Quilters Send Relief to Those Giving Relief
The Village Piecemakers is a group of about forty members, mostly (but not all) women who love to quilt and sew. Each year, they select a charitable organization to support through their avocation. This year, they decided to support the Mennonite Relief Center by sewing quilt tops, supply kit bags, diapers, and caps. The items are sent first to the Cumberland Relief Center in Marion, Pennsylvania and then to people in need around the world. They have been working since last February, and with a goal of 860 items, they succeeded in beating that goal with 1837 which included 791 supply kits and 817 diapers. Tina Grove, a representative from the Cumberland Relief Center attended their November 9 meeting to accept the last fruits of labor which also included six beautiful quilt tops made from nine-patch blocks. The Village Piecemakers meet on the second Tuesday evening of each month at the Poolesville Town Hall and welcome newcomers.

PHS Graduate Plays on College Championship Soccer Team

Steph Boulter, a 2010 Poolesville High School (PHS) graduate and girls’ varsity soccer player who also played for the Bethesda Riptide and Freestate United, always dreamed of playing college ball. Well, her dreams came true and more. She earned a spot as a starting freshman for St. Francis University, Division 1 – North East Conference (NEC). St. Francis has gone on to win the championship this season in the NEC and is now headed to the NCAA playoffs. Congratulations to St. Francis and to Steph.

PHS Students Named as Semi-Finalists in Science Competition

Raja Ratna Ayyagari and Lucienne Park were named semifinalists in the Siemens Science scholarship competition. The Siemens Competition seeks to highlight and award outstanding high school students nationally in the areas of science, mathematics, and technology. This year, 2,033 students registered for the competition and only 312 were named as semifinalists.

Veteran Day Memorial Ceremony at Whalen Commons

American Legion Post #247 held a brief Veterans Day Memorial service at Whalen Commons that was attended by twenty residents. Commander Bill Poole, recovering from a broken leg, attended the event and welcomed with appreciation those who took a few minutes of time to remember those who have and are serving the nation in the military. Post Sergeant-of-Arms Steve Robillard read a proclamation issued by President Obama. After the ceremony, the post held the drawings for their annual raffle ticket sales. The winners were: Walter Stottlemyer (grand prize: 46” flat-screen TV), Bill Bliss and Maggie Lauer ($50.00 gift certificates to Bassett’s Restaurant), Ross Koeser (large pizza from Cugini’s), Kurt Behrend (four passes to the Civil War Museum in Frederick), Mike Phillips (2010 U.S. Mint coin proof set), Peter Pederson (uncirculated coin sets), Dave Schuster (four passes Historic Ships of Baltimore), and Jessica Edington (set of Military Teddy Bears).

What’s new at the Poolesville Library?

You may have noticed that, along with rearranging the shelves to provide more quiet working areas and consolidating some collections, they have moved the books-on-CD section to the front shelf, relocating the DVD collection. The big news, though, is the installation of an automated self-checkout console for those who would rather not wait in line. These devices are common at the larger libraries, but with staffing at critically low levels throughout the system, a self-checkout console is a valuable addition, even at a small branch library like Poolesville’s. It can prevent backlogs at the checkout counter while allowing librarians to spend more time answering questions and assisting patrons in other ways. Those who simply want to grab it and run can readily do so. Come on in and check it out, and if you’re a public-spirited sort of person who’s willing to spend a few hours a year helping to make our own library a more welcoming place, ask Library Manager Linda Berg about the Library Advisory Committee (LAC). This is the group that brings you the annual used book sale on Poolesville Day, as well as sponsoring library programs throughout the year for young and old alike. The LAC also uses the funds raised from the sale of used books to procure off-budget items for the library, such as new shelves, decorative items, and magazine subscriptions. So think about joining the LAC; they’re a convivial bunch, and, over the years, they’ve done a lot to make the Poolesville Branch Library a better place.