



Children were thrilled to ride the railroad train during the Holiday Lighting Festival. See more pictures on page 15.



Why did these Monocacy Elementary School students hook school? Find out in Tidbits on page 17.



If you don't know who this Santa is, and you really should by now, then you will have to turn to Name That Santa on page 14, where you will find a collection of even more Santas to identify.



Saint Nicholas is coming to Poolesville again! Read more about it in Things to Do on page 6.

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

December 9, 2011

Volume VIII, Number 19.

## Halbrook Sworn in As Town Commissioner

By Rande Davis

At the December 5, 2011 town meeting, the commissioners voted unanimously to approve Brice Halbrook as interim commissioner to fill the vacancy created by the departure of Link Hoewing.

Halbrook, who has co-chaired the Poolesville Day Committee for the past six years, said a number of people asked him to consider volunteering for the temporary position. His appointment avoids the cost of a separate town election and, should he choose to continue in the position, Mr. Halbrook will have to run for election next November. The current terms for Commissioners Eddie Kuhlman and Jerry Klubukowski also end in 2012, so all three men could be on the ballot this coming fall.

Mr. Halbrook told the *Monocle* that with his res-

ignation as Poolesville Day Committee chairman, volunteering for the commissioner position had appeal since he wanted to stay involved in the town. Working with many of the same people as in his past position especially motivated him.

He joins the commission just prior to its annual budget review and preparation period, which he looks forward to for its opportunity to give him an overview on town government matters in a relatively short period of time.

He told the *Monocle* he does not join the town's governing board with any pre-conceived positions or agenda, and he plans to rely on his background in financial management and an open mind in making judgments on matters that come before the panel.



Commissioner Brice Halbrook took his oath of office from Commission President

Eddie Kuhlman.

A twelve-year resident of Poolesville, Halbrook and wife Michelle reside in the Tama II subdivision and have three children, Zachary, 26, Pete, 23, and Julia, 17.

After graduating from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, he began his business career in management with Clyde's Restaurant but eventually switched to banking, starting with Loyola Federal Savings and Loan. He has been a partner in Townsend and Halbrook Mortgage Corporation for eleven years.

## Dreams Come True

By Dominique Agnew



"When you wish upon a star, your dreams come true." Well, thanks, Jiminy Cricket, while that may

be sound advice, dreams

can come true—if you work hard to achieve them. Kimberly Thompson, a senior at Poolesville High School, is a walking, no, dancing testament to this.

Kimberly began dancing at the ripe old age of four under Casey Barnes in Mrs. Metz's Creative Dance class at the Gaithersburg Arts Barn. Already, she knew what she wanted to do with her life, as her mother, Lisa Thompson, fondly remembers, "One day she said to me, 'You know, I

want to be on the stage every day of my life.'" After many years of intense training and an unusual willingness to push harder than her peers, Kimberly's dream of dancing on the stage is coming to fruition.

Part of Kimberly's work ethic was also steeped in a strong recognizance of when she wasn't receiving suitable instruction. When her first teacher was replaced with a new one, Kimberly recognized

-Continued on Page 18.

**Family Album**



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



*Kids from Bar-T daycare paid a visit to Selby's Market.*



*Friends gathered for the joy of fellowship at the Odd Fellows' annual Christmas luncheon.*



*Kids of all ages came to see Santa at the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department hall.*

## Business Briefs

### Welcome Kicks Karate

The *Monocle* welcomes Kicks Karate to town this December, as Poolesville becomes the sixth location for this expanding karate school. Founded by Master John Bus-sard (7<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt) in September of 1994, Kicks Karate has grown to multiple locations throughout the region and currently serves over three thousand active students in the area. It is considered one of the premier schools in the country.

The school will be located at 19710 Fisher Avenue next to Hope Garden Children's Ballet. The family martial arts school offers programs for all ages starting as early as three years old, and for adults, the school comes just in time as fitness plans for the new year are being set.

### Santa Has a Better Idea

As you scurry around with your holiday shopping in crowded malls or suffer screen fatigue online, Santa appreciates your efforts to make his job easier, but he has a better idea to help him out: do some of your shopping locally.

Before you close out your shopping list, make sure to

visit our local merchants with their intriguing and unique gift offerings. Our merchants are an absolutely essential part of the fabric of our small town, and without them, Poolesville would only be another dull commuter town. In this spirit, be sure to visit Finders Keep-ers, Hearthside Home and Garden, Crafts-A-Plenty, Poolesville Hardware, Bob's Bikes, Stephanie's Secret Garden, Country Junction, and don't forget, our restaurants and hair/salon services are great choices for gift certi-ficates.

### Congrats to Stephanie's Secret Garden

Congratulations to Step-hanie's Secret Garden being named preferred vendor for the Comus Inn, Stronghold Mansion at Sugarloaf, and the Montgomery County Parks and Planning for their four event and wedding venues includ-ing the Lodge at Little Seneca and Woodlawn Mansion in Potomac.

The shop's holiday decor will be featured at the Little Seneca Lodge in Boyds the month of December. Step-hanie's Secret Garden also offers holiday decorating ser-vices for your home or office.

## Monocle Classifieds

**For Sale/Condo-Florida**, fully furnished; kit/liv/din area, 2-BR, 1-bath, 2nd floor; overlooking Indian River & Cape Canaveral Space Ctr. Call John Todd; Cell: 301-367-3563

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Wishing Everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season

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"It was awesome doing business with a Poolesville neighbor. As they say, 'shop local.' Jeff's integrity and honesty are a winning combination."  
- Susan Bierly

"We've experienced a number of purchases and refinances over the years. This was the most satisfied that we've felt with them all."  
- Bob & Mariela (Poolesville Resident)



Real Estate Mortgage Network, Inc. is located at 1901 Research Boulevard, Suite 450, Rockville, MD 20850. Maryland Mortgage Lender #12402. NMLS #6521.

# Commentary

## A Very New Year In Monocacy Country

By John Clayton

As the calendar year comes to a close and 2012 begins, a number of issues that will occupy our attention for the foreseeable future begin to peek over the horizon. I will avoid two of these issues for now, specifically, the presidential election and the End of the World as predicted by the Mayan calendar. Some things are just too difficult to get one's arms around.

The most immediate quality-of-life change may be Montgomery County's new Carryout Bag Law, whereby we, the consumers, will be charged five cents for any paper or plastic bags we receive at retailers, with some exceptions. My late father-in-law, John Kenyon, is somewhere laughing right now. Many of his stories of growing up in New York City in the 1920s and 1930s involved examples of things you could get for a nickel. I would be glad for him to know there is still something we can get for that much money, but he's not going to be impressed with what it buys.

I note that current Maryland gasoline tax proposals are for fifteen cents per gallon, phased in at, you guessed it, five cents per year. Five cents is all the rage these days. The long-forgotten nickel is getting its mojo back. Perhaps Governor O'Malley will roll the state sales tax back to five percent, and then embrace a statewide bag tax of five cents. This would give him a strong hand of three fives, which he could call his 5-5-5 Plan (we all know it won't work with sixes). A fellow who wants to be president someday could do a lot worse.

The bag law has noble intentions, as most taxation does, and will "reduce litter and provide storm water pollution control." Exemptions include bulk items (I think this refers to things like loose produce), prescription

drugs, and restaurant doggie bags. I hope the rules are clear. I don't want to be carrying a ready supply of nickels so that I can buy plastic bags for people who are bickering over the charge while I wait in line behind them. "Here, it's on me. Now scram."

Retailers have to keep track of all this, and they get to keep a penny per bag for their troubles. I note that newspaper bags are exempt, so if your *Monocacy Monocle* arrives in a plastic bag, you don't have to worry about Rande Davis or me knocking on your door later that day looking for our nickel. At first, I got a little excited over how much we could clear on that penny if we gave away a hundred million bags or so, but then I remembered we have to buy the bags before we can give them away, so I guess I'm grateful for the exemption.

In another law that should affect us all, Maryland drivers will be shocked—shocked!—to learn that it is illegal to talk on a cell phone while driving on Maryland roads. Actually, in another surprise, this has been illegal for several years, but you wouldn't know it to look around you. Also, it is illegal to text, but everyone probably knows that. You can, however, fiddle with your GPS device to your heart's content. You may also not text while stopped at a light or even read your messages while at a light. The latter has only been true since October, but my informal observation is that no one knows this, and also quite possibly, that the police have better things to do than to ticket people for reading messages while stopped at traffic lights. The fine for the first offense is \$40, coincidentally, the same as a speed camera fine. I think it would make more sense to adjust the speed cameras to get a better picture of the driver for the primary offense—speeding—and then tack on the secondary \$40 for having a cell phone stuck in your ear. Then you can pay \$80 or go to court and claim you were only listening to your GPS. It makes perfect sense to me. It won't hurt us because we already

### The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

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know where all the cameras are, but it will be great for shaking down out-of-towners. It's win-win; after all, the state needs the money.

We at the *Monocle* want to wish everyone the very happiest of holiday seasons and a healthy and prosperous new year. Thanks for reading, and please patronize our advertisers whenever you can—at least buy their bags when you visit them.

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**Local News**

**Master Plan Approved by Commissioners**

By Rande Davis

With the swearing in of Brice Halbrook as commissioner, the December 5 Poolesville Commissioners' meeting moved on to a final discussion on the proposed Master Plan.

The commissioners made two changes to the plan and approved it unanimously on a 3-0 vote. Commissioner Stump was on vacation, and Commissioner Halbrook abstained since he had not been involved in the previous discussion on the matter.

The first change proposed by Kuhlman was to change the term "prevent" to "encourage" regarding architectural commercial designs that do not follow the recommendation of the plan in relation to commercial development. Kuhlman noted that to

"prevent" appears to exceed the authority of the Master Plan's visionary role while "encourage" provides guidance to future planning commissioners without an apparent codification of the statement. The objective of the plan was to move away from current designs that allow commercial sites with parking lots in the front of the stores to a design of limited on-street parking and rear parking lots. The new language reads, "Encourage multi-use in-fill development in the town center with on-street or rear parking."

The other change to the plan was to add to the existing land use map the percentages of town property that are in each category.

The commissioners made their decisions without incorporating recommendations by two residents made at the November 21 public hearing.

The residents offering recommendations were Gary Hartz and Conrad Potemra.

Mr. Hartz, a former town commissioner from 1986 to 1994, in his testimony acknowledged

the hard work of the Planning Commission overall, but stated disappointment in its lack of vision by not addressing the full scope of the town boundaries. In particular, he referred to the properties on the perimeter of the town that currently are in the Rural Density Transfer Zone (RDT) and said the proposed plan "does not address the full responsibility under Article 66B of the Maryland Annotated Code - Land Use (66B) that calls for a master plan covering the entire town." He called for the plan to include all land within the Poolesville boundaries to clarify the full future of the whole town.

In his statement, he referred specifically to thirteen parcels totaling 267 acres that are privately-owned within the RDT. Hartz owns an 18.5-acre parcel, but he made it clear his proposal on zoning "would treat all parcels equitably, allowing up to four water taps per parcel based on two-, four-, or five-acre plots."

Under his suggestion, this would establish up to forty-seven

new homes within Poolesville. Using the town's planning metric of 3.25 persons per household, the plan would result in an increase in town population of 156 residents. As to water usage, he estimated the maximum increase in daily water usage would be up 16,000 gallons. The new Master Plan allows the current population of just-under 5,000 to increase up to 6,500. Originally, it was believed that five years after the annexation of the RDT parcels twenty years ago, a revision of town boundaries to include the RDT sites, would take place.

In his testimony, Conrad Potemra called for the Master Plan to remove the waste water treatment plant's use of the overflow surge basin (referred to as lagoon) emphasizing his contention that the removal would be part of his plan to ameliorate the town's inflow and infiltration problems and subsequent backflow issues

-Continued on Page 13.

**Residential, Commercial, Farm and Country Properties**



**Poolesville:** Cozy 3 BR, 1.5 BA split level home in the Wesmond subdivision. Amenities include a country kitchen with breakfast nook, family room with fireplace, large level lot. This home boasts an excellent location just minutes from schools, parks and shopping facilities. MLS#MC7628620. Offered at \$265,000.



**Dickerson:** Comfortable 3 BR, 2 BA all-brick rancher on 1.25 acs. Amenities include: hardwood flrs., family rm. w/ FP & redwood paneling, country kitchen, front & side porches, 2-car garage, workshop. New roof (2009), new water heater (2010) & new furnace (2010). Located w/in 1 mile of MARC train station & State Rt 28 & less than 2 miles from the Potomac River, C&O Canal & Sugarloaf Mt. MLS #MC7695505. Offered at \$425,000.



**Beallsville/Dickerson:** 3 BR, 2 full BA farmhouse nestled on 26.11 +/- acs. adjoining Woodstock Equestrian Ctr. Amenities include wood flrs., living rm w/ brick FP, large country kitchen, main lvl laundry, patio, garage, 2 storage sheds. MLS#MC7642599.



**Comus:** Unique 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath post and beam home nestled on 25.2 +/- acs. Amenities include: two-story great room w/stone fireplace, loft, updated kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances, wood flrs. MLS#MC 7546962. Offered at \$650,000.



From our family to yours:  
Happy Holidays and  
Best Wishes for the New Year!

19939 Fisher Avenue, (P.O. Box 86) Poolesville, MD Phone: 301-428-8200

## Things to Do

### Odd Fellows' Holiday Fruit Sale

Once again, the Odd Fellows will hold their holiday sale of delicious fruit. Dale Nestor and his crew of hearty men will be located beside the Poolesville Barber shop at the corner of Fisher Avenue and Elgin Road most weekends, or you can call 301-349-5450 or 301-349-5103 to place an order. They have bushels (\$21.00) or half bushels (\$12.00) of naval oranges, juice oranges, red grapefruit, and tangelos. They also have crates and half crates of apples (\$16.00/\$8.50) and tangerines (\$24.00/\$14.00)

**Hey, Moms, this one is for you** Poolesville's Kristen Lewis has started a chapter of MOMS Clubs and they have plans for many special events for mothers and their children. If you are interested in finding out more about this new organization, email [pvmomclub@gmail.com](mailto:pvmomclub@gmail.com).

## Local News

### Another Heralded Home Repair Project Scheduled for 2012

You can bet on it. On Saturday, April 23, 2012, a fortunate homeowner in the Poolesville area will join over a dozen individuals or families who, over the past fifteen years or so, have watched in wonder as an industrious group of local volunteers corrected some very serious deficiencies in their residences. While the work performed during each year's project has varied—depending on the issues that affect health, safety, and quality of living in the house selected for repair and refurbishing—it almost always involves substantial carpentry, painting, renovations, and infrastructure repairs.

That's what Rebuilding Together is all about. The sponsor of most of these previous undertak-

December 9  
**A Christmas Carol: Holiday Classic Re-imagined with a Light Heart, and Lighter Heels**  
The Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre production of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* will premiere at Poolesville High School.

Artistic director Frances Ichijo has re-imagined the classic Charles Dickens tale of holiday cheer and redemption as a full-length ballet, featuring students and adults from the Hope Garden Children's Ballet Academy.

Ebenezer Scrooge himself is created by a professional dancer from Bowen-McCauley Dance, and also on loan from the Kirov Ballet Academy is Tomoha Terada, a former winner of the Youth American Grand Prix ballet competition.

This beautifully-choreographed version of the holiday tale will delight audience members young and old, in a sparkling family theater event.

Last year's preview version sold out, so do not wait to get your tickets in advance.

ings, Helping Hands-Poolesville (HH-P), announces that it will head up the local effort again in 2012. The group of workers, an ecumenical community service organization comprised of all five Poolesville churches, is making plans now to raise the necessary funds and to recruit the volunteers that will do all the organizational and grunt work.

The early announcement is a deliberate effort to make sure that the word gets out while there is plenty of time for homeowners who qualify to apply. "We want to encourage anyone and everyone whose home has problems that affect health, safety, and quality of living of its residents to apply," HH-P President Ray Hoewing says. He notes that eligibility depends on the level of income, and beneficiaries will be selected strictly on the basis of merit. As always, selection of the 2012 house will be made by Rebuilding Together-Montgomery County in Kensington. If a

Both performances begin at 6:30 p.m.

Adults: \$10.00  
Seniors and students (17 and under): \$7.00

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre website at [www.hgcbt.com](http://www.hgcbt.com) or send an email to [Hgcbt.tickets@gmail.com](mailto:Hgcbt.tickets@gmail.com).

December 10  
**Breakfast with St. Nicholas**  
Come with the whole family and enjoy a great pancake breakfast and hear the enthralling tale about the jolly gent before he moved to the North Pole. St. Nick has a special candy gift for the kids.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
9:00 a.m. Free

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

December 14  
**JPMS Winter Concert**  
All-Purpose Room  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

*Monocle* reader feels he or she may qualify and wants further information, here is how to get started: First, visit the website [www.rebuildingtogethermc.org](http://www.rebuildingtogethermc.org); second, place a confidential call to their offices at 301-933-2700; finally, call Ray Hoewing at 301-461-9399.

December 16  
**Cugini's Entertainment Night**  
Featuring: Jay Summerour, Billy Thompson, and Eric Selby  
8:30 p.m.

December 17  
**Cugini's Entertainment Night**  
Featuring: Kelsey Siegel  
8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**Drive Thru Live Nativity**  
Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

December 18  
**Holiday Musical**  
"How Sweet the Day"  
Poolesville Baptist Church  
6:00 p.m.

-Continued on Page 12.

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## Daytripper Brookside Gardens

By Ingeborg Westfall

As a general rule, I'd sooner have a root canal than venture down county, what with the traffic and crowds—but I break that rule for Brookside Gardens. With its thirty-two acres in cultivated gardens and more than fifty acres overall, Brookside is a favorite destination of many. Its scenic vistas beg for a closer look. Novice and seasoned gardeners alike come to see what shrubs, trees, perennials, and roses grow successfully in the mid-Atlantic. Locals walk or jog the grounds of Brookside daily, reveling in their own private exercise area—and it provides a place where children can run, play, explore, and learn about their environment. I think I'm most grateful for the mile-long paved pathway that encircles almost the whole place.

The last time I was there, mid-morning in late summer, I shared the pathway with special-needs students in wheelchairs, all of us enjoying the easy and lovely walk.

Make no mistake, it takes at least an afternoon to even begin to explore Brookside. Its gardens range from the informal (Aquatic Garden, Children's Garden, Rose Garden, Woodland Walk, Trial Garden, and Rain Garden) to the formal (Fragrance Garden, Perennial Garden, Yew Garden, and Maple Terrace). All are beautiful, none perhaps more so than the seven-acre woodland Azalea Garden with its four hundred-plus varieties of azaleas and rhododendrons that bloom from April through June.

The Gude Garden/Japanese Style Garden is my favorite. Created just three years after Brookside opened in 1969 as a memorial to a well-known local nurseryman, it consists of nine

-Continued on Page 24.



## Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. - Family Service

7:00 p.m. - Candlelight/Family Service

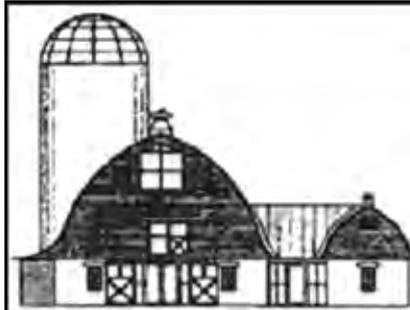
9:00 p.m. - Candlelight/Family Service

11:00 p.m. - Candlelight/Communion

## Boys Presbyterian Church

Pastor, Merritt Ednie

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



## SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER December 2011

"Protecting our rural legacy"

How to contact us:

Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, Anne Sturm, President

Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road

P.O. Box 218

Dickerson, MD 20842

Visit our Web site: [www.sugarloafcitizens.org](http://www.sugarloafcitizens.org)

### Looking Back at 2011 and Forward to 2012

Approaching the close of 2011, Sugarloaf Citizens' Association invites you to mark your calendars for the second annual **Midwinter Garden Dreams**, on a Sunday in January 2012 at Linden Farm. Also, check our website for info on the **fourth annual Plant Swap** and our **Annual Membership Meeting**, both coming this spring.

**During 2011**, Sugarloaf:

- Continued to advocate for a plan to improve the **Special Benefits Permit** process in MC.
  - Successfully opposed special exception requests for **private airstrips** in the Ag Reserve and supported a Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) clarifying airstrips associated with farm work.
  - Hosted MC Planning Board Chair **Francoise Carrier** at the SCA Annual Meeting.
  - Began tracking the **Horticultural ZTA** being developed by the MC Department of Economic Development.
  - Continued opposing the proposed **mega church** which straddles the Frederick County/Montgomery County line.
  - Continued monitoring proposed locations of new **cell towers**.
  - Continued to track the **PATH** transmission lines.
  - Monitored construction activities at the **GenOn power plant** and production activities at the **Dickerson Composting Facility**.
  - Met with MC Department of Environmental Protection to discuss the County's request to expand the **Dickerson Composting Facility**.
  - Supported the Poolesville High School **Global Ecology Magnet Program** and welcomed a Global student intern to our Board.
  - Managed activities at our **Linden Farm headquarters**, including our third annual Plant Swap, the first Midwinter Garden Dreams, our annual fall community pot-luck, and our bluebird trail and butterfly garden.
  - Maintained this monthly **Newsletter** in *The Monocacy Monocle*. Whew! We've worked hard this year, and accomplished much! For annual dues of just \$15 per person, we hope **YOU** will join us to help support the policies and advocacy actions that protect our rural legacy.
- Most of Sugarloaf's work is accomplished by our volunteer members; but sometimes we need professional services (mainly legal). Along with your \$15 membership fee, please consider making an additional tax-deductible contribution to help support these occasional needs. **Please send your membership dues and any additional donation directly to SCA at the address at the top of this newsletter. Best wishes for the holiday season and for 2012. Thank you for your support!**

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*Christmas Time  
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*December 18 - 10:45 a.m.*

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*December 24 - 7:00 p.m.*

*Christmas Eve*

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## Youth Sports

# PHS Golf Team Wins District Tennis Finishes On an Upswing

By Jeff Stuart

The PHS coed golf team won the Coed District Tournament with a team score of 359. On

the Poolesville golf course, individual scores were: Andy Baker, 83, Mitchell Poe, 88, Craig Morten, 93, Anthony Caputo, 95, and Lindsey Kaler, 95. They are the 1A/2A District Champions.

With an overall record of twelve wins and six losses, The Falcons finished fourth in the Kyle Division behind first place Northwest, Magruder, and Clarksburg.

In the Girls' District Tournament at Laytonsville on October 4, Kaler placed sixth with a score of 88 which qualifies her for the MGC Invitational and the state tournament.

Whitney Carmack shot a 90, placing her right behind Lindsey in seventh place. She also qualified for the state tournament. Jaime Baker played well for her first time out, shooting a 110.

On the season, through six meets, Baker finished twenty-seventh among county golfers, with a combined score of 255. Morton was forty-first with a combined score of 261. In the girls' division, Kaler finished seventh. Through three meets, she had a combined score of 127. Carmack was ninth, Through two meets, she shot an 86. Jaime Baker was twenty-first.

On October 17, in the MCPS Next Flight Tourney at Poolesville, the PHS scramble team shot a one under par 35 to place third. Golfers were: Kaler, Andy Baker, Poe, and Trevor Stottlemeyer. In a scramble format, each player tees off on each hole. The best of the tee shots is selected and all players play their second shots from that spot. The best of the second shots is determined, then all play their third

shots from that spot, and so on until the ball is holed.

In their final meet of the season, PHS (230) defeated Paint Branch and Blair. Sherwood (222) finished first. Scores were: Morten, 42, Andy Baker, 44, Poe, 46, Stottlemeyer, 48, Kaler, 49, and Carmack, 52.

In this year's Class 2A/1A State Tournament at the University of Maryland Golf Course in College Park from October 25 to 26, Baker shot a 91, Caputo, 96, Morton 99, and Poe, 100. On the girls' side, Carmack shot 100 and Kaler, 104. The Poolesville squad carded a 386. Marriotts Ridge (314), North Carroll (330), and McDonough (331) finished first, second, and third, respectively, to advance to the 1A/2A final round. Only the top three advanced.

"I am very happy with the effort my players have made to improve their game," said Head Coach David Gillespie. "What is

-Continued on Page 13.



The PHS 2011 Golf Team

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## Remembrance



### George "Buddy" Bodmer

Beallsville's George J. "Buddy" Bodmer, Jr., 62, died suddenly on November 22, 2011.

He was the husband of Susie (Stottlemeyer) Bodmer. Born on December 25, 1948 in Frederick, Maryland, he was the son of the late George J. and Dorothy (Cooley) Bodmer.

Buddy was remembered as a person who loved to hunt, collect knives, and drag racing at 75-80

Dragway and at Mason-Dixon Dragway. He retired from Lockheed Martin (IBM) after forty-two years of service.

Surviving besides his wife are his children, Stephanie Burdette and husband Maynard "Muddy" of Beallsville, Scotty Bodmer and fiancée Megan Etzler "Mimi" of Frederick; one sister, Ginger Hoffacker and husband Larry of Poolesville; and three grandchildren, Maddie, Allie, and Lexie. Interment was at the Monocacy Cemetery in Beallsville.

In lieu of flowers, dona-

tions may be made to the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department, 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville, MD 20839.



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### Christmas Eve

Saturday - December 24<sup>th</sup>

4:00 pm Children's Pageant Mass  
6:30 pm Vigil of Christmas Mass  
12:00 am Midnight Mass

### Christmas Day

Sunday - December 25<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am Solemn Mass of Christmas

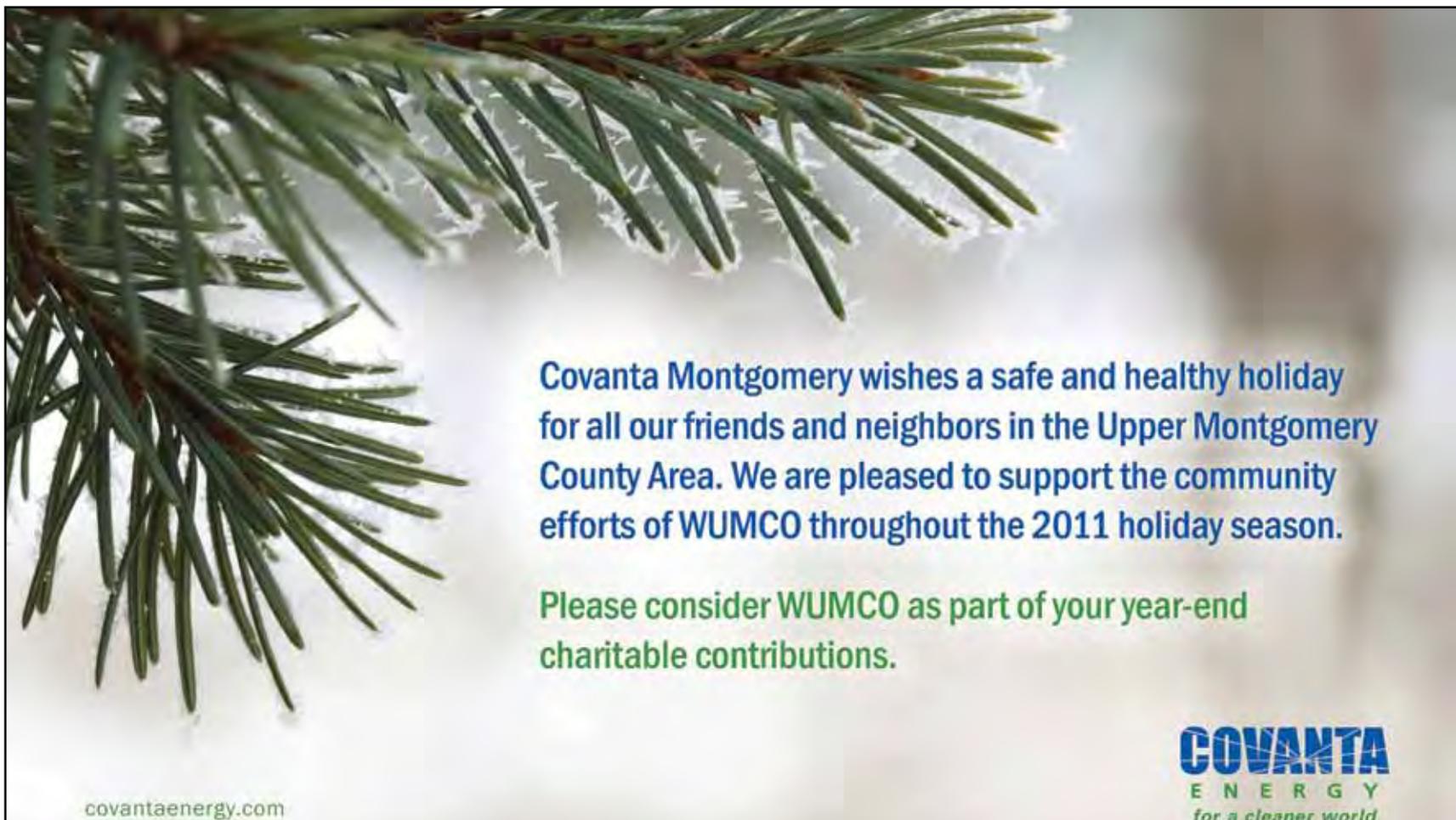
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Please consider WUMCO as part of your year-end charitable contributions.

“Things to Do” Continued From Page 6.

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hanukah Human Rights Concert**

Emma’s Revolution and Heartbeat Jerusalem’s Aaron Shneyer will highlight the Fifth Annual Hanukah Human Rights Concert at 7:30 p.m., at Temple Shalom in Chevy Chase. Sponsored by Beallsville’s Am Kolel Jewish Community, the concert also features the premiere showing of Home Front from Just Vision, an educational project bringing greater awareness of human rights challenges in Israel and Palestine.

Emma’s Revolution is D.C.’s favorite activist musicians, Pat Humphreys and Sandy Opatow. They have received national and international recognition for their compositions and have appeared on “All Things Considered” and “Democracy Now.” Their compositions, such as “Keep on Moving Forward” and “If I give Your Name,” have become anthems for social justice.

Proceeds from the concert will support Casa de Maryland, Center for Democracy in the Americas, Heartbeat Jerusalem, and Just Vision. Tickets are available online at [www.am-kolel.org](http://www.am-kolel.org).

December 19  
**Poolesville Commissioners’ Meeting**  
 Public Hearings on Proposed Charter Changes  
 Town Hall  
 7:30 p.m.

December 23  
**Monocacy Elementary School’s Grandparents’ and Alumni Day**  
 In honor of the fiftieth anniversary of Monocacy Elementary School, the annual Grandparents’ Day is being expanded to Grandparents’ and Alumni Day. Grandparents and Monocacy Alumni are invited to attend our sing-along at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, December 23. Alumni should arrive at 10:00 a.m. to check in and should call Mrs. Beaudoin at 301-972-7990 to

RSVP. They hope to have a great turnout to honor grandparents and alumni.

December 31  
**Cugini’s Entertainment Night**  
 New Year’s Eve Party  
 Featuring: SoulBox  
 9:00 p.m.

January 4  
**Community Dinner**  
 St. Peter’s Episcopal Church repeats last year’s well-received

pork, sauerkraut, and potatoes menu. There will also be a cookie baking contest, with all entries consumed immediately following the judging. Dinner is served from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Adults \$5.00, kids \$3.00. 8:00 a.m. to noon

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Commissioners of Poolesville will hold Public Hearings on December 19, 2011 at 7:30 PM, Poolesville Town Hall, 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland for the purpose of receiving public comments on Charter Amendment Resolutions: 002-11 (Sec. 82.4), 003-11 (Sec. 82.5), 004-11 (Sec. 82.6), 005-11 (Sec. 82.7), 006-11 (Sec. 82.7), 007-11 (Sec. 82.11) and 008-11 (Sec. 82.15) housekeeping/grammatical changes. Copies of these proposed charter amendments are available at Town Hall and on our website at [ci.poolesville.md.us](http://ci.poolesville.md.us).

# Join us in Celebrating Christmas and Welcoming the New Year



**Penance (Confession) Service: Wednesday, December 14, 7:30 pm**

**Christmas Eve Masses: 4:30 pm (Nativity), 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm (Sing-along with the Choir at 10 pm)**

**Christmas Day Masses: 9 am, 11 am**

**New Year’s Eve Mass: 4:30 pm**

**New Year’s Day Masses: 9 am, 11 am**

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**"PHS Youth Sports" Continued**  
From Page 9.

exciting is the fact that virtually all of the team returns next year. We will have an excellent chance to win our division and place well at the state tournament."

The Poolesville girls' tennis team concluded its season with a record of 3-8.

"The girls knew they had a difficult schedule ahead of them entering this 2011 season," said Head Coach Holly Dacek. "Poolesville lost five of their starting players from last year, but we moved up to division one (based on an 8-4 record last year). Despite the struggles, the team was able to fight through the storms of the season, whether it was the rainy weather or the difficult teams they faced. The girls fought to the finish, especially during the intense match against [Richard Montgomery], where the score ended with a 3-4 loss. In their last home match, the girls were able to pull it together and defeat Quince Orchard with a 7-0 win.

"Eki Olumese moved up to number four singles position this year. Many of her matches lasted three sets with Eki pulling out with a win for PHS. Improving throughout the season, Eki has transformed into a greater player from the previous year. Shriya Gupta and new recruit, Lucy Tan (number two doubles), were the dream team on the PHS tennis courts. They gave 110 percent effort every match. Those matches usually ended with a tie breaker and a win for Poolesville. Next season, PHS will be losing their four seniors, so next year will be a new beginning."

Ashley Chang was number two singles. Tiffany Lee was number three. Ana Vlajnic and Afoso Olumese formed number one doubles. Bonnie Giovanetti and Helen Yu were the number three doubles team.

**"Town Government" Continued**  
From Page 5.

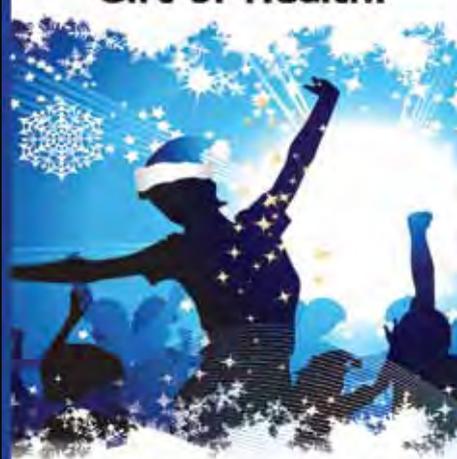
that have resulted in waste water breaching basements.

Commissioner Jim Brown queried Potemra to explain why the recommendations offered by the professional engineering consultants and town management were contrary to his proposal. Brown stated that he has heard Mr. Potemra at length during testimony before the Planning Commission and again at this hearing and wanted Mr. Potemra to explain why the commissioners should give his ideas more weight in making a decision. Mr. Potemra replied, "They (town management and professional engineering consultants) only want to tell you what you want to hear."

In response to that reply, Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski admonished Potemra that his response amounted to accusing the town professionals of a dereliction of duty and was a very serious charge. Klobukowski stated that a public charge against the commissioners was one thing but such a charge against paid staff and consultants was another matter altogether.

In following up to the public hearing, Town Manager Wade Yost provided graphs and eleven years' worth of data illustrating the decrease in Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) from work the town has already accomplished and which has also resulted in a decreased use of the surge basin relative to rainfall. While it is clear that the fifteen-plus inches

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of rain in September caused significant problems, it is also clear that I&I in an aging system requires ongoing rehabilitation which the commissioners have publically resolved to do.

With the close of the public hearing, the commissioners moved to a discussion on additional changes to the town charter categorized as "housecleaning and grammatical issues within the current charter."



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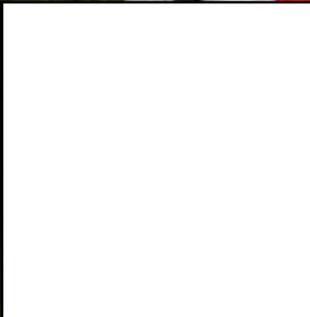
## Name That Santa

Our 2011 Santas are all seniors who have lived in and contributed to our area for all or most of their lives. Our front page Santa is Jim Spory, who has been on our December cover for six years in a row. Find the answers to the others on page 24.



# Holiday Lighting Festival 2011

The 2011 Holiday Lighting Ceremony on December 2 drew the largest crowd ever with estimates of nearly 500 people.



## Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

**December 8, 1933** The Maryland delegation advanced a bill in Annapolis that would allow residents to vote on whether to allow beer and wine to be sold in their districts. Among the towns affected were Poolesville, Clarksburg, Darnestown, Damascus, Barnesville, and Gaithersburg.

**December 10, 1930** The school board accepted the resignation of Mrs. J. Martin who was a teacher at the Poolesville School. The new bridge over the railroad tracks opened in Gaithersburg. Although the bridge had yet to be paved and was covered with cinders, the opening was greeted with enthusiasm.

The bridge carried traffic over the tracks below where there had been several serious train and auto collisions.

**December 10, 1933** Miss Bessie Grubb entertained at dinner. Her guests were Rev. and Mrs. A.E. Owens, Mr. and Mrs. H. Spurrier, and Messrs. Carroll and Lloyd Grubb.

**December 11, 1934** Rockville High defeated Poolesville, 44-10, at the loser's gym. Cubitt scored five points, and Woodward had four for Poolesville. Three days later, the Poolesville team traveled to Bethesda for revenge; however, they were routed, 61-10. Woodward scored all of Poolesville's points.

**December 23, 1934** Charles Aud, the former sheriff and

-Continued on Page 17.



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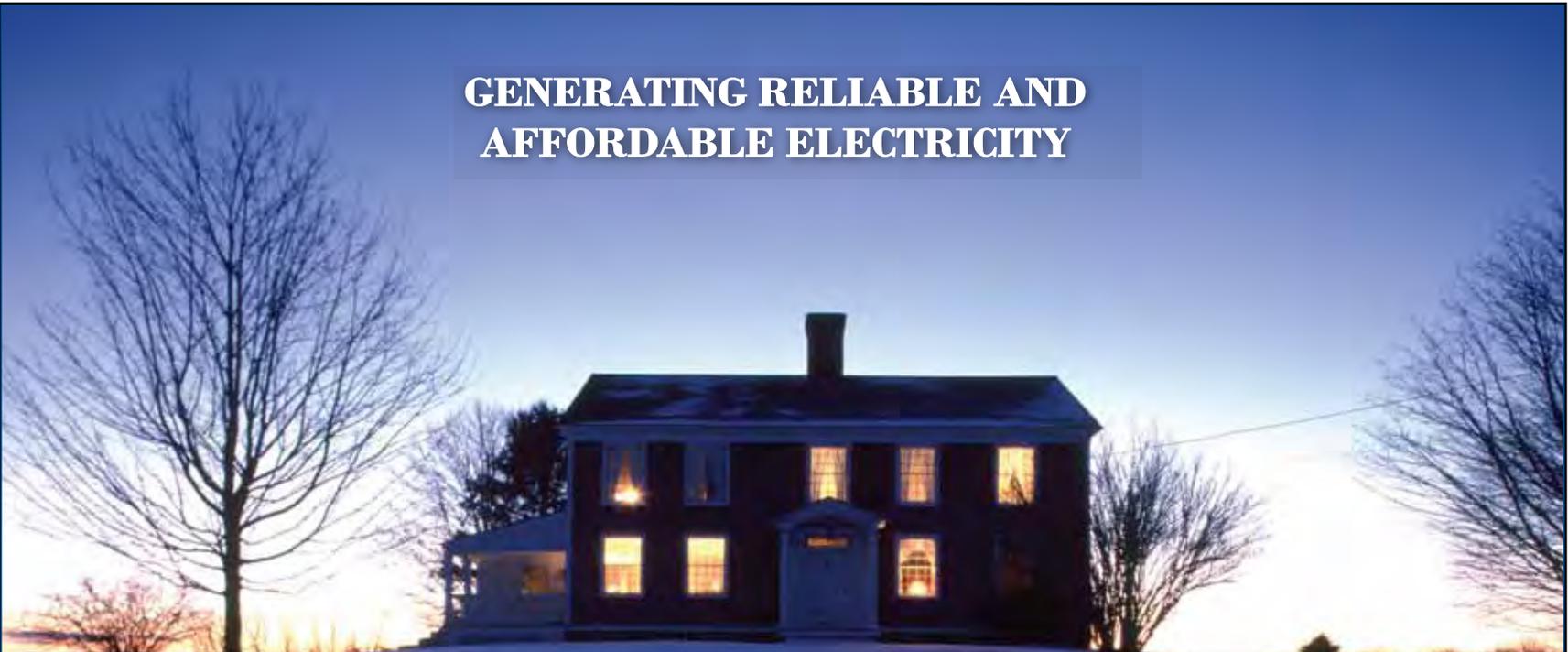


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# Tidbits

## Monocacy Elementary Closed—for One Day

The entire MES family (students, teachers, building services, secretaries, specialists, and administration) took a one-day vacation together to celebrate the school's anniversary. If you are wondering how many years it takes to gain a one-day reprieve, the answer is fifty.

The time spent wasn't without education, though, as they chose the nation's capital to explore together on November 2, studying history. The first graders went to the Natural History Museum, and the second and fourth grades visited the Native American Museum. Meanwhile, the third graders took in the American History Museum as the fifth grade went to the Air and Space. They lunched together outside the Natural History Museum, and afterwards, each class

either went to the American or Natural History Museum.

The kids loved the field trip and reported some of their favorite exhibits such as the original flag that flew over Fort McHenry in Baltimore, the Lincoln and Washington Memorials, and the White House. The kindergartners enjoyed the dinosaurs the best.

### Aspiring Authors Contest

Former local author (she moved out of the area this past summer), Melissa Foster, continues her Aspiring Authors Contest in local elementary schools. In November, the most recent contest was held at Clarksburg Elementary School. After a forty-five minute interactive discussion, the fourth and fifth graders were given two weeks to complete their short stories outside of school.

"The children were eager and enthusiastic," says Melissa Foster. "The stories submitted were well thought out, creative, and all worthy of prizes."

The winners were Muhammad Umar (fifth grade) and Jasmin Pham (fourth grade). They each received a handmade leather-bound journal made and donated by Renaissance Art.

"Tidbits of the Past" Continued  
From Page 16.

Poolesville Fusionist, was endorsed as police chief by a meeting of the Progressive Democrat faction. Aud had been a leading Democrat in the Poolesville area for a number of years.

**December 24, 1934** Carols were sung around the Poolesville community Christmas tree. Many town residents turned out.

**December 27, 1936** A number of students had returned to their Poolesville homes from college. Among them were Anna Aud of Blue Ridge College, Maxine White, Lucielle Weller, and Mason White from the University of Maryland,

**December 31, 1935** Five abandoned Montgomery County schoolhouses were sold at auction. The schools included those at Lewisdale, Snouffers, Kingsley, Kings Valley, and Burdette. Each contained an acre of land and the total collected was \$6250. *Material for this column was obtained from the archives of the Washington Post.*



MES students saw big things at the Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. on their special day off.

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"Kimberly Thompson"  
Continued From Page 1.

immediately that the level did not equate with her first teacher's strictness and discipline, and she asked her mother to move her to a different school. She was six. As the years passed, and she continued her training, Kimberly moved from school to school as she felt her needs progressed. The now-defunct Ballet 106 Studio led to the Metropolitan Ballet Theatre and Academy, then to the Frederick School of Classical Ballet from fifth grade through ninth grade. To receive the utmost instruction while in Frederick, Kimberly would enroll in the course of instruction suitable for her ability and the one just below it, so she could have the intensity of training comparable to other major ballet schools. "I wanted more dancing," she explains of her decision to take double classes.

Finally, Kimberly made the move to the Maryland Youth Ballet where she had to work even harder than ever before. It was almost as if she had to start over to develop into the kind of dancer that MYB produces, to retrain to their style. It also meant giving up lead roles in Frederick.

It must be a labor of love once you consider Kimberly's daily regimen for the past three years. Since her sophomore year at PHS, she has only attended a half day, so she can train. Her typical day finds her leaving school at 10:00 a.m. She then spends an hour on the treadmill, half an hour working out, then she leaves for the studio in Silver Spring by 12:30.

Upon arriving at the studio by 1:30, she spends one hour warming up before beginning her two classes per day. One of her classes involved just technique for two hours. The other class alternates between pointe or partnering or other stylistic studies. She takes the train back to Barnesville and gets home by 7:30 p.m. "It's a lot," she says of her schedule, "but I love it. As much as they don't like it," she points out her mother as an example, "I love it."

The hard work has paid off. After doing two summer intensives on scholarship with the Orlando Ballet under Director Deirdre Miles Burger, she was offered a trainee position for this year and last year. As exciting as it was to receive an offer, she declined it, so she could have her senior year of high school—and the fun that comes with it. Don't think she's resting on her laurels. On the contrary, she is even busier than just her regular schedule shows. In October, after auditioning for the part, she and six other dancers trained and performed "Serenade" at the Kennedy Center with the world-renowned Suzanne Farrell Ballet Company under the tutelage of Suzanne Farrell. Kimberly also auditioned with one hundred other dancers to earn one of thirty spots in monthly master classes at the Kennedy Center. Last spring, Kimberly was chosen for the National Awards in Excellence given by the National Society of Arts and Letters. Included in this honor, Kimberly was asked to perform at their banquet at the Kennedy Center in the spring.

Was there ever a time when Kimberly wanted to give it all up? "There were times when I questioned it," she admits. "I struggled a lot. My technique was never as good as everyone else's." Especially at one low point, when she was thirteen, she was ready to hang up the shoes. Surprisingly, her younger brother, Christopher, eleven at the time, told her she couldn't quit.

Apart from these accolades, Kimberly is probably most pleased to have been selected to dance the role of the Sugarplum Fairy in MYB's *Nutcracker*. Considering she came to the school so late, she is truly honored. Tickets are still available for her performances: December 17 and 26 and 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center at Montgomery College-Rockville Campus.



Kimberly Thompson

## Local News

### MARC Proposes Schedule Changes

By John Clayton

The Maryland Transit Administration announced a series of proposed changes to the Brunswick Line schedule which includes the elimination of an early morning inbound stop at the Barnesville station. The MTA website notes that the proposed schedule "provides several enhancements to the service." The primary changes include: "better spacing between trains" to reduce times when one train has to slow down for a train ahead of it on the tracks; the addition of an early-morning train from Martinsburg, West Virginia; the extension of an early-afternoon train to reach all the way to Martinsburg; and "more limited-stop trains for West Virginia, Brunswick, and Point of Rocks passengers." The changes are planned to go into effect on January 30, 2012.

While the times of stops were adjusted slightly, the number of stops at Dickerson and Boyds,

morning and evening, remains unchanged. The status of these stations, at which only a minority of trains is scheduled to stop, strikes some sour chords in these parts. In January 2006, then-Governor Bob Ehrlich's administration announced plans to close the Boyds and Dickerson Stations due to low ridership and a desire to avoid the cost of modernization. A public outcry and some legislative pressure applied primarily by State Senator Rob Garagiola and State Delegate Brian Feldman led to a reversal of the plan.

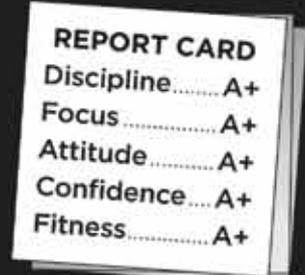
Down county stations at Metropolitan Grove, which will lose three stops, and Garrett Park and Kensington, which will lose two stops each, were not so fortunate under the new plan. The MTA has solicited comment by email or at public meetings, the details of which are available at the [mta.maryland.gov](http://mta.maryland.gov) website.

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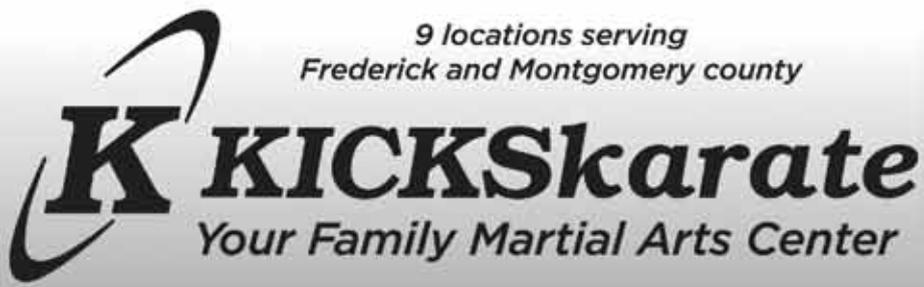
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## Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

As the holiday season approaches, and in light of the three recent kidnapping and robbery incidents at the Westfield Wheaton shopping mall, Montgomery County Police would like to offer this comprehensive list of tips to help keep residents safe while shopping, walking, and at home. While opportunities for robberies and burglaries increase during the holiday season, many robberies and burglaries can be prevented by keeping these safety tips in mind:

Do not become distracted by your shopping. Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings at all times. Park in well-lit parking lots, and park as close to the mall or store as possible.

Lock your car doors and keep packages hidden in the trunk or under the seats of your vehicle.

Do not carry large amounts of cash with you and pay with checks or credit cards when possible.

Ensure that you are not encumbered with a large number of packages. Try to make trips back to your vehicle to store packages in the trunk as you continue to shop.

Carry your closed purse as close to your body as possible.

Carry a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.

### Current Crime

Assault: 21100 block of West-erly Road.

Burglary: 18100 block of Beallsville Road.

Theft: 20200 McNamara Road, 17800 block of Cattail Road, 20200 block of Beallsville Road, 22200 block of Dickerson Road, 21500 block of Peach Tree Road, 21800 and 21100 blocks of Slidell Road, 18600 block of Jerusalem

Church Road.

Disorderly Conduct complaints: 17400 block of Collier Way, 17600 block of Kohlhoss Road, 19600 and 19500 blocks of Fisher Avenue.

### Past Crime

**December 13, 1930** A spectacular fire destroyed a ten-room house on the Kensington-Wheaton Road. Autoists from as far as Washington drove to the scene. Firemen had trouble getting to the fire because the curious blocked the roads with their autos. It was said that the glare from the fire could be seen ten miles away.

**December 16, 1930** A twenty-one-year-old housekeeper shot and wounded herself after an argument with her boyfriend. Police said that Louise Sullivan, who lived with her employers on Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, had fought with her boyfriend and then picked up a shotgun and shot herself in the abdomen. The girl received emergency treatment from Dr. Hawks and then was rushed to Montgomery General Hospital in the ambulance belonging to Warner Pumphrey. Miss Sullivan initially told Officer Roy Bodmer that she had been cleaning the shotgun when it had exploded; however, a note was found in the house on which she had written, "I don't wish to live any longer, Merry Christmas." She died on Christmas Day.

**December 19, 1931** Joseph Carelton filed a notice of appeal after his conviction for wife-beating. Judge Wilson had sentenced him to ten days in jail and then to receive ten lashes on Christmas morning which was to be the last day of his sentence.

December 26, 1905 A widow named Mrs. Bradshaw came into town for provisions and while there spread an amazing story about seeing a lighted object flying over her cabin located near Sugarloaf Mountain on the night of the twenty-fourth. Widow Bradshaw said that a man in a

-Continued on Page 22.

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“Police Blotter” Continued  
From Page 21.

red suit shouted something at her while over her house. She claimed that on Christmas morning, she saw deer tracks on her roof and around her property.

**December 27, 1931** A skeleton that had been found by hunters in the woods near Travilah was identified. Police said that the granddaughter of Sarah West, a former slave, came to police headquarters and identified several items of jewelry that had been found with the body. Ms. West had disappeared in July of

1930. She was said to have been over one hundred years old.

**December 31, 1931** A car was found hanging over a bridge on the Wheaton–Colesville Road. Inside the car, police found a gallon of whiskey and a smokescreen device. Police were searching for the owner.

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

## In the Garden

### Good Night, Garden

By Maureen O’Connell

In my last article, I suggested that you give you and your garden a rest. A little time off for your garden to grow a little wild will not hurt. Well, put your garden gloves back on and bring out the wheelbarrow; it is time to put your garden to bed for its winter slumber. Our area has had several frosts, so the plants should be dormant. There are three reasons why your garden needs your attention now: to stop the transfer of this year’s plants’ diseases to next year’s growth; to protect from damaging winter winds; and to create an attractive and trimmed winter look to your landscape.

**Annuals.** Dig up and discard dead annual plants. They will look quite messy if left to rot on their own.

**Perennials.** Cut to the ground any plants with black, diseased leaves. Phlox and peonies very often have a bad case of powdery mildew this time of the year. Rake from the ground any fallen leaves that might also be affected. If the plants look healthy, I leave some of them standing. Their skeletons add an interesting texture to the winter landscape. Sedum and lavender look especially good with a touch of frost or a light mantle of powdery snow. Many perennial plants, shrubs, and trees are better left standing as their seeds and fruits provide food for wildlife all winter. Finches especially like the seeds of flowering perennials such as: black-eyed Susans, coneflowers, coreopsis, *Achillea*, *Agastache*, astilbe, asters, baptista, cotoneasters, holly, *Pyracantha*, crab apples, and Bradford pears. Some perennials have very little winter landscape interest. I like to clear the clutter and cut to the ground: delphinium, alchemilla, campanula, euphorbia, dicentra, hosta, and phlox. The stems and foliage of some tall, bushy perennials can also pro-

vide shelter for birds all winter. I have several little bird apartment houses scattered throughout the garden. Wildlife everywhere is losing natural habitats. With a bit of planning, our gardens can become new habitats where our little furry and feathered friends can live and feed.

**Roses.** People often ask me about winter care for roses. There is not much to do now. I remove any diseased branches, and if the bush is quite lanky, I prune back the limbs so they do not get whipped by the winter winds. If they are newly planted this season, I might spread some leaf mulch lightly around the base. Be sure to rake any fallen diseased leaves from the surrounding ground, or the disease will attack next year’s growth.

**Winter Mulch.** The best and least expensive winter mulch is ground up leaves. You can buy it at garden stores, but you can make your own and save yourself the chore of raking leaves and also save some money if you have a leaf grinder attachment for your mower. I apply a light layer on all my flower gardens, and every year the soil becomes better and better.

**Odds and Ends.** If you have spring bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, and crocuses to still plant, do it now. Clean garden tools and flower pots. Store terra cotta containers in a freeze-proof area or they might crack. If you are going to have a live Christmas tree this year, dig the hole now before the ground freezes. Don’t forget to disconnect any outside hoses; drain them and store them for the winter. There still is time to start paperwhites and amaryllis indoors. You will probably have the paperwhites blooming for the holidays, but the amaryllis takes eight to ten weeks. Mine usually bloom around Valentine’s Day.

The more work you do now in the garden, the less you will have to do in the spring. Get busy.



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## Youth Sports

### What to Look For in Winter Sports at PHS

By Jeff Stuart

The coaches of the PHS winter sports teams are looking forward to the season. Many of the athletes' faces are familiar. Some have barely had time to change uniforms from the fall campaigns. Here is what to look for:

"We return three starters and six players from last year's 18-5 team," says head girls' basketball coach, Fred Swick. "We have a good balance of size and speed, but our schedule will be one of the toughest we've ever faced." The Falcons have an early match up at top-ranked Gaithersburg on December 9 and travel to play rival Damascus on December 16. They will encounter highly-ranked Northwest at a holiday tournament at Clarksburg on December 27 and 28. Senior guard and leading scorer Lindsay Poss is back along with junior guards Kelly Hughes, Jocelyn Bodmer, and Kelsey Carnahan. Other seniors are centers Patti Maloney (5'11") and Amber Smith (6'). Junior center Shannon Hemp should also see significant playing time. Newcomers are Smith, junior forward Jamie Baker, sophomore forwards Whitney Carmack, Rosie Barry, and MacKenzie Fields, and junior guard Tara Beaton. There is reason for excitement.

After a long string of successes, the boys' basketball team looks to rebound from a dip to a 10-14 record last year. They look well positioned to do so. "The team is a blend of new and old with seven returning players and seven newcomers," says Head Coach Tom Lang. "DeAndre Parrot, Kirby Carmack, Erik Jansson, Anthony Papagjika, Andy Baker, and Dylan Bourque are the returners, and the team will rely on the experience of these seven players to get off to a strong start this season. As one of only two 2A schools in the county, the team will face a schedule that is loaded with 4A and 3A opponents

which will benefit the team in the long run. You can expect to see a more up-tempo approach than in previous years with the team taking quicker shots and looking to apply more full court pressure." Parrot had four steals against Seneca Valley last year and hit four three-pointers against Clarksburg. Papagjika, a sophomore, scored fifteen points in his first varsity game last year. Baker, also a sophomore, earned significant playing time last year. The Falcons will play division rival Damascus away on December 16 and at home on January 20, 2012. They will finish the season at home against high-ranked Quince Orchard on February 21. They open the season with home games against Whitman on December 6 and Gaithersburg on December 9.

"We are eagerly looking forward to the season beginning," says swim and dive team head coach, Jonathan Leong. "We have the largest turnout in quite some time. We have a very strong freshman class arriving at PHS and a well-experienced and talented upper class. We anticipate a great season on both the boys' and the girls' sides. Thanks to the contributions of the PHS Athletic Booster Club, we were given a team record board that will be [on] display outside the gymnasium, and we look forward to breaking as many records as we can. This will be the first year that Montgomery County participates in the state championship in February, and we are hopeful that we will represent Montgomery County in high standards at the 3A-2A-1A competition. Look for exciting swims out of some of our seniors: Matthew Liu, Huy Lam, and Chuck Miller. High expectations will be placed on Xavier Laracuenta and Diana Hanson who placed in the top twenty at Metros last year. I am looking forward to watching the newest Falcon freshmen swimmers: Dorit Song, Lindsay Knapp, Katie Dahlen, Tony Kim, and William An.

"As for divers, we have a very strong core of boy divers led by Zach Greenwald, Justin Goldspiel, and Dylan Taylor. Our divers have always been a source for high-flying acrobatics as well as being disciplined and focused on help-

ing the team out with every single bounce."

"We have a lot of young, new talent this year. If we can stay healthy and continue to work hard at practices, this can be a very successful year for both boys' and girls' teams," says indoor track head coach, Mike Trumbull. "On the boys' side, sophomore Chase Weaverling finished fourth at the Cross Country State Championships this fall. He should be successful in the 3200 this year. Senior Jordan Psaltakis is the top returning miler. He just missed out on qualifying for the state championship last outdoor season, and sophomore Charles Lyles will be looking to improve upon a successful freshman year in the shot put.

"Among the girls, sophomore Chelsie Pennello, like Chase, finished fourth in the state cross country meet and should be our top distance runner from the 800m to the 3200m. Sophomore Sarah Onderko is the top sprinter return-

ing from last year and looks to improve upon a successful freshman year. Senior Brittani Mason is the top hurdler and is also looking to build upon a solid year in the 55m hurdles."

On the wrestling mats, senior Robert Winning, the defending county and region champion at 145 pounds (placed fourth at states), sophomore Corey Savage, the second-ranked county wrestler at 103 pounds, and junior Cody Dorsey (24-12), a 2A/1A South Region finalist at 125 pounds last year, will head the effort for Head Coach Kevin Dorsey. In April 2011, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Wrestling Rules Committee approved an upward shift of the weight classes, beginning with the 103-pound class converting to 106 pounds. This results in new weights for ten of the fourteen classes, essentially eliminating a lower weight class, an unpopular move with most county coaches.



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“Daytripper” Continued  
From Page 7.

acres of gently rolling hills and connected ponds. In the biggest pond, on an island planted with bamboo and majestic conifers, sits the serene Japanese teahouse. It provides a lovely, quiet place to relax for a few minutes, gazing at the colorful Japanese carp (koi) swimming just a few feet below.

Two events set Brookside apart from other Montgomery County parks: Wings of Fancy in summer and Garden of Lights in winter. Late this summer, I went to see Wings of Fancy for the first time. Admission to Brookside is free, but there’s a fee to visit Wings (\$6 for adults, \$4 for children three to twelve). It’s inside a greenhouse ten degrees warmer and also more humid than the outside, so be prepared if you decide to go next year. Volunteers are available to answer questions. It’s an extraordinarily beautiful display of delicate, fragile North American, Costa Rican, and Asian butterflies, in vivid blue, black, gold, red, white, and other colors, along with a few very large moths, some with huge

fake eyes on their wings to fool predators. Visitors are cautioned not to bring children who might be afraid if a butterfly lands on them. Most children I saw were enchanted with the fluttering flying creatures. Visitors pass through a butterfly garden on the way to the greenhouse, learning about native butterflies and how to attract them to home gardens.

The Garden of Lights, this year in its fifteenth season, is scheduled to remain open through January 8, 2012. I’ve never attended, but every winter it attracts about forty thousand visitors to see almost a million lights strung in imaginative shapes throughout the gardens. Of course, there are also blooming flower displays inside the conservatories, including a holiday train display.

These are only the briefest highlights of what Brookside offers; discover more at [www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside) or by calling 301-962-1400. Grounds are open every day of the year. Set aside a day and go enjoy one of our most remarkable parks.



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17677 Kohlhoss Rd.—Wesmond Townh	\$188,000	3	2.5	\$9,900	1	None	Finished	17
17425 Soper St.—Wesmond	\$302,500	3	2	\$10,000	0	2 Car	None	53
19152 Hempstone Ave.—Wesmond	\$320,000	4	2.5	\$0	1	2 Car	Finished	8
19808 Spurrier Ave.—Westerly	\$317,000	3	2.5	\$6,500	1	1 Car	None	22
19717 Beall St.—Poolesville Town	\$349,000	3	2.5	\$0	2	2 Car	Cellar	6
19200 Fisher Ave.—Poolesville Town	\$524,900	3	2	\$0	1	2 Car	Unfinished	221
19636 Selby Ave.—Tama	\$555,000	4	2.5	\$0	1	2 Car	Part Finished	123

Information obtained from Metropolitan Regional Services, Inc.



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