



Brooke O'Connell of Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre shows off her graceful elegance in competition. Read about Brooke and other local dancers on page 6.



Clarksburg High School's Abbey Daley overcame injury to help the indoor track relay team to a new school record. Read about it in Youth Sports on Page 14.



Read about the Hope Haven Orphanage in Cap Haitien, Haiti in Tidbits on Page 5.



Kite making is part of the upcoming Clarksburg Kite Festival. Read all about it in Things to Do on Page 11.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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Volume VII, Number 2.

County Budget Addresses \$780 Million Gap

The FY2011 Montgomery County budget released on March 15 had to address a \$780 million shortfall, the largest in its history. To cover the gap, the county has turned to tax increases, freezes in hiring, the elimination of more than five hundred county positions, and cutbacks in services. In a message to county employees from County Executive Isiah Leggett, the following actions were described: A six percent decrease in county government spending; no general wage adjustments and no steps

or increments for any county government workers; eighty hours (ten days) of furloughs for all non-public safety county government employees; abolishment of an additional 452 positions, 232 of which are currently occupied; no spending increase for the Montgomery County Public Schools, despite an increase in school enrollment; across-the-board funding reductions and/or eliminations of contracts with private agencies; an increase in the county energy tax that will cost the average residential household an extra \$2.90 per month; and over \$100 million in additional reductions for county government departments.

County Executive Ike

Leggett wrote to county employees, stating, "Whatever I have asked of county employees, I and all of my senior managers have done and will continue to do the same. County employees received no cost-of-living increase this year—neither did we. I have abolished positions and cut the budget of the Office of County Executive by twenty-six percent. We will weather these difficult days. We will move forward to make a good Montgomery County even better and lay the foundations for a strong recovery and a brighter future for our families."

The full text of Mr. Leggett's comments can be found at www.monocleonline.com.

Poolesville Day Chairpersons Receive Community Service Award

By Rande Davis

At the annual Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce dinner on March 11 at the Comus Inn, Brice Halbrook and Bridget Burke, co-chairs of the Poolesville Day Committee, were honored with the chamber's Community Service Awards. This fall's annual festival will be the fourth Poolesville Day that the two have organized and directed. Halbrook is a principal in Townsend & Halbrook Mortgage Corporation, and Burke works with Kelcom Media Services.

Each year, the PACC chooses businesspeople who best exemplify the concept

of "giving back to the community." Such individuals demonstrate consistent extraordinary effort in service to causes, organizations, or programs that aid and uplift the community as a whole. The chamber dedicates itself not only to promoting the interest of the business sector but also to modeling the many ways the needs of the community can be assisted by the business sector. The chamber's annual community service includes donations to area civic groups like WUMCO-Help, PHS Post Prom Party, Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department, scholarships, First Friday in December, publication of the town tourist map, co-spon-



Bridget Burke and Brice Halbrook, co-chairs of the Poolesville Day committee, were recently honored with the PACC 2010 Community Service Award. Pictured are Bridget, Scott Hollander (past president and new vice president) Brice, and Hilary Schwab Shapiro (new president).

sor of a business fair, and, in partnering with the Monocacy Lions Club, organizes the annual 5K race traditionally held on Poolesville Day.

Halbrooke and Burke join

-Continued on Page 18.



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Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

March 6, 1935 The Poolesville Rangers Athletic Club defeated the Elderbrook Athletic Club of Washington, 22-19, before the largest crowd of the season.

March 10, 1947 Plans for the proposed firehouse at Beallsville were discussed at a mass meeting at Poolesville High School. Captain W. S. Parkins, president of the department, gave a presentation and said that the architects had delivered the plans for the building which included a kitchen that members of the Ladies Auxiliary were expected to use for fundraising activities.

March 10, 1955 Members of the Atomic Energy Commission visited Poolesville and Leesburg in their quest to find an adequate site for the headquarters of the new government agency.

March 18, 1934 The Props and Paints Club of Poolesville High School presented the farce comedy, "Nobody But Nancy." The cast consisted of Dorothy Clements, Doris Hughes, Charlotte White, Nettie Lee Holland, A. Dawson Allnutt, and others.

March 21, 1933 William Windsor, a farmer from the Barnesville district, was selected foreman of the grand jury. Windsor was also the vice president of the Montgomery County

Farm Bureau. Judge Woodward addressed the grand jury and stressed the need for secrecy.

March 21, 1955 Members of the junior class of Poolesville High School were scheduled to present the three-act comedy "Hi and Sis in New York."

March 22, 1949 Emills Ulis, his wife Milda, and their five children arrived in Poolesville where they were expected to make their home. The Ulis family had arrived in the United States aboard the S. S. Ernie Pyle after spending three years in a camp for displaced persons. The family had been ejected from their dairy farm in Latvia, first by the German army after the start of WWII, and then by the Soviet Union after the Soviet takeover. They planned to live on the Chisholm farm just outside of town.

March 26, 1935 Poolesville High won the county basketball tournament by defeating Lucketts, Virginia, Damascus, and Gaithersburg. In the semi-final game against Damascus, Weller scored twenty-six points for Poolesville.


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In the Garden Bulbs for Spring Planting

By Maureen O'Connell

Mention bulbs to many gardeners, and they think of those that are planted in the fall—tulips, daffodils, crocuses, and hyacinths—but there are several varieties of bulbs, corms, and tubers which can be planted in the spring for flowers and foliage that can be enjoyed the same year. Some of these are frost tender, so they should be planted after the last frost date in our area, which usually falls somewhere in March and April. There are also some bulbs and tubers that need to be lifted in the fall, stored for the winter in a cool, dry, and well-ventilated location, and replanted in the spring.

The weather of the past month will have a dramatic effect on our gardens this year. Depending upon how much precip-

itation we receive in early to mid spring, we might be faced with soggy, muddy soil conditions that could quickly rot spring-planted bulbs. Ideally, we would prefer to spread out the moisture level of the soil over time, but that rarely happens. It is often deluge versus drought.

Every year, I try to introduce into my gardens some new and unusual plants. Bulbs will soon begin to arrive in local garden centers. The catalogs of Wayside Gardens and White Flower Farm carry a diverse collection of bulbs and tubers which they will ship to you at the appropriate planting time for your area. If you can't plant them right after you get them, take care to store them properly. First of all, bulbs need to be kept dry. Secondly, they live by the Goldilocks Theory—not too hot, not too cold, just right. Make sure your bulbs don't freeze, but keep them out of direct sunlight and heated rooms. They like to be stored in a place that is dry, dark, and cool. When

-Continued on Page 19.

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MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER begins with the traditional Passover Seder table – complete with all the articles of this important Jewish celebration. The speaker will explain the symbolic meanings of the various items of the Passover feast and highlight their relationship to the Last Supper giving special emphasis on the redemptive significance of the crucifixion.

The program is presented by Christian People Ministries, founded in 1894 by Leopold Cohn, a Hungarian rabbi who came to believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

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Commentary

The Future As It Will Be

By John Clayton

The announced closing of the Beallsville Post Office is one more phrase in a by-now-familiar theme: Bigger is better. The postal service, as a cost-saving measure, will close the Beallsville Post Office on August 1, 2010. People who depend on this office for their mail or for other services will be obliged to drive to Poolesville for service. I wonder where this trend will end.

It is never easy to cut costs. Not even considering the political ramifications and machinations, someone will get hurt, and it will probably be someone that doesn't deserve to get hurt. I think one of the hollowest statements that one can make is "Why don't they just cut costs?" without following it up with some semblance of a clue of what should be cut. It isn't easy. I challenge anyone at pretty much any level of government to find significant savings in any budget without comprising, to some degree, health, education, transportation, or public safety. Good luck with that.

Elsewhere in this issue we report Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett's plan to face up to a \$780 million budget shortfall. The cuts involve furloughs, reductions-in-force, and other fairly drastic measures. These are especially drastic if it is your job or paycheck that is being affected. The Commonwealth of Virginia and other states are going through similar tough times. As we all know, many of these financial problems derive from downturns in the real estate and housing markets and their consequent effects on revenues. While this particular storm has been more savage than most, markets are necessarily cyclical in nature. In fact, I have read in a number of places that these boom and bust cycles are necessary to a free flowing and vibrant econo-

my—it's the nature of the beast, and we have to live with it. That makes sense, but it reminds of the late Louis Rukeyser and his show Wall Street Week. Occasionally, while discussing the prospects of recession, some visiting economist or markets guru would explain to Louis that the current slowdown would in fact be a positive thing in the longer term. Rukeyser would respond with something like, "Oh, and will you be losing your job, then?"

I don't really have anything more enlightening to say about all of this, which should be fairly obvious if you have read this far, but living in the Monocacy area, in the Agricultural Reserve, I am concerned by how well small things function out here, and by how threatened small things seem to be. We have small MARC train stations that contribute to the use of mass transit for commuting in, yes, a small way—but it is quite large if you live near the Dickerson, or Boyds, or even the larger Barnesville station, and are able to drive a short distance and ride the rails into downtown D.C. We all remember the battle to keep the small stations open. Otherwise, all those other riders were going to have to go to Barnesville (where parking is already at capacity), or perhaps down to Germantown, or out to Point of Rocks, driving longer distances to these mega-stations. Monocacy Elementary School was next, although there has been at least a temporary stay. The children would just have to ride to Poolesville, or perhaps eventually they would have to ride to Germantown. Who knows where this all leads? Maybe a Wal-Mart will open up somewhere close, and the rest of the small stores can disappear. It's progress, and it's good for the economy—lower prices for everyone. That's really all that matters, isn't it?

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Tidbits

Lacey Williams Recognized for Volunteer Service

John Poole Middle School student, Lacey Williams, has been honored for her exemplary volunteer service with a President's Volunteer Service Award.

The award, which recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country, was presented by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program on behalf of President Obama.

Lacey earned her award by volunteering at Poolesville Elementary helping teachers, counselors, and students on a weekly basis. Lacey also volunteers regularly with the Poolesville Relay for Life.

"I go straight to the elementary school after school so I can get thirty minutes in with students before they leave. I enjoy working with younger students, [seeing] them learn something and smile. I also have needed additional help at times and know how much it meant to me, so I can do this for other students," said Lacey Williams.

"Lacey has completed 482 SSL [Student Service Learning hours] so far at John Poole Middle School, and, as a result of her volunteering, she has decided to be a teacher. Her dedication has supported many students and will make a difference in the lives of those she teaches in the future. Lacey's commitment is a fine example of how volunteerism makes a positive impact on others and herself," commented Peg Arnold, Student Service Learning Coordinator at JPMS.

Sponsored by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program recognizes young people across America for outstanding community service activities. More than 275,000 young people across America have been considered for these awards since the program began in 1995.

Eternal Hope in Haiti Orphanage Featured in Poolesville Baptist Program

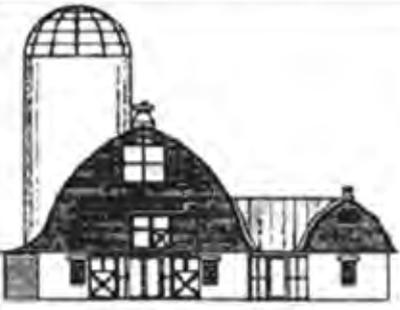


Getting around in Haiti for the Eternal Hope in Haiti program.

Kristi and J.T. Hardy of Gaithersburg were featured speakers for a special program on the Eternal Hope in Haiti program and the Hope Haven Orphanage in Cap Haitien, Haiti at Poolesville Baptist Church on Sunday evening, March 7. The Hardys' daughter, Cheron Hardy, is a missionary nurse practitioner at the orphanage, which normally cares for approximately fifty orphans. Cheron has been receiving new orphans as a result of the tremendously-destructive earthquake in Port-au-Prince in January and expects to receive a total of about twenty-five more, many with serious conditions including amputations, malnourishment, and various serious diseases.

Kristi spoke to an audience

-Continued on Page 14.



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

March 2010

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 Linden Farm
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Another Blow to our Area!

Patrons of the Beallsville Postal Service were notified recently that their office would close on August 1, 2010 while they were requested to fill out a questionnaire about how the closing would impact them and their community! Sugarloaf Citizens Association has written three letters to the area's Postal Service officials, but has not received a clear answer about the closing of the Beallsville office.

We all know that the U.S. Postal Service is in genuine financial straits because of competing services. Still, there are many services that only a post office can provide. We still want to order things and send our packages by mail, and apply for passports at the post office. Rural residents rely on having their mail delivered to boxes or by mail carriers. While delivery could be supplied by other area post offices, it will require longer distances and thus higher cost both for the Postal Service and the patrons; many of the elderly will be greatly inconvenienced.

There appears to be a simple assumption that since there are relatively few rural postal patrons, rural offices can be closed without due consideration. We take exception to this assumption because it discredits the basic rights of the patrons of this public service.

Beallsville has had a post office since the early 1800's and although it is located in a historical district protected under the Montgomery County Code, the Postal Service has chosen to neglect such considerations. The Beallsville community may thus not be the only one in our region to lose its post office. It is imperative that the US Postal Service use transparent criteria that can be examined and challenged at public hearings. Rural people are mostly reasonable folks who will work hard to do what is right for our communities and citizens. We want an open process and a healthy dialogue when our basic rights for public service are threatened.

We want to remind area residents that the **Sugarloaf Citizens' Association's Annual Meeting** will be held at the Linden Farm at 20900 Martinsburg Rd, Dickerson, MD on April 17 beginning at 9:30. A full agenda will be presented in our next Newsletter.

Reach for the Stars

Young Dancers Make Their Marks

By Dominique Agnew

Three young and talented ballet dancers from Poolesville's Hope Garden Ballet Children's Theatre (HGBCT) recently saw success in competition and on the stage. All seventh graders at John Poole Middle School, Veronica Contreras, Suzanne Creedon, and Brooke O'Connell, traveled to Philadelphia in January for the renowned Youth America Grand Prix Regional Competition. Along with hundreds of other accomplished dance students from the Northeast, the girls performed before a panel of judges. Fran Ichijo, artistic director of HGBCT, says, "I don't think of ballet as a contest—it's an art...but it's a good experience for them to dance under pressure."

For the girls, this was not only a very big competition, probably the largest student competition in this multi-state region, it was their first competition. "They really enjoyed the experience," adds Fran. "They looked well and really appreciated the judges' comments...and seeing where they stood among the best in the area."

The girls, all longtime students at HGBCT, showed their dedication and determination by giving up almost all of their winter break to practice. They only had off Christmas Eve and Christmas day. "I was very proud of them," says Fran. "They behaved themselves very professionally... They rose to the occasion."

A little closer to home, Suzanne Creedon had the opportunity of a lifetime when she auditioned among sixty dancers to be selected for one of sixteen spots for the Mariinsky (formerly the

Kirov) Ballet's Sleeping Beauty. She ended up being cast as the lead boy and under the tutelage of teacher who mainly spoke Russian and required a translator. The whole experience took on epic proportions when during the second week of two weeks of grueling rehearsals, two historic snowstorms arrived in D.C. She ended up staying in a hotel for seven days, and with no cars able to maneuver, she walked to the Kennedy Center for rehearsals. The one day the Kennedy Center was closed, they rehearsed in the ballroom of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

"She worked really hard for two weeks," says Fran.

"We had a lot of practices," adds Suzanne, "two hours at a time, two a day."

Despite all the hard work, Suzanne has memories to last a lifetime: dancing with the principal dancers, sitting on stage to watch the principal dancers, making new friends, building snowmen with the staff of the Ritz, and enjoying the Ritz's hot chocolate—"Their hot chocolate was amazing."

The other HGBCT dancers were unable to audition for Sleeping Beauty because the roles of children had a height maximum of 4'11". Although Suzanne has sometimes complained about her height, this is one those classic cases where good things come in small packages.



Suzanne Creedon of HGBCT dressed in the part of a boy with the cast of Sleeping Beauty, front row, third from the left.

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Local News

Town Approves New Changes to Charter

The uniquely-short Poolesville Commissioners meeting of March 15 had scheduled a public hearing on Charter Amendment Resolution, the result of a comprehensive review of the town charter with recommendations to bring the document up-to-date. Last reviewed in 1982, the town charter was in need of modernization and updates to current tax collection methodologies, election verbiage, and additions for boards and committees.

No residents were on hand to make any comments on the proposed changes, and the commission voted 3-0 to approve the resolution. Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski was not present as he was providing testimony regarding the future needs of the Poolesville School Cluster to the county board of education. Commissioner Jim Brown was unable to attend this meeting due to demands at his employment.

After approving recommendations for persons extending their service on various town committees, the commission decided to offer town participation in Earth Hour 2010. This is an environmental awareness program that requests that all non-essential lights in homes

and businesses be turned off for one hour as a demonstration of concern for the environment. The event is scheduled for March 27 at 8:00 p.m. The commissioners directed the town manager to have non-essential lights in and around the town hall turned off to show the town's support.

Also, an announcement was made that the town will not be renewing the contract with the town attorney, Alan Wright, and public notices are being prepared to request applications for the position. The commissioners wanted the public to know that the roadside curb pickup and shredding of damaged trees and shrubs from the recent snowstorm had resulted in a large amount of mulch which the town offers free in stockpiles at Bodmer Park.

The Town of Poolesville Commissioners have scheduled public hearings on three items on Monday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m: draft proposals for the budget and tax rate for FY2011, ordinance (#178) on alternative energy (wind, solar, and geothermal), and amendments to ordinance (#180) regarding a well head protection plan to include provisions for underground storage tanks. All copies of proposals under discussion are available at the town website, www.ci.poolesville.md.us. The Monocle's report on the meeting will be posted at www.monocleonline.com on March 23, 2010.

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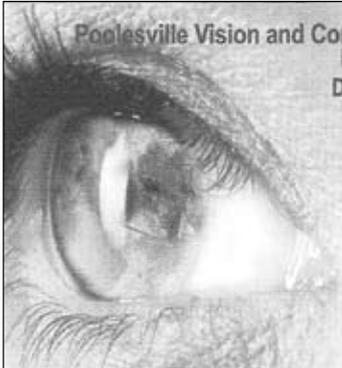
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Business Briefs

Your Passport through Poolesville

Spring is in the air, and with it comes an exhilarating sense of renewal. It's also that time of year for home shows and garden festivals—and this year, Poolesville will not be left out in the cold. In partnership together, the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Community Economic Development Committee will be sponsoring a spring community/business fair at the Poolesville Elementary School on April 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Planned with the theme, Passport through Poolesville, area businesses, crafters, artisans, and more will be on display showcasing their products and services.

Offered at no admission cost, attendees will be given a special "passport" to travel from booth to booth meeting local businesses, sampling and viewing their wares, and getting chances to win prizes. A lineup of local

talent will be on hand to entertain attendees throughout the day. While still in the planning stages, scheduled to perform will be Brian Gross, Junior Jazzercise, Bill Euler, Hope Garden Ballet, Doug Bell, PHS Midnight Players, and more to come.

The vendor list is growing fast, and for businesses looking for a fun way to meet and greet customers and promote their products or services, this is a really fun and effective face-to-face event. To make sure you don't miss out, simply fill out the application for vendor space at www.poolesvillechamber.com or www.poolesville.com. A discount is available for PACC members, and if you have any questions, email info@poolesvillechamber.com.

Fine Job by Fine Earth

Local Poolesville firm, Fine Earth Landscape, Inc., has again been honored by the Landscape Contractors Association of DC/MD/VA with six Regional Landscape Awards. The awards were given for jobs ranging in size

from a small residential planting to a large estate design which included a swimming pool, wood decking, patios and waterfalls. Fine Earth has been located in Poolesville for most of its thirty-three years in business.

Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard Wines Win Awards in Competition

Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard, the sole vineyard and winery located in Montgomery County, has received silver awards for the 2007 Comus Reserve and the 2007 Chardonnay in the 2010 Grand Harvest Wine competition. Wines were entered from all over North America, Europe, South America, and the Pacific Rim.

The Grand Harvest Awards is a one-of-a-kind competition which focuses on terroir, a group of vineyards (or even vines) from the same region, belonging to a specific appellation, and sharing the same type of soil, weather conditions, grapes, and wine-making savoir-faire, all which

contribute to give the wines their specific personality. What makes this competition stand out from others is that it judges the wines in the context of their viticultural region.

Sugarloaf's dedicated wine-maker, Carl DiManno, received his degree in Oenology from the University of California, Davis. Carl previously worked in Napa Valley and began his work at Sugarloaf before the first vines were planted or the winery was built. Since then, DiManno's hard work has paid off, and Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard wines have won many awards internationally, nationally, and locally.

Get Ready to Be Counted!

The Census Bureau is hiring. The work is interesting, the pay is good, the jobs are part time, and temporary. If you drive, your mileage is paid. Call to schedule your qualifying Basic Skills Test:

In Montgomery County: 240-780-3950, everywhere else in the USA: 866-861-2010. Tests are scheduled every day of the week, at many sites around the county.



HOLY WEEK AT BOYDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday
March 28	April 1	April 2
9:30 a.m. service	8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
11:00 a.m. service	Communion Served	Candlelight Service
Receive palm crosses	7:00 p.m. Fellowship	7:00 p.m. Fellowship

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunrise Service	Easter Sunday
April 4	April 4
6:15 a.m.	9:30 a.m. family service
Sugarloaf Mountain	11:00 a.m. traditional

19901 White Ground Road
Boyds, MD 20841
301-540-2544



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Mystery History

Is That a Pharaoh in Town Hall?

By Rande Davis

On the walls of Poolesville Town Hall are some intriguing historical pictures of Poolesville including a lineup of group photos of the current and past commissioners. Newly placed among the pictures is a mysterious Egyptian print which appears to show a royal leader, perhaps even the pharaoh, greeting two men who are either asking a question or perhaps providing answers to an inquiry. No one seems to know how to interpret the picture.

How the picture came to the Poolesville commissioners in the first place is less of a mystery. In 1990, the United States Agency

for International Development (USAID) hosted what was called a Travelling Workshop on Wastewater Utilities. The USAID Mission in Cairo sponsored this tour for fifteen Egyptian engineers to various wastewater facilities in the United States to assist the Egyptians in their professional capacity. One of the utilities selected was right here in Poolesville since the town's system was considered a cutting-edge prototype at the time. Mayor Charles Elgin, and Stuart W. Sibold and Kenneth Hosto of Kamber Engineering, Inc. gave the Egyptians a guided tour of the Poolesville wastewater plant. The print was given to the town as a gift in appreciation for the "presentations, patient explanations, and guided tour," and for the "kindness extended to them during their visit to the United States." Now we know how and why the picture came to the town hall. As to the interpretation of the art, we remain in the dark. We would like to imagine it is of

the pharaoh greeting two of his engineers who supervised the construction of the pyramids. Perhaps one of our readers, more knowledgeable in such art, can give us a true interpretation.



Does this Egyptian print mean the Town Hall is now a palace?

Individuals, Groups (Church, Sports, Youth...), Corporate, Schools, Health Care, AA...



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301.428.8200

ADAMSTOWN: 4 BR/2.5 BA colonial, 2-car garage. Located on quiet cul de ac. MLS#FR7243990. Offered at \$387,500.



BOYDS: 4 BRs/2.5BA brick home on 1.39 acs., Adjoins Black Hills Regional Park. MLS#MC7261572. Offered at \$455,000.

OPEN SUNDAY 3/21 12-3



POOLESVILLE-WESMOND: Renovated 3 BR/2 BA one-level contemporary. Freshly painted & in Move-in condition! MLS #MC7222944. Offered at \$319,900.

OPEN SUNDAY 3/21 12-3



COMUS: 4 BR/3.5 BA custom-built contemporary nestled on 5.51 acs. at the base of Sugarloaf Mt. & a 3-car det.garage. MLS#MC7266915. Offered at \$975,000.



Visit us on the web at: www.jamisonrealestate.com

Things to Do

March 19 to March 24 and March 28

For Yankees and Nationals' Fans Only

Well, not exactly. This is for any baseball fan that really enjoys collecting autograph memorabilia or buying a unique gift and, at the same time, helping a good cause. There will be an autograph-signing fundraising event to benefit Breast Cancer Research at Dulles Expo Center on March 28. On hand to sign baseballs or other items will be the great New York Yankee second baseman, Bobby Richardson, and former Yankee and Washington Senator Jim Coates. Also attending will be Mike Nelms, Scott Norwood, and Reggie Harrison. They are the guests of Poolesville resident, Mark Kuhn. Mr. Kuhn, upon request, is offering to obtain autographs for *Monocle* readers who cannot attend the event. He must have your donation (\$25.00 for Bobby Richardson, \$10.00 for the others, and the item to be autographed by March 24). To make the arrangements, you may reach him at 301-349-2027.

March 19

Relay for Life
Movie Night
Poolesville Elementary School,
7:00 p.m.

March 19 and March 20
Used Books and Media Sale
St. Peter's Parish, Poolesville
Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Come browse from a wide selection of inexpensive used adult and children's books, videos, DVDs, CDs, audio tapes, records, and computer software. Enjoy a cookie from the bake sale while stocking up on some excellent reading material. Why pay bookstore prices when you can shop at St. Peter's?

March 20

Poolesville Presbyterian Church
17800 Elgin Road
Toys, tools, furniture, books, household goods, and more

This is a fundraiser for the Youth Mission Program
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

LAND Spring Roadside Cleanup
Rain or Shine
Report to PHS for location assignment
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

March 21

Open House
Butler School – Darnestown
A Montessori Tradition
Primary/Elementary/Adolescent
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

March 22

Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting
Town Hall
Public Hearings on:
FY2011 Proposed Budget and Tax Rate
Ordinance #180 – Amend Well-head Protection Plan
Ordinance #178 – Alternative Energy (wind/solar/geothermal)

March 24

CEDC Meeting
Poolesville Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Come Learn about Democratic Schools
Join us for a discussion with Jim Reitmulder, founder and staff member of the Circle School, about student directed, democratic education. Learn how children thrive in an inclusive, creative, and dynamic environment. 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Urbana Regional Library, The Urbana Community Room, 9020 Amelung Street, Urbana, Maryland 21704.
RSVP 301-874-2207 or info@freedomhillmd.org

March 25

Poolesville Library
Three-Sixes Storytime
Fingerplay, stories, music, 10:30 a.m.

Drama Performances
John Poole Middle School
Monocacy Elementary School,
8:00 p.m.

Continued on Page 11.



Holy Week

**St. Mary's
Catholic Church
and
Shrine of
Our Lady of
Fatima**

**Passion (Palm) Weekend
March 27 & 28**

4:30 pm – Saturday Vigil Mass
8, 9:30, and 11 am – Sunday

**Monday, March 29 to
Wednesday, March 31**

9:00 am – Mass

**Holy Thursday
April 1**

No morning Mass
7:30 pm – Mass & Procession to the
Repository
9 pm to Midnight – Adoration at
the Repository

**Good Friday
April 2**

No Mass
3pm – Stations of the Cross
7:30 pm – Celebration of the Lord's
Passion

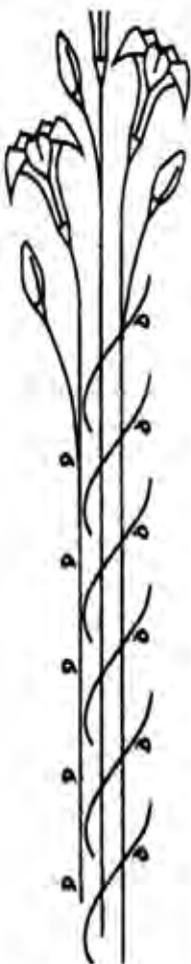
**Holy Saturday
April 3**

No morning Mass
8 pm – Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday
April 4**

**18230 Barnesville Rd, Barnesville,
301-972-8660**

www.stmaryonline.com
stmarysb@yahoo.com



"Things to Do" Continued From Page 10

PHS Talent Show and Band Festival
7:00 p.m.

March 27
American Legion Post 247 Blood Drive
St. Peter's Church – Poolesville
No appointment necessary
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Barrel Tasting
Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard's barrel tastings allow you to compare the taste of selected wines aged in SMV's oak barrels for varied amounts of time. Food will be available. Space is limited, and reservations are required. Call 301-605-0130. Cost: \$20 per person; SMV Case Club members are free. 1:00 p.m.

Carroll Manor Lions Club
Coach Pocketbook Bingo
Adamstown Fire Station
Doors open: 5:30 p.m.

Games start: 7:00 p.m.
Food and refreshments available
301-662-4643 for info

Second Annual Kites over Clarksburg Event
Kites over Clarksburg is sponsored by the Clarksburg Civic Association and Clarksburg Foundation in conjunction with the Department of Parks (MNCP-PC). This festival will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Ovid Hazen Wells Park on Skylark Road, Clarksburg. There will be kite flying demonstrations, activities for non-kite-flying children, games, activities, and a raffle. Participants will receive raffle tickets for each canned good donated. Donations benefit local food banks. Companies and organizations serving Clarksburg will also be participating as exhibitors throughout the day. Sponsors and exhibitors are sought for this event. Donations will go toward printing of programs, purchase of supplies, and advertising the event. Service organizations are welcome.

Registrations and entries must be received by March 20. For information or questions contact Alethea Hendricks at 301-515-3330, Kathie Hulley at 301-580-4896, or clarksburgkites@pmail.com

March 29
Poolesville Library
Adult Book Discussion Group
Robert Kurson's Shadow Drivers
7:30 p.m.

March 31
Messiah in the Passover
Barnesville Baptist Church
A vivid and exciting demonstration showing how Jesus fulfilled the ancient feast of Passover. This program gives the Christian community insight into Jewish traditions so that the Jewish roots of Christianity can be better understood. This program also helps the Jewish and Christian communities understand their common heritage.
7:00 pm.

April 4
Easter
Services at all area churches
Also the 56th Annual Sunrise Service at Sugarloaf Mountain
6:15 a.m.

April 5
Monocacy Lions Blood Drive
Poolesville Baptist Church
3:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

April 7
Art League Meeting
The Art League of Germantown will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Gallery at the BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown. Jordan Graw, of Gamblin Paints, will discuss and demonstrate the many properties of Gamblin fine oil painting products at this meeting. Members will submit show forms for the Shades of Spring Fine Arts Show prior to the presentation. For more information, visit the ALOG website: www.ALOG.org.

Continued on Page 15.



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FOR WEEKEND SPECIALS:

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MARCH 3-COURSE SPECIALS

YOUR CHOICE OF: Pick one from each category

APPETIZER: Southwest Eggroll, Calamari, Crab Dip, Cup of Soup, House Salad

ENTRÉE:

Fish and Chips with French fries and coleslaw - \$18.00

Quarter Fried Chicken with mashed potatoes and coleslaw - \$16.50

Baked Ziti with garlic bread - \$16.00

8-oz. Sirloin Steak with chive whipped potatoes - \$20.00

Bassett Burger with French fries - \$16.00

Hot Turkey Dinner with herb dressing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, and gravy - \$18.00

DESSERT: Cake-Chocolate, Carrot, Lemon Raspberry, Strawberry (no sugar added), or Ice Cream Sundae

APRIL SPECIAL

Rocky Top Barbeque Chicken

Smoked with apple wood in homemade barbeque sauce, topped with Monterey Jack Cheese

COME JOIN US FOR EASTER!

MENU SPECIALS WILL INCLUDE:

Appetizers: Spinach Dip & Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail

Entree: Roasted Lamb Loin,

Chicken Chesapeake, Prime Rib

Entertainment Night

March 20

ANDY WESCOTT

April 10

MINDY MILLER

FAMILY CARRYOUT SPECIALS

BAKED ZITI FOR FOUR: Served with house salad & garlic bread - \$18.00

12-PIECE BUCKET OF FRIED CHICKEN: Served with mashed potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, and biscuits - \$24.00

PORK BBQ SANDWICHES FOR FOUR: Served with Ms. Vickie's Simply Sea Salt potato chips and coleslaw-\$28.00

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Family Album



*The Family Album is sponsored by
Selby's Market
Your IGA Hometown Food Store*



Brownies from Troop #4761 took advantage of a bright day to sell cookies at Whalen Commons: Carly Dacanay, Grace Bodmer, Kalie Terragno, and Anna Terragno



Mark Gochmour, Poolesville librarian, shares a laugh with Steve and Kamilla Feys during the PACC dinner at the Comus Inn.



Storybook characters ran amok at St. Peter's Mystery Dinner to support a youth mission trip.



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Saturday	9:00am - 12:00pm
Sunday	CLOSED

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Passport Through Poolesville Spring Community/Business Fair 2010
Saturday April 10 • 10am-3pm • Poolesville Elementary School

RESIDENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Travel through our business community!

Stop outside to dispose of your confidential documents at the shredder truck sponsored by Corporate Network Services and purchase refreshments from Java Cruiser. Then, head inside to get your passport and visit all of the vendor booths. While visiting with vendors enjoy entertainment provided by local musicians, dance studios, Jazzercise and yoga. Submit your stamped passport for raffle prize drawings. Food will be available to purchase.

Admittance is free!

CALLING ALL BUSINESSES

Sign up for your vendor space now!

You do not want to miss out on the biggest event of the spring!

Vendor applications are available at
www.poolesvillechamber.com or www.poolesville.com
 Email: info@poolesvillechamber.com

Discounts for PACC members!
Vendor Application Deadline: March 31
Prize for Best Booth

Sponsored jointly by the Community and Economic Development Committee and Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce

Remembrance Former Poolesville Librarian Passes Away



Michelle Seltzer

Michelle Seltzer, a former librarian at Poolesville Library for over eight years, passed away on March 5. Also a former teacher,

she will be especially remembered for leading many of the programs for the younger children during her time here. She was transferred from Poolesville Library in early 2008. In Mrs. Seltzer's honor, contributions may be made to Casey House – Montgomery Hospice, 6001 Muncaster Mill Road, Rockville, Maryland 20855.

As a remembrance, the *Monocle* recalls her service to the community by reprinting an article by Marcie Gross that ran in the January 13, 2006 edition.

Hi, Miss Michelle!

By Marcie Gross

Whenever our family enters the Poolesville Library, the first thing my sons do is look around, spot their friend, and say, "Hi, Miss Michelle!" Their eyes brighten, and their smiles are always wide. Miss

Michelle responds by greeting them (she always remembers their names) and asking them, "What's new?" My children aren't the only ones who adore Miss Michelle a.k.a. Michelle Seltzer. I've seen lots of children go through the same ritual as mine. So many of the neighborhood kids (babies and toddlers included) know Michelle and are happy to see her each time they visit the Poolesville Library.

My older son, A.J., was so excited when he found out I was writing an article about Miss Michelle. He remembers that she was the person to give him his first library card when he was five. My younger son, Mickey, seems to always ask Miss Michelle for very specific books (i.e. he remembers the picture on the cover and most of the title), and she finds them for him immediately with a smile on her face. For as many questions and requests my sons make (and there are so many), Michelle will help them and make them feel that they and their questions/requests are very

important.

One Monocacy Elementary School parent told me, "I'll never forget when last spring Michelle visited my son's kindergarten class. She instilled so much excitement into reading. My son asked to go to the library that day to get his own library card!"

Perhaps Michelle works so well with children because she has spent the majority of her professional life with them (in addition to her two own children, Eric and Jerri). She spent many years in the Montgomery County Public School system as a part-time instructional teacher for eleven and a half years, a kindergarten assistant teacher at Seven Locks and Kensington Elementary Schools, and a third grade teacher at Harmony Hills. Michelle decided to get into the library system within Montgomery County and began as a shelving assistant and a substitute librarian, and has worked her way up to a library associate II. During that time,

-Continued on Page 23.

Youth Sports

Distance Runners Pace Clarksburg and Poolesville Indoor Track Squads

By Jeff Stuart

Poolesville's Sam Widmayer, Eric Holmstead, Kevin Connor, and Kevin Dickerson set a season best time by over five seconds in winning the 2A 4x400 relay in 3:36.16 in the first day of the 2A state championship at the Prince George's Sports complex on February 22. The race was very close with Walkersville finishing second in 3:36.38. The last time that Poolesville won a boys' relay state title was twenty-five years ago.

There was even more success for the PHS boys this year. The 4x800m relay team of Widmayer, David Wilson, Holmstead, and Jordan Psaltakis also finished second at the 2A West Regional and sixth in the states after a fifth place at the Montgomery County Championships. Widmayer and Holmstead ran the first and last legs of the 4x800 to finish second in the 1A Indoor State Championships last season. In individual efforts, Widmayer finished seventh in the 800m and Kevin Dickerson eighth in the 300m at the Montgomery County Championships.

"The boys had their best season since I have been here," said PHS Head Coach Mike Trumbull. "The 4x400 State Championship relay team put together their best race of the past three years. It was nice to see their hard work and dedication finally pay off with the win. After the loss of several key seniors last year, the girls' team is in a rebuilding year. We are a young team with this being the first year for many of the athletes (Katie McFall 55m, Melanine Hovencamp 300m, Karin Taylor 500m, and Megan Gerdes

1600m are all sophomores). We are still learning how to race, and most of the girls showed great improvement through the season. They will be ready for outdoor track and field."

The Clarksburg girls' team took fourth at the 3A state championship indoor track meet with thirty-six points. "Freshman Abbey Daley had a huge day," said Head Coach Scott Mathias. "First in the 1600m, third in the 3200m, and she was the first leg on the 4x800m relay that took second place." But Daley's day did not start off that way. She was tripped during the start to the girls 3A 4x800 relay and fell. The race was restarted and she recovered, leading the team to a school record time of 10:00.83 which was good for second place.

After icing her hip, she was back on the starting line an hour later for the 1600. She passed a number of runners in the last fifty meters for the win. A freshman in high school, Daley has been running competitively since she was about eight or nine years old. She ran for track clubs in both California and Wyoming. She was the runner up at the 3A state cross country championship and was named to Mocorunning.com's All Freshman Cross Country team. She competes in club soccer several days a week.

Senior Lauren Sumner won the 800m and anchored the 4x800m relay. In the 800, she took the lead with 400 meters to go and never relinquished it. For the versatile Sumner, it was her first individual state crown. She is also a cross country runner. She has run middle distance and shorter races, qualifying for last year's outdoor states in the 4x100, 4x200, and 4x400.

Senior Julianne Dirks and sophomore Sunita Mengers joined Abbey and Lauren on the silver medal 3200 relay. The girls 4x400 relay of Sunita Mengers, Diane Penda, Kasey White, and Taylor Randall finished seventh.

On the boys' side, senior Jatin Narang scored in both the 1600m and the 3200m. Junior Malcolm Ayers was eighth in the 300m dash. Freshmen Will Bertrand and Ibrahim Zifa joined

Jatin and fellow senior Joel Hackett on the boys' 4x800 relay that finished seventh.

The boys 4x400 relay of Jeremiah Bowden, Malcolm Ayers, Chaquille Daniel, and Devin Moreno finished just out of the medals in fourth.

"After dealing with all the snow delays and closings, the team responded well," said Mathias. "They stayed together and really stepped up when it counted."



Sam Widmayer, Eric Holmstead, Kevin Connor, Kevin Dickerson helped pace the PHS indoor track team.

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"Tidbits" Continued From Page 5.

of about thirty families, relating Cheron's early life here in Montgomery County, her childhood calling and commitment to missionary medical work, her studies at Emory University, and her work in the Eternal Hope in Haiti program. Her work at the Hope Haven Orphanage has consumed the last nine years of her life and touched the lives of many otherwise hopeless children. Members and friends at Poolesville Baptist are making contributions through the Hands of Love Ministry, founded locally by Dr. John Todd and administered by Mark Warner. Hands of Love has conducted many missionary work trips to Haiti over the past decade and plans for another to support the orphanage in June 2010. Information on contributing through Poolesville Baptist can be obtained from Pete Horsley at 301-831-8471 or by calling Mark Warner at 301-748-2891. Information on the orphanage can be

obtained at their website: www.eternalhopeinhaiti.org

Thompson and Duncan Win Art and Writing Award

Local students Rachel Thompson and Sean Duncan received regional Gold Key recognition in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards of 2010.

This is an exceptional achievement, as only the most accomplished works submitted to the awards program earn Gold Keys. In 2010, more than 165,000 works were submitted for the awards, and only 693 from the region-at-large earned Gold Key recognition. Sean and Rachel's award-winning photographs will now be forwarded to the national-level competition.

"Things to Do" Continued From Page 11.

Jordan Graw, of Gamblin Paints, will discuss and demonstrate the many properties of Gamblin fine oil painting products at this meeting. Members will submit show forms for the Shades of Spring Fine Arts Show prior to the presentation. For more information, visit the ALOG website: www.ALOG.org.

April 10
PACC/CEDC
Spring Business Fair and Festival
Passport through Poolesville
Local Business vendors/Prizes/
Entertainment
FREE
Poolesville Elementary School
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

April 12
Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting
Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

April 15
Twos-some Storytime
Fingerplay, stories, music

10:30 a.m.

April 17
Area Youth Invited to Compete in Pitch, Hit, and Run Competition
The Poolesville Softball League is hosting the Aquafina® Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit, and Run competition. Competitors are divided into four age divisions: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14. Winners will have a chance to compete free of charge and possibly advance through four levels of competition, including team championships at major league ballparks. The national finals will be at the 2010 MLB™ All-Star Game.

The area competition will be at the Beallsville Fire House ball field on April 17 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Participants will need to provide a birth certificate and to fill out a registration/waiver form. For more information, you may call Mark Kuhn at 301-349-2027.

Local News

Local Chef Wins Recipe Contest

By John Clayton

Boyd's resident and Clarksburg High School volunteer Patty Kelly said she entered a contest on a whim, and to her great surprise, she won. The next thing she knew, she was helping cook her dish as the featured special at the Comus Inn at Sugarloaf Mountain.

Cheryl Cox, Director of Sales and Events at the Comus Inn said that the restaurant had been brainstorming a number of ideas to bring people to the restaurant, including a recent truffle demonstration, cooking demonstrations, wine dinners, and recipe contests. This particular contest was their first one, and out of "numerous submissions," Patty Kelly's Mediterranean Chicken was selected.

Ms. Kelly said she had recently prepared the dish for the first time, and when her

husband said he liked it, she decided to enter it in the contest, which she had heard about in an email. Executive Chef Jose Molina said that he liked the recipe because it used a number of good ingredients, such as leeks and mushrooms, and that he found it "intriguing." When the *Monocle* spoke to Patty she was in the Comus Inn's kitchen working away with Jose and his staff. She said it was her first experience in a high-end, commercial kitchen, and that she was going to take a few tips home. She also suggested that if she decides to start a new career in a few years, this might be something to build on.



Contest winner Patty Kelly and Comus Inn Executive Chef Jose Molina at work.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE



SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN EAST VIEW OVERLOOK

**APRIL 4TH
6:15 A.M.**

*Everyone is welcome
Bring a flashlight
Some seats are available
Hosted by Eight Churches*

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Local News

Fatal Accident At Routes 107 And 28

By Rande Davis

Michael Alan Stoos, 40 years old, of the 17900 block of Ashton Club Way in Sandy Spring was fatally injured in a car accident at the Route 107 and Route 28 intersection in Dawsonville in the early morning hours of March 14. A preliminary police report revealed that the silver 2009 Infinity G30 S he was driving was traveling north on Route 28 through the White's Ferry Road intersection. The Infinity crossed the double yellow lines and collided with a white 1999 Isuzu box truck that was southbound on Route 28.

The driver of the other vehicle was Dennis Conni of Poolesville and his passenger

Jose Luis Hernandez. They were both transported to Suburban Hospital with non-life threatening injuries, and a full recovery is expected.

The circumstances surrounding this collision remain under investigation, and investigators want to speak with witnesses. Detectives are asking anyone who witnessed the collision to contact the Collision Reconstruction Unit at 301-840-2435.

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School News

Dude, Where's Mr. Poolesville?

By Chantal Agnew

This year's Mr. Poolesville competition featured ten of Poolesville's finest and most talented young men. Nominated for the competition were Timmy Del Vecchio, Kevin Dickerson, Kyle Flick, Brian Harris, Cody Kenly, Ishan Khetrapi, Brendan McFall, Tyler Mumford, Daniel Szwerc, and Sam Weber. The show started off with a video of the boys doing a parody of the hit movie, *Dude Where's my Car?*, with a slight twist, the boys' version was: *Dude, Where's my Crown?* Following the video, the contestants all jogged onto the stage for a choreographed dance to a medley of different songs. Next, each contestant was made to strut his stuff across the stage in the casual wear section—not to be confused with the active wear display that followed. The Casual Wardrobe is what the man of fashion wears to school; the Active Wardrobe includes different articles of clothing representing all of the boys' various extracurricular activities and athletics.

At last, came everyone's favorite part of the show: the talents. All ten of the young men performed a combination of humorous and musical vignettes that kept the audience highly

impressed and entertained. After a brief intermission, spectators were enthralled by the slideshow of the boys' baby pictures. This gave the contestants time to change into their Formal Wear, and each young man emerged in a tuxedo escorted either by a friend, a sibling, or a significant other. Finally, the time had come for the judges to announce the Top Five: Timmy Del Vecchio, Cody Kenly, Brian Harris, Tyler Mumford, and Sam Weber. These five fortunate fellows got to answer the Final Question, the last thing the judges take into account before making the Ultimate Decision. All too soon, the moment came for the judges to announce the winner. The third runner up was Brian Harris, the second runner up, Sam Weber, the first runner up, Timmy Del Vecchio, and the winner of this year's 2010 Mr. Poolesville competition was Tyler Mumford. Congratulations,



Who will be the next Mr. Poolesville? The Final Five who vied for the Crown: Timmy Del Vecchio, Brian Harris, Cody Kenly, Tyler Mumford, and Sam Weber.

Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crimes

Robbery: February 27, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue. A pedestrian was robbed by two suspects who were known to the victim.

Theft: 23200 block of Scholl Manor Way, Clarksburg. Plumbing supplies stolen from a construction site.

Liquor law violation: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Drug offenses: 17600 block of Kohlhos Avenue, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Past Crimes

March 19, 1922 Sheriff Moxley carried out the sentence imposed by Magistrate Viett at the Rockville Jail courtyard. George Kemp, of Barnesville, and Frank Terry, of Cloppers, both received ten lashes on their bare backs for wife-beating.

March 24, 1905 Lula Ingram of Point of Rocks awoke during

the night to find a man in her bedroom. It was reported that she was frightened into convulsions, and her condition was considered to be critical.

March 25, 1949 Two persons were injured in the collision of two trucks at the intersection of the Darnestown Road and the Old Germantown Road. Evelyn Fitzwater and her daughter, Nancy Louise, suffered injuries to their shoulders and backs when their truck collided with one driven by William Selby of Boyds.

March 26, 1907 The remains of a man were found washed up on the shore of Walnut Island, located near Seneca. The body was found by a man and his son who were collecting firewood. It was presumed that the man had been washed down the river from either West Virginia or western Maryland. He was buried by authorities at Seneca.

March 30, 1948 Witnesses at the Rockville courthouse were no longer being asked to "speak up" by judges. A new amplifying system, complete with microphones, was installed and used for the first day with much success.

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"Community Service Award"
Continued From Page 1.

the many past winners such as Kathy Mihm (2007), Roy and Betty Jean Selby (2008), and Ray Hoewing (2009).

President Scott Hollander (Merrill Lynch) hosted the event and gave an economic report provided by the national Chamber of Commerce on economic conditions. The dinner was also an occasion to vote for the new officers of the club. Hilary Schwab Shapiro of Schwab Photography was elected president, and Scott Hollander was elected as vice

president. After six years of service as treasurer, Dennis Conni (M&T Bank) stepped down, and Tim Pike (Pike & Valega, DDS) was elected treasurer. Jeff Stempler (REMN Real Estate Mortgage Network, Inc.) will be membership chairman.

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my loyal customers for the incredible support they have shown in my effort to bring a wind energy program to Poolesville Hardware. For over a year, I have worked with the town commissioners to convince them that bringing alternative energy solutions to Poolesville is the right thing to do. I have felt emboldened by knowing that the majority of residents feel that the time is right to move forward with this plan. Over 400 of you signed a petition showing your approval of a wind powered turbine on my property. I have had countless informal words of encouragement from those of you who come to the store. Many of you have taken the time to attend the town meetings when this issue was being discussed. Your voice has been heard.

BUT, WE NEED TO RALLY ONE MORE TIME.

The Town of Poolesville is having one last meeting to decide the fate of wind and solar energy on Monday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the town hall. The voices heard at this meeting will make a difference in what path is taken in the future. Please join me in showing the town commissioners that we stand together in support of bringing alternative energy solutions to Poolesville. I look forward to seeing you at the Town Hall.

Sincerely,
John Speelman

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"Bulbs" Continued From Page 3.

choosing a planting location, the most important thing to remember is that good soil drainage is essential in raising healthy bulbs. Our area's soil often has a high clay content. You can improve it by adding compost, peat moss, or some other source of organic material. When placing the bulbs in the soil, I add a sprinkling of 10-10-10 fertilizer or an equivalent bulb fertilizer. I continue to fertilize monthly until the plants reach full flower. Bulbs generally have few insect or disease problems. I have found that the reasons for poor flowering the first year are: the bulbs were planted too shallow, too late in the season, or they were not hardy for our region; the bulbs were disturbed or eaten by squirrels, chipmunks, or mice; the bulbs rotted due to fertilizers too high in nitrogen, wet soil conditions, or poor quality or bruised bulbs. Here is my list of bulbs and tubers that I think should have a home in your garden.

I don't understand why more gardeners don't grow the calla lily (*Zantedeschia*). This native of South Africa has very distinctive arrow-shaped, glossy leaves and tubular flowers that come in a rainbow of colors. I have had different results regarding their winter hardiness. Several re-bloomed faithfully each summer, while others lasted only one year. I hate to miss these exquisite

flowers, so now I plant them in containers on the patio and bring them inside in the fall. You have to do a little experimenting, but the time is worth it.

When I was in Cape Town, South Africa last year, I fell in love with the agapanthus plant, which grows very freely there. This is must-have for your garden this year. In a container on your patio, this will be your exclamation point! Here are three very highly-recommended varieties. On the short side at nine inches high is *Agapanthus (A.) orientalis* 'Baby Pete.' The pale blue blooms of this dwarf sit right above the dark green foliage. If you want something a little taller, there is *A.* 'White Heaven,' considered the best white agapanthus and *A.* Midknight Blue, with rounded heads of the deepest, darkest blue flowers. All of these varieties would do well in your garden or in patio containers.

Crocsmia (C.), another native of South Africa, is underutilized in our gardens. It is easy to grow in full sun and well-drained soil. Above foliage that looks like a gladiolus, spikes of brightly-colored, funnel-shaped flowers appear in midsummer. I have two varieties: *C.* 'Bright Eyes' and the classic *Crocsmia* 'Lucifer.' They thrive in our heat and humidity and get better each year.

Welcome to your garden this year some dazzling dahlias, and you will not be disappointed. They are real show-stoppers. Winston Churchill's

garden at his home, Chartwell, just outside of London, has one of the most spectacular dahlia gardens I have ever seen. Churchill wanted every room in his house to have fresh flowers every day, and dahlias were one of his favorites. You can find in local garden centers and plant catalogs many different varieties. I find it very difficult to choose them, since each one is more beautiful than the next. I think the dahlia is the winner in the variety-of-colors competition.

If you thought that begonias were humdrum grandmother plants, think again and look at Blackmore & Langdon (world-famous English nursery) tuberous begonias. These plants' colors, flower size, ex-

quisite shapes, and long season of bloom make them standouts in the garden world. You can plant them in the garden or in patio containers. The trailing variety is especially good for hanging baskets. Blackmore & Langdon tuberous begonias are not your average begonias, and their price reflects this, but they are worth it.

This winter, especially February, has been difficult, even for snow lovers like me, but spring will come. Re-energize your gardens and plant something new. We and our gardens can get a little stale. Break out with the new!

VARSITY SPORTS HOME GAMES

Date	Sport	POOLESVILLE	Time
3/22	Tennis - Boys	Einstein	3:30 p.m.
3/22	Volleyball	Clarksburg	Boys: 5:15 p.m. Coed: 7:00 p.m.
3/24	Baseball	Richard Montgomery	3:30 p.m.
3/24	Lacrosse - Boys	Walter Johnson	7:00 p.m.
3/25	Softball	Richard Montgomery	3:30 p.m.
3/25	Tennis - Boys	Damascus	3:30 P.M.
3/25	Lacrosse - Girls	Walter Johnson	7:00 p.m.
4/7	Track and Field	Quince Orchard	3:30 p.m.
4/7	Softball	Northwood	3:30 p.m.
4/7	Volleyball	Blair	Boys: 5:15 p.m. Coed: 7:00 p.m.
4/9	Lacrosse - Girls	Damascus	7:00 p.m.
Date	Sport	CLARKSBURG	Time
3/22	Baseball	Richard Montgomery	3:30 p.m.
3/22	Lacrosse - Boys	Rockville	7:00 p.m.
3/23	Softball	Richard Montgomery	3:30 p.m.
3/23	Track and Field	Quince Orchard/Sherwood	3:30 .m.
3.25	Lacrosse - Girls	Northwood	7:00 p.m.
3/25	Tennis - Boys	Richard Montgomery	3:30 p.m.
3/25	Volleyball	Richard Montgomery	Boys: 3:30 p.m. Coed: 5:15 p.m.
3/27	Baseball	Gaithersburg	12:00 p.m.
3/29	Baseball	Walt Whitman	12:00 p.m.
4/7	Baseball	Blair	3:30 p.m.
4/7	Track and Field	Seneca Valley/Springbrook	3:30 p.m.
4/8	Lacrosse-Boys	Gaithersburg	7:00 p.m.
4/8	Softball	Blair	3:30 p.m.
4/9	Tennis Boys	Magruder	3:30 p.m.
4/9	Volleyball	Quince Orchard	Boys: 5:15 p.m. Girls: 7:00 p.m.

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Local News
Poolesville Day
Moved to Fourth
Weekend in
September

By Rande Davis

The Poolesville Day Committee has scheduled the twentieth anniversary Poolesville Day for September 25, the fourth weekend of the month. For the past few years, Poolesville Day has been set for the third Saturday of September, but this year, a conflict developed due to Yom Kippur, the holiest Day of Atonement for Jewish residents. The holy days of Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah do not occur on set dates but follow a formula based on the Jewish calendar.

In recognizing that any change of date might inconvenience individuals, the overriding concern was precluding participation by any group. The committee felt that to not make the change would be contrary to the core purpose of the festival—an uplifting day for the whole community.

This is not the first change of date for Poolesville Day. For many years, the festival was held on the second Saturday of the month; however, the earlier date experienced times of excessive heat and did not provide adequate planning and organization time for students just coming off summer break.

Brice Halbrook, co-chair of the Poolesville Day Committee, told the *Monocle*, "Poolesville Day is meant for the whole community, and we did not want any group left out. That's not what Poolesville stands for. If we return to the third Saturday in the future, a conflict with the Jewish holy days will not occur again until 2020. We will want to assess this year's results before committing future scheduling, but you can be sure [that] whatever the final decision, it will be made early in the fall."

Excitement is building for this twentieth anniversary with new ideas and more volunteers already coming forward. Other residents wanting to help are encouraged to visit www.poolesvilleday.com.



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6:00 pm 2nd Sundays, CRE:8 cont. worship

March 28: Palm Sunday

8:15 am Holy Eucharist with
Blessing of the Palms and
Passion Narrative
10:30 am Holy Eucharist with
Blessing of the Palms and
Passion Narrative

April 1: Maundy Thursday

7:30 pm Holy Eucharist with
Footwashing

April 2: Good Friday

7:30 pm Good Friday Liturgy

April 3: Holy Saturday

7:30 pm The Great Vigil of Easter

April 4: Easter Sunday

8:00 am, 9:15 am
& 11:15 am Easter Eucharist

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Methodist

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9:15 am Church School (all ages)
10:30 am Worship

March 28: Palm/Passion Sunday

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship with palm
procession
11:30 am Children's Program
(lunch served) pre
kindergarten
through 5th grade

April 1: Holy Thursday

7:30 pm Worship (with communion)

April 2: Good Friday

7:30 pm Worship
(*Suffering and Hope*)

April 4: Easter

"*Looking for Hope in a Cemetery.*"
8:30 am Communion Service
9:15 am Church School
10:30 am Communion Service
April 11: Second Sunday of Easter
9:15 am Church School
10:30 AM Easter Celebration with
Brass accompaniment)
Begin series "Praying Unselfishly"

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Presbyterian

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301-972-7452
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Every Sunday

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Lent Theme: *Simple & Sacred*
9:15 am Worship
11:00 am Worship

9:15 am Church School for all ages.

March 28: Palm/Passion Sunday

9:15 am The Passion Narrative
11:00 am The Passion Narrative

April 1: Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm Worship with Communion
Service – all welcome.

April 2: Good Friday

7:30 pm Fellowship time
8:00 pm Worship
Tenebrae service of
darkness and light

April 3: Holy Saturday

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt
and Easter Movie
for all ages, children
8 years and under.

April 4: Easter Sunday

6:15 am Sunrise Service on
Sugarloaf Mountain
9:15 am Worship
10:00 am Potluck Breakfast
11:00 am Worship

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Every Sunday

8:00 am Mass
10:45 am Mass

March 28: Palm Sunday

5:30 pm Saturday Vigil, March 27
8:00 am Mass
10:45 am Mass

April 1: Holy Thursday

8:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
With Adoration until 10 pm

April 2: Good Friday

12:00 pm Stations of the Cross
8:00 pm Celebration of the
Lord's Passion

April 3: Holy Saturday

11:00 am Blessing of food for the
First Meal of Easter
4:00-4:45 pm Confessions
8:00 pm Easter Vigil

April 4: Easter Sunday

8:00 am, Mass
9:30 am Mass
10:45 am Mass

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...so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another.

Romans 12: 5

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"Seltzer" Continued From Page 13.

she worked at the Bethesda and Germantown Libraries before coming to Poolesville Library just six years ago. In addition to her library duties, she enjoys leading Cuddle Ups, the zero-to-twenty-three-month-old babies/toddlers, in a story time once a month.

Michelle not only spends her time helping others find wonderful books to read and use for research, but reading is one of her own hobbies. Believe it or not, she can read four books at a time. In her spare time, Michelle says that she reads mysteries, historical fiction, and biographies. When asked what her favorite books were, she listed them categorically: Picture Book – *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle; Juvenile Fiction – *Charlotte's Web*, by E. B. White; Adult Mystery – *The Ladies #1 Detective Agency*, by Alexander McCall Smith; and Adult Fiction – *The Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini.

I know that Michelle has

brought the joy of reading to so many children in the Poolesville community, and we owe her our thanks and gratitude. She would just blush to hear anything of the sort and simply say that it was her pleasure. So the next time you visit the Poolesville Library, make sure you say "Hi!" to Miss Michelle. It will make her day.

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