



Former Fire Chiefs Earl Moore (rear) and George Hillard kept an eagle eye on the Fourth of July festival. See more pictures in Family Album on page 2.



If you think this is a discarded refrigerator by the roadside in Dickerson, you may be in for a surprise in the mail. See Tidbits on page 10.



Guess they had to find a big enough barn for the flag.



An intense, four-part beast. Think about that for a moment, and then turn to Center Stage on page 13.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

July 13, 2012

Volume IX, Number 9.

Rare Derecho Pays an Unwelcome Visit

By Rande Davis

The June 30 Friday evening derecho that swept our area ended a journey that began in Indiana nearly twelve hours earlier. A derecho is defined as a widespread and long-lived windstorm that accompanies showers or thunderstorms moving at great speed in a straight line. The late evening storms of lightning and heavy winds finally caused the power to cease in Poolesville and surroundings between Friday evening and the very early morning hours of Saturday.

For Poolesville town employees, a three-day schedule of twelve-hour shifts began Friday night. Town manager Wade Yost did not

get any sleep until Saturday evening.

The first warning of the seriousness of the weather event came when Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) manager Craig Warfield called Yost to report that the plant was out of power. Warfield was trying to find a way back into town on roads sporadically blocked by downed trees. When Yost and the town water operator Andrew Witt got to the plant, they noticed that the generator was working while the plant was out of power. They quickly determined that power surges tripped the plant transfer switch, and they were able to at least manually override the problem and get the



The heavy winds plastered this tent into the trees at the MC golf course.

lights back on. At that point, they manually restarted and reset all pumps and compressors. With another water operator out of town on vacation, Yost, Warfield, and Witt worked through the weekend to ensure adequate town water pressure for Poolesville homes and businesses. The greatest concern was dropping water levels in the town water tank and its impact on handling

-Continued on Page 21.

Heritage Days a Delight

By Kristen Milton

Before the area was hit with the worst of June's sweltering heat, visitors to the fifteenth annual Heritage Days were treated to music, activities, and education at thirty-two historic sites throughout the county.

"It seems like every site has reported more people over last year," said Romola Ghulamali, who did not yet have exact numbers for the event held June 23 to 24. "Luckily, we didn't have the heat we've had

in years past. People were out and about and seemed to have a good time."

The King Barn Dairy MOOseum in Boyds's South Germantown Recreational Park was crowded with children early June 23 and echoed with the sound of mooing as many tried their hands at milking an automated cow.

Stephanie Kreider of Clarksburg brought daughters Audrey, 5, and Savannah, 9, to visit for the first time. "We saw all the fun activities listed and decided, 'Let's go explore a bit,'" Kreider said. "[Audrey] seems to be fascinated with all



This Ashburn, Virginia family called their short stay in Poolesville during Heritage Days "just what we were looking for."

-Continued on Page 16.

Family Album



The owner of Asia House of Poolesville (center back) is joined by family helpers as she sold their food specialties at the Fourth of July celebration.



The Ladies Auxiliary of the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department readied themselves for perhaps the largest crowd ever.



Montgomery County Fire Cadets were on hand to lend some help for the festival.



The Odd Fellows and Monocacy Lions were well represented by hard working Lions parking attendants Jack Shawver and Bill Jamison.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Burglary: 19700 block of Wootton Avenue, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue.

Theft from vehicle: 17100 block of Spates Hill Road.

Disorderly conduct complaints: 17500 block of Kohlhoss Road, 19600 block of Fisher Avenue, 16900 block of Hilliard Street.

Past Crime

July 13, 1931 Newly-appointed police officer Frank Soper made an arrest on his first day on the job. He observed a motorist having a difficult time navigating the heavy afternoon traffic in downtown Rockville. When he questioned the driver, Soper found that the driver was drunk. Soper said that the car was operating in a "zig zag" fashion.

July 21, 1933 Two caddies at the Congressional Country Club got into a fight and both were

injured. One of the youths was cut on the arm with a knife. His assailant was known only as "Perry" and was said to live in Washington. Police were investigating.

July 22, 1931 Three cases of note happened on this day. Two boys were arrested and charged with burning down the house of their uncle at Potomac. They said that they were angry at their uncle. The damage was estimated at \$1000. In the second case, Walter Holmes of Chevy Chase was charged with allowing pigeons to run at large. In the third case, a Barnesville man was sentenced to six months in the penitentiary for threatening his neighbor with a rifle. His wife was given a suspended sentence for disorderly conduct.

July 27, 1930 Three men made a daring escape from the county jail at Rockville. The men forced open a trapdoor that led to the roof and then jumped to the ground. Armed posses of firemen and citizens were formed to assist county police in searching for the men. An hour later, a man was slashed in the face by three men in Rockville. It was believed that the escapees had mis-

taken him for part of a posse.

July 16, 1931 Montgomery County police asked Washington police to be on the lookout for a twenty-one-year-old man who was wanted on a charge of sexual assault on a thirteen-year-old Germantown girl. The parents of the girl had at first reported that their home had been burglarized, but two days later, the girl told Officer Roy

Bodmer that the man had entered her room during the burglary and had assaulted her.

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Commentary

Were You Ready?

By John Clayton

I wasn't—or at least not as ready as I would have liked to have been. Our story is typical and, thank goodness, unremarkable. The power went out in the wee hours of Saturday morning, and remained out until late Monday afternoon. We had some tree damage, but no damage to property.

Was I ready for what turned out to be a sixty-three-hour outage? Yes, in some ways, but not nearly enough for someone who occasionally thinks about preparedness. Thinking about it got me to have a few things ready, but not others, and this is a binary game. Something you need is either there or it isn't.

One area we weren't ready for was gasoline in the cars. I had a rental, due to one of our cars being in the body shop, and I was planning to turn it in the next morning with about one-eighth of a tank, per my rental agreement. As I heard about long gasoline lines, a Sara Palinesque voice kept playing, "How's that workin' out for ya?" My daughter, who had to drive to work and back, ended up running low, and after things eased up at the pumps, we made a nervous two-car convoy to Germantown without an eighth of a tank between us. My wife had to drive to work in Silver Spring, and while she started out better prepared than I, she had to suffer a long gas line, witnessing the flaring of tempers and near fisticuffs between a patron and the service station manager. This was only Day Two of our long regional nightmare.

When we go to the beach, and particularly the Outer Banks, I always make a point of keeping the tank filled in case we have to evacuate. That could never happen here, right?

We live on a well, so as people outside of Poolesville are aware: No electricity, no pump;

no pump, no water. Consequently, we have a generator which runs on propane supplied from a smallish tank. I did give propane supplies some thought in that I always have at least one, and usually two, backup tanks for the grill in case that becomes critical. Unfortunately, this does nothing for the generator. When the power went out, I had less than half a tank, and I wasn't quite sure how long that would last. It was great to have lights, television, refrigerators, and electric fans. Our generator doesn't have quite enough muscle to run the central air conditioning and a hot water heater, but cold running water is way ahead of no running water. I spent the entire weekend stressing over when we would run out of propane and become fanless and waterless, dropping from better off than most to worse off than most in short order. As it turned out, we squeaked in with our last two percent of propane when the power came back, much too close for comfort. I did not give myself a passing grade on this one.

I have several Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) documents on preparedness that I am always planning to do something about someday. I did have a couple of cases of water on hand, and we were okay on batteries and perhaps food for a few days, especially if the generator kept running, but I can't sincerely claim to have been well prepared.

FEMA provides a small booklet called "Preparing for Disaster" which suggests you should be self-sufficient for three days, with one gallon of water per person per day, three days' worth of non-perishable food, and a myriad of other commonsense items. I think this is pretty minimal. From what I have read elsewhere, it won't take much of an electrical grid mishap or other disaster, manmade and otherwise, to foul up the delivery of food, water, and gasoline for three days or even more. Many people think

-Continued on Page 22.

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Rande(m) Thoughts

Mother Nature-1, Mankind-0

By Rande Davis

This past week brought some spectacular light shows to town. The derecho on Friday night, while not as colorful as the fireworks on the Fourth of July, caused our annual festival to pale in comparison. Had the order been reversed with the fireworks coming first, I can imagine Mother Nature twisting a line from the movie *Crocodile Dundee* by saying to us all, "Light show? That's no light show. This is a light show."

Just to make the point even bolder, she caused trees to fall, limbs and things unattached to fly, and gave us three to five days to think about it all. The heat, bugs, and parking issues

of the show on Hughes Road in comparison put us all in our place.

Both events gave me pause to reflect. The storm gave an unasked-for and extended opportunity for meditation. It's one of those rare times when everything stops—more so in modern times than in days of old. In our house, we took Saturday to be a day of reading if not relaxation. Cooking on the grill worked fine until the propane ran out and then it was on to the Weber. It was all right for one day, but by Sunday morning, we made our escape to our daughter's home in Columbia. Still, like a radical snowstorm in winter, the summer electrical outages brought a proper appreciation for our status in the world and a reminder of the many things for which we should be grateful. I will take the snowstorm any day.

-Continued on Page 22.

Letter to the Editor

I must take great exception to the editorial opinions expressed in the column "Are We All Republicans?" (by John Clayton) in the June 22, 2012 issue of this paper. The right of the public to "allow voters to force a settled issue onto the ballot for a decision" is a very necessary right to protect the public against the arrogance and power-hungry tendencies of many elected politicians. Two cases in point:

In 1994, the Commissioners of Poolesville did their absolute best to create the maximum amount of dissent in town by advocating the annexation of certain property which would then be used for the construction of a new Saudi School. Most citizens were against this plan, but the commissioners were adamant: The town would annex the property so the school could be built. With public opinion clearly against them, the commissioners saw the handwriting on the wall; one commissioner declined to

run for re-election and one who did was soundly defeated. Not to matter, the lame duck body called a special meeting after the election so they could approve the annexation. The newly-elected commissioners were not seated, and the old group, with two of them heading out of office, approved the annexation. The public's only recourse was to collect signatures and force the issue to a referendum. The town was then subjected to several more months of dissent and controversy until the annexation could be overturned at the ballot box. Without that right, the annexation would have stood and the school built. Without revisiting all of the controversy of the day, let us just say that, without the right of referendum, Poolesville would be an entirely different place today, had the annexation stood and the school been built.

As a result of the 2010 census, Governor Martin O'Malley and his cronies developed one

-Continued on Page 14.

Town of Poolesville

Town Government Report

By Rande Davis

Commissioners Curb Their Enthusiasm for More Expensive Sidewalk

The commissioners weighed two options for sidewalk work on Tom Fox Avenue. The first option, costing \$750,000, would install five-foot-wide sidewalks with a green space safety zone between the curb and sidewalk. This also would require the removal and replanting of trees. The second plan, costing \$250,000, would forgo the green space and instead raise the elevation of the sidewalk for safety and have the sidewalk at the curbside as it is, for example, on Elgin Road (Route 109). The second option would continue the use of swales to manage runoff.

In the final 4-1 vote for the

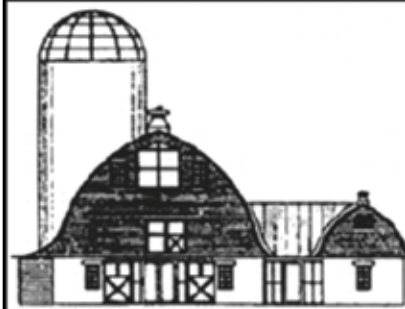
less-costly plan, commissioners Halbrook and Brown called for installation of speed bumps on the road. Commissioner Kuhlman, while acknowledging the cost savings, voted against the decision as being short-sighted, stating,

"Over the long run, the green space option would be the better way to go: Do it right, do it once."

Public Hearing on Water Rate Proposal

A public hearing was held on the proposed ordinance to allow, without requiring a public hearing, up to a two percent increase in water rates in the town's annual budgeting process. Two speakers voiced opposing opinions with written comments remaining open for submission until the end of the week. The commissioners will make a final

-Continued on Page 12.



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The recent power outages underscore how dependent we all are on electricity and on the people who restore it when it goes out. We are an urbanized people and our skills are highly specialized. More than ever before, we are dependent on each other.

To me, this reveals the importance to our increasingly urbanized society of preserving its farms, its food-producing lands, its open spaces, woods, streams and mountains, its scenery—before all of it is gone, subsumed within the relentless spread of urbanization. It is important to maintain a connection with the past—with a time when many people truly did live off the land—with food production and with those places where the human footprint has made the land more productive and even more beautiful. This is important for all of us in the present, and for our children, and our children's children.

Unlike so many other metropolitan areas, **we in Montgomery County have already created and preserved a place for agriculture and open space. We are the fortunate heirs to this great treasure known as the AgReserve.** In the near future, and over time, I believe we will see the AgReserve continue to build on the base of the wonderful farms, orchards and vineyards already operating here and become known as a center of the local foods movement, serving a great need in the metropolitan area. I believe we will see the rise of an agricultural magnet program in our schools and the AgReserve become known as a place for serious study, experimentation, employment and entrepreneurialism for a new generation that understands the importance of sustainable agriculture for our future.

We just have to be sure we do not lose the AgReserve. At the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association we will continue to work to protect this treasure - for ourselves, for those nearby, and for those yet to come. In this endeavor Sugarloaf welcomes your input, your insights, and your involvement. Please feel free to contact us at SCA's offices at (301) 349-4889, or to email me at jchoukasbradley@mbolaw.com.

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Things to Do

July 13

Poolesville Farmers' Market

Theme: PES Summer Carnival with DJ
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Special Event in the Park

Featuring: Turley the Magician
7:00 p.m.

July 14

UMCVFD Pig Roast

Dinner of pulled pork, beef, beans, coleslaw
Fire hall at 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville
Sandwich: \$5.00
Platter: \$7.00
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Movies in the Park

Moneyball
8:30 p.m.

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Soul Box
8:30 p.m.

July 16 to July 20

St. Peter's Annual VBS

Theme: Adventures in Paradise

Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, water play, and more
Ages from 4 years old to fifth graders.
12:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

July 16

Town Commissioners' Meeting

Poolesville Town Hall
7:30 p.m.

July 16 to July 21

4th Annual Urbana VFD Carnival

Featuring the best in midway rides, food, and fabulous lineup of musical entertainment nightly. On Sunday, July 15, the popular annual car show will be held from noon to 4:00 p.m. Raffle tickets for a chance to win a Carnival Cruise Line package, big screen TV or iPod. Drawings held July 21. Winners need to be present to win. Fun for all ages.

July 20

Summer Concerts in the Park

Featuring: Bobby Lewis Blues Band
7:00 p.m.

July 21

St. Peter's Hosts Copacabana Night to Benefit the New Gather-

ing Place Senior Center

This event will be a wonderful evening of musical entertainment, dancing, and comedy. If you never made it to New York City's Copacabana Club in the 1940s and '50s, this is your chance. The headline singer is Drew Sims, truly amazing with his smooth Vegas-style delivery. We will have Berry Thompson and Rev. Tom Purdy as comedians (guaranteed to have you LOL), and the highly-talented singer/guitarist, Rabbi David, along with the incredible One Man Band - Gene Simmons (hey, they couldn't book Guy Lombardo's Big Band for obvious reasons.) There will be wine, beer, soda, and refreshments. Seating is limited.

Cost is free for seniors over 85, \$8 for those over 65, and \$10 for other adults. RSVP is appreciated but not necessary to ltrdsd@comcast.net. Use Copa Night as subject.

July 22 to July 26

Poolesville Baptist Church VBS

Theme: Go for the Gold Olympian
5:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

July 25

Café Connections

Theme: 31 Flavors: A Journey through the Wacky Variety of Jesus Folk - a quick review of varying Christian beliefs.

Café Connections is also open every Wednesday from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. offering free WiFi, computer help, tips on software/internet, and coffee with workshops and faith discussions.
Poolesville Presbyterian Church, 17800 Elgin Road.
7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

July 27

Poolesville Farmers' Market

Theme: Health, Fitness, and Wellness
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Summer Concerts in the Park

Featuring: Last Measure
7:00 p.m.

July 28

137th Annual Barnesville Picnic

Featuring St. Mary's famous BBQ chicken meal (eat in or carry out) Plus children's games, cakewalk, crafts, white elephant sale, music,

-Continued on Page 7.



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**"Things to Do" Continued
From Page 6.**

and more
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Noon to 7:00 p.m.

Summer Movies in the Park
Cars 2
8:30 p.m.

July 28 to 29
HMD Cultural Event at Old Town Hall: A Tribute to Our African-American Heritage

This pictorial exhibit and special living history presentation is provided by the Sugarland Ethno Project under the leadership of Gwen Reese. Connie Robinson will portray Mary Peck Bond, the daughter of an Underground Railroad conductor.

Bond is best known for founding the Center for the Elderly in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1883. Come join many of your friends and neighbors in rejoicing through this remembrance of the historical contributions of our African-American community.
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Business Briefs

Poolesville Veterinary Adds to Staff

With great pride, Dr. Peter Eeg of Poolesville Veterinary Clinic (PVC) is very pleased to announce the addition of two outstanding veterinarians to the staff. Dr. Faith Rouco is coming home to PVC as a senior associate to continue her career caring for the canine and feline patients. Dr. Nikki Phillips will be providing her medical, surgical, and acupuncture expertise every Thursday.

Mixed Green Market Announces Grand Opening

David James and Monica Bulat are excited about opening Mixed Greens Market inside Hearthside Gardens at 19900 Fisher Avenue in Poolesville. The market will specialize in locally-sourced fresh fruits and vegetables, a lineup of fresh baked goods including cupcakes, pies, and muffins, and grass-fed ground beef from Hedgeapple Farms. They also have a full line of McCutcheon's products including old-fashioned soda. They are working with Kingsbury's Orchard for local peaches. They will be looking to expand the selection as time goes by. Their hours of operation are Friday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6:00 p.m. Their official grand opening is July 14.

Congratulations to Poolesville Cleaners

Congratulations to Sungsook Kim of Poolesville Cleaners on the fourth anniversary of ownership of her dry-cleaning establishment. Her eco-friendly process, and pickup and delivery are two special services offered by the company.

Remembrance

Woody Williams

By Rande Davis

A memorial service for Milo Woodbridge (Woody) Williams was held at St. Peter's Church on July 7. Born in California on June 6, 1917, he passed away on May 5 of this year. Woody and his wife, Beatrice (Bee) met at Pomona College in California and were married for sixty-nine years. The couple resided in Dickerson for forty-four years after moving to the area in 1955 when he worked with National Geographic. They retired to North Carolina in 2003.

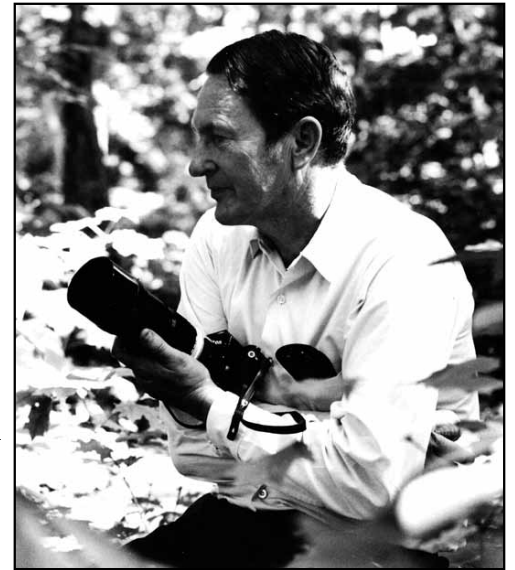
As a young man, Woody left college to join a crew serving as a quartermaster on a boat named the *Stranger*, traveling to the Galapagos Islands, Latin America, and north to Alaska. He returned to complete his college degree in 1940. He served with the Army Air Corps in World War II. He followed his interests in the natural sciences, journalism, and photography with jobs at the California Academy of Sciences Steinhart Aquarium, *San Rafael Independent Journal*, and a year in Afghanistan with the United Nations and as director of the San Mateo County Junior Museum.

His career as a photographer for the National Park Service from 1961 to 1980 established him as a pioneer in opening the public eye to the last of the great and little-known scenic areas of North America. In February 1975, President Richard Nixon selected a portfolio of Woody's photos as a gift to Chinese Chairman Mao Tse-tung during the president's famed opening visit to the People's Republic of China.

In his retirement, Woody continued his passion for nature and photography as a member of the Explorers Club, the American Society of Magazine Photographers, and the Golden Kiwanis. A man described as having an endless thirst for knowledge and as being a voracious reader, his daughter Betty called him a "scholar of the

dining room and woodsman of the living room" for the entertaining and educational discussions during mealtimes and for the tales of his outdoor adventures he would bring to the family and friends during get-togethers. Described as creative, energetic, and highly imaginative, his grandson, David Holter talked of Woody's wonderful and inspiring gift of imagination that David considered the most cherished gift from his grandfather to him and the other grandchildren.

Along with his beloved wife Bee, he was survived by his sister Constance Walton; sisters-in-law, Edith Daley and Rosalie Elliott; and daughters, Edith Williams, Susan Spaulding and husband Lincoln, Betty Williams and husband John Holter, Beatrice Ross and husband Mac; and grandchildren, Sarah Lydon and husband Jeff, Eric Williams and wife, Anna, Mary Spaulding,



Milo Woodbridge (Woody) Williams

Daniel, Ben, and Beth Ross, Amy and David Holter; and great-grandchildren Eva and Morgan Lydon.

Local History

The Poolesville Methodist Church Cemetery

Who is Buried There?

By Jack Toomey

(Reprinted from February 25, 2005)

Many of us pass the small white building on the left side of West Willard Road just before Poolesville High School without a thought. Some of us know it as the Thrift Shop and occasionally drop in to see what is for sale—but this building has a long history that is integral to the history of Poolesville.

In the early 1800s, the citizens of Poolesville founded the Methodist Episcopal Church which would be the pioneer church for these denominations in the Poolesville area. The original church building was erected

in 1826, and it was sufficiently large for worship until 1868 when the current brick building was built on West Willard Road. Later, there was a division in the congregation and a new Methodist church was built on Elgin Road. The old church was painted white, the large windows were bricked in, and the building was sold. Since then, the building has been used for a multitude of purposes. It has been used as a voting place, a dance hall, a school building, a place for band rehearsal, a drug store, a veterinarian's office, the town hall, and now we know it as the Thrift Shop. The Town of Poolesville purchased the building in 1954.

What many might not realize is that the grounds surrounding the old church building encompass a cemetery and include the remains of some of Poolesville's oldest citizens and Civil War soldiers, some of whom were killed in battle. We thought our readers might be intrigued to learn a little

-Continued on Page 18.



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Local News

Park Acquisition Approved

By Kristen Milton
Montgomery County Planning Board voted to close a hole in Boyds's Hoyles Mill Conservation Park with a Legacy Open Space purchase of two acres.

Planners voted unanimously June 28 to pay \$240,000 for the property at 15451 Hoyles Mill Road owned by Howard C. Talley. Land acquisition specialist Bill Gries said it would cost an additional estimated \$75,000 to remove a home on the land in "poor" condition and "restore the area to a near natural condition."

Commissioner Amy Presley said the purchase was wise. "It fills in the gapped tooth of the park in that area," she said. Presley said she was hopeful another property would soon be acquired to address one remaining hole.

Hoyles Mill Conservation Park is an undeveloped conservation area of over one thousand acres located between the communities of Boyds and Germantown and dedicated to environmental preservation.

Tidbits

Consider this Fair Warning
For all of you who travel through Dickerson on Route 28, you may not have noticed the speed cameras now operating in town. They've got you coming and going. These more temporary-styled camera units are difficult to spot. Considering there recently were fatalities at the underpass of the railroad tracks, it may prove to be of great help to many.

Defnet Chosen to Play in National Futures Championships

Amy Defnet was selected by U.S. Field Hockey to represent Region 7 (Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia) in the National Futures Championships. The National Championships was comprised of the top 240 U19 athletes in the country (see usfieldhockey.com-Futures). Sixteen teams competed for the gold, silver, and bronze. Amy played for team Cortina, with athletes from Texas, Ohio, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Two games along the way to the championship ended in a tie leading to strokeoffs. Amy was in goal for both strokeoffs and prevailed for her team. Only one goal was scored against Amy during the entire tournament in the final game.

The National Futures Championships were held at the U.S. Field Hockey National Training center in Virginia Beach from June 20 to 27.

Police Stress the Importance

of Dog Registration

On the night of July 4, a Montgomery County police officer was on patrol when she stopped her car to adjust some equipment in the back seat of the cruiser. When she opened the door, a dog jumped into the back seat. The dog was very friendly and energetic and seemed to want to go for a ride. The officer guessed that the dog had been frightened by fireworks. She checked and found that the dog wore no identification tags, so she drove the dog to the animal shelter where personnel recognized

the dog as one that had recently been adopted. Dog and owner were quickly reunited. Police said that the dog was one of three that were found on that night.

County police stressed that the law requires dogs to wear identification tags. Make sure that your dog wears an approved ID tag that includes the name, address, and phone number of the owner.

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“Town of Poolesville”
 Continued From Page 5.

decision at the August 6 town meeting.

Changes in Ethics Ordinance to Meet State Requirements

Proposed changes in the town’s Ethics Ordinance were proposed in order to meet new requirements by the State of Maryland. Town Attorney Jay Gullo advised approval for the changes by noting that current town ethics requirements, in many cases, already exceed state standards.

Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski advocated for a computerized format that would facilitate the process of updating the ethics forms annually. Michelle Roche, of the Ethics Commission, emphasized that the role of the commission is to report non-compliance of any person who fails to do so and not as an enforcement body. In the past, the Ethics Commission members took it upon themselves to notify the offend-

ing individual of his/her failure to comply. Going forward, the supervisor or authority responsible for each person required to fill out the forms will handle non-compliance issues directly with the offender.

Commissioners Select New Trash Collector

In a unanimous vote, the commissioners awarded the new, \$404,000 five-year trash collection contract to Unity Disposal and Recycling of Laurel, Maryland. The commissioners extended the time to consider the new contract so as to gain further input from town residents voicing their preferences. The overwhelming response supported two-times-per-week trash pickup with one single-stream recycling pickup. Single stream eliminates the need to sort paper recyclables from plastic, glass, and metal and, based on ease of fulfillment, increases the compliance of recycling by individuals. The new contract will follow this

-Continued on Page 20.

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Center Stage

Frequencies and Vibrations

By Dominique Agnew

He may have a degree in English, but Sam Cooper, along with his compatriots, the Sleepwalkers, prefers to communicate through a more universal language. "Music," says Sam, "is a great way to connect to people besides language." He calls music "one of the only universal expressions—every culture has music."

Many readers may remember Sam's high school career at Poolesville High School, class of 2006, his many musical performances and his involvement with the Midnight Players. Even then, music pervaded his life. From PHS, Sam continued his studies at


the University of Maryland at College Park, graduating in 2010 with majors in English and American Studies. A self-taught musician, Sam spent his college years expanding his horizons, but, on principle, he refused to take any music classes. "I didn't want to end up hating music," he explains. "I can accept an audience liking or not liking my music. I'm not comfortable with accepting a letter grade on something that's magical." Sam wanted college to be a time of opportunity. "I wanted college to broaden me as an inhabitant of the world."

Like most world inhabitants, Sam has his day job down town, but the rest of his time is spent cultivating his relationship with music. Cue the Sleepwalkers.

Sam started Sam Cooper & the Sleepwalkers (SC&S) with longtime friend, Brett Abelman, also an alumnus of PHS, but four

-Continued on Page 17.

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SHOULD I TAKE A "BREATH TEST"?
 If you are stopped by the police on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol, the first significant issue that must be addressed is whether you should take the "breath test". Maryland law requires that you agree to such a procedure. There are significant penalties for your wrongful refusal which are: (a) your driving privileges being suspended for 120 days (first offense) and for one year (subsequent offense); or (b) you install an ignition interlock device for one year (at your cost). If you are able to convince the MVA that your refusal was justified, then no penalty will be imposed.

Thus the real question is whether you can risk the possible penalties. If not, then you should strongly consider taking the "breath test".

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19005 Hempstone Ct.—Wesmond	\$315,000	4	2	\$9,475	1	1 Car	Finished	23
17308 Hughes Rd.—Westerly	\$305,000	4	2	\$9,150	1	2 Car	Finished	5
17105 Oxley Farm Rd.—Westerly	\$365,000	3	2.5	\$0	1	1 Car	Finished	23
20405 Whites Ferry Rd.—Poolesville Out	\$486,110	4	2	\$0	1	2 Car	Finished	25
19628 Selby Ave.—Tama	\$486,000	5	3.5	\$4,000	1	2 Car	Partial Finished	105
19704 Selby Ave.—Tama	\$511,000	4	2.5	\$0	1	2 Car	Unfinished	200
19214 Munger Farm Rd.—Seneca Chase	\$534,900	5	3.5	\$8,000	1	2 Car	Finished	32
19506 Hartz Pond Ct.—Hunters Run	\$560,000	4	2.5	\$0	1	2 Car	Unfinished	0
17627 Cobb Ave.—Stoney Springs	\$570,193	4	4.5	\$8,000	1	2 Car	Finished	25
18201 McKernon Way—Woods at Tama	\$770,000	4	5.5	\$23,500	2	2 Car	Finished	313

Information obtained from Metropolitan Regional Services, Inc.



**“Letter to the Editor”
 Continued From Page 5.**

of the worst examples of gerrymandering in redrawing new Congressional District lines for Maryland’s eight Congressional Districts. Their goal is to make Maryland a one-party state by carving out any Republican areas into heavy Democratic areas to insure all eight seats go to the Democrats. Naturally, all Republicans, and many Democrats as well, are opposed to this blatant

abuse of power, and petitions are being circulated to bring the matter to a referendum. Without the right of referendum, many voters will lose their voices in Congress until the next census in 2020. Here again, the right to bring issues to referendum goes beyond mere agreement or disagreement of a political decision; it is a necessary right to keep the arrogance and the abuse of power of certain elected (and even unelected) politicians in check.

In both of those examples, I can think of no reason how the

public would be better served if the right of “allow[ing] voters to force a settled issue onto the ballot for a decision” were not permitted in our society.

Roy E. Johnson
Editor’s note: We welcome comments from responsible parties. Commentaries in the Monocle represent the opinion of the author.

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**"Heritage Days" Continued
From Page 1.**

the old equipment and finding out that milk used to be brought to your house. With all our modern conveniences, it's good for them to see how things used to be."

Indeed, Audrey, wearing inflated cow ears thanks to the balloon man on site, found it hard to look up from her work swaying a swinging butter churn to answer questions. She said she'd like to work on a farm some day.

In another room of the renovated barn, Samantha and Danny Vidas, ages 8 and 5, respectively, were equally intent on creating paper bag cow puppets before their next stop to make apple butter at the Damascus Heritage Museum.

Mother Jenny Vidas of Montgomery Village said the children enjoyed educational outings as much as she, a history major in college, did. "What I like so much [about Heritage Days] is it's not commercialized," Vidas said. "There are so many places where you could take the kids that you'd drop a wad of cash...Here, they're learning something and having fun."

Meanwhile, Charlie Schaub of Colesville, his wife, and sister-in-law, had moved on from the MOOseum to Button Farm Living History Center on Black Rock Road, where it was quiet enough to hear the clucking of chickens. Volunteers pulling weeds and preparing a fence for painting later in the day outnumbered visitors at the site.

The Schaub family said they have grown used to such variations in their years as Heritage Day tourists. "We usually take part every year, just hitting spots we've heard about but never been to," Charlie said from under his shading hat. "We rarely recycle...Some of them have been very pleasant surprises."

"They are just so happy to share with us," added Marie Schaub. "At Seneca Schoolhouse, she made us sit in the desks like students." Marie said that

Button Farm was one location she might like to revisit in years to come as they heard of many upcoming projects during their self-guided tour of the site.

Anthony Cohen, executive director of the farm, said that while the focus was on using a recently-awarded grant and preparing the farmhouse for renovations scheduled for November, he hadn't wanted to lose the chance to participate in Heritage Days. "We're just stretched...Hopefully next year we'll do a bit more," Cohen said, "[but] Heritage Days is really great for giving us a high or low water mark on how the farm is doing."

Cohen said repeat visitors often note changes made over the last year or ask about projects that piqued their interests, giving him insight into supporters' hopes for the location.

Maureen O'Connell, president of Historic Medley District, Inc. (HMD), which had three sites open for the weekend, also saw a chance for outreach in the event. "We're trying to put a new face on Historic Medley, make it more a part of the community," O'Connell said as she surveyed the scene at the Poolesville Museum, which has served variously as a bank and town hall. The ornate circa-1900 bank vault stood partially open, surrounded by tables displaying photos from Historic Medley's first photography contest.

Heritage Days was the latest in what HMD plans to make monthly events, including lectures and craft sales, to not only draw attention to the work of the group, facing dwindling numbers, but also to the town of Poolesville.

After the event, O'Connell said there had been a steady flow of visitors at all three locations although Seneca Schoolhouse was the most popular, visited by over one hundred people. One was a Tokyo resident who had grown up in the Upcounty and had last visited the school more than three decades before as a ten-year-old. Other visitors were local and expressed interest in becoming

more involved.

"As a nonprofit, we're being hit like everyone else, and we need to sometimes reinvent ourselves to make sure people don't forget about us," O'Connell said. "We made some new friends for [HMD]."

Back at the MOOseum, Kayla McCloskey of Gaithersburg, 3, will likely never forget where milk comes from after her turn on the mechanical cow. "You squeeze it," McCloskey said seriously. "They do it at farms."

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**"Sam Cooper" Continued
From Page 13.**

years older than Sam. Because of the age difference, they didn't connect for a number of years, but, finally, became acquainted through mutual drama friends. Their musical collaboration goes back roughly five years now. How did they find the other Sleepwalkers, John Middleton on guitars and vocals and Michael Stettes on bass and vocals? In the usual way: Sam posted an ad on CraigsList. They held auditions, and John and Michael were standouts, said Sam.

The band came together over a year ago and has melded into a cohesive, unique sound. "They are incredibly capable musicians and just great, great guys," says Sam. "I was hoping to find a backup band on CraigsList, but I found bandmates." He likens the group to an intense, four-part beast. "I'm in it with them—not separate from them."

Sam Cooper & the Sleepwalkers rehearse and record in Sam's Poolesville house in the family room. Sam has the most space and owns most of the equipment. He adds that they are serious gearheads. They bring an enormous amount of equipment to performances. "I'm a strong believer in the necessity of the right tools."

The whole group works together on all aspects of their success from recording to producing to marketing. They are very independent do-it-yourselfers. The result of the hard work and dedication has been increased visibility on the stage and the June release of their first extended play CD, *New Moon Typewriter*.

Their sound fuses folk rock with classic rock influences of the sixties and seventies, particularly Neil Young, with an adventurous edge. "We are excited by experimentation." Sam wrote all the music and lyrics, but the Sleepwalkers have a huge say in how a song sounds. Sam calls it a "communal collaboration environment."

This past spring, SC&S were ecstatic to go out on their first

road trip. They had performed in the first two (very successful) Sweet Tea Pumpkin Pie (STPP) music festivals in various venues along the U Street corridor in downtown D.C. When STPP sponsored a showcase at the South by Southwest music festival in Austin, Texas last March, SC&S took their music to the Southwest where they were very well received. "The whole trip was a blast. We came home feeling tired, yes, but also refreshed, vindicated, and creatively energized. The unanimous sentiment in SC&S is that the sooner we can go back out on the road, the better."

Locally, the Sleepwalkers play in and around the D.C. area at locales such as the Black Cat, Rock and Roll Hotel, Velvet Lounge, and others. Upcoming shows include Axum's Level X Lounge on July 21 and August 18, and the Foggy Bottom Music Festival 2012 at George Washington University Yard on August 25.

As the band moves forward, Sam reveals that fame and fortune and the rest are not what he seeks. "A dream of mine is to make a comfortable living on making music on my own terms," he explains. "I don't want to be a rock star. I don't want a mansion." Most importantly, Sam wants to make the connection that relationships with music can bring. "I've never been interested in making music with mass appeal," he says. "I don't mean I don't want people to like it. I'm more interested in making music that means a lot to a few people than means a little to a lot."

"I'm hoping that this thing that I feel compelled to do—make music—might make the connection...If you think about music analytically, it's vibrations and frequencies, yet it inspires such emotion, such connection, such disconnection."

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**“Thrift Shop” Continued
From Page 8.**

bit about the soldiers who fought and died nearby and ended up buried in the town.

In 1839, the congregants of the Methodist Episcopal Church saw the need for a burying ground for their members, and a cemetery was established. Ruth Eagle, a twenty-two-year-old woman, was the first person to be buried there in 1839. Some of the other early burials at this site were Richard P. Spates, who was born in 1792, and his wife Amelia. Ellen Hiser, born in Sheperdstown, West Virginia in 1808 and died in 1850, was buried there. Others buried on the site are A. P. Eversole who operated a wagon wheel repair shop in town, Mary Hyatt, George F. Hughes, Daniel Heffner, who was born in 1782, Elizabeth and Margaret Leapley, Mary Freechtigg, Nancy Shanks, Benjamin Wood, Elton Moulden, and Anne Reed.

In 1861, war came to Poolesville. By October of 1861, there were about fifteen thousand soldiers stationed here because of the strategic location between the nation’s capital and the shallow fords that crossed the Potomac River. Camp life was pleasant for some, and one youngster, enlisted as messenger boy, remembered years later that he had become skilled at capturing wild turkeys with his bare hands. He wrote, “We were on our way to camp when I saw a flock of turkeys... I jumped off the wagon like a shot and caught it in a cloud of feathers...but since General Stone had forbidden foraging, I let it go...but when the officers approached [and asked why he hadn’t held on to the turkeys] I jumped that fence...and ran into that meadow and returned in two minutes flat with the turkeys in hand.” It appears that this young boy was happy to leave Poolesville. He mentioned that “Sgt. — was ordered back to (Massachusetts) to enlist recruits and I asked permission to accompany him...and I took two nice fat Maryland opossums north with me.”

Another soldier wrote to his family in November of 1861

that “we are encamped on a slave holder’s plantation here [Poolesville] and we find that his rail fence makes first rate camp fires...but the cold came last Sunday and there was nearly four inches of snow on the ground.” Since the living conditions were spartan, and there was little protection from the elements, soldiers fell sick and some died before they saw battle. Since several soldiers shared a tent here in the first months of the war, overcrowding was a problem. Wet campsites, overwork and exposure, and damp clothing were blamed for much of the illnesses such as consumption and typhoid; however, a citizen, familiar with army life, suggested that the government should send soldiers’ pay directly to their families or wives making it impossible to buy “bad pies and rotgut whiskey!” One soldier from the Fifteenth Massachusetts wrote to his mother, “Please ask the ladies to make the mittens with a forefinger so the soldiers can handle their (rifles).”

The Sixty-ninth Regiment of the Pennsylvania Infantry was almost entirely made up of Irish immigrants. They were sent to Poolesville to provide patrol and protection at the several shallow crossing points on the river. Imagine how different these lads must have found Poolesville compared to their native land! While the regiment did see action, six of their members died here of disease. The remains of Privates Patrick Driscoll, Patrick Higgins, Stewart McCormick, Patrick Doyle, William Kearney, and Alexander Stokes lie in the churchyard today.

The Fifteenth Regiment of the Massachusetts Infantry sent hundreds of soldiers to Poolesville. They had been recruited from Worcester County, Massachusetts and arrived in Poolesville during the summer of 1861. Corporal Malvin Howland, who was a teacher, Private Edward Ware, a shoemaker by trade, and Private Frank Hildreth, who was a harness maker in Fitchberg, Massachusetts, all became sick, died, and were buried in the church cemetery.

On October 16, 1861, the Third Regiment of the Wisconsin Infantry was stationed near Harper’s Ferry. They became engaged with a Confederate force near there and Privates Henry Clemans, Daniel Tuttle, and George Mather were killed. Their bodies were sent to Poolesville for burial.

On October 21, 1861, one of the most controversial battles of the war was fought near Poolesville. At dawn, inexperienced commanders sent Union soldiers from Poolesville to the banks of the Potomac River. They crossed the river to Harrison Island (just south of White’s Ferry) where they intended to attack a Confederate force that was believed to be stationed near Leesburg. Most did not realize that there was a high bluff to climb on the Virginia side of the river. During the ensuing fiasco, over two hundred Union soldiers were killed or were reported missing and probably drowned. Some of the bodies were found weeks later downstream in Washington. Colonel Edward Baker, a personal friend of President Lincoln, was killed, and his body was carried to Poolesville and was viewed by townspeople and fellow soldiers at the Frederick Poole House which still stands on Fisher Avenue.

The Fifteenth Massachusetts Regiment suffered heavy losses in this battle. Privates Lewis Haril, a currier by trade, Luther Turner, a blacksmith before the war, and Sergeant Moses Warren, a spinner before enlistment, were all killed in action and buried at the Poolesville cemetery. Corporal Andrew Cowdrey, a carpenter, Privates Samuel Sibley, a miller, and Alonzo Belknap, a shoemaker, were also buried in the cemetery. In the ensuing months, their families had their bodies exhumed and returned to Massachusetts for burial.

The Twentieth Regiment of the Massachusetts Infantry also sent soldiers to Balls Bluff. Lieutenant William Putman and Privates Alexander Barber and Albert Stackpole were killed and buried at the church cemetery. A letter, sent to the Stackpole

family, said, “Albert Stackpole has since died of his wounds. He bore his sufferings with courage and patience. We buried him as a soldier on Sunday last. A small inscription marks his grave, near the main road leading to the ferry.” Later, Lieutenant Putman was sent back to Massachusetts for burial. Lieutenant Oliver Wendell Holmes, who later became a Supreme Court Justice, was wounded in this battle and in 1884 mentioned Lt. Putman in a speech. He said, “I see a fair-haired lad...still young. As I awoke from my first long stupor in the hospital after the Battle of Balls Bluff, I heard the doctor say, ‘He was a beautiful boy,’ and I knew that one of those speakers was no more.”

Private Luther Olney of the First Rhode Island Artillery and Private Andrew Harper of the Seventy-second Pennsylvania Infantry were also killed and were buried at the cemetery.

It is believed that other Union soldiers who were killed at Balls Bluff were either buried at the church cemetery or near their camps in Poolesville or at Edwards Ferry.

Later in the war, Privates Thomas Davis and Charles Merrill of Maine, and Alonzo Pickett from New York, died of disease and were buried there.

Apparently, the last burial took place at the cemetery about 1864. After years of neglect, many of the headstones were broken or removed. By 1957, almost all of the headstones were missing, and the remaining ones were placed in storage.

In 2002, the Town of Poolesville, Boy Scout Troop 496, the Historic Medley District, and the Elgin family undertook a project to restore the unmarked graveyard. Fencing, landscaping, an exhibit sign, headstone display, benches, and a memorial were installed making it a dignified setting to honor these early residents and fallen heroes.

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Local News

Developer Files Claim against Town In Circuit Court

Nelson Hernandez of 16201 Morrow Road of Poolesville has filed a civil complaint against the Town of Poolesville with the Circuit Court of Montgomery County. The complaint alleges a breach of contract by the Town of Poolesville relating to a contractual agreement between the town and Mary Ann Powell of 16829 Budd Road, the original owner of the property he purchased in January 2003. The agreement allowed the property owner to develop three home sites on lots on Budd Road in exchange for deeding to the town land for a well and pump station.

The objection has to do with the town developing a uranium and radon filtering process at the pump station that Mr. Hernandez claims is in violation of previous agreements that were conveyed to him upon purchasing the property from Mrs. Powell, has lowered the value of his property, and resulted in the loss of a con-

“Town of Poolesville”
Continued From Page 12.

preference.

Joyce Breiner, of Poolesville Green, advocated for the dual separation process stating that the recycling end product that is resold is purer and in more demand by consumers of recyclables (for example, companies purchasing recycled plastic to make new plastic products). She also stated that Montgomery County does not handle single stream recycling and trash collecting. Companies either use private sector or out-of-county single stream recyclers.

The new contract with Unity will first have to be written and approved by the commission before the new contractor takes over from Titus. Titus’s contract will

tract for sale on one of the properties adjacent to the well house.

Mr. Hernandez is seeking \$1,500,000 in damages plus costs and any other amounts the court deems necessary and proper. The town has no comment while the process is under litigation.

be extended during this transition period.

Charter Amendment Changes Scheduled for Public Hearing

Town Attorney Jay Gullo reviewed the remaining low-level “house-cleaning” changes to the town charter. These changes are considered non-controversial and are available from the town hall. The public hearing on the chang-

es is scheduled for August 6.

Solar Energy to be the Sole Agenda Item in Next Town Meeting

The July 23 town meeting will be entirely devoted to exploring the possible solar energy farm to be located near the Water and Waste Water Plant in Poolesville. The array of solar panels will power the WWTP facility, town hall, and up to six other outlets in town operations.

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Wednesday, July 25, 7:00-8:30 pm
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Mysticism In the World’s Faith Traditions
Wednesday, August 1, 7:00-8:30 pm
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**“Derecho Storm” Continued
From Page 1.**

a breakout of fire. After getting the WWTP back up and running properly, they had issues of small fires (mostly smoke) that erupted at various points due to overloads.

While they handled the WWTP problems, Preston King and his crew began surveying town roads to remove trees and limbs blocking roadways. During the previous weekend, pump flows increased by twenty-five percent caused primarily by added usage by outside lawn watering. Emergency water restrictions were necessary, but standard communication systems were not available, and town employees had to go house to house in a couple of the subdivisions in town.

In an after-action review meeting by town staff, one of the chief concerns for improvement under such circumstances is to find new and better ways to foster effective communications.

Commission president Eddie Kuhlman told the *Monocle*, “There are many things to be thankful during the storm and resulting power outage: The resourceful residents of Poolesville and the Upcounty who helped neighbors out, conserved water, and found ways to cool and entertain themselves. Thanks to generators and having enough gas to keep them running, and most importantly, thanks to town staff who left their families to report to work and clear our streets, keep the water running, and the sewer treatment

plant working. Town staff always does a great job and I would like to thank each one of them for their hard dedicated work ethics. Thanks, Preston King, Matt Warfield, Andrew Witt, Craig Warfield, Jason Williams, and Wade Yost for your dedicated service.”

By Sunday evening around 7:00 p.m., electricity to the town began to come back on. Poolesville was not complete until late Sunday night and in other pockets in and around the town, electricity wasn’t restored until 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

The *Monocle* is not aware of any serious health problems or injuries to individuals in our area due to the storm. For residents, the battle of heat, boredom, and worry of how to get by took its toll with many finding unique ways to manage their lives through the outages. Mike and Cathy Bupp, whose power did not come back on until Wednesday, set up the RV camper and lived out of it for the entire time. A generator turned on occasionally helped maintain their freezer, but living in a camper with three adults and four dogs was not the preferred “camping” model for them. Town clerk Bobbi Evans did not have it so good. As it happened, children and grandchildren from Long Island were visiting and, with eight people in the house and food preparation restricted to their barbeque grill, the Monday restoration of power could not have been more welcome.

Out at the Poolesville Golf Course, over one hundred trees came down. Thanks to neighbor

Jamie Jamison, who, despite problems of downed trees and a destroyed barn, came to their aid in helping to remove many trees that were torn apart at the entrance of the golf course. The tent over the food service patio flew into an adjoining tree mimicking soft dough being thrown against a wall.

Other businesses had their issues. Cugini’s restaurant was typical of their situation. They quickly moved all the food into one refrigerator and a freezer and powered them through a generator until around 7:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Further outside of town, residents had to cope with the loss of water that comes with power outages. Homeowners, who may have had small generators to power refrigerators and freezers, could not necessarily just plug in their well pumps. While many Upcounty citizens either store water for these sorts of emergencies, those that raise livestock found themselves with worrisome difficulties because of the heat that accompanied

the power outages. Alicia Bays, a goat breeder in Boyds, had strong concerns about providing water for her animals. From the second storm over the weekend, she was able to capture rainwater for her caprine friends, but as Monday arrived and power had not returned, she finally resorted to driving to a local creek to fill buckets. “We kept holding off on transporting the creek water,” explained Bays, “because we saw the power repair trucks in the area.” Just as she was about to begin distributing the water to all the animals, the power came back on Monday evening. “If we had known that getting creek water would have gotten our power on, we would have done this two days ago,” she laughed. The creek water went into the flower gardens.

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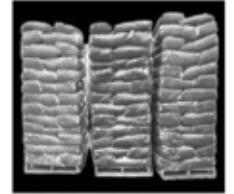
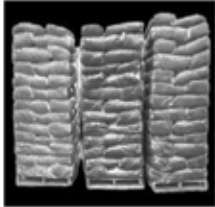
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**"Were You Ready"
Continued From Page 4.**

three days is woefully inadequate in the face of a widespread disaster. For example, when regional gasoline deliveries get interrupted, how long before the grocery stores get restocked? How long do things remain civil? Perhaps it makes sense to be able to hunker down and mind one's own business for a week or so.

I noted that FEMA's short pamphlet *Food and Water in an Emergency* considers three days to be "basic," with some discussion of one or even two weeks. That caught my eye.

There's always a warning before snowstorms, but there was no warning for the 2012 derecho. It's something to think about. Is there anything you should do differently, now, for the next time?

**"Rande(m) Thoughts"
Continued From Page 4.**

The other light show, the UMCVFD fireworks, brought on a different set of reflections on our role in the world. With fireworks canceled in Germantown, Rockville, and Gaithersburg, it seemed like the whole county descended on Poolesville. The full range of human personalities makes an appearance at these kinds of events.

On Hughes Road, cars were parked from before the Poolesville line all the way to River Road. After ending my usual stint as a Monocacy Lion to help park cars and before the fireworks were complete, I had to return by way of River Road to get back to Poolesville. I didn't make a specific count, but there had to be over five hundred cars—maybe more—parked on the road.

Fortunately, most revelers were cheerful and excited over the show, food, and music for the night. Many if not most people had their five-dollar bill

ready to keep the line moving. Still, others came with fifty and even one with a hundred-dollar bill to park. Some pulled up with the bill handed out the window ready for quick pickup while others fumbled through wallets and purses to gather the funds to pay.

Naturally, there were others (I think mostly from out of town) who were shocked and upset that there was a cost. While multiple groups of people walking in failed to donate, there were a few who actually came over to hand me their five dollars of their own accord. One man got on the radio on the next morning and castigated the town for not spraying for bugs. I think if all the on-road freeloaders paid the \$5.00, we could have sprayed enough to keep the critters away for a month.

So where do all these thoughts lead me? To a reminder of the choice we all have: to pick the side we

want to be on. The good news is the good guy team is way bigger than the down and outers. The good guys smiled and exclaimed at the fireworks all the while swatting the bugs away. They happily donated to the fire department their due. Heck, a few even gave more than they had to. When I hear the grumblers, I think of the young scouts, sweating heavily in uniform proudly helping to park cars for five hours. Sometimes it takes a child to put a complaining adult in his place. Hail to the Boy Scouts and the leaders they will become.

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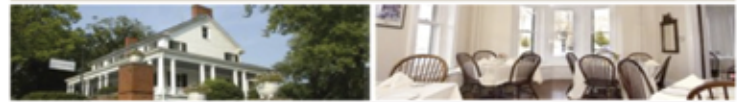
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