

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

November 20, 2015 • Volume XI, Number 16



Kevin Schramm is about to slam a triple towards the right field fence. See more in the Family Album on page 2.



PHS school spirit goes big time in 2015. Read more on page 3.



Poolesville's Jim Clifford made the cover of the Washington Post Magazine and the Monocacy Monocle. How did he do it? Check Tidbits on page 8.



Poolesville's Sam Hardwick wins gold. Read how in Tidbits on page 8.

## Class of 2016 Sets Record for Most Athletic Scholarships

By Rande Davis

Student-athletes from Poolesville High School's class of 2016 have set a very impressive record with nine of its students receiving athletic scholarships.

On November 17, PHS athletic director Ed Ross hosted a letter-of-intent-signing ceremony in the school's media center for seven of the student-athletes who have earned athletic scholarships upon their graduation in 2016. Soccer players Alex Frost and Abby Beeler were not in attendance. Alex will attend Swarthmore while Beeler is still wrestling with her final decision.

Ross congratulated the students and their parents and remarked that this is "one of the finest groups of athletes I have ever worked with, and I am sure the coaches would feel the same."

He credited the four lacrosse athletes as being pioneers in the Maryland private lacrosse club LAX



PHS athletic scholarship winners backed by their parents and coaches: Jake Armstrong, Adam Branscome, Kristin Darragh, Casey Harkins, Joe Hetrick, Christina Hilton, and Reid Patton.

Factory, one of the premier development and competitive programs located in western Maryland.

Principal Deena Levine voiced her pride in the students and their accomplishments both on the field and in the classroom. She also congratulated the parents for their exceptional support of the scholarship winners. "I know how hard you (parents) have worked to support your athlete by taking them

to practices, encouraging them to do their schoolwork, encouraged them when they were not so strong. They are all wonderful student-athletes."

Coach Josh Funk, who was the first lacrosse player from PHS to sign a letter of intent, stated that there have only been three other male lacrosse players to do so up until this year.

Continued on page 16.

## Helping Hands Turns the Table on Jane Stearns

By Rande Davis

On November 7, thanks to the leadership of Helping Hands Poolesville (HHP), the home of Jane Stearns, the founder of WUMCO Help! Inc., got a makeover inside and out. Jane is usually the advocate and organizer of such projects not the recipient.

A nonprofit organization, HHP, co-founded by Ray Hoewing, Catherine Beliveau, and Bernie Mihm in 2010 became a 501(c)3 in 2012 and is a Christian service organization (according to its charter). Almost all of its funding comes from six churches: Memorial Methodist Church, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Poolesville Baptist Church, Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic Church, Poolesville Presbyterian Church, and Dickerson's Hosanna Worship Center.

HHP makes major renovations to the homes of persons in need in the area in partnership with Rebuilding Together, the successor to the former Christmas in April organization. Additionally, HHP regularly makes indi-



Some of the more than forty volunteers that spent a day sprucing up WUMCO's Jane Stearns's home. Some of the more than forty volunteers that spent a day sprucing up WUMCO's Jane Stearns's home.

vidual repairs in the homes of persons on fixed incomes or lacking the funds to pay to have the repairs. It's not uncommon for HHP to assist as many as five or six families a year.

Joe Hetrick, owner of Chrisler Homes, a homebuilder and general

contractor, is the point person for HHP's projects. As a volunteer himself, he typically will visit with the homeowner and inspect the home in order to make recommendations for

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## Family Album

WUMCO's Catherine Beliveau and Ray Hoewing working with Hosanna Worship Center's Rev. Chuck Copeland.



Members of the Barnesville Baptist Church enjoying a hayride to Sugarloaf Mountain.



Joe Hetrick and Bernie Mihm, the dynamic duo behind Helping Hands Poolesville, a volunteer community service organization.



Montgomery County police officer Jimmy Ward sent this pitch high over the left field fence. Must be an old man's league, they don't run the bases after a home run!

Students at Barnesville School learning the wonders of birdwatching.



# Santa Breakfast Saturday Dec 5<sup>th</sup>



Santa photos available

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 Santa Breakfast

Proceeds benefit UMCVFD



- 👉 Toys for Tots contributions welcome
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- 👉 Toy train layout will be in full operation



Craig Cummins, Glenn Tallia, and George Coakley volunteered to fix up WUMCO's Jane Stearns's home.

## Local News

### SGA President Changes School Culture

By Jack Toomey

Folks living four or five blocks from the Poolesville High School stadium are used to seeing bright lights and hearing the announcer's voice on Friday nights during football season. An occasional cheer might have been heard but nothing like the constant din that was heard this year.

Newly-elected Student Government president Zach Kovach noticed that, in previous years, fairly good crowds would attend Falcon home games but hardly any students would travel to away games. He decided to do something about it before the first game of the season. Using the power of social media, announcements, and word of mouth, Kovach and his fellow SGA members encouraged more students to attend football games. Kovach was the class president when he was a freshman, and historian during his junior year.

realized this and supported an effort where magnet students could sleep over at the homes of friends on Friday nights so they could attend the games. He also urged students to attend away games, so that the team would see the support of their classmates.

Sophomore Peter Berry, a Global Ecology student who lives in Beallsville, commented, "We got a new SGA president, and he has changed everything about the student section. Now we have about two hundred kids cheering."

Senior wide receiver Jake Armstrong has noticed the change in school spirit. He said that this year was totally different under the direction of Zach. Each game had a theme, and it was quite noticeable by the players on the field. Armstrong will play lacrosse next year at UMBC.

Alice Walker expressed the opinion that other schools were jealous of Poolesville's school spirit. She is a tenth grade magnet student and varsity soccer player who lives in Damascus. She has had occasion to attend Damascus football games and said that she believes that Poolesville's student section is more supportive.



School spirit is on the rise at PHS.

During the first home game of the year against Winters Mill, students stunned other fans with an orchestrated cheer that ended with a mighty cloud of gold dust being thrown in the air punctuated by someone setting off a fireworks display outside of the school property. A video of the event made its way onto YouTube, and it has been viewed by thousands of people across the world.

Poolesville High has a unique problem in that over half of the student body leaves town at the end of the school day. They are the magnet students that live in other parts of the county, making it difficult for them to attend home games. Kovach

Alice attributes the rise in school spirit to Kovach and described how he circumvented normal channels and secured a private bus to take students to the soccer playoff game at Century High School. She said that at soccer games, attendance has been increasing and added, "It's such a great atmosphere, and it makes us want to play harder."

Quince Orchard has its mighty Red Army cheering section, the Blue Brigade cheers for Clarksburg, and now Poolesville has its own Falcons' Nest. Kovach expects that even larger crowds than before will attend the basketball games that start in a few weeks.



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The Blue Hearth, Bassett's Restaurant,  
HMD Old Town Hall and Bank Museum,  
Banana Tree Embroidery and  
Poolesville Hardware Store

2nd Stop:  
Whalen Commons/Town Hall  
  
Holiday Lighting at 7pm, Santa, Holiday  
Express Children's Train, Ice Sculptures,  
food and music.  
  
Zaglio's Bakery, Kicks Karate, Poolesville  
Vet, Mooey's Yogurt, Oriental Gourmet &  
Kristopher's Pizza At Town Hall:  
Banana Tree Embroidery, Glad-I-Sparkle,  
Hilary Schwab Photography, Pampered Chef,  
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## Poolesville Holiday Lighting

**First Friday, Dec. 4th**



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Hop on the Free CALLEVA Polar Bear  
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and restaurants for specials and treats!  
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for more details!



## Commentary

### Digital World

By John Clayton

As I got close to a doctor's appointment I had made with a specialist, I realized that the day was not going to work. I had a commitment at the same time, and it was a commitment I didn't feel I could easily miss. What's more, I didn't particularly want to miss it, so even though it was only a few days before the appointment, I called to reschedule. The nice lady on the other end of the line, after I negotiated the computer-based telephone tree, said, "No problem—let's see what we have."

This was November, and the next appointment was in January, as in 2016. I realized that this probably wasn't a good idea, as medications were involved, and mentally gritting my teeth (only Rod Serling could talk with physically-gritted teeth), I said, "Then again, maybe I better just keep that appointment after all."

"Oh, well, I'm sorry sir, but that appointment is already gone. I released it when you said you didn't want it, and it got snapped up." She didn't really say snapped up, but I was no longer hearing at that point.

I said, "Okay" (I mean, whattaya gonna do?) and offered that perhaps it wasn't a good idea for me to wait that long and, lo and behold, she went into human-beings-actually-handling-problems mode.

"Let me contact the doctor, and we'll see what she says." She did, the doctor said something, and they called me back with an appointment the next week. Yes, I like this practice, even though they're dumping my insurance carrier next year (so I learned through an email).

After all that, I kept thinking about what had happened, and how

my appointment had evaporated at the speed of the photon or electron or quark or whatever runs medical appointments. Many years ago, I took my first computer science course in college, an introduction-to-programming course which taught us to use Fortran. My first projects were on IBM punch cards (protect your deck!) and that makes a great story one can pull out any time one wants to display geezer credentials. I tried that on my uncle once, and he told me about punching his programs into the front panel of an IBM mainframe in South Africa where he was on assignment for a few years in the 1960s. He said a card punch would have been heaven, so I guess I was out-geezered there. I'm sure it snowed five feet when he walked to work and back home, uphill both ways. So getting back to my class, I was chatting with the graduate assistant and he recommended an article which basically said (this was around 1979) that the impact of computers eventually would be that they would be imbedded all around us, in our homes, in appliances, and who knows where, and they would run all kinds of things pretty much oblivious to us. I think that ship sailed long ago, although sometimes it's more obvious than other times.

I found it ironic that during my appointment, the practice's computers froze up. My physician (they're ours, right?) laughed and said, "Actually, there's not much we can do when they're down," and she rattled off a number of things including the blood test she wanted to order that weren't going to happen until the electrons started flowing again. They did, and later I heard various employees asking each other, "Did your system freeze up before?" I realize now that if the computers ever truly take over as various science fiction thrillers have predicted, the solution probably will not

Continued on page 10.

## Rande(m) Thoughts

### How Important Is Thanksgiving Day?

By Rande Davis

I have been wondering how other countries celebrate a thanksgiving day or if they even do so at all. Canada followed us in incorporating a single day to universally giving thanks, and Liberia, founded by former American slaves, also has a Thanksgiving Day. A few others like the Netherlands have something akin to a thanksgiving day, but as far as I can ascertain, that's about it.

My expectation was that every culture would have some kind of day just for giving thanks in a uniform way, not just a brief moment of reflection but an entire day—a celebration not just as a religious practice but something we do together, like a family. Yet, that doesn't seem to be the case. I find that astounding as I believe that Thanksgiving Day is not just a nice thing to do but is essential for a robust culture and a healthy society. Let me explain.

Decades ago, as a very young man, I became enthralled by the

dynamic message of Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's *Power of Positive Thinking*. Others, like Zig Zigler, Ed Foreman, and more recently, Tony Robbins, have heralded that message. Foreman was known for a lapel pin, a diamond-studded bumblebee, as a symbolic inspiration to him for achievement. It inspired me to design my own lapel pin, which eventually became the logo of my publishing consultant business that I have operated for twenty-six years. For Foreman, the bumblebee pin symbolized the need to ignore negativism and all the naysayers in life. Why the bumblebee? Because, as he explained, "Aeronautical engineers, the experts, will tell you that the bumblebee cannot fly because its wings are too small for its body. Only thing is no one told the bee, so it just kept on flying." His pin remained as a reminder to him to not listen to the naysayers, since even the experts can be wrong.

My pin was different but similar in its message. I designed a pin that was a triangle with an engraved positive sign over a negative sign inside the triangle. Why a triangle? There are three angles or reasons for wearing the pin. First, in putting the pin on every morning, it was a reminder that to be negative or positive is entirely a choice

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## Town Government Report

### Commissioners Review Potential Changes to Financial Rules in Town Charter

By Link Hoewing

At their bimonthly town commission meeting on November 16, the Town of Poolesville commissioners began considering potential changes and revisions to the town charter proposed by town attorney, Jay Gullo. Gullo characterized the changes as largely aimed at updating outdated provisions in the town charter related to the powers of the commissioners regarding financial matters, especially the ability of the commissioners to incur new debt.

The town's charter is, in effect, its Constitution. It includes the key provisions and laws underlying the powers of the commissioners and establishes the various agencies in the town government. Gullo said that in response to a request from the town commissioners, he had been spending time reviewing the town charter in order to identify areas that needed to be updated or revised. One area of the charter in particular—the section covering the financial powers of the commissioners—was out of date, even including references to state laws that were no longer relevant.

Gullo remarked that this was particularly true of the powers granted to the commissioners with regard to incurring debt to finance town projects such as infrastructure or construction projects. An example he cited concerned the issuance of debt instruments by the town commissioners. Currently, they are limited to authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds which are generally paid for over a period of years via receipts from taxes or general revenues. Newer forms of debt, such as Revenue Bonds, which can be paid for through revenues generated by a project itself and do not rely on general revenues, cannot be used by the commissioners because the outdated provisions of the town charter do not authorize it.

Gullo said that while General Obligation Bonds are used regularly by most governments, other forms of debt obligations often are more suited to certain types of projects and could be better for the town and its citizens. For example, water projects such as the construction of new pipes and wells, are used by citizens for many years and provide benefits for a long period of time. Current town charter provisions prohibit the commissioners

from taking advantage of very low interest rate loans that may stretch out for up to forty-year payment schedules. Given how long these types of investments last and how long residential users benefit from the investments, long-term loans like these may make sense, but the town cannot currently take advantage of them.

The commissioners generally responded positively to the ideas and concepts Gullo cited and approved the release of a draft set of revisions to the town charter regarding the financial powers of the commissioners. Under the longstanding practice of the town commission, changes to the town charter are subject to a public hearing which will be held on December 7. After that, the commissioners will publish a final proposed set of charter changes, and citizens will have fifty days after the date of release of the final proposal to initiate a referendum (public vote) on the changes.

Under the old business segment of the meeting, the commissioners returned again to discuss the proposal for a Substance Abuse Coalition in Poolesville that had been proposed at the previous commission meeting by concerned citizens including local school counselors. It was unclear exactly what the citizens proposing the coalition expected of the commissioners, but Commissioner Chuck Stump said he was hesitant to make any explicit commitments until it became clear what exactly the citizens were proposing and what their plan of action would be. The Substance Abuse Coalition, as outlined at the last commission meeting, had to be formed by a wide array of local citizens and, while it would include a commission representative, the coalition itself was supposed to be citizen-led. The coalition was in the early stages of forming, and Commissioner Stump said the commission should wait to take any specific actions until the coalition members approached the commission with a specific plan and requests for town involvement.

Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski reiterated his concerns about the long-term costs of the coalition and how it would be financed after the initial ten-year grant ended. He also said he had not received any specific information about how coalitions formed under the ten-year grant program have functioned elsewhere, what they have achieved, and what programs they pursued. Until he got the information, he was especially reluctant to support any specific commitments by the commission.

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Continued from page 1.

### Helping Hands

the repairs to be scheduled, materials required, and number and type of workers required. He will then manage the purchase and delivery of the materials in advance of the project start date. He often works closely with Bernie Mihm of Fine Earth Landscaping for the exterior work scheduled. While almost all other volunteers will work for one day or part of one day only, Hetrick's volunteer contribution takes days and many hours in advance.

He says that over the years, there has developed a "regular group of volunteers having a good mixture of persons with specific skills along with others you provide the basic manpower for simpler tasks life painting, racking, cleanup, etc."

The Stearns project was typical of HHP efforts, where Hetrick had already saved items for recycling like kitchen cabinets, doors, or windows from other home projects on which his firm has worked. The reliability of many of the volunteers makes Hetrick's task easier in scheduling work assignments. After six years, he knows quite well what each person is capable of or what he or she can do to help out the best. "I know someone like Carl Brill has experience in overseeing work safety needs, or like Ralph Hitchens, who is our standby guy available to run out and get last-minute items that may have been forgotten or not planned for. Link Hoewing is knowledgeable in using power tools, so I know I can schedule him for those jobs."

Using funds collected as donations, Hetrick will purchase materials that need to be purchased new for each project. In the Stearns project, \$5,350.00 was donated to cover material costs, one of which was replacing her stove with a newer, safer gas stove.

The churches provide the manpower, with the smallest one, Hosanna Worship Center, typically providing the most people. The Stearns project, as with all HHP projects, starts at 8:00 a.m. and runs until about 6:00 p.m. Project leaders are selected to oversee

groups having specific tasks like lawn cleanup or wall painting. One group of volunteers is responsible for making sure food and drinks are supplied during the workday.

Perhaps the best part, according to Hetrick, is that the team of volunteers gets along so well. "In all the years of doing this, there never has been an argument, and everybody goes above and beyond in their work."

Craig Cummins, president of the Board of Directors of HHP, said, "We were very grateful for the broad-based outreach of the community to do needed repairs to the home of one of Montgomery County's great citizens, Jane Stearns. She served the poor and disadvantaged community for almost a half a century, and to do some repairs to her home was the least we could do for this extraordinary woman."

Of course, the appreciation of HHP recipients makes the jobs especially worthwhile. Jane seemed to speak not just for her but for all those who have been helped over the years, "I am overwhelmed by the wonderful work that the Helping Hands volunteers performed on both the outside and inside of my home. I can't thank them enough for making my house more livable, safe, and healthy. I love the people in this community, and I thank God for them."

With apologies for any persons left out, here is a list of those assisting on the Stearns project: Joe Hetrick, Bernie Mihm, Craig Cummings, Chris Giarratano, Kellie Dockery, Vernon Sauder, Nick Tucci, Elizabeth Gard, DeWayne Upchurch, Isaac Kasuske, Alix Upchurch, DeWayne Upchurch, Jr., Tasha Upchurch, Michaela Szalay, Sterling Mercer, Jacenda Sandoval, Lorenzo Kornegay, Carla Kornegay, Catalina Sandoval, Alon Kasuske, Diego Sandoval, Craig Chaney, David Sandoval, Amy Budd, Koren Kornegay, Cahlyn Kornegay, Bubby Pollen, Satri Thomas, Karole Streeter, Satori Thomas, Paris Copeland, Kim Copeland, Rev. Chuck Copeland, Richard Arnold, Glenn Tallia, George Coakley, Carl Brill, Ray Hoewing, Link Hoewing, Catherine Beliveau, Eddie Schwartzbeck, Barry Thomas, Steve Kocur, Ralph Hitchens, and Kathy Hanna.

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## Things To Do

November 20 and 21

### Annual Christmas

#### Attic Sale at St. Peter's Church

Thousands of items both old and new: Ornaments, decorations, jewelry, linens, stuffies, artificial greens, lights, handcrafted items, and more. Baked goods and pecans on sale. Friday: noon to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### PHS Midnight Players Present:

#### Agatha Christie's Rule of Three

To commemorate the 125th anniversary of Agatha Christie's birth, the Midnight Players will be performing this collection of three one-act mysteries, all containing a hint of comedy. Come and see if you can guess who is the cat burglar, the murderer, and who tried to kill the infirmed. Is it the Beauty? Is it the Adulterer? Is it the Husband? *PHS Auditorium*. General admission: \$7.00; Reserved seating: \$11.00. Friday: 7:00 p.m., Saturday: 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

November 20, 21, and 22

#### The Blue Hearth Special Bonus Market Weekend

The holidays are a special time—get your home ready and plan ahead. We can help make your holiday décor unique and your gift-giving extra special this year. *19964 Fisher Avenue*.

November 22

#### Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Joint choirs will sing with shared clergy officiating. The offering will benefit Helping Hands and WUMCO. *St. Peter's*. 7:00 p.m.

November 25

#### PASC Event

*Poolesville Area Senior Center*  
Event: *Tai chi*. 17750 W. Willard Road. 10:30 a.m.

*Zumba Gold*. 17750 W. Willard Road. 1:00 p.m.

#### Thanksgiving Eve Service

*Barnesville Baptist Church*. 7:00 p.m.

November 28

#### A Christmas Carol Ballet

Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre presents *A Christmas Carol* at the *F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville* with two performances. The classic Charles Dickens tale set in nineteenth-century London is a heart-warming and uplifting Christmas event crafted by artistic director and choreographer Fran Ichijo with music from French composer Claude Debussy. To buy tickets, go to [www.hgcbtstore.org](http://www.hgcbtstore.org) or call the *F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre* box office at 240-314-8690 or [hgcbt.tickets@gmail.com](mailto:hgcbt.tickets@gmail.com). 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

December 2

#### PASC Events

*Tai chi*. 17750 W. Willard Road. 10:30 a.m.

*Seminar. "Chew on This" A discussion on digestion*. 17750 W. Willard Road. 1:00 p.m.

#### Free Community Dinner

Baked ziti is on the menu for this month's dinner. Starbucks Coffee and homemade desserts will also be served. All are welcome. To request a ride, contact Lori Kocur at 301-349-9670. *Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church*. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

December 4

#### Annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony

Whalen Commons turns into a winter wonderland. Join in the family fun with Santa Claus there to take gift requests (he comes at 6:00 p.m.), holiday kiddie railroad, ice sculpturing, festive music, refreshments available, gingerbread decorating at the *Old Town Hall*. Park lights lit at 7:30 p.m.

#### PACC First Friday Holiday Night

Many shops and businesses will be open, including Crafts A Plenty, The Blue Hearth, Historic Medley's Old Town Hall Bank Museum, and more along the way. Ride the Poolesville Polar Express sponsored by Calleva Farms from *Whalen Commons to the old center of town*. Visit the Old Town Hall Bank Museum for gingerbread decorating and the New Town Hall for shopping with local crafters and artists, plus enjoy the sights and sounds of the JPMS Christmas tree and music singers and players.

December 4, 5, and 6

#### Countryside Artisans Annual Holiday Tour

Give the wonderful gift of art this Christmas. Twelve artisan and crafter studios representing over forty artists and an award-winning vineyard open their studios for a self-guided tour. December 11 to 13 is also a tour weekend. Get official brochure and maps at [www.countrysideartisans.com](http://www.countrysideartisans.com). Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday: noon to 5:00 p.m.

December 5

#### UMCVFD Santa Breakfast

All you can eat: Juice, pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, coffee, and fruit salad. Bring kids early to have time to see the model train layout and the movie *Santa Claus Is Coming to Town*. Contributions to Toys for Tots welcome. *UMCVFD Fire Hall in Beallsville*. Twelve and over: \$8.00; 3 to 11: \$6.00; under 3 is free. 8:00 a.m. to noon.

#### Odd Fellows Christmas Dinner

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Poolesville Lodge 97, is once again hosting its annual Christmas dinner for seniors, widows, widowers, and orphans. If you have plans to attend, they would appreciate your RSVP by November 26. You may call Richard Norwood at 301-943-6845 or Spencer Schmidt at 301-349-2057. *Poolesville's Memorial United Methodist Church*. Noon to 3:30 p.m.

December 8

#### Rural Republican Women's Club

*Christmas Party*. *Bassett's*. 12:00 p.m.

December 9

#### PASC Events

*Tai chi*. 17750 W. Willard Road. 10:30 a.m.

*Zumba Gold*. 17750 W. Willard Road. 1:00 p.m.

*Christmas Craft Day*. 17750 W. Willard Road (in café). 1:00 p.m.

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Best of show wins \$50 bar tab.  
**December 9** - Poolesville's Holiday Hay Ride—  
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## Tidbits

### Poolesville Man Sets Record in English Channel Swim

By Rande Davis

It's not every day that someone from Poolesville makes the cover of the *Washington Post Magazine*. For local lawyer, Jim Clifford, one might say he got there the hard way, breaking the time record for persons over fifty years of age in swimming the English Channel.

We reported last October on Clifford's record-setting swim of the Catalina Channel in California with a time of 9:49.20 for the twenty-mile (as the crow flies) stretch, although winds and waves can lengthen the actual swim. In June a year earlier, he completed the Manhattan Island marathon (28.2 miles) swim. With two parts of the Open Water Triple complete, he began a year of training for the English Channel. Rules in swimming require that there is no physical contact by the swimmer with any boat or other person. How hard was the swim? According to the article by writer David O. Stewart, crossing the twenty-one-mile channel takes forty thousand over-hand strokes. He broke the over-fifty record by doing it in ten hours and three minutes. The amazing story is beautifully told in the November 8 issue of the *Washington Post Magazine*. Be sure to read it and be sure to congratulate him—and, hey Jim, if you promise to give the *Monocle* the scoop next time, we promise to put your photo on the front page, too.

### Hardwick Wins Gold Medal

Congratulations to Sam Hardwick for winning the gold medal in the division competition in the Special Olympics Maryland State Games. He now advances to the state competition in December.

### Monocacy Lions Celebrate 75th Anniversary

A gala dinner commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Monocacy Lions Club was held at Dutch's Daughter restaurant in Frederick. King Lion Josh Maisel hosted the event that recognized a number of persons with honors for their work and dedication.

Ed Brown, who has been a member of the club for seventy-three years, was recognized as its longest-serving member, and former International Director Joe Gaffigan, representing the International Lions organization, awarded Mr. Brown a special certificate and pin as the longest-serving Lion in the world. There are four million members of the Lions Clubs throughout the world. De Willard was also cited for his fifty-three years of membership.

Lion William Price received the Lion's highest honor in being named the 2015 Melvin Jones Award honoree. Melvin Jones founded the Lions Clubs in 1938. Price was selected for his multitude of voluntary contributions over twenty-nine years of membership.

Also receiving recognition was John Clayton who was awarded the Lion of the Year's award for his high degree of volunteerism over his thirteen years of service, and Dick Franklin for the Lion of the Year.

Ray Hoewing received the Lion's 2015 Humanitarian Award for his many volunteer contributions to the community, including his current position on the Board of Directors of WUMCO, cofounder of Helping Hands, past member of the PACC Board of Directors, and past president of PES and PHS Parent-Teacher Associations. This award recognizes a person in the community of service who is not a member of the Lions Club.

### Poolesville High School Ranked First in County SATs

*Bethesda Magazine* ranked the top fifteen Montgomery County public schools for average SAT scores. Poolesville High School came in first with an average score of 1886 broken down by: Critical Reading – 630, Mathematics – 651, and Writing – 606. Last year, PHS was ranked second.

### Maybe They Should Open Their Own Hospital!

The following note from past PHS Magnet graduates, Katherine Tran (Science, Math, and Computer Science [SMCS] House), Renuka Tripu (SMCS), Sanjay Chainani (Global), Wesley Chan (Humanities), Siobhan Kibbey (Humanities), to Billie Bradshaw tells of their appreciation for PHS teachers and staff.

Dear Mrs. Bradshaw,

*We hope you and all things at PHS have been well! Renuka Tripu and I ran into you at last year's alumni day, and we might have mentioned that we had been accepted to UMD's School of Medicine. We are now in the midst of our first year with three other students from the PHS magnet program Class of 2011. We wanted to pass along the attached photo from our White Coat Ceremony that we had last week, which symbolized our completion of our anatomy course and the start of our path to becoming physicians. We also wanted to thank you and the great staff at PHS for all your support and guidance during our time there. We wouldn't be where we are now without you all.*

*If you could pass this along to the magnet departments and Ms. Hillard as well (who used to help out with eighth period/study hall), that would be wonderful!*

*Thank you again for all that you do!*



PHS magnet graduates: Katherine Tran (SMCS), Renuka Tripu (SMCS), Sanjay Chainani (Global), Wesley Chan (Humanities), Siobhan Kibbey (Humanities), UMD School of Medicine, Class of 2019

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# THE LIONS 75<sup>TH</sup> CHARTER NIGHT CELEBRATION



Ed Brown received special recognition from past Lions Clubs International director Joe Gaffigan for being the longest serving Lion in the worldwide organization.



King Lion Josh Maisel presented William Price (right) with the Lions Clubs' highest honor, the Melvin Jones Award. Jones founded the Lions Clubs in 1917.



Dick Franklin was honored as the 2015 Monocacy Lion of the Year.



John Clayton received the 2105 Lion of the Years award.



King Lion Josh Maisel presented Ray Hoewing with the Monocacy Lions Club Humanitarian of the Year award, given to an individual from the community who is not a member of the Lions.

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Service

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**December 11, 12, and 13**

Continued from page 4.

**How Important Is Thanksgiving Day?**

to be made each and every day, and, with that being understood, the second angle emerged encouraging me to make the right choice, to be positive. The third angle was that the pin was also a reminder that the positive sign is always shown above the negative sign; it's always on top—and as a businessperson, I wanted to be on top. More importantly, though, I wore the pin for a very, very personal reason, as it was also a reminder for me of the most profoundly-positive message ever delivered, a message delivered by another kind of positive sign, the cross of Christ, that there is life after death.

The pin eventually gave way to being a logo for my company, but I also had gold rings made with that symbol engraved on them and gave one to my wife and daughters to remind them to stay positive. All this brings me back to my original assertion that Thanksgiving Day is essential to a healthy society. Let me put it this way: If I had an Aladdin's lamp and could wish only one thing to give my children and loved ones, it would be this: a grateful heart. The key of gratitude unlocks all the great secrets of life: love, joy, happiness, and hope. To remember to be grateful every day results in a positive attitude. Through a collective positive attitude, a society can unite, not splinter as from negativism. Such a manifestation needs to start somewhere, and it might as well be Thanksgiving Day. Why don't the other countries get that?

Continued from page 4.

**Digital World**

be to pull the plug. Where would we be then? I think the answer is about 1870 but without enough horses to go around. Think about it—I have.

As a closing note, I meant what I said last issue about being done with debates, and I didn't watch either over the last couple of weeks, although I read about them a lot since then. The closest I would come to politics today would be a Thanksgiving note of gratitude that our governor, Larry Hogan, has been declared cancer-free. I cannot imagine what weeks of intense chemotherapy must be like, but he did it and says he is on the rebound. In this time of high-profile horror and violence around the world, it is good to be thankful for the good things that happen as well, so Happy Thanksgiving from all of us to all of you.



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**TOWN OF POOLESVILLE  
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Commissioners of Poolesville will hold Public Hearings on December 7, 2015 at 7:30 PM, Poolesville Town Hall, 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland for the purpose of receiving public comments on Charter Resolutions No. 001-15 (Sec. 82.18) to amend the Borrowing Power of the Commissioners. Copies of this proposed charter amendment are available at Town Hall and on our website at [www.poolesvillemd.gov](http://www.poolesvillemd.gov).

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## School News

### Barnesville School Recycling Rummage Items

By Anne Hundertmark

The Barnesville School of the Arts & Sciences was certified as a Maryland Green School by the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education for demonstrating achievement in curriculum and instruction, community partnerships, and best management practices. The school has been involved with many forms of activities that coincide with this mission. The most recent being the Barnesville Basement, a large sale in the school's gymnasium of donated items sold for low prices. The sale usually has a large turnout and is able to find homes for many of its donated items for sale. Once the doors are closed on the final sale day, the gymnasium is still filled with unwanted books, clothes, and used electronics.

respective charities that would benefit most from them. These charities included Cornerstone Montgomery, Rukundo International, Frameworks for Families, Wheel of Hope, Salvation Army, and Frederick Rescue Mission.

Through this donation and community outreach, the Barnesville School is preventing old items from going to a landfill while also providing needy families with belongings to which they normally wouldn't have access.

After the sale had finished, Dana Smith, a parent and volunteer for the sale, collaborated with one of the local organizations to provide select unsold items for a family living nearby. The single mother with twin two-year-olds and a new baby were grateful recipients of dressers, a highchair, two bags full of clothing, and children's toys.

"Community service is part of the fabric of our culture here at the Barnesville School of Arts & Sciences. Our students eagerly participate in supporting those in need. In fact, last year, our students contributed 1,014 hours of community service,"

Continued from page 5.

#### Financial Rules in Town Charter

Commission President Jim Brown agreed with the concerns but believed that the coalition was just seeking commission support for the general notion of the formation of the new group and its purpose. Commissioner Brice Halbbrook, who was first approached by those pushing for the new coalition some weeks ago, said he agreed and suggested that he would be willing to be the commission representative to the new coalition once it got off the ground. The commissioners ended the discussion with an agreement to offer general support for the concept of the coalition but to await any definitive actions until receiving a plan and recommendations from the coalition.

The Boy Scouts from Poolesville attended the commission meeting and, during its course, several scouts came forward to ask questions of the commissioners. One asked what the new Green Team would be doing going forward. Town manager Wade Yost said it was developing a strategic plan, but among the ideas being considered was a proposal for an Arbor Day; a new water conservation program; a municipal energy audit to identify areas where energy could be saved; and the initiation of a residential energy audit program sponsored by the town.

Another scout came forward to ask why the town's water was often cloudy. Yost explained that the town gets its water from wells, and the water travels through a lot of limestone before it is pumped into town water towers and homes. As a result, it contains a lot of dissolved calcium and is very hard, and dissolved limestone accounts for the fact that the water can sometimes look cloudy. He added that well water—as opposed to river water that supplies most of the rest of the lower county—is very clean. River water contains the waste from waterfowl and fish, chemical runoff, and even poorly treated sewage in some locations. As a result, it is very difficult to clean.

In his report, Yost said that the town's holiday lights were already being installed by town employees, a process that can take about two weeks to complete. He also reported that he has been in constant contact with the State Department of Transportation to try to find ways to improve the visibility of the pedestrian crosswalks along Fisher Avenue, especially near Whalen Commons. He said improved signage and brightly-lit warning notices were proposed but rejected by the DOT, so he approached the county's state house delegation to encourage them to get engaged in the effort.



The eighth grade class of the Barnesville School of the Arts & Sciences holding posters for each of the charities receiving donations.

This year, the school took a different approach regarding these unsold items and what to do with them. On the day after the sale, the Barnesville School's students organized and sorted through the remaining items to donate to

Susanne Johnson, Barnesville's Head of School, mentioned. "Community Service is such a priority for character development in our students that we have recently applied to be a certified Presidential Service Award organization."



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## Youth Sports

### PHS Fall Playoff Wrap

By Jeff Stuart

In the final outdoor home play-off game of the fall season on November 4, the Poolesville girls' soccer team (9-5) defeated Middletown, 2-0, to advance to the region final. A Falcon goal by Izzy Durkin, assisted by Kat Creedon, with nine minutes left in the second half gave the Falcons a 1-0 lead. Coming from directly in front of the goal and about twenty yards out, it soared over the Middletown goalkeeper and into the back of the net. It put the crowd into a celebratory mood. A few moments later, Poolesville threatened again as Karen Comfort hit the crossbar. That was followed shortly by another Falcon goal by Creedon off a free kick from about thirty yards out. On defense, Creedon chased down Middletown forwards the whole game.

"Early on, we didn't play too well," said goalkeeper Kristen Darragh. "They were really much more aggressive than [we were]. We didn't really step up to the plate.

Probably about ten minutes in, we started to break down their defense."

Early in the game Kristen was challenged by and collided with a Middletown player approaching the goal. The Middletown player emphatically lost that encounter and the ball. "I pretty much knew I had it, but she just kept coming so I had to protect myself." Kristen also stopped a direct kick early in the game, a key moment. "I thought it was probably going out, but I decided to dive for it anyway. Apparently, it was going in. I saw the other girls running, so I got up quick and smothered it. It was awesome when we finally scored. That was crazy. It was an easy shot by Izzy. I thought we were going to have to deal with overtime like the last game. Last year, we felt more confident coming into the playoffs with twelve wins. With injuries and other things, we were not as confident this time, but we made it to the region final.

In the first playoff game at Oakdale they scored first. That shot got under me. Less than ten minutes later, Alice Walker scored on a great goal. About ten minutes into the overtime, Karen scored on a great shot right into the corner. When you give

**Continued on page 15.**

## OUR LADY OF THE PRESENTATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

### Christmas Tree Sales Times:

- Friday Dec. 4    Hours: 4 to 8 p.m.
- Sat. Dec. 5     Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Sun. Dec. 6     Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Friday Dec. 11   Hours: 4 to 8 p.m.
- Sat. Dec. 12     Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Sun. Dec. 13     Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.



## Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

### Present Crime

Assault with a dangerous weapon: 17000 block of Tom Fox Avenue.

**Burglary:** 15900 block of River Road.

### Past Crime

**November 23, 1910** Hundreds of fox hunters assembled at Dawsonville for the annual fox hunting trials. They intended to camp there until morning when the hunting would commence. Sheriff Viett dispatched two of his deputies to watch over the crowd because it was known that liquor was being consumed in volume and that gambling was occurring.

**December 4, 1910** A man named Otto Linaweaver was found guilty of perjury by a jury at Rockville and sentenced to ninety days in jail. It seems that Linaweaver swore under oath that his name was Linamona when applying for a marriage license a few weeks before. Linaweaver had appeared in Craigsville, Virginia and had set up shop as a clairvoyant and a palm

reader. He attended church and revival services and had developed a good reputation. In the meantime, he had struck up a friendship with Miss Lephia Buchanan and was allowed to see her at home. One day they disappeared, and the girl's father tracked them to Rockville where he learned that she had married Linaweaver, aka Linamona. The sheriff got involved and found both husband and wife living together and his investigation led to the perjury charge. Miss Buchanan was taken back to Virginia by her father.

In other court action that day, Horace Ricketts, a young man of Rockville, was fined \$25 after being convicted of an assault on Joanna Mills, an aged woman of about sixty-five. Ricketts had knocked down Mrs. Mills, fracturing her arm. The jury recommended mercy.

In the area of Darnestown, John Yutzy was hunting when his shotgun accidentally discharged, badly mangling his arm.

**December 5, 1910** After searching for him for five months, Sheriff Viett arrested Oscar Poole in the vicinity of Leesburg, Virginia. Poole was wanted for shooting and killing a heifer belonging to William Waters of Germantown. Alexander Gorham of Germantown had previously been arrested in this case.

**December 6, 1910** A jury at Rockville returned a verdict of guilty in a case where Harrison Flynn was accused of stealing a horse from his brother Thomas Flynn of Cedar Grove. Harrison had been arrested in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania with the horse. He testified that since the horse belonged to his own brother, he thought that he had the right to ride it. Other evidence presented proved that while in Chambersburg, Harrison had used an assumed name.

**December 11, 1910** Court was again in session, and, on this day, a jury found Raymond Jenkins guilty of burglary and assault. A few weeks before, Jenkins had entered the home of James Devine at Germantown. He crawled along the floor and awakened the young son of Devine. Devine then saw that Jenkins was armed with a razor, so he fired a shotgun blast at the intruder as he jumped out of a window. A day later, Jenkins showed up at a Washington hospital seeking treatment, and the sheriff was notified. Jenkins confessed to the crime and implicated two of his friends.

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Continued from page 13.

**PHS Fall Playoff Wrap**

up an early goal like that, you realize that it is partially your fault, but there was a lot of game left, and I have to be the loudest person on the field because if I get down, then everyone else will get down."

"It was kind of a shock when Izzy scored," said senior Abby Beeler. "It was pretty even, and then the corner, and we finished it off. I was kind of hoping we would win the game, but that made it real. Last year we had a much more solid record and it didn't work out. We were really psyched for our first playoff game this year."

On Monday, November 2, in the Class 2A West Section final, the Falcons' field hockey team dominated Damascus, taking a 2-0 win on goals by Haley Harkins and Samme Mullikin, but on November 4, PHS, last year's 2A West champs were defeated by Middletown.

Thanks in large part to Casey and Haley Harkins, Poolesville possessed the ball better than Middletown in the early stages of the first half. In the second half, the Falcons had three corners over a three-minute span and five overall. Casey Harkins's hard blast from the top of the circle was Poolesville's best scoring opportunity.

The Falcons were awarded a corner with thirty seconds remaining, and the clock ticked down to about ten

seconds before a pass made its way toward three Poolesville players near the top of the circle in front of the goal as time expired.

At last Thursday's Class 3A West Region competition, the cross country girls ran away with a region title with a twenty-eight-point margin. Top-ten finishers were freshman Nandini Satsangi (third place), and seniors Fiona Whitefield (eighth place) and Alesya Sarakhman (ninth place).

The Falcons' football team ended their season at 5-5 on Friday, November 6 with a 21-14 win over Blake. Down 6-0 early, the Falcons took a 14-6 halftime lead on a two-yard touchdown run by Jonathan Hetrick and a fifteen-yard pass from quarterback Daniel Cho to wide receiver Jake Armstrong. The Falcons took the lead for good with less than two minutes left on Hetrick's one-yard run. Defensively, the Falcons got a fumble recovery from Travis Zinn and interceptions by Glenn Mandere and Trey Willis.

With a solid-all-around performance, the PHS girls' volleyball team advanced to the region final with a straight-set victory over visiting Oakdale. Despite being behind early, the Falcons, with the serving of Shirley Wolz and Emily Benedict and key blocks and kills by Caroline Leng, won the first set, 25-19. They fell behind in the second set as well, before winning, 25-21. The Falcons dominated the third set, 25-12.



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Continued from page 1.

**Class of 2016 Sets Record for Most Athletic Scholarships**

Funk has worked with the boys ever since their early years and has watched them "grow into the good young men and athletes they are and is excited to watch them play at the collegiate level."

*The scholarship awardees are:*

**Jake Armstrong** (parents Sharon Sexton and Tom Armstrong) is the younger brother of Funk and will play lacrosse for University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). He is a Global Ecology student at PHS and will be majoring in finance/economics.

**Adam Branscome** (parents Cliff and Donna Branscome) has accepted an offer to play for Belmont Abbey, North Carolina. An Independent Studies student at PHS, he will major in business management.

**Kristin Darragh** will be playing soccer at Liberty University and is a Global Ecology student at PHS and hopes to major in public health. She was honored recently to be selected All-Metropolitan goalkeeper.

**Casey Harkins** will play lacrosse for American University and is considering a major in early childhood development.

**Jon Hetrick** (parents Pam and Joe Hetrick) will play lacrosse at UMBC and has not decided on his major yet.

**Christina Hilton** (parents Woody and Lisa Hilton), sister of PHS coach Brittany Hilton, will be playing lacrosse at York College where she will major in engineering management.

**Reid Patton** (parents Audrey and Keith Patton) will play lacrosse for Lenoir-Rhyne University and will major in business management and entrepreneur program.



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## Remembrance

### Dorothy E. Roberts

Dorothy E. Roberts, 93, of Boyds, died on November 3, 2015. She was the wife of the late George L. Roberts who predeceased her in 1997.

Born on March 19, 1922, she was the daughter of the late William and Marie (Bennett) Nichols.

Dorothy was a member of the Germantown Baptist Church in Germantown. Surviving are her children, Judy Connelly and husband Ralph of Boyds, Rose Marie Gordon of Marion, Virginia, and George Roberts, Jr. and wife Anna of Smithsburg, Maryland; grandchildren, Keith Connelly and wife Kathy of McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania, Bruce Connelly and wife Beverly of Clarksburg, Ronnie Gordon of Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania, Rusty Gordon of Marion, Virginia, and Rachel Enfield and husband JR of Kingsport, Tennessee; one sister, Betty Stern of Hagerstown; and twelve great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Dorothy was also preceded in death by one granddaughter, Anita Roberts. Interment was in Darnestown Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Germantown Baptist Church, 17640 Riffleford Road, Germantown, MD 20874.



Dorothy E. Roberts

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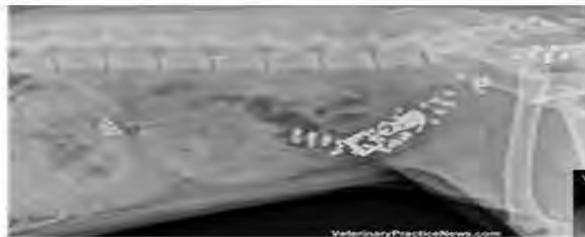
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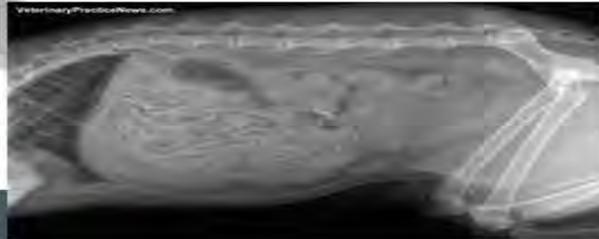
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Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF, FASLMS



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A 1yr. old DSH ate more than 30 hair ties and other string-like objects.



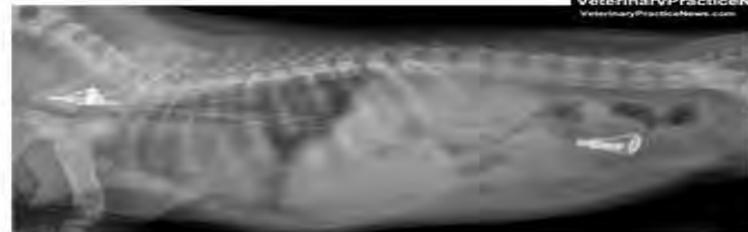
Pretty obvious what this 4yr. old mixed breed ate.



A 6-month-old male black Labrador Retriever ate a door hinge.



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