

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

*Keeping An Eye On Local News*

A Biweekly Newspaper

July 1, 2005

Volume 2, Number 9

## Inside the Monocle



*A quiet day at the bank? Maybe not. See Local History on Page 20.*



*Fireworks in the upcounty! Detailed map on Page 24. All the details on Page 17.*



*Why did this man perform rock music dressed in a flamenco costume? The answer is on Page 2.*



*The Daytripper stays local on Page 19.*

## Swim for Sarah 2005

By Dominique Agnew

It is with great pleasure that the organizers of Swim for Sarah are again preparing this wonderful charitable event. Out of the tragedy of the death of Sarah Auer, beloved coach and friend of many, what was begun as a way for the community to remember her has become an annual event.

Like last year, the focus of this event is, of course, swimming. Swimming had been a dominant force in Sarah Auer's life growing up and she happily gave back to the community by being the coach of the Piranhas for four summers, touching the lives of so many children and families in the area before her death on December 3, 2002. Sarah is sorely missed, but her

spirit is not forgotten. The Sarah E. Auer Memorial Fund was established to provide scholarships to graduating seniors.

Although Swim for Sarah is sponsored by the Poolesville Piranhas, many other swim teams participate, and the whole community is encouraged to attend. The biggest draw is the

awesome Silent Auction. Items that can be expected include: themed gift baskets, many restaurant gift certificates and gift certificates for numerous services, and a gold and amethyst bracelet valued at five hundred dollars. This is just the tip of the iceberg. A band will provide music, and food and beverages will be available.

During the month of July, swimmers of all ages, even those not on the swim team, will be collecting pledges based on the number of laps they swim — cash donations are also accepted.

The third annual Swim for Sarah will take place at the Western County Pool in Poolesville July 27 at 5:30. For more information or to donate items and make contributions, contact Mary Beth Preuss at 301-349-5912 or Amy Hsu at 301-349-0701.



*The mighty Piranhas will be at the Swim for Sarah.*

## The Pulse

By Jack Toomey

A recent visitor to Riley's Lock at Seneca was greeted by the twelve "Riley children." All of them seemed to be involved in some type of activity whether it was sweeping the lock house, churning butter, playing games, or working on crafts. They were only too happy to tell the visitor about their life, give a tour of their house, and even show where a snake could be found.

Actually, these children were members of Girl Scout Troop 3817 and were participating in a joint project between the National Park Service and the Girl Scouts Council of the Nation's Capital. Every

## The Riley Kids of Lock 24

weekend a different troop gathers at the lock house in Seneca and assumes the dress and identities of the children of John Riley, the last lockkeeper to occupy the house. They are trained to do the chores and activities of a family living in the 1870s. Patti Slay, the co-leader of the troop, explained that the project started in 1976 to expose

the public to how the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal played a big part in the development of the country and as a learning experience for the girls. The girls are taught to make ice cream, butter, and lemonade and display their talents to visitors.

Frankie, an energetic ten-year-old, said that she found the games, such as cat's cradle, tops, and checkers, interesting. She also was surprised to learn that all twelve Riley children slept in one bedroom and shared one chamber pot. She said, "It's nice and cool to live by the water," and noted that she and her brothers and sisters had to walk two miles to school every day where they attended the Seneca School.

Briana, eleven years old, said, "You get to eat fish a lot," and her brothers clean the fish. She related that one time there was a terrible flood and that the whole family had



*The Girl Scouts of Riley's Lock.*

—Continued on Page 6.

**Family Album**

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Caroline Taylor and Josh Goldman pay for some fresh strawberries at Homestead Farms as Ben Allnutt and an employee help them out.



The Reverend Steve Hayward of St. Peter's Episcopal Church performs a song at the Parish Picnic to raise funds for the church's building expansion. Reverend Hayward donned a flamingo costume, sang *Wild Thing*, and accompanied himself on the flute. He was backed by supporting flamingos from the Senior High Youth Group.



Eric Huber shares a great kite day with his daughter, Alison.



The Summer Music in the Park series started off with *Utenzils*.

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## Editorial

### The New Look of the Town: On the Road, Down the Road

By Rande Davis

Most residents have heard about a streetscape plan for the Town of Poolesville and, depending on their source, may have a varying degree of understanding about such a proposal.

Some reports on the subject are nothing short of pure fantasy bordering on hysteria. Irresponsible statements calculating that such a project will cost the town coffers 5.5 million dollars are even more removed from the actual facts of the matter.

The *Monocle* recently took a tour of the area on Fisher Avenue in Poolesville to gain a first-person report from the chairman of the town's planning commission, Mr. George Coakley. This was done so that we could inform our readers of actual facts concerning this topic.

The area of the tour started at the corner of Norris and Fisher Avenues, proceeded to the intersection at Wootton, and came back to Whalen Common. Before presenting a view of what

potentially might be developed, there needs to be clarification of a few very significant points.

The commission is tasked with making recommendations that could produce a cohesive, consistent, and attractive main street for the town. While various recommendations are being made, each individual suggestion is only that – a suggestion. The purpose is to literally look at the road and try to see what it will look like down the road in the future.

This planning process allows for concepts put forward to be considered so that efficiencies may be brought into consideration. By comprehensively looking at the streetscape with an eye to the future, decisions made today about repair and renovations that may be necessary now, could ultimately prove to be much more efficient.

—Continued on Page 13

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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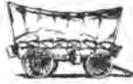
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## Commentary

### In a Word—Beautiful

By Dominique Agnew

In response to recent news reports showing most op-ed articles to be written by men, the *Monocle* wishes to burst forth from the rigidity of this oppression by allowing an op-ed to be written by a woman (even if most people assume Dominique is a man's name—I'm going to digress here—how about the time a gentleman called asking for Dominique. I replied in the affirmative, and he was in disbelief. He had found my name and number in his girlfriend's purse [I thought they were off-limits to boyfriends] and was going to go after what he supposed was another man). To those bickering few who may query my editorship—obviously I am neither Rande nor John, the reigning editors of the moment—I happily pretend to be a copyeditor.

In my guise as copyeditor, if it's just basic copyediting, I correct errors concerning grammar, spelling, and punctuation (saving the world one sentence at a time). At times, a piece requires a little more help—substantive copyediting (saving the world). So it should come as no surprise that my quaint editorial will be about grammatical errors.

It happens, people make mistakes, and I try to make it a point to find them (actually, they leap out at me and grab me by the eyeballs—see, if I were a man, they would have grabbed—oh dear, this is a family paper, never mind). Once in a blue moon, even I, yes, moi, make an error or miss a glitch in an article. Embarrassment and shame flooded over me when the email came from Above: an article in the *Monocle* had gone to press and the eagle-eyed reader had gently queried as to whether the Civil War horsemen were mounted as part of the cavalry or whether they were on Mount Calvary. It gets worse, whenever the latest issue of the *Monocle* comes out, I quickly skim the pages looking for articles I've written, and I check for errors. I'm not saying how many I've found (someone has suggested I may need psychiatric help—maybe, but not for this). Of course, my mother reads my articles and has found problems (once she found two in one article!), and she's not even a native English speaker. Numerous times, when avid readers of the *Monocle* have sung its praises,

they have included how pleased they are with the lack of grammatical errors, especially compared to other newspapers, big and small ones.

So this isn't about petty grammatical errors. This isn't even about the *Monocle* (how could I complain about the most perfect paper ever?). After all, everyone needs to be copyedited, even the copyeditors. This is about the intentional infliction of bad writing on poor unsuspecting readers. This is about (dramatic music plays) Gratuitous Grammatical Errors. There's one in particular that I find particularly irksome, and, who knows, maybe the editors of the offending periodicals will be driving through the Monocacy area, will pick up this issue, read this op-ed, feel remorse, and begin a new way of life.

So, here it is, the big one, I especially see this in modern novels (Thomas Hardy would have never done such a thing) and big, national newspapers (sometimes ending in *Post*): The greatest gratuitous grammatical error in the history of mankind (if you can imagine Gene Wilder as Dr. Frankenstein in Mel Brooks's *Young Frankenstein*, you've got the voice down pat) is this perverse idea of writing in incomplete sentences by using periods in the middle of sentences. The writer. Thinks. He's making. A point. By doing. Just. This. Sort. Of. Thing. Ugh! The torture, the agony—I feel as if I've become the figure in Munch's *The Scream*—maybe worse. If a writer wants to make a point, other magnificent forms of punctuation exist—the beautiful em dash for one (look back six words). If not the em dash, why not utilize the melancholy semicolon (melancholy because it's frequently overlooked)?

Well, it would be easy to go on and on; I could even write a book. Fortunately, Lynne Truss beat me to it with *Eats, Shoots, and Leaves*, a highly entertaining book on grammar and such. Interestingly, she complains that while people may be happy that there are editors and others of their ilk, they never stop to ask why something should be written a certain way, and they continue with the same mistakes over and over. There are those stubborn souls who wax poetic, "I yam what I yam." Of course, and I am what I am, as well, but I recognize that what I am isn't that great (it's possible I'm now speaking on a greater plain than just the grammatical), and I try to correct my faults (I can't count that high), so that what I am is better than what I was.

I'm already thinking about a great topic for my next op-ed; what fun!



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**Riley's Lock Girls Continued**  
From Page 1—  
to climb to the roof. She and several of her sisters showed the visitor the high water mark on the house.

Alexis, who is ten, said that she liked how her house, which was built in 1829, was constructed but wasn't very happy that there were forty or fifty students in her one-room schoolhouse on River Road.

Ashley, also ten, said that her biggest surprise was "the way people think this is so interesting and how all twelve children sleep in the same room."

All of the girls are trained as docents and gave the visitor a tour of the house. A photo album belonging

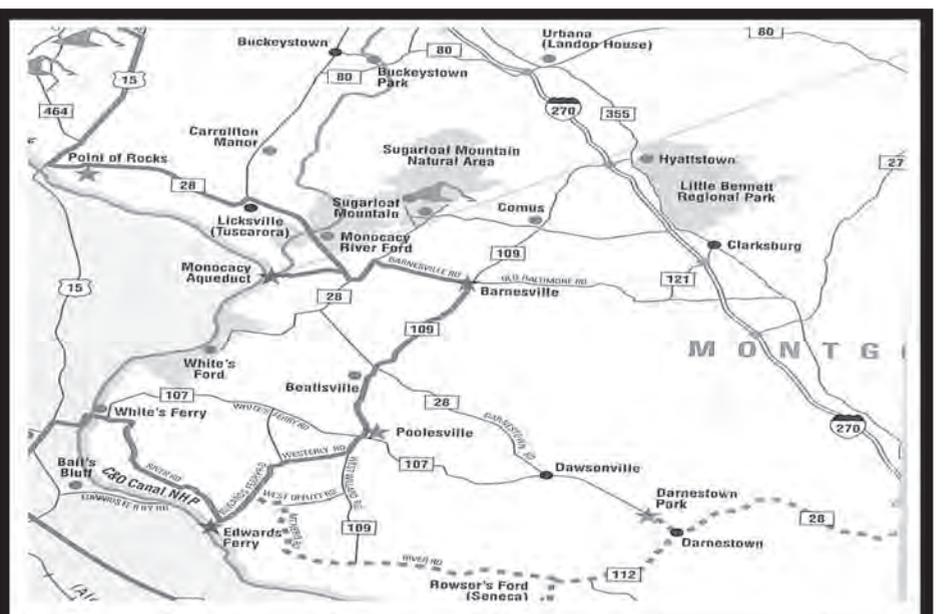
to the Riley family is still on display as is the family Bible. One room on the ground floor served as a kitchen, sewing room, and laundry. In the children's bedroom there were some toys like a hobby horse, toy wooden boats, and a board game. The visitor tried to trick the Riley girls by asking where the television room was located. Needless to say, the children were puzzled by the question.

The Riley Lock House is open for tours from April to November between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. It's closed in July and August. It is located at the dead end of Riley's Lock Road, next to the Seneca Aqueduct in Seneca. The Girl Scouts are happy to show visitors around, and it's an interesting way to spend a weekend afternoon.



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## Center Stage

### Sugarloaf Images

By Dominique Agnew

It's amazing the things we learn from our children—and the way we change our lives because of them. Hugh Flick, photographer, came back to his passion for photography in part due to a conversation he had with his son. In a discussion about careers, Hugh told his son, "Do what you love." His son responded, "You sure must love what you do." This caused Hugh to take stock, and he realized that maybe he wasn't following his own advice.

At the age of fourteen, Hugh began his interest in photography. His father had gotten a camera, and Hugh began taking pictures. A picture entered into a 4-H contest not only won, but it was put on display at the Smithsonian. Hugh grew up in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and spent his high school years getting more and more involved in photography including working on the yearbook for his high school. He also worked for a studio doing portraits, yearbook pictures, and wedding photography. He was even working for a Lancaster newspaper as a stringer, this meant he was not a full-time employee but was called in for assignments.

During his senior year of high school, for his science fair project, he challenged Kodak's recommendation for processing. While this only earned him an honorable mention in the county fair, Kodak rewarded him with a \$2500 scholarship. Also during his senior year, he began freelancing and would continue to do so for five years. "I had a blast," he says, but he adds, "I did not know much about business at the time, so it was not very lucrative." He then went on to complete college to, as he puts it, "study traditional things to get a respectable job." This entailed majoring in computer science at Shippensburg University and moving to Gaithersburg in 1984 to work for General Electric in Rockville doing "computer stuff."

So for twenty years, he's been a traditional kind of guy, and he found himself taking pictures less and less over time. It was the realm of digital that got him interested in photography again. Professional photographers were having difficulty switching from film to digital which requires

different techniques. "Being in the computer business, I'm somewhat of a techno-geek," he explains. "The opportunity to take pictures electronically and work with them on the PC was very natural."

While many think digital photography at home is less expensive, Hugh disagrees. With film, the consumer pays for film and processing, but with digital printing at home, the cost of ink and paper just isn't that cheap. As a professional, the expenses are much greater. Hugh has six pieces of software in use in his business. Clients want reprints, and they must all be of high quality. Then there's the question of storage: what used to be a three-ring binder in a fire safe is now a DVD, but will it be readable in ten years?

For Hugh, however, he prefers to work with digital despite the cost because of "the amount of control you have once an image is captured." From an artistic standpoint, the techniques used in making fine art prints were very labor-intensive. There's still a lot of labor involved, but it's all on computer. Hugh enthuses, "I was so thrilled with digital that I took all my traditional equipment, except my antique cameras, and traded them in."

It was about 2002 when Hugh started getting back into photography as an art and a business. The development of the new technology and the conversation with his son combined to reignite the spark. In early 2003, Hugh had heard about a book project about a day in the life of America. Announced in January of 2003, photographers across the nation were asked to take pictures at all times of the day during only one week in May. The competition for the opportunity to be published in the book was open to all photographers—professionals, amateurs, and students. The parameters were that the pictures be all digital and not manipulated in any way. This definitely got Hugh's creative juices flowing. With great excitement he sent in a number of photos—he also sent up a little prayer, "Lord, if this is

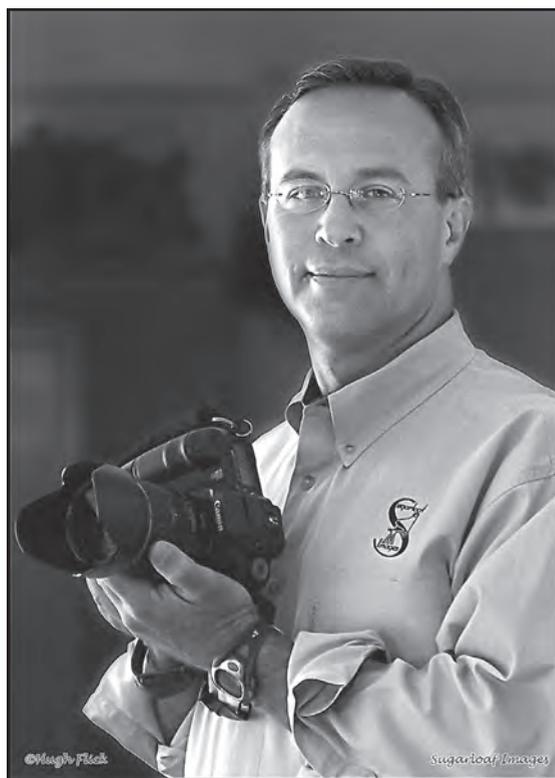
what I'm supposed to do, then put one little picture in this book."

In July of 2003, Hugh made his business, Sugarloaf Images, official. August was the month in which the editors would notify photographers

if their pictures had been selected for the coffee table book. Well, August came and went. For the book entitled *America 24/7* over twenty-five thousand photographers submitted over one million

photographs, only twelve hundred were selected. In September, Hugh received the email, "By the way, your picture is in the book." His published photograph is a thumbnail on page thirty-seven. Even though this was "one little picture," Hugh wasn't sure what the exact answer to his prayer was.

The book, published by DK and edited by Smolan and Cohen, was such a huge success that the editors decided to do one for each state using the photos that had already been submitted. Hugh figured he had better ask again, "Lord, I'm not sure that was the sign." This time he received a resounding answer. In September 2004, *Maryland 24/7* hit the bookshelves. Within a week of his prayer, he received the email saying that two of his photographs would be featured in *Maryland 24/7*—as if. When Hugh got a hold of the book, he found three thumbnails as well as his two photographs. To his astonishment, one of those two photos is a full two-page spread, an absolutely stunning sunrise over a pond in Poolesville. Furthermore, one of the thumbnails, a picture of Poolesville resident Lindsay Poss reading at the Poolesville Elementary playground, appears on the press page of the website.



Hugh Flick

So Hugh got the message, and he continues to photograph. The focus of Sugarloaf Images is concentrated a little more on the commercial than on the fine art aspect; however, everything must be done artistically. He offers "classic vision, fresh perspective, and memorable images—distinctive photography." Hugh hasn't been able to quit his day job (it seems many artists say that), but as he says, "It doesn't feed the family, it only feeds my soul." That would be a good reason for doing what you love.

### Local Artist Releases New Book on the Use of Color

Artist Caroline Jasper has just released a new book published by Watson-Guption Publications. Ms. Jasper was recently honored as featured artist at The Comus Inn at Sugarloaf Mountain, Dickerson, Maryland where her colorful paintings are displayed throughout.

This comprehensive survey of color—its science, psychology, theory, and aesthetics—gives artists the knowledge and power to do more with color. Jasper, along with contributing artists Robert Burrige, Jeanne Carbonetti, Sean Dye, Bill James, Abby Lammers, Tom Lynch, Camille Przewodek, and Kitty Wallis, reveal diverse personal color philosophies and methods. Included is Caroline Jasper's trademark approach of painting on red canvas.

Readers learn what color is; the color wheel; various types of color contrast (temperature, intensity, and value); how a medium's physical characteristics affect the use and appearance of color; how color has been used by artists throughout history; and how color can be used effectively in a variety of theories, applications, and mediums. This is an invaluable resource for any who want to expand their knowledge about and invigorate their use of color.

"As a student, artist, and teacher, it seems forever that I have been looking for a comprehensive book about color. The important things I have read about color come from many different books, each having a narrow focus," states the author. "When I imagined this book I knew I wanted it to be the one-stop learning tool I always hoped to find. It would offer aspects of what fascinates and frustrates artists about color, mindful of

—Continued on Page 10.



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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zucchini                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabbage        |
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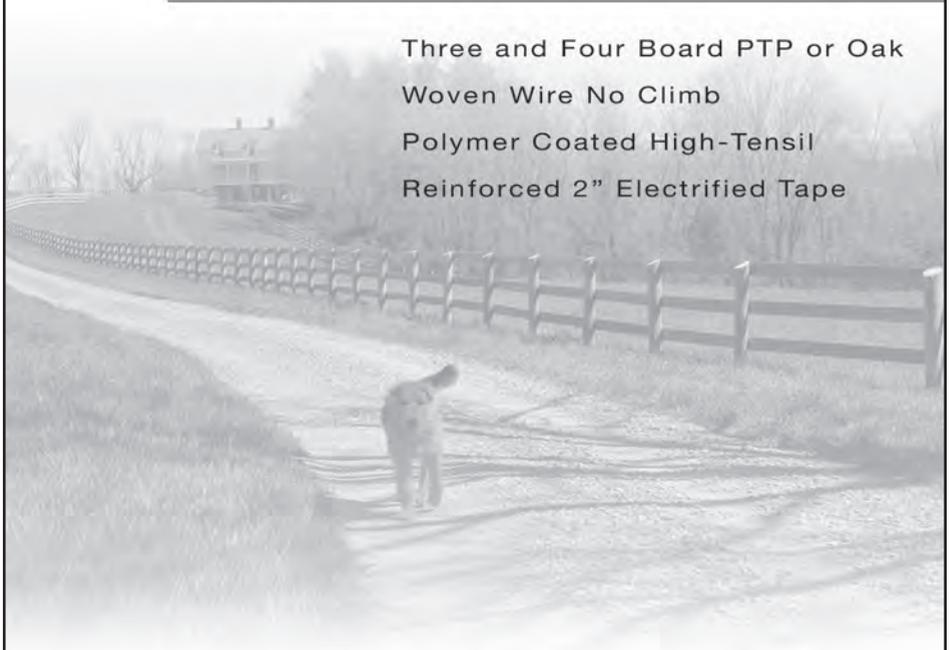


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## Things to Do

(See the Monocle's Directory of Vacation Bible Schools on page 16.)

### July 2

*Basket Bingo*

St Mary's Pavilion, Barnesville.  
Doors Open: 5:30 pm/Games: 7:00 p.m. 20 Games/3 Specials/2 Raffles/50/50. \$15.00 in advance; \$20.00 at door. Sponsored by the Monocacy Lions Club. Call 301-831-8203.

### July 3

*Summer Music in the Park*

Rox 25 – Local Yale Guise  
Whalen Common - Poolesville  
7:00 p.m.

### July 4

*Town 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration*

Polo Fields – Hughes Road  
Music and Food Festival – 6:00 p.m.  
Fireworks at sunset

### July 4 – 9

*Walkersville Volunteer Fire Co. Carnival*

Events daily to 10:00 p.m. each day  
Family dinners offered nightly  
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Variety of music groups

### July 9 – 10

*141<sup>st</sup> Battle of Monocacy Commemoration*

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8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

### July 10

*Summer Music in the Park*

Bob Perilla and the Bluegrass Band  
Contemporary Bluegrass  
Whalen Common - Poolesville  
7:00 p.m.

### July 12

*Summer Music in the Park*

Cabin John Regional Park  
The Back Pages Band  
Classic Rock of the Golden Decade (1963-1973)  
7:00 P.M.

### July 13

*Summer Music in the Park*

Cabin John Regional Park  
Rays Owens – Guitar/Banjo/Humor  
Classic American songs for Family Fun. 7:00 p.m.

### July 14

*Poolesville Public Library*

Animals visit the library  
Guests from agricultural fair  
Traveling Petting Zoo  
2:00 p.m.



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Caroline Jasper Continued From  
Page 7—

the importance of concept over technique. And, since important works of art spring from originality, it would be both for and against color theory, assembled not for the purpose of setting out rules, but for clarification toward greater understanding and ultimately improved use of color."



Caroline Jasper

Ms. Jasper's works, represented in corporate and private collections nationwide, have been honored in national and international juried shows, and featured in Artists' Magazine, American Artist, Decor, and Focus Santa Fe magazines, as well as several books. This coming November, Ms. Jasper will have a solo exhibition at The Washington County Museum of Fine Art in Hagerstown, Maryland. Jasper's gallery affiliations include Art Source, Raleigh, North Carolina; The Little Gallery on Smith Mountain Lake, Moneta, Virginia; Peninsula Gallery, Lewes, Delaware, Gallery Wright, Wilmington, Vermont; and Verde Bleu Upstairs Gallery, Emerald Isle, North Carolina.

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## Police Blotter Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

### Present

Montgomery County Police want to alert citizens to several schemes that have been reported in various areas of the county. Soon after warm weather arrives, transient groups arrive and prey on older citizens who usually are working in the yard. The criminals enter the house and steal valuables while the homeowner is distracted. In other cases, one of the group asks the homeowner for a glass of water while the others steal property.

Home improvement scams continue to be a problem. Many of these involve fraudulent driveway sealing. In many instances, the citizen is elderly and a substandard substance is applied to the driveway.

**Murder arrests.** Two Germantown residents, 18 and 15, were arrested and charged with first degree murder in the stabbing death of an eighteen-year-old Damascus High School graduate and football player that occurred on June 12 in the 10600 block of Radstock Court, Damascus. Police said that the victim was leaving a party when an altercation began and one of the defendants produced a gun and robbed a friend of the victim. Then another defendant stabbed the victim who died at a local hospital.

**Vandalism.** Once again, almost as an annual "rite of passage," demolition of area mailboxes has begun. Reports of mailboxes destroyed or damaged have come from Tama II, Beall Street, and the Wesmond area. It has been reported that those responsible in the Tama II area have been identified, and the property owner is in the process of notifying the parents. Anyone who may have been a witness to the damaging of other mailboxes should contact the police.

**Burglary.** Barnesville School 21830 Peach Tree Road, Barnesville between 4:00 p.m. June 15 and 8:30 a.m. on June 17. Forced open a door and property taken.

### Past

June 26, 1955. Montgomery County police reported that Howard W. Spurrier, 82, the former mayor of Poolesville, Maryland, was seriously injured in an automobile accident in Dickerson, Maryland.

July 2, 1931. A sudden thunderstorm which broke over Maryland and Virginia at about 5:30 p.m. brought relief from two days of sweltering heat which had resulted in at least twenty prostrations, the death of one man, and injuries to several other persons. During the violent storm, a Montgomery County farmhand was killed by a bolt of lightning while leading horses into a barn. Telephone communication and electric light service within a radius of twenty miles of the capital city was affected.

July 7, 1941. Five hours after a high tension wire had fallen across five cows, killing one, Clarence Huff, 40, of Boyds, Maryland, a dealer in hides, was called to remove the dead cow.

Mr. Huff suffered severe shock from the wire and was taken to a hospital but will recover.

July 7, 1907. An eastbound freight train on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad struck and instantly killed an unknown man near Adamstown. His body was badly mangled and was described as about thirty-five years old. He is supposed to have been an Italian laborer.

July 13, 1929. Twenty-nine members of the younger set were taken to the Bethesda police station when a whoopee party at the home of a Mr. Morris on Grafton Street, Chevy Chase became too boisterous and the police were called. It was said that police found some of the partygoers clad in pajamas.

## Focus on Business

### Prospering with Produce

By Marcie Gross

The golden rule is best interpreted as saying: "Treat others only in ways that you're willing to be treated in the same exact situation." To apply it, you'd imagine yourself in the place of the other person on the receiving end of the action. "Follow the golden rule and everything is good," says Mrs. Linda Lewis of Lewis Orchards. That is her motto, and it seems to be paying off. I'm sure if you're like me, you've driven by countless times wondering when the doors would reopen for the season. Well, your patience will now be rewarded. Lewis Orchards is back and open for business! Due to mouth-watering, fresh produce, but mainly, through my eyes and ears, due to the

husband-wife team of Robert and Linda, Lewis Orchards thrives on being straight and honest with its customers and providing friendly customer service at all times. The history of this well-known family business dates back to a deed from 1856. The next piece of traceable family history was from 1888 when Robert's grandmother's family owned the farm, the Mainhart Farm. She married a gentleman by the name of Guy Lewis who owned an orchard in Thurmont (and also drove a school bus). Back then, they farmed cattle. Robert's Dad, Marshall, was the youngest of five children. Lewis Orchards, with owners Marshall and his wife Lottie, started farming produce in the 1970s. In 1990, Robert and his brother Jay took over the family business and three years later, Robert and Linda became full owners of the business. Robert and Linda met in 1980 at the orchard when Linda worked for Robert's father, and the rest, as they say, is history. "We insist on offering quality instead of quantity," says Linda about their produce market. When the doors opened on June 11, they began the season by providing our area with the finest lettuce, broccoli, squash, and cherries. The market is large and cool in the summer heat. "I say hi to everyone," Linda says, "and treat people how I want to be treated." The Lewises encourage their staff of nine to follow the same logic. Throughout the year, customers have come to expect a great deal from Lewis Orchards to fulfill their produce needs and to offer a welcoming atmosphere, and Lewis Orchards delivers. The orchards maintain one hundred acres of sweet corn and one hundred acres of pumpkins in addition to all of the other delicious fruits and vegetables throughout the summer and autumn. Linda says, "I really enjoy what I'm doing."

To use the golden rule, we need both knowledge and imagination. We need to know what effect our actions have on the lives of others, and we need to be able to imagine ourselves in the other person's place on the receiving end of the action. With knowledge, imagination, and the golden rule, we can really enjoy life. Knowing all of this, you can easily see why Lewis Orchards is so successful and a pleasurable place to get all of your produce needs. The Lewises are not only prospering with produce, but with life in general.

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

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

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

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

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

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



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**Streetscape Continued From Page 4—**

So, what will the main street most likely resemble in the future? If all goes well, there will be a curb the entire length of the roadway. The road will have traffic-calming designs that will help maintain a lower, safer, and actual speed limit. The road width and lane separations will also vary to help prevent speeding through the area.

In appearance, the entire road will look more like it does in front of Whalen Common. For turnoffs, there will be deceleration lanes that will help keep traffic moving forward with a minimum of delays.

Currently, there is consideration for a traffic circle at the intersection at Wootton and Fisher. Previously, the state had not approved a four-way stop sign for that intersection. There will be additional traffic counts this fall, and the state may reverse its decision on the stop signs. So, even though part of the concept under consideration includes a traffic circle, the key point to remember is that nothing has been finalized.

A major change in the look of Fisher Avenue could involve mov-

ing phone lines underground. This project is very expensive and could cost an estimated fifty to sixty thousand dollars per pole. Poles along Whalen Common were removed at the time of the development of the park, and its appearance today is the ideal for the future. The streetscape change could include new light poles that have a more pleasing and historical appearance.

The actual development of such a design concept could take a decade or more since funding and grants will dictate the rate of progress. The success of the town government in obtaining county and state grants will have more to do with the rate of development than any other single factor. For example, removal of the telephone lines will be dependent on grants and the degree of financial contribution of the phone companies. Without outside assistance, the town is not planning to put forth the money toward removal of the poles.

Similarly, other developments will proceed at a rate in concert with obtaining such grants and assistance. The key purpose of the plan is to have enough information

at hand so the town can take advantage of grants as they come forward. Such plans are required in order to get the most grants that might be available for the project.

Answers to some basic questions can be given.

Will it cost the town of Poolesville 5.5 million dollars? There is no certain overall cost since there is no degree of certainty that any particular part of the concept is to be completed. An estimate of the total cost might be in the neighborhood of three million dollars. The key to understanding the streetscape plan is to remember that funds will only be allocated by the town based on the degree of success in obtaining matching funds and other grants. Or, put another way, no grants no plan.

Could it bankrupt the town? No, since any potential design development will be on an incremental basis; therefore, in the event of unforeseen circumstances, the town can safely pull back or put the plan on hold.

Is it irresponsible and reckless to develop such a plan? No, in fact, not making plans with an eye toward the future is reckless and irresponsible. Rather than letting change occur

haphazardly, a concept of design can help bring an attractive appearance, minimize costs, and maximize the amount of assistance from developers, businesses, and other governmental groups.

Beyond the members of the planning commission, the town commissioners have had many other individuals and groups participate in the consideration of the streetscape concept. Along with the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, the commission has heard from a wide variety of other community civic organizations. They have also heard from individuals not supportive of the concept. The bottom line is that the streetscape concept is the product of the input and thought processes of dozens of individuals residing in the town. Rest assured that any project with that much community involvement is unlikely to spin out of control. While each individual has different perspectives on each particular aspect of the design, overall, it meets with strong community support. To most residents, the small town look includes an attractive and appealing main street.

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## Big Board

### Fourth of July Festivals

The Town of Poolesville has brought back their annual Independence Day Festival with family music and food 6:00 p.m. to sunset, with fireworks shortly after sunset. On-grounds parking is \$5.00 per car.

Frederick City will have family events scattered throughout the city with music bands changing every hour all day long. At Baker Park near the Carillon, there will be children's rides and amusements including Jurassic Adventureland, Survivor Jr. obstacle course, Wave of Fire slide, and a petting zoo. Bands will include country music, rock, oldies, and R&B.

Gaithersburg Fourth of July events begin on Saturday and go all the way to Tuesday at noon. Sponsored by FM 100.3, events will include music and food with fireworks on Monday night at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. On Tuesday, July 5, the Maryland National Guard Army Band will present a concert of patriotic music at noon in downtown Gaithersburg.

### Summer Sounds in the Park

Free concerts that will be presented at three parks throughout Montgomery County (for more information: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec) or 240-777-6821), Whalen Park in Poolesville will host the following unique musical presentations:

Bob Bertilla's Big Hillbilly Bluegrass – July 10, 7:00 p.m. An exciting mix of hard-driving bluegrass, country, folk, and original material.

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.

### Can Self-Improvement for Teens Be Fun?

Mudo USA, a martial arts school in Poolesville, will hold their summer camp at their facility in Poolesville during the last week of July and the first two weeks of August. The summer camp of training includes a program to 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.

### The Town of Poolesville Summer Recreation Program

The annual County Recreational program for children six years old to twelve years old continues the first two weeks of July at Stevens Park from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. 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.

### Poolesville Community Teen Club's Summer Program

Teens in town and from the area have the Community Teen Club which has moved from the PHS gym to JPMS. Teens in the area are invited to go on their trips without joining the camp. Their schedule for the first two weeks of July includes afternoon swimming, pizza and movies, Frederick Keys game, canoeing, and King's Dominion on July 15. It's not too late to join the camp which costs \$60.00 (not including off-site trips). Call Laura Engler at 301-349-5161 for more information.

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

### In the Footsteps of the Soldiers

Fans of South Mountain can enjoy a historical presentation when they join Civil War historian and author Steve Stottlemeyer on a hike from Turner's to Fox's Gaps along the "woods road" used by Daniel Harvey Hill.

—Continued on Page 16.



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**Big Board Continued From Page 15—**

The presentation revisits the battle at South Mountain. The event takes place on Monday, July 3 and starts at 2:00 p.m.

**The Olde Time Chautauqua Returns**

A favorite entertainment and social event at the turn of the century (1900s that is) returns to the Montgomery College Germantown Campus, sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council. This patriotic extravaganza is headlined: Chautauqua: War and Democracy - A Personal Journey. Starting at 7:00 p.m. each evening from July 5 through July 8 there will be music and songs of World War II, favorites of veterans, patriotic and songs of the Civil War. Actors will portray important historical figures like Abraham Lincoln, George Orwell, and Benjamin O. Davis with perspectives of their personal journey during wartime.

**Among My Souvenirs**

An exhibit of souvenirs, keepsakes, and mementos at the Beall-Dawson House. This exhibit looks at an often-overlooked category of decorative arts: the souvenir. Whether kitschy or quality,

practical or pointless, souvenir goods serve as physical reminders of where we've been and of who we were when we got there. This exhibit runs through July 31. The hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for students and seniors; MCHS members have free admission. For more information call 301-762-1492 or visit [www.montgomeryhistory.org](http://www.montgomeryhistory.org)

**Bluegrass at the Plantation**

The Belle Grove Plantation in Middletown, Virginia is presenting a two-day bluegrass festival that starts with music and ice cream on July 15 from 7:00 p.m. On Saturday the festival really gets going from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be eight performing groups throughout the day. Schaffer's Catering of Woodstock will be offering a barbeque on the grounds all day long. You can call 540-869-2028 to get more information and directions.

**Tenth Year of Mystery Dinner Trains**

Walkersville Southern Railroad announces their 10th season of murder mystery dinner trains. They invite you to come join the dysfunctional Cramer family and guests to remember the life and times of Albert "Albie"

Cramer. Unfortunately, Albie's life was cut short by fate or foe. In this fun evening of improv theater anything can happen, and your role is up to you. The evening includes a train ride, an informal picnic dinner in the park, and live theater. Call 301-898-0899 for more information.

**The Arts Barn in Gaithersburg Presents Hansel and Gretel.**

Accomplished pianist and professional opera coach, Katerina Souvorova, directs and accompanies this performance of the classic Grimm Brothers tale. This operatic version

of the fairy tale was composed in the 1890s by Engelbert Humerdinck. It will be sung in English. Ms. Souvorova served as principal coach for the State Academy of the Bolshoi Opera and Ballet Theater. Tickets are just \$10.00. For additional information call 301-258-6384.

**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.

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**Learning**

**Stick to Your Plan**

By John Clayton

There I was on the field of co-ed company softball in right field, a position which I have occupied comfortably if not terribly competently since Little League. A base hit skitters across the grass towards me and I visualize what will happen. I will field the ball and toss it to the shortstop or second baseman for a relay throw to third base or home plate to hold up the enemy base runners. Each of these men possesses a cannon-like throwing arm. As I pick up the ball, both men are yelling at me to throw it to them (one of them is my boss and, coincidentally, my intended target), but as I stand up, I see a runner heading for third base, and I visualize something entirely different. Ignoring their pleas, I fire the ball towards third base for a heroic game-saving put-out, but what really happens is that the ball sails well over the third baseman's head and all is lost.

At another time, I'm playing chess. Amazingly, I have amassed a decent attack on my opponent's king.

A move or two to go, and I will have him on the ropes, but then I see another move on another section of the board—a chance to grab another piece and alter the balance of power in my favor. So I go for the grab, get bogged down in a little sideshow, and the attack on the king never materializes. My blitzkrieg victory evaporates into a war of attrition.

The scene changes again, and I'm playing bridge, and having already deduced that I don't need to finesse for the king of hearts to make my bid, I impulsively abandon my plan and finesse anyway. Of course, I lose the trick and hence the lead, and all is lost.

You get the point. It's not about just making a bad decision; it's about knowing the right action in advance and totally ignoring it in favor of an impulsive, bad decision. It's the one you wish you could have back. It's when you say, "Why do I keep doing that?"

I have had similar experiences in golf. Specifically, one piece of advice I received from Mike Aldrich, the Head Pro at Poolesville Golf Course, was designed to reconcile my modest

—Continued on Page 22.

**Vacation Bible Schools**

Dawsonville Mennonite	Celebrate the Psalms	July 11-15	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	301 349 2124	Free
Barnesville Baptist	Ramblin' Roads - Which Way Do I go?	July 25-29	6:30pm to 8:30pm	301 407 0500	Free
Poolesville Presbyterian	Jerusalem Marketplace: Holy Land Adventure VBS for the whole family	August 8 to 12	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	301 605 6975	Free
St Peter's Episcopal Parish	Living as Forgiveness Children of God - Around the World in 5 Days	July 11-15	Evenings TBD	301 349 2073	\$10 per child.
United Memorial Methodist Church	Circle G Ranch	July 11-15	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	301 349 2010	\$5 per child.
Poolesville Baptist Church	Ramblin' Roads: -Which Way Do I Go?	July 17-21	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	301 972 8151	Free
Jerusalem Baptist Church	General	July 11-15	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	301 540 5460	Free

## In the Garden

### The Roar of High Summer

By Maureen O'Connell

As we enter the month of July, the garden slides into a new temperament. Its pulse is faster and its colors are more flamboyant. There is a tension in the air that was not there in the cool days of spring and early summer. In May and June one visits the garden with a sense of anticipation: which perennials made it through the winter, which spring-sown seeds will be the first to emerge, and will the newly planted impatiens and petunias get a good start before the heat arrives. The garden is reborn and begins to take baby steps before it blossoms into a self-confident and sometimes unruly teenager. July is not my favorite month in the garden. The high summer garden demands more work and sweat, if it is going to morph into a still beautiful and hardy adult in September. With the arrival of heat, humidity and bugs, it is easy and very tempting to lighten-up on garden chores. Very quickly all your hard work of the previous months disappears amongst the wilted, weed-covered, fungus and bug invested plot that was once called a "garden." Not a pretty picture, and this is even before Mr. J. Beetle has rode into town.

The other night I and my two sous-gardeners Max and Sam took a little tour of our gardens, and this is what we found.

The weather patterns of May and June have been a mixed-bag for gardens. For the most part, it was cool temperatures and abundant precipitation. These two factors can affect a garden in both good and bad ways. The cool days and nights did not put too much stress on the young emerging plants, but the rate of precipitation, which was above normal for those two months, and an occasional very warm day, gave the plants an explosion of growth. In my early June article, I commented on the "gluttonous riot of buds and foliage"—the garden is now paying for its indulgence. I am writing this column on June 20 and many of my gardens have the look of mid to late July. After the first flowering period I fed all the beds with Rose-Tone or 5-10-10 fertilizer. There is new growth appearing on many of the plants, but some of the David Austin roses look like they spent a great deal

of energy for the first flower show. It is going to be a struggle for them to look good until mid October. I always call it a very good year for my roses if they can continue to bloom until my daughter's birthday, October 26.

This has been a bad year for blackspot on my roses. Diseases and pests are probably the main reasons why so many people shy away from growing roses, and blackspot is perhaps the biggest problem. Few roses are completely resistant to the disease. Many rose breeders have tried for years to produce roses that will resist blackspot. Some roses, such as Knock-out have come darn close, but unfortunately in the breeding of such resistance, we can lose so many of the desirable characteristics.

Usually I am able to keep blackspot under control until late July and August. I spray early in the season and continue weekly, or as needed, from the time the leaves come out until late frost in the fall. I also prune any diseased limbs and weak canes. This year this control program had little effect. Surprisingly, the hybrid tea roses had less blackspot than the David Austin shrub roses. Partly, that might be due to the two different planting schemes of these two types of roses. Most hybrid teas are short bushes of up-right, rather stiff growth, bearing flowers of hard-edged appearance. The Old and English roses, on the other hand, are of more natural, shrubby growth. The Teas are often planted in a formal bed. They are appropriately spaced with good air circulation around them. The Old and English roses are more pleasing when planted in groups, rather than single plants. They can tend to be rather unruly in growth, but that is part of their charm.

My Upper Garden had the most blackspot damage. Its early June growth spurt became a curse towards the end of the month. As the roses grew taller and denser, they flopped over themselves and their neighbors. Some canes were buried under a thick blanket of rose petals. There was little air circulation and light. A lot of the interior growth turned brown and withered. David Austin's Glamis Castle, Winchester Cathedral, Charlotte, and Hybrid Teas Pascali and Yves Piaget fared the worst. I pruned one-third to one-half of the roses to remove the blackspot infected canes. They were so large that this severe pruning actually improved their and the whole garden's appearance. The English roses Heritage, Sharifa Asma,

the Mary Rose, Graham Thomas and Gertrude Jeykill bloomed heavily and avoided blackspot the best ever. That is the interesting and challenging aspect of growing roses; every year can be different.

Another downside of May and June's extreme production of rose-buds, is the chore of dead heading. The removal of the dead flowers is not essential, but the plant retains a neater appearance if this is done. Roses are by nature single flowered, but man has made them into doubled flowered. For this reason the petals tend to stay intact even as the flower dies, and they are often unsightly.

Dead heading is more important in the case of repeat-flowering shrubs such as the English Roses and the old repeat-flowering groups, for if these produce hips they will take up the energy of the plant and inhibit further

flowering.

"Molly's Garden", true to her namesake, is growing dependable and easy going, but she is also well in charge of herself. Everyone in her little spot is disease and bug free, and no one has yet smothered Mr. Armillary. But of course, she is the new garden on the block. Give her a few more years of growth and she will probably become as pushy as her neighbors.

When you read this column I will be in London, on my way to the Ile de Re, France. My garden will be on his own for two weeks. He will need major work when I return. Mr. J. Beetle will have rode into town and set up residency. Powdery Mildew will be lurking amongst the foliage, waiting to spray his white powdery dust on all buds and leaves. Welcome to gardening in July in Monocacy Country.

## Fireworks

### They're Back! Fireworks, That Is

By Dominique Agnew

After two years of woeful sadness, the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department (UMCVFD) is pleased to again be sponsoring a Fourth of July Family Fireworks show in Poolesville at Hughes Road in the soccer fields across from Sugarland Road. Prior to this unhappy dearth, fireworks had been held every year for at least five years at Hughes Road, and before that at what was once the Poolesville Country Club, now the golf course.

As the venue changed in previous years, so was the venue the source of the difficulty in providing a fireworks show for western Montgomery County. The property on Hughes Road was at first in the process of being sold, then, it was leased out to horses for grazing and was still unavailable. When Michael Rubin, the present owner of the property, spoke to the media about purchasing the land on Hughes Road, he mentioned the preservation of agricultural land and also that he wanted to enable fireworks to take place there again. Says Ken Strite, administrative officer of UMCVFD, "When we saw that in the newspaper, we contacted him and proceeded from there."

The fireworks will take place (surprise) on July 4, the rain date is July 5. Gates will open at 6:00 p.m., and

admission is \$5.00 per car, please have exactly \$5.00 ready to keep everyone entering more smoothly. Spectators are encouraged to arrive early and to bring blankets and lawn chairs, pets and alcohol are prohibited. Food and beverages will be sold by various local vendors, and there will be staged music by numerous acts with the popular Jim Bowie Band as the featured artist. The fireworks, brought to us by Zambelli of New Castle, Pennsylvania, will begin a little after 9:00 p.m. and will last approximately twenty minutes. Zambelli has been providing the show for Poolesville for many years and also for Frederick Keys games and many other local displays.

Added to the generosity of Mr. Rubin is the support of the Town Commissioners, the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Jamison Real Estate, Selby's, and private contributors. Poolesville resident and volunteer at UMCVFD, Jeff Eck, puts in an enormous amount of time organizing the whole event, and the Monocacy Lions will coordinate parking and entry fee collection. For more information, call Jeffery Eck at 240-401-0780.

A map of the UMCVFD fireworks event is on page 24 of this issue.

## The Horizon

### The Wild West: Less Than Thirty Minutes Away

By Rande Davis

For the teens in the area known to complain about not having anything to do, their problem just came to a screeching halt.

Adventure Park USA (www.adventureparkusa.com) opened on June 15 and, except for Thanksgiving and Christmas, their doors are open seven days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Billed as the largest family entertainment center in Maryland, Adventure Park USA is the new "town" in Frederick County offering a bit of the old west. The park is located just outside New Market and no more than twenty to twenty-five minutes from any point in our readership location.

The twelve-acre amusement center sure has today's kids in mind. It offers an extravaganza of family fun, attractions, virtual games, rides, food, and party options that are presented with the theme of a wild west frontier town.

Unlike a lot of theme parks, this

one is great not just for the whole day but can be enjoyed one hour at a time, if that is desired. Our guess is that once you get there, it will be real tough to leave. With eight major attractions, it is set up to offer a lot of fun, indoors or out. No need to be too concerned about the weather to enjoy this park.

Here is a sneak preview of the things to expect.

The Stampede Arcade offers over eighty of the most up-to-date virtual games and is great fun no matter what is happening outdoors.

For the littlest ones, Prospector Playground gives the kids a chance to climb up, down, over, around, through, and between nets, bars, ladders, and slides. It will keep the young ones hustling throughout the entire day and get them very tired for bedtime.

Painted Desert Paintball Park is the ultimate survival game. This one is sure to be popular among the older teens and young adults. WestWorld Laser Tag takes you back to an 1876 frontier town. Its theme is that the town is now "controlled by the rowdy Bricker gang." It's up to kids in their area to get the gang under control. The multi-level, dark corridors of the

town make for an exhilarating hi-tech game of tag.

Of course, when the weather is good, there is even more for the whole family outdoors.

The golden rule in the Crater Lake Bumper Boat ride is to soak or be soaked. At the Horseless Carriage Racetrack there are two levels of racing. One level offers the Blazing Trails, a racetrack for the whole family. While the other one, Speeding Bullet, is a high performance track.

There is more fun for the little ones at the outdoor section called Fun-tier Land. This has big thrills on a

smaller scale offering rides and attractions for the park's youngest visitors. For the miniature golf fans there are two courses to keep the play going smoothly. Dry Gulch and Thundering Falls are both eighteen-hole, very challenging miniature golf courses.

The park has a Chuck Wagon Café to feed everyone, and the theme park offers parties from birthdays to reunions. The park is just off the Route 75 exit on Route 70 at New Market. Just as you leave Monrovia, hang a left rather than taking the sharp right to Route 70. Check the website or call 301-865-6800 for more details.

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## Local News

### Winchester Homes Test Well Successful

By Rande Davis

Poolesville Town Commission President, Eddie Kuhlman, announced at the June 20 regular meeting that Winchester Homes has produced a test well that draws at a rate of 160 gallons per minute. Tapped at 470 feet, it was expected that the developer would continue down to 520 feet to determine if the rate per minute would be even better.

This success is the initial step which may lead to the completion of a ninety-eight home development directly across from Poolesville High School. Of course, the water supply has to pass quality tests and gain approval from the Maryland Department of Environment. Approval from the town's commission was previously gained in May but was dependant upon the finding of an adequate water supply. Winchester Homes carried the expense of the test drilling but will obtain deductions against impact fees

should the test drill finally come on line.

### Camp Gains Moral Support from the Town of Poolesville

Alex Markhoff of Germantown and president of Camp Calleva requested a statement of support from the Poolesville Town Commissioners in the organization's quest to develop a day camp off of Martinsburg Road. Since the camp will be located in the Agricultural Reserve, the county's approval for the project is required. Calleva has been working with County Representative Michael Knapp to obtain this zoning approval.

Mr. Markhoff pointed out to the commissioners that the environmental impact will negligible and the day camp's activities would be similar to activities normally carried out on property in the reserve. The vote of support was 4-0 with Commissioner Jerry Kublowkowski being absent.

### Sign Review Board Presents Recommended Changes to Current Sign Ordinance

Poolesville Sign Review Board chairman, Rande Davis, presented the board's final recommendations to the

—Continued on Page 22



## A Daytripper to Surprise You

By Rande Davis

This Daytripper probably will surprise you. It is one of those fun things you do on the spur of the moment, a little planning would be best so as to have a really complete day. This trip is a great idea for families with children between the ages of four and twelve. It's not going to cost you an arm and a leg, but you will want to have some cash available. Finally, if you have been looking for a day the kids will remember fondly all of their lives, this is one of them. The most intriguing thing about it is that it is just five minutes away. Give up? It's White's Ferry.

That's right, just five to ten minutes from any part of the *Monocle's* reach is a great day ready to happen. No videos, no roller coasters, no fast food, and no loud music to be found anywhere in sight. It's not Disneyland, but, from personal experience, I can tell you your children will look back on it for years and years.

A little preparation will go a long way for making this a great day. Here is the plan. Go down to the Seneca

General Store and secure the fishing licenses you will need, children aged sixteen and up are required to have a license. Check out the bikes in the family and make sure they are ready for a brief ride down the C&O Canal towpath. If you don't have any fishing gear, don't worry, you can get your bait and accessories at the Getty Station on the way out. The store at the ferry sells bait, too, and fishing poles for less than twenty dollars. More than one child on the trip? No problem since sharing the pole will only add to the memory. (You might want to borrow some poles, but remember, even if you end up buying them, you will probably use them again in the future.)

Your plan should include eating breakfast at the ferry store and cooking lunch either under the pavilion or at a table on the ferry grounds. You might want to have the kids eat a snack item just to keep hunger pains away until you have breakfast.

The earlier you arrive, the better. In the morning the air is cool and the bike ride won't be too demanding. Even if it is hot out, due to the shade of the trees, the air is cooler on the path anyway. Ride south down the path for fifteen or twenty minutes. You have a lot planned for the day and you have to ride back to White's Ferry, so pace yourself. Don't overdo the ride. Keep in mind that each event is an experience and is not to

be rushed, so be prepared to stop any time the kids see something that interests them. Remember, this is not an exercise, it's an experience.

By the time you get back to White's Ferry, the kids will be really hungry and glad to go to the store for an egg sandwich. It'll be cozy just to sit at one of their tables, but you can also go outside to eat and watch the ferry go back and forth. After the bike ride in the early morning air, I am willing to bet that the kids will tell you they're eating the best egg sandwiches they've ever had.

After breakfast, it will be time to go fishing. Fishing on the shore is great fun or you could rent a boat and fish on the river. Two things to remember before putting your line in the water. First, it doesn't matter if you catch anything. Don't get me wrong. It's more fun to catch something, for sure, but the young children will remember the event fondly no matter what (trust me on this, as a fisherman I have never caught fish, but that has never prevented my kids from loving the day). Second, you don't need to know much about fishing to have a great day. Even if you have never fished yourself, you can handle this.

After you have fished for about an hour (longer if it is really going well), everyone will be due to spend some time on the river in a canoe (or rowboat). If you have never been in a canoe, stick to the rowboat. Of

course, you need to have an adult in each boat, or you can just have them take some turns in the boat with you. You are going to stay close to shore and the idea is just to give them some "paddling" time. White's Ferry has the life preservers you will need.

After you have been rowing for a while, lunchtime will be at hand. Your plan requires that you bring the charcoal, lighter fluid, aluminum foil, and the hot dogs, hamburgers, and your desired condiments. While the kids may never have helped you cook on the patio, they will really get into this event. Keeping in mind all the standard safety things, let them do some cooking. Next to the ballpark, they will never have a better hot dog. It's the atmosphere that does the trick. Snacks, drinks, and dessert are available at the store, so you don't have to pack a big picnic basket. (This is a great time to teach them fire safety by going over all the rules of making sure the fire is fully out before moving on.)

After lunch you can plan to do a little nature hike by going north on the towpath this time. Remember, the path is in the shade, and, again, the idea is not the walking but the looking at the woods and trees and watching for animals.

Once back to White's Ferry, it'll be time to pack up. Buy the kids a soda and candy (this is not the time to worry about health foods). You will

—Continued on Page 20.

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**Daytripper Continued From Page 19—**

be home in five minutes, and since it is only about mid-afternoon, you will still have plenty of time to hit the couch yourself.

Perhaps you are not really an outdoorsman. Remember, this bud is not for you, it's for the kids. Even if you run into some minor problems and complications, the odds are the memories will only be better (tangled fishing lines are just part of the experience). One last point to keep mind, even if your kids are into scouting and you think that is enough, you are really missing out if you don't do this at least one time with just you and the kids. Finally, talking as a grandfather, don't be surprised if you may have to wait a few years to really appreciate just how special this day was to your kids. While they may actually do a little complaining during the event, down the road they will treasure the time you gave them. See you at White's Ferry, a real family recreation area.

**Local History**

**The Great Sandy Spring Bank Robbery**

By Jack Toomey

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

On Tuesday afternoon, April 27, 1920, farmers were in town to buy seed, others were at the blacksmith's shop, while some bought necessities at the general store. At about 3:00 p.m., a young man strolled into the bank and asked to see a Baltimore telephone directory. He thumbed through the pages and left. No one thought anything about it. A few minutes later, a red Hudson pulled up and parked in front of the bank. Five men got out while one stayed behind the wheel. The men entered the bank, produced pistols, and announced a holdup. Clerks and bank officials were herded towards the

rear of the bank. Francis Hallowell, a bank official who was partially deaf stood up from his desk. He apparently expressed some outrage about the robbery and was promptly shot dead by one of the robbers. The clerks and other bank officials were then taken to a meeting room where their hands were tied while the robbers looted the bank of over thirty-seven thousand dollars in cash and securities, an astronomical amount for the time. After gaining the loot, the robbers locked the employees in the vault and left the bank. The car sped off in the direction of Howard County. In the meantime, Mr. Hallowell lay dead on the floor for about fifteen minutes until another bank official entered the bank and heard the cries of the employees who were locked in the vault. Someone in the vault shouted that A. D. Farquhar, a former bank official who worked next door, should be called. Mr. Farquhar had remembered the combination to the safe and was able to free the people inside the vault.

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

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

The next day, one of the bank officials was out doing his own investigation when he found safe deposit boxes on the banks of the Patuxent River underneath Snell's Bridge. They had apparently been thrown over the bridge by the escaping robbers. A resident of Sandy Spring, one in Sunshine, and another in Highland, all were located and reported seeing the red Hudson speeding through their towns at a high rate of speed. Two of them were

—Continued on Page 22.

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## Sports

### Happy Father's Day Soccer Dads

The Poolesville Men's 35-and-over soccer team, who are our Poolesville dads, celebrated Father's Day with a record winning soccer season. The Poolesville team is part of the Montgomery County West II Division and is comprised of twenty-two of our local men. According to Randy Kuldell who has managed the team for five seasons, "We finished with a tie for second place with Alvaland; overall, though, a great season. We finished tied for second place, five places above our best finish, with a 5-2-1 record. Actually, this is our first winning season in.... okay, Poolesville history, yes, we indeed we are very proud of this accomplishment."

There were many aspects of the men's game that may have contributed to this outstanding season. "I think maybe it was the quick-moving line of defense, or maybe our unstoppable goalkeeper's blocks, or those fancy moves out on the field, but we really played our best," he continues, "or maybe it was our new recruits this season, Tom Brennan, Steve Deffinbaugh, Mark Agnew, Ron Spadin, and Augustine Aderieye."

In previous seasons, their best season included two wins (six points). This season they scored sixteen total points. Randy muses, "Yes, our wives are in disbelief after we had four losing seasons. I think we are definitely on a winning streak now, and the Chileans better watch out next season, because we are going to be working on some new moves."

The men's team rosters consists mostly of our own Poolesville dads, coaches, CCD teachers, school teachers, and Boy Scout leaders. According to Randy, having a large roster helped them juggle all the other family commitments. The team practiced at West Willard or Steven's Park and all the kids were allowed to scrimmage with the dads at their practices or to cheer them on to keep them in shape. Familiar names on the roster are Augustine Aderieye, Mark Agnew, Bob Belivieu, Tom Brennan, Gary Comfort, Ray Cwik, Steve Deffinbaugh, Greg Dillon, Pete Green, Bill Hannon, Carl Hay, Tom Jagodits, Bruce Kirby, Randy Kuldell, Chipp Kuldell, Steve Morgan, Gerald Perham, Neal Seagle, Steve



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Vaughn, John Weber, Mike Wills, and Lance Wolin. Randy is wondering if some of the regulars on the team that took off this season are regretting it now — Bernie Mihm, Steve Wolf, and Todd Dahlen. "We hope they are planning on coming back in the fall or kicking the ball around during the summer," adds Randy.

The team celebrated the end of the season with their annual family picnic at the Kuldells'. Of course, they had to break out the soccer ball for a good old family soccer scrimmage. The dads also took a break to recap the season highlights and to compare bruises, aches, and cleat prints. If any guys are interested in keeping in shape throughout the summer, Mark Agnew, the coach of the Poolesville High School varsity soccer team, will have some pickup games on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Stevens Park, just stop over if you are interested. The team is always looking for new recruits for the fall, and if you are interested in having some fun and exercise, contact Randy Kuldell at 301-349-5342.

### 1-2-3-4, Who You Gonna Root For?

#### The Cheerleaders!

By Rande Davis

If you have ever watched a Poolesville Day parade, then you probably have a good idea how popular cheerleading has become in our area. There are more cheerleading teams than most people would ever guess. The cheerleading squads march by, each having from twenty to thirty members. As girls parade down Fisher Avenue showing off their abilities with spirited routines, it is easy to see that the little ones have dreams of becoming varsity cheerleaders someday.

For Edy Pratt, coach of the Poolesville High School varsity cheerleading squad, her dreams came true when she was offered the position of coaching the school team. "When I was asked to be the coach at PHS, I felt like my life's dream had been fulfilled. Not many people can say they are passionate about what they do, but I sure can!" says Mrs. Pratt in her response to our questions. Coach Pratt says she was lucky to be in the right

place at the right time about twelve years ago when the coaching position became available. Since PHS was her alma mater (she was a junior varsity cheerleader for one year and a varsity cheerleader for three years), she was especially excited about taking on the responsibility. When she says she does it for the "excitement and love of the sport," she really means it.

Today's cheerleading team has much more in common with an athletic team than the outdated cheerleading image of "just being cute and wearing a short skirt." As Coach Edy points out, "These girls just don't throw and catch balls, they throw and catch bodies." That's just for starters. Once they warm up, they tumble, cheer, and dance, all while promoting good sportsmanship and school spirit. Today's cheerleader is highly athletic, must be able to handle very complex routines, and is very hardworking at his or her sport. How hardworking? To begin with, while athletic teams get started in August, these girls begin their year in early July by attending a summer camp at their own expense. The standard practices start in mid-August with five practices every week, six practices on occasion.

The PHS cheerleaders root on more than just the football and basketball teams. School supporters will find them at the boys and girls' soccer games, field hockey games, and volleyball. Add to that the pep rallies, homecoming, and other competitions. They have one heavy sporting schedule.

Coach Pratt states, "Cheerleading can help the most quiet and timid child come out of her shell." She has personally seen girls with very little self-esteem improve their confidence and reach the point of not being afraid to show their spirit and excitement.

Unlike other sports where there is a bench and other substitutes to call on during a game, in cheerleading, everyone participates from the beginning right to the end.

For the coach, one of the biggest reasons to be involved is the rewarding experience of seeing the girls' faces when they have mastered a routine that they have been working on for days. After hours of work and struggle and then, all of sudden, they bring the words, the dance, the cheers and chants all together. "When they do that, their comments and enthusiasm is priceless," states the coach.

As with any team, success comes through strong leadership. Katelyn Dunlevy and Amy Short, departing seniors, were the 2004-05 co-captains for the year. "Their strong leadership skills and fun and exciting personalities made this year truly a great one," emphasizes the coach.

So, just how good a team is the PHS cheerleaders? Try Division Champs on for size! These girls had the strength and the skill to become the best in their division. The highlight of the season was on December 3, 2004 at the annual Montgomery County Cheerleading competition. "Given the opportunity to choose their performance position among the various teams, I didn't hesitate to select the number one post," says Pratt, "I knew the girls were the best to begin

—Continued on Page 22



The PHS Cheerleading Squad.

able to make out four letters of the license tag which was determined to be from Pennsylvania. Later, it was learned that a farmer east of Sunshine had been asked to pull a red Hudson, with several occupants, out of a ditch with his team of horses.

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

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

**Cheerleaders Continued From Page 21.**

with. They ruled the floor!" The girls opened their routine with amazing tumbling passes and stunts rising to the roof with an energy level that was explosive. They brought everyone in the stands to their feet. When it was all over, they finished first place as Division III county champions.

Coach Edy emphasizes that along with the team-approach by the girls, success also comes through a team of many adults who help. She has accolades for many people, starting with athletic director Mike Riley. She immediately moves to thank the cheer mom and dads for their support and for providing the many rides. She is grateful to the fans that came out during competition. Coach Pratt is especially grateful to Denise Conway who helped her throughout the year.

Next year the girls hope to finish number one again in county competition and the *Monocle* challenges the varsity athletes (especially the boys) to come out to cheer on the cheerleaders during their competition.

**— Plan Continued From Page 16.**

abilities with compatible and achievable goals. A good golfer will hit a long drive, and then strike another long shot to reach the green in two strokes, leaving himself or herself in position for a birdie or a par. Mike advised that a more reasonable goal for me would be to try and reach the green in three shots, thus leaving me in position for a bogey, or even the occasional par. He surmised correctly that this would represent a significant improvement in my score.

This advice was based on several incontrovertible facts. First, I don't hit a long drive off the tee. Second, while I am reasonably proficient with certain clubs, from the five iron down to the wedge, I am less proficient with the longer irons and the supposedly easier-to-hit fairway woods. His advice was that I stop destroying my score with clubs that I can't hit anyway (at least not yet) and use the clubs that I can hit, which are more than sufficient to get to the green in three shots. This is far too logical and obvious to ignore.

So I followed Mike's advice, and I have had (for me) fairly decent rounds of golf. I haven't quite achieved consistent bogeys (some of you have no idea what it's like to think of a bogey as a good score), but I'm headed in the

**News Continued From Page 18.**

town commissioners for their approval. Prior to a vote by the commission on the recommendations, there will be a public hearing on July 11 at 7:30 p.m.

The recommendations were in four primary areas beginning with increasing the size of the sign that is shared by businesses operating within a mall. Currently fixed, permanent signs in the town may be seven feet by seven and a half feet. The board recommended that for those locations with four or more businesses, the community sign limitations be increased to nine feet by nine and a half feet. Currently, town restrictions limit information on such signs to the name of the owner and/or business. It is recommended that such mutual signs be allowed to have additional information about the type of business and that a space be available to present daily specials or promotions.

The second suggestion was to allow businesses the same privileges granted to other groups within the community regarding the use of

right direction.

So there I am on the course, having a fairly decent day, and hitting the ball well using the clubs that reside within the parameters of my skill set; and now I stand over a ball that is perched on the fairway pretty as you please following a decent first shot off the tee. I can stay within the plan and use a seven iron and a wedge to get on the green in three. I'm too far away to get to the green with a five iron, and my plan says that if the five iron won't get me there, I should use a club with the highest probability of success because it's going to take two shots to get there anyway — smart, simple, unassailable logic.

Then the Voice says, "You could get there with your five-wood — maybe even your seven-wood." Yeah, I think, I am hitting the ball pretty well today. I even had a good shot off the tee. Let's go for it.

After the ball rockets out of bounds (I really nailed it), the Voice returns to remind me that I knew better, and I have squandered any hope of a good score on this hole.

So to end this modern fable, the moral of the story is: Stick to your plan — especially if you paid someone to develop it for you.

temporary signs. Temporary signs are allowed by individuals, churches, schools, candidates, realtors, construction companies, and other charitable organizations. The recommendation was to allow businesses this same privilege provided the signs are on display only during business hours, are no greater than four feet high and three feet wide, and are of a professional and/or commercial quality.

The use of banners for promotions currently is allowed during thirty of any ninety-day period. The SRB recommended that businesses be allowed, through application, to have such a sign for the full ninety days, but that a new application needs to be submitted each quarter.

The SRB further recommended that businesses using window flyers be allowed to increase the percentage of the window covered from fifty percent to eighty percent. The board also presented the need to codify the time requirements for the board to approve sign applications.

Once the public hearing is completed, the commissioners will take final action on potential changes to the sign ordinance.

(Note: Rande Davis, the volunteer SRB chairman, wrote this article.)

**Town Approves a New Community and Economic Development Committee**

Representing the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Brian Hundertmark presented a proposal to establish a Community and Economic Development Committee (CEDC). The stated mission of such a committee would be for the town to work with the business community to ensure that the needs and expectations of town residents are met.

It was stated that it is the clear desire of town residents to maintain Poolesville's small town or village character. Within that expectation, the CEDC hopes to make additional goods and services, such as health care and other professional services, shopping, and dining options more accessible. The general goal is to work for the benefit of the economic vitality of the town.

The committee will work with the town government and residents to determine which new businesses and services are most desired by town residents. Once this is determined the committee will play a role in soliciting such services.

Additionally, the committee will

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implement measures that can assist and assure the survival of existing businesses. Such assistance could be in the development of tourism and heritage programs.

Finally, the committee will make recommendations to the town government on capital expenditures and projects within the annual budget, refinement and implementation of the 2000 Streetscape Concept Plan, and work with the town toward previously stated population goals.

The CEDC will consist of nine members with three members selected from the general, non-business population, three from the business community, and three from the town government. Volunteers will be recruited for the work of the CEDC.

A suggestion developed from inquiries made by Commissioner Tom Dillingham led to a change in the proposal to restrict employees of business members from being part of the resident group on the committee. After lengthy discussion that refined the understanding of the makeup of the committee, the commissioners voted 4-0 to establish the organization. (Commissioner Jerry Kublowkowski was unable to attend this meeting.)

## Tributes

### Gresalfi Graduates from UMBC

Michelle Gresalfi, a 2001 graduate of the county's Global Ecology Program, Poolesville High School, and a recent May 2005 Honors College graduate (B.S. Environmental Science) from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, has been selected to receive a merit-based fellowship and associated research assistance award by Penn State where she will pursue her M.S. in Ecology beginning in September 2005.



Michelle Gresalfi

### Elizabeth Smith is Passing the Torch

Elizabeth Smith, a Poolesville resident for twenty-three years, wife, mother of four boys, school teacher, tutor, PTA spokesperson, volunteer, religious educator, and friend to many, has reason to celebrate. Her youngest son just graduated from Poolesville High School. According to Liz, "All four of our sons have attended Poolesville Elementary School, three attended the combined junior/senior high school, and my final son attended the new middle school and is graduating in June from PHS, going on to St. Leo University in Florida."

At the last PTSA meeting, she passed on the torch as Cluster Coordinator to Melanie Dahlen and John Leach. She received a round of applause, and, according to Roger Hayden, "What a remarkable person Liz has been to our community and a mentor to so many." Most recently she has dealt with a number of significant issues as cluster coordinator. She has been a strong advocate for the boundaries, best programming, equipment, and facilities. The Monocle wanted to find out a little more about Liz, and spoke with her.

Liz grew up in a family of four

children from New York. Even though her mother was widowed when the children were young, this never stopped her from being active in the church and schools, and eventually becoming PTA President. Liz says, "She was an inspiration and her values were instilled in me, and that's why I am so much into education."



Elizabeth Smith

This emphasis on education in Liz's childhood would have a lasting impact on her career choice and on deciding where to live. "After college, I began teaching in New York for six years before deciding to look for a small town to raise our family—a community with all the schools within walking distance." Poolesville was the place to be. She began her involvement in the Poolesville area as a substitute teacher for the Montgomery County Public Schools for nine years, before returning to work full time in 1990. For her day job, she is a special educator at Dr. Sally K. Ride School Based Learning Center. In her spare time she has also been very involved in PTA work and is currently director of religious education for St. Mary's Catholic Church in Barnesville. With her older children off to college, she began a small tutoring business about seven years ago to "help relieve the pressure of college tuition for my four sons and those grocery bills." She adds, "I also really enjoy helping students that are struggling with the learning process."

To say that she has been very involved in the PTA barely scratches the surface. "When looking back during my PTA years, I have worn many hats, pins, and buttons," she says. "[I] Xeroxed, stapled, distributed flyers, and newsletters. I even remember working the counters of McDonald's during Byte Nite, cooking spaghetti, flipping pancakes, and other meals for the schools. I guess you could say the most amusing fundraiser was selling squares on a grid predicting where a cow may leave a deposit. We waited an hour. The cow never contributed until it was back on its trailer."

I guess this shows that even Liz waited till the cows went home. Let's join together to congratulate her, thank her, and wish her well—she is an inspiration to us all.



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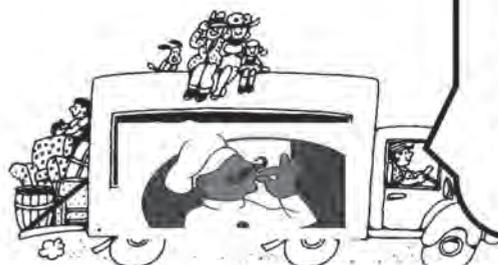
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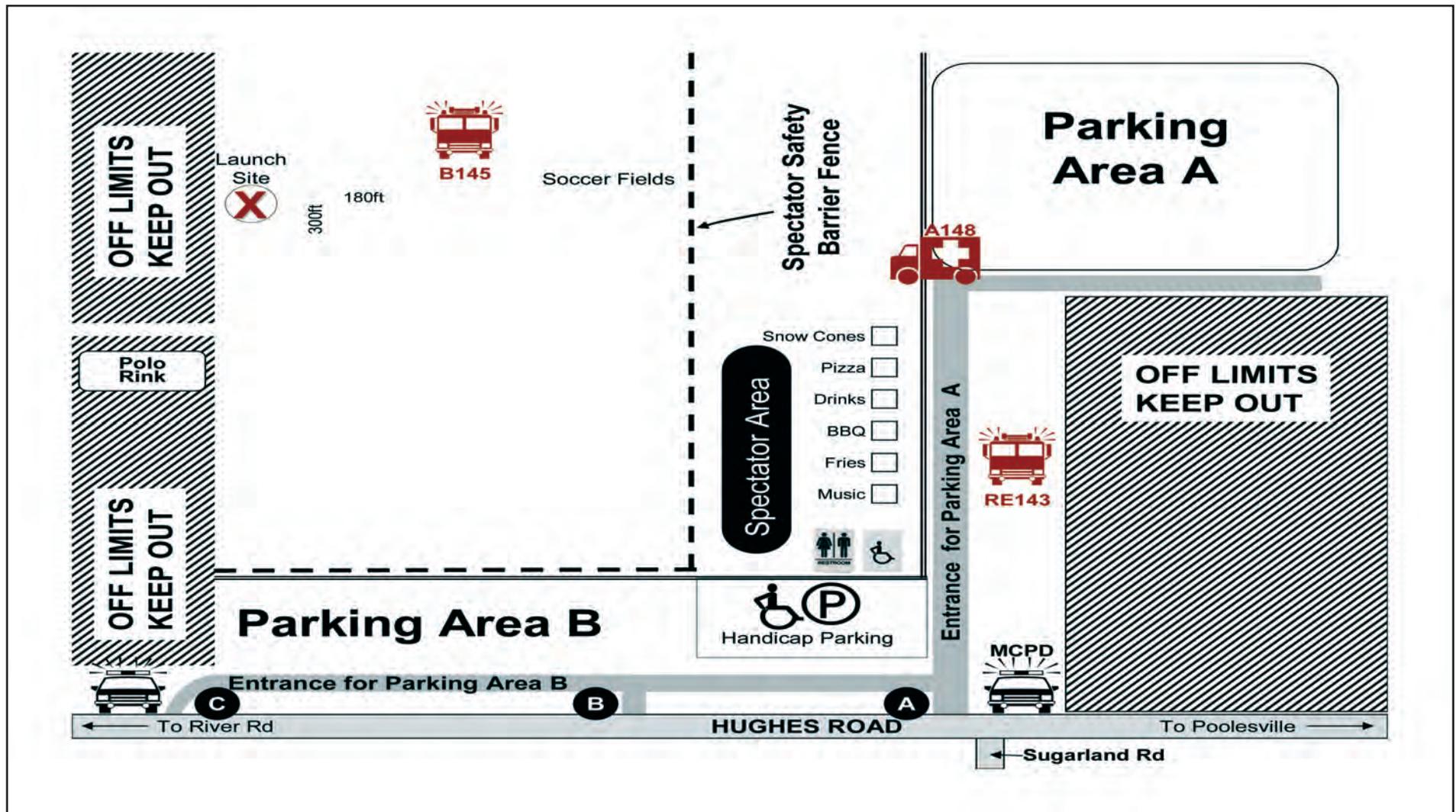
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