



What's a Barnesville guy doing in Baltimore? See Center Stage on Page 16.



We're not sure who caught whom here, but the McKernon Fishing Tournament in Poolesville was a big success. Read about the winners in Tidbits on page 11.



The Holmgrens brought a courting chair to SpringFest. See the Family Album on page 2 for more.



We've got two lacrosse stories in Youth Sports on the inside: one about boys and one about girls.

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

May 24, 2013

Volume X, Number 5

New Middle School to Break Ground in 2014

By Kristen Milton

The new middle school intended to reduce crowding in the Clarksburg and Damascus clusters moved through its latest set of approvals this month, leaving it on track to break ground next year.

The school will be located on twenty-two acres at the intersection of Little Seneca Parkway and Ridge Road (MD 27), and its design will accommodate up to 1,200 students, hopefully shrinking populations at Rocky Hill and John T. Baker Middle Schools.

Plans presented at the May 2 Planning Board hearing show a 153,000-square-foot building ranging from a single story to a maximum three-story height on the side facing Ridge Road. The facility will be surrounded by playing fields and basketball and tennis courts with two

parking lots and bus access abutting Little Seneca Parkway. The parking lots will accommodate 130 vehicles. Construction is slated to begin in June 2014 and be completed by August 2016 at an estimated cost of \$36.8 million.

In presenting the plans, planner Jonathan Casey emphasized changes made due to community input, such as the inclusion of two additional science labs and some adjustments in classroom organization and pedestrian access, as well as security features like an "electronic sign-in sheet." Casey said administrative offices were grouped to overlook the bus loop and main entrance as another nod to safety.

The future school site is currently used as a construction staging area for the Greenway Village subdivision it abuts, but the existing office and other temporary structures will be removed before the school



Renderings of proposed middle school for Clarksburg.

system begins construction, the report said.

Chairman Françoise Carrier expressed some concerns about the amount of impervious surface in the plans, but there were few other comments from the board. The water quality plan and mandatory referral were approved unanimously.

SoccerPlex soars

New leagues and grounds-keeping trial runs, the return of women's soccer, and a report showing millions of dollars

-Continued on Page 20.

A Birthday Wish to Help Wound Warriors

By Rande Davis

Eleven-year-old Lilly Staples wanted to celebrate her birthday with her fifth grade friends at Monocacy and Poolesville Elementary Schools, but rather than focusing on herself, she followed a practice begun at MES to combine school birth-



Lilly Staples, sixth from left, and her friends used her birthday party to help wounded warriors.

day parties with good causes. Lilly's family has a long and extensive military history, including her brother who is

currently serving in the army. Consequently, she chose the Wounded Warrior Project to support as her birthday party theme. She and her twenty-five friends and classmates wrote letters and collected three fifty-pound boxes of gifts for the soldiers recovering at Walter Reed Medical Center (WRMC) in Bethesda.

The recipients of the packages were soldiers in the US Army 82nd Airborne Division and the 2nd Infantry Division.

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Eric Chasin (left) of the Barnesville charity Personal Ponies, with partygoers Jim Bauch and Laurel Hummel.



Irwin Loring hosts the first ever comedy night at Cugini's which served as a fundraiser for Poolesville



Don Hoffacker, Larry Davis, Angie Hoffacker, and Mary Lou Hoffacker enjoyed the 2013 SpringFest that their firm helped sponsor.



Smoke n' Mangoes entertain at the annual SpringFest.



Karen Kalantzis, Enid Wills, and Mary Comfort enjoying a cool one on a cool day.



Berry Thompson (right) and the ticket takers had a good time at the 2013 SpringFest.

Town of Poolesville

Town Government Report

By Rande Davis

State Delegation Reports to Commissioners on General Assembly Actions

On May 20, the Maryland State delegates from District 15 provided their annual end-of-session review of the work in Annapolis at the town meeting in

Poolesville. Making the presentation were House Delegates Brian Feldman and Kathleen Dumais. Delegate Aruna Miller and Senator Rob Garagiola were not in attendance due to other engagements.

Feldman said the four most significant legislative actions of the session were elimination of the state's structural deficit, the implementation of the new gas tax, passage of comprehensive gun control legislation, and repeal of the death penalty. He also cited the Off Shore Wind Energy

Act, Medical Marijuana pilot program, and further development of the biotechnology industry in the state as important new initiatives.

Delegate Feldman was upbeat as to the economic position of Maryland having an AAA credit rating, low unemployment, and the best in the nation evaluation in K-12 education. He observed that eighty percent of all state expenditures go for education, public safety, or health care costs. He further noted that the state constitution requires a balanced budget.

At the same time, he noted that Maryland ranks near the bottom in commuting and other traffic issues and promoted the new gas tax as the first step in making necessary improvements in traffic congestion. In supporting the legislation, he defended the action as being the first such increase in twenty-one years and that without it, the state may not have enough transportation funds for anything beyond maintenance by the year 2017. In a written statement provided by the delegation at the meeting it was noted that the gas tax funds are for transportation expenditures only and should create thousands of jobs and ease traffic congestion. Regardless, the General Assembly still found it necessary to approve a constitutional amendment that puts Transportation Trust Funds (TTF) in a "lockbox" so that those funds will not be used for other state purposes. Even within the amendment itself, though, the governor, by executive order, could declare a fiscal emergency, or by a three-fifths majority vote of all members, the General Assembly could approve other use of the TTF revenue.

Kathleen Dumais used most of her time to elaborate on the process of the passage of the Firearms Safety Act of 2013 (referred to as the gun law). Calling the legislation "among the toughest in the country," she highlighted its ban on military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazine clips, new licensing system for handguns, requirement for gun safety training, and additional penalties for the use of "cop killer" ammunition. The bill

also seeks to restrict "straw purchases" (weapons purchased by persons legally allowed to do so for the benefit of others who are not legally allowed to purchase them) of weapons.

Dumais, who is the vice chair of the House Judiciary Committee that oversaw house action on the gun legislation, noted that it took an extensive ninety-day process which included hearing testimony from all sides of the discussion (approximately nine hundred people). She stated that she went through a personal educational growth experience in the process that widened her perspective on gun ownership, usage, and collection.

During the question-and-answer period, Commissioner Jerry Klobukowski admonished the delegates as to the state's relatively unfriendly business posture, excessive taxes, fees, and surcharges, and warned that persons reaching retirement age are leaving the state to go elsewhere where retirement income is not taxed.

Commissioner Brice Halbrook used the example of the town making significant budget cuts in planned expenditures to pay for unplanned infrastructure work rather than relying mostly on tax increases. He noted, "At a time of increasing state and federal taxing policies, the town chose to do most of the balancing of the budget on cuts in future spending rather than tax increases today."

In thanking the delegation for their hard work and help to Poolesville, Commissioner Brown also pointed out that he is hearing from residents expressing opinions that the state is "going mad with liberal policies."

The delegates also heard from some town residents in the audience. Eddie Kuhlman wanted to know what percentage of crimes in Maryland were committed by persons who legally purchased a gun or guns. The answer, according to Dumais, was that it has not been determined nor was the information used in the process of

-Continued on Page 18.

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Commentary

Still Seeing Dots

By John Clayton

During the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association meeting a couple of weeks ago, one of the speakers, SCA President James Choukas-Bradley, alluded to some proposed road-building across the Potomac River by our good neighbors in the Commonwealth of Virginia. I was hoping to get through the meeting without any resurgence of Bridge Paranoia, so this was not welcome, but as reality will have its way with self-delusion, I was forced to consider his words.

Choukas-Bradley's remark was not the focus of his address, but it resonated with me. The assertion was that the proposed road—one that would run from I-95 to Route 7—was another data point in a "connect-the-dots" puzzle that forms the "outer beltway." Opponents of such developments are not the only ones connecting dots; proponents know how to connect dots, too, especially those who are in professions like freight shipping that depend on speedy access between freight terminals. That is understandable. If you have ever tried to navigate the beltway to Prince George's County on a normal weekday afternoon, you may find you prefer the speedy access of the Inter-County Connector (ICC), which represents a significant collection of dots in the puzzle.

The SCA has a connect-the-dots drawing on their website, if you would like a visual rendering of the concept. If you observe the ICC, you can see Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport at one end (a freight terminal) and a big dead end on the other (in the center of Montgomery County), at least as far as freight shipping is concerned. If one extends the line to simulate where this road might conceivably continue, you cross the river, and then there are other freight terminals in your sights,

such as Dulles Airport, Norfolk, and the Leesburg Costco. While White's Ferry is perfectly serviceable and highly convenient for the latter, fleets of trucks probably don't want to cross the ferry and drive through Poolesville on the way to BWI-Marshall, notwithstanding the obvious aesthetic appeal; so when you draw your lines, you need a road in Virginia to get to Dulles and bring things closer to the river, and a bridge, and a road that connects efficiently to the ICC. Any questions? Yes: Don't you know that this bridge can't be built, because it's too expensive and no one has the money? Yes, but that doesn't matter to can-do people like us. We seem to be able to find the money for pretty much anything once we decide to do it: foreign wars, high speed trains, rebuilding beaches and towns, Metro lines, and moving the Darby Store, you name it. Bridges and roads are a relative pittance. In fact, it would not surprise me to learn we spent more on roads, bridges, Green Zones, and other infrastructure in Iraq than it would take to push a bridge and connecting roads across the Potomac, so saying it can't happen because it is too expensive is a pretty flimsy firewall.

I guess I'll have to keep worrying and maintain my vigilance, for what that's worth. Plenty of people with lots of money want this thing built, and as time goes on, more people will begin to see the sense of it, however misguided we might think that is. The bridge is not dead. Let's keep that in mind. Heaven knows I think about it every time I use the ICC.

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Daytripper

One if by Land, And Two if by Sea: National Cryptologic Museum

By Ingeborg Westfall

We are all likely familiar with those lines from Longfellow's "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," and maybe you've seen hobo symbols exhibited at the Brunswick Railroad Museum or elsewhere. Both are examples of cryptography (the use of ciphers and codes). Ciphers rearrange or change letters into different letters or symbols based on a foundational key. Codes change words into other words or symbols usually based on a set of instructions. There's more to it than that, but the point is that some are "in the know" and outsiders aren't. Revere's visual signal system was understood by only him and his friends and helped the cause of the patriotic rebels in the Revolutionary War's Battle of Concord. In the case of hobos, the signs helped other hobos find food, shelter, and work, or conversely, were warnings of where they'd be turned away. Cryptography, in its many forms, has been around as long as there has been the concept of Us and Them.

That's all by way of a quick introduction to a modest and unassuming one-story museum in Annapolis Junction, Maryland. It's part of and located adjacent to National Security Agency Headquarters, on the edge of Fort Meade. For those of us accustomed to the dazzling displays and imposing expanses of marble in our downtown D.C. museums and elsewhere, it's quite amazing to realize that this museum, opened in 1993, and its drab little building give us glimpses into some of the more history-changing events of the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and the Cold War

(understandably, not much is revealed about more recent events). It's the only museum in the United States devoted to intelligence gathering. For history buffs, those who lived through World War II, and those geekily-inclined, it's pretty much heaven. For the rest of us, it's truly an eye-opener.

Among the thousands of artifacts displayed in the museum are the World War II-era cipher/encoder machine Enigma, used by the Nazis, and the Bombe or Bomba, the machine developed to break its code. I felt chills when I realized that many lives once were lost or saved with these two machines (visitors can use Enigma!). Then to see the exhibit on the Navajo Code Talkers, the room-size Cray supercomputer from the 1980s, and so much more—well, it was pretty impressive. The docent-led tour, conducted by an NSA employee, lasted every bit of an hour and a half and was one of the best tours I've ever been on because the docent conveyed a sense of excitement along with the historic stories he told of unheralded men and women—and (often) geniuses. I enjoyed my visit to the downtown Spy Museum, absolutely yes, with its pricey, glitzy, Hollywood aspects, its movie villains and James Bond cars. This museum, though harder to get to (especially for tourists without a car), is the Real Deal (and it's free). That said, I'd guess that children under ten might prefer the showier, slightly more interactive Spy Museum. I hope that teens might just get the more serious nature of this museum.

Next to the museum are the National Vigilance Park and the Aerial Reconnaissance Memorial, created in 1997 to honor those whose lives were lost in reconnaissance missions. The park features a C-130 airplane like the one downed by the Soviets in 1958.

The National Cryptologic Museum is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the first and third Saturdays of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It also boasts a nice gift shop.



SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER May 2013

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Sugarloaf to Appeal Global Mission Church Decisions

The Board of Directors of the Sugarloaf Citizens Association (SCA) has voted to pursue two appeals of the decisions by Frederick County to approve the site plan for the Global Mission Church (GMC) megacomplex between Old Hundred and Doctor Perry Roads on agricultural land. Access to the project site will cross Little Bennett Creek in Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve.

SCA will appeal the final decision of the Frederick County Board of Appeals to the Frederick County Circuit Court. That appeal must be filed by May 30. Among other things, **the Board of Appeals refused to consider evidence prepared by SCA and others challenging GMC's claim that the megacomplex will use less than 5,000 gallons of septic capacity (in a giant sand mound system, one of the largest ever to be proposed in Maryland) on a peak day, and showing that the proposed megacomplex would be incompatible with surrounding land uses, would threaten the integrity of the sole source aquifer that is the source of drinking water for many in the Ag Reserve, and would result in traffic congestion on Maryland Route 109, a designated Rustic Road.** SCA and its co-appellants will be represented by noted land use attorney Michele Rosenfeld.

At a hearing held on the evening of February 28, 2013, the Board of Appeals **refused to hear the testimony of any of the 22 witnesses** who had come to Frederick to testify against the approval of the GMC site plan. In a final decision on April 30, the Board refused to reconsider its decision.

SCA will also pursue an administrative appeal before the Maryland Department of the Environment concerning the septic issues. SCA and co-appellants will be represented by Ms. Rosenfeld in this matter as well, and will submit a notice of appeal by May 30.

SCA seeks your input, your insights, and your involvement, and as always welcomes your support.

If you have any questions about the GMC megacomplex or other issues, please contact me at president@sugarloafcitizens.org or by phone at 301-349-4889.

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Youth Sports

The Game's the Thing for the Seniors

By Jeff Stuart

"We may lose and we may win though we will never be here again," sang the Eagles. Monday, May 6, was senior night for the PHS girls' lacrosse team. The names of the seniors and their colleges of choice were written in colored chalk designs on the steps leading down to the stadium. For Tara Beaton, Meagan Harkins, Allie Green, Jocelyn Bodmer, Maddie Anderson, and Leila Ettehadieh, all multi-sport athletes, it was one last chance to compete for Poolesville at home. They made the most of their last opportunity. They pushed a very good Wootton team (10-2 overall) before falling, 11-6. Wootton scored just five minutes into the game, but just two minutes later, junior Marie Jankowski tied the game, finishing up a fast break opportunity. The Falcons had a chance to take the lead on another long pass and fast break chance, but junior Olivia McAleer shot wide. Freshman Casey Harkins tied the game at two with seventeen minutes left. Wootton scored again, and again Harkins answered, finishing yet another fast break opportunity to tie the game at three. Wootton would take a 4-3 lead into the half and opened the second half with a goal. Senior Megan Harkins scored to close to 9-6 with about twelve minutes left, but the Patriots would pull away to win.

Head Coach Kristine Augone was proud of her team. "It shows you what you can do without many club players through hard work and teamwork." The team finished 5-1 in the division and 7-6 overall. They rallied after losing four of their first five, to win six straight. Five of the victories came at home.

"I'd have to say our win over Wheaton was our most significant one," said Augone. "When you have a young team, building

confidence early in the season is critical. Prior to playing Wheaton, we were on a three-game losing streak and picking up that win was crucial to our season."

Against Wheaton on April 12, Meagan scored four goals. Green and Jankowski had three. Bodmer and freshman Christina Hilton each had two. Sophomore Anna DeSoto had five saves.

"Beaton was outstanding on defense. Tara only began play-

ing lacrosse last year and had the most ground balls on the team and caused nearly a turnover per game. She made nine saves, filling in at goalkeeper for the Northwest game because DeSoto was away. Meagan was outstanding on offensive, tallying twenty-six goals and four assists this season. Bodmer had outstanding success in controlling the draw. She currently has tallied fifteen on the season. This number only reflects when she gains possession of the draw prior to it hitting the ground. Jocelyn has also been successful in re-defending off the draw and gaining the ground ball off the draw. Amanda Chasin, sophomore low defender, had a breakout season." Bodmer had twenty-one goals on the season and six assists. Anderson led the team with eleven assists. Green had fifteen goals.

Jankowski was second on the team in goals with twenty-four. She had six assists. "Marie has a contagious enthusiasm and a hard-working defensive mentality," said Augone. Freshman Casey Harkins scored sixteen goals with four assists.

Meagan thought the best game of the season was against Northwest. "Our passes were just really crisp. We played really well that day." Against Northwest Ettehadieh had four goals and Green and Jankowski each had

three. Casey Harkins had two assists. Junior Ashley Jordan also scored a goal.

Bodmer thought the March 21 home opener against division champ Damascus (12-1) was a strong performance. "Even though it was a loss, I thought we played well. I think we started strong and finished even stronger."

Allie and Tara are headed for

the University of South Carolina. Meagan is going to Syracuse, Jocelyn to Virginia Tech, Maddie to Georgia, and Leila to University at College Park.



Senior players and their families are honored at the final home game for the PHS girls' varsity lacrosse team.



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Musings from Mama Boe

I Know It, and He Knows It

By Pam Boe

One of my recent Mamaboe.com Husband's Career posts entitled "The Cost of Search and Rescue" prompted a reader to ask me if I was ever afraid of other women luring my catch of a husband away from my side.

She asked me if I had considered that by exposing him, and in such a positive light, to the general populace on my blog the way I do, I might be making him a target for aggressive women on the prowl.

She asked me if I worried that he might be tempted by the thrill of other women who want the hero in him for themselves.

My answer was: "Well, er, no—at least, not until now!"—and golly, thank you very much for putting that little nugget of hitherto unsought anxiety in my brain.

One day, I went to see My Captain at the fire station to take him lunch. He was working overtime for another twenty-four hours after his normal twenty-four-hour shift, and I had not packed enough food for both days.

After having the exchange with the reader who wondered if I wasn't setting myself up for ruining my marriage, I decided to put a little effort into my appearance before I left to go visit him. You'll note I didn't say more effort. I just said effort. That was intentional. Some people dress for success, some for good first impressions. I dress for comfort. Some women dress with the purpose of attracting men's attention. I dress with the purpose of avoiding chaffing.

Don't judge.

Like I said, after that confidence-shattering exchange with the reader, I put effort into my appearance. I brushed my hair, smelled my armpits, and put on clothes that weren't made entirely of stretchy cotton knit and had

the words "comfort waist" somewhere on the tags.

I think I looked pretty dag-gum nice, really. I kind of felt pretty.

I arrived at the station to feed My Captain. Distracted, as always, he gave me a peck on the cheek without really looking at me and said he'd be right with me.

Twenty minutes later, he rejoined me at the kitchen table, long enough to snarf down the food and wipe his mouth. When the alarm tones sounded, he ran off to a high-rise fire without so much as a look back.

This is how his life has been since I've known him. It is one of the things I love about him: his being so needed by the world. I've never minded sharing—well, mostly—so today's visit should not have bothered me so much—except that I had made an Effort, you see, to be, er, Attractive, but since he doesn't usually find me attractive that way, he wasn't paying attention. At first I was hurt, but upon reflection, I remembered that he is not attracted to my fine eyes; or my above-average height; or my once fine, but now slightly saggy, boobies.

He never was.

He fell in love with my intellect, my wit, my ability to care deeply for people, my sensitivity, my intuition. These are the things that really mattered to him—and still do.

I had not been giving him enough credit. He's not some twenty-year-old whose groin makes his decisions. He's a seasoned and wizened mid-forties-year-old who knew he'd made a lucky catch in the chubby, but hilarious, and seriously loving, Me.

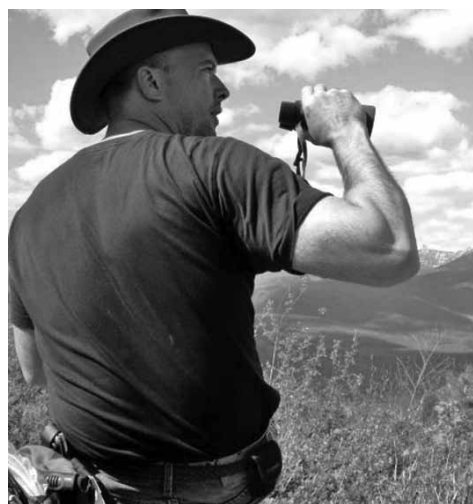
Are there women around him with more visually appealing traits? Uh, yeah, like a kabillion gillion of them.

There are female firefighters he works with quite often who are drop-dead gorgeous, physically strong, wickedly courageous, and would therefore be triple threats. There are women

on any given work day who see him in his uniform and give him the Come Hither look. That's the curse of any man in uniform, I suspect.

I can't worry that any one of them would make a single difference to him because, one, if they did, I'd rather he leave, and, two, as wonderful as they all are, they ain't me—and I'm the best me

there ever was—or ever will be. I know it—and he knows it.



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Local News

Three Local Girl Scouts Attain Highest Honor

The Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital announced the Girl Scout Gold Award Class of 2013, and among those achieving the highest honor earned within the organization are Poolesville's Emily Grubb, Jennifer Haller, and Alyssa Nubgaard. Gold Star recipients exhibit superior leadership, organization skills, and a higher commitment to community service.

Emily Grubb, a senior at Poolesville High School will be attending Flagler College in Florida, and Jennifer Haller who is also a senior will be attending Salisbury University. Alyssa Nubgaard is a junior.

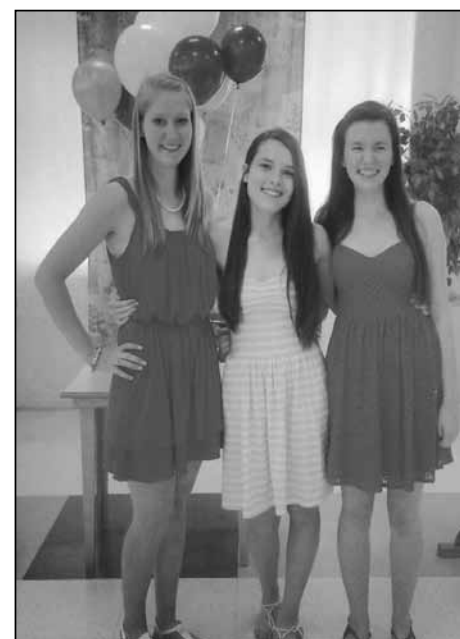
Each girl developed a specific community service project in obtaining the Gold Star award.

Jennifer's project was entitled "Animals that Heal." She coordinated several groups of volunteers to assist in the creation of stuffed animals and fleece blankets. These animals are intended for use by the local fire department when children are in need of extra comfort after a traumatic event. The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department is excited to receive these gifts as they will provide com-

fort to many young children.

Alyssa and Emily both chose to do projects with Poolesville Elementary School. They identified the need to help elementary students develop a strong foundation in basic math and reading skills, along with organizational skills. They recruited a variety of high school students to assist with the tutoring and started a homework club at the elementary school. This group has met twice a week for the past year and half, and the girls have seen some great successes.

The young women will be further honored at a ceremony at Trinity Washington University, conducted by the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital. "We are proud of the powerful legacy these Gold Award Girl Scouts are leaving in their community," said Lidia Soto-Harmon, Chief Executive Officer Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital. "I am confident that these girls will be powerful agents for progress and change."



Gold Star Winners Jennifer Haller, Alyssa Nubgaard, and Emily Grubb.

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Things to Do

Every Wednesday:

Poolesville Public Library

UMD Master Gardeners' Clinics. 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Poolesville Presbyterian Church

Connection Café – free computer services and help. Coffee and snacks. 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

May 24

Cugini's Entertainment Night

Featuring: Tony Grasso. 8:30 p.m.

AHOP Entertainment Night

Featuring: Paul and Holly. 8:30 p.m.

May 25

Wine Tasting at Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards

Poolesville Relay for Life Fundraiser. Join us for a wine-tasting event hosted by Poolesville Relay for Life team, Ladies for the Fight, benefitting the American Cancer Society. The cost is \$15 per person. The price includes tastings of select wines, light refreshments, and live music. All proceeds of the event and 10% of à la carte purchases will benefit the American Cancer Society. 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

May 26

Live Music Featuring: Jim Counter

Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards Tasting Room. 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

May 28

Bassett's Benefit for Relay for Life

10% of all food proceeds to benefit Poolesville RFL. Includes dine in and carryout.

Seniors Evening around the Campfire!

This is a Gathering Place – Senior Activity Center Special Event. Bring a piece of per-

sonal history written to share! There will be some music to enjoy. Each visitor: Write down something about the town you live in that maybe no one knows! Come out and enjoy roast marshmallows and lots of good conversation and reminiscing. We promise to entertain all of you on this evening! 19520 Darnestown Road, Beallsville. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Poolesville Library Book Discussion Group for Adults

Featuring: *Cleopatra: A Life by Stacy Schiff*. Copies are available for checkout at the circulation desk. 7:00 p.m.

May 29

Relay For Life Fundraiser Extravaganza at Cugini's Restaurant & Bar

Cugini's will donate 10% of total sales (dine-in or carry-out) to the American Cancer Society. There will be drink specials, many free door prizes, a 50/50 raffle and more. 5:00 p.m.

June 1

The Jungle Book

Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre presents *The Jungle Book* at the PHS auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

Here Comes Trouble

Here Comes Trouble "kiddie" band playing to benefit the Cure Juvenile Myositis JM Foundation. Band, auction, games, moon bounce, face painting, and fun. Whalen Commons. \$5/wristband/kids. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

June 1 and 2

Live Music Featuring: Rob Thorworth

Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards Tasting Room. 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

June 5

WUMCO Help, Inc. 28th Annual Meeting

Public invited to attend. There will be a special award ceremony to recognize persons assisting this nonprofit organization dedicated to helping those in need in upper Montgomery County. Located at the Poolesville Old Town Hall Bank Museum (19933 Fisher Avenue). 7:30 p.m.

June 6

Special Card Game Day

The Gathering Place Senior Activity Center will be holding a game day. Gather a foursome or join one of ours for a game of your choice. Lunch served for \$6.00 donation.

The Gathering Place, 19520 Darnestown Road, Beallsville. 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

June 8 to 15

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School News

Martinez Selected as Distinguished Hispanic Scholar

Congratulations to Amanda N. Martinez of Poolesville High School for being selected as a Distinguished Hispanic Scholar. Twenty MCPS students were recognized as Distinguished Hispanic Scholars during the Hispanic Alliance for Education's annual scholarship ceremony on May 9. The keynote speaker was Silvia Rodriguez MacDonald, ESOL teacher at Lois P. Rockwell Elementary School and one of ten educators nationwide named as a Champion of Change by the White House and the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence.

Amanda was one of five students receiving a \$1,000 scholarship. Fifteen received gift cards.

Two PHS Students Win \$2,500 National Merit Scholarships

PHS seniors Anyuan Chu and Joy S. Zeng have been awarded National Merit \$2,500 Scholar-

ships by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). The students are among fifty-six high school seniors in Maryland and twenty-four in Montgomery County to be selected as winners in the 58th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. The scholars were selected from a pool of more than 15,000 students, and will receive a one-time award of \$2,500 for post-secondary education. The NMSC was established in 1955 to honor scholastically talented youth and to encourage academic excellence at all levels of education. Recipients are judged to have the strongest record of accomplishments and greatest potential for success in college. Chu plans to study Computer Science and Zeng will pursue Biochemical Engineering.

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Police Blotter: Past and Present

By Jack Toomey

Current Crime

Assault: 19500 block of Halamos Road, 18700 block of Jerusalem Church Road.

Burglary: 19500 block of Wootton Avenue, 21100 block of Beallsville Road.

Theft: 19800 block of Beatriz Avenue, 19300 block of Darnestown Road.

Theft of vehicle: 21300 block of White's Ferry Road.

Disorderly conduct: 17200 block of Brown Road, 19700 block of Wootton Avenue.

Past Crime

May 24, 1933 Two Montgomery County doctors were indicted for manslaughter in connection with a case where they used controversial means to try to cure a woman of cancer. The grand jury heard that the doctors used corrosive salve on the breast of the woman who died. Other patients claimed that the doctors had cured them of cancer.

May 29, 1935 The feasibility of tattooing poultry was discussed at the monthly meeting of the Montgomery County Poultry Association at Rockville. Because of the rising rate of chicken thefts, it was proposed that each farmer have his own tattoo and that the marking be registered with the State's Attorney. Police Chief Garrett said that the plan was a good one.

May 30, 1935 The trial of Anne Lydanne, charged with

hiring a man to kill her husband, was set to get under way at Rockville. Mrs. Lydanne and four Washington police characters were all charged in the plot. Court watchers and other interested citizens were vying for seats in the courtroom. Before the trial could commence, county commissioners questioned the fee paid to a handwriting expert from New Jersey. Bert Farrar, who once worked on the Lindbergh kidnapping case set a fee of \$480 for his work ordered by the prosecution. The commissioners said that the fee was too high.

June 4, 1935 Officers Nolte and Griffith were called to Mount Zion to investigate the report of a drunk and disorderly man. They arrested Albert Jackson, age 41. The officers were suspicious that Jackson may have committed other crimes, and when they took him to headquarters in Rockville, they discovered that Jackson was wanted in Baltimore County in a four-year-old murder case.

June 6, 1935 Robert Moore was found guilty in Rockville Court of speeding in excess of 60 mph and of using a smoke screen device. Police Officer Howard testified that he chased Moore throughout the eastern part of the county and then into Washington. Officers Howard and Dixon then lay in wait, and when Moore returned to the county, they arrested him. Moore was sentenced to ninety days in jail.

Tidbits

Lost Wedding Ring at Springfest

A wedding ring was lost in the vicinity of Whalen Commons on May 18. If you found a wedding ring, the owner can be reached at 301-602-7554. You will make one couple very happy!

Results of 2013 McKernon Fishing Tournament

The 23rd Annual Richard S. McKernon Fishing Tournament was highly successful with Graham King the grand prize winner after catching a 6.8-pound, 26-inch catfish. The other winners by age group were:

Ages 6 to 8: First, Jonah Valmonte; second, Mackenzie Kanol; and third, Liam Morrow and Meghan Davidson; ages 9 to 11: first, Carter Hottinger; second, Shane Haga; third, Isaac Feny; ages 12 to 13: first, Jared Brooks; second, Kelly Hottinger; third, Colin Thomas; ages 14 to 16: first, Hunter King; second, Kevin Mikk; third, Steven Mikk.

The PHS Booster Club Seeks Candidates for Club Officer Positions

Nominations are now being accepted for officers for the Poolesville High School Athletic Booster Club for the 2013-2014 school year. If you are interested in submitting a nomination, please contact the booster club at PHS-Boosters@gmail.com. Nominations are due by Friday, June 7. Elections will be held at the next booster club meeting on Monday evening, June 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the PHS

conference room.

Rockville Police Station Moves

After nearly fifty-four years, the Rockville station, also referred to as the 1st District, of the Montgomery County Police Department will close on May 22.

The officers, administrative staff, and detectives will move from the Seven Locks Road location to their new home at 100 Edison Park Drive on the west side of Gaithersburg. Residents might recognize the address as the old National Geographic Building on Darnestown Road.

After May 22, all Poolesville area residents wishing to conduct police business should go to the new location at Edison Park Drive. Residents of Barnesville and the north and east sides of Dickerson will continue to be served by the Germantown station on Airpark Drive.

All telephone numbers and email addresses will remain the same.

Bays Graduates to DVM

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Agnew are proud to announce the graduation of their daughter, Dr. Alicia Bays, from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Bays is a 2006 alumna of Poolesville High School and received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Mount St. Mary's in 2009.

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Winning anglers of the 2013 Richard S. McKernon Fishing Tournament.

In the Garden

Odds and Ends

By Maureen O'Connell

The end of May is an "odds and ends" time for me and my garden. If you have done your spring cleanup chores, mulched, and fertilized your flower beds, you can sit back (for a moment), and enjoy your garden merrily moving along. I have been out of town for three weeks in May, so I have not planted any annual flowers; it was too cold for the garden centers to carry them. I have always considered May and June to be the finest months for my gardens. The peonies and irises are out and about, the hostas and ferns are beyond glorious, and the roses are sporting fat buds which will break out in early June to rave reviews. Best of all, the serious garden pests have not yet arrived in town, and drought and heat conditions are not in the weather forecasts. Unfortunately, this will probably not last too long—so enjoy your gardens now.

In this article, I would like to discuss three topics that are pertinent to your current garden plans.

Do we need to feed our flowers? Oh, what a loaded question. Any answer has the potential to upset just about everyone from the white-coated scientists and the makers of Miracle-Gro to the environmentalists striving to protect the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Theoretically, we should not have to feed trees, flowers, vegetables, shrubs, etc. Thank you very much, but nature has, for quite a long time, looked after itself quite well, but a garden is an unnatural environment. We cram into small spaces plants that would not normally exist together in the same soils or the same climate zones. They have differing needs, yet we expect outstanding performances and fabulous flowers for an extended period of time from our hostas, peonies, roses, annuals, and anything else we plant in the ground. Unfortunately, like people, plants

crowded together can be prone to suffer from a myriad of problems. Ideally, the soil would feed itself; garden debris would go back into the soil, creating moisture-retaining humus, and worms and microbes would aerate the soil, but this does not always happen, so we sometimes must resort to synthetic fertilizers. They are not all inherently bad; it depends on their degree of concentration and the extent to which they are fast acting that are more important than how they were created. Fertilizers are made up of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium; the numbers shown on their labels—10-10-10 or 20-20-20, etc.—indicate the individual concentrations. At the beginning of the spring growing season, I use a balanced, general purpose fertilizer such as 10-10-10 or Preen 9-12-9 on all my flower gardens. For my roses, I use Espoma's Rose-Tone Organic (6-6-4). It is eco-friendly; I sprinkle it around the base each month from May to September. Overall, I think that fertilizers are greatly overused. Many people believe that if a plant is doing poorly, it must need to be fertilized. Not true; lack of food is usually not the reason. If you decide to use fertilizers, read the labels carefully. Choose the ones best suited for particular plants and don't overdo it

Have you noticed a bright green slender vine with large, heart-shaped leaves and large, white, trumpet-shaped flowers sneaking around your flower beds? It is not the beautiful, annual Morning Glory; it is its evil cousin bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*). It is a pernicious, perennial weed that smothers anything in its path, and it is one of the most difficult to control, as it persists from a perennial root system that is able to regenerate from the smallest of sections. It spreads mainly from an underground stem (rhizome). The roots can go sixteen feet deep into the soil with an outward spread of up to six feet or more. Non-chemical controls are rarely effective, since you can't dig deep enough to get

the whole root system. As the sturdy vine winds its way up a flower stem, you risk damaging the good plant. How do you get rid of it? You must carefully apply an herbicide such as Roundup to just the weed. Where it is entwined around a plant, unwind it, spread it out and paint it or drizzle with a sponge a small amount of the herbicide. It might take several applications to kill it. If you ignore it, it will take over your entire garden, smothering everything in its path with a thick canopy of green vines. You can see why it is sometimes called Witch's Weed or Devil's Vine.

Don't have room for a separate vegetable garden? Do what people have done for hundreds of years and interplant vegetables and herbs among your flowering plants. Flowers bring pollinators and beneficial insects to gardens which will also benefit vegetables. Squash plants can have lush vines and leaves, topped with large flowers, but if the flowers aren't pollinated, no squash will

develop. Beneficial insects are important because they target and organically control many pests, such as the tomato hornworm. Many vegetable plants rival ornamental plants. Kale, with its tall, sturdy, ruffled leaves, comes in a variety of gorgeous colors; dill and fennel foliage is feathery and delicate; salad greens come in all shades of delicate-to-strong hues; perky pepper plants come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. There is even a place for tomatoes in a flower garden. Look around your garden and see where some vegetables could light up the flowers.

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May 30: Jay Summerour - 7:30 p.m.

May 31: Kelsey Siegel - 8:30 p.m.

June 6: Corn hole tournament - 5-8 p.m.

June 7: Ron Kemp - 8:30 p.m.

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Remembrance

Joanna "Joann" Marie Magaha Dorsey



Joann Marie Dorsey, 66, peacefully passed from this life on May 6, 2013 at home in Walkersville, Maryland with family members by her side. She was the wife of Larry W. Dorsey of forty-eight years.

Born in Martinsburg, West Virginia on July 29, 1946, she was the eldest child of Archie T. F. Magaha and Virginia I. Braithwaite Magaha. Joann grew up in Barnesville and graduated from Poolesville High School. She worked for several private businesses before ending her career at Washington Laboratories, Ltd. as the office manager for twenty years.

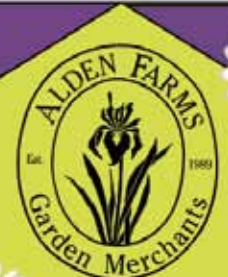
Joann loved gardening, shopping, reading, traveling, the beach, and antiquing. She had a talent for decorating her lovely homes and loved organizing parties and events. Most of all, she loved her family and friends and spending time with them.


She is remembered as a very kind and loving person, always willing to lend a helping hand.

She was a devoted mother to Karri Morningstar (Patrick) of Dickerson, Kevin Dorsey (Dawn) of Boyds, Keith Dorsey (Krista) of Boyds, Kristopher Dorsey (Karen)

of Adamstown, and Susan Francis (David) of Germantown. She was the beloved "Nana Jo" to Kyle, Charles, and Kaysie Marie Morningstar; Samatha "Sammi" Jo, Cody William, and Jessica "Jessi" Anne Dorsey; Lexi Ann Dorsey, Katelyn Marie, and Kristina Elizabeth Dorsey; and Sydney Marie, Nick, and Toni Francis. She is also survived by her two younger sisters, Connie Frances Rough (Ronald) of Walkersville, Maryland, and Donna Sue Elgin (Charles) of Adamstown, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Frederick County, MD, 516 Trail Ave., Frederick MD 21701, or to St. Jude, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, www.stjude.org or to the Glade United Church of Christ, P. O. Box 236, 21 Fulton Ave., Walkersville, MD 21793.



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Youth Sports

Sticking It Out

By Jeff Stuart

The schedule was tough, starting on the road against rival Damascus (10-3). The Falcons' first five opponents had a combined forty-eight wins and only twenty-three losses. After an opening losing streak, Poolesville rebounded to win four of five, finishing 4-2 in the 3A/2A Division and 4-9 overall. The regular season home final came against a very strong Wootton team (11-2). "They were the fastest team we played all year," said Head Coach Tom Keefe. Wootton finished as the *Gazette's* top-ranked public school team in the county. The lone PHS goal that day was scored by freshman Adam Branscome. It came late in the contest and broke the shutout. It was a tough way for the seniors, many of them multi-sport athletes, to go out, but their task in this difficult

year was to provide leadership. They did that.

"We beat Einstein (8-7) in our third home game of the season," said Kirby Carmack. "We had a three-game winning streak. It was a close game. We won, 10-7. Playing a tough game like that and coming out on top, that was probably the most rewarding win of the season. The Northwest game was on a Saturday morning, and I don't know how awake we were for the early part of the game. They got out to a really big lead (7-0). We just started chopping away, one by one. We tied the game at seven and were up at one point, 11-9, but they capitalized on some of our mistakes. They scored three goals in a row to end it." Senior Nikolay Henze, a running back on the Falcons' football team, had some strong power moves, coming from the back of the goal to his right, and goals by Jake Armstrong led the Poolesville comeback. "Northwest was a fun game, but we are a better team than we showed in that first quarter," said Coach Keefe.

Carmack, a football and



Head Coach Tom Keefe giving the Falcons guidance and motivation.

basketball star, has worked hard with his teammates for three years. He cited several senior teammates for their play this year. "Senior Michael Branscome stepped up big time this year, scoring goals. Tyler Giarratano at face off and middle has been a huge senior for us. Connor Hogan on attack did a good job feeding the freshmen and teach-

ing them. He helped keep it all together. That's what it is all about." After a noteworthy career at PHS, Kirby is going to Georgia Tech next fall.

"Even though we lost, I am going to have to say the B-CC game was our best game of the

-Continued on Page 17.



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Center Stage

By the Dawn's Early Light

By Dominique Agnew

The nation's capital was faced with a critical situation. Bipartisan bickering and an ineffective president weakened the government and paralyzed its ability to make decisions. The fiscal cliff? Sequestering? No, and no—how about the War of 1812 and the burning of the White House, the Library of Congress, and other important government buildings? *Through the Perilous Fight: Six Weeks That Saved the Nation*, by Steve Vogel, author of the highly-praised *The Pentagon*, is an in-depth look at a six-week period of U.S. history beginning in August of 1814 that was one of the most pivotal periods in our nation's formative years.

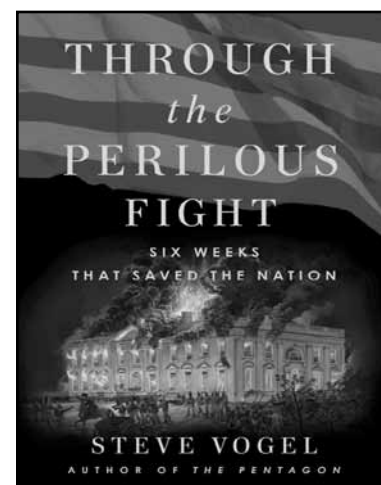


Local author and Washington Post reporter Steve Vogel

Although the War of 1812 lasted over two years, it took Steve even longer to write the book. Over nine months of research, including trips to England and Northern Ireland, archeological digs, and delving through old letters and diaries were all part of the investigative work required to just begin to put together the history of those harrowing six weeks. In 2008, Steve came up with the idea for *Through the Perilous Fight* as he realized the bicentennial of the War of 1812

was approaching. He had read and learned quite a bit about the Civil War but didn't know much about the War of 1812. "In 2009, I launched the project," he says, taking an eighteen-month leave of absence from his job covering international affairs at *The Washington Post*. He wanted to tell the story of the people behind the history.

"There's a lot material out there," he noted. He found letters and diaries at the Maryland Historical Society of Baltimore (where Francis Scott Key penned the national anthem), the National Army Museum, the Royal Marines Museum, and the National Museum of the Royal Navy (many of the British officers were from Northern Ireland), and the Library of Congress, to name



a few places. Ironically, Steve found the papers of Admiral George Cockburn—the U.S.'s evil nemesis who laid waste to planta-

-Continued on Page 20.

Tidbits of the Past

By Jack Toomey

May 7, 1930 Poolesville held its annual election. Harry Willard, Merle Morningstar, Dr. Brooks, and Clara Price were elected to the town council. A triple tie between Isaac Fyffe, Rebecca Hall, and Robert Gray caused a run-off election for the fifth spot on the council.

May 13, 1931 Judge Charles Woodward announced that the Police Court had collect \$5,227 in dog registration taxes.

May 15, 1931 An appeal was made over radio station WMAL for donations by the Montgomery County Social Services League. It was pointed out that farmers had not yet recovered from the drought, and that many families were without sufficient clothing.

May 21, 1930 Estimates were being examined before the awarding of a contract to build a road between Poolesville and Sycamore Landing (presumably present-day Hughes Road). The cost would be shared by a bond issue supported by property owners in the Poolesville District.

A letter was sent to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad urging the completion of the underpass at Bucklodge. It was pointed out that several bad accidents between automobiles and trains had hap-

pened there.

The county council approved the permit for building an amusement park at Chevy Chase Lake and for a new restaurant on the Rockville Pike to be called the Villa Roma.

May 26, 1931 The annual Montgomery County athletic meet was held at the Rockville Fairgrounds and included such events as dodge ball, flag relay, target pitch, relay races, dashes, and field events.

In the boys' events, A. Rippion of Hyattstown won the 50-yard dash, and Nicholas of Dickerson High won the broad jump. In the Run and Catch Relay, Dickerson High prevailed. Painter of Poolesville High won the 70-yard dash.

In the girls' events, Poolesville came out in first place in the Block Relay Race.

May 28, 1931 The Silver Spring High baseball team beat Poolesville 9-3. Ruebel and Reed both had two hits for Poolesville.

May 29, 1931 Doctor E. W. White treated two men who were brought to his home. They had been injured when their car crashed on the road to Darnewtown.

Material for this column was obtained from the archives of The Washington Post.

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**"PHS Boys' Lacrosse"
Continued From Page 15.**

season," said Joe Tyler. "They were underestimating us. They thought we were trash, honestly, and we gave them a hard-fought game." The wins and losses didn't add up like he wanted, but has Joe seen growth? "Of course. Poolesville has some young freshmen that have great futures: Jake Armstrong in the crease, Jona Hetrick at midfield, Adam Branscome at attack. I think things look bright for next year." Joe is going to West Virginia.

"We played very well at B-CC," said Keefe. "We lost, 7-3, but we did a lot of things well. The defense had a great day. Cody Zinsser (our back-up) was in the goal the whole game and played a great one. Carmack had twelve ground balls. Nikolay Henze scored one goal, Joel Hessesels one goal, Tyler Giarratano had a goal that was assisted by Jonathan Hetrick. We just did not have enough on offense."

"Going into this year, we knew we lost a kit of talented seniors from last year," said Hogan, "but we thought we could replace that with hard work, and a lot of the freshmen stepped up. Jake Armstrong and Jon Hetrick were very good this year. Stanley Snowden, his first year in goal, did very well." His favorite moment at Poolesville? "My freshman year, I was on JV. We played Seneca Valley, and we came back from about four down. It went into overtime, and I ended up scoring the game-winning goal."

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**"Town Government"
Continued From Page 3.**

developing the legislation. Bob Cissel thanked the delegates for their hard work and asked for state support in funding improvements for building a new high school, a community town center, and further support of the Ag Reserve. He echoed Klobukowski's admonition on losing many valued retired persons due to the high cost of living in Maryland.

Two Public Hearings, One Public Comment

There were two hearings on proposed ordinances at the May 20 meeting. Ordinance No. 195 provides for a town loan for the Westerly Infill and Infiltration (I&I) project and Ordinance No. 193 changed town fire inspection requirements to meet with county and state regulations. The only question offered was by Frank Jamison who wanted to have a clarification of the new change regarding the property fire inspection. The town previously

required an inspection not only at the time of permitting but also at the time of change in use by the business. The town is dropping the change in use requirement providing the fire code inspection was properly made at the time of issuing the town business permit or otherwise, meets state safety requirements.

It Is Hereby Resolved

The town passed three resolutions, two concerning the Westerly I&I project. Resolution 004-13 and 005-13 passed on unanimous vote. The former established the process of repayment of the loan for the project, and the latter established the intent to repay the loan. Both resolutions were required to be passed in order to advance the loan process. Resolution 003-13 allows the town to establish a Bay Restoration Fee exemption plan for residential property owners showing a substantial hardship. This resolution passed with four votes in favor and one abstention by Klobukowski, stating that he

did not totally oppose the bill and therefore did not vote against it, but held unexplained reservations as to its passage.

Tenant/Landlord Disputes

Following a previous presentation by representatives of the Montgomery County Office of Landlord/Tenant Affairs, the commissioners agreed to hold a public hearing for tenants and landlords to obtain further guidance as to whether the town should allow the county to handle any such complaints or disputes. Currently, there is no town entity to handle the concern. The hearing will be scheduled later this summer.

Solar Energy Next Step

The commissioners decided to have another work session on the decision to establish a solar array for the town which could lead to an agreement with Standard Solar to do so. The purpose is to hear more information from an independent consultant with representatives of Standard Solar in attendance to respond to issues raised. The commissioners are working to make a final decision prior to the end of June, a requirement by Standard Solar

if the project is to go forward. A work session is a public meeting of discussion by commissioners and guest speakers. The public is invited to attend but will not have an opportunity to speak or ask questions.

Fisher Avenue Sewers to Have Rehab

The firm of Humphrey and Sons has been awarded the contract to conduct the sewer rehabilitation of Fisher Avenue. The \$147,000 contract was the lowest of all bidders, and Humphrey and Sons is also the winning bidder for the Westerly I&I project.

No Verizon on the Horizon?

The town has had several citizen complaints regarding the Verizon restoration (or lack thereof) after the FiOSs installation. Problems range from cracked driveways, humps in roadways, holes in yards, and misplacement of in-ground boxes. The town has worked with Verizon over the last five months to bring resolution to these issues to no avail. Two weeks ago, the town began issuing municipal infractions to Verizon and is seeking an injunction in Circuit Court. Verizon has not responded to the citations as of yet.


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**"New Middle School"
Continued From Page 1.**

spent by out-of-state visitors all earned the Maryland SoccerPlex a hearty pat on the back from the planning board during its annual review.

Kate Stookey, chief of the park's Public Affairs and Community Partnerships, called the year's accomplishments "considerable and impressive" while board members at the May 2 presentation hailed the twelve-year-old venture as an example of a successful public/private partnership.

The SoccerPlex, consisting of approximately two dozen indoor and outdoor fields in Boyds's South Germantown Recreational Park, submits an annual report under the provisions of its partnership with the county. According to the latest, which covered fiscal year 2012, the site hosted 3,400 youth and 1,600 adult soccer matches, eight soccer tournaments, three lacrosse tournaments, as well as its first rugby match at the stadium. Administrators projected a six-percent increase in operating revenue and a two-and-a-half-percent increase in expenses for 2013.

"We had a good year," Maryland Soccer Foundation executive director Trish Heffelfinger said.

Various new leagues and partnerships, from nonprofit to professional, were mentioned for the coming year. The "re-launch" of a women's professional soccer league in March drew an average of 3,500 attendees to the Washington Spirit's first two

games, Heffelfinger said.

A partnership with Wounded Warriors Soccer meant the start of clinics for children of Walter Reed Medical Center patients this month while another arrangement with Champions of Tomorrow will launch a high-level girls' lacrosse league in the fall. Heffelfinger said she was also developing a soccer program with Identity Inc. of Gaithersburg which works with Latino youth.

Facilities changes at the site covered in the report included installing lights on two additional fields, adding landscaping, and planting new grass at the stadium field. Five fields have been equipped with sand drains which, if successful, will be implemented park-wide in coming years. The new system will hopefully result in fewer weather-based cancellations, Heffelfinger said.

Heffelfinger also briefly summarized the results of an economic impact study conducted at three fall tournaments. The report estimated that the SoccerPlex drew approximately 51,000 out-of-state visitors each year who then spent an estimated \$14 million on hotels and other local businesses.

The Maryland SoccerPlex is part of South Germantown Recreational Park, which also includes King Dairy Mooseum, a splash playground, tennis courts and tennis bubble, and a miniature golf range, among other amenities.

**"By the Dawn's Early Light"
Continued From Page 16.**

tion homes and much of D.C.—in the Library Congress—the rebuilt Library of Congress since Cockburn burned the original Library of Congress.

Steve's research didn't involve just poring over musty tomes in dank caves of cavernous libraries. He also met interesting people (historians are incredibly interesting) and went on exciting field trips.

During his trip to Northern Ireland, a local historian introduced Steve to the descendants of Major General Robert Ross, commander of the British troops—the other evil nemesis who worked closely with Cockburn in the burning of Washington. The Rosses told Steve the story of how, as children playing with Ross's swords, they had accidentally pierced Ross's portrait that hung in their home. Incidentally, the family visited the Smithsonian Institute's National Portrait Gallery last fall to see the pierced portrait they had lent to the gallery for the bicentennial commemoration. The portrait has since been returned to Northern Ireland.

On another field trip, this one to Bladensburg, Steve took his older children, ten-year-old Donald and seven-year-old Charlotte (at the time), to see an archaeological dig wherein archaeologists were searching for an old barn that existed on maps of two hundred years ago showing the last American line of defense. The

archaeologists invited Donald and Charlotte to help on the dig. They found old bottles, nails, and pieces of construction material, and an old slate floor.

Other outings included reenactments, commemorations (with simulated burnings), viewing various historic sites in and around Frederick (where Key's family members lived), Baltimore, and D.C. In an effort to leave no stone unturned, Steve even took to the sea in his boat numerous times to get the perspective the British Navy would have had—even going on a joint cruise with 1812 historians to "compare notes." While the shoreline around D.C. has changed slightly, the basic contours remain similar whereas around Bladensburg, the Anacostia River has silted up and no longer reaches the former port city.

After all the research and the mulling over and digesting of the story, Steve got down to the nitty-gritty of writing in an old cabin on his Barnesville property—"one of my favorite parts." Unfortunately, this part isn't a tale of grueling hardship. He did not type on an old non-electric typewriter by the light of an oil lamp. He did not suffer in the winters from drafty gaps in the chinking, nor did he swelter in the summer with beads of sweat on his brow and insects and rodents scurrying in the dark corners. No, sadly, he had a

-Continued on Page 21.

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**"By the Dawn's Early Light"
Continued From Page 20.**

computer with internet access, a phone, a woodstove for heat in the winter, and a window air conditioning unit to keep cool in the summer.

Needless to say, he finished the book, and *Through the Perilous Fight* was published just a few weeks ago on May 7. Plans for the immediate future do not yet include another book project. "I'm taking a deep breath after finishing this one," he says. "I'm hoping to spend more time with the family."

The family includes, besides Donald and Charlotte, wife Tiffany Ayers—of whom Steve wisely says, "I could never have done it without her"—and youngest child Thomas who was born in 2008 just before they moved to Barnesville.

Steve will be talking about *Through the Perilous Fight* at the Barnesville School on May 28 at 7:00 p.m. He will also be at Politics and Prose in D.C. at 7:00 p.m. on June 7 and at the Frederick Visitor Center at 1:30 p.m. on June 15 as part of a two-day Flag Day weekend event in Frederick.

**"Wounded Warriors"
Continued From Page 1.**

The two division associations provided hats and banners for Lilly's party as well as assisting them in having their gifts distributed at WRMC.

In recognition for the good work by the students, Lt. Col A. J. Fojt (retired), the Walter Reed Visitors' Coordinator for the 2nd Division Association, organized a ceremony of appreciation on May 18, Armed Forces Day, at Whalen Commons in Poolesville.

On hand to present the certificates of appreciation were Staff Sgt. Jenny Cisneros of the 2nd Division and Sgt. Dustin Bell of the 82nd Airborne.




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