



This tribute in Whalen Commons has inspired another. See Tidbits on Page 10.



Booster parents Ruth Ann and Ray Hughes with Lynne Bodmer selling snacks at the PHS basketball game. See more Family Album on page 2.



Falcon DeAndre Parrott takes a jump shot against Seneca Valley. Read about PHS Basketball in Youth Sports on page 14.

State of the Town Meeting Postponed

The annual State of the Town meeting, scheduled for January 10, has been postponed until January 24 at 7:30 p.m. The postponement resulted from Commission President Eddie Kuhlman's unavailability due to the death of his father.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

January 21, 2011

Volume VII, Number 19

County Planning Board Recommends Private Airstrip

By Kristen Milton

Neighbors of a proposed private airstrip in Boyds submitted testimony both for and against the unusual project before the Montgomery County Planning Board gave its support to the proposal last month.

The board unanimously recommended special exception approval for the mowed grass strip at 22620 Peach Tree Road, although several conditions were imposed. The case appears before the county hearing examiner, who will make a final decision on February 18. Orthodontist Robert Gillespie is seeking the strip for recreational use on his approximately forty-acre farm, which is leased out for hay production.

Appearing before the planning board at its December 2 meeting, Gillespie said he had logged hundreds of hours in his single engine aircraft since becoming a private pilot in 2005. His airstrip, approximately fifty feet wide and one thousand feet long,

was approved by the Federal Aviation Administration in 2006. "It's safe; it's approved; I don't think it's an intrusion on any of my neighbors," said Gillespie, who said the plane landed at a speed of only fifty miles per hour and was not a threat to surrounding homes or livestock.

Neighbor Carolyn Laurencot was not reassured. Laurencot said she was once outside her home adjacent to Gillespie's farm when she saw his plane approaching the strip. It was low enough that Laurencot said she ran to the house to get her pets. "I thought my house was going to be crashed into by an airplane; it was a terrifying experience," she said.

Opponents of the airstrip, including Sugarloaf Citizens Association and Montgomery Countryside Alliance, cited concerns with safety, noise, and impact on livestock as well as the precedent set by allowing the use in the Agricultural Reserve. The special exception use is allowed on a farm by the zoning code, but opponents claim it was intended to allow for crop dusting, not recreation.

In supporting the project, planning staff emphasized that

try, wound its way around the world, and ended with the purchase of John Slagle's, J.D.'s Beer & Wine.

Gordon was born in Manhattan on the upper west side before it became "movie star chic and before I converted from the Jets to the Redskins," he says. His family later moved to Potomac, Maryland where he graduated from Winston Churchill High School while captaining the football team as an All-County Linebacker and earning the first Mr. Winston

-Continued on Page 12.



Many Upcounty people and local environmental organizations are contesting a private airstrip on this site.

the mowed grass nature of the airstrip would allow the land to easily return to agricultural use. Conditions imposed included the prohibition of signage or additional construction such as lighting as well as limiting flights to two round trips per week.

"I believe in letting people have the freedom to do as they please, so long as they are considerate to their neighbor," Karin Tucker of Boyds, another adjacent property holder, said in a letter of support.

At the hearing, board members questioned Gillespie about the noise generated by his flights. A report submitted by

-Continued on Page 15.

UpCounty Fine Wine & Beer: Innovative Retailer Comes To Poolesville

By Rande Davis

The path to opening the UpCounty Fine Wine & Beer store in Poolesville was an arduous yet passionate pursuit for owner, Gordon Taylor. In fact, the journey started in Potomac in the telecom indus-



Gordon Taylor has expanded his Upcounty Fine Wine & Beer from Clarksburg to Poolesville.

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by
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The PHS varsity cheerleaders, with Coach Libby Hillard, are all smiles while supporting the Falcons.



Kimora Maier, dancer of Poolesville's Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre, warms up as she prepares to compete in the prestigious Youth America Grand Prix Competition in Philadelphia.



The students from the Science, Math, and Computer Science Departments at PHS took their science project presentations to the town hall for public review.

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In the Garden

New Year, New Dreams

By Maureen O'Connell

Traditionally, the beginning of a new year prompts us to take stock of our lives and make resolutions for improvement. These usually focus on personal relationships, diet, exercise, or lack thereof. I find this time, while our gardens are in a skeletal frame without deciduous embellishment, to be ideal to access one's gardens. There are no showy, colorful flowers, lush, bushy shrubs, or the green canopy of stately trees to hide the faults of a garden.

It is now mid-January, and there are many cold, wet, icy days ahead before we can stir our souls over the prospect of spring, but we have turned a corner; the days are getting longer, not shorter, and the sun is getting a little higher in the sky every day. Sam, Tom, and I still take our morning and early evening garden walks, and I am often surprised at what I see. Several days ago, I noticed that several of my ferns, despite the cold weather we have had this winter, are still upright and emerald green. If you get down on your hands and knees and look very closely, you can see that my Christmas Rose (*Helleborus niger*) is sending up tender, little, green shoots that will, in about a month, break out in pure-white blossoms that will mature with a hint of pink. Right

on schedule, spring's earliest harbinger, the pussy willow tree, is covered in snowy white, furry catkins. Spring can't be too far away.

Every year, I try to plant something new, design a new garden bed, or relocate plants. Sometimes, this is a matter of desire or necessity; this year, it is both. I lost several large dogwood and white pine trees last year. They provided needed shade for beds of my best hostas, ferns, coral bells, bleeding heart, and astilbe plants. They cannot survive now in the scorching sun; they must be moved to another shady spot. I don't know yet know where they are moving to, but it will be a big job, since they are quite mature. I am quite confident that they will handle the relocation, as these plants are all quite hardy. At the outer perimeter of the middle garden, I have the opposite problem. The thirty-year-old white pine trees are growing taller and wider. My David Austin roses, lavender, and miniature Asiatic lilies, who live at their feet, are now too shaded. They are all too old to move, so I shall have to prune the pine trees to give my rosy little friends more sun.

I have always loved dahlias. They are big, special flowering plants. You just don't stick them in the ground here and there in the perennial or annual bed. They deserve their own space, where they can be the only stars. I have never planted them in any numbers in the past, as they do demand some special care. When we have a bad Japanese beetle year, dahlias seem to be their

food of choice. Most varieties are three to five feet tall with very heavy stems which need staking. Dahlias are hardy in zones eight to ten (10° to 40° F), but elsewhere, their tubers must be overwintered indoors. We are on the fringes of this climate zone, so one would have to experiment with the risks of leaving the tubers in the ground over the winter. Last summer, I planted three tubers and left them in the ground in November and covered them with a couple of inches of leaf mulch. I will tell you in April if they have survived. Even if they didn't make it, I am digging (or, I should say, Jim is digging) a new bed for my new dahlias in the sunny corner of the upper garden. Dahlias are my new must-haves.

If you want to grow dahlias, the best ones to start with are those of the Karma series. They were developed, after forty years of breeding, by Dutch brothers Adrian and Case Verwer. These plants have strong stems, brilliant colors, and flowers that will last ten days in a vase. Dahlias come

in a variety of sizes, but they are all big (in all caps). Henry Mitchell, who wrote the garden column for the *Washington Post* for many years, observed of dahlias in *The Essential Earthman*, "While none have yet been bred that are quite as large as television sets or as bright as atom bombs, they will bloom magnificently and conspicuously enough through September and October, when few other things do." I think he was referring to the Dinnerplate Dahlias. They have the largest flowers of the dahlia group, up to eight inches or more across. The colors in this series are unbelievably beautiful. There are also many other varieties of dahlias. I plan to plant about fifteen different ones in a dahlia cutting garden. They aren't hurt by cutting. The more you cut, the more these prolific plants will grow and bloom.

You must have a sunny spot in your garden that needs dahlias. Start planning now.

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Commentary

The Groundhog Is on Notice

By John Clayton

I like winter as much as the next guy.

No I don't. I like it less than most guys, be they next or last. I like winter a little bit. I love the change of seasons, the dearth of insects, fires in the fireplace, that incredible late afternoon light, winter coats, aching fingers, and even the nip of cold weather. I like all of this for a while, but not for a long while. Having predominantly lived in the Maryland/D.C. area, or south of here, this is about as much cold as I can take.

This year, cold weather arrived around mid-November, and it has stayed cold. While I am relieved that several blizzards have missed us and pounded our neighbors to the east and north, the weather has been consistently cold, and I am tired of it. I had prepared for the season, I thought, with enough firewood to last the winter. As it turned out, the firewood supply barely made it into January. It was still autumn when I realized this was going to be the case. According to my calculations, we have received about six weeks of extra winter, that is, cold weather, on the front end. This being so, on February 2, Groundhog Day, which will be here before you know it,

it is only fair that the all-seeing Pennsylvania rodent (*Marmota monax*, for those of you scoring at home) grants us an early spring. I think that means he sees his shadow, but I'm not sure. I just remember it being counterintuitive, like tax cuts not affecting the federal deficit, or Scott Grossman starting at quarterback, but I digress. We have our own groundhogs here, you know, but they don't seem to be able to prognosticate or change the weather, although maybe they could if we gave them a chance.

I believe Groundhog Day is also called Candlemas, and one is supposed to possess half of one's supplies, such as hay or perhaps toilet tissue, to get through the rest of the snow and ice, because February 2 is only halftime as far as winter goes. This should not be a concern in our civilized area. Peruse our newspaper, and you will find a supermarket and hay and firewood vendors at your service, if, in fact, you have planned badly. Or maybe you just ran out early, not through any failing of your own, but because of this extended winter. It could happen to anyone.

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

Published and Edited by
John Clayton and Rande Davis

John Clayton
Production
Financial
301-349-0071

jclayton@monocacymonocle.com

Rande Davis
Advertising
Circulation
301-349-0070

rdavis@monocacymonocle.com

Dominique Agnew
Copyediting
dqagnew@gmail.com

editor@monocacymonocle.com
advertising@monocacymonocle.com
www.monocacymonocle.com

Monocacy Press, LLC
John Clayton, President
Rande Davis, Vice President
P.O. Box 372
Barnesville, MD 20838-0372
301 349-0071
FAX 301 349-5646

Contributing Writers

Dominique Agnew
dqagnew@gmail.com
Doug Fiedler
doug@resultstrategy.com
Kristen Milton
kmilton1998@yahoo.com
Maureen O'Connell
mafocConnell@msn.com
Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz
hrosvold@mc.com
Jeffrey S. Stuart
sark10@juno.com
Jack Toomey
jackt21262@aol.com

Contributing Photographer

Hilary Schwab
hilaryschwabphotography.com

Graphics

Karie Legambi
WhipSmart Graphics
Karie@WhipSmartGraphics.com

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Assaults: 11900 block of Fisher Avenue, 17500 block of Lilli Street.

Thefts: 20000 block of Wootton Avenue, Poolesville High School, 19300 block of Hempstone Avenue.

Disorderly conduct complaints: 19600 block of Fisher Avenue, 19200 block of Hempstone Avenue, 19600 block of Wootton Avenue.

Drug use complaints: Stevens Park, Seneca Chase Park Road, 18100 block of Sellman Road, 14100 block of Old Bucklodge Road.

Past Crimes

January 10, 1949 A Boyds man was arrested in the shooting death of his brother. Police said that Ernest Turner shot his brother Harold in the chest with a shotgun after they argued over liquor. Ernest told police that he shot in self-defense after his brother threatened him.

January 13, 1955 Montgomery County Police and federal agents raided a still at Bucklodge that was described as one of the largest ever seen in Maryland. One thousand gallons of mash and thirty-seven gallons of corn whiskey were seized. Three men, living at Boyds but originally from North Carolina, were arrested. **January 15, 1956** Four teenagers were arrested and charged with a series of commercial burglaries that had been committed in the

county. Sergeant Brochart had seen the youths acting suspiciously while on the way to work and relayed the information to his men. Shortly afterwards, they were seen trying to break in at the Ben Franklin store in Gaithersburg which led to a chase and capture.

January 18, 1931 Two men were fined over \$4000 for the use of a smokescreen device on their car while attempting to elude county police. Judge Charles Woodward declared that using a smoke-screen to deceive police was close to the act of murder. Two officers had spotted the car near Ashton and, suspecting that it contained liquor, chased it for over forty miles until it overturned on a curve on the Rockville Pike near Bethesda.

January 26, 1950 A seventy-three-year-old woman ran barefoot through snowy woods and swamps to try to summon help after her rural home caught fire. When she reached the Hyattstown Fire Department, she collapsed and told the firemen that her house was on fire. It was reported that the home, set back in the woods off the road between Clarksburg and Boyds, was a total loss.

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Poolesville: 4 wooded building lots approximately 15 acres each with public water and sewer. *Offered at \$350,000 per lot.*

Poolesville: Renovated farmhouse on 23.98+/- acres, partially fenced with a complement of farm bldgs. Ideal equestrian facility. MLS#MC7340599. *Offered at \$775,000.*

Poolesville: 15,075 sq. ft. building lot in the town of Poolesville with public water and sewer. MLS#MC7268432. *Offered at \$150,000.*

Poolesville: "The Preserve at Stoney Springs" 10 platted estate lots with approved septic systems and wells installed. Lots range from 3 to 78 acres. For more information, please call Jim Long (ext. 20).

Frederick County

Libertytown: Circa 1850 remodeled brick farmhouse complemented by numerous modern outbuildings on 155 +/- acres. MLS#FR7364361. *Offered at \$1,590,000.*

Creagerstown: Stone farmhouse and outbuildings on 197.67+/- acres. Spectacular views of the Catoctin Mts. and Monocacy River frontage. MLS#FR7382137. *Offered at \$2,000,000.*

Brunswick/Knoxville: 180+/- acres w/panoramic views, Approx. 100 acres of mature hardwood & the remainder tillable land. Borders Catoctin Creek & the C&O Canal. MLS#FR6991601. *Offered at \$1,375,000.*

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Remembrances



Matthew John Williquette

Matthew John Williquette, 22, of Dayton, Maryland, formerly of Poolesville, died on January 7 as a result of a car accident on Route 70. He was the son of Keith and Debra Williquette. Matt was a 2006 graduate of Poolesville High School where he played Falcon baseball

and golf. He worked during the summer of his high school days at the Poolesville Youth Center. His dad, Keith, coached Matt and many other Poolesville youth in baseball during Matt's youth. His mother, Debra, has worked on past Poolesville Day committees.

Matt attended Penn State and was seeking a mechanical engineering degree. Friends remember Matt as someone who possessed a wonderful and contagious laughter, who brought much joy into their lives, and shared with everyone his special joy for life. Funeral services were held at Hilton Funeral Home in Barnesville where Rev. Kenneth Fitzwater officiated. His interment was at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Laytonsville.

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Remembrance



Scott Kalski is remembered for his courage and love of family and God.

Scott S. Kalski

Mr. Scott S. Kalski, 52, of Poolesville died on January 7, 2011 after a long struggle battling leukemia. He was the beloved husband of Linda and father of Jake. Scott, a satellite engineer by profession, was remembered by friends for many things including being a fervent Green Bay Packer fan and avid bass fisherman. Many attending the funeral wore Packer fan clothing in his honor and one of his proudest photographs, one of him holding up a large bass,

graced the sanctuary.

Experiencing three remissions from leukemia, he maintained an exemplary spirit of positive thinking, strength, and above all, an abiding faith in God. All who spoke about Scott referred to his abounding courage in his daily struggle which was spoken of by friend Ray Hoewing in referring to Scott living "with no self-pity, no anger, no complaint and fully positive, and, showed me how to die and, in so doing, showed me how to live."

Linda Kalski spoke to the large gathering of family, fellow congregants, co-workers, friends, and neighbors thanking all for being so supportive of both her and Scott over the many months of struggle. Close friend and musician Kim Carpentier provided mourners with a medley of songs dear to Scott's heart that in their playing revealed much of his personality. Among the songs were: the theme from *Chariots of Fire*, "Bohemian Rhapsody"

by Queen, Dan Fogel's "Longer Than" (the tune Scott and Linda danced to at their wedding), "Colonel Bogey March" (theme from *Bridge on the River Kwai*), the theme from *Kelly's Heroes*, and even the theme from television's *Hogan's Heroes*. One song, composed by Mr. Carpentier which spoke of love for family and God, began with the words, "Dearest Linda."

He leaves behind his Boys (pets), Wolfie, Gizmo, and Gabriel. Also surviving are his parents, Lorraine Kalski, Tiberio and Janice Panaccio; one brother, Tim Panaccio (Carla); nieces, Arianna and Allegra Panaccio; one nephew, Nick Panaccio (Heather); a great niece, Mia; and one great nephew, Lucas. In lieu of flowers, Scott had requested donations be made to Poolesville's Memorial United Methodist Church.

Mystery Dinner St. Peter's Episcopal Church

St. Peter's High School Youth are hosting *The Balmy Bahamas Cruise Mystery Dinner* on Saturday, March 12, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville.

Enjoy appetizers as you chat with other characters, searching for clues! Discuss the great mystery over dinner! Solve the crime over dessert! Prizes awarded for best costumes! Tickets are \$20 and can be reserved by contacting youth@stpeterspoolesville.org or calling Traci at 301-407-0091.

Character lists will be made available for your selection upon reservation.

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Remembrances **Reed Alexander Cantler, 14, Dies Due to Car Accident**

Reed Alexander Cantler of Sharpsburg, Maryland the son and grandson of current and former Poolesville residents, died on Wednesday, December 22, 2010 as a result of an automobile accident.

Reed was born on October 23, 1996 in Rockville, Maryland. He is survived by his mother, Ann E. Rice and Joe Schofield of Sharpsburg; his father,

William S. Cantler, Jr. and Ruthann Graniero of Arnold, Maryland; his two brothers, Aaron E. Cantler and Sean M. Rice-Schofield, his maternal grandmother, Ann McManus-Rice of Poolesville, Maryland; his maternal grandfather, James B. Rice and his wife Susan of Walkersville, Maryland, Uncles James A. and Brendan T. Rice, Aunts and Uncles Benjie and Marie Allnut of Poolesville and Ken and Pam Huff of Hamptstead Maryland. Reed was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, William S. Sr. and Ruth Cantler, both of Boyd's.

Reed was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Barnesville. He was an avid hunter and played baseball with the South Mountain Little League from the time he was seven years old. He was a freshman at Boonsboro High School where he was a member of the school golf team.

Reverend Kevin P. O'Reilly of St. Mary's officiated at the funeral with burial at the Boyds Presbyterian



Reed Cantler (left) with his brothers, Sean (center) and Aaron.

Church Cemetery in Boyds, Maryland.

Memorial donations may be made to the South Mountain Little League, Post Office Box 31, Boonsboro, Maryland, 21713.

Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

January 3, 1956 Merlo Pusey, the associate editor of the *Washington Post* and *Times Herald*, suffered a broken jaw and face cuts when he was thrown from the horse that his family had given him for Christmas. The mishap happened at the family farm at Poolesville.

January 7, 1945 A special candlelight service was held at the Boyds Presbyterian Church in honor of the servicemen living in the Boyds area.

January 9, 1957 The Montgomery County Council was asked to improve its civil defense preparedness in case of a national emergency. Each of the thirteen Civil Defense districts in the county would be given a helicopter, a light rescue jeep, and a commander with military rank designation.

In other action, the council voted to supply each county high school with a nurse except for Poolesville and Damascus High Schools.

January 11, 1947 Poolesville High came from behind to defeat Walkersville, 28-26. The high scorer was Claude Belcher of Poolesville who had sixteen points.

January 13, 1960 Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon was recovering after falling out the hayloft of his barn on his Poolesville farm. Senator Morse suffered a broken arm, torn ligaments, and a sprain.

January 15, 1955 The Soviet government said that it had shot dead one spy and captured two others after they parachuted into Soviet Estonia. One of the spies supposedly told interrogators that he had received his training at a camp near Poolesville, Maryland.

January 19, 1958 The day marked the first time since 1904 that a member of the Bodmer family would not be delivering the mail on RFD 1, Poolesville. Charles Bodmer, who had just retired, noted that his family had worn out four horses, three sleighs, five buggies, and fifteen cars.

January 21, 1946 Betty Knill, a student at Poolesville High School, wrote a letter to the *Washington Post* complaining about the conditions on the school bus. She wrote that the bus was built for forty-eight students but was carrying ninety-one. She noted that the driver could not see behind him because children were standing in the aisles, and she also predicted that an epidemic would start because of the close quarters.

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Things to Do

Girl Scouts Help Local Animal Rescue Organization
 Girl Scout Troop 5946 is collecting clean, used towels, sheets, blankets, and other bedding to help rescued dogs and cats cared for by Lizzy's Lodge, a non-profit animal rescue organization in Maryland: www.petfinder.com/shelters/lizzyslodge
 These items are desperately needed to care for the animals waiting for adoption. The troop's Junior Girl Scouts have been volunteering with Lizzy's Lodge and are leading this project to earn their Bronze Award. Donation boxes will be at Selby's Market, Poolesville Veterinary Clinic (next to the library), Healthworks and the Barnesville School through January 29.

January 21
Girls' Basketball Home Game
 Versus: Wheaton
 Junior Varsity: 5:15 p.m.
 Varsity: 7:00 p.m.

January 22
Knights of Columbus 3-on-3 Basketball
 For the third straight year, the Knights of Columbus are sponsoring their annual three-on-three basketball tournament and free throw contest, but this year brings a new twist to half-court basketball. Introduced this year is the "3-box" to add excitement to the competition. A three-foot by three-foot square located outside of the key, the three-box earns triple the points for successful shooters over any other shot in the tourna-

ment. "In the past, winners in our tournament scored eleven points by earning one point for each basket," said Carlos Contreras, Grand Knight of Knights of Columbus Council #6901. "Unfortunately, this has meant teams that fall too far behind have almost no chance of catching up. With the three-box, teams that are behind can quickly catch up which should make the event even more exciting." Healthy people aged six through ninety-nine, female or male, can enter the three-on-three half-court tournament, which is being held in conjunction with the annual free-throw shootout.
 Poolesville Baptist Church, 17550 W. Willard Road
 1:00 p.m.

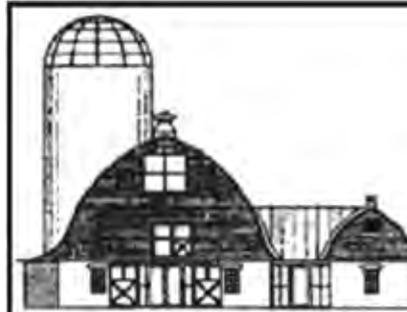
January 24
State of the Town
Annual Report on Status of Town Government
 Poolesville Town Hall
 7:30 p.m.

Falcon Basketball Home Game
 Versus: Clarksburg
 Boys: 5:15 p.m.
 Girls: 7:00 p.m.

January 25
Falcon Wrestling Home Match
 Versus: Bethesda-Chevy Chase
 6:00 p.m.

Monocacy Lions Club Blood Drive
 St. Peter's Church
 3:00 p.m. 7:45 p.m.

January 26
Community Economic Development Committee
 Poolesville Town Hall
 7:30 p.m.



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER January 2011

"Protecting our rural legacy"

How to contact us:
Sugarloaf Citizens' Association
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Visit our Web site: www.sugarloafcitizens.org

Happy New Year!

We would like to invite **EVERYONE** to "Midwinter Garden Dreams!" on **Sunday, January 23rd, from 2-4 p.m.** Sugarloaf is sponsoring a gathering at our headquarters, the Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Rd., Dickerson for a talk about gardening. Since it is too early in the year to dig, forget the shovel but bring your favorite garden catalogs, stories, ideas and all your questions. We'll discuss our favorite varieties of flowers and veggies, trade techniques on dealing with problems and dream about this year's gardens. In case of inclement weather, please check our website www.sugarloafcitizens.org for rescheduling. If you have questions, please email info@sugarloafcitizens.org.

Please join Sugarloaf Citizens' Association to build community and share our fellowship in the Agriculture Reserve to protect it against the all too frequent pervasive threats.

To help protect our community now we urge you to join in opposition to an airstrip in the Agricultural Reserve. Sugarloaf has stated its opposition to Special Exception Case No. S-2778, which would **permit an air strip for recreational purposes on Peachtree Road.** We attended the hearing on January 10, 2010 and plan on attending the continuing hearing on **February 18, 2011.** The hearing will be in the Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, Second Floor, Davidson Memorial Hearing Room, at 100 Maryland Avenue, in Rockville, MD.

Marc Elrich and Craig Rice have sponsored a ZTA -10-15 that will state that airstrips in the Agriculture Reserve must be associated with farming operations. The hearing for this ZTA will be at **1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 18** at the Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland. For more information, visit www.sugarloafcitizen.org.

We urge our members to write individual letters **to the Board of Appeals against the airstrip on Peach Tree Road.** Please identify the subject of your letter as Case No. S-2778. Letters cannot be emailed because a signature is required. If you plan to fax your signed letter, the number is (240) 777- 6665.

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Tidbits

Scout Project Honors Youth Killed in Car Accidents

When Eagle Scout candidate Connor Kirby was considering his community project, he wanted to do something with the new skateboard park in Poolesville and also wanted to do something in honor of his friend, Dale Carnahan, who was killed in an automobile accident two years ago. Originally, he wanted to build a bench in Whalen Commons in Dale's honor, but, since there already was a bench in memory of Dale there, he decided his bench at the skatepark would honor all youth killed in car accidents hoping

that the plaque on the back of the bench might act as a reminder to the kids using the skateboard park to drive safely.

The quote on the plaque he chose came from lyrics of a song by popular rock band, Queen. The plaque reads: "One by one, only the good die young. They're flying too close to the sun. We'll remember them forever. In Memory of Poolesville Youth killed in auto accidents. Drive Safely."

Tragically, even as the *Monocle* reports Connor's story, there are two remembrances in this issue on two youth associated with Poolesville recently killed in car accidents. Connor's project was approved on January 2.

Education in Maryland Ranked Number One

The State of Maryland was recently named the number one public school system in the nation for the third straight year by

Education Week. This remarkable achievement is a reflection of the state's commitment to prioritizing education, dedication of teachers and administrators, parental involvement and support, and the hard work of students.



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Local News

Annual Soccerplex Report Lays out Plans For the New Year

By Kristen Milton

The annual report for the Maryland Soccerplex in Boyds, reviewed in the planning board's December 16 meeting, lauded the accomplishments of the facility's first decade while citing some goals for the coming year. Administrators of the Soccerplex, consisting of approximately two dozen indoor and outdoor fields in South Germantown Recreational Park, are required to submit the report under the provisions of the public/private partnership.

According to this year's iteration, all nine of the local soccer clubs currently using the site signed new user agreements when their old ones lapsed in November. Eight of the clubs signed on for five years while the last group signed for a three-year term. A study of the impact youth

soccer and lacrosse tournaments have on the local economy is planned for 2011.

The Soccerplex will be seeking permission to access groundwater when needed after a July 2010 prohibition on outdoor watering led to staff having to hand water some fields. The site currently uses public water due in part to the concerns of well owners in the area.

While the specifics of the facility's finances are not released to the public, the report's executive summary said excess revenue continued to be directed to three reserve funds and that the facility would assume the cost of its own irrigation in 2011 as a ten-year subsidy from the commission ended.

Other changes proposed for the site include the installation of supplemental solar energy and energy efficient arena lighting at the Discovery Sports Center.



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*Chris Compton: February 4 – 10:00 p.m.
 Kenny Ray Horton: February 26 – 10:00 p.m.*

"UpCounty Fine Wine & Beer"
Continued From Page 1.

Churchill contest title.

Choosing a college offered many choices for Gordon as he considered full tuition football and academic scholarship offers from West Point, Duke, William and Mary, Wake Forest, and others. He ultimately selected Brown and was awarded a full-tuition Army ROTC academic scholarship, earning a B.A. in psychology and management and Second Lieutenant officer's commission. He was assigned for eleven years to a D.C. National Guard military police unit at Bowling Air Force Base.

After graduating from Brown, Gordon graduated from Harvard Business School, obtaining an MBA in marketing and finance.

Prior to getting into the wine and beer industry, Gordon built a management career in telecommunications, first with AT&T and SkyTel, and then with Swisscom, the seventh largest telecom company in the world. Through

the years, he worked his way up to become managing director of the mobile business unit and later vice president and member of the executive management team for Swisscom's North American office. His career provided him with broad travel opportunities throughout the world, often to key telecom and wine hotspots such as Paris, Frankfurt, Milan, and northern California. Having to travel over the weekends, he often joined countryside vineyard tours honing his personal expertise in wine and specialty beers. "The bus and car rides were a great chance to see the countryside, meet people from new cultures, and really learn about wine."

When Swisscom decided to close its North American offices, he was given the chance to move his family and work to the Bern, Switzerland office. He decided instead to pursue his lifelong desire to own and operate a business. Selecting Clarksburg for its enormous growth potential and the retail wine and beer business for its never failing customer demand,

he opened UpCounty Fine Wine & Beer in Clarksburg in March of 2006. He sought to combine his personal interest and hobby in fine wines and crafts beer into a business that offered strong growth potential.

Gordon's plan wasn't to simply open a retail business. His goal has been to develop a comprehensive product and service business "with unique volume discounts, customer loyalty, internet ecommerce, and other programs that leverage my experience in information technology." Gaining the first beer and wine license in Clarksburg since the 1980s, he has done just that in the Clarksburg store. He has painstakingly branded UpCounty Wine & Beer of Clarksburg with a reputation for a highly-trained staff and unique website that allows for the purchase of more than 20,000 wine and beer items. Now he brings that brand and service delivery know-how to Poolesville.

He attributes his success to listening to customers, responding to their wishes, and constantly

training staff in the knowledge of wine and beer and in his thoughtful selection of wines. In doing so, he has made personal as well as business commitments to the community as represented by his leadership in the Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce and by carrying all of Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard's wines. Located in Dickerson, the award-winning Sugarloaf is Montgomery County's only wine vineyard.

Gordon has brought some very unique marketing ideas to his stores like partnering with local restaurants. In Poolesville, he joined with Bassett's Restaurant to offer the popular UpCounty BrewerTaster night. This already fun-filled event is a bit challenging to explain, but think of the NCAA playoff process of teams, categories, etc. The customers taste various beers, voting for their favorites, defending their decisions in enthusiastic and educational dialogue until a champion beer emerges in each category. Gordon guides the customers through their tasting in understanding how to judge finish (lingering aftertaste), spice, aroma, body, and head. The January 14 BrewerTaster was sold out with the next one already scheduled for Friday, February 4 at 8:00 p.m.

In Clarksburg, he is able to offer a free wine tasting night every Friday, and customers can buy and try as many as thirty single brands of beer to enjoy on the outdoor patio. It's a great way to stop in just before the weekend, to purchase your wine or beer, and then to sample new brands.

Additionally, the Poolesville location is the only one in town with "sit-down" lottery racing and gaming.

In Poolesville, James Parise stayed on when Gordon bought the store, and two other local people, April Barnhouse and Trevor Deitz, have been hired as well.

On a personal note, Gordon has been married to his wife Nancy for sixteen years and they have three sons, George, 12, Foster, 10, and Max, 7. Nancy, a graduate of Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Stanford Law School, is an attorney for Bechtel.



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Youth Sports

PHS Boys Basketball— It's Dog Eat Dog

By Jeff Stuart

When asked about his favorite moment at Poolesville, junior shooting guard DeAndre Parrott replied, "Waking up every morning to go to my Saturday basketball practice." He thinks the Rockville game was the team's best game of the year so far. "We won by twenty-five," he said. "My best game was against Jewish Day School, five points, eight rebounds." DeAndre seemed prouder of his rebounds than his points in that game. His goal for the rest of the season? "I don't want to lose any more games." An ambitious goal—and surely Head Coach Tom Lang appreciates DeAndre's enthusiasm.

"We are trying to find a little consistency," said Lang. "We looked good against Blake (the Bengals finished 19-4 last season and were ranked third in the

Gazette Top 10 Preseason Power Poll), but the reality is they are 1-4. We lost to Magruder. It was a ten-point game in the third quarter, and they put a run on us. We used our bench at the end. They used their bench, but their bench guys could start for most anyone else in the county. So the final score looked a lot worse than it was. We beat them last year and lost by only four points to Springbrook. This year, in the county, on any night, anybody can beat anybody else with the exception so far, it looks like, of Springbrook and Magruder. Clarksburg loses to Rockville, and we crush Rockville. Clarksburg beats us. Rockville loses a one-point game to Sherwood (Sherwood was unbeaten through six games)... You can go on and on. On any given night the matchups are different."

What has surprised senior center Zach Zapata about this year? "How well our team is really coming together," he said. "How quickly we are learning the game as a new team. We've been doing it without the seniors that we lost last year." Zach's favorite moment at Poolesville was last year's Walkersville playoff game. "We lost in double overtime, but

it was the best game that I have seen so far." The best game this year? "When we played the Blake Bengals, it was a whole team effort—all of us working together." What's different about this year? "We are running a whole different type and pace of game. Coach Lang's taken out some entries so we can all get in the flow of the game quicker and learn on the fly."

Senior guard-forward Derrick Miller's favorite moment was the Blake game this year. "That was the first time I think this year that our whole team, again this is mostly a new team, really came together, and it was a really good game for us. We are trying to get back to that level (where we were last year) right now. Last year we lost to Walkersville in double overtime, but that was just a great game. I remember Kevin Baker had a great game—hit some crazy shots to tie it up in overtime. That was just a fun game." Derrick is contributing more this year. "This year I am basically playing the whole game—shooting a lot more. Our offense is a lot different this year. Last year we had a lot more structured plays This year, we still have set offenses,

but we took out a lot of set plays so we can play more freely and get into the flow of the game." Derrick has looked at Juniata College and Salisbury among other collegiate options to continue playing next year.

In a Holiday Tournament at Landon School on December 29 and 30, the Falcons advanced to the final round with a 64-62 win over Landon School. Zapata led all scorers with sixteen points. Freshman guard Anthony Pappajika had thirteen. Parrott had eleven, Miller, ten. In the final, host Landon (8-2) won easily, 68-39. Landon has lost only to St. John's (in overtime) and to New Hampton (by two points). Miller led the Falcons with twelve points. Freshman guard Andy Baker had eight.

In the past few years, Coach Lang's Falcons have improved over the course of the season. This year should be no exception. They have size, speed, and capable scorers. This arsenal should pose problems for remaining opponents.

Local News

State Recommends Germantown for Hospital

By Kristen Milton

A state review has recommended Germantown as the site for a new Upcounty hospital in spite of an older proposal to construct a similar facility in Clarksburg.

Marilyn Moon, chair of the Maryland Health Care Commission, recommended in her 181-page opinion that Holy Cross Hospital be granted the Certificate of Need necessary to build a new hospital. Holy Cross hopes to build a 93-bed hospital to anchor Montgomery College's planned biotechnology business park at the Germantown campus. Moon recommended denial

for Adventist HealthCare, which purchased land in 2002 in hopes of building an 86-bed Clarksburg Community Hospital near the intersection of Clarksburg Road and Interstate 270.

The full commission was scheduled to discuss the issue January 20 to decide which proposal will advance. Any new facility would be the first new hospital in Montgomery County in three decades.

Community involvement in the long-standing debate was reflected in the more than 135 individually-written letters and over 8,600 form-communications Moon reported receiving. Civic groups, including the Boyds Civic Association, the Clarksburg Civic Association, and the Clarksburg Town Center Advisory Committee, submitted letters in support of the Adventist project while Holy Cross received the support of the Germantown Alliance and Montgomery Hospice, among

others.

In explaining her decision, Moon said the Holy Cross project was "both reasonable in its cost and located [in] the area of the county that will experience the highest levels of population growth." Moon said Clarksburg currently has a lower population density and Adventist a weaker financial picture.

The commission, a fifteen-

member regulatory agency for the state health system, was scheduled to hear oral arguments from both sides at its January 20 public meeting. On January 6, representatives of Adventist submitted objections to the December 17 recommended decision that included thirty-seven individual points and spanned more than 110 pages.



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"Airstrip on Peach Tree Road"
Continued From Page 1.

sound engineer Gerald Henning on Gillespie's behalf acknowledged that during tests at one location, the county's noise ordinance was exceeded for five to twelve seconds during takeoff; however, Henning argued that with the conditions limiting flights, that would result in only ten to twenty-four seconds of potential violation per week.

Planning chair Françoise Carrier said the board couldn't support a proposal knowing it would break county law. Eventually, the board added a condition requiring Gillespie to obtain a noise ordinance waiver from the county's Department of Environmental Protection.

In recommending approval for the project, Commissioner Joe Alfandre said he was aware of the need to protect the Agricultural Reserve from non-agricultural uses but considered the conflict minimal.

"I think this just tips it a little too far," he said. "I'd rather win the war and lose a battle or two."

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Town of Poolesville

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Seasonal athletic field permit applications for the 2011 Spring Season are due by **January 31, 2011**. Coaches belonging to organizations reserving fields in Poolesville are required to schedule their field time through the appropriate organizations. Seasonal permits are scheduled as field availability allows. After the initial permitting process, any open fields will be permitted on a first come first serve basis.

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