

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

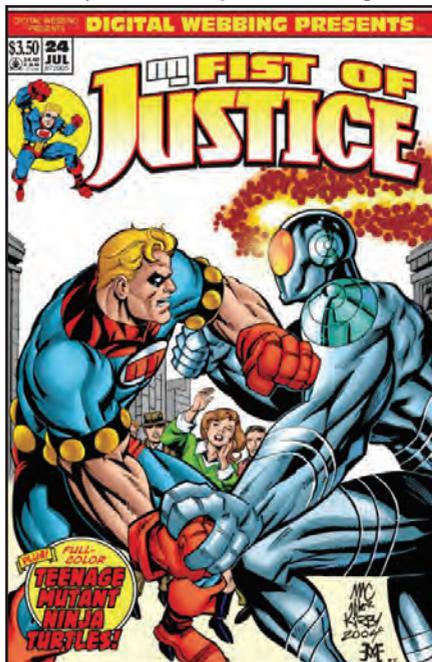
July 22, 2005

Volume 2, Number 10

Inside the Monocle



Swim for Sarah update on Page 23.



Just another day in Adamstown. See Center Stage, on Page 21.



Yo. The complete "Sandy Spring Bank Robbery" is on Page 10.



PBA Summer Camp Counselors. See Sports on Page 24.



It's all about salt. See In the Garden on Page 13.

Can the Symbol of a Town Be Saved?

By Rande Davis

The town fathers and employees gathered on the front steps of the Poolesville National Bank for a group picture when it first opened its doors in 1908. Nearly one hundred years later, the old bank that became the town hall has evolved from its commercial roots to become the symbol of the village.

When the open space on the first floor and the second floor balcony were reconstructed for office space, the town was able to use it as its center of government for many years. The growth of the town and the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) have rendered the building seemingly obsolete for town use today.

There is a consensus among the commissioners that town residents would like to see the building remain, but the cost of maintenance and repair has become harder to justify since the only viable use of the building to the town today is for storage.

The issue of the building has repeatedly come before the commission, particularly at budget time. The town government has officially stated that it could place cosmetic covenants on the facade of the building so that its iconic role could continue. The problem is that no public or private proposal thus far has been acceptable. Recent

unsolicited proposals have not been fully investigated or analyzed by the commission.

Suggestions to use it as an information center, tourist site, or local museum have been at the top of the list of possible uses, but issues relating to accessibility to persons with disabilities and inadequate parking spaces appear to be preventing progress in that direction.

Town Commission president, Ed Kuhlman, voiced his frustration that no viable solution to the costly maintenance situation has been found. He made a public appeal to concerned citizens to come forward with any suggestions that might prove a viable solution to the town's dilemma.

The August 8 town meeting will invite public discussion and recommendations on the future of the old town hall.



The newly opened Poolesville National Bank.

Into the Forrest Primeval

By Dominique Agnew

Forrest Meader did not set out to be an artist—really. In fact, he may have resisted it to some extent because his older brother, Abbott, was involved with art; but an artist he is, and through his travels back and forth across the U.S., art has meandered along with him.

Born in Brooklyn, New York to parents from Maine, Forrest does not necessarily call himself a New Yorker. Every June during his childhood, the family packed up and went to his small hometown in Maine for the summer. There, he would reunite with both sets of grandparents, cousins, and friends. "We came home every summer," Forrest fondly recalls. To the people of the town, the Meaders weren't considered tourists or summer people, they were considered Mainers who lived in New York.

Early in his life, Forrest became interested in American Indians. He credits his mother with always en-

couraging all of his and his brother's interests. While Abbott was busy with various drawing classes and art classes, Mrs. Meader supplied Forrest with books on American Indians or whatever their interests might be, and he kept busy with crafts and making things. In his high school in New York, students could "major" in something, receiving an emphasis in that subject. Forrest was asked if he wanted to major in art, but he declined because Abbott had majored in art, and he was already being compared to Abbott.

Forrest received his college degrees in anthropology, his undergraduate from the University of Maine, and his graduate degree from the University of Arizona, with a concentration in the art of non-Europeans, as it was called. During these



Forrest Meader with his piece of the Wye Oak.

—Continued on Page 16.

Family Album

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The UMCVFD fireworks were spectacular.



Members of five area churches celebrate an evening service at Whalen Commons. Participating churches were Our Lady of the Presentation, Poolesville Memorial Methodist, St. Peter's Parish, Poolesville Presbyterian, and Hosanna Worship Center.



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In the Garden

An Island Worth Its Salt — Saint-Martin-De-Ré. Île De Ré, France

By Maureen O'Connell

On July fourth my husband, daughter and I left the crowded, noisy streets of London behind and boarded a plane for a short one hour ride to La Rochelle, France, which lies halfway down the Atlantic coast between Nantes and Bordeaux. We were on our way to Île de Ré, a small island off the French coast and light years away from London and Monocacy Country. Connected to the mainland by an artfully curved bridge, Ré is an island tailored to human proportions. It stretches out over a length of thirty kilometres but is only five kilometres at its widest point. The construction of the bridge in 1988 affected the life of the island in many ways. It made access easier for the year-round residents and owners of holiday homes, but it also opened the path for more cars and developers with visions of house-building. These are global issues; we face the same dilemmas in Monocacy Country. Do we grow more homes or more hay? In France, thanks to the foresight of local politicians, protective measures in the form of safeguards were set up to preserve the delicate balance that makes the Île de Ré such a delightful place. This brings to mind, "Congratulations Montgomery County 25th Anniversary Agricultural Preserve."

Our home for the next week was La Baronnie. I would not describe it as a hotel. It is the home of Pierre and Florence Pallidary, who lovingly restored it and now offers its five bedrooms and two suites for stay. It has a most fascinating history.

In 1400 the Lords of the island Ré accepted the sovereignty of the rule of the Kings of France. The capital town of the Barony of Ré was Saint Martin. The town's castle stood on the present location of La Baronnie. It was built between 1712 and 1721 on the foundation of the previous 12 century castle. It was owned through the early years by many great names of French history. In 1785 it was acquired by Louis XVI with the French Revolution. It became in 1791 a National Property. Over the next several hundred years, it passed through the hands of many

owners. In 1996 Pierre and Florence Pallidary bought La Baronnie and restored it to its former glory. Located just 100 metres from the town port, one's first sight of this garden oasis is through heavy blue louvered doors and down a narrow path scented with honeysuckle, mint, lavender, jasmine and oleander. One arrives at a cobbled courtyard ablaze with pink, white and scarlet geraniums, roses and hydrangeas. Beyond the courtyard and through the honey-coloured walls of the dining room, one comes to the lovely, peaceful stone-walled garden. It quietly nurtures geraniums, pink oleanders, azure blue agapanthus, white calla lilies, rose hydrangeas and spicy rosemary. I am writing this article in the garden on the Lutyens teak bench in front of the pink oleander.

At La Baronnie one can be regular guest or partake of a Wellness Holiday. Mr. Pallidary is an internationally known osteopath and dietician. He specializes in back-pain, slimming, stress and sleeping problems. I found that just being at this relaxing spot of a "secret garden" was a hundred steps to serenity. It is amazing how well one sleeps when one is truly relaxed. *C'est la vie à La Baronnie.*

Ré, this tiny piece of land, possesses a varied coastline, with the largest beaches along the southern coast and yachting harbours on the sheltered northern side. It is home to 16,000 islanders who live there year-round. Many people from France and England have holiday homes here. August is the most popular vacation month for Europeans, so when I visited in early July, there were relatively few tourists.

Once upon a time the island known today as Ré was four small islands. Around 5000 B.C., as the Ice Age was drawing to a close, four pieces of land were separated from the continent by the rising waters. With the passing centuries, the islands of Ré, Loix and Les Portes were joined together as the channels silted up and dykes were built. Ars, the last of the four, was not joined with the others until the end of the Middle Ages.

Since the 13th century, the island has suffered the consequences of several Franco-English wars. The landscape is dotted with the ruins of fortified walled villages, abbeys, churches and citadels. As far back as this period, Ré made its living by exporting wine and salt. Today the harvesting of salt is an ongoing business. If you shop at Williams Sonoma, you can buy for eight dollars a small

jar of Ré sea salt.

When I knew that my next "In the Garden" article was due when I was to be on the island, I told the *Monocle's* publisher that I would try my best to find something interesting to write about salt, instead of flowers. Well, relatively speaking, the history of salt and its harvesting proved to be quite interesting, and the island is filled with many beautiful flowers. I told my husband that we could join a two hour tour, in French, of a salt marsh. But, *c'est dommage*. When we arrived, the tour had already left.

There is a saying "Being worth's one's salt." Its meaning goes back to the early days of man. While today salt is considered banal, it has played a primordial role in the history of humanity. Through the paleolithic, neolithic, the grand antique civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt and China, the Middle Ages up to the birth of the chemical industries of the 19th century, salt has been a fundamental part of human life. It preserved meats for the nomads, gave flavour for neolithic grain and vegetable gatherers, was used as an antiseptic and was present in medieval medicines and potions.

Salt has been called 'white gold.' In Roman times soldiers were paid in salt. In tropical Africa where the hu-

mid climate made salt rare, one could exchange it for gold pieces. It was a key element of Saharan commerce. In Europe of the XIII to XVIII centuries, salt played a major strategic role during the 'salt wars. During this time, salt was heavily taxed.

Today salt is abundant and available to all. It is either mined or harvested from the crystallization of salt from sea water which has been diverted to marshes. The island has long been associated with salt and wine. In the 17th century, boats exported wine and salt to all parts of Europe. Unfortunately, the second half of the 19th century proved disastrous. A fungus destroyed the vineyards and the salt marshes were ruined by bad weather and competition from imported salt from the east and south of France. After the hard work and determination of a new generation, salt production and the vineyards have been revitalized. In summer, all over the island, you can see small white mounds of salt collected by salt workers in squared off reservoirs. Many years ago donkeys were used to carry satchels of salt from the marshes to the co-ops. In order to protect their legs from the stinging mosquitoes and sharp prickly leaves of the tall grasses,

—Continued on Page 13.

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Rande(m) Thoughts

Norman Rockwell Is Alive and Well—and Living in Poolesville

By Rande Davis

It could not be more perfect. It's an early Sunday evening and the summer temperature is reaching the most comfortable point for the entire day. To the west, a most brilliant, reddish-purple sunset is unfolding in such a way that the skyline is changing every few minutes with one awe-inspiring image after another.

The lawn in front of the bench we are sitting on is freshly manicured, and the smell of grass has a nighttime coolness that is invigorating. This is nature's summer bringing a sense of peace just before the sun finally goes down. The fading of the day is perfect.

But it is not the scene that makes

it perfect. It's the people. There, just a few yards in front of the bench, are over two hundred people. Most have brought their own lawn chairs; others have chosen to lie on a blanket. Some just stand or sit where they are. No one is alone. The people seem to have come in groups of families or friends. The warmth and comfort of each other's company is perfect.

The children are kids at their best—shouting, running, laughing at everything and at nothing at all. One girl, about eight years old, turns cartwheels to the point where I stop counting at fifteen; then she falls deliriously dizzy. There are frisbees, footballs, and rubber balls popping up all over the place. A few boys are riding their bikes a bit too fast on the trail, while some others just enjoy chasing and tagging one another. The kids are perfect.

Then, there are the families. There's a mother and daughter playing catch with a rubber ball, both succeeding

with an awkward two-handed catch. You gotta believe that the girl is thinking how much fun it is and that she wants to be like mom when she grows up. Further away is a dad deftly tipping the football that lies on the ground sharply with his toe in such a way that it seems to explode off the turf right into his hands. He throws a perfect spiral to his son who falls backward as he catches the football to his chest with both hands. You just know the boy is thinking that he wants to be as good as Dad at catching and throwing. The families are perfect.

As people gather, they feast. This night, they drink water from bottles or sodas from cans. Some are sharing a pizza while others eat ice cream cones. The rest are watching as they try to talk themselves out of the joys of such food. The food is sweet or spicy and fattening. For this night, the

food is perfect.

As all of this is unfolding, a band begins to play. Tonight is bluegrass night, and this group is simply as good as it gets. Other times, the band needs some work. Fully professional or simply on the way up, each band, every night, is perfect. Looking closely at each face, the contentment and joy shown is simple but sincere. Most are strangers yet very familiar. Going from face to face, you would not be surprised if suddenly you saw Norman Rockwell. This is the America that is supposedly gone. There is no high-tech, no vulgarity, and most of all, there is no rudeness. For a couple of hours we are back, and we are perfect.

If you are uncertain where we are, then you may be surprised to learn we are at Whalen Commons in Poolesville on Sunday night during the Music in the Park concerts. As

—Continued on Page 6.

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Rande(m) Thoughts Continued
 From Page 5—

nine o'clock comes along, the sky has darkened, the band has thanked the crowd, and the folks are heading home.

The amazing thing is how close we came to not having this moment. The land (valued at about \$300,000) was a gift to the town from one individual. The county and state came up with money to help with the landscaping and the correcting of the water-accumulation problem that had been there as far back as the first part of the 1800s. So how much of the town's budget was spent on this park? It was less than \$250,000. If you think that is too much, than you haven't been to the park on a Sunday night.



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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cucumbers | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potatoes – Red & White | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walla Walla Onions | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jam's, Jellies, Milk, Eggs | |

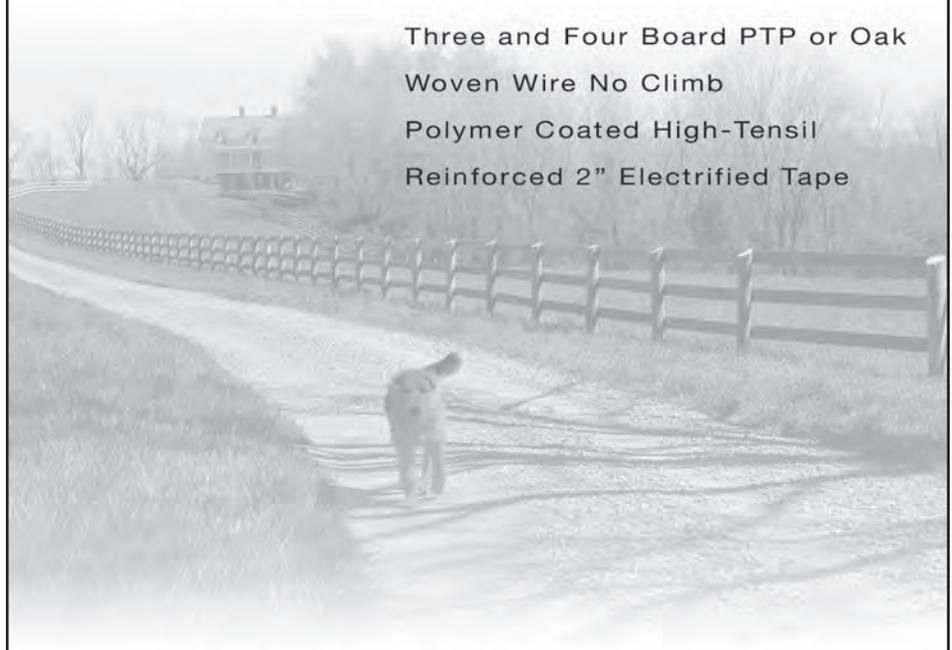


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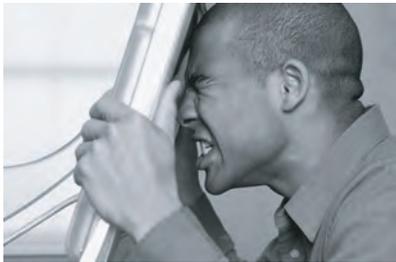
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Local History

Editor's Note (and apology.)

This story appeared in our July 1 issue, but the ending was cut off. The story is presented here in its entirety.

The Great Sandy Spring Bank Robbery

By Jack Toomey

The First National Bank of Sandy Spring was the pride of the community. It had opened its doors in 1868, and within ten years, it had deposits of over one hundred thousand dollars. Years later during the Great Depression, the bank closed for only one day, testifying to the trust that the citizens had in their bank. One spring day in 1920, something happened in Sandy Spring which would forever change the complexion of this sleepy little town, of Montgomery County, and even the state of Maryland.

On Tuesday afternoon, April 27, 1920, farmers were in town to buy seed, others were at the blacksmith's shop, while some bought necessities at the general store. At about 3:00 p.m., a young man strolled into the bank and asked to see a Baltimore telephone directory. He thumbed through the pages and left. No one thought anything about it. A few minutes later, a red Hudson pulled up and parked in front of the bank. Five men got out while one stayed behind the wheel. The men entered the bank, produced pistols, and announced a holdup. Clerks and bank officials were herded towards the rear of the bank. Francis Hallowell, a bank official who was partially deaf stood up from his desk. He apparently expressed some outrage about the robbery and was promptly shot dead by one of the robbers. The clerks and other bank officials were then taken to a meeting room where their hands were tied while the robbers looted the bank of over thirty-seven thousand dollars in cash and securities, an astronomical amount for the time. After gaining the loot, the robbers locked the employees in the vault and left the bank. The car sped off in the direction of Howard County. In the meantime, Mr. Hallowell lay dead on the floor for about fifteen minutes until another bank official entered the bank and heard the cries of the employees who were locked in the vault. Someone in the vault shouted that A. D. Farquhar, a former bank official who worked next door, should be called. Mr. Farquhar had remembered the combination

to the safe and was able to free the people inside the vault.

Within minutes, news of the crime spread throughout the town. Those men with automobiles formed a posse and raced off down the Sandy Spring Turnpike in search of the robbers. Sheriff George Nicholson was called and arrived at the bank within minutes. He summoned deputies and put in a call to the Washington, D.C. police for assistance. At about 4:00 p.m., the chief of detectives in Washington received a telephone call informing him of the crime.

He ordered his best detectives to pile into the most powerful machine that the department owned, and within forty-five minutes, seven detectives from Washington had arrived at the bank. One of them, Detective Jett, brought a German luger pistol with him. He had taken it off the body of a German soldier in France and exclaimed that he hoped to shoot it out with the robbers if he encountered them. Dr. J. W. Bird who had been brought to the bank to attend to Mr. Hallowell helped in the crime scene search. He dug a bullet out of the floor and turned it over to one of the Washington detectives. Since it was thought that the robbers were "big city men," assistance was also sought from the Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York City police. Baltimore sent two detectives to Montgomery County to assist in the investigation.

The next day, one of the bank officials was out doing his own investigation when he found safe deposit boxes on the banks of the Patuxent River underneath Snell's Bridge. They had apparently been thrown over the bridge by the escaping robbers. A resident of Sandy Spring, one in Sunshine, and another in Highland, all were located and reported seeing the red Hudson speeding through their towns at a high rate of speed. Two of them were able to make out four letters of the license tag which was determined to be from Pennsylvania. Later, it was learned that a farmer east of Sunshine had been asked to pull a red Hudson, with several occupants, out of a ditch with his team of horses.

The county commissioners offered a five thousand dollar reward

for the capture of the robbers, but this decision was criticized by the out of town police because they feared that it would attract amateur detectives who were quite common in those days. They appointed Sheriff's Deputy Vielt as the detective in charge of the case.

On May first the Hudson getaway car was found abandoned in York, Pennsylvania. It had been stolen in Baltimore a few days before the robbery. Inside the car were wrappers from the cash and securities. Other



The First National Bank of Sandy Spring

clues were also found. A schoolboy, playing in the yard of the Sandy Spring School, found an owner's manual for a Hudson car while on recess. He turned it over to his teacher who was un-

aware of its importance until the day after the robbery. Other sleuths, working on their own, discovered a campsite in the woods just east of town. The remains of sardine cans, forks, and knives were all seized and turned over to the police. It was thought at the time that the robbers may have set up camp in the woods before the robbery.

Police in major cities on the east coast were enlisted to help in the investigation. It wasn't long before informants had named several men as suspects in the case. During the next three months, various bank officials who had been present during the robbery traveled to Philadelphia and New York where they identified John Kelley, John Mitchell aka Big Dill, and John Penderghast aka Gun Alan Joe. In all, five men were indicted for the robbery and murder and their trials were transferred to Frederick because of the undercurrent of outrage in Montgomery County.

The trial started on September 30, 1920, and heavy security was in place. Police from Baltimore, Frederick, and Montgomery Counties were used to ring the courthouse and provide security in the courtroom. On October first, this heightened security paid off when a young woman who happened to be the secretary of one of the defense attorneys was caught trying to smuggle a pistol into the courtroom in her purse. During the testimony of Penderghast, the same witness who

had pulled the Hudson out of the ditch with horses was asked to walk to the defendant's dock and touch his shoulder as was the practice of the time. Penderghast cried out, "Don't touch me you (expletive) I will knock your block off."

On October 6, 1920, Clarence Adams and John Mitchell were found guilty of robbery and murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. Penderghast was acquitted. In the meantime, John Kelley, who had escaped from the Baltimore jail, was caught in Toledo, Ohio and brought back to Montgomery County for trial. Upon arrival, alert deputies intercepted a package addressed to Kelley. It contained saw blades. He was also convicted and sentenced to life.

On February 24, 1924, John Mitchell was stabbed to death at the penitentiary in Baltimore by a fellow inmate. On Jan 20, 1925, John Kelley somehow gained possession of a can filled with caustic acid. He blinded a jail guard and tried to escape. During this escape attempt he fell fifty feet to his death.

The story of the Sandy Spring bank robbery does not end here. The shock and outrage that followed the murder of Mr. Hallowell reached all the way to the governor's office. As a direct result of this crime, Governor Ritchie recruited former servicemen who had recently returned from World War I and formed the Maryland State Patrol which was under the control of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. Their numbers were increased by hiring deputy sheriffs from all over the state. They had jurisdiction to enforce traffic laws and investigate criminal matters throughout the state.

By 1922, when the crime wave that followed World War I became rampant, the commissioners of Montgomery County, not to be outdone by the state and under pressure from citizens, voted to form a county police force. An act of the General Assembly gave them this authority. Constables from the six election districts were recruited and sworn in as police officers, and the Montgomery County Police Department was formed on July 4, 1922.

Francis Hallowell lies in the cemetery of the Friends Meeting House in Sandy Spring. His legacy will always be that his untimely death at the hands of gangsters led to the formation of the Maryland State Police and the Montgomery County Police Department.

Remembrance Writer, POW, and Local Politician, Gene Halmos Passes Away

By Rande Davis

It was fitting that Eugene E. Halmos made his last visit to Poolesville on the 60th anniversary of V-E day this past spring—fitting because Mr. Halmos was a warrior in his own right both literally and figuratively.

A World War II veteran in the army air corps, he was a navigator who was forced to bail out of his plane over Holland during a bombing raid in 1944. He consequently became a prisoner of war for ten months. At that point in his life, Mr. Halmos had been a journalist for nearly ten years, and by using those skills, he kept a personal diary that became the foundation for a book about that experience entitled *The Wrong Side of the*

Fence (1996, White Mane Publishing Co.).

Mr. Halmos and his wife, Ann, moved to Poolesville in 1961, buying a historic home in Poolesville across from the Presbyterian Church where he was a member and an elder. He was also a member of the American Legion, the

Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Monocacy Lions Club.

Upon his arrival, he quickly became involved in local politics, eventually being elected to the town commission where he also served as the town's mayor. Mr. Halmos's service to the town was

during the time that the first water and sewer systems were introduced and when much of the development in Wesmond and Westerly took place.

A member of the National Press Club for almost fifty years, he was the author of a number of books and published articles in the field of engineering. Mr. Halmos owned and edited the *Western Montgomery Bulletin* for eight years.

Halmos Park derives its name as a tribute to the years of his service to the town.

Our last memory of Mr. Halmos was while he sat in his wheelchair in Whalen Commons surrounded by nearly a dozen friends and helpers a few months ago. While his conversation was minimized, it was apparent to all that he was most pleased to be in the center of the town, his home for nearly half of his eighty-eight years of life.



This 1974 picture shows Mayor Gene Halmos supervising the grand opening of the new telephone company switchboard facility next to the Post Office. Pictured left to right are: Commissioner Frank Wilson, Phone company executive, Mayor Halmos, his wife Ann, Dots Elgin and commissioner Charles Elgin, Betty Jean Selby, and Commissioner Roy Selby.

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Take advantage of our **free trial membership** that comes with **two private sessions** with a certified personal trainer. We'll design an exercise program that's right for you, one that will help you get in shape for all of those things you want to do this summer.

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"I'm in better shape... and my back pain's gone!"

We've all heard the old line, "no pain... no gain." But sometimes when you've got a pain, exercising and improving your level of fitness can be a big, big help.

In fact, you could summarize the results like this: "No pain, lots of gain!" All it takes is a little commitment and remembering that you have a right to take a little time for yourself.

Here's what Poolesville resident and Healthworks member Richard Polak says: *"Many years ago, I ruptured a disk in my back that left me with chronic back pain."*

"I had to take prescription medication several times a year to treat flare-ups. Then, in 1995, Healthworks opened in Poolesville. I had never been a member of a gym in the past, but this was so convenient, I joined as soon as I learned about it."

"I started lifting weights, stretching and taking the aerobic classes. After three to four months, I realized that not only was I in better shape, but my back pain was no longer a problem. To this day, I continue to workout at Healthworks and I am still pain free."



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Salt Continued From Page 4—

the donkeys were outfitted in brightly coloured culottes or pants. Today, they no longer work in the salt marshes, but they can be seen grazing in the fields along side goats and Percheron horses. Unlike donkeys in the U.S., they are extremely fuzzy and long haired.

Ré is a paradise for cyclists. It is criss-crossed with 100 kilometres of flat biking paths. I spent a beautiful, cool, blue-sky afternoon pedalling through fields of vineyards, potatoes, and salt marshes, with wonderful ocean views.

In the summer, Ré is an island of flowers. Despite the sometimes violent winds, the salt sea air, and the blustery winters, many flowering plants have learned to adapt. Upon entering the island, your eyes are struck by the

sight of hollyhocks, everywhere, in shades of pink, rose, white and yellow. They thrive in small backyard gardens, along the roadside and in nooks and crannies everywhere. Along side of them, seemingly growing wild, are scarlet fuchsia, long violet stretches of lavender, pungent rosemary, char-treuse euphorbia, agapanthus, sage, daisies, rudbeckia, fuchsia, daylilies and bleeding heart.

Of all the beautiful flowers on the island, I will long remember the miles of hollyhocks. The next time you are in France, take a detour to this enchanting little island. It is a mini Nantucket. Oh, and next time you are at a friend's dinner party, see how close you are seated to the salt; if you are "worth it", you will be seated "above the salt."



Things to Do

July 22

Book Discussion Group
Poolesville Library
When Pride Still Mattered: Vince Lombardi Story. 7:00 p.m.

July 24

Music in the Park
Village Jazz Band. Whalen Commons-Poolesville 7:00 p.m. Free

Summer Concert Series

Baker Park – Frederick Band: Stick-time: Classic Rock. Admission: Canned Food. 7:00 p.m.

July 25-29

VBS Barnesville Baptist Church
Ramblin' Roads: Which Way Do I Go? 6:30 p.m. – 8:30p.m. Info: 301 407 0500

July 27

Swim for Sarah
Community Memorial Fundraiser
Upcounty Pool. Fun, food, silent auction. 5:30 p.m. – 10:00p.m.

July 28

Pre-School Summer Film Festival
Poolesville Library. "A Boy, A Dog, and A Frog." 2:00 p.m.

July 29

Fabulous Wine Tasting
Comus Inn. Contact: David Dantzic
301-349-5100

July 30

St. Mary's Annual Chicken Dinner/Fair.
St. Mary's Pavilion – Barnesville
12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

August 4

Pre-school Program
Poolesville Library. Wild for Sounds: Multi-Cultural Safari. 2:00 p.m.

August 7

Music in the Parks
Banjer Dan. Banjo/Multi-Instruments
Bluegrass/Folk/Rock. 7:00 p.m.

August 11

Pre-School Film Festival
"Little Engine That Could" – others
2:00 p.m.

August 13

Community Yard Sale
Jerusalem Baptist Church
Noon to 4:00 p.m.
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| Scarlet Pearl | July 12 | Blushingstar | Aug. 18 |
| Sugar May | July 14 | Benedicte | Aug. 20 |
| Manon | July 14 | Sugar Giant | Aug. 22 |
| Snowbrite | July 25 | Summer Pearl | Aug. 24 |
| Raritan Rose | Aug. 1 | Lady Nancy | Sept. 5 |
| White Lady | Aug. 5 | Snow King | Sept. 5 |
| Wild Rose | Aug. 8 | White Hale | Sept. 6 |
| Saturn | Aug. 8 | Snow Giant | Sept. 12 |
| Sugar Lady | Aug. 10 | Fallate | Sept. 12 |
| | | Scarlet Snow | Sept. 20 |

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Special Night at the Comus Inn

Join the staff of the newly-remodeled Comus Inn for a fun and informative evening of fine wine. Sommelier David Dantzig will lead a tasting of some of the world's best expressions of Sauvignon Blanc. The evening includes the wine tasting and wonderful hors d'oeuvres. Space is limited so make reservations by calling 301-349-5100. The cost is \$49.00 per person.

Haven't Been to the Big Apple Lately?

You can reserve a spot on the "trip to NYC bus" by calling 240-285-1181. The trip is August 13 and the bus leaves Frederick at 6:00 a.m. returning Frederick by midnight. You will arrive in New York City by 10:00 a.m. and have the day to yourself for shopping, sights, or to see an afternoon Broadway play. Bus tickets are \$45.00 per person.

Bible Camps Are Still Available

The following churches all have openings for their Vacation Bible Schools this summer. All are in the evening and you can call for early sign-up.

Barnesville Baptist Church (July 25-29), 301-407-0500.

Poolesville Baptist Church (July 17-21), 301-972-8151

Poolesville Presbyterian Church (August 9-12), 301-605-6975.

It's Not Too Late to Sign Up for Karate Camp

Mudo USA, a martial arts school in Poolesville thinks so. They will hold their summer camp at their facili-

ties in Poolesville during the last week of July and the first two weeks of August. The summer camp of training includes a program that will improve their students' abilities in concentration, strength, discipline, achievement, confidence, and coordination. The day events start at 10:00 a.m. and run to 2:00 p.m. Call 301-349-4001 for all the details.

Big Yard Sale to Help Jerusalem Baptist Church

Got a lot of great stuff around and need a little extra money? The Jerusalem Baptist Church is having its annual community yard sale on August 13. Why try to get the crowds to your home when they will be going over to Jerusalem Road and you can benefit the church? Call 301-540-5460 now to reserve your space, and, even if you don't want to sell something, it's the bargain place for the summer.

The Town of Poolesville Summer Recreation Program Continues

The annual county recreational program for children six years old to twelve years old continues with daily events in the morning and then again in the afternoon. The cost is

only \$10.00 per child. Every Wednesday from 11:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. will be pool day. The cost is \$4.00 and forms can be obtained through the Poolesville Town Hall.

Summer Sounds in the Park

These will continue in Whalen Commons as part of a series of free concerts that will be presented at three parks throughout Montgomery County (for more information: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec or 240-777-6821), Whalen Park in Poolesville will host the following unique musical presentation:

BanjerDan – August 7, 7:00 p.m. A banjo player/multi-instrumental performer with an Americana mix, rooted in straight-ahead bluegrass, branching through the folk and rock influences to create a unique sound all his own.

Lost Montgomery: A Photography Exhibit by Michael Dwyer

At the Waters House at Pleasant Fields in Germantown, this unique photography exhibit documents Montgomery County's lost architectural heritage with black and white images of buildings in the county that pre-date 1850. Most of these structures

—Continued on Page 20.



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Forrest Meader Continued From Page 1—

years, Forrest became involved in folk music, and this, too, would stay with him through the years. For the next eight to ten years, from the mid-sixties into the early seventies, Forrest was a busy man. Between moving back and forth between the D.C. area (his first wife was a D.C. native) and Tucson, Arizona, Forrest had numerous occupations, frequently concurrently, that included teaching, working for the National Geographic Society, working for the National Park Museum at Harper's Ferry, and organizing folk music festivals such as the Festival of American Folk Life on the Mall in D.C. in 1968 and the U.S. pavilion for the Montreal Summer Fair in the Buckminster Fuller Dome for which he was the assistant director.

In the early 1970s, the music business beckoned. Some of his friends from Tucson had made it in music and were living in L.A. Forrest succinctly describes those years as: "Five or six years of putting your head down and running full steam into a stone wall."

During all those years, he was always making things with his hands—and painting. He had learned that one of the characteristics of primitive art was the use of non-traditional materials. "I realized that what they used was what was available to them," he

explains. Another characteristic that he explained has become evident with the influx of African art into museums is that the pieces are always functional to the original society whether it be in a practical sense or for religious purposes. However, there exists always a sense of awe to non-European art for which Forrest strives. "Is there a way to put materials together to create something that is more than the pieces—something with a spiritual sense to it?" This is Forrest's question for himself. At the same time, Forrest confides, "When I'm working with my materials, I'm not controlling it. I'm not in charge." Also, Forrest simply enjoys the materials themselves. He says, "I paint in oil because I like the smell of turpentine." He likes the feel of paint and the texture of the canvas and the brush.

Painting developed into more than a hobby for Forrest in the late 1970s when it became his primary focus. It was also at this time, after many years of experimenting, that he felt he "started to make things that looked like art." He had some work shown in some small galleries, then began to show more regularly, frequently through an organization begun by Micky Kaplan called L.A. Art. Micky Kaplan came up with the very successful idea of putting art into un-rented space to have shows. They

were like temporary galleries. Because of this, "there's a Beverly Hills plastic surgeon that has one of my paintings."

With the direction his life took towards being a full-time artist (although he never quit the day jobs), he realized that when art is a business, one is constantly trying to be in shows. In 1991, Forrest came back to Maryland. Since then he has been involved in numerous shows, sometimes at Poolesville Day or at Border's, to name just a few. He was a member of the now-disbanded Poolesville Fine Arts League. Presently, he is very involved with the Hyattstown Mill Arts Project which supports the arts through classes, art shows, poetry readings, and a song circle.

Most recently, Forrest was very excited to have been a part of a very special show in Maine entitled *Flora Fauna...Brother Brother*. Last summer, Forrest went to Maine to a reunion. While there, he learned that one of his fraternity brothers and his wife had an art gallery. Forrest and Abbott said to themselves, "Let's go down and see Bob's gallery on the coast." Forrest and Abbott were invited and encouraged to do a show together at the gallery. This was the first time the brothers had ever shown together. The very successful show opened on Memorial Day weekend and just ended June 26.

With his background in primitive art, it is interesting to see how he has incorporated the art of different cultures into his own works. Others of his pieces are abstract studies of color and design. Forrest's captivating paintings will be part of a show the Hyattstown Mill Arts Project has at the BlackRock Center for the Arts until August 12. He also has a website www.ForrestMeader.com. The site includes a few songs he has composed, the folk music side of him has been the other constant throughout his life. He can be found at open-mike nights here and there in the area.

In the beginning, we made it clear that Forrest is an artist. How do we know? What is the true test to distinguishing the Artiste from the wannabe? We shall let you in on the True Artist Test. Last year, the Wye Oak, that oldest, greatest oak in Maryland came down. A call was sent out. On a certain weekend in May, artists could come out and get a piece of the oak to use in their artwork. On a different weekend in June, non-artists could also receive a piece. Forrest called the people in charge and asked how they would know that people arriving on the May weekend were artists and not impostors. The reply was that if they came in May, they must be artists. Forrest got his piece of the Wye Oak on the May weekend.

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The Pulse

Church Youth Working Hard To Help Others

Editor's Note: Area teenagers and youth have been busy this summer experiencing the value and personal reward of helping others. The following reports recap summer programs of two churches in Poolesville. We welcome other churches and groups to bring their stories of youth community service to the Monocle.

P2P Mission Trip at United Memorial Methodist Church

P2P: Poolesville to Piketon to Poolesville. That was the name for Memorial United Methodist Church's mission experience. A team of thirty (twenty-two from Memorial Church, eight from extended family and friends) worked on houses of senior citizens and low income residents in the Appalachian community of Piketon, Ohio during the third week of June. The team was comprised of eighteen youths and twelve adults.

The P2P team left Poolesville on Saturday, June 18. On Sunday, they

worshipped at a local church, then toured the worksites, meeting with each homeowner. In the evening, the group began a weeklong study on the theme: "Who Am I?" Team members learned that they had spiritual gifts to share. Following the example of Jesus, team members shared words of caring and acts of compassion.

Days were long: up at 6:30 a.m., devotions and breakfast at 7:00 a.m., at the worksite from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and a ninety-minute study in the evening filled the day.

It was worth it. "We're all learning new things. I've never worked with power tools before. I love it," was how Amanda Lyon phrased it. Team members also developed a bond with their homeowners. Lyon was part of a team that worked on Bessie Carson's house. Carson, 78, lives alone, but spends part of each day babysitting her great-grand children. At her house, the team replaced rotting siding boards and fascia boards, repaired gutters, and painted the house and carport. "I'm thrilled because I knew it needed to be done," adds Carson. "I could've gotten it done some way, but it

would've been hard on me."

As the week closed and the group prepared to return to Poolesville, they were addressed by Piketon Mayor Billy Spencer and T. J. Justice from the Ohio Governor's Office of Appalachia.

Justice presented each team member with a signed certificate of appreciation from Ohio Governor Bob Taft.

P2P was a cooperative effort between state and local government, schools, churches, and community groups. The work was funded by Memorial Church which raised over \$4,000 for the project and the Ohio Governor's Office for Appalachia which supplied a grant of \$6,400 to cover materials used to repair the homes. The homes repaired were selected by the mayor's office of Piketon, Ohio. The Pike County Community Action Committee supplied coordination and building expertise. While in Ohio, the team ate, slept, and showered at Piketon High School. The area vocational school supplied ladders and tools.

St. Peter's Senior High Youth Group's Work Camp 2005

This past June, St. Peter's Episcopal Church's Senior High Youth Group attended a Quaker Work Camp in Washington, D.C. The youth attending camp were Margit Andreassen, Amanda Brown, Jacapo Calderelli (an Italian exchange student), Elaine Clayton, Andrew Collar, David Collar, Michael Foote, and Nick Jankowski. The adult campers were Kevin Collar and Kathy and Bernie Jankowski. The camp was designed and hosted by William Penn House on Capitol Hill. The theme of Quaker Work Camps is "Work is Love Made Visible."

Team members completed more than eighteen hours of service over several days. On Thursday, June 23, they put in a twelve-hour day arriving at Zacchaeus Community Kitchen at 7:30 a.m. to prepare and serve breakfast to a downtown homeless population. Zacchaeus Community Kitchen serves over three hundred meals a day, six days a week, through the

volunteer efforts of the Olive Branch Community, a community that consists largely of formerly homeless individuals.

Throughout the mid-day, the team worked for Food & Friends, a meal delivery service for home-bound patients with terminal illnesses. They loaded up their cars with box lunches for about thirty homes, were given route maps, and delivered the meals. After a short break in late afternoon, the students arrived back at Zacchaeus to prepare and serve dinner to more than 125 people at the Dinner Program for Homeless Women.

On Friday, the campers worked a long day renovating and cleaning out a home in Mount Pleasant as a work crew for Rebuilding Together - Christmas in April. They were joined by members of St. Peter's congregation: Reverend Steve Hayward, William Price, Herb White, Elmer Frohlich, Scott Watson, Cindy Simpson, and Ben Hayward. Andre Israel, the Quaker Work Camp's leader, was amazed at the amount of work completed in just one day.

The trip also included experiencing Quaker worship services, writing a Litany of Thanksgiving for mass as a meditation on their experiences, and visits to the American Indian Museum, the Air and Space Museum, and the Museum of Natural History. The group meets throughout the year to discuss movies, and during the trip they saw "Batman Begins."

The students discussed the trip on their last day. Some of the things they will remember are seeing how different people have to live so we won't take our lives for granted; trying to find the strength to help those who cannot help themselves; trying to not get upset when our efforts are not appreciated by the people we are serving; how hard the work is; and an appreciation for the people who do this kind of work every day.



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The St. Peter's Crew.

Focus on Business

Hello Mudda! Hello Fadda!

By Marcie Gross

After meeting with Matt Markoff, one of the three Markoff brothers who own Calleva Outdoors, I went home, called my Mom, and told her that I wished I could have gone to Camp Calleva when I was a kid!

Do you remember the hot, summer days when you were a kid? You woke up early every morning ready to play outside. Maybe today you'd go swimming or hike up a hill just as long as you were outside with your friends. Well, that is the mission of Camp Calleva: to get you outdoors and have fun! This is the twelfth season for Camp Calleva. The camp is always open to new ideas, so each year in addition to the always popular kayaking, rock climbing, and horseback riding, campers in the past have asked to try synchronized swimming, mountain biking and canoeing. Markoff says, "The camp is never the same. Every year there are new people and that generates ideas for new programs. We love to keep it fresh! As time goes on, we get to know the kids through various activities." Many kids come back year after year for the Calleva experience. For boys and girls nine to fifteen there are week-long themed camps and for the camper who is ready for a bigger challenge, Calleva offers High Adventure programs where campers will take five to seven day excursions to different parts of the country. For the younger campers, boys and girls ages six to nine, there is Calleva Explorers. Calleva has the great use of an "adventure island" on Riley's Lock and a wonderful farm on Martinsburg Road.

Markoff says, "Kids love just being outdoors and learning new things. They are willing to take risks and try anything – that helps us to build their self confidence."

Markoff's enthusiasm towards Calleva extends from his own family roots. He spent his childhood here in the area and his grandparents started the local Valley Mill Camp. Calleva Outdoors is also so much more than a camp. Markoff's Mom came up with the name Calleva from a book by Rosemary Sutcliff. Calleva was a Roman town of Silchester in England. It means a place in the woods where the paths cross. Calleva is just that. It is a place where individuals of all ages can get together while exploring the various opportunities of the great outdoors.

Calleva Riding School specializes in introducing novice riders to the world of horses. Experienced and professional riding instructors encourage the students' love of horses as they develop riding skills. Calleva offers private and semi-private lessons for novice, intermediate and advanced riders, birthday parties, and trail rides.

At Halloween time, you must experience Markoff's Haunted Forest! The haunted forest is a hike through the woods with different scenes to scare all who enter. There are hayrides, concession stand, a haunted bus, scary movies, a fortune teller, bonfires, and a very fun atmosphere where one can enjoy the great outdoors for the entire night. This annual event is a fundraiser for Calleva Outdoors who donate money towards school scholarships for the community.

Calleva also has school programs. They work with many schools in the area to share with the students the following activities that challenge students to work together as a team to communicate and problem solve :

high and low ropes, kayaking, rock climbing, caving, canoeing, mountain biking, rafting, hiking/backpacking, horseback riding, rappelling, sailing, and of course camping. School programs are also offered in the summertime.

Calleva also operates a Snow/Ski Club. There are even corporate training programs. The outdoor opportunities are endless! If you're young or old and up to the challenge, check out Calleva Outdoors for an exhilarating outdoor experience.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

The Asia Dynasty (formerly Meadowlark Inn) to Open Soon

By Rande Davis

If you have driven past the old Meadowlark Inn, you probably have seen the signs for the new restaurant and the workers busily going in and out. The hustle and bustle has picked up lately because the work on Asia Dynasty is nearly complete. The owner, Michael Yuan, has been in partnership with an oriental restaurant in Columbia and he has set a target date of August 1 to open the doors.

Major changes have taken place. The interior room now has a full-sized, wood-stained and brick bar with an overhead canopy that fills out nearly the whole back wall as you come in the first entrance. Bright colors have been brought in to cheer up the atmosphere.

Much of the interior redesign has gone on in the kitchen to modernize and get the restaurant in a position to handle not only a wide menu selection and occasional buffet, but also to be able to prepare daily specials as well

as special order items. As an example, lobster may not be available every day but could be special-ordered for customers.

The grand room will have new tables and chairs to accentuate a comfortable, family-friendly atmosphere. Even the rest rooms near the front have been gutted and completely redone.

Mr. Yuan is Chinese, but the restaurant will offer more than a wide range of Chinese food. It will also offer Vietnamese, Thai, and other Asian cuisine. Carryout will be available, and for extra large groups making reservations, an even wider menu will be offered. The dessert menu will include Japanese Ice and Green Tea ice cream.

The Corner

By Rande Davis

Katy Szafranski is keeping pace with the trend of female entrepreneurs making their mark in our area. She and her husband Paul have re-opened The Corner coffee (and ice cream sandwich store) in front of the park in Poolesville. They have resided in Poolesville for over ten years and she has been working in a dentist's practice for that time. In a way, her inspiration for the business comes from her children Paul (five years old) and Kelsey (three years old) since she hopes the new business will eventually put her closer to the kids during the day. Katy looks at the future by acknowledging the challenge by stating, "Eventually, when help is hired, I will be able to spend more time with the kids and later on they come here to do homework in the afternoon. Everyone has been encouraging and helpful and I appreciate the patience shown by everyone." (We think the kids will love

—Continued on Page 19

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The Corner Continued From
Page 18—

Mom owning an ice cream store, too.)

We ended up playing a bit part in her dream when we became her very first official customer. The cup of coffee was great but the place has much more than coffee. With Staub's gone and Bassett's no longer offering soft ice cream, the summer months should get her off to a great start. Flavored snowballs are also available. She is planning on a slush machine soon. Her breakfast menu offers bagels and egg sandwiches, and there are sandwiches, hot dogs and hot paninis for the rest of the day.

Judging from the crowd lined up at the counter Sunday evening



Katy Szafranski

during the music concert at Whalen Commons, she should be in the hiring mood soon. It looked a lot like an ice cream shop near the beach on a summer night. It gives you the feeling of being on vacation right here in Poolesville. Poor Paul certainly agrees with her goal of looking for help soon since he soloed Sunday night until she was able to come back to help clean up.

She has the full lineup of coffee items with espresso, cappuccino, latte, and a super summer selection of frappe freeze. From our experience as a customer there is one suggestion and one warning—get the caramel, strawberry sundae with whipped cream and a cherry on top. The warning—skip the small size.

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Police Blotter Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Present

Montgomery County Police are warning residents about an old-fashioned fraud scheme that continues to be perpetrated over the Internet. The e-mailed messages vary in content but usually come from some sort of "Nigerian Official" or attorney who has news of a multi-million dollar deal of a lifetime. Sometimes the sender has news of a relative who has died and left millions to the unsuspecting recipient of the email. All of these emails are fraudulent. Do not respond to any of them. Forward them to the United States Secret Service at 419.fcd@uss.s.treas.gov. If you have suffered any financial loss because of these e-mails, contact the Montgomery County Police at 301-840-2490.

Shooting. On June 28 at about 5:30 p.m., police responded to a residence in the 19300 block of Jerusalem Road, Poolesville and found that a seventy-one-year-old female had been shot in the face. Police arrested Leo Helms, a seventy-two-year-old man who lives at the residence, and charged him with attempted murder and a variety of other charges. Police allege that there had been an altercation preceding the shooting. The victim was flown to a local shock trauma unit. The defendant was released the next day on personal bond.

Fatal Bicycle Accident. On July 2 at about 5:45 p.m., a fifteen-year-old student at Quince Orchard High School was struck and killed while riding his bicycle near the intersection of Great Seneca Highway and Quince Orchard Road. Police said that Rageim Wade was struck by an auto operated by Rebecca Bannister of Gaithersburg. At this time, the investigators have not determined if the bicyclist was in or near the crosswalk or what the light sequence was when the accident happened. No charges have been placed.

Past

July 12, 1924. Fines of \$145 were imposed on William Boxall of Montgomery County by Police Judge Samuel Riggs in Rockville. Mr. Boxall had been charged with several of-

fenses arising out of an automobile accident near Bucklodge this week in which Miss Nellie Dillehay, a sixteen-year-old daughter of J.H. Dillehay of Boyds suffered a fractured hip and other injuries.

July 14, 1916. The Reverend S. A. Jones, pastor of the Northern Methodist Church of Clarksburg, had a narrow escape with death last night. The Rev. Mr. Jones was returning to his home in his automobile and was unable to drive his car up Seneca Hill, near Clarksburg, on account of the heavy storm and flood waters. His car was overturned, and he was trapped underneath it for a time until he was rescued by passersby.

July 16, 1942. Montgomery and Prince George's County Police enforced a statewide blackout last night as Old Line State citizens participated in their first blackout drill which will help protect residents from possible enemy air raids.

July 19, 1922. A still (said by Montgomery County officers to be the biggest yet confiscated in Maryland), a complete outfit for the making of home brew, a barrel of corn whiskey, and twenty-one barrels of corn mash were seized yesterday afternoon. Revenue officers reported that they had lain in wait for forty hours before they raided the still located two and half miles south of Poolesville, Maryland.

July 23, 1907. Albert Belote, aged nineteen of Washington, D.C., accidentally drowned in the C&O Canal at Edwards Ferry, a few miles west of Poolesville, Maryland. Young Belote had gone to Edwards Ferry for a day of swimming when he failed to surface after a dive into the water. His pal, Benjamin Moffatt, made a valiant attempt to save him; however, his struggle was in vain. It is said that Moffatt was overcome with grief and is under the care of a doctor at Poolesville.

July 25, 1945. A nineteen-year-old German prisoner-of-war asked the wrong man for a drink of water near New Market, Maryland. The prisoner-of-war, who had escaped from a work detail on a nearby farm, approached Sgt. William Blake who had just returned from thirty-six months of fighting in Europe. Sgt. Blake delivered the man to authorities.

The Horizon

The Little Congregation That Could

By Marcie Gross

Congregation Or Chadash, a Reform Jewish synagogue, is coming into the area steadily and surely. The congregation is like the Little Engine That Could. From its humble beginnings at a founding member's home in North Potomac to its newly-constructed building on King's Valley Road in Damascus, Or Chadash proudly serves the Upper Montgomery County and Frederick areas with its strong Judaic customs and welcoming atmosphere.

In 1986, a group of Jewish families got together at various members' homes to have Friday night (Shabbat) services. (chug, chug, chug – We think we can.) As the number of families grew, so did the desire to meet more often. Since then, the new Congregation has met in a community center, churches, used public schools for Religious School, and then rented space at Barron's Building in Gaithersburg, all along gathering families from all over the area who enjoyed the spirituality and inclusion in this close-knit group of Jewish people. (chug, chug, chug – We think we can.) Or Chadash has not only been home to a number of locations, but also through a series of Rabbis and Cantors. The Religious School used to be held every other week just as Friday night services. (chug, chug, chug – We think we can.) The Congregation persevered and has grown into a home for Jews in the area. In 2000, a vote was made to pursue a building of its own, a permanent home for Or Chadash. Seventeen acres of land were generously donated by congregants for that construction. The building is now built and will be dedicated on September 18 of this year. Currently Or Chadash has a full-time Rabbi, Rabbi Paul Tuchman, Cantor Susan Berkson, Education Director, Marcy Bixby, an Executive Board led by Co-Presidents Diane Levitus and Jen Strelser.

Or Chadash's Rabbi, Paul Tuchman has been with the Congregation for four years. He has seen the growth of the group both in numbers as well as spiritually. Jane Harris, Poolesville resident, has been a member of Congregation Or Chadash for four years, too. She says, "Rabbi

—Continued on Page 21

Poets' Corner

An Ode to A Japanese Beetle

By Maureen O'Connell

Oh Japanese Beetle, I adore you not.
Stay away, stay away from my garden plot.
My roses abhor you, though crows do adore you,
Stay away, stay away, I plead, I implore you.

I came from vacation, was shocked at your ration
Of petals, of buds, of anything green.
Oh Beetle, you have gone round the bend,
And you know what I mean.

My zinnias, my roses, my lilies, my loves,
Are lacy and brown, and good-bye to foxgloves.
I sweated and slaved; I fed and I sprayed,
But for what, but for what.

You sneaked into town, oh when I was gone
To London and towns, where you are not found.
You've won Mr. Beetle this year I admit.
But come summer '06, be weary, be leery,
My Super Bug Mix is ready and fixed.

Big Board Continued From Page 15—

were photographed in the mid-1970s and would be difficult to recognize as they have since been replaced by developments. A few are large, architecturally significant homes but most are the modest dwellings, barns and outbuildings of farmers. This exhibit will run to September 10. The Waters House, located at 12535 Milestone Manor Lane is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, call 301-515-2887 or visit the website: www.montgomeryhistory.org

Among My Souvenirs

An exhibit of souvenirs, keepsakes, and mementos at the Beall-Dawson House. This exhibit looks at an often-overlooked category of decorative arts: the souvenir. Whether kitschy or quality, practical or pointless, purchased for ourselves or for the unlucky friends and family left behind, souvenir goods serve as physical reminders of where we've been and of who we were when we got there. This exhibit runs through July 31. The hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for students and seniors; MCHS

members have free admission. For more information call 301-762-1492 or visit www.montgomeryhistory.org
Silent Auction at Swim for Sarah
- July 27 at 5:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for the annual Swim for Sarah fundraiser and silent auction at the Western County Outdoor Pool. Businesses and individuals are encouraged to donate services and goods to the silent auction.

Hyattstown Mill Arts Project at BlackRock Center for the Arts

Visit the BlackRock Center for the Arts now through August 12 to admire the works of various local artists in various media. For more information, the website is www.blackrock-center.org.

16th Annual Montgomery County Farm Tour

Highlighting the 25th Anniversary of the Agricultural Reserve (www.ruralmontgomery.org) Montgomery County will host its 16th annual Farm Tour and Harvest Sale on Saturday, July 23 and Sunday, July 24, 2005 with several farms and the King Barn Dairy "Mooseum" open to the public. Pick-your-own peaches, blackberries, and flowers, live music and storytelling, pony rides, hayrides, a moon bounce, a winery tour, and wine tasting will be among the highlights of this rural summer tradition. To view the 2005

Farm Tour and Harvest Sale brochure and map, visit www.montgomery-countymd.gov/agsservices.

Get Your Running Shoes Ready

Sponsored by the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, the 14th annual Poolesville Day 5K Run/Walk and 1K Kids' Fun Run is an annual community event and is part of the Poolesville Day celebrations for the Town of Poolesville, Maryland. Runners and walkers of all levels of ability are welcome and encouraged to participate. The gently rolling race course travels through the quiet neighborhoods of historic Poolesville, Maryland. The event is followed immediately by the classic small-town Poolesville Day Parade and town celebration. This year's event will take place on Saturday, September 10, 2005. The PACC will donate all proceeds from the race to Poolesville area educational programs and the PACC Annual Scholarship Program. For further information contact Kathy Mihm at 301-349-5753 or kmihm@att.net (please put 5K in the subject line.)

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PSI

Little Congregation Continued From Page 19—

Tuchman's spiritual leadership is inspiring. I have enjoyed being a part of this warm and welcoming congregation, and I am very much looking forward to the opening of the new building."

Co-President Diane Levitus remembers, "When we joined, my son (then seven years old) could not wait to go to services on Friday nights where he could help open the ark and dress the Torah." Levitus says, "The community should know that Congregation Or Chadash is a wonderful place to pray, to make friends, and to educate your children." She says that the congregation expects to increase the scope of programming for individuals and families. This will be easier in a permanent home. "We expect to implement an adult b'nai mitzvah program and a book discussion group," says Levitus.

The Religious School will be held Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and will start on September 11th this fall. Education Director, Marcy Bixby is extremely excited about this continuation of a great program as well as a fresh start in the new building. Bixby believes that religious school should be fun. That is one factor that draws people to the school. Bixby trains the teachers to design lessons in which the children learn valuable Jewish customs/lessons in a creative manner so the children have fun while they learn and explore their religion. "I have been affiliated with Or Chadash for ten years. I started as a parent of a son in religious school, and then became a volunteer, then a Board member, then a teacher, then an Officer, and finally School Director, and I wouldn't trade it for anything. We are a caring community and are all very supportive of each other. Egos are left at the door and we welcome and accept everyone," says Bixby.

That's how it is in Congregation Or Chadash. It's a place where if someone sees a need, he/she steps up to volunteer and get the job done whether it be to set up for Shabbat dinners, teach a class, or plan a group outing. Everyone does their share and building or no building that's what made this Congregation home to so many over the past and will become the home to more individuals and families in the future. They say the rest is history, but also a brand new beginning for the Little Congregation That Could. (chug, chug, chug – We knew we could.)

Tributes

Our Local Globtrotters

By Jack Toomey

This brother and sister team from Beallsville isn't home much anymore. Jessica and Kris Cates-Bristol are affiliated with non-profit organizations that work in foreign countries using sports to promote peace and educate people about the dangers of disease and violence.

Jessica Cates-Bristol graduated from Poolesville High School in 1999 after starring in basketball and soccer. She went on to play four years of varsity soccer in college and graduated from Stetson University in Florida with a B.A. in Sociology. While in college, she went to Kenya for six months with the National Outdoor Leadership School. After college, she taught English in Spain to ten- and eleven-year-olds and also had an adult class.



Jessica and Kris Cates-Bristol

Kris graduated from Poolesville High in 1996 where he was also an outstanding athlete. He graduated from the University of Colorado with a B.A. in Anthropology.

After graduation, he joined Playing for Peace which is a non-profit organization whose mission is to use basketball to bridge divides, develop leaders, and to change perceptions in areas of the world affected by strife. They now have offices in Northern Ireland and South Africa and hope to open sites in Cyprus and the West Bank of Palestine. Kris lives in Belfast, Northern Ireland for nine months a year. He is the managing director of the Ireland project and during the summer he returns to the United States to recruit scholar athletes to join the organization. A typical day consists of working in a gymnasium at a neutral site in Belfast. Sixth graders from Catholic and Protestant schools meet at the gym and are divided into teams. They are taught that, through basketball, they can make friends with other children that they would not ordinarily meet. Kris says, "Everything is so segregated in Northern Ireland that the only interaction would be

when they are in a hostile situation." He recalled one lad of ten who said that the "only time he felt comfortable was when he was at the gym." In his spare time, Kris plays for Tyrone Towers in the Irish Second Division League. Kris chuckled when he reminisced about his time in Northern Ireland. He said one of the first things that a new student asks him is: "Do you know Michael Jordan?" or "Do you play in the NBA?"

Jessica also works for a non-profit organization called Grassroots Soccer whose purpose is to mobilize the global soccer community to combat the AIDS epidemic. The organization was founded by Ethan Zohn, internationally known soccer star and the recent winner of *Survivor Africa*. In September, she and a friend, Joe Schoenbauer of Poolesville, will be traveling to Zimbabwe to teach children aged ten through seventeen, using soccer, about the dangers of AIDS. In addition to being on the soccer field, she will be spending a considerable amount of time in the classroom instructing these children. She will also be working with professional soccer players from Africa who are role models for these children to teach them how to educate the youth about the seriousness of the AIDS epidemic.

When Jessica was teaching in Barcelona, she became attached to her students and found satisfaction when she experienced "the enthusiasm seeing children playing American games and singing songs in English." One regret she has happened when she announced to her adult class that she would be returning to the United States. One of her pupils announced that he would not be coming to class until she returned to teach. Jessi now wonders what happened to this student.

Angie Colquhoun, of Manden, Nevada, taught with Jessica in Spain. She said, "I got a chance to see Jessi [in action], and she is by far the best at interaction, seeing what the child needed, and has patience to deal with each child's needs."

Kris and Jessica said that readers can learn more about their organizations by checking out the websites of their organizations, www.grassrootsoccer.org and www.playingforpeace.org. You can also help sponsor both of them while they are overseas by making a donation online.

Brother and sister – both dedicated to making the world a better place. We are fortunate to have both of them as members of our community.

Center Stage

Adamstown's Future

Stan Lee

By Curtis A. Osborne

Comics are playing a big role this summer in helping the movie industry. The movie *Batman Begins* opened the summer movie season by raking in about fifty million dollars and next up is the film adaptation of *The Fantastic Four*, one of the first original comic book super teams. So for comic book enthusiasts and movie buffs alike, this summer has much to offer.

With the success of Marvel's Spiderman and X-Men movies, there has been an ancillary boost to the comic book sales as fans go back to the comic books to catch up on the characters. DC Comics, Marvel's main competitor, is also hoping for a boost from the Batman movie, but for independent comic publishers, relying on movies to boost their sales will not be enough. They have to rely on fully-developed characters, cohesive plot lines, wonderful storytelling, and great graphics. In other words, they have to mimic the great comic book genius Stan Lee and seminal artists Jack Kirby and Steve Ditko. One such man trying to capture the essence of Stan is Adamstown resident and comic book writer, Mike Imboden.

Mike, a 1985 Seneca Valley graduate, has lived in the Frederick area for sixteen years. Drawn to comic books since he was a young kid, he had always hoped and envisioned that one day he would work in the industry, a dream which he has been fulfilling for the past two years through independent Digital Webbing Press. Currently, he is the Head Writer for the series *Warmegeddon* which is in the fantasy/action genre.

Mike's entry into the business was an interesting journey. Since about 1994, he would correspond on-line with other comic book enthusiasts. It was during this time that Mike met Ed Dukeshire who would eventually move on to create Digital Webbing. Through this relationship, Mike landed his first writing job, a story for an all Zombie-themed issue of the Digital Webbing Presents anthology. "I was hooked up with a guy from Turkey who agreed to do the artwork" after discussing it with him, he says. The process for producing a comic

—Continued on Page 23.

Local News

Frederick County Commissioner is First to File for Re-election

Frederick County Commissioner, John R. Lovell, Jr. of Jefferson, has filed as a candidate for re-election to the 2006 Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Lovell was the first candidate to file in 2001, and although the 2006 election is fifteen months away, he is the first to file for the upcoming election.

The primary issues Mr. Lovell considers the most important are quality education, measured growth, and continued fiscal responsibility on the part of the commission. Mr. Lovell points to the county's economic growth due to successful initiatives like the Jefferson Technical Park, improved parks and libraries, and the cooperative military alliance with Ft. Detrick, with its positive economic impact on the county's economy especially in the area of job creation, as examples of progress that have enhanced the quality of life in the county.

Mr. Lovell states, "Serving as county commissioner has been a tremendous honor and pleasure. I have found the experience of working for, and with, the people of the county even greater and more satisfying than my original high expectations. Frankly, I saw no purpose in delaying the decision. I have enjoyed working on the important challenges facing the county government, appreciate the expressions of support from so many county residents, and look to make continued progress on the issues and priorities on which I originally campaigned."

The top five candidates from each party in the September, 2006 primary will go on to the general election in November.

Indoor Pool in Poolesville?

The Town of Poolesville commissioners opened discussion at the July 11 meeting on the subject of purported plans of a county indoor pool for the town. While the subject was reported in the Western Montgomery Bulletin, the commissioners reported that no officials in the town have been approached by anyone in the county regarding such a venture. Unrelated discussions on placing a bubble over the existing county pool have been part of public dialogue for a number of years with no affirmative decision

being made on that prospect. The commissioners directed town manager Wade Yost to send correspondence to the county to clarify any intention they may or may not have regarding an indoor pool.

Public Hearing on Sign Ordinance Completed

The June 11 Poolesville Town meeting had a public hearing on proposed changes to the town's sign ordinance. Recommendations were made by the Sign Review Board to enlarge the street side signage for locations with four or more businesses to enable businesses with specific restrictions the use of daily, temporary signs, to increase the percentage of signage allowed from the inside of the windows of business establishments, and to lengthen the time allowed for the use of building banners on a quarterly basis. The specifics of the recommendations are available through the town hall.

Tom Kettler, President of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce voiced the chamber's appreciation for work being done on the ordinance and also expressed the chamber's support with the general direction of the proposal. Businesspersons speaking during the hearing were Debbie Lynn (Poolesville Tack & Supply), J. D. Slagle (J. D.'s Beer and Wine), Joe Angelo (Domino's Pizza), and Terrie Daniels of Healthworks. Each presented specific dissatisfaction with either aspect of the current ordinance or its administration and encouraged the commissioners to consider changes that would better meet their needs.

The commissioners took the comments into advisement and the work session between the commissioners and the Sign Review Board members is scheduled for August 15, 2005. Commissioner Tom Dillingham voiced serious objection to aspects of the proposed changes in window signs and also expressed his opinion that parts of the temporary sign proposal needed adjusting. Once the public work session is complete, a final proposal will be set and a vote by the commissioners will follow.

Barnesville Town Council Sets Date for Public Hearing on Zoning Changes

The June 11 meeting of the Barnesville Town Council set August 2, 2005 for a public hearing on the matter of proposed changes to the town's zoning laws. The most con-

troversial new proposal would be an increase in the minimum acreage required for building to four acres from the current two acres. It was suggested that more efficient language could be incorporated in the new zoning law and possible changes in the verbiage is being considered. The public hearing is set for St. Mary's Pavilion at 7:00 p.m.

The \$85,000 renovation for the old town hall has not received the required three bids for the project. Currently, there is only one bid in hand. The commissioners decided to continue, for now, its search for more bids.

In attendance were Mayor Pete Menke, Bonnie Brown, new commissioner, Luke Fedder, and special advisor to the council, Lib Tolbert. The commissioners voiced appreciation and satisfaction for their attendance at the recent Maryland Municipal League's convention in Ocean City. Ms. Tolbert, a former president of MML and affectionately and officially known as the grandmother of the MML, also attended as a guest of the league.

Fourth of July Celebration a Tremendous Success

An unofficial count of five thou-

sand people attended the Fourth of July celebration held on the Rubin property on Hughes Road, Poolesville. The early evening had the Jim Bowie Band in performance as the crowd came to see the fireworks. The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Jamison Real Estate, Selby's Market, Calleva, and Poolesvilleonline.com sponsored the event.

Jeff Eck, UMCVFD volunteer and chairman of the event, expressed deep appreciation to the sponsors and the many community organizations that pitched in such as the Monocacy Lions Club, the Odd Fellows, the Calleva staff, and the PHS Roots and Shoots.

Community attendance was far greater than anticipated. The crowd's patience, especially regarding the parking and exiting situations, was especially appreciated by Mr. Eck. An expected five hundred- to six hundred-car parking lot ultimately found space for over eleven hundred. A review and changes in parking and traffic for next year is already under way.

For Mr. Eck, there was special pleasure in learning that the twenty-five-minute fireworks display was three minutes longer than the Washington, D.C. fireworks.



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Stan Lee Continued From Page 21—

book has changed substantially over the years. "Whereas before, an artist would work on an art board, Fedex it to the inker to work on, who would then send it to the colorist. Now, the artist just scans it into the computer, and the inking and coloring are all done digitally. We transfer files back and forth by email."

Zombies aren't all that Mike works on, though. In the July issue of Digital Webbing Presents, *The Fist of Justice* will be coming out, bringing back a character that he and Ed first created back in the mid-nineties. August will see the premiere of the aforementioned *Warmageddon* featuring "gladiatorial combat, like professional wrestling, which is the industry for the entire economy," says Mike.

Mike sees the industry changing in the next five to ten years. "I see monthly comics fading and instead of waiting to release a six-issue story arc as a collected trade paperback, we'll see that arc published solely in that format to begin with." He plans to stay involved in the business for a long time because he loves it and is having too much fun. He would love nothing more than to see the industry rebound and bring in those kids that eschewed comic books for other pursuits. "We can get kids interested in comic books by giving them something that interests them, like they watch the Teen Titans and the Justice League on TV. We can introduce them to those comic books.

"I plan to write comics that are fun to read, light-hearted, never talk down to people, and treat kids with respect. I have no agenda, I have no message. I just want to write a good solid story that people enjoy and can serve as an escape from the blahs of everyday life."

Independent publishers are like the minor leagues inasmuch as they could be the springboard to the majors. Mike would welcome that opportunity if it ever came, but his dream come true would be for one of his stories to be optioned into a motion picture, hopefully with him writing the treatment or the screenplay. For the time being, we can enjoy the stories that he is creating right now which can be purchased at Beyond Comics in Frederick, Stup's Market in Adamstown, and the website www.digitalwebbing.com.

Local News

Swim for Sarah Silent Auction

What: Swim for Sarah
Where: Western County Pool in Poolesville
When: July 27 at 5:30 p.m.
Who: Everyone is invited!

The third annual Swim for Sarah is not just a swim team activity. Swimmers of all ages and all teams are encouraged to take to the water like fish and swim for Sarah. Non-swimmers of all ages are invited to join in this wonderful community evening, as well. Food will be served, live music will be provided, and, best of all, the highest bidders will take home incredible items from the Awesome Silent Auction.

The auction promises to be bigger and better than in previous years. At this writing, just a few of the donations include: fifty-yard line Redskins tickets, new bicycles, jewelry, tons of restaurants gift certificates, special theme baskets (including fine foods), various lessons, original artwork, and other goods and services.

All the funds raised in memory of Sarah Auer, former swimmer and swim coach who was killed in a car accident on December 3, 2002, go towards the Sarah E. Auer Memorial Fund which provides scholarships for high school seniors. Sarah's parents, Charlie and Doris Auer, express their gratefulness to the community, "It is comforting to us to recognize how much interest and support remain for Sarah's memory in the form of Swim for Sarah. Sarah's death continues to be very hard for our family to deal with—we all miss her terribly."

This year's scholarship recipients from Poolesville High School were seniors Chris Ritter and Jon Torrey. The MCSL recipients were Kaitlin MacDonald from Olney Mills Swim Club, Tyler Spindel from Manor Woods Swim Club, and Melanie Stone from Manchester Farm Swim Club. "We continue to be amazed and impressed by the swimmers who are nominated and find the final selection to be a difficult choice," add the Auers. The MCSL recipients this year were announced at the Rockville Municipal Pool on July 12. "This [was] particularly poignant for us because July 12 [was] Sarah's birthday—twenty-four years after her coming into our lives."

For more information or to donate items and make contributions, contact Mary Beth Preuss at 301-349-5912 or Amy Hsu at 301-349-0701.

Golf Tips with Mike Aldrich



Emotional Control and Mental Focus

Emotional control is your ability to manage your mood during the roller coaster ride we call a round of golf. Mental focus is your capacity for keeping your mind on the right track through the distractions which are bound to occur over the course of eighteen holes. The two topics are not only connected, but as dependent on each other as much as the twisted threads in a piece of twine. How you deal with different situations on the golf course, and if you allow yourself to be distracted from the task at hand, will have a large influence on your score. The first step in learning to control your emotions is gaining the wisdom that at some point during your round the following will occur:

- a) You will have a bad break,
- b) You will hit a horrible shot,
- c) You will feel bad.

The average golfer looks back and wonders, "How the heck did I get here?" The best golfers are focused on "How do I get from here to the hole?" Truly great competitors live for the challenges presented by bad breaks and shots. They know that they will run into difficult situations during the round. The greats deal with the pres-

ent situation and develop a strategy for the future.

Imagine that a fortune teller looked into the crystal ball of golf and told you that your greatest round of golf would occur after a first hole of triple bogey or worse. After a bad start, you wouldn't just trudge on thinking, "It's gonna be one of those days", you would think, "This may be the day!" Our ladies' course record was set by fifteen year old Hilary Lawson back in May. Guess what? Her first hole was a bogey! I'm sure that it would have been easier for her to settle for a mediocre round after the first hole, instead of driving forward to a four-under-par 68.

The simple truth of the matter is that golf is a challenging sport, and that is what makes it great. The next time that your drive is heading right down the center of the fairway, only to catch a sprinkler head, and then bounce into the deep rough, say to yourself, "I knew that something like that would happen today." Remember, it isn't what happens to you that matters, it is how you react that affects your round.

Mike Aldrich is the PGA Head Golf Professional at Poolesville Golf Course. He is a protégé of Manuel De La Torre, one of Golf Magazine's "Top 50 Teachers". Mike is a highly sought after instructor, working with some of greater D.C.'s top amateurs and PGA Professionals. Poolesville Golf Course offers a great golf course, top quality merchandise, and a home for your outing groups. The facility is only 30 minutes from Gaithersburg, Rockville, and Frederick, Maryland.



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Sports

Poolesville's Secret to Athletic Success

By Rande Davis

Poolesville's stellar reputation for athletic excellence is far greater than the school's size. The school's success has been somewhat of a mystery to many in the county. Anyone in town the week of June 27 through July 1 probably would have noticed the filled parking lots at the school and the Baptist Church across the street, and consequently would have discovered one of the key secrets behind this athletic mystery. Starting as early as kindergarten, the school's coaches, parents, current players and past athletic greats join together in a basketball camp that is designed to get the kids started out right in their athletic quest.



Mini-Falcons - Olivia McAleer, Kaci Morningstar, Carley Anderson, Julia McAleer, Whitney Carmack, and Lacy Williams.

Poolesville Basketball Association president, Tim Brown, could not have been more thrilled with the basketball camp's success. His excitement was probably well below that of Coaches Larry Hurd, Jr. and Fred Swick. This year's annual Falcon and Mini-Falcon basketball summer camp was a waiting list-only success with over 190 eager young athletes being drilled in the basics. The field was so large that two gyms were utilized. The older group, fifth grades to seventh, learned and practiced at the high school. The mini-Falcons, kindergarteners through fourth graders, were across the street in the gym of the Poolesville Baptist Church.

The weeklong camp ran almost all day long for both boys and girls with the fundamentals of basketball being stressed with emphasis on the first part of the word - fun.

The kids learned more than just

how to dribble and shoot. The whole place was filled with athletes the kids could look up to as role models. For starters, they had Coach Hurd and Coach Swick, the varsity boys' and varsity girls' high school coaches. School coaches Ted Gardiner and Curtis Belcher worked with the younger set. Helping out with both groups were some of PHS' all-time leading scorers. Gary Ward (boys) and Jamie Morningstar (girls and Class of 2005) hold the boys' and girls' records, respectively. Along with these two stars were number three all-time scorer Jimmy Ward. Other current players out to help make sure PHS stays dominant in the future were current athletes Laurel Caywood, Stephen Ketchum, Cory Christman, Jay Lowe, Jimmy Brown, John Miller, and Mike Mulcahy. Helping with the mini-Falcons were Eni Eboda, Nicole Only, Brittany Hilton, and Jesse Brown.

Once everything was over and done there was only one conclusion shared by all participants. This year's camps were the best ever.

The British are Coming

By Curtis A. Osborne

The Carroll Manor Athletic Association (CMAA) will be hosting a British Soccer Camp at Carroll Manor Elementary School from August 1 - 5. The camp is for ages 6-14 and will run half day from 9 - 12.

This camp is run by Challenger Sports, which runs British Soccer, Excellence and Skill Builder camps throughout the United States. The British Soccer camp is unique in that it takes some of the best British soccer coaches and brings them here to teach players some of the best soccer techniques in the world.

The cost of the camp is \$100 and that fee will include a free ball and a shirt. The camp works on individual foot skill development, practices, simulated games that explore tactical elements and much, much more. The camp is also set up so that an entire team can register and get custom designed team instruction as opposed to instruction aimed at just the individual player. Either way, the players and coaches will benefit immensely. And for families interested in hosting a coach, a discount will apply



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to the application fee.

CMAA is concurrently having registration for fall soccer. For the British soccer camp or for fall soccer, contact Tom Nixon at 301-631-0634.

UMAC Ends One Season, Prepares for Another

By Rande Davis

As the baseball season reaches its mid-point, things are looking almost too good to be true for our Nationals and Orioles. When September comes and the season winds down, area fans hold hope against hope that our local professionals will be in play for the World Series. For the local baseball teams in the Upper Montgomery Athletic Club (UMAC) that carry the namesake of major league teams, September is the beginning, not the end, of their season since fall baseball will start on September 10. UMAC is associated with the nationally organized Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League. We met with current league commissioner, Bob Cissel, to learn about the league and its programs.

Now in its thirty-ninth year, UMAC specializes in the full development of the young baseball players starting with introductory T-ball for five- to six-year-olds. Similar to but not associated with Little League, UMAC's teams have some girl players. The vast majority of girl athletes in our area opt for the county softball league, however.

From T-Ball, the league moves to the seven- and eight-year-olds using the instructional play of machine pitch. This division is called the Rookie division and uses machine pitch to help develop the batting skills of the players without having the injury concerns associated with the young batters facing inexperienced pitchers.

Competitive play with real pitchers on the mound is introduced when the kids are nine and ten years old. At this age, the kids still play on a little league-sized diamond with baselines of sixty feet. As they reach the age of eleven and twelve, the field of play expands to seventy-foot baselines.

Starting at the age of thirteen, the players prepare for the nationally affiliated Babe Ruth League. At this point, they play on full-sized diamonds with the baseline at a full ninety feet.

Nationally, the Babe Ruth League is for fourteen- and fifteen-year-olds, played on the full-sized diamond and is a non-school, pre-varsity level of competition.

In years past, the Babe Ruth Baseball League sponsored a division for younger players called the Bambino League. (As most baseball fans know, the Great Bambino was the affectionate nickname for Babe Ruth.) About seven years ago, Cal Ripken, Jr. was asked to lend his name and prestige to the development of the league, and the league officially renamed the division after him.

The regular season play is from April through May with tournaments starting in June. On June 17, UMAC sponsored its first annual School's Out! Summer Tournament which was held for three days at Taylor Field in Boyds. The tournament consisted of ten teams from around the area including two teams from UMAC itself, two from Bethesda/Chevy Chase, two from Mt. Airy, one each from Annapolis, Capitol Hill, and Myersville, and one from the Poolesville Athletic Association (PAA). (The *Monocle* will be profiling PAA in a future issue.)

In the tournament, there were two levels of play, the Black and Red divisions. The former division was made up primarily of eight-year-olds, while the latter consisted mostly of seven-year-olds. UMAC currently has around five hundred players in the league.

The highlight of the season was the annual statewide competition called the Maryland State Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth Rookie Division All-Star Tournament. This statewide championship competition was held on the weekend of July 8, and UMAC proudly capped its spring season by finishing in second place in the Rookie Division. Registration for the fall league is now in progress and parents should visit www.umacbaseball.com or call 301 972-1449 to sign their player(s) up.



Poolesville Falcon's Morningstar scores a run at a recent UMAC interleague tournament.