



Two local girls led their team to a championship. Read about it in Tidbits on page 12.



Ashmi Sheth, a contestant in Miss Poolesville 2011, thinks carefully as she listens to the Final Question. Find out who won in Local News on page 11.



Another local team brings home county-wide honors. Read about them in Youth Sports on page 10.



Holly Defnet broke her own school record at Salisbury University. See Tidbits on page 12.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

March 4, 2011

Volume VIII, Number 1

New Cluster Coordinator Team Is Up for the Challenges Ahead

By Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz

It's a big job, but someone has to do it. In fact, three Poolesville Cluster school parents have stepped up to the challenge of working as a team to voice the cluster's concerns and issues before the Montgomery County Board of Education (BOE) and the Montgomery County Council (MCC).

Poolesville residents Dawn Albert, Jennifer Kasten, and Donna Lowell have volunteered to continue what Sarah Defnet, also of Poolesville, did so well and so thoroughly for so long: advocate for the schools that comprise the

T-Mobile's Troublesome Towers

By Maureen O'Connell

On February 17, Montgomery Countryside Alliance (MCA) hosted a meeting at the Historic Medley District's Poolesville Museum with representatives of the wireless communications company T-Mobile, Montgomery County (MC) Park and Planning staff, and members of the local community to discuss proposed cellular tower applications for ten sites within MC's Agricultural Reserve. Final decisions have not yet been made on these specific sites. The meeting provided an opportunity for T-Mobile to give the background information on these sites and for homeowners to see the mapped plans and to ask questions regarding the need

Poolesville Cluster—Monocacy and Poolesville Elementary Schools; John Poole Middle School; and Poolesville High School (PHS).

Ms. Defnet's balanced and informed testimonies consistently outlined the pressing needs of our cluster schools and ensured that their unique location in the Agricultural Reserve did not "become out of sight and out of mind" for the BOE and the MCC. Without strong and consistent representation from a cluster coordinator, our schools' needs likely would go unnoticed and, thus, unfunded.

Ms. Albert, Ms. Kasten, and Ms. Lowell volunteered last fall when repeated calls for cluster representation pending Ms. Defnet's "retirement" garnered no response from the community. After meeting with members of the PHS PTSA ex-

ecutive board and Ms. Defnet to learn more about the depth of responsibilities, the new cluster representatives have divided up the tasks into three areas. Ms. Albert, Monocacy Elementary's two-term (and current) PTA president who spearheaded the successful

for these towers, their locations, and their physical appearance. While many people said that they want reliable cell phone reception in our Monocacy area, they are also sensitive to the need to strike a balance between this and demands to protect the rural picture of the Ag Reserve. Sean Hughes, outside counsel to T-Mobile, opened the meeting by saying that T-Mobile understands homeowners' concerns, especially if a particular tower site impacts their property from a visual and property valuation viewpoint. He said that in selecting site locations, T-Mobile follows a rigorous process based on scientific analysis and modeling, along with customers' and community members' input. "I wish that communications towers were invisible, but they are not." About two thirds of T-Mobile's wireless facilities are built on existing structures, such as local



Poolesville Cluster representatives, Jennifer Kasten, Donna Lowell, Dawn Albert, and Poolesville town commissioner liaison to the cluster, Jerry Klobukowski.

ecutive board and Ms. Defnet to learn more about the depth of responsibilities, the new cluster representatives have divided up the tasks into three areas.

Ms. Albert, Monocacy Elementary's two-term (and current) PTA president who spearheaded the successful

-Continued on Page 8.



Caroline Taylor of the Montgomery County Alliance, Sean Hughes of T-Mobile, and Poolesville resident Carlos Solis at the telephone towers hearing.

government properties, existing cell sites operated by other carriers, rooftops or sides of community buildings, utility poles, or electrical transmission towers. This is easier to do in urban areas, such as downtown Silver Spring or Baltimore. It is more difficult in rural locations, such as in the

-Continued on Page 11.

Family Album



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JPMS Red Ribbon Week participants who dressed up for the sixties theme day are (front row) Claire Jensen, Daria Sharifi, and Isabella Lawbaugh and (back row) Alesya Sarakhman, Georgia Micheals, and Michael Morgan.



The PES Turns 50 Celebration Committee held a contest for a new school logo. The finalists (front) were Julianna Vrolijk, Max Fisher (winner), Allison Ranson, Jessica Mense, Rachel Macairan, and Sarah Mullikin. Committee members are Kevin Schramm, Chrissie Harney, Chontelle Hockenbery, Lynda D'Amelio, Principal Darlyne McEleney, Lynne Rolls, and Jerry Klobukowski. Juliet Raines is not pictured.

JPMS held its annual Red Ribbon Week that promotes positive ways to live a drug-free life using various themes. Pictured here in the team day theme are Joe Brashear, Michael Collins, Colin Fisher, and Michael McDonald





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In The Garden

Promise Yourself A Rose Garden

Those of us of a certain age might remember the popular song, "Rose Garden," of 1970 in which Lynn Anderson sang, "I never promised you a rose garden." Allow me to borrow some of these words, take them out of context, and apply them to the garden. Many people often tell me that they would love to have a rose garden, and then they give me five or ten reasons why they don't. Well, enough of your excuses, I declare that this year you must "promise yourself a rose garden."

I will not lie to you and say that roses are as easy and carefree to grow as marigolds or zinnias—they are not—but as with most things in life, the best things aren't free. Roses do demand work and attention, but what you get in return is well worth the ef-

fort. So how am I going to convert you? My first tip for growing roses successfully is to choose the right rose, making sure that its size and habit will suit its position. Look for roses that are heat, humidity, and drought tolerant, recommended for our hardiness zone, and have excellent pest and disease resistance. Some roses will thrive in Connecticut, Maryland, or Virginia, but not in Minnesota, Ohio, or Florida, and vice versa. At the end of last summer, a woman called me to say that she reads my garden articles in the Monocle, and on my advice, she planted a Knock Out rose. I had heralded this rose as maintenance free with great pest and disease resistance. She said that her rose did not exhibit any of those virtues; it was a big disappointment. Well, last year, the Knock Outs had a bad year. Black spot and the dreaded Japanese beetles savaged them. How could I explain that, she asked. Sometimes, no matter how hardy or tolerant a rose is, it can have a bad year and make liars of all the garden catalogs hype and promis-

es. Don't take your roses' health, or lack thereof, too seriously. Cut them back and start over again; most roses will bounce back beautifully. Last year, I was surprised that all of my roses did very well, despite the fickle weather conditions. Several years ago, I changed my maintenance routine. I cut way back on spraying for pests and diseases. Some years you can get away with that; last year was one of those years. If you do choose to spray, do this early in the growing season. Prevention is better than cure.

There are many reliable roses on the market, but I am going to recommend only those that I have in my garden that have survived and flourished over many years. Mr. Lincoln will turn twenty-six years old this year, and Queen Elizabeth will be twenty.

Mr. Lincoln. This Hybrid Tea (HT) rose is considered by many to be the best red Hybrid Tea of all time and the industry standard for romantic long-stemmed roses. It will grow to four to five feet and is exceptionally fragrant



and long-lasting as a cut flower. This tall and upright bush is best suited to the back of the border.

Peace (HT). This remarkably beautiful, sweetly-perfumed rose is considered "the" rose of the twentieth century and has an interesting history. It was developed in Paris during the beginning of World War II by the French horticulturist Francis Meilland and, as an unnamed seedling, was evacuated from the city on the last plane before the German invasion. The day that peace was signed with Japan in 1945, it was named and awarded All American Rose Selections

-Continued on Page 12.

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Commentary

Courage

By John Clayton

I cannot seem to be able to get the events of Libya out of my mind. I have tried to write about other topics and to express more local thoughts, but I kept setting those aside and coming back to all these brave people in the streets fighting for precious liberties that most of them have probably never experienced. There are many legitimate themes to pursue, although most of them, at least in my hands, come out as rather trite observations. One is that, yes, I know, I know, we have it great here, and we don't really know how great we have it. Then there is the awesome power of social media, and of Facebook in particular, and the accelerating rapidity of events in an electronically-connected world. There is the devil that Gaddafi was and continues to be, and how appropriate it would be for him to reach a fitting comeuppance,

to put it politely. There is the never-ending discussion of what our president and other western leaders should have said or done, and what they should do now. And of course there is the courage of the Libyan people. Hold that last thought.

I am stunned by the bravery of people that have gone to street demonstrations to face the thugs of such a brutal dictatorship. My initial thought was respect and amazement at how people had the nerve to go to street demonstrations on the second day, after Gaddafi loyalists had fired on the unarmed crowds the day before. I realize now that I was paying a disservice to people that went into the streets the first day. That didn't take any less courage. I am sure that these people fully understood the risks they were taking, and that they all knew what Gaddafi's people were capable of. They have lived with this knowledge for a very long time, and they went anyway, unarmed, and in uncompromising defiance of his tyranny. These people know how precious liberty truly is.

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Local News

I&I Dominates Town Meeting

By Rande Davis

The 2012 budget was the focus of the February 22 town meeting.

John Strong from Huron Corporation provided estimates for several sewer inflow and infiltration repairs. Of particular interest was a video presentation showing sections of the town's sewer system. The town uses a variety of methods, including video cameras, to monitor rainwater leaking into the sewer system caused by cracks or other defects.

Inflow and infiltration reduce the ability of sanitary sewer systems and treatment facilities to transport and treat wastewater. As a result of the I&I, wastewater treatment processes are disrupted, and poorly-treated wastewater can be discharged to the environment. Wet weather magnifies existing I&I sources. As a rain or snow melt event begins, the I&I sources start filling the sanitary sewer systems with clear water. Once the sanitary sewer systems become overloaded, wastewater flows at a much higher water level than normal, and if sanitary fixtures or drains are below this overload level, water can flow backward through the sanitary sewer pipe, flooding basements or households, and causing manholes to pop open, releasing wastewater onto the street. Fortunately, Poolesville's problems are not this extensive, and when appropriate

to make repairs, the commissioners do so.

Inflow and infiltration can cost water treatment facilities and consumers large amounts of money in water treatment operating expenses. All water entering a water treatment facility must be treated as wastewater, causing an increase in operating costs proportional to the amount of clean water entering the sanitary sewer system due to I&I.

Mr. Strong itemized areas of potential concern and also provided his estimate of the costs in the coming year that the commissioners use in preparing the budget.

There was a discussion on water rates and the impact of using funds from the general operating budget to cover shortfalls in the Water and Wastewater budget. There were no specific recommendations offered at this meeting, but the commissioners will continue to review the matter with the objective of eliminating or minimizing the use of general fund revenue for that purpose.

The Poolesville Military Support Group (PMSG), represented by Richard MacKnight and Paul Kelly, requested continued financial support from the town for its annual outing that also is a fundraiser to benefit Fisher House, a residence for military family visiting hospitalized soldiers. The support group has raised over \$70,000 for the purpose since originating the festivity. The commissioners unanimously granted \$1500.00.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

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Theft of vehicle: 17500 block of Kohlhoss Road, 17400 block of Hughes Road.

Disorderly conduct complaints: 15700 block of Budd Road, 19500 block of Luhn Street.

Drug use complaints: 19600 block of Wootton Avenue, 17700 block of White's Ferry Road.

Past Crime

March 4, 1945 A horse that had been found wandering on the Laytonsville Road was ordered to be put up for auction. Police had taken the horse to their headquarters and had tended and fed the horse until Chief Carlin ordered the auction on the courthouse steps. Captain Earl Burdine

claimed the horse after bidding \$4.75.

March 10, 1944 A Montgomery County jury returned a verdict in favor of Walton Kennedy in his civil suit against Lt. Frank Lane of the Montgomery County Police. Kennedy had sued Lt. Lane after he had detained Kennedy during a hit and run investigation. The jury awarded Kennedy one cent, and, upon hearing the verdict, Lane walked over and handed Kennedy a penny.

March 13, 1952 A two-hundred-year old house near Poolesville was gutted by fire. The house, owned by Albert Sellman of Washington, D.C., was occupied by the Leonard Allnutt family. The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department was holding a drill at the firehouse when the alarm was sounded, and they arrived just in time to see the roof cave in.

March 18, 1957 Walter Giddings, of Route 2 in Gaithersburg, was critically wounded by a shotgun blast. Police said that they had arrested Charles Hammond,

-Continued on page 8.

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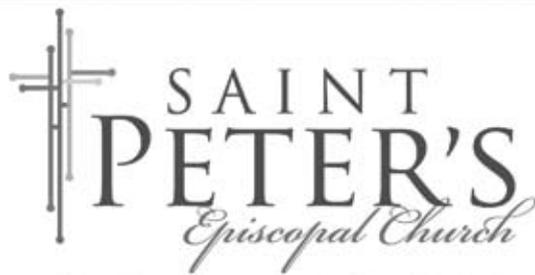
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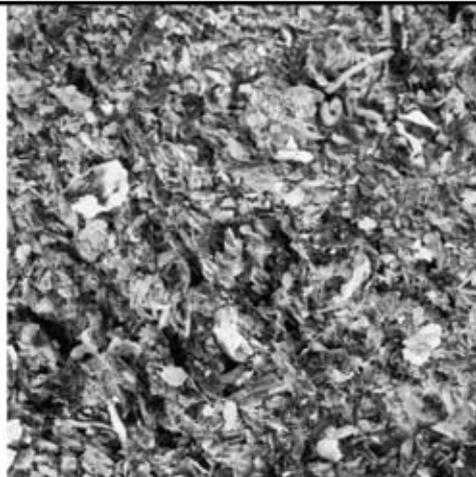
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17629 Cobb Ave.—Stoney Springs	\$636,261	4	4.5	\$3,000	1	2 at-	Part. Finished	116
20121 Fisher Ave.—Elizabeths Delight	\$609,000	4	3.5	\$12,000	1	2 at-	Part. Finished	51
5 Selby Ct.—Tama	\$620,000	5	5.5	\$17,000	1	2 at-	Finished	325
19010 Wootton Ave.—Seneca Chase	\$487,500	4	3.5	\$0	1	2 at-	Part. Finished	35
17115 Campbell Farm Rd.- Seneca Chase	\$510,000	4	3.5	\$10,250	1	2 at-	Finished	27
19608 Gott St.—Westerly	\$390,000	4	3.5	\$15,600	2	None	None	70
17116 Hoskinson Rd.—Westerly	\$337,500	3	2.5	\$10,000	1	1 at-	Finished	100
19170 Dowden Cir.—Wesmond	\$385,000	3	3	\$6,500	1	2 at-	Finished	45
17305 Whitaker Rd.—Wesmond	\$265,000	3	2	\$0	0	None	Finished	93

"Cluster Reps" Continued From Page 1.

"Keep Monocacy Elementary Open" campaign last year, will represent the Poolesville Cluster at Cluster Coordinator meetings. "My role is to make sure the other schools in the western county cluster, Seneca Valley and Northwest, as well as the central office, understand our issues," said Ms. Albert.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is Ms. Kasten's major focus. Her immediate primary concern is to investigate why the modernization plan for PHS has been pushed back several times—most recently to 2019—and now is classified with a "to be assigned" designation. "We definitely need some answers," said Ms. Kasten. Ms. Kasten ran a close, but ultimately unsuccessful, campaign as a Poolesville Commissioner in 2010.

Ms. Lowell will tackle the operating budget and its potential effects on the cluster as well as provide the Poolesville Cluster's testimonies before the BOE and the MCC. "I have a lot of friends

who are teachers, and I've seen the staff and program cuts to our schools when the MCPS budget is tight. This will be a very challenging year with a lot of programs to fight for," said Ms. Lowell.

The Poolesville Cluster coordinator team asserts that their united responsibility is to ensure parity with schools in areas of the county with denser populations and larger schools with respect to funding and attention. "I want to be sure that if our programs must be downsized because of funding, that the same is happening elsewhere, and that we are not a target because of our location and smaller enrollments," she said.

As in past years, regardless of lean or healthy budgets, Gerald Klobukowski, Poolesville Commissioner and long-time champion of the Poolesville Cluster's needs in front of the BOE, will continue his work with the Cluster Coordinator team to fight for parity for our schools. His priorities for the year ahead are to work to get the high school modernization plan back on track and to lock in a liberal transfer

policy to the cluster's elementary schools to secure enrollment numbers that will support JPMS course offerings.

"It's nice to see three people step up when times are difficult, when the budget and other issues are unsettled. The path has always been challenging for our cluster coordinators. It says a lot about our community that our new cluster coordinators are willing to take on these issues at this time for our schools," reflected Mr. Klobukowski.

"Police Blotter" Continued From Page 6.

68, with assault with intent to murder. The shooting took place in a tenant house on the farm of Mr. Sabine near Gaithersburg. March 18, 1917 Montgomery police were asked to help in the search for Minnie Ryman, age thirty, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Ryman of Barnesville. Officer Roy Bodmer and Chief Charles Orme were told that Ms. Ryman had left the home during the previous week and had not been seen since.

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Things to Do

March 4
Bassett's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Mindy Miller
10:00 p.m.

March 4 and 5
Used Book and Media Sale
Books, videos, DVDs, CDs, tapes, records, software
St. Peter's Parish
20100 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville
Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

March 5
Passport through Poolesville
Travel through the area business community at the PACC Spring Community/Business Fair and visit over thirty vendors with displays, nine performers, and various demonstrations. It will be fun for the whole family with prize drawings, face painting, a shredder-truck sponsored by Corporate Network Services, prize drawings, and other surprises.

Free admission
Poolesville Baptist Church
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

St. Patrick's celebration dinner and entertainment
Great Irish food and beer, live music by the Irish band Paddy Racket and Irish dancers
\$15.00 per person, \$35.00 per family, and \$12.00 for seniors
Reservations at 301-972-8660 or available at door
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
Please bring non-perishable food item for WUMCO.
Part of proceeds to benefit Haiti Project
St. Mary's Pavilion in Barnesville
6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Matt Fitzwater
8:00 p.m.

March 6
Landscape and Nature Discoveries (LAND) roadside spring cleanup
Route 109 - Poolesville
Meet at corner of Routes 28 and

109
10:00 a.m. to noon

March 7
Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting
Public Hearing on amending town Ordinance #122-Poolesville Code Forest Conservation
Poolesville Town Hall 7:30 p.m.

March 8
Annual Pancake Supper
Dickerson United Methodist Church
Donation
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

March 10
Mr. Poolesville
PHS Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

March 11
Basket Bingo
Longaberger Baskets and Vera Bradley bags filled with extras
Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department - Beallsville
Refreshments available for purchase (please, no outside food or beverage)
Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.
Games: 7:00 p.m. \$20.00

March 12
HMAP St. Patrick's Day Poetry and Pot Luck
Hyattstown Mill
14920 Hyattstown Mill Road
Bring a friend or a snack
7:30 p.m.

March 12 through April 24
3700 Acres: Art of Little Bennett
Hyattstown Mill
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Gallery hours: Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

March 12 and 13
Finders Keepers Home and Garden and Gifts
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March 13
Landscape and Nature Discoveries (LAND) roadside spring cleanup
Route 107 - Poolesville
Meet at corner of Routes 107 and 109
10:00 a.m. to noon

March 15
Final deadline for updating listing information and reserving ad space in the 2011 PACC Phone Directory
Visit www.poolesvillechamber.com

March 17
Happy St. Patrick's Day

March 18
Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Jay Summerour, Mike Wescott, and Eric Selby
8:00 p.m.

March 19
Cruising Bonanza - Benefit for Carroll Manor Fire Company Fire Station #14 - Adamstown Buffet Dinner and Drinks Festivity
Prizes awarded every fifteen minutes (do not have to be present to win)
Grand Prize: Win a Cruise for Two \$1500.00 voucher awarded
Second Prize: Win a set of luggage \$20.00 per person
Doors Open: 4:30 p.m. - Prize drawings begin at 5:00 p.m.
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Cugini's Entertainment Night
Featuring: Ron Kemp Project
8:00 p.m.

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7:30 p.m.

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Youth Sports

Poms Take Trophy

By Dominique Agnew

On February 19, the Poolesville High School (PHS) Poms competed at the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Pom Competition at Richard Montgomery High School and came away with the third place trophy. There were eight teams in division III, including PHS, and only the top three spots earn trophies. The MCPS Pom Competition ended a long but fruitful season for the girls which began August 15.

As with other sports, the girls practice four or five days a week, for almost three hours. They prepare for performance at school games, but the main focus is on the MCPS Pom Competition. "We participated in all home foot-

ball games," says Coach Cathy Hoponick, "and some basketball games." By the time it gets to basketball season, however, there are other competitions on which the team focuses.

The time involved goes beyond just the practices, as well. At the beginning of each season, the team has to come up with a theme. This year, they chose to base their music on the heartbeat. The girls cut their own music, decide on clothing, and create their own choreography. Before each competition, the girls meet at someone's house at 5:00 a.m. to do hair and makeup, which usually takes three hours. It's a very cohesive group, says Coach Hoponick, "a very close group of girls, and they work very well together." There is much responsibility for the captains: juniors, Gabby Abella, Maddy Chin, and Kori Praniewski. There are also two co-captains: Jessica Wang (junior) and Piper Raines (senior).

There is also extra pressure for captains. While the team is

competing for a trophy, the captains are also vying for medals. At the Blake Pom Invitational on January 8, out of five teams, PHS placed first, Kori won a second place captain's medal, and the team won the Spirit Award. "Our side of the bleachers was full," says Coach Hoponick, "a lot of people come and cheer." On January 29 at the Northwest High School Pom Invitational, PHS again came in first, this time out of six teams. Maddy won the second place captain's medal, and the three captains won the choreography medal.

"Overall, the girls...they love to dance," adds Coach Hoponick. "They take everything very seriously, and they're very hard on themselves." Coach Hoponick is quick to also credit the parents

and their support for the success of the team.



The 2011 PHS Poms

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"T-Mobile" Continued From Page 1.

Ag Reserve, where they must deal with acres of wide open, flat fields with few permanent landmarks. In these types of areas, more creative means are used to camouflage or lessen the visual impact on the landscape.

Two sites in particular were the focus of discussion at this meeting: one on West Offutt Road, Poolesville, the other on Mount Ephraim Road, near Sugarloaf Mountain in Dickerson. Several people in the meeting's audience questioned the need for increased cell reception in these areas, considering the low population density. A heated discussion ensued around this issue. One person extrapolated that these tower locations might be to satisfy the needs of the densely-populated communities across the river in Virginia, rather than those few folks in the Ag Reserve. "Put the towers in Loudon County" and "Yes, we need better cell phone reception, but don't put a tower in my backyard or neighborhood" were several responses to this inquiry. Not everyone present at this meeting was against the location of these towers. JoAnne and Larry Schaudies live on West Offutt Road in Poolesville. They have agreed with T-Mobile to put a tower on their property. JoAnne operates a horse boarding and training facility on their property. She said that she needs ready access to reliable cell phone service for handling safety issues with horses and riders. Landowners who allow placement of towers on their property do receive monetary compensation for this use. For the Schaudies, the tower location site will not be visible for many months of the years as it will

be camouflaged by many trees on their property, but directly across the street, their neighbor Carlos Solis will have a view of the tower when he steps out his front door. He lives on a fifty-acre property which he bought from Winchester Homes. He said that he did not know about any tower when he purchased his lot. There were questions amongst the audience as to whether or not developers, such as Winchester Homes, know about potential issues such as a communications tower in the neighborhood and do not tell this to potential buyers. Will a cell site in your neighborhood impact property values? T-Mobile says no; "Real estate appraisals show that property values aren't impacted because a cell site is nearby. It actually helps to have a home with strong wireless service." Mr. Solis disagrees.

The Mount Ephraim Road tower site elicited more heated discussion. Sugarloaf Mountain might not exactly fit Webster's definition of a mountain, but for people in Monocacy country living near or even far from its shadow, it is their mountain and they love it. One man commented that he didn't care if a commuter on his way back home to Virginia or West Virginia or a passing tourist had "dropped phone calls" in this area. Preserving the pastoral view from the mountain is more important than a few lost phone connections.

The above-mentioned tower site selections have not been finalized. You can contact the Park and Planning Department and T-Mobile of your concerns. T-Mobile says that they are willing to work with all to reach an agreeable conclusion.

Local News

Miss Poolesville 2011

By Chantal Agnew

On Thursday, February 24, Poolesville High School held the Miss Poolesville pageant. The competitors consisted of eleven girls from the senior class who were nominated to participate via a school-wide vote. This year's theme was superheroes, so following an intro video in which the girls went around Poolesville looking for hints to find a supervillain—none more villainous than Dr. Evil—they came on stage dressed in their superhero costumes and performed the opening dance. The heroes were Chantal Agnew (Jedi), Holly Chittenden (Batgirl), Mary Gillespie (Green Hornet), Cameron Mackail (Lara Croft-Tomb Raider), Amber Pruitt (Catwoman), Piper Raines (Hitgirl), Lauren Rocco (Elastigirl), Paige Sekerak (Flash), Ashmi Sheth (Spidergirl), Sasha Trope (Supergirl), and Cindy Zhou (Wonderwoman). After the superheroes chased the villain off stage they hurried to change into their unassuming alter egos for casual wear. Each contestant strutted across the stage in stylish clothes that she'd be caught wearing on any school day. Afterward was the active wear portion in which each girl wore outfits that displayed the various sports and activities in which she participates. Next came the most

anticipated part of the show: the talents. Each participant was given the opportunity to display her humor, creativity, and...talent. Some girls danced, others sang, some performed humorous skits, some sang and danced, and all of the acts were very enjoyable leaving the judges with an extremely difficult decision. How would they narrow the field from eleven to five? Following all this excitement was a brief intermission so that the audience could discuss what they'd seen and attempt to conjecture who might win.

After the intermission, high fashion came to Poolesville as the girls stunned in their formal dresses, escorted by friends, family, or boyfriends. At this point, the crowd hushed in an agony of suspense as the lovely ladies lined up to learn the judges' announcement of the Final Five: Chantal Agnew, Piper Raines, Lauren Rocco, Ashmi Sheth, and Sasha Trope. Each girl was then put on stage to answer The Final Question which was something along the lines of: "If you had the opportunity once in your life to do this, what extravagant purchase would you make and why?" After the girls answered, the judges deliberated on the fate of these incredibly invincible superheroes. Which one would wear the crown of Miss Poolesville 2011? The second runner up was Sasha Trope, the first runner up was Piper Raines, and the winner of the title was (drum roll, please): Ashmi Sheth! Congratulations, Ashmi, you did a great job!



The Final Five contestants in the Miss Poolesville 2011 pageant: Chantal Agnew, Piper Raines, Lauren Rocco, Ashmi Sheth, and Sasha Trope.

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Tidbits

Defnet Breaks Own School Record

Congratulations to Holly Defnet, a junior at Salisbury University, for breaking her own school record in her track and field triple jump event. She covered a distance of 34' 7.5" bettering her previous best mark in the event by more than five inches. Her ten points helped Salisbury to take fourth place among twelve competitors at the Frank Colden Invitational hosted by Ursinus College.

Poolesville Day Committee Makes Leadership Adjustments

Bridget Burke, who has co-

chaired the Poolesville Day Committee with Brice Halbrook, was unanimously voted by the committee to be the Event Manager in recognition for the hundreds of hours she puts into organizing the festivities each year.

Local Girls on Title Team

Shannon Green of Poolesville and Meredith Jones of Barnesville helped to carry St. John's Catholic Prep to the International Athletic Association of Maryland Class C Championship held at Goucher College. The Vikings knocked off Catholic High, 59-38, to complete their championship season. Shannon and Meredith (a co-captain) are both juniors and will return next year to defend their title.

"Roses" Continued From Page 3.

(AARS) honors. After the war, it was presented to each member of the newly-formed United Nations. Growing up to six feet tall, it has giant five-to-six-inch golden yellow blooms with soft pink edging.

Chicago Peace (HT). This 1962 introduction is a sport of 'Peace' and equally beautiful, fragrant, and hardy. It offers pink blooms with canary-yellow, often copper, tones at the base of the petals, and it stands up very well to our weather conditions.

Just Joey (HT). I first spotted this rose at the Chelsea Flower Show in London about ten years ago, and I must admit that it ranks right up there with my two Peace roses as one of the most beautiful roses I have ever seen. It has elegant pointed buds with warm apricot coloring and waved petals which pale a little towards the edge. You will love it.

Queen Elizabeth (Grandiflora). This rose is has been around since 1954, and it almost indestructible. Mine is about twenty years old, and last summer it grew to six feet tall. It is particularly disease resistant and winter hardy. Its blooms are perfectly-formed orchid-pink, borne on very straight, long stems.

Heritage (English Musk,

David Austin). This is one strong, bushy, and very hardy rose. Its soft, clear pink blooms keep coming all summer and well into fall. It can grow very tall and wide, so give it plenty of room to dazzle you.

Mary Rose (Old Rose Hybrid, David Austin). This rose, named after Henry VIII's flagship when it was recovered from the sea after more than four hundred years, sports flowers of a strong pink coloring in a loose-petalled formation. It is extremely reliable.

Pat Austin (David Austin). You will love the color of this unusual rose. When it was introduced by David Austin in 1995, it was an entirely new color break in English Roses, bright copper on the inside of the petals, with pale copper-yellow on the outer sides. It has a strong, slightly arching growth. It doesn't mind a little touch of shade, and it will flower from May to October. Here is another winner.

These roses have performed very well for me for many years. I have to coddle them sometimes, but they are worth it. Remember, promises are meant to be kept.

Business Briefs

Seinfeld's Soup Nazi Comes to Poolesville

Perhaps you have always wondered just how good those soups were that Jerry, George, Kramer, and Elaine craved. Now you have the chance to find out. Hale and Hearty Soups, having twenty-seven locations in New York City, are on an expansion drive to take their soups de jour nationwide. The company recently established Café 107 located in Healthworks Fitness Center in Poolesville. If you have never heard of Café 107, you are not alone since owner Dan Fowler just very recently changed the former name of Austin's Café to this new moniker.

It's not just soups that they have introduced. Their new light-fare menu offers bakery items, oatmeal, Chobani Greek yogurt, and assorted cereals for breakfast. Beyond the gourmet soups for lunch or dinner, the menu has various wraps, Paninis, stews, and hot dogs.

Dan's promotes his lineup of coffee, espresso, lattes, and mocha beverages as the best in Maryland. Fowler, an easygoing and very friendly man will have a hard time being as rude and authoritarian as the original soup Nazi in Seinfeld, and only time will tell if the lines will back up to Route 107.

Corporate Network Services Makes the List

Congratulations to Poolesville's Corporate Network Services for recently being selected as one of the recipients of the Nine Lives Media, Inc.'s fourth-annual MSPmentor 100 award. This distinguished list and research report names its selection of the world's top hundred managed service providers (MSPs). This year's MSPmentor 100 report includes MSPs from North America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Australia.

"This is the second year in a row we made the list, and the fourth time overall," said Karen Kalantzis, CEO, Corporate Network Services. "This year, it's even more exciting to be named to the list because we know it was more competitive than ever for us computer consulting companies."

"In congratulating Corporate Network Services for earning this distinguished honor," said Amy Katz, CEO of Nine Lives Media, Inc., "the annual MSPmentor 100 survey attracts participants from across the globe. Qualifying for the final MSPmentor 100 list is a great accomplishment."

MSPmentor, produced by Nine Lives Media, Inc., is the ultimate guide to managed services. MSPmentor features the industry's top-ranked blog, research, Webcasts, and FastChat videos. It is the number one online media destination for managed service providers in the world.



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Daytripper

Workhouse Arts Center

By Ingeborg Westfall

Touch the bricks and consider that even a harsh past can lead to a vibrant, hopeful present. That thought may seem a bit sentimental, but it's what I felt on the recent winter day when I visited the Workhouse Arts Center at Lorton, Virginia.

I had no idea what to expect. The buildings I found once formed the Workhouse, Reformatory, and Penitentiary of the Lorton Prison Complex, part of the District of Columbia's Department of Corrections. Purchase of the land was commissioned by President Theodore Roosevelt to create a workhouse for D.C.'s non-violent criminals. In 1912, when agricultural operations started at the Workhouse, prisoners produced the bricks used to construct the buildings.

Over time, the facility morphed into a medium-security prison, and watch towers and wire fences (still visible) were built. By the 1980s it was overcrowded; by 1997, plans were made for its closing. Transfer of the title to Fairfax County took place in 2002. The county began a study to choose a re-use plan for the site. The Lorton Arts Foundation presented a plan to use it as a cultural arts center. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved rezoning fifty-five acres to become the Workhouse Arts Center.

On the day I visited, the harsh winter light and the windswept grounds hardly seemed inviting. Signs warned of hardhat areas, urging caution. I almost expected to see guards still in the towers.

Then I entered gallery W-16, was warmly greeted by a volunteer, and saw a welcoming, well-lit exhibit. This was a gallery with studios of artists creating in a variety of media, in this case, acrylic paintings, photography, woodturning, and fiber arts. There were paintings to look at as one walked along the hallway, but in addition, there were the studios,

some with artists present, some not, but all full of art in progress. It's an extraordinary feeling to look into a studio this way, to witness art being created, to ask questions. Often I was invited inside, to look over the artist's shoulder as he/she painted, or framed photographs, or fitted ceramic objects into a kiln. There's no guarantee that artists will be in their studios when one visits, but that just provides a good reason to return.

The Arts Center houses one hundred artists. There are classrooms, exhibition spaces, and event facilities. Classes and arts education

programs for all ages and levels of artistic abilities are offered.

If you want to see and learn about local history and the arts, the Workhouse Arts Center offers a unique opportunity. If you have children who would enjoy seeing artists at work, take a day trip to this extraordinary place. Enjoy lunch there or in nearby Occoquan, a friendly, historic riverfront town that boasts a pleasing selection of shops and restaurants, among them, a tea room where I enjoyed a pot of strong Irish Breakfast tea and a scone, a lovely treat on a cold day.

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Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

March 10, 1965 Developer Bernard Siegel announced plans to build a satellite city near Poolesville. The city would eventually be home to 40,000 residents on 3,125 rural acres that stretched from just south of Poolesville to the Potomac River. Siegel said that he planned to build 13,000 houses, parks, municipal buildings, ballparks, swimming pools, churches, and libraries.

March 10, 1963 Poolesville High School won the Class C state basketball championship after defeating Garnett High 99-77. Ed Sewell led all scorers with thirty-four points, Leonard Ramsey had twenty-four, and Otho Thompson added twenty-three.

March 12, 1953 A new twenty-four-hour fire reporting network began in upper Montgomery County. Under the new system, dispatchers would be on

duty to take fire calls where before, calls were placed to private residences, stores, or even undertaking parlors. Residents were advised to call Poolesville 3200 in case of fire.

March 14, 1956 Charles Jamison, Poolesville commissioner, announced that he would oppose the transfer of school building funds to two elementary schools in the Wheaton area.

March 16, 1954 The Montgomery County grand jury convened at Rockville. For the first time, the foreman was a woman. Margaret Gray, a sixty-year-old Poolesville woman, was elected as forewoman.

March 27, 1944 About forty boys from the Poolesville, Dickerson, and Comus area announced that they had established the Poolesville 4-H Club. The officers were Guy V. Lewis, president, Charles Tipton, vice president, Wellstood Tipton, secretary, and Kenneth Fitzwater, treasurer.

March 31, 1954 Mass inoculations of gamma globulin commenced at the Poolesville School. An epidemic of infectious hepatitis had broken out and had affected over forty students and teachers. Six hundred students and thirty teachers were scheduled to be immunized.

March 31, 1954 A dog belonging to the Ernest Mose family of Sandy Landing was reunited with the family after walking more

than fifty miles on the C&O Canal towpath. The dog had followed a large group of hikers led by Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas.

School News

Sun Wins Math Competition

Linda Loomis, the math resource teacher for Poolesville High School (PHS), is excited about Daniel Sun winning first place in "Who Wants to be a Mathematician?" sponsored by the American Mathematical Society. Daniel defeated contestants from Thomas Jefferson, Walt Whitman, and St. Albans High

Schools at the Family Science Days of the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the Washington Convention Center. He won in a tiebreaker and went on to win the bonus round for a top prize of a TI-Inspire calculator and \$2500 in cash. He gave all the credit to the PHS Science, Math, Computer Science magnet in his post-win interview.



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