



Watching the Falcons from the upper deck. Find out how the home team did this season in Youth Sports on page 11.



Austin Bennett caught the Big One in a fishing tournament; see who else won big in Tidbits on page 4.



Jee-Won Park and Emily Moore are acting locally and globally. Read about them in School News on page 10.



Peter and Ineke Kreeger hosted an event at their home, as recounted in Local News on page 5.

# The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

June 3, 2011

Volume VIII, Number 7

## Old Darby Store Up in the Air—Literally

By Kristen Milton

After years in which the Darby Store's future has seemingly hung in the balance, the venerable Beallsville store will be literally up in the air in coming weeks as a new foundation is built further off the road.

The Montgomery County Department of Parks purchased the twenty-six acres encompassing the general store at the corner of Routes 28 and 109 with Legacy Open Space funds in 2004, but area residents have seen little activity since. An announcement of the relocation blamed site constraints and permitting issues for the long delay.

Now, having installed a well in February, the park department is moving the store from the roadside site, where a passing vehicle once knocked down its porch, to a new site twenty-seven feet away. The 1910 structure was hoisted May

## Garth Seely And His Team of Sous Gardeners

By Maureen O'Connell

Next time you are in the shopping area of Poolesville, take a moment to admire the many, colorful flower containers and planted areas in front of numerous Poolesville stores. In most cases, you owe a thank you to Garth Seely and his group of young, enthusiastic

23 and will stay suspended for several weeks as a new foundation is poured and solidifies.

Cultural Resources Planner Julie Mueller said the store should be placed in its new location mid-to-late June. Once that is done, attention will turn towards rehabilitation work. "It's like renovating your house," Mueller said. "You start with the kitchen cabinets, next year you might save enough for screening in the porch; you do it little by little. We needed to stabilize the structure before it deteriorated further, so that was the priority." The store was purchased for \$670,000 from the Dunbar Darby Estate and by the time the relocation is complete, another approximately \$320,000 will have been spent, Mueller said.

Additional work anticipated for the site includes a new roof to replace a large leak in the current roof, interior stabilization, installation of plumbing and heat, and exterior painting. Mueller hopes that work can take place next year but said it

student gardeners who are members of Land and Nature Discoveries, Inc. (LAND). During the past few weeks, they have also been out in Barnesville and Dickerson planting flowers. They did a particularly lovely job with the plants in front of the Barnesville Town Hall. They identify their presence with a large, blue sign that reads, "LAND Crew at Work."

Garth Seely founded LAND in 2006. This nonprofit organization's mission is "to provide outdoor educational experiences for children, encouraging them to appreciate, conserve, and respect their



The Old Darby Store in Beallsville is about to move twenty-seven feet.

will depend on costs. Then the county will turn to the question of a permanent use for the store building, which may be rented out or retained for use by the parks department. "We'll definitely have some exhibit space in the building no matter how it's used," Mueller said. "Beyond that, it's just too early to speculate."

Items on display might include the candy jars, ledgers, and other artifacts in the store at the time it was purchased as well as items found during a 2009 archaeological dig at the site. Mueller said the dig

-Continued on Page 12.



Students of LAND, ready for action.

natural environment while cultivating connections within the community." This might sound like a heady assignment for third and fourth grade children,

-Continued on Page 17.

Family Album



The Family Album is sponsored by  
Selby's Market  
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Boy Scout Luke Terrell interviewed Commissioner Jim Brown as part of his quest for a citizenship merit badge.



The recent PACC Networking Night was held at Old Oaks Tea Parlor on Beallsville Road. Enjoying the venue are: Hilary Schwab (Hilary Schwab Photography), Lynne Stillson (Cugini's), Alka Bhargava (M&T Bank), and Reneta Funk (Old Oaks Tea Parlor).


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**May 24: Maryland State Flag**  
Trooper First Class Shaft S. Hunter, of the Maryland State Police Waterloo Barracks, who died May 21, 2011 in the line of duty.

**May 30: All Flags**  
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# Local News

## Montgomery County Police Update Commissioners On Crime in Area

By Rande Davis

Captain Luther Reynolds, Montgomery County Police Commander of District 5, attended the May 23 town government meeting in Poolesville to discuss public safety issues in the community. Accompanying him were Deputy Commander Ron Hardy and Officer Gabe Stone, who is assigned to the Poolesville area.

The primary topic, which dominated the presentation and questions, was concern over a perceived increase in illegal drug use in the town. Captain Reynolds explained that although

there are significant problems with illegal drug use and sales within Montgomery County, problems in Poolesville remain below the severity level faced elsewhere in the county; however, he also stated that as regards illegal drug use, "Poolesville is no exception...there is a problem. There is no debate and no question. The concern for Poolesville, while different in nature, is still significant."

Officer Ron Hardy, a six-year veteran of narcotic investigations, reported that since January 2010, there have been thirty-four events involving narcotics, which resulted in arrests and other actions. He reported that, whereas down county the problems involves gangs, big drug dealers, and associated violence, in Poolesville, the illegal use and sale is between individuals and not through a big drug dealer. In this area, prescription drugs are a bigger problem than heroin, yet pharmaceutical opiates, often obtained from family medicine cabinets, can be just as deadly. Drugs of choice mentioned were vicodin, oxycodone, and percocet. Use of such

opiates leads to increased use since tolerance increases resulting in the need for more and stronger dosages which then leads to less expensive hard drugs like heroin. Although not reported specifically for Poolesville, a common event among young people is what has been labeled as Pharm Parties. Attendees ingest handfuls of pharmaceuticals, often not even knowing what specific drug they have taken.

The concern for drug dis-

-Continued on Page 14.



Montgomery County Police Commander of District 5 Captain Luther Reynolds was joined by officers Gabe Stone (left) and Ron Hardy in their briefing to the commissioners on public safety issues.

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## Commentary

### It's in the Cards

By John Clayton

We live in an area of two-lane high-speed undivided highways. This is a fact. I enjoy the rural roads, and enjoy the scenery, but they often scare me to death. The problem is hardly a day goes by when someone doesn't give me a significant start by drifting over the invisible center line as he approaches. This is particularly enjoyable when it is a truck—the larger and faster, the better.

I realize that I may occasionally do this to other drivers. Recently, I was going up a hill on Barnesville Road and approached a bicyclist, and observing state law and my own sense of propriety, I pulled way left—double yellow line be damned—to pass him. I had determined that I had plenty of time to complete this maneuver even if someone came over the hilltop ahead. As fate would have it, someone did, and I

returned to my proper lane without any particular urgency, but this did not undo the fact that the driver of the oncoming car was visibly distressed at cresting the hill and seeing a vehicle in her lane. I know the feeling well. There was some hand or finger waving involved as she went by, and whether these were directed me, or whether she was merely trying to scoot a stinkbug out the window, I will never know. The point is we should all endeavor to stay on our side of the road, and the state of Maryland is encouraging us to do so.

You have probably noticed that on state road Route 109, there are grooves etched across the center line. If you drive as I do, you will discover that they make a fearsome racket when your tires roll over them. Actually, I didn't consider myself an across-the-centerline driver at all until these features appeared. I know that I occasionally cut

-Continued on Page 15.

## Letter to the Editor

The PHS PTSA would like to thank the Poolesville-area business community and the Poolesville Town Commissioners for their generous support and guidance in planning the Post Prom party which was cancelled because of low ticket sales. A thank you is also extended to the parents who donated cash and creative prizes to make the event festive.

The PHS PTSA was fully committed to the event and worked hard for its success throughout the year. The Poolesville community is unique. When planning events, we do our best to keep the diverse PHS student body in mind, and we attempt to provide something for everyone, whether he or she is an in-cluster or an out-of-cluster student. Moving forward, we hope to have more input from the student community when planning Post Prom and other activi-

ties. Providing enriched, safe, and fun high school experiences for our students is our highest priority, and we will review all options next spring when planning the next Post Prom event.

All businesses and individuals who donated cash to the Post Prom event have been contacted and will have the option to be reimbursed for their donations or to allow the PHS PTSA to retain them in its general fund.

As we look ahead to September and beyond, please consider joining the PHS PTSA and/or attending its meetings on the third Tuesday of every month. Your input matters. On behalf of the PHS PTSA executive board, I welcome your participation and your effort to keep our school community vibrant and strong.

Yours sincerely,  
Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz, PHS PTSA First Vice President

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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## Tidbits

### Congratulations All Around

This time of year, there are many award ceremonies and public acknowledgements for outstanding achievement by individuals. Here are some the Monocle is happy to share with you.

#### Congratulations to: Barbequers:

The barbeque enthusiasts who participated in the BBQ contest during the First Annual Springfest celebration on May 14 in Whalen Commons. Ray Reese of Smokin' Rays won in the professional category for his barbequed chicken, and in the amateur category the winner was the D.J. Watkins's team (named U-Needa BBQ) who won for ribs and Tod Fishman's team (Meat Wagon BBQ) winning for their chicken.

#### Fishermen and women:

Fourteen-year-old Bennett Austin won the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Richard S. McKernon Fishing Tournament held at Poolesville Collier Circle Pond. His winning catch of a channel catfish was 22.5 inches.

Once again, the community participation was strong with forty-one entries in the contest along with their friends and family. Other winners were:  
Ages 6 to 8: First Place went to Carter Hottinger (16-inch channel catfish) and second place to Keiry Ahem for most fish caught.  
Ages 9 to 11: First Place went to Tori Gruber (17.5-inch channel catfish) with second place going to Travis Fraley (13.5-inch black bullhead).  
Ages 12 to 13: First Place went to Kevin Mikk (21-inch channel catfish), second place to Andrew Brady (16-inch channel catfish), and third place to Hunter King for most fish caught.  
Ages 14 to 16: First place to Seven Mikk (16-inch channel catfish), second place to Anna Murgia (11.75-inch black bullhead), and third place to Alex Fraley for most fish caught.

#### NIH Interns:

Poolesville High School

-Continued on Page 19.

## Local News

### MCA: Where We've Been and Where We're Going

By Maureen O'Connell

After many days and nights of rain and thunderstorms, the weather on Sunday, May 22 cooperated and delivered a warm, beautiful evening at the lovely Comus home of Peter and Ineke Kreeger, where they hosted the Montgomery Countryside Alliance's (MCA) supporters in a salute to this organization's work in protecting the Agricultural Reserve (Ag Reserve). Chairman Mike Rubin looked back twelve years to the alliance's founding, when its goal was to stop a Virginia/Maryland bridge across the Potomac River in upper Montgomery County. They fought that battle and won; there is no bridge, yet. They went on to lobby against an outer beltway road construction; to close loopholes in

the county's zoning legislation; to temporarily block the construction of a mega church at the foot of Sugarloaf Mountain; to work with T-Mobile to locate new cell towers in acceptable locations; and to preserve working farms. The legislators in Rockville and Annapolis have grown to respect the careful research, diligence, and bulldog tenacity of MCA.

The alliance has won many of its battles, but old issues are not always buried forever, and new issues are waiting in the wings. Royce Hanson, architect of the Ag Reserve, has said that we must be continually vigilant; once the land is gone, there is no getting it back. The evening's guest of honor and speaker was Chris Miller, president, Piedmont Environmental Council since 1996. Mr. Miller is well aware of the problems that MCA is facing; he has faced them all and more in his district. He is a nationally-recognized political leader and expert in environmental, transportation, smart growth, and land conservation policies. He

reported that the Virginia Department of Transportation has not given up on building an outer beltway. Regional effort must be remobilized. There is a new generation of County Council members and legislators in office now; many were not here or remember past battle issues; it is our job to inform them of what is at stake.

There is hard work, commitment, and financial support needed now if MCA is to survive to fight tomorrow's battles. Success does not come cheaply. Diana Conway, MCA president, and Melane Hoffmann, MCA board of directors, spoke passionately to the people gathered Sunday evening. "Look around you," they said. "You owe the views you see tonight, both here at the Kreegers' and on the rural roads that brought you here, to the work of several organizations, but especially to the Montgomery Countryside Alliance. Someone once said that if MCA did not exist, we would have to invent it all over again. Nothing can happen, though, without your support."

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**Poolesville:** Spacious 3 BR, 2.5 BA home in the Westerly subdivision. This comfortable home features a 20'x'10' breakfast rm /laundry rm addition, office/study, family rm w/ stone fireplace, Trex deck, fenced backyard w/ 16'x8' storage shed, large lot w/ mature trees. Convenient to all town amenities. MLS#MC7546213.  
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**Adamstown:** Prestigious 4 BR /3.5 BA brick-front colonial in Adamstown Commons. Amenities include hardwood flrs., fluted columns, built-in bookcases, 2 fireplaces (in master BR & family rm.), 3-car side-load garage, huge patio, premier corner lot adjoining open space. MLS# FR7525641.  
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**Comus:** Unique 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath post and beam home nestled on 25.2+/- acs. Amenities include: two-story great room w/stone fireplace, loft, updated kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances, wood flrs. MLS#MC 7546962.  
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# Things to Do

June 3  
**Cugini's Entertainment Night**  
 Featuring: Bill Euler  
 8:00 p.m.

June 4  
**Jubilee Step**  
 The fabulous Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre Spring Concert will show the progression of the smallest dancer to the seasoned performer, from Dancer Diaries, reflecting the dos and don'ts of the classroom to the glorious White Swan Grand Pas de Deux, the epitome of classical ballet. Male steps will be glorified, as well as the influence of folk dance on ballet, and the beat of Michael Jackson in the contemporary steps. There will be something for everyone to enjoy, so step out and come see our Jubilee Steps!  
 Adults: \$10.00  
 17 and under: \$7.00  
 PHS Auditorium  
 6:30 p.m.

**Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards Wine and Music Festival**  
 Summer Concert Series  
 Featuring: Proverbs (Reggae music)  
 Join SMV for summer evenings of wine and music. Each concert will feature wine and music, of course, our fresh sangria, as well as vendors with food available for purchase. Tasting room will close at 5:00 p.m.  
 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. each evening  
 Music starts at 5:30 p.m.

**Cugini's Entertainment Night**  
 Featuring: V6 Band  
 8:00 p.m.

**Bassett's Entertainment Night**  
 Featuring: Andy Wescott  
 9:00 p.m.

June 6  
**Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting**  
 Town Hall  
 Public Hearing on Ordinance #184 (parking regulations for recreational vehicles and trailers) and Ordinance #185 (sets process for recovery of costs due to damage by parking on right-of-way and easement property).  
 7:30 p.m.

June 8  
**Parks Board Meeting**  
 Poolesville Town Hall  
 7:30 p.m.

June 9  
**New Senior Center Organizational Meeting**  
 An initial meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. at Sanctuary Retreat Center, 19520 Darnestown Road, Beallsville to discuss the creation of a new Senior Center at Sanctuary Retreat Center for residents in the immediate area.

Residents with experience in social work, administration, business, recreation, and counseling are encouraged to help in the planning process. The Senior Center, under the auspices of the Am Kolel Sanctuary Retreat Center, an ecumenical retreat facility now in its fifth year, recently received the blessings of county

human services officials and the Poolesville Town Commissioners. David Shneyer, a rabbi and ecumenical educator, directs Sanctuary Retreat Center.

If you would like to be involved but are unable to make this meeting, please call 301-349-2799 or email RabbiDavid@am-kolel.org.

June 10  
**Art Gallery of Potomac**  
 Presents: The Colors of Sunshine  
 Featuring Artists: Claire Howard, David Therriault  
 Wine Tasting by Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard  
 10107 River Road, Potomac  
 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Relay for Life Fundraiser**  
 Pike & Valega White-a-thon.  
 19601 Fisher Avenue, P.O. Box 898, Poolesville  
 This is an event for teeth whitening. All proceeds will go towards Relay For Life. If you are interested in participating, please call 800-704-2147.

**Cugini's Entertainment Night**  
 Featuring: Mike Wescott Band  
 8:00 p.m.

June 11  
**Poolesville Relay for Life**  
 Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department-Beallsville  
 The American Cancer Society Relay for Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in our community a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, to remember loved ones lost, and to fight back against the disease. At Relay, teams of people camp out at a local high school, park, or fair-ground and take turns walking or running around a track or path. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Because cancer never sleeps, Relays are overnight events up to twenty-four hours in length. Relay began in 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon

-Continued on Page 7.

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“Things to Do” Continued  
From Page 6.

in Tacoma, Washington, ran and walked around a track for twenty-four hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Since then, Relay has grown from a single man’s passion to fight cancer into the world’s largest movement to end the disease. Each year, more than 3.5 million people in five thousand communities in the United States, along with additional communities in nineteen other countries, gather to take part in this global phenomenon and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer.

Thanks to all the Relay participants, Poolesville Relay for Life is creating a world with more birthdays, a world where cancer can’t claim another year of anyone’s life.

To join this worthy cause or to make a donation through a Relay team, contact Chontelle Hockenbery at [chockenbery@verizon.net](mailto:chockenbery@verizon.net).  
**Cugini’s Entertainment Night**

Featuring: Bobby and the Jammers  
8:00 p.m.

**June 14 Retirement Party for PES Principal**

Join the PES PTA in honoring Mrs. McEleney’s seventeen years of service at her retirement party at Cugini’s. Cugini’s is offering ten percent of its proceeds to go to PES PTA for any food or beverage you choose to purchase. The PES PTA will treat Mrs. McEleney and her family to dinner, and will also present a small gift to Mrs. McEleney and provide cake or cupcakes. Everyone from the community is invited. Come when you can and bring the entire family.  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**June 17 Blood Drive**

Relay for Life blood drive for Phillip Weigner and all Poolesville survivors. Located at Pike and Valega, DDS (19601 Fisher Avenue)  
Please call 301-972-7000 to sched-

ule appointment  
Noon to 6:00 p.m.

**June 18 Community Yard Sale**


Forest Grove United Methodist Church, Route 28, Dickerson Road  
Lunch and bake sale  
For space and a table, call 301-349-5416  
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Rain date June 25

**National Air and Space Museum Presents 2011 “Become a Pilot” Day**

The Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum presents the 2011 “Become a Pilot” family day and aviation display from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at its Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia. For the seventh annual “Become a Pilot” day, fifty vintage, recreational, military, and home-built aircraft will fly in and be displayed outdoors. Appearing with their aircraft parked outside the center’s Boeing Aviation Hangar, pilots will discuss life in the cockpit

and, in some cases, let visitors climb behind the controls.

This year’s event will also include the donation of the Fleet Model 2 “Plane/Jane,” the only surviving Roosevelt Field Fleet trainer and one of only six surviving Fleet 2s of the approximately 350 Fleet aircraft manufactured and used at flight schools all over the country from 1929 to 1942. The acceptance ceremony will take place at 11:30 a.m.; the donors, Gene Breiner and his daughter Joyce Breiner, of Poolesville, will attend.




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**ENTERTAINMENT AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK**

- June 11 - Car Show -- Gates open at 4 PM  
Music by "The Shades"
- June 12 - Super Seven Bingo - and Food Only  
Opens at 2:30 -- Bingo starts 4 PM
- June 13 - "Brush Fire"
- June 14 - "Bob Plunkard Real Country Band"
- June 15 - PARADE NIGHT—Line up 6 Pm. Carroll Manor  
Elementary School  
Music by "Rock-N-Roll Relics"
- June 16 - "Compromise Band"
- June 17 - "Rick Holly & Friends"
- June 18 - "Stick Tyme" === Drawing of \$1000 Raffle Prizes

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**Local News**

**Post Prom Party Future**

By Kristen Milton

Already looking to the future, area parents are hoping the cancellation of this year's post-prom party provides just the jumpstart needed for next year's event. "Sometimes you just need to have something happen, someone has an accident or dies, and then it just gets reenergized," said

Poolesville High School PTSA president Stephanie Egly.

While nothing so dire resulted in the cancellation of the May 20 event, Egly said some students, including her own graduating son, expressed regret over the absence of the party, intended to provide a safe drug- and alcohol-free environment for students. "I don't think people really missed it 'til they missed it, and it wasn't there," Egly said. "Maybe this is just kind of a cycle and next year people will be more interested."

The event was canceled when the ticket tally reached only thir-

ty-nine two days before the prom. Egly said with the cost of the party estimated at over \$10,000, it was not feasible to go forward with so little student support. There are over five hundred upperclassmen at the school who could have purchased the \$15 tickets which went on sale May 3. "We always were extremely committed to the post prom and the concept," Egly said. "Bottom line, there just wasn't the interest."

PTSA vice president Heidi Rosvold-Brenholtz, also the mother of a graduating senior, said her son intended to attend post-prom as he had last year but did not purchase a ticket. He was "disappointed but not critical" about the cancellation, she said. "That's how teenagers are," Rosvold-Brenholtz said. "They make plans, they change every day, and there is a limit to how far we can accommodate that."

Poolesville High was not the only county school to call off its party. Clarksburg High canceled its scheduled post-prom celebration in March.

While parent-hosted parties

and other plans filled the post-prom gap this year, parents are hopeful that they can find a way to attract students back to a PT-SA-sponsored event. Rosvold-Brenholtz, elected as next year's vice president, said the school community will be surveyed early in the school year about post-prom wishes. Topics might include a new location, selling prom and post-prom tickets as a package as some schools do, and themes and activities appealing to the students. "We're going to explore all of our options," Rosvold-Brenholtz said. "The commitment is there for something—a dialogue absolutely."

Egly said while last year's post prom at Germantown Community Center, which would also have hosted the canceled event, garnered more than two hundred attendees, numbers have dropped over the last five years. She said private parties seem to be more appealing to both parents and

-Continued on Page 14.

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## Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

The Montgomery County Humane Society (MCHS) is introducing a new pre-adoption program to spay or neuter all animals adopted from the Montgomery County Animal Shelter. Spay-neuter charges will be a flat fee of \$70 for a cat or kitten and \$120 for a dog or puppy. Cris Bombaugh, MCHS president and CEO says, "We are very pleased to take this significant step toward solving one of the main animal welfare issues in the county—helping the community manage the number of unwanted litters that ultimately contribute to the population of homeless animals."

Suspicious situation: Greenridge Drive, Clarksburg. A twelve-year-old girl was walking to her school bus stop when a man pulled over and asked her if she wanted a ride. The girl ignored the request. The man was described as a white male with short hair. His vehicle was a tan Dodge pickup truck.

Assault: 17400 block of Chiswell Road.

Arson: 16500 block of Dar-nestown Road.

Burglary: 15300 block of Mt. Nebo Road.

Theft: 19200 block of Hempstone Avenue.

Disorderly conduct: 19500 block of Fisher Avenue, 20000 block of Haller Avenue, 17000 block of Tom Fox Avenue.

Drug use: 19500 block of Wootton Avenue.

## Past Crime Reports

**June 4, 1939** Brown Turner, who had recently made the news after being sentenced to be lashed for wife beating, was back in court. He was convicted of trespassing on the land of Hanson Cashell. The judge gave him the choice of working on the county roads for sixty days or a \$100 fine. Mr. Turner told the judge that he needed an easy job like "carrying the water," and the judge replied, "It's up to the jailer."

**June 6, 1939** The Milo Restaurant, across the street from Montgomery County police headquarters in Rockville, was broken into overnight. The burglars broke into a mechanical phonograph machine and also the cigarette machine.

**June 7, 1979** Police investigated a murder/suicide case in the parking lot of the Emory Grove apartments in Gaithersburg. A fifty-year-old school electrician approached a car where two women were sitting and fatally shot one of the women. He then shot himself.

**June 19, 1928** Sergeant Earl Burdine was shot and wounded while he was off-duty and walking on a street in Silver Spring. A man had approached him and attempted to rob the officer and when he resisted, he was shot. Burdine had dropped his wife and infant son off at a home in Takoma Park and had decided to make a walking tour of his beat. Realizing that he had left his badge and gun at home, he de-

cided to walk unarmed. Burdine, who was one of the original six Montgomery officers, made a full recovery and returned to duty.

**June 19, 1947** Three Montgomery County Police officers resigned, citing low pay. At the time, the starting salary for officers was \$2300 a year. A week before, a police exam for fifty-two men was scheduled for prospective officers, and only twenty-three showed up.

## Local News

### PHS Again Achieves High Ranking In Academic Assessment

Poolesville High School was ranked fourth among 170 schools in the metropolitan region in the annual Challenge Index Rating, a national ranking of schools through testing of students in a three-hour college-level advanced placement examination.

Counties in suburban Maryland did very well in this evaluation with three of the top ten rankings in the challenge coming from that area. Montgomery County was in fourth place, Anne Arundel County in seventh, and Calvert County came in at ninth. Other Montgomery County schools doing well were Bethesda-Chevy Chase (second), Richard Montgomery (third), Walter Johnson (ninth), and Churchill (tenth).

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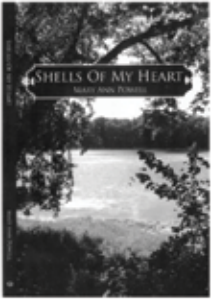
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**School News**  
**Global Ecology Seniors Graduate**

By Chantal Agnew

Friday, May 20 was a very important day for the Global Ecology Seniors at Poolesville High School. It was the culminating day of their senior projects. After an entire year of slaving over their projects, it was finally a time to display their work. All day long in the media center, the students presented their posters illustrating all the work they did on their senior projects. The media center was open to basically anyone who was interested in the projects: parents, community groups, and younger students who may have been searching for the type of project they wanted to do one day.

The projects were very diverse and unique and ranged over many

categories. There were stewardship projects where students worked to give back to the environment by doing trail restoration or wetland restoration. There were educational projects in which the students set up lessons for elementary and middle schoolers and actually visited the schools to teach younger kids about the environment. There was a wide variety of projects in the arts category which covered anything from environmental films to writing newspaper articles to an environmental play that a student designed and showed. There were also agricultural and gardening projects, and last but not least, original research and engineering projects which required a lot of meticulous work, solid data, and the students writing their very own research paper. In the courtyard right outside the media center, the Green Schools Club had set up a wide variety of fun activities such as a recycle toss and environmental jeopardy (if you won, you got cake!) to try and promote some of the things they do in the club.

After the project display in the

media center, the Global staff and students filed into the courtyard to have their Global Graduation and receive their global tassels and certificates. It was a bittersweet moment as are most graduation-type events—the students and staff reminisced on the good times in the program and shared advice for the future of the students. It was indeed a momentous day for the seniors.

A few of the community groups that had stopped by the project exposition actually selected certain projects to win awards based on their criteria. Those students were invited to the award ceremony that was held on Monday, May 23 at the Isaak Walton League Chapter House. For the Smith Center, Christine Antonsen won an award. The Sugarloaf Citizens Association declared that the recipients of its awards were: Taylor Babcock, Joshua Ballard, Kevin Beiter and Collin Leese-Thompson, Kevin Connor and Dillon Reio, Kati Duncan and

-Continued on Page 18.

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## Youth Sports

### Falcon Baseball: Strong Season Highlighted By Pearre and Metz named to County 3A/2A All-Division

#### First Team

By Jeff Stuart

The Poolesville Falcons baseball team lost five starting seniors from its 2010 squad to graduation. This year, Head Coach Ted Gardiner's starting lineup featured five freshmen: Kyle Brown, Chris Convers, Hunter Pearre, Thayer Seely, and pitcher Robbie Metz. At the end of the season, Pearre and Robbie Metz were named to the Montgomery County 3A/2A All-Division First Team. The Falcons ended with a regular season record of 10-6 and an overall record of 10-7, after

winning only three of their first nine games.

Hitting was an exceptional strength of the team with many outstanding accomplishments at the bat. Seely led the regulars with a .467 average, followed by Pearre at .439. Senior Patrick Lott hit 409. Senior Darryl Lang at second base led the team in RBIs with twenty-two. Pearre led the team in runs scored with twenty-one. Lang and Convers hit the only homers of the season for the Falcons. Pitching performances also had significant success. Robbie Metz finished the year with three wins, two losses. He had an outstanding 2.19 ERA, leading the team with forty strikeouts.

In playoff performance, Metz allowed only two earned runs on six hits with six strikeouts in a season-ending loss of 4-2 against Winters Mill. Winters Mill got off to a fast start scoring three in the first inning before the Falcons settled down and took control of the game. Offensively, the team couldn't muster enough runs to win, but the Falcons had strong batting led by Kyle Brown going

two for three with two singles and courtesy runner Joey O'Reilly scored once for Brown. Anthony Caputo had the only other run for the Falcons scoring on a passed ball in the second inning.

The Falcons finished the regular season on a seven-game winning streak with a strong final game victory against Walter Johnson winning 10-4. In that game, Chris Convers pitched four strong innings giving up three runs and striking out four. Seely allowed only one run in three innings, recording the win for the Falcons. At the plate, Convers was three for five with two RBIs and a run scored. Pearre was two for three with a double and a triple. Cody Dorsey was two for four with one run. Lang homered and singled.

On April 28, the Falcons celebrated Senior Day with a 6-2 win over Damascus. Lott and Darryl Lang, captains on this year's team, were honored prior to the game for their outstanding contributions over the last four years to the Poolesville baseball program.



*The PHS baseball team celebrated a great win and an outstanding season.*

The Falcons would not lose again until the playoffs.

A highlight of the Falcons' late winning streak was a 7-6 win over Blake on May 7, in extra innings. The excitement hit a peak in the top of the eighth inning. With the score tied, 6-6, the Blake Bengals had a runner on third with two outs. The next batter drove the ball to right field only to be robbed by a spectacular diving catch by Thayer Seely. "Thayer does a great job in the outfield,

-Continued on Page 12.



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“Baseball” Continued From Page 11.

he is consistently making diving catches, so it was no surprise to us that he came up with it,” said Coach Gardiner.

Then in the bottom of the eighth, Metz singled. Lott then bunted and reached first as the Bengals’ pitcher attempted to throw out Metz at second, but Robbie beat the throw. Pearre then drove the ball past the third baseman into left field as Metz scored from second to end the game. “It was a tremendous win,” said Coach Gardiner. “A true team win...to beat a very good Blake team. The eighth inning was fantastic with Robbie and Patrick doing a great job to get on base, and then Hunter delivering the game-winning hit—outstanding.”

While the playoffs ended in disappointment, the Falcons can be proud of their 2011 season and, with so many underclassmen coming back, can look for a strong 2012.

“Darby Store” Continued From Page 1.

recovered coins dating back to the 1880s, bits of pottery and clay pipes, and even a set of tongs that may date to a Civil War blacksmith shop said to have been located nearby.

While the installation of a well, which will provide running water to the shop for the first time, opens some additional possibilities for use, Mueller said it will not provide enough water for any kind of food service. “The new well will accommodate a toilet and sink for employees,”

she said. Mueller said the house adjacent to the store is currently vacant and will also need renovations before it can be offered for lease. There is no schedule in place for that work, she said.

The Darby Store is located at 19811 Darnestown Road. It closed as a business in 1958. In 2003, the store was one of six included in Montgomery Preservation, Inc.’s list of the most endangered historic sites in Montgomery County.

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Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on June 6, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland for the purpose of the Commissioners of Poolesville receiving public comment on Proposed Ordinance #184, Chapter 12 of the Poolesville Code to adopt and amend parking regulations. This proposed ordinance will amend Section 12.1.A.38.d, the definition of "recreational vehicle", add Section 12.1.A.50 to create "Trailers", add to Section 12.15 "Parking of commercial vehicles, recreational vehicle and buses" to include right-of-way and amend Section 12.17 to delete "and trailers".

Copies of this proposed ordinance are available at Town Hall.



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“Town Government”  
Continued from page 3.

tribution in the parking lot of Poolesville High School was first brought to the attention of the police by the school administration, and in cooperation with the Montgomery County Police, resulted in arrests. In this case, plain-clothed officers facilitated the process and arrests.

In the Poolesville area, there have been cases of homegrown marijuana in homes and in fields.

Captain Reynolds stated that officers in drug/narcotic divisions view the illegal drug issue as an epidemic. He did not agree with a suggestion that Poolesville has a reputation as a “drug hot spot” especially in relation to the kinds of problems experienced in other areas of the county. “Poolesville has a fraction of the problems of other schools.” On the other hand, he did not diminish the significance of the problem and the need for community and police vigilance. Captain Reynolds applauded the efforts of the local

patrolling officers, especially Officer Gabe Stone, who according to the commander, has demonstrated a real personal passion for working on the problem and has initiated an email site called [poolesvillecrime@hotmail.com](mailto:poolesvillecrime@hotmail.com), a new communication tool for the community to report concern or incidents of illegal drug use and other crimes as well. Stone emphasized his high level of respect for confidentiality through this initiative.

In other areas of crime, a mid-April rash of afternoon burglaries targeting electronics in residences on Barnesville Road, Mouth of Monocacy Road, and White Ground Road is under full investigation and arrests are said to be imminent.

The commander plans to continue and expand on the police department’s program of community education, awareness, and outreach, and in that regard, made the general invitation to other groups to request participation in the program.

Regarding other town busi-

ness, proposed changes to ordinances regarding motor vehicle parking on public easements and property and proposals for penalties from resulting damage or erosion have been set for the June 3 meeting. The ordinances under discussion (#184 and #185) seek to regulate parking of recreational vehicles and trailers, to define limitations when done so on lots and easements, and to assign fines to cover the cost of repair from such parking practice.

A contract for the new tot lot to be installed at Dr. Thomas Dillingham Park was awarded to Taylor Sports of West Virginia. The RFP of \$73,000 was awarded based on its being within the cost estimate set by the town, which includes a \$60,000 grant from Maryland Community Parks/Playgrounds.

It was announced that Michelle Roche was appointed to the town Ethics Commission.


“Post Prom” Continued From Page 8.

students. Rosvold-Brenholtz agreed.

“If the kids aren’t interested in participating, I think the assumption is they are pursuing other things either organized by their parents or other groups,” she said. “There is only so much the PTSA could do. Is it a matter of ‘build it and they will come’? I don’t know.”

With more than half of Poolesville’s students coming from outside the immediate area due to the school’s magnet programs, there are some unique logistics in finding a central location. The community center was selected as the party site because it was closer to many students as well as to the prom location of the Washingtonian Marriott in Gaithersburg. The hotel will host next year’s prom as well, said Rosvold-Brenholtz.

Egly said businesses and groups that donated to post prom were offered refunds or the opportunity to apply the money to the PTSA general fund.



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"It's in the CARDS"  
Continued from Page 4.

across the centerline on certain curves or to go around bicyclists, stopped cars, herds of goats, or other obstacles, but these are exceptions to my otherwise flawless driving. The rumble strips have shredded this conceit. I apparently routinely brush up against, or close to, the center line, as the resulting din and vibration make all too clear. I am sure my daughter, a fine driver nearing the completion of the first provisional period of her license, has enjoyed this chink in the armor of He Who Knows Everything about Proper Driving.

In the course of some quick web research, I discovered that centerline rumble strips, also known as CARDS, or Centerline Audible Roadway Delineators, are, according to the Federal Highway Administration, "intended to save lives and prevent serious injuries by alerting drivers that they are leaving the driving lane. They consist of raised or

grooved patterns on the roadway. They provide drivers with both an audible warning (rumbling sound) and a physical vibration." Well, no kidding. A study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety "found that head-on and opposite direction sideswipe injury crashes were reduced by an estimated twenty-five percent at sites treated with centerline rumble strips/stripes. This study concluded that centerline rumble strips/stripes can result in a fourteen percent reduction of all crashes and a fifteen percent reduction of injury crashes on rural two-lane roads." There are other studies and references freely available.

So I suppose I would have to say in balance that this latest intrusion by government on one of our precious freedoms is probably a good thing. I don't know if county roads are candidates for CARDS, but there are several that would leap to mind.

With regard to other intrusions on our liberties, this reminds me of the ongoing legislation concerning cell phone use

while driving. I have amassed ample visual evidence that those cars and trucks coming at me on my side of the line frequently involve drivers using their cell phones. This is another subject entirely, for another day, and there is plenty of time for consideration as more stringent or perhaps draconian rules from the state are on the way, becoming effective, so to speak, in October.

These cell phone rules won't affect my driving at all. I'm much more of a menace while using my iPod.

### Mystery Photo Answer



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### The Mystery of the Stone Marker

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COMMISSIONERS OF POOLESVILLE  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on June 6, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at 19721 Beall Street, Poolesville, Maryland for the purpose of the Commissioners of Poolesville receiving public comment on Proposed Ordinance #185, Chapter 12 of the Poolesville Code to adopt and amend various sections to address parking issues. This proposed ordinance will amend Section 12.2.D. by adding "or park a vehicle in a public right-of-way which creates ruts, gullies or the destruction of ground cover to cause erosion or tracking of mud, gravel and other material onto the public roadway. Any damages to the ground cover caused by parking in violation of this Section shall be restored to its original state and maintained by the property owners. Failure to make such repairs within thirty (30) days, or as extended by the Town Manager due to extenuating circumstances, shall subject the owner to fines pursuant to this Section for each day the property remains in its damaged state. Further, if the property owner does not take action to repair the property within the designated time, the Town may take all legal action necessary to repair the property, the cost of which shall be borne by the property owner."

Copies of this proposed ordinance are available at Town Hall.

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“LAND” Continued From Page 1.

but, if you observe these kids doing their projects or participating in field trips, the first thing you notice is their enthusiasm. They are having fun! Garth and his wife Amy, LAND Executive Director, plan their programs around the children’s school curriculum. They reinforce what they are learning in the classroom and bring it outdoors. In all of his sessions with the children, be they field trips, nature walks, or other projects, Garth always begins with a reference and tie-in to Montgomery County’s Agricultural Reserve (Ag Reserve). He points out to his students that the beauty of nature that they see all around them has been sustained in our Monocacy area through the efforts and hard work of people supporting the Ag Reserve. The wooded trails and open pastureland could have become strip malls and hundreds of houses. These kids get the message that they will become the next generation of adults who will be

responsible for protecting the Ag Reserve and all it stands for.

The Program Director and spirit of LAND is Garth, or Mr. Seely to his students. His passionate enthusiasm is very much in evidence; the kids love it and pick it up themselves. The idea of LAND began in 2004, when Garth began a landscape and nature after-school club at Monocacy Elementary School in Barnesville. He brought his knowledge of landscaping from his business of twenty years, Gardens by Garth, and Amy has a degree in horticulture from the University of Maryland. As more children became interested in his club, he expanded his horizons. Today, LAND works with seven schools. Over 350 students participate in community projects and field trips where they learn about plants, animals, insects, weather, and landscaping. This year, they worked hands-on in various diverse projects: holiday greens workshops; maple tree tapping and syrup making; road clean-ups; Potomac watershed cleanup; John Poole Middle School (JPMS)

pond project; JPMS Earth Day; Barnesville Earth Day cleanup; Monocacy Elementary School butterfly garden; and flower planting in Poolesville, Dickerson, and Barnesville.

What does the future hold for LAND? They will be working with Hope and a Home with their weeklong summer camp. This organization’s mission is to empower low-income families in D.C. to create stable homes for themselves and make lasting changes in their lives. For many of these kids, this is their first exposure to the nature world that we take so much for granted in our beautiful Agricultural Reserve. During the next school year, LAND hopes to continue with its present programs, as well as adding more community service projects. They would like to expand their school locations further down county.

Why does Garth do this work? He certainly has plenty

to do with Gardens by Garth. I asked him that question, and he replied that it is tremendously rewarding to share nature with children. The smallest discoveries can excite them. Their enthusiasm is an awesome motivator. Tomorrow, take notice of the beautiful flowering containers and shrubs in our area, and say thank you to Garth and “his kids.”

Land and Nature Discoveries, Inc. relies entirely on private support to operate. Any financial donations would be greatly appreciated.

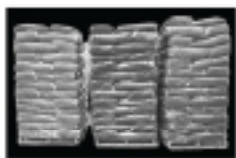
To learn more about this very worthwhile organization, visit [www.landandnature.org](http://www.landandnature.org).



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"Global Posters" Continued  
From Page 10.

Lauren Rost, Hunter Hegmann and Cory Thomas, Connor Kirby, Henry Mangold and Zach Zapata, and Eric Weiss (with engineering students Cody Premo and Michael Beliveau). The Forestry Board selected Cory Thomas and Hunter Hegmann's project. The nominees of the Senator Gara-giola Award were Elise Cavicchi, and Kati Duncan and Lauren Rost. The Montgomery Countryside Alliance selected Emily

Moore and Jee-Won Park to win its scholarship award. Lastly, The Izaak Walton League announced their awardees: Chantal Agnew, Kevin Beiter and Collin Leese-Thompson, Katherine Ha and Jovita Huynh, Eric Holmstead and Ashley O'Keefe, Marie Roberts, and Henry Mangold and Zach Zapata. Congratulations to all award recipients and to all the Global seniors who have just as successfully completed the Global Ecology Program. Good luck to all of you!

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“Tidbits” Continued From Page 4.

Andrew Brady (16-inch channel catfish), and third place to Hunter King for most fish caught. Ages 14 to 16: First place to Seven Mikk (16-inch channel catfish), second place to Anna Murgia (11.75-inch black bullhead), and third place to Alex Fraley for most fish caught.

**NIH Interns:**



*Grace Zhang, Melanie Shapiro, Amanda Ward, and Victoria Huang were recently honored for their work as interns at NIH.*

Poolesville High School seniors Grace Zhang, Melanie Shapiro, Amanda Ward, and Victoria

Huang received awards of successful completion of the year-long Howard Hughes Student and Teacher Internship Program. PHS had the most students selected for the competitive program of eighteen Montgomery County high school students. Each student conducted unique research projects at NIH under the guidance of mentors.

**Photographers:**

Poolesville High School photographers whose work was selected by a juried panel to be exhibited at the 10th Annual Nora School Photography Festival as part of the Amnesty International Human Rights Festival. Julie Norcross and Megan Connaughton received special award recognition for their photographs. Bridget Van Nevel, Danny Corotti, Emily Fisher, Elizabeth Byrd, Nikki Dahlen, Rebecca Goodman, and Stephan Marsh for their outstanding works of art.

**Artists**

Poolesville High School’s six outstanding artists whose work was selected by a panel of photographers and artists to hang in the Annual Congressional Art Exhibit

at the VisArts Center in Rockville through the month of May. Congressman Van Hollen hosted an Arts Celebration and Awards Reception to highlight the importance of arts education in high school, and showcase the exhibition. Winning photographers and digital artists included Zane Bassett, Jee-Won Park, Cody Premo, Megan Shapiro, Michael Torres, and Bridget Van Nevel. Jee-Won Park won the highly-restigious Best in Show award.

**Computer Programmers:**

Poolesville High School’s five-member computer programming teams, sponsored by Mr. Jack Stansbury, that competed in the Java Programming Competition held at Montgomery College. The Cyber Foundation’s Spring 2011 competition was conducted throughout March and April and featured a series of timed quizzes to test aptitude in networking, operating systems, and system administration. Students were provided with tutorials and training materials to review in each of the three subject areas and then participated in a series of increas-

ingly challenging quizzes focused on those foundational skills. PHS students, Jack Zhu and Daniel Sun, received a first place trophy; Joy Zeng, Annie Chu, Pavleen Thukral, Jake Koenig, and Haris Godil received a second place trophy; and Xiaoyu Yin and Peter Luu, received a fifth place trophy.

**Teacher:**

Juliana R. Davis (whose hometown is Poolesville and who was a PHS 2000 graduate) for being selected for the 2011 “Best and Brightest” in Teaching Award from the Montgomery County Parents Council of the NAACP. Ms. Davis teaches English 10 and Honors English 10 at James Hubert Blake High School.

**Federal Employee:**

Jennifer Ofsthun, a longtime Poolesville resident now living in Mt. Airy, was honored by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) by receiving the agency’s Diversity in Action Award. The FDA recognized her for her trailblazing efforts in supporting the “FDA 2% Initiative” emphasizing the hiring of two percent of personnel with disabilities.



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