Can the Symbol of a Town Be Saved?

By Rande Davis

The issue of the building has repeatedly come before the commission, particularly at budget time. The town government has officially stated that it could place cosmetic covenants on the facade of the building so that its iconic role could continue. The problem is that no public or private proposal thus far has been acceptable. Recent unsolicited proposals have not been fully investigated or analyzed by the commission.

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

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

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

Into the Forrest Primeval

By Dominique Agnew

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

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

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

Forrest received his college degrees in anthropology, his undergraduate from the University of Maine, and his graduate degree from the University of Arizona, with a concentration in the art of non-Europeans, as it was called. During these —Continued on Page 16.
Members of five area churches celebrate an evening service at Whalen Commons. Participating churches were Our Lady of the Presentation, Poolesville Memorial Methodist, St. Peter's Parish, Poolesville Presbyterian, and Hosanna Worship Center.

The UMCVFD fireworks were spectacular.

July 4 revelry.

The show went on and on all day long and into the night.
OPEN FOR LUNCH

Valid Monday-Friday
(12pm - 4pm only)
Order 1 Pizza or 10 Pizzas
The Price is the Same
POOLESVILLE
19639 Fisher Ave.
(301) 349-4900

Large Lunch Special
One Large Pizza
With All Your Favorite Toppings
$8.99
plus tax
Must Mention Coupon: Deep Dish Extra
Expires 12/31/05

Medium Lunch Special
One Medium Pizza
With All Your Favorite Toppings
$6.99
plus tax
Must Mention Coupon: Deep Dish Extra
Expires 12/31/05

Large Lunch Special
One Large Pizza
With All Your Favorite Toppings
$8.99
plus tax
Must Mention Coupon: Deep Dish Extra
Expires 12/31/05

Medium Lunch Special
One Medium Pizza
With All Your Favorite Toppings
$6.99
plus tax
Must Mention Coupon: Deep Dish Extra
Expires 12/31/05

Large Lunch Special
One Large Pizza
With All Your Favorite Toppings
$8.99
plus tax
Must Mention Coupon: Deep Dish Extra
Expires 12/31/05

Medium Lunch Special
One Medium Pizza
With All Your Favorite Toppings
$6.99
plus tax
Must Mention Coupon: Deep Dish Extra
Expires 12/31/05

STORAGE BARNs
BOARD AND BATTEN
10’ X 16’
C&H Supply Co.
Lander and Mountville Roads
Jefferson
301-473-4771

GAIL LEE
“Selling Homes from the Heart!”
301.602.8188
www.GailLeeHomes.com
W.C. & A.N. Miller Realtors

Thank You to all my loyal clients and friends
Referrals are the heart of my business.
GAIL LEE
TOP OFFICE PRODUCER 2004
W.C. & A.N. Miller N. Potomac/Darnestown
TOP 1% of all Realtors Nationwide!

UNDER CONTRACT~
19817 Dr. Walling Road  TAMA  $824,500
17309 Brown Road      Westerly  $385,000

SOLD~
17908 Elgin Road       Elizabeth’s Delight
19804 Sedgwick Way     Westerly  $375,000
17207 Spates Hill Road Seneca Chase

www.GailLeeHomes.com
301-602-8188 or 301-330-6770 ext. 7321
In the Garden

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

By Maureen O’Connell

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

Our home for the next week was La Baronnie. I would not describe it as a hotel. It is the home of Pierre and Florence Pallidary, who lovingly restored it and now offers its five bedrooms and two suites for stay. It has a lovely, peaceful stone-walled garden. It quietly nurtures geraniums, pink oleanders, azure blue agapanthus, white calla lilies, rose hydrangeas and spicy rosemary. I am writing this article in the garden on the Lutyens teak bench in front of the pink oleander.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Salt has been called ‘white gold.’ In Roman times soldiers were paid in salt. In tropical Africa where the humid climate made salt rare, one could exchange it for gold pieces. It was a key element of Saharan commerce. In Europe of the XIII to XVIII centuries, salt played a major strategic role during the ‘salt wars. During this time, salt was heavily taxed.

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

Norman Rockwell Is Alive and Well—and Living in Poolesville

By Rande Davis

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

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

But it is not the scene that makes Norman Rockwell Is Alive and Well—and Living in Poolesville perfect. It’s the people. There, just a few yards in front of the bench, are over two hundred people. Most have brought their own lawn chairs; others have chosen to lie on a blanket. Some just stand or sit where they are. No one is alone. The people seem to have come in groups of families or friends. The warmth and comfort of each other’s company is perfect.

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

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

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

As all of this is unfolding, a band begins to play. Tonight is bluegrass night, and this group is simply as good as it gets. Other times, the band needs some work. Fully professional or simply on the way up, each band, every night, is perfect.

Looking closely at each face, the contentment and joy shown is simple but sincere. Most are strangers yet very familiar. Going from face to face, you would not be surprised if suddenly you saw Norman Rockwell. This is the America that is supposedly gone. There is no high-tech, no vulgarity, and most of all, there is no rudeness. For a couple of hours we are back, and we are perfect.

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

—Continued on Page 6.
nine o’clock comes along, the sky has darkened, the band has thanked the crowd, and the folks are heading home.

The amazing thing is how close we came to not having this moment. The land (valued at about $300,000) was a gift to the town from one individual. The county and state came up with money to help with the landscaping and the correcting of the water-accumulation problem that had been there as far back as the first part of the 1800s. So how much of the town’s budget was spent on this park? It was less than $250,000. If you think that is too much, than you haven’t been to the park on a Sunday night.
Event: Potomac Valley Lodge
- Grille Room
  - Dining
  - NY Strip Steak
  - Spiced Steamed Shrimp
- Time: Fri-Sat. Evenings 5pm - 9pm

Funtime Weekend Entertainment
- Live Bands, DJs, and Karaoke
- Friday and Saturday
- Nights After 9pm
- Sunday Specials

Casual or Elegant
- On Premises Catering
  - Wedding
  - Holiday Parties
  - Buffet
  - Banquets
  - Golf Outings
  - Retirement Parties
- Door & Outdoor
- 301.349.0222
- 16601 W. Willard Rd., Poolesville

Jamison
Residential, Commercial, Farm and Country Properties
19939 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville, MD
301-428-8200
www.jamisonrealestate.com

DICKERSON
- Charming Cape Cod on 2.5 ac. w/ spectacular views of the countryside. Formal LR, DR, eat-in kitchen, FR/den, full BA on main lvl. 3 BRs, 2.5 BAs, full BA on upper lvl. Detached 1-car garage, detached workshop (or home office) w/ heat & elec. Minutes from the C&O Canal & Sugarloaf Mountain. Easy access to Frederick or Germantown/ Gaithersburg area. & just minutes to MARC train station. MLS# MC 5292691. Offered at $449,000.

CLARKSBURG: Spectacular all-brick rambler on 3 landscaped acres. Main lvl entry foyer, LR, DR, kitchen, family rm, sun rm, mud room, office, full BA, MBR & MBA, 2 more BRs, full hallway BA. The lwr lvl boasts a recreation rm, den, full BA, kitchen area, breakfast rm, unfinished storage area. Additional improvements include an attached 2-car garage, metal storage bldg (48’x50’x40’), pony barn (20’x16’x3’). MLS# MC5263778. Offered at $824,000.

POOLESVILLE—TAMA: Stately Colonial on 1.5 ac. in the sought-after TAMA subdivision. 4 BRs, 3.5 BAs, hardwood flrs, built-in cabinets/bookcases, skylights, gorgeous tiled sunroom. Add’l amenities include finished lwr lvl w/2 walkouts, 2-zone heating, large deck, fenced backyard. Original owner has impeccably maintained this home. Truly a must-see property. Offered at MLS# MC529801 at $759,000.

POOLESVILLE—ELIZABETH’S DELIGHT: Gracious colonial on ½ ac. in prestigious Elizabeth’s Delight subdivision. Freshly painted throughout, this home offers an expansive Owner’s suite with dual walk-in closets & soaking tub, 3 additional bedrooms, full hallway bath and laundry facilities on upper lvl. Main lvl Living rm, formal Dining rm, powder rm. Kitchen boasts dual ovens, new Pergo floor, and bay window. Sunken family rm has new Berber carpet and gas FP. Full unfinished lwr lvl. MLS# MC5309104. Offered at $709,000.

Lots/Land for Sale:
- Dickerson: 18.71 ac. with one approved perc. Currently utilized as a tree farm. At $599,000.
- Dickerson: 45.62 partially wooded acres just minutes from Whites Ferry and the C & O Canal. Beautiful views. One approved perc. Offered at $850,000.
- Poolesville 2.75 ac.: Located less than one mile from the center of town on a quiet rural road, this lot is within close proximity of the prestigious Woods of Tama subdivision. This rolling, partially wooded lot boasts 2 approved sewer taps. MLS# MC5308569. Offered at $399,000.

Monocacy Lions
Annual Charity Golf Tournament
September 16 @ Poolesville Golf Club
1:00p.m. Tee Off – Shot Gun Start – Scramble Format

“Help Us, Help the Community”
Golfers: $90.00 – includes green fees, cart, chicken dinner with all the fixin’s, refreshments, beverage cart, door prizes, longest drive, closest to pin (all par 3s), etc.

Corporate Sponsors: $400.00 includes all fees for a foursome, and sponsor sign.

Hole Sponsors: $100 Professional Ad Sign on a Hole
$10,000 Hole in One Contest

To play or to be a Sponsor
Call Ed Rothenberg 301-529-7455
LEWIS ORCHARDS
Open Daily:
9am-7pm

Your Check List For
The Freshest Produce
✓ Tomatoes ✓ Basil
✓ Peaches ✓ Sweet Cherries
✓ Sweet Corn ✓ Yellow Squash
✓ Zucchini ✓ Cabbage
✓ Cucumbers
✓ Potatoes – Red & White
✓ Walla Walla Onions
✓ Jam’s, Jellies, Milk, Eggs

Rte. 28 & Peachtree Road – Dickerson, MD
301-349-4101

Horse Fencing and Arenas
Top quality materials and installation
Three and Four Board PTP or Oak
Woven Wire No Climb
Polymer Coated High-Tensil
Reinforced 2” Electrified Tape

FARM AND EQUINE SERVICES
Horseman Serving Horseman
OFFICE: 301-432-6879 CELL: 240-818-8595
VISIT WWW.FARMANDEQUINE.COM AND SEE THE POSSIBILITIES...

Building Fences For Area Homeowners Who Care About Quality & Value for Over 20 years
Locally Owned and Operated

We Use Premium Fencing Materials
• ALUMINUM & STEEL
• CHAIN LINK
• TREATED WOOD
• WESTERN RED CEDAR
• PVC

15 % OFF Any Installation
(Minimum 200 Linear Feet)
Not Valid with any other offer
Coupons must be present at the time of estimate. Expires 6/15/05

CAPITAL FENCE
301-972-8400
Fax 301-407-0172
Residential & Commercial Properties
Full Year Warranty

Your County Code Pool Experts

MHIC# 50609
Parental control solutions
- Virus removal
- Adware/Spyware removal
- Software/Hardware

We offer affordable rates and services provided by Microsoft certified staff. 2-5 day turnaround time. 11 years in business!

Open Monday thru Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm
20010 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville MD 20837  # 301-948-8077
www.cornetser.com TO COUNT ON IT, COUNT ON US

“Your All Weather Plumber”
Since 1962

Faucet repair – Toilet repair – Sewer & drain cleaning
Remodeling – Water heater repairs/replacement – More
✓ White Glove, Professional Craftsmanship
✓ No overtime charges for scheduled calls
✓ 24 hour Emergency Services
✓ 40 Years of Service in the Washington Metro area
✓ 25 Crews available to provide dependable service

Raine & Son Residential
All Plumbing Services

301-881-0886
“No Job Is Too Large or Too Small”

CALL 301-972-8400 TODAY

Mini Roll-Off
Dumpsters
Placed
At Your
Site

You Fill It Up, We Haul It Away
Commercial/Residential --- Weekly Rates
Demolition/Restoration/Renovation/Building Refuse
Estate Cleanup – Rubbish Hauling – Yard and Landscaping Cleanup

We Deliver Shredded Hardwood Bulk Mulch
had remembered the combination to the safe and was able to free the people inside the vault.

Within minutes, news of the crime spread throughout the town. Those men with automobiles formed a posse and raced off down the Sandy Spring Turnpike in search of the robbers. Sheriff George Nicholson was called and arrived at the bank within minutes. He summoned deputies and put in a call to the Washington, D.C. police for assistance. At about 4:00 p.m., the chief of detectives in Washington received a telephone call informing him of the crime. He ordered his best detectives to pile into the most powerful machine that the department owned, and within forty-five minutes, seven detectives from Washington had arrived at the bank. One of them, Detective Jett, brought a German luger pistol with him. He had taken it off the body of a German soldier in France and exclaimed that he hoped to shoot it out with the robbers if he encountered them. Dr. J. W. Bird who had been brought to the bank to attend to Mr. Hallowell helped in the crime scene search. He dug a bullet out of the floor and turned it over to one of the Washington detectives. Since it was thought that the robbers were “big city men,” assistance was also sought from the Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York City police. Baltimore sent two detectives to Montgomery County to assist in the investigation.

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

The county commissioners offered a five thousand dollar reward for the capture of the robbers, but this decision was criticized by the out of town police because they feared that it would attract amateur detectives who were quite common in those days. They appointed Sheriff’s Deputy Viett as the detective in charge of the case.

On May first the Hudson getaway car was found abandoned in York, Pennsylvania. It had been stolen in Baltimore a few days before the robbery. Inside the car were wrappers from the cash and securities. Other clues were also found. A schoolboy, playing in the yard of the Sandy Spring School, found an owner’s manual for a Hudson car while on recess. He turned it over to his teacher who was unaware of its importance until the day after the robbery. Other sleuths, working on their own, discovered a campsite in the woods just east of town. The remains of sardine cans, forks, and knives were all seized and turned over to the police. It was thought at the time that the robbers may have set up camp in the woods before the robbery.

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

The trial started on September 30, 1920, and heavy security was in place. Police from Baltimore, Frederick, and Montgomery Counties were used to ring the courthouse and provide security in the courtroom. On October first, this heightened security paid off when a young woman who happened to be the secretary of one of the defense attorneys was caught trying to smuggle a pistol into the courtroom in her purse. During the testimony of Penderghast, the same witness who had pulled the Hudson out of the ditch with horses was asked to walk to the defendant’s dock and touch his shoulder as was the practice of the time. Penderghast cried out, “Don’t touch me you (expletive) I will knock your block off.”

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

On February 4, 1924, John Mitchell was stabbed to death at the penitentiary in Baltimore by a fellow inmate. On Jan 20, 1925, John Kelley somehow gained possession of a can filled with caustic acid. He blinded a jail guard and tried to escape. During this escape attempt he fell fifty feet to his death.

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

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

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

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

By Rande Davis

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

A World War II veteran in the army air corps, he was a navigator who was forced to bail out of his plane over Holland during a bombing raid in 1944. He consequently became a prisoner of war for ten months. At that point in his life, Mr. Halmos had been a journalist for nearly ten years, and by using those skills, he kept a personal diary that became the foundation for a book about that experience entitled The Wrong Side of the Fence (1996, White Mane Publishing Co.).

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

Upon his arrival, he quickly became involved in local politics, eventually being elected to the town commission where he also served as the town’s mayor. Mr. Halmos’s service to the town was during the time that the first water and sewer systems were introduced and when much of the development in Wesmond and Westerly took place.

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

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

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

This 1974 picture shows Mayor Gene Halmos supervising the grand opening of the new telephone company switchboard facility next to the Post Office. Pictured left to right are: Commissioner Frank Wilson, Phone company executive, Mayor Halmos, his wife Ann, Dots Elgin and commissioner Charles Elgin, Betty Jean Selby, and Commissioner Roy Selby.
The Sun Beckons!  
Let Healthworks Help You Tone Up for Summer!

Now that summer’s here, many of us are much more active than in the winter. We play golf, softball, tennis, swim. We work in the yard. And then we suffer from sore muscles unaccustomed to the stress that comes from these activities.

Sure, taking the winter to work out and get in better shape would have been a good idea. But it’s still not too late. That’s where Healthworks comes in.

Take advantage of our special early summer program designed to help you loosen up and tone your muscles so you can enjoy those warm weather activities that beckon.

Free Trial Membership

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

Thanks Healthworks!
“I’m in better shape... and my back pain’s gone!”

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

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

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

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

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

Healthworks Fitness Center:

✓ Free trial membership & fitness program designed just for you
✓ Café with everything healthy and good
✓ Day Spa massage services
✓ Lively exercise classes

Healthworks ... a Fun, Relaxing Place to Unwind and Stay Healthy!
Salt Continued From Page 4—

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

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

In the summer, Ré is an island of flowers. Despite the sometimes violent winds, the salt sea air, and the blustery winters, many flowering plants have learned to adapt. Upon entering the island, your eyes are struck by the sight of hollyhocks, everywhere, in shades of pink, rose, white and yellow. They thrive in small backyard gardens, along the roadside and in nooks and crannies everywhere. Along side of them, seemingly growing wild, are scarlet fuchsia, long violet stretches of lavender, pungent rosemary, chartreuse euphorbia, agapanthus, sage, daisies, rudbeckia, fuchsia, daylilies and bleeding heart.

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

### Things to Do

#### July 22

**Book Discussion Group**

Poolesville Library

*When Pride Still Mattered* by Vince Lombardi. 7:00 p.m.

#### July 24

**Music in the Park**

Village Jazz Band. Whalen Commons-Poolesville 7:00 p.m. Free

**Summer Concert Series**

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

#### July 25-29

**VBS Barnesville Baptist Church**

Ramblin’ Roads: Which Way Do I Go? 6:30 p.m. – 8:30p.m. Info: 301 407 0500

#### July 27

**Swim for Sarah**

Community Memorial Fundraiser

Upcounty Pool. Fun, food, silent auction. 5:30 p.m. – 10:00p.m.

#### July 28

**Pre-School Summer Film Festival**

Poolesville Library. “A Boy, A Dog, and A Frog.” 2:00 p.m.

#### July 29

**Fabulous Wine Tasting**

Comus Inn. Contact: David Dantzic 301-349-5100

#### July 30

**St. Mary’s Annual Chicken Dinner/Fair**

St. Mary’s Pavilion – Barnesville 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

#### August 4

**Pre-school Program**

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

#### August 7

**Music in the Parks**

Banjo Dan. Banjo/Multi-Instruments Bluegrass/Folk/Rock. 7:00 p.m.

#### August 11

**Pre-School Film Festival**

“Little Engine That Could” – others 2:00 p.m.

#### August 13

**Community Yard Sale**

Jerusalem Baptist Church Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Tables available at $10

Call 301-540-5460

---

**SALE!**

Come Play in the Country

**HEARTSIDE HOME & GARDEN**

19900 Fisher Ave. (rt. 107)

Poolesville, MD

Open 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

THURS. - SUN.

Next to Hearthside Antiques

---

**SUMMER SALE**

---

**DISCIPLINE - ACHIEVEMENT**

---

**CONFIDENCE - COORDINATION**

---

**WHAT IS YOUR CHILD LEARNING THIS SUMMER?**

CALL FOR DETAILS ABOUT OUR SUMMER CAMP.

19616-K Fisher Avenue

Poolesville

301-349-4001
Big Board

Some Say It May Be the Best Chicken Dinner Anywhere
People have been coming to St. Mary's from all over for over a hundred years, there must be a reason: tastes like chicken! Everyone raves about the barbecue chicken dinner by St. Mary's Church at their annual dinner and fair. The day is more than just dinner since the fair has games, a yard sale, and even the rarely-witnessed jousting. It's great fun for the family and for a great cause. Keep July 30th open and invite friends to go with you.

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

Haven't Been to the Big Apple Lately?
You can reserve a spot on the “trip to NYC bus” by calling 240-285-1181. The trip is August 13 and the bus leaves Frederick at 6:00 a.m. returning Frederick by midnight. You will arrive in New York City by 10:00 a.m. and have the day to yourself for shopping, sights, or to see an afternoon Broadway play. Bus tickets are $45.00 per person.

Bible Camps Are Still Available
The following churches all have openings for their Vacation Bible Schools this summer. All are in the evening and you can call for early sign-up.
- Barnesville Baptist Church (July 25-29), 301-407-0500
- Poolesville Baptist Church (July 17-21), 301-972-8151
- Poolesville Presbyterian Church (August 9-12), 301-605-6975

It's Not Too Late to Sign Up for Karate Camp
Mudo USA, a martial arts school in Poolesville thinks so. They will hold their summer camp at their facilities in Poolesville during the last week of July and the first two weeks of August. The summer camp of training includes a program that will improve their students’ abilities in concentration, strength, discipline, achievement, confidence, and coordination. The day events start at 10:00 a.m. and run to 2:00 p.m. Call 301-349-4001 for all the details.

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

The Town of Poolesville Summer Recreation Program Continues
The annual county recreational program for children six years old to twelve years old continues with daily events in the morning and then again in the afternoon. The cost is only $10.00 per child. Every Wednesday from 11:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. will be pool day. The cost is $4.00 and forms can be obtained through the Poolesville Town Hall.

Summer Sounds in the Park
These will continue in Whalen Commons as part of a series of free concerts that will be presented at three parks throughout Montgomery County (for more information: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec or 240-777-6821), Whalen Park in Poolesville will host the following unique musical presentation:
- BanjerDan – August 7, 7:00 p.m. A banjo player/multi-instrumental performer with an Americana mix, rooted in straight-ahead bluegrass, branching through the folk and rock influences to create a unique sound all his own.
- Lost Montgomery: A Photography Exhibit by Michael Dwyer
At the Waters House at Pleasant Fields in Germantown, this unique photography exhibit documents Montgomery County’s lost architectural heritage with black and white images of buildings in the county that pre-date 1850. Most of these structures

We know how we want our family treated when they visit a Health-Care Professional...
...and that’s how we treat our patients.

We value the trusting and caring relationships that we’ve developed in this community for the past 16 years. We invite you to join our family of patients and experience our commitment to excellence.

D. Timothy Pike, D.D.S. & Margaret A. Valega,
301-972-7000
19601 Fisher Avenue (across from CVS Pharmacy)
Poolesville, Maryland

—Continued on Page 20.
Forrest Meader Continued From Page 1—  

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

In the early 1970s, the music business beckoned. Some of his friends from Tucson had made it in music and were living in L.A. Forrest succinctly describes those years as: “Five or six years of putting your head down and running full steam into a stone wall.” During all those years, he was always making things with his hands—and painting. He had learned that one of the characteristics of primitive art was the use of non-traditional materials. “I realized that what they used was what was available to them,” he explains. Another characteristic that he explained has become evident with the influx of African art into museums is that the pieces are always functional to the original society whether it be in a practical sense or for religious purposes. However, there exists always a sense of awe to non-European art for which Forrest strives. “Is there a way to put materials together to create something that is more than the pieces—something with a spiritual sense to it?” This is Forrest’s question for himself. At the same time, Forrest confides, “When I’m working with my materials, I’m not controlling it. I’m not in charge.” Also, Forrest simply enjoys the materials themselves. He says, “I paint in oil because I like the smell of turpentine.” He likes the feel of paint and the texture of the canvas and the brush.

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

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

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

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

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

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

P2P Mission Trip at United Memorial Methodist Church

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

The P2P team left Poolesville on Saturday, June 18. On Sunday, they worshipped at a local church, then toured the work sites, meeting with each homeowner. In the evening, the group began a weeklong study on the theme: “Who Am I?” Team members learned that they had spiritual gifts to share. Following the example of Jesus, team members shared words of caring and acts of compassion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

This past June, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church’s Senior High Youth Group attended a Quaker Work Camp in Washington, D.C. The youth attending camp were Margit Andreassen, Amanda Brown, Jacapo Calderelli (an Italian exchange student), Elaine Clayton, Andrew Collar, David Collar, Michael Foote, and Nick Jankowski.

The adult campers were Kevin Collar and Kathy and Bernie Jankowski. The camp was designed and hosted by William Penn House on Capitol Hill. The theme of Quaker Work Camps is “Work is Love Made Visible.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Calleva also has school programs. They work with many schools in the area to share with the students the following activities that challenge students to work together as a team to communicate and problem solve: high and low ropes, kayaking, rock climbing, caving, canoeing, mountain biking, rafting, hiking/backpacking, horseback riding, rappelling, sailing, and of course camping. School programs are also offered in the summertime.

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

Welcome to the Neighborhood
The Asia Dynasty (formerly Meadowlark Inn) to Open Soon
By Rande Davis

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

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

Much of the interior redesign has gone on in the kitchen to modernize and get the restaurant in a position to handle not only a wide menu selection and occasional buffet, but also to be able to prepare daily specials as well as special order items. As an example, lobster may not be available every day but could be special-ordered for customers.

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

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

The Corner
By Rande Davis

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

Continued on Page 19
The Corner Continued From Page 18—

Mom owning an ice cream store, too.)

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

Judging from the crowd lined up at the counter Sunday evening during the music concert at Whalen Commons, she should be in the hiring mood soon. It looked a lot like an ice cream shop near the beach on a summer night. It gives you the feeling of being on vacation right here in Poolesville. Poor Paul certainly agrees with her goal of looking for help soon in Poolesville. Poor Paul certainly agrees with her goal of looking for help soon.

Poolesville

July 12, 2024. Fines of $145 were imposed on William Boxall of Montgomery County by Police Judge Samuel Riggs in Rockville. Mr. Boxall had been charged with several offenses arising out of an automobile accident near Bucklodge this week in which Miss Nellie Dillehay, a sixteen-year-old daughter of J.H. Dillehay of Boyds suffered a fractured hip and other injuries.

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

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

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

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

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

An Ode to A Japanese Beetle

By Maureen O’Connell


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

I sweated and slaved; I fed and I sprayed, I fed and I sprayed, foxgloves. Are lacy and brown, and good-bye to My zinnias, my roses, my lilies, my loves, And you know what I mean.

Oh Beetle, you have gone round the bend, Of petals, of buds, of anything green. But for what, but for what.

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

You sneaked into town, oh when I was gone To London and towns, where you are not found. You’ve won Mr. Beetle this year I admit. You’ve won Mr. Beetle this year I admit. You sneaked into town, oh when I was gone To London and towns, where you are not found. You’ve won Mr. Beetle this year I admit.

My Super Bug Mix is ready and fixed. My Super Bug Mix is ready and fixed. But come summer ’06, be weary, be leery. But come summer ’06, be weary, be leery. My Super Bug Mix is ready and fixed. My Super Bug Mix is ready and fixed.

Silent Auction at Swim for Sarah – July 27 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Hyattstown Mill Arts Project at BlackRock Center for the Arts

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

16th Annual Montgomery County Farm Tour

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

Get Your Running Shoes Ready

Sponsored by the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, the 14th annual Poolesville Day 5K Run/Walk and 1K Kids’ Fun Run is an annual community event and is part of the Poolesville Day celebrations for the Town of Poolesville, Maryland. Runners and walkers of all levels of ability are welcome and encouraged to participate. The gently rolling race course travels through the quiet neighborhoods of historic Poolesville, Maryland. The event is followed immediately by the classic small-town Poolesville Day Parade and town celebration. This year’s event will take place on Saturday, September 10, 2005. The PACC will donate all proceeds from the race to Poolesville area educational programs and the PACC Annual Scholarship Program. For further information contact Kathy Mihm at 301-349-5753 or kmihm@att.net (please put 5K in the subject line.)
The community should know that Congregation Or Chadash is a wonderful place to pray, to make friends, and to educate your children.” She says that the congregation expects to increase the scope of programming for individuals and families. This will be easier in a permanent home. “We expect to implement an adult b’nai mitzvah program and a book discussion group,” says Levitus.

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

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

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

After graduation, he joined Playing for Peace which is a non-profit organization whose mission is to use basketball to bridge divides, develop leaders, and to change perceptions in areas of the world affected by strife. They now have offices in Northern Ireland and South Africa and hope to open sites in Cyprus and the West Bank of Palestine. Kris lives in Belfast, Northern Ireland for nine months a year. He is the managing director of the Ireland project and during the summer he returns to the United States to recruit scholar athletes to join the organization. A typical day consists of working in a gymnasium at a neutral site in Belfast. Sixth graders from Catholic and Protestant schools meet at the gym and are divided into teams. They are taught that, through basketball, they can make friends with other children that they would not ordinarily meet. Kris says, “Everything is so segregated in Northern Ireland that the only interaction would be when they are in a hostile situation.” He recalled one lad of ten who said that the “only time he felt comfortable was when he was at the gym.” In his spare time, Kris plays for Tyrone Towers in the Irish Second Division League. Kris chuckled when he reminisced about his time in Northern Ireland. He said one of the first things that a new student asks him is: “Do you know Michael Jordan?” or “Do you play in the NBA?”

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

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

By Jack Toomey

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

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

Jessica and Kris Cates-Bristol

—Continued on Page 23.
Local News

First to File for Re-election

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

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

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

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

Indoor Pool in Poolesville?

The Town of Poolesville commissioners opened discussion at the July 11 meeting on the subject of purported plans of a county indoor pool for the town. While the subject was reported in the Western Montgomery Bulletin, the commissioners reported that no officials in the town have been approached by anyone in the county regarding such a venture. Unrelated discussions on placing a bubble over the existing county pool have been part of public dialogue for a number of years with no affirmative decision being made on that prospect. The commissioners directed town manager Wade Yost to send correspondence to the county to clarify any intention they may or may not have regarding an indoor pool.

Public Hearing on Sign Ordinance Completed

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

Tom Kettler, President of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce voiced the chamber’s appreciation for work being done on the ordinance and also expressed the chamber’s support with the general direction of the proposal. Business persons speaking during the hearing were Debbie Lynn (Poolesville Tack & Supply), J. D. Slagle (J. D.’s Beer and Wine), Joe Angelo (Domino’s Pizza), and Terrie Daniels of Healthcare.

Each presented specific dissatisfaction with either aspect of the current ordinance or its administration and encouraged the commissioners to consider changes that would better meet their needs.

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

Barnesville Town Council Sets Date for Public Hearing on Zoning Changes

The June 11 meeting of the Barnesville Town Council set August 2, 2005 for a public hearing on the matter of proposed changes to the town’s zoning laws. The most controversial new proposal would be an increase in the minimum acreage required for building to four acres from the current two acres. It was suggested that more efficient language could be incorporated in the new zoning law and possible changes in the verbiage is being considered. The public hearing is set for St. Mary’s Pavilion at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Fourth of July Celebration Tremendous Success

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

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

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

For Mr. Eck, there was special pleasure in learning that the twenty-five-minute fireworks display was three minutes longer than the Washington, D.C. fireworks.
book has changed substantially over the years. "Whereas before, an artist would work on an art board, FedEx it to the ink to work on, who would then send it to the colorist. Now, the artist just scans it into the computer, and the inking and coloring are all done digitally. We transfer files back and forth by email."

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

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

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

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

Local News

Swim for Sarah Silent Auction

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

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

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

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

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

For more information or to donate items and make contributions, contact Mary Beth Preuss at 301-349-0701 or Amy Hsu at 301-349-0710.

Golf Tips with Mike Aldrich

Emotional Control and Mental Focus

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

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

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

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

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

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

Poolesville’s Secret to Athletic Success

By Rande Davis

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

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

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

The British are Coming

By Curtis A. Osborne

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

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

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

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

UMAC Ends One Season, Prepares for Another

By Rande Davis

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

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

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

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

Starting at the age of thirteen, the players prepare for the nationally affiliated Babe Ruth League. At this point, they play on full-sized diamonds with the baseline at a full ninety feet. Nationally, the Babe Ruth League is for fourteen- and fifteen-year-olds, played on the full-sized diamond and is a non-school, pre-varsity level of competition.

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

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

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

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

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