white flowers dangling beneath the leaves of the elegant Solomon's Seal plants, and for about four to five weeks (before the dreaded heat of July settles over all) the hostas and ferns grow to unbelievable heights, each trying to smother the other. The thick, soft, gray wooly foliage of the Lamb's Ear plants are upright and strong; they have not yet been dwarfed by their tall, pink-purple flowers spikes. The myriad daylilies scattered all over the gardens are bursting with great emerald-green flopping waves of long, plain leaves, which hide the slowly growing thin flower stalks preparing to explode with all colors of the rainbow. The dianthus, the quintessential cottage flower, had its first (and best) flowering—and I must not forget my lavender. He had a very bad winter, but, true to his strong Provence stock, he is making a valiant comeback. So I salute June. I mentioned in another article that this past winter was very damaging to my garden. Fortunately, my phoenix-like garden is coming back strong and, in some plants, better than ever.

I have a confession to make. In my article about winter garden damage, I said that I would no longer grow any David Austin English roses, grandifloras, or hybrid tea roses; they do not handle very well our climatic conditions. Well, I caved in; I had to have at least one proper rose. I bought six hybrid teas at a local garden center. I don't even remember their names. Roses are not big sellers anymore, so selections are slim unless you buy from a garden catalog. I suppose I can take care of six, as opposed to sixty-six.

I will consider them annuals, so if they don't make it through the winter, I shall not be overly upset.

July is coming, with its heat and torrid conditions, its humidity, its pesky insects, and plant diseases. How does one handle one's garden? You can ignore it and accept its deteriorating condition, or you can try to deal with its challenges the best you can. No matter what route you decide to follow, a few simple chores can improve your garden's appearance. Tidy it up. Deadhead all flowering plants. Contrary to what Knock-Out Roses proclaim, they look very messy if you don't continually deadhead them. Cut back early-summer blooming plants and hope they revive with a second wind. Remove and discard any dead or diseased leaves and limbs. If you are still watering, make sure you water the soil and not the leaves.

If you want to try to correct your plants' problems, decide if you want to resort to chemical pesticides warfare or to go organic. This has been a hot topic for quite awhile in the media and horticultural circles. Depending upon your persuasion, you can find pros and cons to support your beliefs. Go into Lowe's, Home Depot, or garden centers, and you'll see aisle after aisle of products guaranteed to stop plant diseases, kill all bad (and good) bugs, double or triple the size of your flower blooms, and keep slugs and all other creepy crawly bugs from your garden door. It promises to keep your garden Living in Camelot. It is only in the small print in the attached leaflet that one reads: "Hazards to humans and domestic animals" and "Environmental hazards." Now, I will confess that for years I sprayed for bugs and diseases with systemic chemicals. I believed that I was careful and environmentally responsible. I was using products that were well advertised and supported by many horticulturists. What turned me off this practice was the number of bees and butterflies and beneficial insects that I saw dead days after I had sprayed with my "safe" chemicals.

People ask me if organic garden products are safe for the environment.

Continued on page 18.



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## Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

### Current Crime

**Assault:** 17500 block of Lilli Street.

**Burglary:** 19800 block of Beatriz Street, 19700 block of Fisher Avenue.

**Theft from vehicle:** 19700 block of Selby Avenue (four incidents), 18300 block of McKernon Way, 18400 block of McKernon Way, 19800 block of Martinsburg Road.

**Theft:** 17400 block of Hoskinson Road.

### Past Crime

**July 3, 1950** Montgomery County Police reported that two men saved a twenty-year-old navy man from drowning in Seneca Creek near Dawsonville. Police said that the man and a fourteen-year-old boy were using a rope swing that was attached to a large tree. When the swing lost its momentum, the two were stranded over the deepest part of the creek. The boy managed to kick free and landed in the creek and managed to swim to shore. The twenty-year-old lost his grip and landed in the water. Two men dove in and pulled him to shore and then performed artificial respiration while someone drove to a nearby house to call the fire department. In the end, the navy man ended up at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in satisfactory condition.

**July 5, 1950** Twelve people were arrested in Montgomery County for the sale, distribution, or possession of fireworks. No serious

injuries were reported as a result of the discharge of fireworks.

**July 5, 1950** A construction worker's decision to wear a garish purple shirt to work led to his arrest after the rape of a fourteen-year-old Bethesda girl. Police said that the girl was walking in a wooded area south of Bradley Boulevard when a middle-aged man attacked her. Police then began searching for the rapist and found a man matching the description of the assailant working at a construction project on Western Avenue. The girl was driven to the site where she identified him.

**July 10, 1951** Nine people were seriously injured after a head-on collision on Route 240 near Clarksburg. Police said that five visitors from Illinois were headed south when the driver of a car containing four marines tried to pass a truck and struck the other car. The marines were all taken to the Bethesda Naval Hospital while the occupants of the other car were taken to Suburban Hospital.

**July 11, 1950** Aaron Perry, a leading middleweight boxer of the time, was captured after a high-speed chase up Connecticut Avenue. Perry was wanted by the District Police for a series of housebreakings. Officer Bradshaw of the Chevy Chase Police Department saw Perry's car and gave chase at speeds exceeding eighty miles per hour.

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

## Remembrance

### Betty Jean Taylor

Betty Jean Taylor, of Beallsville, died on June 7 at Casey House Hospice in Rockville after a lengthy battle with cancer. Born on November 7, 1954 in Baltimore, she was the daughter of the late Richard Taylor, and Betty Alice Airy of Essex, Maryland.

Betty was a wonderful mother, grandmother, and great grandmother to all children who lovingly

called her Miss Betty. She enjoyed gardening, crafts, sewing, and reading.

Surviving besides her mother are her daughter, Harmony Little and her husband Danny Little; grandson Austin Little; step-granddaughter Savannah Little and step-grandson Ryan Little; sister Nancy Taylor and brother Richard Taylor, Jr.; and special friend James Caywood. She also leaves behind her beloved dog Ginger.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a gift of money to help defray funeral expenses.

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Continued from page 3.

### JPMS Named a 2014 National School of Character

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## Tidbits Of the Past

By Jack Toomey

**June 7, 1951** The Maryland State Roads Commission promised the county council that once the Washington National Parkway (now called Route 270) was finished, it would be a "beautiful parkway" planted with trees and shrubs. Officials were still debating on what route the parkway would be built.

**June 14, 1951** Dr. Edwin Broome, superintendent of schools, announced that summer school classes would be held in Poolesville. The cost was to be \$30 for the six-week course.

**June 15, 1951** A group of planners stressed the need for a Belt Highway around Washington, D.C. In their report, they said that as early as the 1940s, such a highway was needed, but with the post-war building boom, the idea had been forgotten. The officials noted that two major bridge projects would be needed.

**June 20, 1951** Montgomery County officials announced that there were five new cases of polio in the county. In addition, there were four cases of spotted fever, one in Poolesville, one in Seneca, and the others in Rockville.

**June 22, 1951** Montgomery County school officials were investigating a claim that lewd pictures were distributed in county high schools on the last day of school. The inquiry was launched when the mother of a sixteen-year-old girl called to report that her daughter had brought home such a picture.

**June 24, 1950** The Florida State Society met at the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Siegel. About three hundred guests gathered near Poolesville at Norbern Farm, the spacious country estate of the Siegels.

**June 28, 1951** Canning classes were to be offered at the Poolesville High School on weekdays between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

**June 30, 1950** An English teacher at Blair High School was fired after it was revealed that he belonged to the Communist Party. His name had been accidentally revealed during a hearing on Capitol Hill, and once it was known, county officials took action. Even though the teacher had signed a loyalty oath as required by Maryland law, there was a record that he had joined a cell of the Communist Party in 1935.

*Material for this column was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post.*

Continued from page 14.

### Young Team on the Rise

Because of the standout play of Wang, a nationally-ranked rising senior, the tennis team got a larger measure of publicity this spring. Wang defeated defending number one singles county champion William Szamosszegi of Churchill and 2014 county and state champion Aries Wong of Walt Whitman early this spring and Titas Bera of Wootton on April 24. Bera finished second in the state singles tourney. Dennis successfully challenged the traditional tennis dominance of the Bethesda-, Rockville-, and Potomac-based schools, but scheduling conflicts once again prevented him from playing in the county and state postseason. His style has become more aggressive. He used to hang back on the baseline and play a defensive game. "Now I attack a lot more, I stay inside the baseline," he said. The radar gun checked his serve at 108 miles an hour. If it produces a weak return, and it often does, he will follow to the net and put the point away.

His match against Whitman's Aries Wong at number one singles on April 14 lasted a couple of hours. Wong took an early lead, surprisingly winning the first set, 6-0, but Dennis rebounded to win, two sets to one. "The level of tennis was just incredible," said Lucas Schoch, Whitman's number four singles player. "Easily some of the best high school tennis you'll see anywhere."

For now, the Falcons will remain in Division III, but they took tremendous steps this year with a young team.

Continued from page 16.

### Camelot's Garden

The answer is yes and no; it depends upon how you use them.

The seeming contradiction between organic labeling and potentially harmful pesticide practices may lie in the relative leniency of USDA organic guidelines. The bottom line is that it is important for consumers to know what is going on. Just because a pesticide is labeled organic does not mean that it cannot potentially harm the environment. Under the umbrella of organic you have insecticidal soap, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, Pyola, copper fungicide, neem oil, and many others. Here, again, if you read the

fine print, it might warn that under certain circumstances, that is, direct contact or residual effects, the product can be harmful to soil and water, aquatic invertebrates, bees, good and bad insects, humans, and domestic animals. There are no free rides. Horticultural chemistry has not yet solved the issue of selectiveness.

If you choose to address the problems in your gardens, I advise that you be careful; read all the fine print on all garden products. To protect the environment, do the least you can to interfere with nature; more is not better. We do not or never will live in Camelot; June might be our closest time to it. Enjoy your gardens as they are and when they are.

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Continued from page 4.

### The Washington Senecas

While we scrapped the use of the term Indian because Native Americans are not from India, we could still name things Seneca all we want. Seneca store, Seneca Creek, Seneca Quarry, Seneca Schoolhouse, even Seneca Valley High School are all safe and respectful, right? Only if you use it based on the meaning today. If you use it as it was used in the past, then you offend. You see, Seneca, as it applied to our area, was an offensive term. Why? Because the Seneca did not ever live here, they are from western New York. While they penetrated Pennsylvania through hunting expeditions and military campaigns, they didn't make it to Poolesville. We name things Seneca because British troops came to call all Native Americans Seneca just as predecessors came to call them all Indians. The Seneca were allies of the British, so one might argue that calling all indigenous peoples Seneca was not meant to be offensive but neither was calling them all Indians meant to be offensive either. Certainly, the Redskins name as used by the team is not meant to be offensive. Don't tell me it's just like the N word. Seventy percent (current polls) of Native Americans are not offended by Washington using the name. The use of the N word would never be accepted by even

Continued from page 4.

### South of the Border

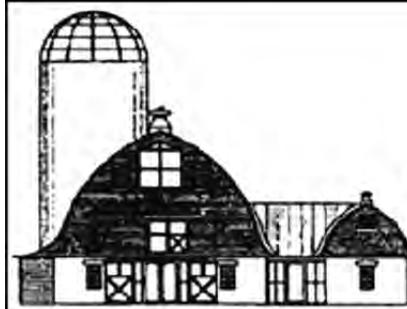
All of this gets back to fundamental differences on taxes and spending. Having gone through a number of analyses over relative state tax burdens in order to write this column, it is safe to say that Maryland is a higher-tax state and spends more than most states. Virginia is, by all measures, a lower tax state than Maryland, but still more or less middle of the pack. Neither state stands out as being an extreme outlier on total state and local tax burden. It is tempting to take the Tea Party line and just declare that a state that spends or taxes less than another is ipso facto

one percent, never mind seventy percent of African Americans.

You want to know what is really insulting? It's the complete obliteration of the knowledge of the history of the Indians who lived here. If, instead of ending the use of Indians as the mascot, we devoted a couple days per year to learning about local tribes, we would find some interesting things. We would learn that we could name things after the Tuscarora or Piscataway without offense as both lived here for a time. The Tuscarora were here for a short while as they migrated from New York to North Carolina, then passed through again when they returned to New York. The Piscataways escaped to our area from the Eastern Shore to flee attacks from the Pennsylvania Susquehannocks, a belligerent tribe who got to thinking the crabs and oysters were meant for them.

Let's face it, the real offense is not in unintentionally naming a sports team after the heroic noble red men through a bygone term that offended; it is how successfully we have removed them from our history as if they were never here. Next time you drive down Fisher Avenue try to envision its earliest use. We name it after the Fisher Farm that was there, but, originally, part of it was a trail to the river used by Native Americans. I guess you could change its name to be more historically accurate, just don't call it Great Seneca Highway.

a better-run state. I think one has to also look at what the state achieves with its spending, or what it is choosing to not support as well as it might. I think overall we get excellent schools and services for our money. I wouldn't want to be Texas, or Florida, or Mississippi just for the sake of lower taxes; however, I also think our leaders are going to learn someday that resistance to increased tax burdens is not just a Republican sentiment, but one shared by increasing numbers of its citizens across the political spectrum. I would hope that the state will show some restraint and even consider some relief, but I also think we get pretty good services for what we pay.



## SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

June 2014

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Richard Hill, President

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### The Story Behind Linden Farm

In 1996 (eighteen years ago!) Sugarloaf Citizens' Association and Montgomery County entered into an agreement to settle litigation pending since 1994 in Montgomery County Circuit Court. This lawsuit had been filed by Sugarloaf because of actions taken by Montgomery County. The fascinating story behind this litigation is the following.

In 1980 a working dairy farm (Matthews Farm) in Dickerson, Maryland comprising some 277 acres with a large farmhouse, barns and numerous outbuildings was purchased by Montgomery County on an expedited basis for the construction of a sewage sludge compost facility. The County immediately constructed a 45 acre asphalt pad, ponds, and a maintenance building. In order to ensure that this large and unexpected facility would not result in adverse health risks for the community Sugarloaf decided to start administrative proceedings.

However, with an assurance from Montgomery County that the sludge compost facility was to be temporary, Sugarloaf entered into settlement negotiations and a 1981 agreement provided for closure and a "reuse" plan which included removal of part of the asphalt pad while the remainder was to be used for composting leaves during four months in the fall.

By the 1990's the area outside the compost facility had been severely neglected by the County, the farmhouse had burned and other buildings had deteriorated. Although the remaining buildings had been recommended as a historic resource, no action was taken by the County.

In 1993 the compost facility was recommended by the County as the site for all yard waste in Montgomery County. The asphalt pad was expanded and the facility's capacity was increased from 40,000 tons to 70,000 tons per year and the County anticipated further expansion. Thus, what had been seasonal leaf composting was now rapidly becoming a major industrial activity. Sugarloaf was alarmed since such expansion would violate the 1981 agreement but its pleas to the County were neglected.

In 1994 Sugarloaf filed a breach of contract action against Montgomery County but in 1995 the court proceedings were stayed to facilitate settlement negotiations. After nearly seven months of discussions a written agreement was executed which included restrictions on future changes to the facility, a limit to the volume handled by the facility (77,000 tons), the conveyance to Sugarloaf of original farm fields, and the long overdue restoration of those remaining farm properties which could be saved. Sugarloaf is now responsible for managing the restored properties which have become headquarters of the Association under the name of Linden Farm.

(With thanks to Jane Hunter, Sugarloaf's President at the time)  
(In memory of William J. Roberts, Esq., who administered the litigation)

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Continued from page 1.

### Leggett Hits Town Hall Meeting

requires leadership and relationships which he maintains he can provide. As evidence, Leggett, who is seeking his third term of office, noted that he was recently elected the president of the County Executives of America. He also noted that his opponents have not garnered the kind of public support of state officials that he has. The second hurdle is the continuation of rising costs based on changing times. As an example, he pointed to the school population increasing at the rate of 2,000 students per year, and the costs in technology such as computers, security cameras, etc. as costs that did not even exist in the past. He named five pillars of good education: motivation of students by teachers and parents, quality teachers with adequate resources, reasonable student/teacher ratios, proper facilities, and advancements in technology. Despite these two obstacles, Leggett noted that the county's state delegation does a good job of getting funds, especially if one considers that the perception throughout the legislature is that Montgomery County is the rich county and doesn't need more funds. In terms of fiscal efficiency, he called for an inspector general to oversee educational spending as the best way to root out waste but is doubtful the state would do so.

As the discussion turned to issues regarding the Ag Reserve,

he pointed to his support of the Ag Reserve when he was a councilman and continued support as county executive. He referenced the concern that protection of the Reserve is going to depend on educating voters outside of the area, especially against those seemingly good causes that ultimately chip away at the boundaries. For example, he used proposals to use small portions of the Reserve for good causes such as additional programs for housing for seniors and the homeless or for recreational programs that take small bites out of the Reserve as the most threatening. "The big development projects, with the obvious good versus evil aspects, can be easier to fight."

Questions were raised about the county's economic status and concern about jobs. Mr. Leggett listed his priorities toward fostering growth in the county: attracting cyber security firms through tax credits and other county support, relocation of biotech health incubators to Montgomery College, and support of nonprofit associations in the county as ways to move the county away from its dependence on the Federal government for employment.

In his closing remarks, Leggett compared the process of running the county and solving problems like making repairs to a ship at sea rather than in a dry dock. Despite major problems like the recession and sequestration, he pointed to highlights of success by his administration:

the largest financial reserves in the county's history, a AAA bond rating, a crime rate three times better than the national average, police and fire rescue response times at their lowest levels, and the construction of five new fire stations. He credited his decision on ambulance-use fees that have been in effect for a year and a half as providing \$15.6 million.

Mr. Leggett holds a Juris Doctorate from Howard Univer-

sity where he graduated magna cum laude. He was an infantry captain in the army in Vietnam, earning a Bronze Star and other awards and honors, and he was a professor at Howard University and an assistant dean in its law school. He was first elected councilman in 1986, county executive in 2006, and re-elected as county executive in 2010. He lives in Burtonsville with his wife Catherine.

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## Remembrances

### James Doren "Jim" Spory

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville area and the *Monocle* lost a great friend in the passing of Jim Spory on May 31. The son of James and Thelma Spory, he was born in Somerset, Pennsylvania in 1935. Jim and his wife, Shirley, were married for fifty-three years.

Jim is well remembered for his passionate love of life and family, and for his joy in sharing wonderful and meaningful stories, poetry, and jokes.

Jim worked for Bell Atlantic, C&P Telephone Company, and Verizon. At C&P he often worked strange hours in even stranger places, fixing phone cables with hands that were progressively being affected by the onset of arthritis. His hands began to shrivel up, and fixing cable wasn't something he was supposed to do. He still continued to climb the poles and fix the cable until he met a tragic challenge that forced him to go to a desk job for the rest of his career. In 1974, just two months before the birth of his second child and first daughter, he was held up at gunpoint by two individuals while working for the phone company. He survived, although he almost didn't make it. He was shot in the leg and became twenty-five percent disabled.

After retirement, he was able to devote more time to one of his passions from his youth, wood craftsmanship. Even with the pain and crippling impact of arthritis, Jim created award-winning crafts using a scrollsaw and jigsaw.

Using almost any kind of wood, Jim produced holiday candles and planholders, as well as tree ornaments worthy of any artist. The arthritis slowed his work since the effect was a bit like working while wearing boxing gloves. Nevertheless, he took first place at the Montgomery County Fair in the craftsmanship category of Miniatures. In addition, in 2004, he was also awarded the overall grand prize as the best craftsman for all categories—not bad for a



Jim Spory

man who had most of his knuckles removed by surgery.

Many of the ornaments he crafted were sold to benefit his beloved Odd Fellows Lodge 97.

His smiling face has graced the front page of the *Monocle* nearly every December since 2005. We started out with him on the cover with an article, "The Heart of an Angel, the Spirit of a Fighter," with his personal and heartwarming story that was perfect for the Christmas season. Mr. Spory's story was about beating the odds, about taking on difficult challenges that you are not supposed to win, and about believing in miracles (the entire article can be read at [monocleonline.com](http://monocleonline.com)). After featuring him on the December front page a couple of more times in a row for his work with the Odd Fellows, a tradition was established, and we continued the practice through last year. One year when he wasn't available, we used his granddaughter Kaydence, to fill in for him just to save his space.

His ability to take on big challenges began in high school when he wrestled on his father's team. Back then, Jim only weighed 127 pounds, but he wrestled at the 154-pound weight class. Everyone thought he was too light. Jim wrestled anyway. Jim brought his passion for wrestling to Poolesville High School when he helped coach its team in the late eighties and early nineties.

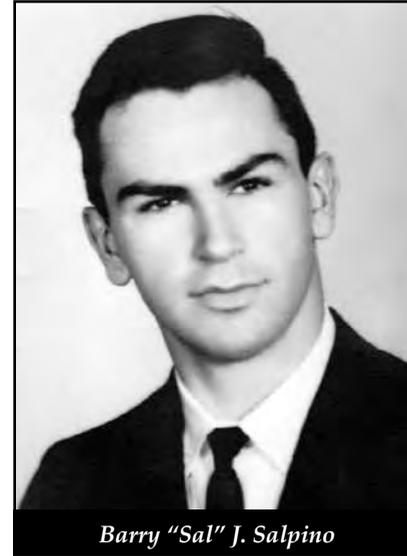
After surviving the violent criminal attack and severe arthritis in his hands, he worked hard to recover from a car accident that most

believed he would not survive.

Jim is also survived by son Luke Spory of Virginia Beach, daughter Rachel Harper and her husband John of New Windsor, Maryland, and granddaughter Kaydence. He is also survived by brother David Spory and wife

Dorothy, sister-in-law Susan Hurley. He was preceded in death by brother Dale, and sisters Doris Spory and Joann Scott.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Odd Fellows Lodge 97, P.O. Box 252, Poolesville, MD 20837.



Barry "Sal" J. Salpino

### Barry J. Salpino,

Barry "Sal" J. Salpino, 67, of Poolesville, died on June 5 at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda. Born on October 1, 1946 in Altoona, Pennsylvania, he was the loving husband of Patty Salpino and the son of the late Anthony J. and Marie (Biel) Salpino. Sal was involved in the American Legion and helped coach MSI soccer and little league baseball and basketball. Surviving besides his wife are one daughter, Erica M. Salpino; one brother, Anthony J. Salpino, Jr.; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by one

son, Christopher J. Salpino. Donations in his honor may be made to the Poplar Springs Animal Sanctuary at [www.animalsanctuary.org](http://www.animalsanctuary.org).

### St. Mary's Catholic Church

18230 Barnesville Road  
Barnesville, MD

[www.stmaryonline.com](http://www.stmaryonline.com)  
301-972-8660

Rev. Kevin P. O'Reilly, Pastor  
Rev. David Cahoon, Deacon



#### MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8, 9:30, and 11 am  
Monday - Saturday at 9:00 am (Rosary follows)



#### LOOKING AHEAD...

Vacation Bible School  
July 14 - 18, 9:30 am - Noon  
"Camping in God's Creation"

Children 3 years - 6th Grade  
Welcome!

Call 301-972-8660 for questions or  
registration forms



*All are Welcome!*

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Safety Tips

### Peter H. Eeg, DVM

## Poolesville Veterinary Clinic

For many people, nothing beats lounging in the backyard on the Fourth of July with good friends and family—including the four-legged members of the household. While it may seem like a great idea to reward Rover with scraps from the grill and bring him along to watch fireworks, in reality some festive foods and products can be potentially hazardous to your pets.

**Never leave alcoholic drinks unattended where pets can reach them. Alcoholic beverages have the potential to poison pets. If ingested, the animal could become very intoxicated and weak, severely depressed, or could go into a coma. Death from respiratory failure is also a possibility in severe cases.**

**Do not apply any sunscreen or insect repellent product to your pet that is not labeled specifically for use on animals.** Ingestion of sunscreen products can result in drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst, and lethargy. The misuse of insect repellent that contains DEET can lead to neurological problems.

**Always keep matches and lighter fluid out of your pet's reach.** Certain types of matches contain chlorates, which could potentially damage blood cells and result in difficulty breathing—or even kidney disease in severe cases. Lighter fluid can be irritating to skin, and if ingested, can produce gastrointestinal irritation and central nervous system depression. If lighter fluid is inhaled, aspiration pneumonia and breathing problems could develop.

**Keep your pets on their normal diet.** Any change, even for one meal, can give your pets severe indigestion and diarrhea. This is particularly true for older animals which have more delicate digestive systems and nutritional requirements. Keep in mind that foods such as onions, chocolate, coffee, avocado, grapes and raisins, salt, and yeast dough can all be potentially toxic to companion animals.

**Do not put glow jewelry on your pets, or allow them to play with it.** While the luminescent substance contained in these products is not highly toxic, excessive drooling and gastrointestinal irritation could still result from ingestions, and intestinal blockage could occur from swallowing large pieces of the plastic containers.

**Keep citronella candles, insect coils, and oil products out of reach.** Ingestions can produce stomach irritation and possibly central nervous system depression. If inhaled, the oils could cause aspiration pneumonia in pets.

**Never use fireworks around pets!** While exposure to lit fireworks can potentially result in severe burns and/or trauma to the face and paws of curious pets, even unused fireworks can pose a danger. Many types contain potentially toxic substances, including potassium nitrate, arsenic, and other heavy metals.

**Loud, crowded fireworks displays are no fun for pets,** so please resist the urge to take them to Independence Day festivities. Instead, keep your little guys safe from the noise in a quiet, sheltered, and escape-proof area at home.



## Poolesville Veterinary Clinic



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