



Chief Earl Moore and Scott Graham were interviewed for television regarding the recent incident at White's Ferry. Read Local News on page 9 for more information.



Tim Pike displays the Halloween candy bought back for Operation Gratitude. Read more in Business Briefs on page 15.



Jim Spory and Santa Claus, who is a close friend of Bill Poole, came by to hand out presents at the Odd Fellows annual Widows Christmas Party. See more in Family Album on page two.



Read about how Asia Smith beat the odds, in School News, on page 8. (Photograph courtesy of Children's Defense Fund)

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

December 10, 2010

Volume VII, Number 19

End of an Era: Poole General Store to Close

By Kristen Milton

A community institution, and a way of life, comes to an end this year as the historic Poole General Store permanently closes its doors after the holidays.

"It's kind of a messed-up thing," said Raymond Poole, 84, who began working at the store on Old River Road shortly after high school and took over in 1965. "We're not ready to get out, and I don't want to get out."

According to its historic marker, the location, also known as Seneca Store, is the oldest general store in continuous operation in Montgomery County. Ads in the local directory once hailed it as "the store for country-living people."

Behind on the rent owed to the county parks department and with years of dwindling sales, daughter and manager

JoAnn Poole says the time has come to close. The family will allow the current lease to expire on December 31, she said. "Really, financially, we can't afford to stay," Poole said. "It's not really worth trying to get an extension." Raymond Poole had hoped to extend the lease to the spring.

The community first heard rumblings this summer that the venerable store, which sells animal feed and gardening tools among other outdoor staples, might be in danger. At an August 2 Poolesville commissioners' meeting, President Eddie Kuhlman said he'd heard "rumors" that the county wanted to run the site as "a county store museum" rather than a functioning business. It was a suggestion that bothered some. "Poole Store is an asset to everyone," said Steve Goldberg, a horse owner and president of Historic Medley District.

In a December 6 interview, JoAnn Poole said business at



Will the Poole General Store in Seneca, the oldest general store in continuous use in Maryland, close its doors in January?

the store, whose clientele covers the Upcounty gamut of hiker/bikers to farmers and locals, has

-Continued on Page 24.

If you go...

Poole General Store, located at 16315 Old River Road, will host Santa Claus from noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 18. Visitors can bring their children or animals and take their own photos. Refreshments will be available. Free.

Funk Makes U.S. National Team

By Dominique Agnew

"It's a good feeling when you get to represent your country in anything," says Poolesville's Josh Funk, and he's excited to have been selected to the U.S. National Men's Lacrosse Team and to have the opportunity to represent the U.S. throughout the world.

When we last caught up with Funk, he had just graduated from Ohio State, where, as a senior captain, he led the

team to its first NCAA tournament win, and he had just gone professional, having been selected in the second round of the 2008 National Lacrosse League (NLL) entry draft to play for the Chicago Shamrox. His professional career was to take place on the weekends where, like most players, he would fly in, practice with the team, play a game, and fly home—for Funk, home was Baltimore where he was attending the University of Maryland at Baltimore Physical Therapy



Josh Funk, of the U.S. Men's National Lacrosse Team

School working towards his doctorate.

Fast forward to the present

-Continued on Page 20.

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by
Selby's Market
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St. Nicholas made a quick visit to St. Peter's Church before getting ready to visit children in Holland. Father Tom Purdy reads the story of St. Nick to the children.



Santa Claus got lots of lists from area children at the breakfast in his honor at the UMCVFD.



The annual Odd Fellows #97 Christmas dinner for widows and widowers was a great success.



These members of the Odd Fellows #97 want you to know that they have extra fruit for sale, so even though you might not have ordered any, you can still stop by their location next to Subway and get some fresh holiday fruit.



Brianna Petersen, the 2010-2011 Miss Fire Prevention first runner up, with George Hillard at the recent UMCVFD Santa Claus Breakfast.

Focus on Business

Weavolution: An International Woven Revolution with a Local Home

Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

The world is a woven work, says Poolesville resident Claudia Segal. "Everything in our world is either woven or knitted. Everything you wear, everything made of cloth . . . there are no other choices," she explained recently from her basement studio.

Weaving is a solitary pursuit, more so than knitting, which often assumes a communal persona—think knitting circle, for example—but even hand weavers need a voice, a place to share ideas and examples of their work. So in 2008, Ms. Segal, with founding partners Tien Chiu and Alison Giachetti, three women living in three separate parts of the United States who shared a common passion, launched Weavolution, an international online social network and gathering place for hand weavers.

"Weavolution is for anybody

curious about hand weaving, anybody who is a hand weaver from beginning to expert, in any part of the world using any type of equipment," said Ms. Segal. Today, this virtual community includes more than 6,700 weavers who have shared over 2,000 projects online.

Before Weavolution was born, there was no one place where hand weavers could do everything, including discuss their craft, post photographs and drafts or blueprints unique to their work (crochet, knitting, and other textile work use patterns, but not unique drafts). While Yahoo and other social networking groups for hand weavers have existed for some time, they often are limited in how content can be presented. For example, a user cannot add photos or attach files to one's comments, according to Ms. Segal.

Like knitting, which has become increasingly popular, hand weaving has had a boost in recent years, but it remains a small niche in the craft world, in part because of the perception that hand weaving is an expensive and complex craft that

-Continued on Page 13.



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Commentary

Remembering Friends This Christmas

By Rande Davis

Christmas is the time when family and friends are foremost in our thoughts. The cards we send that help us keep in touch even (or I could say especially) if it is only once a year are much more than a tradition, they have become a lifeline to friendships of long ago. I especially like getting and sending Hanukkah cards, something that has come to me late in life. I like that so much better than sending Holiday or Seasons Greetings cards. I am definitely a Christmas card kind of guy.

Just as Christmas cards can be politically incorrect in some quarters, so too has the Nativity display on public land. Living on Whalen Commons, I get a special thrill putting our Jesus manger scene up knowing that if I moved it about twelve feet further, it might start an uproar. I know, I know, that's not the best Christmas spirit to have. I must also admit I got the same thrill a couple of years ago when I first put up my homemade Menorah. Frankly, my Jewish friends have really appreciated it. The primary reason it is there is that a couple of years ago we had a great little fellow join our family. His name is Alexander Frishman, the son of my new son-in-law, Craig. Craig is Jewish and my daughter is Christian, and we had a fabulous joint wedding ceremony at St. Peter's honoring both traditions. When the

first Christmas after the wedding came along, I realized my front yard and heart were missing something. As an Opa (grandpa in Dutch), my decorating the outside is dedicated to the grandkids, and I wasn't about to leave Alexander out of the fun.

So, to all my friends, Christian and non-Christian alike, I say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, hoping you understand that my heartfelt best wishes are for you to experience the joy, the love, and the peace that I hold for you year 'round.



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4:30 pm – Mass with Living Nativity
7:30 pm – Mass
10:30 pm – Mass with Choir
(Sing-Along starting at 10 pm)

Christmas Day – Saturday, December 25th
9:00 am – Mass
11:00 am – Mass



New Year's Day - Saturday, January 1st
10:00 am – Mass

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In the Gardem

Great Gifts for Gardeners

By Maureen O'Connell

It seems as if I was just telling Sam and Tom (you remember them, my two very helpful garden helpers) that there is a hint of fall in the air, and now I am offering ideas for holiday gifts. When I try to imagine gifts for other people, I tend to think of what I would like to receive. So here is my list of gifts most gardeners would love to find under their tree this year.

The most basic item any gardener needs is a good pair of gloves. There are hundreds of them on the market, but they are not all created equally. When I am working with my rose bushes, the best gloves for the job are elbow-length leather ones. They are puncture resistant and provide strength, durability, and comfort, while protecting the forearms from cuts and scratches. You can find them in most garden centers. This year, White Flower Farm offered "gloves for all seasons;" this set of three different designs (touch, grip, and thermal), fits the bill for most garden chores.

Every professional or serious hobbyist needs the tools of his or her trade. Surprise your garden friend with a goody bag of high-quality tools that can handle any job the garden throws you. There are some very cool garden tool bags out there; some are even attached to a little folding garden seat. A beginner's collection should include a plant and bulb trowel, a hand weeder, a Swoe (better than a hoe), and a pair of pruning shears, preferably made by Felco.

About five years ago, I bought a redwood potting shed from John Speelman at Poolesville Hardware. It is about six feet tall by three feet wide; it has three shelves and an open area for tall tools. It very neatly fits into a small corner of my garage; it could also live outside.

It was a very useful purchase; it holds all my tools, fertilizers, and disease and pest spray materials. You can find them also online and in many garden centers.

Does your garden friend love to grow clematis, sweet peas, Morning Glories, or other flowering vines? If so, he or she would love a new, unusual support for them. Several years ago I bought a cedar tuteur for my clematis Josephine from White Flower Farm. Its rot-resistant Western Red Cedar has now weathered naturally to a light silver gray, and Josephine's lilac petals look great against the gray.

Have you ever admired a beautiful, rambling, powerfully-scented wisteria vine, but you don't have the space or a strong enough structure to support its heavy vines? Well, consider a tree wisteria. It is not a real tree in the sense that you would find it growing wild in a forest. A wisteria vine, usually Chinese or Japanese, is grafted onto a standard tree trunk and root system. The trunk is as tall as the plant will ever get. This tree is drought tolerant, disease and pest resistant, and adaptable to many soils and conditions. Its crowning glory, though, is its intense fragrance. It needs full sun for about five to six hours a day and very little, if any, fertilizer. Its prime requirement is continual, heavy pruning. If left alone, it will revert back to the way it would like to grow—as a fast-growing vine. This special tree deserves a place of honor in your garden. You can buy them online from several garden centers; I bought mine from White Flower Farm about ten years ago, and every spring, "Texas White" faithfully re-blooms.

Every garden, however small or grand, needs a proper chair or bench. Sam, Tom, and I have several tucked away in shady corners, where we can sit every morning and evening to relax and admire the beauty of the gardens. This year, surprise that special gardener with a teak bench or chair. This wood furniture is

- Continued on Page 14.

Things to Do

Holiday Gifting Ideas

For those having special holiday spirit, here are some wonderful ideas to help others.

Buy Fruit from the Oddfellows
It's not too late to get your holiday fruit from the Odd Fellows Lodge #97. They are now set up in the retail space next to Subway. They ordered some extra and can sell to walk-ins on a first come, first serve basis.

For Soldiers Serving in Combat Zones

American Legion Post #247 is sponsoring a drive to provide care packages for soldiers serving in combat zones. Those wishing to contribute can drop off their gifts in a collection box at the Poolesville Town Hall. The collections will continue through January 1, 2010. Anyone aware of a local person currently deployed should email Paul Kelly at paulkellywh@gmail.com to have the person added to the mailing list. The legion is grateful to town staff and the commissioners for their support of this program.

The items needed are: any kind of toiletries, baby wipes, aspirin, antacid, sunscreen, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, small toys and candy that they can pass out to kids, deflated soccer balls, playing cards, magazines (old is fine: sports, hunting and guns are the most popular types), handwritten notes of support,

pictures drawn by children, homemade baked goods, and used movies or TV episodes on DVD.

Toys for Tots at UMCVFD
Jeffery Eck reports the US Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program is now in full swing at the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department. The community is encouraged to contribute a new and unwrapped toy. The U.S. Marines Corps Reserve distributes all toys locally through the Toys for Tots program.

Toys for Tots collection boxes are now in place at Shear Elegance Hair Salon, Selby's Market, Poolesville Hardware, Healthworks Fitness Center, Cugini's Pizza, Kristopher's Pizza, Harris Teeter, and the UMCVFD in Beallsville. Your contribution will put smiles on the faces of our firefighters and, most importantly, on the faces of the children who receive the gifts.

December 11

The Best in Holiday Ballet Entertainment All in One Place The Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre offers a very special holiday treat at the Poolesville High School Auditorium. This year's program, Noel Notes, features scenes from both The Nutcracker and a Christmas Carol. This is just what your family is looking for this holiday season to lift spirits. The presentation is exciting, enchanting, traditional, and affordable.

Adults: \$10.00
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Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Poolesville Band Project
With Special Guest: Matt Fitzwater
8:00 p.m.

House of Poolesville
Featuring: Doug Bell
8:30 p.m.

Bassett's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Kenny Ray Horton
10:00 p.m.

December 12

Poolesville Baptist Church, with special guest the Poolesville Youth Symphony Orchestra, will present a Christmas musical program entitled "The Son of God Came Down" at 6:00 p.m. The adult and children's choirs of PBC will be performing as well. The program is free and open to the public.

Sounds of the Season

A community celebration of music will be held at the St. Paul Community Church, 14730 Sugarland Road, Poolesville, Maryland. Proceeds will benefit preservation of Montgomery County's farmland and open space reserve and the ongoing restoration of the historic St. Paul Community Church. Musicians include: Violinsanity, Rabbi David of Am Kolel, jazz by Bob Israel and Chris Battistone. The cost is \$20.00, children twelve and under, free. Please RSVP at info@mocoalliance.org. Refreshments generously provided by Whole Foods Market.

December 17

Bassett's Entertainment Night
Featuring: J. B. Dunn
Starts at 10:00 p.m.

December 18

Poole General Store, located at 16315 Old River Road, will host

-Continued on Page 7.

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"Things to Do" Continued From Page 6.

Santa Claus from noon to 5:00 p.m. Visitors can bring their children or animals and take their own photos. Refreshments will be available. Free.

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Introducing: V6 Band – Classic Rock
8:00 p.m.

House of Poolesville
Featuring: DJ Valaree Dickerson

8:30 p.m.

December 18 and 19
Holiday Jewelry Show
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Sat.: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sun.: noon to 4:00 p.m.

December 19
Santa Claus makes his annual test run through Poolesville aboard a fire engine starting at 5:00 p.m. Good little boys and girls should listen for the

Christmas music in the air as he approaches their house. Santa loves to see all the smiling and waving children.

December 24
Seasonal Christmas Eve Open House
The Surrey
Traditional Eggnog Reception
14120 Darnestown Road, Darnestown
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School News

PHS Senior Beats The Odds and Continues to Shine

Poolesville High School senior Asia Smith, known as Krystal Powers to many, was honored November 9, 2010, by the Children's Defense Fund's (CDF) Beat the Odds© program at a ceremony held at the Harman Center for the Arts in Washington, D.C. The program recognizes outstanding high school students who face down tremendous adversity in their young lives, demonstrate academic excellence, give back to their communities, and show promise for a future of continued success. This year's Beat the Odds programs were held in Washington, D.C., California, Texas, Minnesota, and New York. The Washington, D.C. honorees each were awarded a \$10,000 scholarship, a laptop computer, and continuous

support through college.

By the time she was eleven, Ms. Smith had known more uncertainty, emotional pain, and loss than most people can even comprehend. Without a permanent home or stable support, she and her mother came to live with her grandfather, whose condemned home in Dickerson had no electricity or running water. According to Ms. Smith, her grandfather was her first father figure and she adored him. Ms. Smith attended Monocacy Elementary at this time.

On her first overnight ever with her friend and classmate, Holly Chittenden of Boyds, Ms. Smith learned that her mother had been charged with her grandfather's murder. In an instant, she lost her only family—and, in an instant, she gained the support, love, and stability of the Chittenden family who became her foster family.

Surrounded now by three sisters and a family active in the Poolesville sports and academic communities, Ms. Smith has blossomed

into a hard-working and dedicated student. In addition to taking honors classes and managing the volleyball club, Ms. Smith reaches out to help others who also have experienced adversity. Her plans for the future suggest will continue being a supportive role model: Asia hopes to study psychology and possibly major in criminal justice at college and perhaps find a career as a U.S. Marshal working in the witness protection program.

According to Sandy Chittenden, Asia cried when she found out she had been honored with the Beat the Odds scholarship award. "It was the only time I've ever seen her cry for joy. All the other times in her life she was crying for other reasons."

Reflecting on her life in the video produced about her award by the CDF, Ms. Smith said, "I try to be happy and colorful and smile at people and make them feel important and continue to try to make a difference in other people's lives."

Congratulations, Asia. Our community salutes you on your success and wishes you all the best in your future.

To learn more about Asia's story, visit the CDF's website: www.childrensdefense.org and click on "Youth Development and Leadership," Beat the Odds Program.

PHS Athletes Named to All-



Asia Smith with her foster family, the Chittendens. (Photograph courtesy of Children's Defense Fund.)

County Gazette Teams

Congratulations to Eric Holmstead who made the Gazette's first all-county cross country team and additional kudos to Amy Defnet and Allyson Dahlen, both of whom were selected to the newspaper's all-county second team in field hockey.

PHS Senior Wins \$80,000 Scholarship to GWU

Raja Ratna Murthy Ayyagari, a PHS senior, participated in the George Washington University (GWU) Department of Mathematics Colonial Math Challenge at GWU's Foggy Bottom campus on October 29, 2010. Scoring within the top twelve in the mathematics competition, Raja was awarded an \$80,000 (\$20,000 per year) scholarship to GWU, and received an engraved plaque.

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Wishing You all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Donna, Amy, Patty, and Kim

Local News

Storm Debris From Monocacy Dislodges White's Ferry

By Rande Davis

Heavy debris from the recent stormy weather flowing from the mouth of the Monocacy River into the Potomac began to accumulate near White's Ferry in the late morning of December 2. The ferry employees were busy removing the branches and logs when a large log, estimated to be nearly three feet in diameter, brushed up against the side of the ferry boat at roughly 10:45 a.m., dislodging it from its cable.

The ferry momentarily drifted downstream before the crew, using its motor boat, was able to secure the ferry near the Maryland shore about one hundred fifty yards from the

dock. Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department water rescue was dispatched to the scene and assisted White's Ferry personnel in removing all fourteen passengers to the shore. It was nearly 3:00 p.m. before the last person on the ferry made it to the shore and joined the rest of the passengers in the shelter of the ferry store.

It wasn't until early evening before all the cars were removed and the passengers were on their way. Volunteer Fire Chief Earl Moore reported that there were no injuries.



The White's Ferry crew secured the ferry to the Maryland shore after a large tree dislodged it from the cable.



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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Robbery: 19900 block of Fisher Avenue.
 Burglary: 15800 block of Hughes Road, 17300 block of White Ground Road.
 Theft from vehicle: Unit block of Hillard Court, 17800 block of Sellman Road.
 Assaults: 19500 block of Peach Tree Road, 17600 block of Kohlhoss Road, 13800 block of Oxmoor Place, Seneca.
 Disorderly conduct reports: 17500 block of Kohlhoss Road, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue, 17600 block of Collier Circle, 17100 block of Spates Hill Road, 19800 block of Beatriz Avenue, 19600 block of Wootton Avenue.
 Drug use complaint: Poolesville High School.
 Three Hyattsville men were arrested on West Offutt Road by the Natural Resources Police for using an artificial light to attract

deer. Officers confiscated a meat cleaver and a knife from the men. Three Silver Spring men were also arrested on West Harris Road for hunting deer out of season.

Past Crimes

December 10, 1897 George Anderson, of High View, West Virginia, was thrown from a B&O freight train between Gaithersburg and Boyds. Anderson told authorities that two other tramps had attacked and robbed him before hurling him onto the cinders.
 December 11, 1953 Fire swept through the All States Motel on Route 355 near Gaithersburg. Charles Lewis, the owner, said that he was sanding floors when he saw fire coming from a closet on the third floor. Fire companies from Gaithersburg, Rockville, Kensington, and Chevy Chase responded to the alarm.
 December 14, 1942 Archie Lee Pearson, a Poolesville farmhand, was sentenced to death for the October rape of a Poolesville housewife. Pearson had been hitchhiking on the Beallsville

Road when he was picked up by a man and his wife. Pearson threw the man out of the car and then raped the woman in a nearby pine thicket. After an all-night manhunt, he was captured hiding in a barn.
 December 21, 1924 R. C. Garnett, a recently-arrived resident of Rockville, was arrested by Sheriff Clay Plummer and Deputy Gingell after they found a still on his property. It was reported that 350 gallons of mash and a quantity of liquor was found on his property. Garnett, who was an attorney, told the authorities that he was a member of the bar.
 December 24, 1926 Police Chief Aud assigned four officers to patrol the upper portion of Montgomery County beginning at 10:00 p.m. In the past, Aud had received multiple reports of a lighted object flying over homes being piloted by a man dressed in red. Aud said that in previous years, only one man covered the area north of Rockville and could not keep up with the complaints.



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Local News

Town Government Report

By Rande Davis

The December 6 town meeting had a light schedule with no key issues voted on. Instead the commissioners used the time to discuss issues concerning the Poolesville School Cluster and county legislation that may affect the town.

Commissioner Jerry Klubokowski, who is the commission liaison for the Poolesville School Cluster, provided the commissioners with an overall review of the status of school issues noting that Dr. Weast, superintendant of MCPS, in proclaiming the Monocacy Elementary School will remain open for the foreseeable future rejected two key proposals offered to strengthen the long term potential for the school. Those proposals was the so-called zero option suggesting

the county reduce the minimum school population requirements for schools within the Agricultural Reserve and/or to allow students from outside the cluster to transfer to Monocacy Elementary.

Klubokowski raised the warning flag of complacency by residents in that diligent monitoring of decisions pending or made regarding all the schools within the cluster is more needed now than ever due to real concerns of declining enrollment. He noted the high school only meets the county standard because six hundred students from down county in various magnet programs are enrolled at the high school. The current low enrollment and anticipated declining enrollment for John Poole Middle School also threatens the future of this facility, according to Klubokowski, unless residents remain involved and active with the Board of Education.

Commission president, Eddie Kuhlman, updated his fellow commissioners on pend-

ing county legislation that may negatively impact the town. One proposed piece of legislation, MC1011 would have allowed the charging of bus fees for students traveling outside the school district and for extracurricular activities. Mr. Kuhlman reported this bill did not move forward.

The other bill, MC1111, would give MCPS autonomy in making infrastructure decisions on school facilities without requiring approval from legislative bodies of townships or their planning commissions. Apparently the impetus of this legislation came from Rockville rejecting MCPS decision to bring in portables. The bill would have to obtain state approval.

At the suggestion of state delegate Brian Feldman, the commissioners decided to provide a position paper objecting to the proposal to the state legislature prior to opening day in January.

The commissioners awarded a proclamation of appreciation

to Eagle Scout Brad Ragazinsky of Troop 496 for his work in assisting young children of clients of WUMCO with birthday packages as his Eagle project.

The commissioners scheduled work sessions to prepare for upcoming budget sessions. As there is no pending or urgent matters pending the commissioners voted to cancel the December 20 meeting and set the next meeting for January 10 which will be the annual State of the Town Report.

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Councilman Jerry Klubokowski presents Eagle Scout Brad Ragazinsky of Troop 496 with an award in appreciation of his work for WUMCO and local children..

Local News

Mr. Schalles Comes to Poolesville

By Jeff Stuart

A *Sports Illustrated* writer once wrote that Wade Schalles is "the most exciting wrestler to ever walk onto a wrestling mat." The legendary Dan Gable called him, "The greatest pinner I've ever seen!" Wade has the record for most wins and pins of anyone who has ever wrestled. Coaches from around the globe once voted him World's Greatest Wrestler for pinning all of his opponents at the World Championships. A limber body and improbable pins earned him the nickname of Plastic Man. Wade Schalles is wrestling royalty, and he came to John Poole Middle School on Friday, November 19.

Welcomed with a large Welcome Mr. Schalles banner (which he took a picture of on his way out), Mr. Schalles coached, encouraged, and entertained his audience of about forty wrestlers and coaches and parents for about two hours. At one point, emphasizing the use of hips, he had the kids follow him in a kind of cha cha dance. The kids had been told about Wade by their coach and seemed thoroughly enthralled by his appearance.

Mike Sofelkanik, the Poolesville Athletic Association (PAA) coach and commissioner, met Schalles at a father and son mini wrestling two-day clinic at the U.S. Naval Academy last July. "There were kids there from

all over the United States," said Sofelkanik. "We stayed at the Naval Academy, slept in the dorms, and ate at the chow halls. It was a good father and son experience. Wade just happened to be a guest instructor there. His son wrestles for the Naval Academy, so I got to meet him. We both grew up in central Pennsylvania. We talked—we had a lot in common. We hit it off. I asked him if he would be willing to do a clinic here in Poolesville. He agreed to that.

"Our kids are anywhere from six to fourteen years old. The majority of them are from nine to eleven. We have about forty kids. They are all from Poolesville, Dickerson, the upper Montgomery County area. We wrestle other teams from Clarksburg, Mt. Airy, Damascus, and teams from Frederick County. It is primarily an instructional league. Lots of kids are first time wrestlers."

Mike is an experienced wrestler himself. "I grew up wrestling," he said. "I wrestled in high school. I wrestled for Indiana University of Pennsylvania. I wrestled all my life. It kind of gets in your blood."

In closing, Mr. Schalles told the junior wrestlers that they wouldn't become good overnight, that they would make mistakes, lots of them. They would fail sometimes—but they should work hard and as soon as they got that bad stuff out of their system, he was sure they were going to be great. He also told them that it should be fun, and that there should be camaraderie and laughter. The mats had to be rolled up at 8:00 p.m. so that

basketball players could take over the gym, but Wade stayed in the hallway a good while signing autographs and posing for pictures.

He has authored two best-selling books on wrestling and a best-selling videotape instructional series. He hosts the EagleHawk Academy, a wrestling school and summer clinic, divided into two groups:

a junior league (third to seventh grades) and a senior league (eighth to twelfth grades). Every student receives five to seven hours of instruction. There are currently locations in Montgomery (Landon School) and Fairfax Counties.

Mr. Schalles recently relocated to



Wade Schalles, considered part of wrestling royalty, at John Poole Middle School

the Washington Metro area from Orlando, Florida.

Practices have started, but Sofelkanik points out that it is not too late to register. Visit the PAA website for more information www.poolesvillesports.org.



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*"Weavolution" Continued From
Page 3.*

depends on skilled use of the large floor looms. Thanks to the availability of the rigid heddle loom, a small, portable, and relatively inexpensive loom, hand weaving is gaining popularity, especially among knitters; however, Ms. Segal noted that weaving

can be done with things everyone has in his or her home. Projects can range from simple potholders to complex creations. Like other women through the ages, Ms. Segal has woven with just about everything: plastic, sticks, straw, grass, and even metal.

"Textiles have always been part of my life," Ms. Segal recalled. Her grandfather was a tailor and taught her how to sew without patterns and without books, and she has knitted all of her life. Though she first saw a floor loom in 1974, her life circumstances weren't such that she could pursue weaving, but knitting and sewing have always provided a lot of satisfaction. At one point, Ms. Segal even supported her

family with her skill, sewing both for income and to make clothes for family.

After her early retirement from child welfare services for the Montgomery County government, Ms. Segal had an opportunity to learn how to weave, and she needed to find a craft that would be kinder to her hands. Years of knitting had led to painful tendonitis. After a weaving class or two, she became infatuated with the craft. She now teaches beginning weaving classes on a rigid heddle loom from her studio.

"I fell in love with the ability to use really simple looms to create really intricate complex cloth. There are all these complex patterns you can create with yarn and a very simple two-shaft loom." According to Ms. Segal, weaving offers greater and broader experimentation opportunities than knitting.

Weavolution is not just the Claudia Segal show, she noted. It's a community of volunteers who actively communicate about interests and needs at the website. While Ms. Segal continues to manage the

administrative duties the website requires,

desired changes and improvements for the website come from its community. Online video web conferencing, article posts, and news are now available. "I'm very proud that the website continues to expand and thrive and that people are talking about it and meeting each other as Weavolution connections."

When Ms. Segal isn't weaving or maintaining Weavolution, she's likely to be knitting for Lotsofknots, a custom-knitting business she operates with housemates Janet and David Dykstra in Poolesville. They exhibit three or four times a year, often at the historic Town Hall.

There is also a monthly knitting group that Ms. Segal started when she first moved to Poolesville seven years ago that can still be found knitting in town though now with many new faces and a new leader.

For more information about weaving classes, Weavolution, or Lotsofknots, contact Ms. Segal at Claudia@weavolution.com.



Claudia Segal of Weavolution



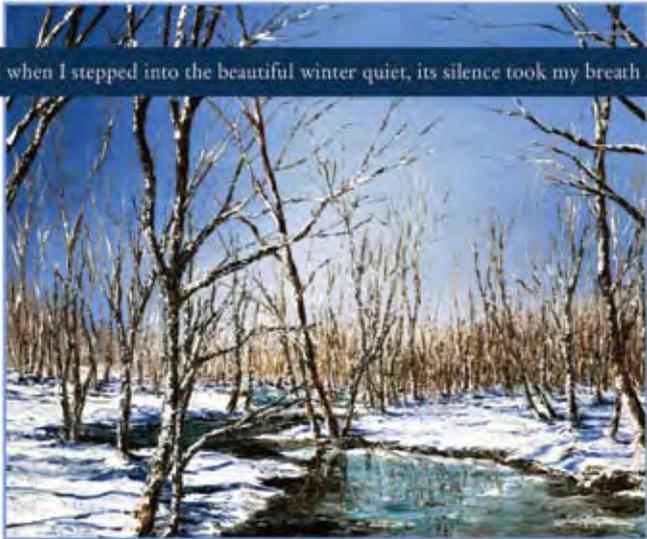
"Great Gifts" Continued From Page 5.

the most durable on the market today. It has a life expectancy of seventy-five-plus years, untreated and weathered. Over the years, its color will change to a soft, pinkish gray. There are many bench designs, but I particularly like the Monet, modeled after one the artist had in his garden in Giverny, just outside of Paris. I also love the one originally designed by the twentieth century British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens.

You will need a good book to read while relaxing on your bench. Here are two practical ones that will answer most, if not all, of your gardening questions: *What's Wrong With My Plant? (And How Do I Fix It?)* by David Peardorff and Kathryn Wadsworth (Timber Press, \$24.95), and for your garden bible, *American Horticultural Society's A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants*, by Christopher Brickell, Henry Marc Cathey, American Horticultural Society DK Publishing.

This comprehensive reference book is well organized and easy to read. It encompasses hundreds of photographs and entries, while providing you with planting and maintenance information for each plant. You will find yourself referring to it many times.

This is my last garden article and last issue of the *Monocle* for 2010. May you have a joyful holiday season, and I will see you back here in the new year, when we can plan again great thoughts for our wonderful gardens.



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Business Briefs

Brightwell Crossing Wins Award

Congratulations to Kettler Forlines Homes and Brightwell Crossing for being honored with the Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association (MNCBIA) Environmental Award and two 2010 Great American Living Awards (GALA).

Charcoal-Roasted Chicken Coming to Mexican Grill

Ivan Paguaga, manager of Poolesville's Mexican Grill, has announced the restaurant will be introducing charcoal-grilled chicken very soon. You will be able to order whole or parts of this mouth-watering, juicy, and healthy chicken.

House of Poolesville

Linda of the House of Poolesville has announced that they have opened an expanded full bar in the restaurant. Moving the bar into the previous dining area centralizes the bar as part of their overall move to more enter-

tainment on weekends which will include live bands and DJs. They are just now making plans for New Year's Eve, and you should keep them in mind as you make your plans. Of course, the restaurant still offers its full menu for carryout or dining in the interior room where the bar had been located previously.

Upcounty Wines and Beer

Gordon Taylor of Upcounty Fine Wine & Beer, a premier wine and beer retailer well established in Clarksburg, is getting ready to meet the new year with an expansion of the store located in Poolesville Center on Fisher Avenue. Gordon has brought specialty carpenter, Al Knill, from Ohio to remodel and custom build their new displays for the expansion. Mr. Knill is a renowned craftsman and, at seventy-six years old, still loves working for clients in the mid-Atlantic. To make sure he does it right, he brings Gunner, his German Shepherd, to supervise the work.

Pike's Peak

The second annual Halloween Candy Buy Back Program sponsored by Pike and Valega, DDS in Poolesville received 253 pounds of donated candy. A buy back of \$1.00 per pound resulted in those funds going to Operation Gratitude, a program to provide gifts of gratitude for those serving in the military. Here is just one quote from a grateful soldier: "Dear Amazing Folks at Operation Gratitude, A surprise package from you arrived here yesterday... and what a treat it was! Thank you so much for taking the time to show us your care and love. Words fail to express the depth of emotion I felt as I opened the box that you sent to our soldiers here. You are doing noble work. Thank you for your prayers and support... and keeping the Faith. Warm Regards, A. H. MAJ, USA."



Al Knill, supervised by his dog, Gunner, as he builds new displays for Upcounty Fine Wine & Beer.

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Youth Sports

PHS Girls' Volleyball There's No Place Like Home

By Jeff Stuart

The PHS girls' volleyball season came to an end on November 18 in the state semifinal at Ritchie Coliseum on the campus of the University of Maryland, College Park. They were swept by Fallston. Prior to that, the team had won fourteen straight regular season matches, losing just three games, and recorded playoff wins at home over Liberty, North Hagerstown, and Century, losing only a single game. They won the 2A region title to earn the right to play at Ritchie.

"Having the home court advantage for us is huge," said Head Coach Fran Duvall. "Our gym is so small, it is not always

easy for other teams to adjust." The PHS gym is a cozy place. Hand-painted posters with each Poolesville player's name and number adorn the walls. It is home.

Poolesville frequently faced bigger, harder-hitting opponents. The Falcons' tallest player is Alayna Hendrix at 5' 10". But their serving, passing, and knowledge of the game offset their lack of size. They were able to keep the ball in play and wear other teams down. If you like great rallies, this was the team to watch. This year's team was led by the two holdovers from the '08 title team, senior outside hitters Paige Sekerak, and Lauren Rocco. Freshman libero Sarah Kenneweg had an immediate impact covering the court and making many great digs and passes. Setter Karishma Patel played steady all year, getting her hitters the ball where they could do the most with it. Seniors Alayna Hendrix, Abbe Guertin, and Christine Antonsen all helped to make the season so successful. They knew their roles and executed superbly



The 2010 PHS Girls' Volleyball Team: True Champions.

as a team.

In the 2A region final against Century, Sekerak and Rocco each had eleven kills. Century had a significant height advantage. The Falcons pulled away late to win the first game, 25-17, but they trailed, 21-13, in the second game before Coach Duvall called a time out. In addressing her team, Duvall was remarkably calm. The time out was remarkably effective. With Karishma Patel serving,

Poolesville staged a nine-point rally to take the lead before Century got a side out to briefly tie the game. PHS got a side out and won the last two points to win, 25-21. Most of the points in the stirring comeback were won after long volleys featuring often spectacular digs. Century opened up with a brief 3-0 lead in the third game, but their frustration with the results of the second game

-Continued on Page 18.

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**"Volleyball" Continued
From Page 17.**

showed. They fell, 25-11.

This year's team was quietly confident. There was little swagger. Until the state semifinal, they had come back successfully every time they had been challenged. "The end of the season we played a tough Gaithersburg team, probably the best match of the season for us," said Duvall. "They are big and powerful, and we executed well in the three games we won; we lost the first game. B-CC and Damascus were also good matches. We had to play smarter and keep ourselves on track."

Forty-eight teams participated in the 2A state region tournaments. Only two went farther than Poolesville. If they have a single regret, it might be that they did not believe they played their best against Fallston (losing 25-8, 25-17, 25-18). It might have been nerves. Many of the girls were playing in the state tourney for the first time. The Cougars scored six of the first seven points of the

contest. That might have unnerved them. The precise execution that had been their calling card all year was not there. "You can be prepared as you want, but in order to be successful, you have to have execution," said the coach. Fallston (2A-East), the eventual state champions, did not lose a game in the region or state tourneys. The Falcons, a very good volleyball team, finished the season 17-1, dropping just seven sets, and made their sixth appearance in the state tournament in nine years. They are a proud program and have a lot to be proud of. They have lost just four matches in four years—remarkable. Sekerak is going to Towson University to play volleyball next fall. Antonsen will attend Oberlin College in Ohio. Rocco plans to attend Vanderbilt but does not plan to play volleyball.

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Sunday, December 12—Third Sunday of Advent

9:15 AM: Christian Education for all ages

10:30 AM: Worship with a dramatic presentation of the angel's visit to Mary and Elizabeth; music featuring the Chancel and Bell Choirs

Noon: Fellowship lunch followed by the Church School Christmas Program

6:30 PM: Celebrating Grace

Saturday, December 18

7 - 9 PM: Drive Thru Live.

Memorial's youth present the Christmas story in four tableaux set in the church parking lot.

Sunday, December 19—Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15 AM: Christian Education for all ages

10:30 AM: Worship with the Chancel Choir's cantata, "Night of the Father's Love."

The choir will be accompanied by our new organ and trumpet.

Wednesday, December 22

6 PM: Christmas caroling in our community. Meet at the church.

Friday, December 24—Christmas Eve

4 PM: Christmas Eve service with special focus on young children

7:45 PM: Christmas music in the sanctuary

8 PM: Christmas Eve service with communion

Sunday, December 26—Christmas Sunday

9:15 AM: Christian Education for all ages

10:30 AM: Informal service; all are invited to bring one gift to "show and tell"

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Sunday, January 2—Epiphany

9:15 AM: Christian Education for all ages

10:30 AM: Worship with a dramatic presentation of the magis' visit to Bethlehem

Sunday, January 9—Baptism of the Lord

9:15 AM: Christian Education for all ages

10:30 AM: Worship, featuring the dedication of our new organ

Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

December 7, 1949 Poolesville High won its first game of the year defeating the Maryland State School for the Deaf, 46-30. Poolesville's Doyle Lewis and Forest Hough were the leading scorers.

December 7, 1945 Corporal Maurice Fisher and Private First Class William Moore, both of Poolesville, returned from Europe and were discharged from the army.

December 9, 1953 Members of the Montgomery County School Board quizzed Superintendent Norris about the possible subversive influence in school textbooks. Board member Wylie Barrow asked if the texts were screened for possible un-American content. In other business, Norris addressed Poolesville parents and told them that their students might be bused out of town to attend other schools. This

was in response to a question by Charles Elgin who wondered when work on the Poolesville High School would be finished.

December 10, 1951 Chest X-rays for all Montgomery County high school students began.

December 13, 1944 Word was received that Second Lieutenant Norman Hersberger, son of Edna Hersberger, of Poolesville, was being held as a prisoner of war by Germany.

December 18, 1951 Harold Smith, Jr. of Hughes Road, Poolesville, wrote to the Washington Post and said that he was about to clear some acreage on his property. The land was covered with Christmas-sized trees and he invited readers to come and cut them down for no charge.

December 19, 1949 A cast of thirty Poolesville schoolchildren presented "Christmas is a Miracle" at the high school.

December 25, 1951 Montgomery County Police had to call a halt to the donations pouring in for a family whose home had burned down. The home of Charles Fowler, a fifty-dollar-a-week employee of the county road department, had burned a few days before. The home on the Beallsville Road was destroyed. The police stations had been designated as drop-off spots, but soon the police stations had run out of room.

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*"Josh Funk" Continued
From Page 1.*

day, and Funk did play professionally; however, the Chicago Shamrox team folded just as his first season as a professional player was about to begin. As a rookie, Funk felt a little nervous about his prospects but was fortunate to get picked up by the Minnesota Swarm, for whom he is beginning his third season this year. Funk is also finishing his doctorate program—he'll very soon be Dr. Funk—and will soon have the convenience of living in Minnesota while he does two internships near to where he will be practicing and playing. "It works out nicely," he says.

This past summer, he was honored to have been invited to try out for the U.S. National Men's Lacrosse Team. In all, forty players were invited to try out for the team. From those forty, eighteen were selected for the main team, and sixteen were

chosen for the reserve team. Of those sixteen, five will be selected in February to travel with the main team to the World Indoor Lacrosse Championship at Telsa Arena in Prague, Czech Republic in May 2011. "I did not make the eighteen-man original travel roster, but I did make the reserve... to that team," says Funk. Like the World Cup of soccer, the World Indoor Lacrosse Championship takes place only every four years, and 2011 will be the third championship ever. During the one-week tournament, the U.S. National Team will face Australia, Canada, the Czech Republic, England, Finland, Ireland, and the Iroquois Nationals. This past summer, the U.S. team won the Outdoor Lacrosse Championship.

The tryouts took place this past September in New Jersey over a three-day weekend consisting of intersquad scrimmages. After Josh made the first cut, he again competed in U.S. inter-

squad scrimmages in Baltimore in October. "It went very well," he said about competing, noting the high level of talent present. "You just hope you can go out and give it your best...you hope to represent your country at the world games."

Tom Ryan, coach of the U.S. National team and coach of the Boston Blazers, has been familiar with Josh's playing and potential as team contributor. He first met Josh at the 2008 draft and saw that Josh stood out as one of the top right-hand defenders. "When I think about him as a player, he's very aggressive—which is a good thing," says Ryan. "His personality definitely stands out," he continued, remarking that coaches also seek players that are social and will make good teammates.

Ryan is also enthused about the prospects for the 2011 U.S. Men's team. At the last games in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 2007, the U.S. team finished third. "The group that we have selected for this [world] games is above and beyond a better team on paper," Ryan says. "The best indoor players in the country are on this team."

As Funk begins his indoor season with the Swarm, he is still being watched and evaluated for placement among the reserve

five that will travel to Prague. "I just have to play well over the first few games of the season," he says. "Hopefully, I can just stay healthy and continue to play at a high level...I'm trying to make the most of the opportunity that I have...a great opportunity. Obviously, I loved playing lacrosse growing up. I played in college. I feel blessed to play around the country with some of the best players in the world."

Funk is also a strong proponent and supporter of youth lacrosse in the Poolesville and surrounding areas. As an alumnus of Poolesville High School (class of 2004, All-American, All-Met, All-Journal, All-Gazette, and County Player of the Year), he wants to see more opportunities for local children. As it stands, many Upcounty area lacrosse players go out of town to play lacrosse. He says he'll do what he can do to get a program started in town. "There are a lot of parents involved...a lot of feedback from parents that are interested." Plus the support of PHS's new athletic director, Ed Ross, helps quite a bit. With Ross's support, Funk will again run his lacrosse camp in town. "I'm looking to bring in more counselors, more campers... to upgrade the experience," Funk says.

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Tidbits

National Museum of Civil War Medicine to Open New Museum in D.C.

On November 4, Clara Barton's Missing Soldiers Office, located at 437 7th Street, Washington, D.C., was opened to the public for an event hosted by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine (NMCWM) and the General Services Administration (GSA).

The third floor, where Clara Barton had her office and living quarters, has been essentially untouched since the time the doors were closed in 1875 until being rediscovered in 1997. Since then, GSA has been in search of a museum partner to bring life to the story hidden within the walls of the Missing Soldiers Office and is elated to have found such a partner with NMCWM.

Visiting individuals were in obvious awe of the office, what had taken place there, and its historical significance. The original wallpaper, many artifacts, and original banister are all intact,

leaving visitors with the sense of having walked into a time capsule.

The importance of this building to downtown Washington, D.C. and the history of the area are immeasurable. "This is the place where the Red Cross, in many ways, was born because this is where she first saw the need," stated George Wunderlich, Executive Director, NMCWM.

"You're literally touring the place where Clara Barton the woman was made into Clara Barton the legend who became the founder of the Red Cross,"

Huey and Duey, Two Cool Cats Looking to Come in from the Cold

With the weather taking a significant dip even before winter officially begins, a pair of British short-haired, white and gray cats named Huey and Duey are looking for a home or homes. The two warmed the heart of Poolesville resident, Linda Kalski, a while back, and the tale of the two tails has taken a couple twists along the way. After finding shelter at various locations around town,

they finally found their way to Linda's backyard deck. Charmed by their particular beauty, Linda fed the cats and sought a home for them. Linda's husband's leukemia prevented her from opening her house to them. Finding a place on a farm didn't work as the two, clever as they are, eventually found their way back to her house. To meet the requirements of animal control, Linda agreed to have the cats get their shots, had them neutered, and registered them with the county. These two three-year-olds are now looking for a new home. With the cold winter coming soon, they are ready to guard any house from mouse invasion. If Linda could just convince us they hunt and eat stink bugs, we would take them in ourselves. If you might be looking for a cat (or two), give Linda a call at 301-787-3166. The hardest part is having to choose between Huey or Duey.

Hardwick Wins Silver

On December 4, Sam Hardwick was awarded the Silver Medal for Bowling (Ramp Bowling Division) in the Special Olympic State Games of Maryland. The gold medalist had a pin score of 239, Sam had a total pin count of 236—just three pins separated the gold and silver medalists!

To be eligible for the state games, one must have won a gold medal in the regional finals which were held in Frederick, Maryland last November. Sam won the gold medal in his division at that event. He was also the sole representative from Montgomery County in any of the singles



These two brothers are looking for a home before Christmas.

matches held.

He is now eligible to participate in a lottery later this month to determine if he will attend the National Special Olympic Games held in Reno, Nevada.

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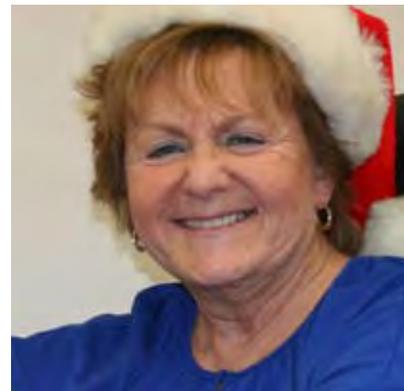
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"Poole Store" Continued From Page 1.

long been dropping, and there was no pressure from the county to move on. "It's no one thing," she said. "We've been struggling for a couple of years."

A visit from Santa on December 18 will be the store's last celebration and will be followed by a yet-to-be-scheduled auction to clear out remaining inventory. Items include horse, bird, and garden supplies as well as "odds and ends" ranging through the decades that keep turning up as the family prepares to depart.

Montgomery County Parks spokesperson Kelli Holsendolph said plans for the building do not extend beyond a maintenance assessment and winterizing regime. There is no plan to seek a new lessee or for any alternative use such as a museum, she said. "Anything that would be done would have public notice and involvement," Holsendolph said.

Meanwhile, the Poole family

will be adjusting to life without the namesake store.

Seneca Store was built by Frederick Allnut in 1901 and was later run by Guy and Hilda Allnut before its sale to Raymond Poole. The adjoining Darby House dates to 1855. JoAnn Poole and her siblings, Jack and Marilyn, are the store's only employees and say they grew up there as much or more than in their residence.

The school bus picked up and dropped them off at the store, Poole remembered. "We used to take naps under the front counter."

At one point, there were five generations involved with the running of the business. Customers, many of whom come by daily or weekly, have become like family as well, Poole said. "It's like when you're in here, you're not in a rush; you're asking how people are doing, talking."

Poole hopes that the store will eventually reopen and continue the tradition. "To keep it

an operating general store is our hope." Poole said that she and her siblings, who continue to live in the Poolesville area, currently have no plans beyond taking care of their parents.



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The winner from the November 19 issue contest was Allison Rivera. The icon was in the Hughes Landscaping advertisement.

Entries must be received by 3:00 p.m. the Friday following the date of this edition. The winner will be announced in our next issue.

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