

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

EXULTING THE IMPORTANCE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION —EDWARD R. MURROW

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Taneytown welcomes Rust Redux

RUST co-owners David Underwood and Justin Staudinger, along with numerous supportive business owners and members of the community are excited to announce that the multi-art events space will be opening this April. Located at the old Opera House on 107 East Baltimore Street, the space, named Buickster Hall, will be home to monthly art exhibits of all kinds.

A dedicated group of people has joined together to make Buickster Hall come into fruition. As Taneytown has been continuously growing, Underwood and other local business owners have noticed a desire and necessity for an art space that would not only showcase local talent, but also serve as a place for the community to come together. All those involved hope to harbor an environment where both residents and visitors can enjoy the art at one's own leisure, mingle and feel connected to the community of Taneytown.

The idea behind Buickster Hall ties into the desire to promote

Taneytown, especially the vast array of "hidden" people adorned with all sorts of artistic talents. As one of the leaders of the "Why TTOWN" campaign, Underwood has been brainstorming ideas to continue promoting Taneytown in a positive light. What better way to showcase Taneytown than to promote all the talented artists of the area, and create a unique space not yet seen in surrounding towns.

For the opening exhibition, entitled Rust Redux, Buickster Hall welcomes Virginia Sperry and Alyssa Csuk as the first artists to showcase their work at the newly revitalized Opera House. Both artists happened upon RUST by chance on their way back from an artistically inspired trip to a junkyard outside of Taneytown. With "rust" on their minds, they couldn't help but feel drawn to Staudinger and Underwood's business, which features vintage, antique and anything "rusty." As some would say, the rest was history. Underwood knew that these two women needed to be the first artists to showcase



Buickster Hall wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of local residents who have worked together to make the first gallery event, Rust Redux, happen. Come out and see what this exciting new events space is all about!

their rust inspired art at his, then brainchild, Buickster Hall.

Both artists work to create inspiring and thought-provoking pieces, and both use "rust" in some form to make these creations. Sperry is an artist who creates unique welded sculptures and rust-inspired paintings. She has created several life-sized steel animals that currently reside at her home studio, but has also created abstract sculpted pieces. Her exhibition will

offer but a glimpse into her vastly creative portfolio of work.

Csuk is a photographer who features rust in an abstract form throughout her photographs. Csuk originally felt inspired after exploring the Bethlehem Steel Site. After that point in time, she knew that she wanted to continually capture the hidden beauty that is often overlooked in industrial ruins. Her photographs are large and powerful

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Borough debates home sprinklers

Mandated in-home automatic sprinkler systems have been a topic of discussion in Carroll Valley as the community continues to stand divided on the subject. The regulation was re-visited a few months ago after Carroll Valley Borough Council member Tyler Pyles asked the Council to reconsider the mandate. The Carroll Valley Planning Commission has since stewed over the topic, and in February recommended that the Board continue to keep sprinklers as a mandated item. However, some members of the community wish for the topic to be re-visited.

As it currently stands, all one and two family dwellings and townhouses constructed in Carroll Valley are required to have an automatic sprinkler system installed. The installation of these systems adds a significant additional cost to homebuilders. Unfortunately, realtors in the area have seen this regulation as a deterrent for several potential homeowners looking to build in Carroll Valley.

The question of whether or not in-home sprinklers should be a choice or mandated is still circling the Borough. Several Real Estate Agents including Trish Rowe and Kim Mills, were present during the March Borough Council meeting, and urged the Board to reconsider the regulation. Mills noted that she has lost at least five individuals who were in-

terested in building in Carroll Valley, but after evaluating the finances for the build, turned away from the Borough because the mandated sprinkler systems pushed the project well over budget. "There are so many lots sitting empty, but people aren't building. I ask that Council bring the topic up again and reintroduce it for reconsideration," stated Mills.

The Borough of Carroll Valley is currently the only Borough in Pennsylvania that has in-home sprinklers as a mandated item. "The builders are staying out of the area, we're losing people right and left due to this one item that no one else has in this area," said Trish Rowe. Rowe also mentioned that she has walked into several foreclosed homes that were ruined by misfiring of the sprinkler systems, which was ultimately due to improper winterization.

On the other hand, many see this item as a safety concern in place to benefit locals. During the February Council meeting, Fire Marshall, John Waters gave a presentation on behalf of the surrounding fire companies stressing the importance of this regulation. Fire Departments simply can't get to a burning home fast enough. Even on a good day, the Fire Department generally doesn't arrive on scene until nine minutes after receiving the 911 call. That isn't quick enough when a building reaches the doomed



Vigilant Hose Company First Responders will be holding a side-by-side fire demo illustrating the importance of in-home sprinkler systems on April 8.

flashover point in only three to four minutes. "Carroll Valley is a leader," said Waters, "other Boroughs should follow suit and mandate in-home sprinkler systems."

In fact, local fire departments feel so strongly about this topic that a home fire sprinkler live-burn demo is being held and is open for the public. All are invited to see firsthand the effectiveness of fire sprinkler protection in homes. A live-burn prop will be showcased in the parking lot of the Frederick County Fire-Recue

Museum / National Fire Heritage Center at 300B South Seton Avenue on April 8. Experts in fire sprinkler design, installation and maintenance will be available to answer questions while First Responders from the Vigilant Hose Company (VHC) and Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company will be participating in support of the demonstration.

Perhaps this topic will be re-visited by the Borough in the future, but for now in-home sprinkler systems are required for Carroll Valley builders.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

Main Street revitalization begins

The State Highway Administration (SHA) gave a special presentation on the upcoming Main Street square revitalization program, which is slated to begin in April, during the March Board of Commissioners meeting. AJ Romano Construction is the contractor for the \$3.5 million project, which entails improvements from Creamery Road to Timbermill Run.

The project, in its entirety, includes an upgrade to the existing sidewalks and crosswalks (which will be brick), the reconstruction of parking on the square, the reconstruction of sidewalk ramps which will now be ADA compliant, a reconstruction of the curbs, gutters and the traffic signal, resurfacing the intersection, landscaping and street tree replacement. The project,

when finished, will offer connectivity of sidewalks from the east point of Silo Hills Road to the west point of the town with ADA compliant sidewalks.

The Main Street intersection, MD 140 down to North Seton, will be closed for the repair/upgrade of the water line during at least one, potentially two weekends this year. One section of the water main will be upgraded to increase the water pressure to the north end of town, thereby requiring the square to be completely closed.

An official detour route has yet to be announced, but SHA representatives noted that residents would be made aware of the route in due time prior to the closure and they will coordinate with property owners to minimize the inconvenience and provide advance notice of any closings.

In addition to the intersection closure, residents should also expect temporary sidewalk closures and on-street parking restrictions while the project is underway.

As part of the landscaping, SHA will be removing the Bradford pears that line Main Street and will be replacing them with compact flowering trees such as Scarlet Oak, Rotundioba Sweetgum or Snowgoose Cherry.

Town staff and Commissioners are excited for the project to begin. Board of Commissioners President, Tim O'Donnell said "This is a huge step and enhancement for our community."

An official start date has yet to be announced, SHA only noted that construction would begin sometime in April.

Woodsboro Bank gets new President

Stephen K. Heine has joined Woodsboro Bank as President and CEO, effective immediately, following the announcement of the retirement of C. Richard Miller, Jr. late last year. Mr. Heine has 35 years of banking experience, most recently as a Group Vice President for M&T Bank, where he was responsible for 96 branches in Central and Western Maryland, Washington DC and Virginia. Prior to M&T, he held various management positions that included Executive Vice-President of Farm-

ers and Mechanics Bank in Frederick, MD and Executive Vice President of Consumer and Business Banking, Provident Bank, Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Heine, who resides in Frederick with his wife Carole and four children, is active in the Frederick community where he serves as the YMCA of Frederick County, Chair-elect; St. Katherine Drexel Catholic Church, Corporator; and the Rotary Club of Carroll Creek. He is on the Alfred University Board of Trustees. His past board affiliations

include Frederick County Chamber of Commerce; American Red Cross of Frederick County; and The Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD.

He holds a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Albany and a Bachelor of Science from Alfred University. He is a graduate of Leadership Frederick, Frederick, MD and Leadership Capital District, Albany, NY.

Natalie McSherry, Chair of the Board of Directors of Woodsboro Bank, said that the Board was

Emmitsburg news-briefs...

Dog park update

Advertisement for fundraising in regards to the new dog park has been officially launched. The town is hoping to secure additional funds through generous donations from businesses and dog lovers in the community. A \$13,000 Project Open Space Grant is already available and will cover the cost of basic construction.

The park, which will be located west of the tennis courts in Community Park, is going to be 80 x 200 feet, which is larger than the original proposed plan. The location has been surveyed and staked out and town staff is looking to remove some of the vegetation at the location prior to construction.

Town Planner Sue Cipperly noted that there are already many people interested in donating to help cover some of the remaining costs of the park, such as dog water fountains, pet waste stations, benches, signs, and possibly dog playground equipment. Anyone interested in learning more about how they

can help can visit the town website or visit the town office.

Pool upgrade considerations

The Board of Commissioners considered three additional upgrades to the new community pool during the March 6 Town meeting. When the decision was made in February to construct a new pool, Commissioner Clifford Sweeney mentioned the prospect of installing a sliding board or new diving board. The Board was also presented with the idea of installing lights inside the pool, which could extend the pool's hours.

Town Manager Cathy Willets looked into the cost of the upgrades. Eight LED lights inside the pool will cost \$13,200; a new diving board will cost \$5,250; and a sliding board will cost between \$27,500 and \$36,500 depending on the style selected. Make N Waves representative Dylan Daugherty also noted that there would be an additional expense of \$15 per square foot

to remove and replace the concrete, if a new diving board or slide were to be installed.

The Board noted that there could be a real potential benefit and draw for later pool hours if the lights were installed. However, they questioned if lights inside the pool alone would be sufficient to keep the pool open later? Would these eight lights offer enough light? Willets will be investigating the lights further, but the Board chose to pass on the slide or diving board at this time.

Mayor Don Briggs also noted that even though there will be no pool open this summer, the summer pool parties will still be occurring in some form. He promised a DJ, free food and ice cream to be available during three parties throughout the summer months.

Emmit Garden playground site

After receiving appeals from the community of the Emmit Gardens area, the Board looked into the location of a potential playground located at Emmit



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pleased with the number of highly qualified candidates who had indicated an interest in the position, and

that the Bank was extremely pleased that Mr. Heine would be leading the Bank going forward.

Gardens. Commissioner and Council Liaison of the Parks and Recreation Committee, Joseph Ritz, reviewed the area and considered a potential location. Unfortunately, after reviewing the area, there is really only one possibility, which is near the site for the future new Town water treatment facility. This area is also prone to flooding so the playground would need to be raised to inhibit flooding of the equipment.

However, the Town currently has a \$10,000 grant through Project Open

Space available to purchase equipment. Ritz noted that the playground could include a slide and some benches and possibly a small set of swings. He also noted that the Parks Committee is on board with the idea and would like to see the park come to fruition if possible. Town staff will be checking with the county as far as the flood plain is concerned, to see if they can even construct a playground here. They will also be pulling together numbers and perceived costs for the playground.



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FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

Liberty Township residents show contempt

Residents of Liberty Township are still showing contempt with their Township Supervisors.

The March 7 meeting began with a public comment session, during which Liberty Township resident, Donna Powers spoke up and addressed the Board about her concerns. "We're here because we are angry and there are still things that are on the table and haven't been resolved. We aren't getting answers; instead we're getting silence from the supervisors. I'm angry. I have tax dollars going into this town-

ship for road improvements and now the roads are screwed up, I have tax dollars going for the salt shed and now you have doubled the price on that salt shed ... But our supervisors are blowing us off and I don't think we should just move one, and let bygones be bygones, we have several issues that need to be addressed." Many other residents agreed with Powers' comment.

However, not all members of the community are disappointed with the Township and are happy with the services that the Township has been providing.

One resident spoke up by saying: "If you don't like what you see in the Township and think you can do a better job, then run for supervisor and do something to help change it."

In other news, part-time road crew member Walter Barlow's part-time road crew position has been terminated and he is now considered part time temporary road crew. Vice Chairman Robert Jackson mentioned that the Township is currently "\$28,000 in the hole, and by the end of the year the Township will fall short the same amount of mon-

ey." Considering that funds are going to be tight this year, Jackson proposed the Township cut back on road crew expenses because financially, they simply won't be able to do that much road work this year. The proposal was to temporarily suspend part-time road crew activities, until further notice.

Residents voiced their concerns with this proposal noting that they would rather have road crew members who work in the Township also live in the Township especially in case of an emergency. Some spoke out say-

ing that they would rather keep the part time worker on and do away with the full time road crew member.

Chairman John Bostek intervened and decided to shut down the public comment, which angered residents further. Jackson made the motion to move Mr. Barlow to the position of part time temporary within the road crew. Barlow abstained, adding that he felt as though this decision was not in the best interests of the Township, considering that the road crew is moving into a busy time of the year. Jackson and Bostek voted in favor of the motion, and it was passed.

Iron Springs Plaza advances

Hamiltonban Township Supervisors were pleased to announce that the Iron Springs Plaza project is advancing at last. "Finally after years, the project will be moving forward, which is great news," said Supervisor Chairman Bob Gordon. After some minor delays with permits, the project can finally be sent out for bid. The beginning stages of the project entail infrastructure work for the future plaza.

The bid process was originally intended to be underway by the end of February, and a contractor chosen in March, but the bid-

ding process was delayed due to an expired permit that was necessary for the project. Now that the permit is updated and approved by the Fairfield Municipal Authority, the bid process can commence.

The Township will be accepting sealed proposals for construction of the Iron Springs Road and Fairfield Road (Route 116) Intersection Improvements. This leg of the project includes excavation, bituminous pavement placement, major drainage, signs and signals, construction of handicap accessible/ADA

compliant ramps, concrete curb and sidewalk, pavement restoration, pavement marking modifications and related roadway construction items with an anticipated funding amount of \$2,035,714 available for construction. Bids will be accepted up until April 3 at the Hamiltonban Township building. The bids will be opened and reviewed the following day.

Hamiltonban Township has thus far been awarded two grants for this project. In August of last year, Hamiltonban Township was awarded its second grant in

the amount of \$550,000. This grant money will be used for improvements to Fairfield Road and Iron Springs Road, including the intersection of both roads. The grant is run through the Commonwealth Financing Authority's Multimodal Transportation Program. This \$550,000 grant was added to the \$700,000 grant received close to two years ago by PennDOT. The PennDOT grant is intended to help with costs related to the transportation infrastructure; those costs including permitting, road realignment and traffic signals.

Realtor and developer David Sites, of David L. Sites Real-

ty Leasing & Management, Gettysburg, is slated to construct the Iron Springs Plaza shopping center on a 17-acre tract located at the intersection of Iron Springs and Fairfield (Route 116) roads. The land would be subdivided into five lots one of which will contain a 35,000 square foot grocery store, as the plaza anchor business, and a 7,200 square foot retail business. Giant was the original grocery store considered, but later Kenzie's Markets was discussed. Both deals have since fallen apart. Other lots are still in the works.

Further news will follow as presented.

Fairfield area news-briefs . . .

Carroll Valley reorganizes Borough Council

The Carroll Valley Borough Council re-organized during the March 21 meeting, electing a new President and Vice President. Prior Vice President Sarah Skoczen was voted to take the role as President and Tyler Pyles was voted for Vice President. Both individuals were unanimously voted into their new positions by fellow Council members. Both Pyles and Skoczen are also the youngest members currently residing on the Council.

Hamiltonban Park phase one moves forward

The Community Park in Hamiltonban Township continues to move forward. The equipment was delivered at the end of February and awaits installation. An additional grant application has been approved and submitted for Adams County Community Foundation. A possible focus for this particular grant application is the funding of interpretive signage for the park or possibly the purchase and installation of a swing suitable for handicapped children. The Board also approved an additional DCNR grant application.

Adams County Police receive \$149,998 grant

On March 8, the Adams County Police Department received

a \$149,998 grant from the PA Commission of Crime and Delinquency Byrne Justice Assistance Program for IT equipment for the entire county department. Carroll Valley Police Chief Richard Hileman, who was inherently responsible for the work behind the grant, mentioned that the grant would serve all of Adams County, encompassing all the area Police Departments, the Sheriff's Office and county detectives.

The grant is specifically being used for an update to the county's citation set-up within the patrol vehicles. The new system will allow officers to scan drivers' license and vehicle information, print the citation and electronically send the citation through the system. It will be beneficial for data entry and information sharing within the county, because before, all data entry and sharing was manually done by each officer. This update will allow the county's entire police department to share data between them as well as directly with the District Attorneys office.

Carroll Valley Path System

The Parks and Recreation Committee will be submitting several grants this year in hopes of receiving funding for the proposed Carroll Valley Path System. This trail system was introduced summer of 2016, but at the time, the

Committee was only able to apply for one grant, which was not approved. This year, the Committee will be applying for the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2) grant, and the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant. A third grant, the Adams County Parks, Recreation and Green Space grant is not currently open, but the Borough may wish to apply for this grant when it opens up.

Amy Kauffman of GMS Solutions noted that she received a call from DCNR stating their desire to do a project in Adams County, so Kauffman believes that the project will be viewed favorably.

Funding for phase one of this project is approximately \$126,000, and the plan is to apply for half of that amount from GTRP and half from C2P2 so they can match each other. Phase one will consist of the construction of a trail from Fairfield School to Ski Liberty, but in its entirety, the project will encompass connections in and around Ranch Park with the Fairfield schools. In addition, the trail will connect to existing trails around the lakes in Carroll Valley and to the trails around Ski Liberty.

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THURMONT NEWS

Rebecca Pearl Gallery moves back to Thurmont

On April 1, the Rebecca Pearl Gallery will open at its new location, Thurmont's Main Street Center sited at 11 Water Street. After six years in Emmitsburg, Pearl and husband Jay made the decision to make the move back to the Thurmont community.

The main motivation for making the move back to Thurmont was the outstanding support Pearl has continuously received from the people of Thurmont. Pearl noted that since 2009, when she made the decision to move from Thurmont to Emmitsburg, Economic Development Manager Vickie Grinder had invited her back to Thurmont for the "Art and Wine Stroll" every year. Grinder insisted on having Pearl on board to feature her art every year, and

people were always excited to see her back. "The move really boils down to the necessity to move where the people support, which ultimately is Thurmont." She noted that overwhelming support was just never felt from the Emmitsburg community.

Pearl will now occupy a space in the Main Street Center to showcase her art, and her husband Jay will continue to offer custom framing. As visitors walk in, they can expect to see a design space off to the left that will showcase a portfolio of framing options as well as molding pieces on display.

Apart from creating her own works of art, Pearl will also continue to hold her art classes at the Main Street Center. Youth drawing and painting classes are

currently being held on Saturday mornings and the adult watercolor class is being held on Tuesday mornings. "I enjoy teaching in the gallery," Pearl said. "You learn from the students and it keeps you painting." She hopes that she can showcase her student's art during special events, which would act as a phenomenal networking opportunity for other aspiring artists in the community.

As a way to mark her presence back in Thurmont, Pearl will be working on a piece featuring the Main Street Center building back in the day, when it was a Moravian Church. She noted her fascination and passion for depicting period pieces of local towns such as Thurmont. She recently completed a commissioned painting of the Shamrock restaur-

ant for the Fitzgerald family, remembering Mr. Fitz, and hopes to continue working on other pieces featuring Thurmont's buildings.

In the future, Pearl would like to see her gallery space at the Main Street Center serve as a place for people to come in, sit, have a cup of coffee, and enjoy themselves in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. She wants to help harbor a space where people of all ages can come to enjoy not only her art, but the art of other local artists on display.

Pearl will continue to keep busy doing commissioned works, as well as other personal pieces that inspire her. An animal lover at heart, Pearl's more popular commissioned pieces are her dog and animal portraits, as she works collabo-

ratively with each client to ensure their pets are captured perfectly. She draws tremendous inspiration from the loving souls of the animals we are so lucky to have in our lives, and her work truly captures this. Her phenomenal work can be seen by visiting www.rebeccapearl.com.

As Thurmont is proud to welcome two new businesses in addition to Rebecca Pearl's new gallery space, Emmitsburg has lost three businesses in the past two months – the Rebecca Pearl Gallery, Liberty Manufacturing Company Inc., and Callie's Collectibles, which is currently up for sale. Taneytown is also growing, especially in the arts, as RUST co-owner David Underwood will be opening "Rust Redux," a brand new multi-arts gallery space at the old Opera House in Taneytown. Refer to front-page article for more details.

Thurmont news-briefs . . .

Inclusive Playground work underway

Construction has begun on a new playground in Thurmont's East End Park. The playground will be one of only a handful of all-inclusive playgrounds in the Central Maryland area. The playground will include activities and equipment that can be enjoyed by children of all abilities and challenges. Fund-

ing for Phase 1 of this exciting project comes from a grant obtained by the Catoclin Civitan Club, along with a Program Open Space grant obtained by the Town of Thurmont. The playground has been designed and is being installed by Playground Specialists, Inc. out of Thurmont. "The Town of Thurmont is very excited to be able to provide an all-inclusive facility such as this. We are

very proud that the Civitan Club, along with the town is able to partner to bring this goal to a reality," said Thurmont Chief Administrative officer Jim Humerick.

As of March 16, Playground Specialists, Inc. has made a great deal of progress on the East End Park Inclusive Playground in Thurmont. The old play equipment has been removed and the existing swings were relocated farther to the rear of the play area. Three of the old climbers and several benches have been repurposed and will be used

in other Thurmont parks. New pieces including the Cruise Line, the Teeter Tunnel, and the Unity Rocker have been installed along with new benches. The next steps will include the installation of the rubber surfacing and the installation of an ADA accessible walkway from the parking lot.

Program Open Space projects

The Board of Commissioners considered a few ideas on potential projects to be funded by Project Open Space (POS) during a meeting in March. The applications for POS funding are due May 5, and Chief Administrative Officer, Jim Humerick, will begin working

on applications as soon as he has a set of approved ideas.

Humerick made a few project suggestions including: additional acquisition funds for Gateway Trail connection, additional funds for the second and third phases of the East End Inclusive Playground project, funds for the conversion of the existing concession building at East End Park into a handicap accessible restroom, funds for a third pavilion at Community Park, and funds for solar powered lights for Trolley Trail. He also mentioned the idea of funds needed for engineering design for additional parking at Eyer Park, but this piece would most likely be turned down.

Commissioner Martin Burns agreed that some time in the near future, the Town should definitely look into acquiring funds for design work on East End Park, because it currently looks like a "hodge podge," however they shouldn't ask POS for that funding. Burns also would like to see the concession stand made into a handicap accessible restroom, because it would coincide with the construction of the all-inclusive playground.

The final 2 phases for the inclusive playground will cost approximately \$150,000. However, Humerick noted that the Catoclin Civitan Club is looking into additional funding for the final two phases of the project.

The Board will continue to look into other ideas and will compile a definite list to present to Humerick. For now, they definitely would like to see funding for the East End Inclusive Park and the handicap accessible restroom.

Funds for Creeger House being sought

The Thurmont Historical Society is currently looking for monetary help to save the Creeger House. This residence was donated to The Thurmont Historical Society by Ethel Creeger to serve as a repository for artifacts and records of the town and the surrounding area. Located in Thurmont at 11 North Church Street, this historic structure was originally a two-story log home. After the Civil War Col. John R. Rouzer purchased the property, enlarged the building and encased it in brick.

Now, after almost 150 years of exposure to the elements the soft bricks are failing. Many bricks will need to be replaced and extensive repainting with the proper mortar must be done before more damage is incurred.

We have estimates and proposals that average about \$60,000 to remedy the problems. A MHAA grant request has been submitted but since this is a matching Grant the minimum we will have to raise is still \$30,000, with no guarantee that we will receive the grant funds.

We are asking for your help, members of the community. Donations can be made to The Thurmont Historical Society. These donations will be placed in a separate account at Woodsboro Bank. Our mailing address is 11 North Church Street, Thurmont. For more information, call 301-271-1860.

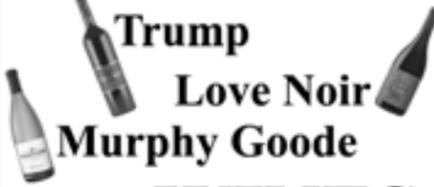
The Creeger House is currently open on Sunday afternoons from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment. Stop by and visit us. Take a tour or use our library.

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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

April 1917

April 6

Gypsies

A band of Gypsies passed through Emmitsburg Tuesday afternoon in route to Gettysburg. They were traveling in five wagons.

Arbor Day

Gov. Harrington has issued his proclamation setting April 13 for the observation of Arbor Day throughout the state. The Governor, in a proclamation, calls on the people, and particularly the officials of public schools to observe the occasion by the planting of trees.

Hydrophobia outbreak

Hydrophobia has broken out among the dogs in Freedom Township. This week two dogs, belonging to William Winebrenner became rabid, frothed at the mouth and showed every symptom of hydrophobia, in its worst stage. Mr. Winebrenner called in Mr. Rogers who shot them both forthwith.

Hotel Martin opens doors

The "Hotel Martin," recently completed, is now open for guests. Mr. Thomas Gelwicks, owner and proprietor, is very much gratified by the reservations that have been made and announces that by the 15th of the month every room in the house will be occupied.

Runaway

There was a very exciting run away Wednesday evening around five o'clock when a double-team of spirited horses pulling a large farm wagon at a speed that seemed, to many excited onlookers, to be about a mile a minute tore through town. At Patterson's corner, the horses turned into the alley and were brought to a stop.

First recruit

The first prospective recruit for United States Army to apply to postmaster Duncan last week was Benjamin McNair, of Freedom Township. Mr. McNair left for Harrisburg, where he will undergo an examination and if he is accepted will be sent to the army at once. He gave his age as 23 years and has been living on a farm in Freedom Township.

Funds for upkeep of cemetery

A local project has been started by the lot holders of the Lutheran Cemetery to raise, by subscription, \$1,000, the interest to be used to keep them perpetually caring for this cemetery, where the ancestors of so many Emmitsburg families rest. Mr. Helman, who is conducting the movement for raising the necessary funds, feels assured that the plan proposed would make it possible to give proper attention to all the lots without any discrimination, former Emmitsburg resident lot owners will be glad to contribute.

April 13

Easter

A flurry of snow Easter Sunday, followed by a regular winter downfall at night, winded up with a Monday morning coating three inches deep. The cold snap Sunday had little effect however on Easter dresses. Officially, it was spring weather and spring hats, gowns and shoes made their appearance just the same as usual – and a stunning sight they made. Every house in Emmitsburg in which children lived had an Easter window this week. Cards, rabbits, eggs, peeps, ducks, geese, setting hens and everything suggestive of the season were in evidence.

Patriotism

Outward signs of patriotism have been noticeable in Emmitsburg ever since the possibility of war began to be talked of. Business houses and private drawings are displaying the American flag. Autos are decorated with "Old Glory," and everyone is wearing a patriotic button.

Boozers rally to support war booze tax

Following the announcement from Washington that the Administration will be taxing booze to help pay for war preparations, members of the Former Former Boozers Association held a rally on the square calling for every able body man in town to support the funding call by drinking as much booze as they could every day. Boozers President Dan Shorb said that the county should immediately repeal the impending start of prohibition, warning that the loss of tax revenue from end of booze sales played into the hands of the Germans and could undermine the war effort. "Those too old to fight," Shorb said to a thoroughly enumerated audience, 'should do there part by drinking for victory.'

Spaulding home burns

An exploding oil stove caused destruction by fire of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Spaulding, near Emmitsburg, last Saturday afternoon around three o'clock. At the first alarm of fire the people raced to the scene and a good-sized bucket brigade was organized. Their efforts to extinguish the fire were of no avail as the building was a frame one with a shingle roof. To make the situation yet more hopeless the spring from which all the water had to be drawn was so close to the house that a strong wind made it too hot for the bucket brigade to draw water. Every effort was made to save the furniture but the piano and about a dozen other articles were all that were snatched from the flames. The total loss is estimated to be \$3,500. The property and its contents were insured for \$1,210. Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding are very appreciative of the assistance rendered them by their friends and neighbors.

April 20

Drifter found near reservoir

"John" - who is a dead ringer for Edgar Allan Poe with a three-day growth of beard - camped around Emmitsburg last week and later at the reservoir where his particular actions aroused the suspicion of the custodian of the town's water supply. There was a telephone message, a quick response on the part of Constable Motter then, as "John" did not exhibit the proper passports to disclose intelligently the objects of his Anchorage on the warder company's property or tell the purpose of a bottle of strangely colored liquid which he is alleged to have had in his possession, he was entertained by the town authorities and on Sunday given a motor trip to Frederick where he was introduced to the sheriff.

At the trial, "John" said he was born in Michigan, but had a brother in Baltimore working for "China Brothers" (no doubt a chop-suey joint). In his attempts to elicit further information, the District Attorney was regaled with an account of "John's" journey to this place and it was disclosed that the authors of his being were born in some foreign port, the name of which was a cross between the explosion of the catsup bottle and a geographical designation of some place in Romania. To sum it all up – "John" will be "at home" (at Montevue) to his friends during the outing season – until sometime in July.

Dodgeball team

In a game of dodgeball played in Emmitsburg, the first of a series held under the auspices of the Frederick County Athletic League, between Emmitsburg and Walkersville public schools, the girls from Emmitsburg won by the score of 9 to 3.

Red Cross unit organized

A large audience of very earnest women attended a meeting in the public school auditorium Friday night to organize a Red Cross unit in Emmitsburg. The women were told in very plain language that there was nothing in the so-called

A Southern Gentleman Is Popular Everywhere



Just think this over a minute.—How many friends have you? Not the fellows who borrow from you—I mean the chaps who will fight for you! Fellows who believe in you—who stick by you through thick and thin. You can count them on one hand, can't you? But listen to this.—I have several million down South here.

And why? Because I've been on the level.

I've played fair. I've never led to my friends, nor cheated them, nor double-crossed them, nor held out on them.

They know me by my right name—SOVEREIGN. A true gentleman of the South, born and bred of the real Southern stock. I mingle the blood of Virginia and Carolina—the best in the world—the choicest, sweetest, ripest, smoothest tobacco you ever smoked.

Sovereign Cigarettes
FOR THE GENTLEMAN OF THE SOUTH
"King of Them All"

romance usually woven into Red Cross work by novelists and playwrights. It is work of the most earnest kind requiring intelligence, accuracy and perseverance. At the meeting, there was enrollment of 55 members. Also, it was reported in the news received with applause, but all the merchants of Emmitsburg were ready and willing to furnish whatever they could supply at wholesale prices.

Horse shot

Mr. Troxel lost a very fine horse on Monday. The horse was being worked in a plow, when it became frightened and ran into barbed wire fencing, thereby breaking his leg. Dr. Brokow was summoned and shot the horse.

April 27

Flag raisings

James Haynes, a farmer in Taneytown, assisted by a number of his no less patriotic neighbors, raised last week a pole of 80 feet on the summit of a hill of his farm. From it floated a large United States flag. Meanwhile, the citizens of Sabillasville purchased a large flag, 12' x 18' and erected a 66 foot pole on the square. On Sunday afternoon with all respect to the occasion, the flag was raised to its position.

Women learn to drive automobiles

Enticing debutantes and just or-

inary domesticated matrons are dabbling around in pools of grease and oil these days under model automobiles learning the art of chauffeuring, so they will be able to do something when the country sounds the call to arms. Just drop in any garage in most any town and there you see them -squirring around in the one-foot airspace between the engine of the automobile and the ground. The work was started by the Red Cross and, according to reports pointed headquarters; it has spread like a windswept fire throughout the county. When the women have completed their course they will offer their services to the war Department and a car thrown in.

Four Score And One

Mr. David Rhodes, one of Emmitsburg's most estimable citizens, was tendered a birthday dinner at his home on Gettysburg Street yesterday, having reached his 81st year. Mr. Rhodes was born in 1836 at Rhodes Mill, near Emmitsburg, where he lived until about two years ago when he removed to town. Mr. Rhodes even in his advanced age is a man of physical vigor and keynote and is to be congratulated by the community on his rounding out another year.

To read past editions of 100 Year Ago this Month, visit the History section of Emmitsburg.net.



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<div style="text-align: center;"> <h4 style="margin: 0;">141 ELM STREET HAGERSTOWN</h4> <p style="margin: 0;">Own this spacious single family home for less than rent.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: left;"> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">3 BR & 1 BA. Renovated 4 years ago. WA9821727</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">\$80,500</p> </div> </div> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <h4 style="margin: 0;">505 E. MAIN STREET EMMITSBURG</h4> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Welcome to Main St. to this nicely rehabbed home. Offers 2 BR & 1 BA. Lots of potential for office/residence. Large attic for future expansion. Beautiful wood floors. All new kitchen appliances.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: left;"> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">This home is a MUST see!</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">FR9882724</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">\$154,900</p> </div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;"> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">UNDER CONTRACT!</p> </div> </div>
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FROM THE DESK OF . . .

County Council President Bud Otis

What we have before the Council now is a Limited Private Event Venue in the Agriculture Zone Bill #17-05 brought forward by Council Member Tony Chmelik on February 21. This Bill raises a number of questions in my mind as I'm originally a farm boy and regard farmers and agricultural land as our life-line for food and preserving our agricultural heritage.

There are a number of successful event venues in Frederick County which accommodate happy brides and grooms celebrating their auspicious day with family and friends. They also host graduations, celebrations and other festive occasions. Those already in operation have the support of their neighbors and community as they are great stewards of the land and respect their adjoining neighbors.

It is certainly of great concern that some of our Frederick County farmers are struggling to survive in this day and age. Having an option to increase their income is a welcome thought.

However, there are some considerations which must be addressed in order for me to support this pending Bill.

Do we want to use more of our limited agricultural land to hold weddings or parties, etc.? Are our farmers in favor of holding these events on small 25 acres plots? How much land does it take to be considered as a farm here in Frederick County? Are you happy to have neighbors holding reunions, weddings, celebrations and parties with up to 500 people every weekend across the way from you during the summer? Can you hear the music from inside your home? Does your house vibrate from the sound? And the hours, is it disturbing your peace and quiet when loud music is played in your side yard, hardly 100 feet away?

This Bill may lead to commercial party venue operations being conducted in residential neighborhoods as the acreage requirement in this Bill is for 25 acres. Many homes in the northern part of Frederick County have

a large number of acres as the backdrop to their home property. But imagine a small cluster of homes, say 25 acres each, with a wedding venue holding events up to 500 people every weekend during the summer. Would that impact resale value of these homes? How is one's stress level impacted with hundreds of cars on the narrow and windy roads with very little lighting at night, worried that their children are coming home on these same roads at the time the event is over?

And, thinking of the party-goers. They are out in the country for a big party. Middle of "nowhere" with the feeling that there is no law enforcement in sight....how much drinking will really occur? Combine that with the darkness of night, hazardous roads and unfamiliar area...you get the picture.

The peaks and valleys in the Frederick County landscape add to the sheer beauty of our surroundings. They also contribute to the sound reverberation depending on decibel levels. Sure, you say, there is a County regulation on noise. Yes, and that means that once the sound gets very loud, you ask the neighbor to turn it down. They do. Then it goes back up. So, you call the Sheriff's office. They come out, give them a warning. Sound goes down. Deputy leaves the venue. Does the sound go up again? If yes, yet another visit by the Sheriff's office. And so it goes.... every weekend for three months or more.

It is my genuine belief that most folks in Frederick Coun-

ty enjoy living here and are good neighbors. We take good care of our property, help each other, and are on friendly terms with those around us. It would be a real shame if this changes due to unintended consequences from this change to uses in our agricultural zone.

Lots of questions and considerations are before us in regards to this Bill. I've taken some time to visit residents in Emmitsburg who requested that I see for myself why they are very concerned about the way Bill #17-05 is currently written. Visiting families and driving around the area, their love of their land and its surrounding vistas is clear. Their dismay and frustration was also very clear. The Bill reads "Any building or temporary structure utilized for an event shall be at least 150 feet from any adjacent residential lot and 50 feet from any other lot line." This may be infringing on the property rights of those next to these proposed venue sites. A person could lease or buy a 25 acre land parcel, till some of the land to meet the "actively used for agricultural activity" portion of the Bill and conduct a private event venue business in the heart of our county.

So, how can we better address a way to make this work? Perhaps an amendment to increase acreage area from 25 acres to say 50, 75 or 100 acres? This change would limit the accessibility to part-time landlords who may not live on the property but opt to take advantage of the options available in the Limited Private Event Venue in the Agricul-

ture Zone Bill. It would help the active farmers who live on their property, farm their land, and want to use a portion of their farm for private events. It is my understanding that this current Bill is to help struggling farmers. Increasing the acreage will limit access to those with active and productive farms. Wording may be modified from "...must be actively used for agricultural activity" to "must be an owner-operator active/productive farm." This would enable this legislation to support the struggling farmers, as intended.

From my experience, a 25 acre farm is not enough land to be financially viable to support a family. Family farms in the business are normally much larger in order to produce enough product for sale to support the financial needs of the farm itself and the family living off this income.

We must also protect our neighbors. The proposed site should also seek support from their closest neighbors. As we live in a community, we should be concerned about our impact on others. It works both ways.

If the zoning is accepted for this use, then events should be held when all permits are in place for all commercial assembly requirements including but not limited to: commercial septic, fire suppression, site, egress, etc.

Council Member Tony Chmelik's Bill #17-05 is slated to go to public hearing on April 4 at 7 p.m. here at Winchester Hall. I wholeheartedly encourage you to come out and give voice your thoughts – either pro or con – on this Bill. It is only with the public's input that we garner additional insight into issues before us.

Even after much research, I always learn something new from the residents who come and speak at the public hearings. It means a great deal that you take the time out of your busy day to express your opinions. If you are unable to attend in person, please consider emailing the full Council at CouncilMembers@frederick-countymd.gov. My direct email is BOtis@frederickcountymd.gov. Your voice matters.

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Thurmont
Business Showcase

Saturday, April 22
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Thurmont Ambulance Event Complex
13716 Strafford Drive, Thurmont

The Thurmont Business Showcase will feature businesses & non-profit organizations from the Thurmont area. The Thurmont Business Showcase is a one day "Pop-Up Business Community" to experience what Thurmont businesses have to offer you! This is an opportunity for businesses to 'showcase' their skills, products, services & innovation all under one roof! Invite your friends, family, co-workers & neighbors to experience "Tak'n Care of Business" & see how they can take care of you!

Entertainment: Demonstration by Anytime Fitness
Blues Band "Out Of The Blue" & Country Singer Harold Staley

If you are a business in the 21778, 21788 & 21780 zip code or Lewistown you may download an application at thurmontmainstreet.com or contact Vickie at vgrinder@thurmontstaff.com

Food, Beer, Wine & Non-alcoholic beverages will be for sale by the Thurmont Ambulance Company during the event!

Gold Sponsors:
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Center Of Life
Silver Sponsors:
Ole Mink Farm

GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Executive Jan Gardner

It's spring, the time of year when we celebrate the promise of new life, with budding trees and blooming flowers. There are great things popping up all across Frederick County this spring. In the northern part of the county, we are building new parks, renovating a historic covered bridge, and constructing a larger library branch to serve a growing demand for these services.

This month, we will be holding a ribbon-cutting for the newly renovated Roddy Road Park and covered bridge. The park's trails and parking lot are now paved with asphalt that allows rain to drain through to the ground. Upgrades include a new restroom, playground equipment, and sign and guardrail have been replaced. The neighboring covered bridge had to be rebuilt after an oversized vehicle drove through it last June. Insurance and a court-ordered payment covered more than 90% of the cost to fix the damage. A new over-height warning system is in the process of being installed. While the bridge has been closed for repairs, crews also replaced corroding steel beams and rotting wood. Join us for the bridge dedication and park re-opening on Monday, April 17 at 3:00 pm.

(Last month we broke ground on the long-awaited new library in Walkersville. The 15,000-square-foot facility will be almost six times as big as the current Walkersville branch, and is scheduled to open in January 2018. The library will include meeting rooms so community groups in the Woodsboro and Walkersville area can gather. It will feature an early childhood literacy and learning play space funded through donations. Frederick County Public Libraries are very popular, with almost 100,000 residents visiting a library every month. Our libraries offer wonderful programs every day for people of all ages, as well as traditional books and other materials. Libraries truly build community.

We are planning for other major projects in the coming years, as well. The Capital Improvements Program Phase II of the Utica District Park. Construction will begin in August 2018 on three new fields, two of which will be synthetic turf. There will be shelters, trails, playgrounds and a restroom facility in the next section of the park, which should open in February 2020. Frederick County is fortunate to have beautifully maintained parks that connect people to nature

and the outdoors. County parks welcome about 2 million visitors annually, which is pretty incredible!

The capital budget also includes support for our public safety divisions. Fire & Rescue radios are at the end of their lifespan. New radios will improve communications between first responders both inside Frederick County and with other jurisdictions and public safety agencies. We are also planning for replacement fire trucks and ambulances, as well as for land to build a new station west of U.S. Route 15. At the Sheriff's Office's request, the capital budget also includes a new surveillance van, enhanced security at the Law Enforcement Center, and design for a much-needed medical unit at the Adult Detention Center.

How are we going to fund all of these projects? Well, I am very excited to tell you that Frederick County is able to get the most bang for our buck thanks to our AAA bond rating. We learned in March that all three of the New York bond rating agencies had reaffirmed Frederick County's AAA ratings. They are similar to a consumer's credit score; the better our rating, the lower the interest we are charged when we borrow money saving tax-

payers millions of dollars over time. Lower interest rates allow us to do more for the same amount of money. The County's ratings show that this administration is focused on saving taxpayers money and managing our budget responsibly. Our economy is growing, we are adding jobs, and we have a reputation for spending conservatively. These ratings are proof that Charter is making us a stronger, more resilient county.

While the capital budget is largely in place, I am finalizing the operating budget during the upcoming week and will present it to the public on April 13. I can tell you that there will not be any increase in the County's tax rate. I will ensure that the county lives within its means just like your household. Job growth is on a steady rise, and our economy is vibrant generating more revenue for the county budget. Competing for money in the operating budget is the second year phase-in to the new teacher and school staff pay scale; requests in public safety for additional sheriff deputies, corrections officers, and 9-1-1 call takers to meet growing calls for service; and, requests for additional materials to maintain roads and parks, expanded branch library hours and materials, animal control, and technology.

I do plan to support requests from the towns of Thurmont and Em-

mitsburg to partner on sidewalk projects and support the Thurmont Senior Center. I am pleased to have a great working relationship with municipal officials. Stay tuned for the announcement of Community Partnership Grants which will provide support for non-profit human service agencies operating and serving people in north Frederick County.

This year, I am asking for your help and your opinions to shape the county budget. On the County's website are two short surveys so you can tell me what you think should be priorities in next year's budget. The surveys are both quick and easy – asking only one question each – and will help us to gather more input on what you, the residents of Frederick County, value most. You can find the surveys at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/BudgetSurveys. They will remain open through April 3 and we will publish the results.

Another way to stay engaged and informed is to subscribe to a new monthly newsletter, Executive Summary. It features breaking news, the latest initiatives, upcoming events, and ongoing projects. To subscribe, go to www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/executive and click on Executive Summary. Stay up to date on all the great things happening in Frederick County!

County Councilman Kirby Delauter

The Fairness Doctrine

Recently I was contacted to meet a local group of landowners in the Emmitsburg area who were concerned about their property rights. Another case I was contacted about was a wood waste recycling business that has been in the same location outside of New Market for 27 years. In order to help you understand some issue I deal with at the county, I will give you a view of these two similar but different scenarios and what I consider "fair" treatment in these two situations.

The first scenario as I said, is where I was contacted by several Emmitsburg landowners who feel that a commercial venue that is being proposed in their neighborhood, could cause issues with their pursuit of happiness. The commercial venue is not permitted in the current zoning and would be, according to these several neighbors, not a good fit for the neighborhood. I met with them, listened to their concerns and see many valid points to their argument. Do I see points to the other side of the argument, yes, I do. Their main point is that they bought their land in a country state. They did not purchase the land knowing that a commercial venue could become their neighbor.

A valid point.

I gave them an example from many years ago in Thurmont where a local trucking company that hauls livestock, and has been in the same location for 40 years, was made to make amendments to their property because a person in a new house that was built next door, didn't like the odors. I felt that was wrong since the trucking company was there first, the homeowner should

have done their due diligence when purchasing the building lot. This situation is similar, we have open land with sparse houses / farms in an area where a commercial venue moves in, without proper zoning which could change the neighborhood from what was existing prior to the venue. If we're going to follow the logic of the trucking company issue in Thurmont, then the existing landowners in Emmitsburg have a valid point.

Now, let's move on to wood waste recycling business in New Market. Now, you might ask, "Delauter, why are you worried about a business in New Market, that's not your district?" My answer is simple, I ran for office to help people, so if someone contacts me and needs assistance from the County bureaucracy, I will get involved. It may not seem important to you until you're the one that is the crosshairs, then it becomes the most important thing in your world and you want help, I get it.

Similar to the two issues stated above, this mulch / recycling company has been in this current location for 27 years with no issues. They are partially in an Ag zoning which allows what they do in their business, and they are partially in General Commercial zoning which does not. They are surrounded by Light Industrial zoning as well to give you a big picture of the neighborhood. Our County Executive has issued a letter to this company to cease operations since they are not in the correct zoning. Now, keep in mind, this company has been in this location for 27 years. Now, over in Walkersville in a town zoning of "institutional" the Coun-

ty recycles wood waste on this parcel, which by definition, is not allowable in an Institutional zoning.

So for me, the fairness issue comes up in several ways. First, shouldn't the county just grandfather the wood waste / recycling company in and let them continue to operate? They could go to the board of appeals and get a special exception to be grandfathered until such a time they

close their business, in which case the special exception would be removed. Also, shouldn't the county then practice what they preach? Shouldn't they stop recycling wood waste in Walkersville since the zoning is not correct? I think both of my solutions here are fair. I think that is all anyone looks for, is fairness.

So in summary, we have Emmitsburg landowners who were

there first, they comply with their zoning, and there is a possibility of a commercial venue coming in and disturbing their pursuit of happiness. We have a wood waste/recycling company that was there for 27 years in the same location in New Market that is being told that part of their zoning is wrong and they can no longer operate, while the county does the exact same thing in a different location an all we hear are crickets.

You be the judge - what is fair?

"It's time to make changes in Annapolis"

Justin M. Kiska

There are two topics that I was trying to decide about which to write this month – both having to do with our distinguished state legislature. More precisely, certain members of its leadership. Instead of picking just one, I thought I would touch on both.

The first is the push to allow cameras into the House and Senate chambers so that proceedings can be broadcast and people can see their legislators in action. Municipal governments broadcast their meetings. Congress is on C-SPAN. Streaming of legislative sessions is all done in the name of transparency.

So why do the Democratic leaders in Annapolis, specifically House Speaker Michael Busch and Senate President Mike Miller, have such a problem with the idea? I don't think there's any conspiracy here, but I just don't understand why they don't seem to even want to discuss the issue, blaming everything on funding issues. Senator Miller was vehement in one interview on the topic.

In the current legislative session, two House members on polar opposite sides of the political spectrum, Del. Kathy Szeliga (R-Baltimore County) and Del. David Moon (D-Montgomery County), even came together to sponsor a bill requiring the General Assembly to live stream the legislature's proceedings on the internet.

The argument can be made that is senators and delegates know they are being watched they'll go on and on and play to the camera to try and win points with the public.

If transparency is the demand – the call that so many seem to be fighting for these days – why are Miller and Busch standing in the way?

These two gentlemen are also doing their best to prevent Governor Hogan's plan to enact redistricting reform in the state.

Anyone who looks at Maryland's legislative and Congressional districts knows how terribly gerrymandered they were under the previous governor. The last time the lines were redrawn, they didn't even try to hide the fact of what they were doing.

Governor Hogan has proposed the creation of an independent, non-partisan redistricting commission to draw

the district lines in the future. The vast majority of Marylanders, regardless of party, support the idea. A poll earlier this year by Goucher College put that number at 75%. Unfortunately, Senator Miller and Speaker Busch are not in that group.

Miller is on record as saying instead of looking at reform on the state level, he would rather discuss national or multi-state options. Seriously? If his concern, as some have said, is losing Democratic members of Congress, then he needs to get over it and do what's right, not political.

Those elected by the residents of Maryland to represent and serve the residents of Maryland should do what's best for the residents of Maryland, regardless of what other states are or are not doing.

How can anyone say an independent commission drawing district lines is not the fairest solution? They can't. But that's also not what they want.

Mike Miller and Michael Busch have been in Annapolis for a very long time. In addition to starting to broadcast legislative sessions and allowing a non-partisan commission to draw district lines, I can think of a couple more changes that should be made.

FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

We made it through all the winter wind. Looking forward to the warmer weather, oh yes! Oh no – taxes are due. Well, this year we have a couple of extra days for the procrastinators. The filing deadline to submit 2016 tax returns is Tuesday, April 18, rather than the traditional April 15 date. In 2017, April 15 falls on a Saturday. And on Monday, the District of Columbia celebrates Emancipation Day, which is normally April 16, but that's a Sunday. Emancipation Day affects taxes the same way federal holidays do. Therefore, the tax deadline is pushed out to the following Tuesday, April 18, giving taxpayers three extra days to file their returns. Check it out at www.irs.gov. Don't fall for scams. Remember the IRS does not use unsolicited email, text messages or any social media to discuss your personal tax issue.

Harrisburg Community College (HACC), Central Pennsylvania's Community College, is hosting a Spring Community Education Day on April 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. HACC will offer 15 informative, educational sessions on topics such as the realities and myths associated with the Vietnam War and

its aftermath; tips on getting started locating and reading census records and other public documents; evaluating the accuracy of genealogy information; and organizing large amounts of information and a pictorial journey tracing Andrea Palladio's, an Italian Renaissance architect known as the Father of American Architecture, route from Italy to England to America. You will also learn where you can find traces of Palladio in Adams County. You can choose the three sessions that most interest you. A continental breakfast and lunch is also included in the \$49 registration fee. For a complete listing of class sessions and to register, you go to www.hacc.edu/Gettysburgcommunity or call 717-337-3855, ext. 119903.

Our local area library located in the new Carroll Valley Educational & Community Complex building is offering four events in April. National Library week will be observed April 9-15 with the theme, "Libraries Transform". Time to celebrate the contributions of Adams County libraries and librarians that promote library use and support. A "Coloring Party" will be held on Monday, April 10, from 2 to 5 p.m. so you can color your heart out. "Mov-

ie Night" will be held on Thursday, April 13, from 6 to 8 p.m. Watch a movie with a friend and some popcorn. "The Indifferent Stars Above" book discussion will be held on Monday, April 17, at 7 p.m.

Other activities that you and your family may be interested in attending are: Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday April 15th from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Fairfield Fire & EMS banquet hall; Carroll Valley Easter Hunt on Saturday April 15th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Hunt starts at 11 a.m. The age groups are: 2 years and younger, 3-4 years old, 5-7 year old and 8-10 year old.

Be sure to get there early so to get at the starting line at 11 a.m. It's been 5 years since the last Fishing Derby was held in Carroll Valley. Well, the Carroll Valley Trout Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday April 22nd. Sign in is 7:30 a.m. Fish stocking begins at 8 a.m. Derby starts at 9 a.m. and ends at noon. It is free for children between the ages 14 and younger. Huge thank you goes to the Adams County Trout Unlimited and the McSherrytown Fish and Game Association for donating the trout for this event. If you have any questions about the

event please contact; Bruce Carr 308-289-0594, Tom Fitzsimmons 717-642-6888 or Gayle Marthers 717-642-8269 Ext. 103.

At the March Carroll Valley Borough Council meeting, I had the privilege to swear in David Lillard as a new council member. Also, I proclaimed Friday, April 21st to be PowerTalk 21 Day in Carroll Valley. It is a day for all parents and caregivers to embrace their important role in influencing our youth and their decisions about drinking alcohol. I urge you to review the online information about the PowerTalk program. Google PowerTalk21.

I Had the pleasure to formally recognize two individuals: Jennifer Jarrell for her management of the very successful the Daddy Daughter dance raising money for July 4th celebration and Chief Richard Hileman for authoring a grant submission that helped Adams County law enforcement agencies receive an award \$149,998 from PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency's Bryne Justice Assistance Program.

On Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Carroll Valley Educational & Community Complex, the Carroll Valley Borough Police and Liberty Township Police Departments host will partner with Collaborating For

Youth to carry out the ninth Adams County "Take Back" medicine collection. This medicine collection provides an opportunity for Adams County residents to dispose of unused or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications safely and free of charge. Pills, liquids, creams, and pill bubble-packs will be accepted. No needles or sharps will be accepted. Seventy percent of people abusing prescription pain relievers get them (take) from family and friends. In fact, more teens abuse prescription drugs than any illicit drug except marijuana. Adams County's medication collection and disposal is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration in partnership with local and State Police, local fire departments, Collaborating For Youth, and the Adams County Department of Environmental Services. For more information regarding the Adams County Take Back, please contact Eileen Grenell, 717-338-0300 x 24, or drugfree@cfygettysburg.com.

The Borough meetings in April are: Planning Commission (April 3rd); Council Meeting (April 11th); and Parks/Recreation Committee (April 26th). If you have any questions, please contact me by calling me at 301-606-2021. Keep dry!

State Representative Dan Moul

Once again, another administration is attempting to rebrand the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with a catchy new slogan on the belief that it will somehow convince more tourists to come here and bring much-needed tourism dollars. However, the frequen-

cy with which we change these slogans means they are quickly forgotten, and with a \$2 billion deficit, such a change would cost Pennsylvania taxpayers millions of dollars that we can ill afford to spend right now.

If asked, many residents would likely have trouble nam-

ing more than two of our slogans though the following may ring familiar — "State of Independence," "Memories Last a Lifetime," "You've Got a Friend in Pennsylvania" and "America Starts Here." I would guess that many taxpayers would want it to end here if they knew what the Commonwealth spends to develop a new campaign, redesign and print new tourism brochures and materials, maps, road signs,

commercials and other changes it deems necessary to lure tourists.

A member of the House Tourism and Recreational Development Committee and the state representative from Gettysburg — Pennsylvania's biggest tourism destination — I understand the value of marketing and promotion and I support it. In fact, a few years ago, I sponsored legislation — now law — that permits Adams County to generate more revenue for tourism promotion in the county. While this helps to put destinations such as the Gettys-

burg, Carroll Valley, Ski Liberty, local wineries and other agri-tourism locations on the map, change for the sake of change is not a sound strategy.

Upon learning that the Wolf administration was ready to roll out yet another costly rebranding campaign, I decided to sponsor legislation to lock it in. Our new slogan, "Pennsylvania. Pursue Your Happiness," draws from the Declaration of Independence — signed in Philadelphia in 1776 — which to this day affords us the right to "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." I am not passing judgement on how good or effective the campaign is, I simply want to ensure that it will not change anytime soon.

Perhaps, like me, some of your most memorable state slogans are from other states. "Virginia is for Lovers," "I love New York" and "Pure Michigan" are just a few that come to mind. Why? Those states kept the same program for several years and worked it. My bill would put our new slogan in statute, meaning that it could not be changed without legislation. This initiative has the support of the tourism industry statewide.

Tourism is the second largest industry in Pennsylvania, generating about \$40 billion into the state's economy. Yet, in the past decade, the once \$40 million annual tourism budget has been reduced to a little more than \$3 million today. It is challenging to do the things that we once did with so little, but I believe we will be able to make our tourism dollars go further by sticking with one promotion strategy and following it through.

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Entry Fee: \$15.00 at door; \$12.00 pre-registration
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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Commissioner Randy Phiel

It was no surprise that we could not get through the winter without getting hammered at least once. The bad news was that the March 14 significant storm caused inconvenience and business interruption, the good news was that it was not as bad as a possibly predicted. There is no doubt those March Nor'easter's that come from the south, especially when they collide with a storm coming from the west, do pack a punch. With the residual of the most recent March snowstorm still hanging around, I thought it may be helpful to go over resources for knowing what weather related business decision Adams County Government makes.

Normally county weather related closures and delays are posted on the county website, Channel 8, Channel 27 and broadcast on WGTY/WGET. Your best and first source should be the county website home page. After a decision is made our first call is to our IT department for posting on our website. All the other public postings require electronic equipment, codes and passwords that sometimes do not work and are not fail proof. You cannot talk to a real person at the stations during these storm events as we have found out several times. The status information is now very prominent on the county website home page - so make sure that you look there first at www.adamscounty.us

When we have storms and other natural phenomena the term "essential personnel" becomes very evident. Our hats are off to the prison, DES and maintenance staffs for their professionalism and dedication to their tasks during these difficult weather conditions.

On Monday evening March 20, the Adams County Board of Commissioners held our annual State of the County Commissioners Forum in the historic courtroom from 6:30-8, where

we reviewed 2016 and what lies ahead in 2017. Going into our fifth year in office, I am proud to report that we faithfully continue our commitment to the Adams County Commissioners Community Forums held in all corners of the county in the evening. With the exception of the annual State of the County forum, where we look at the previous year and what lies ahead, we chose a timely subject, with subject experts to present and discuss, concluding with a question and answer period at the end. This year we are planning commissioner forums on the Substance Abuse, Economic Development & Modern Tourism. We will have a Human Services Building Open House in May followed by the Economic Development Forum from 6:30-8:00 in the new HSB multi-purpose room. This would be a great opportunity for residents to see this beautiful and functional new building that will serve Adams County residents for decades. The public is invited to attend all of the commissioner forums. Along with newspaper coverage, Community Television tapes and broadcasts all the forums numerous times on Comcast Channel 12. This assures maximum coverage for residents. You can also access Community TV on the web and view the forums at your convenience.

The Adams County Law Enforcement Firearms Training Range took a giant step forward on Sunday, March 12 when the Gettysburg Eagles Aerie #1562 generously pledged \$50,000 toward the approximately \$125,000 range construction fundraising goal. When added to existing construction donations of approximately \$45,000 we are now within \$30,000 of our goal. These amounts do not include previous donations of approximately \$25,000 that were utilized for planning, engineering and permitting fees. The Eagles also donated toward that initial phase.

The Gettysburg Eagles provides many generous donations to our community each year. In voting this substantial donation to the law enforcement range, they expressed that the significance and lasting impact of this project deserved special consideration and support. We appreciate their acknowledgement of the significance of this project through their generous support. Over sixty-seven individuals and entities have contributed to the Range Project to date with this being the largest single donation. The range will be strategically located beside the 911 center, will be geared to law enforcement training and will be available to all law enforcement officers and agencies in Adams County. With funding to break ground getting closer, there will be a renewed fundraising initiative to obtain the remainder of the funds needed to begin the project. The land for the range will be leased by the county to the Adams County Law Enforcement Association for \$1. The range is being funded by a public/private partnership with no taxpayer's dollars. For more information regarding the range or range donations please contact Range Fundraising Co-Chairs Commissioner Sheriff Jim Muller at 717-337-9828 or Commissioner Randy Phiel at 717-337-9820.

Phase One of the new Human Services Building is now complete and Phase 2 is well under way. The segment of Probation that was located in the old Herff Jones Administrative Office is settling into their new space at HSB. I happened to look in on their old space recently and it is now gutted as Phase Two moves forward. The rest of Probation that is located in the courthouse will be moving the 2nd week of April. I had the pleasure of meeting with CYS staff in their new location as they got to look at their new home in preparation for their move the first and second week of March. To put it mildly, I heard rave reviews on the building and their work space. Beside a quality work environment, the ability to resource and communicate with one another is greatly enhanced. The IT Department is also relocating to the new building in Phase One. Phase Two is scheduled to be completed in May and includes Mental Health, Court Operations, Staff Lunch Room, Multi-purpose Meeting Room, Domestic Relations, and two District Justice offices. Phase Three due to be completed mid-summer will include a larger courtroom and Sheriff's satellite office. CYS was opened to the public March 20 and Probation will open to the public April 10.

I wanted to inform ENJ readers that a very public voice and face of Adams County has just recently retired from the Adams County Department of Emergency Services. DES Director John's Eline retired at the end

of February after 10 years. You might say John began his tenure in the Analog Age and is departing in the Digital Age. Beside all of his other extensive responsibilities, John had major involvement in all phases of planning, implementation and completion of the Adams County 911 Digital Emergency Radio System; as well as managing the various layers of the 150TH Gettysburg Anniversary events. These are both legacy projects with lasting impacts. Also, let us not forget all those severe weather reports and forecast John sent across our computer screens and related to local media on a frequently. John's even tempered, unassuming and professional demeanor are trademarks that will be missed. John tells us he will not be a stranger - and we hope that is the case as John has a lot of knowledge and experience to share. It has been a pleasure John Eline!

Moving forward at the Department of Emergency Services we welcome our new DES Director Warren Bladen. Warren is an attorney and was previously an Adams County Public Defender. Warren began his career in public service as a Baltimore County professional firefighter and Paramedic. Warren continues to utilize his Paramedic skills part-time.

As our thoughts turn to the bloom of spring, and all the activities that means, no matter what you do - get out there and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and cultural activities that beautiful Adams County has to offer.

As our thoughts turn to the bloom of spring, and all the activities that means, no matter what you do - get out there and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and cultural activities that beautiful Adams County has to offer.



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 2151 Fairfield Rd., Gettysburg, PA 4BR, 2BA, brick home, circa 1800 on 25+ ac., lg. kitchen, screened porch, 45 x 75 dairy barn, pond, semi-circular drive. \$525,000	 1 Sunspot Trail, Carroll Valley, PA Pristine 4BR, 3.5BA home, sunroom w/vaulted ceiling, fireplace, kitchen w/many upgrades, Waterford chandelier, cedar closets, crown moulding. \$425,000	 1075 Carlisle Rd., Biglerville, PA Gorgeous 1850s brick home, currently 4 units. Beautiful views! Small barn and fencing for horses. MOTIVATED SELLERS! \$295,000					
 15 Ski Run Trail, Carroll Valley, PA 5BR, 2FBA, 1HBA home on level corner lot, 2,999 sq. ft., gas fireplace in family room, 2 car garage. \$265,000	 2 Marten Trail, Carroll Valley, PA Spacious 5BR, 3.5BA home filled w/ light. In-law quarters w/outside entry on lower level. Updated eat-in kitchen, 2 car garage. \$262,500	 2255 S. Queen St., York, PA Great property for hair salon, medical, dental or insurance office. Parking for 8+ cars in back, storage shed, open floor plan. Unfinished basement. Needs work but worth it! \$149,000	 106 E. Main Street, Fairfield, PA 4BR, 2BA, possible 4th bedroom, could be a rental or place for in-laws. Natural gas, FHA, partly fenced back yard, patio. \$128,900				
27 Forest Tr., Carroll Valley, PA - 0.80 ac., well req., perc appr. L-shaped lot, 200' road frontage. Very motivated sellers! \$17,500	64 Meadowlark Tr., Carroll Valley, PA - 0.92 ac., well req., perc appr., septic design done, minutes from skiing & golf. \$29,900	11 Bunny Tr, Carroll Valley, PA - 0.63 ac., well drilled, public sewer at site, cul-de-sac, level, wooded. \$29,900	26 & 28 Helen Tr., Carroll Valley, PA - 1.04 ac., well req. perc appr., 2 lot parcel on cul-de-sac, close to skiing & golf. \$39,900	WA 26, 25, 24, 23 Jacks Mt. Rd., Carroll Valley, PA - 3 ac., well req., perc appr., beautiful views, close to skiing & golf. \$59,000	795 Jacks Road, Orrtanna, PA - 6.45 ac., well at site, perc appr., beautiful, septic design & permit done, close to skiing & golf. \$79,500	1875 Cold Springs Rd., Fairfield, PA - 9.59 ac., well required, perc appr., close to skiing & golf. Motivated sellers! Make offer! \$89,900	Parcel 29B Tract Rd., Fairfield, PA - 29.76 ac., well req. perc appr., great for your your home or hunting. Motivated Sellers! \$199,900

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THE PASTOR'S DESK

Faith, not an easy climb to holiness

Reverend Chris Suerdieck
Interim Pastor
Trinity United Methodist Church

Retirement is a funny thing. At least it has been for me. After twenty years of serving various congregations in Virginia, I sensed it was time for me to pass along the mantle of full-time pastorates to others who had also answered the call to ordained ministry. Unlike some people who have plans to travel, take up new hobbies, or develop new skills, I didn't have anything particular in mind for what I was going to do as a "retired clergy". However I knew that any endeavor I engaged wouldn't have anything to do with taking up golf or whiling away the hours with a good book. And while I anticipated whatever I did with this new gift of time would involve some form of service to the Church, I could not have predicted I would become an "interim pastor" to four different congregations over the course of the past six years.

Generally speaking in The United Methodist Church, an interim pastor is one assigned to serve a congregation when their pastor cannot continue his or her term. In short, it is a temporary assignment until another pastor can be appointed at the start of the next Conference year. So during my retirement not only have I found God still had work for me to do, I have been greatly blessed in

this unforeseen role.

But soon after I became an interim pastor for the first time, I was identified in another local newspaper publication as an "intermittent pastor". I knew that the writer thought she had identified what I was doing correctly. Nonetheless I was not comfortable with the connotation I was in ministry some of the time and not in ministry the rest of the time. Besides the title "intermittent pastor" made me feel like a pair of windshield wiper blades programmed to start then stop and then start again!

I have to confess that I fumed inwardly for some time about this inadvertent identity. Even so, I eventually realized that my feelings were less about the writer's mistake and more about not wanting to recognize a truth about myself. While I was most assuredly an interim and not intermittent pastor, my walk in faith was full of starts and stops. In other words, faith is not a steady, upward climb to holiness. It is more like a labyrinth where the route involves going forward and then back, round and round. Rarely is it a quick process and frequently there are obstacles along the way which require retracing one's steps.

Life itself for any of us consists of starts and stops, turns, returns, and yes, an occasional outright end to what was known. And those of us who claim Christ may need to re-



member virtually all of our giants in the faith didn't run their race on a smooth, well laid-out course. When God commanded Abram to leave his country, his kindred and his father's house he had no idea where he was going; when God enlisted Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt into a land flowing with milk and honey he could not have imagined it would take forty years to get there; when Ruth faced an uncertain future after being widowed, she had no idea she would become the great grandmother of the great king David; when Mary was told that God had found favor with her and that she would conceive and bear a son,

she could not have comprehended what that would ultimately mean.

Indeed faith may not only have an intermittent quality to it, faith may not grow and deepen without it. In fact, it may well be that if faith were more an interim endeavor, a temporary, short-term, less risky venture it would leave little impact on us. Someone once said God has no grandchildren. That is, we can't take faith for granted as if it is simply conferred on us without any expectation we will be changed. And as children of God, we should embrace all of the opportunities presented to us to both live out of and into our faith. Some of those opportunities will be challenging, unpleasant, or fearful. Some will be joyful, surprising and fulfilling. And many will be a mixture of the two.

As I write this we are in the midst of the season of Lent and looking toward that wondrous Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is no mistake on God's part that even Jesus had to experience the lows as well as the highs of faith. He did not go straight from glory to glory. As the writer of the letter to the Hebrews puts it, "Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful

high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested (Hebrews 2:17-18)." Yes, although Jesus was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all . . . (cf. Hebrews 5:8-9).

Some say we live in precarious times; whether or not they are more precarious for us than for previous generations cannot be proved. So as we navigate fretful waters, as we walk winding paths individually and corporately on various planes—social, economic, and political, may we recall what makes faith, faith. As Christians, we know on whom we can always depend regardless of the circumstances around us including those in our faces right in front of us. Just as surely as Christ Jesus knew how intermittent life can be, Christ Jesus, risen and living Savior, stands with us.

To learn more about Trinity United Methodist Church visit them online at trinityumc.yolasite.com or better yet, join them for Sunday service at 9 a.m. at 313 W. Main St., Emmitsburg.

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April 13—Holy Thursday Service of Supper and Holy Communion, 6:00 p.m.

April 14—Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7:00 p.m.

April 16—Easter Sunday
Service of Joy and Celebration, 9:00 a.m.

He humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!
-Philippians 2:8

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BOOK OF DAYS

The sweating sickness



April 16

April 16th, 1551, the sweating sickness broke out at Shrewsbury. This was the last appearance of one of the most remarkable diseases recorded in history. Its first appearance was in August 1485, among the followers of Henry VII who fought and gained the memorable battle of Bosworth Field. The battle was contested on the 22nd of August, and on the 28th the king entered London, bringing in his train the fatal and previously unknown pestilence. The 'Sweatyng Sykenesse,' as it is termed by the old chroniclers, immediately spread its ravages among the crowded, unhealthy dwellings of the citizens of London.

The national joy and public festivities, consequent on the conclusion of the long struggle between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, were at once changed to general terror and lamentation. The coronation of Henry, an urgent measure, as it was expected to extinguish the last scruples that some might entertain regarding his right to the throne, was of necessity postponed. The disease spread over all England with fearful rapidity. It seems to have been a violent inflammatory fever, which, after a short rigor, prostrated the vital powers as with a blow; and, amidst a painful oppression at the stomach, headache, and lethargic stupor, suffused the whole body with a copious and disgustingly foetid perspiration. All this took place in a few hours, the crisis being always over within the space of a day and night; and scarcely one in a hundred recovered of those who were attacked by it as described in the following article:

'Suddenly, a deadly burning sweat so assailed their bodies and distempered their blood with a most ardent heat, that scarce one among an hundred that sickened did escape with life, for all in manner, as soon as the sweat took them, or a short time after, yielded the ghost. Kaye, the founder of Caius College, Cambridge, and the most eminent physician of his day, who carefully observed the disease at its last visitation, relates that its ' sudden sharpness and unwonted cruelty passed the pestilence (the plague). For this (the plague) commonly giveth three or four, often seven, sometimes nine, sometimes eleven, and sometimes fourteen days respect to whom it vexeth. But that (the sweating sickness) immediately killed. Some in

opening their windows, some in playing with their children at their street doors, some in one hour, many in two, it destroyed, and, at the longest, to them that merrily dined it gave a sorrowful supper. As it found them, so it took them, some in sleep, some in wake, some in mirth, some in care, some fasting, and some full, some busy, and some idle, and in one house, sometimes three, sometimes four, sometimes seven, sometimes eight, sometimes more, some-times all.'

The slight medical knowledge of the period found itself utterly unable to cope with the new disease. No resource was therefore left to the terrified people, but their own good sense, which fortunately led them to adopt the only efficient means that could be pursued. Violent medicines were avoided. The patient was kept moderately warm, a small quantity of mild drink was given, but total abstinence from food was enjoined until the crisis of the malady had passed. Those who were attacked in the day, in order to avoid a chill, went immediately to bed with-out taking off their clothes, and those who sickened at night did not rise, carefully avoiding the slightest exposure to the air of either hand or foot. Thus they carefully guarded against heat or cold, so as not to encourage the perspiration by the former, nor check it by the latter; bitter experience having taught that either was certain death.

In 1506, the sweating sickness broke out in London for the second time, but the disease exhibited a much milder character than it did during its first visitation; numbers who were attacked by it recovered, and the physicians of the day rejoiced triumphantly, attributing the cures to their own skill, instead of to the milder form of the epidemic. It was not long till they discovered their error. In 1517, the disease broke out in England for the third time, with all its pristine virulence. It ravaged England for six months, and as before did not penetrate into Ireland or Scotland. It reached Calais, however, then an English possession, but did not spread farther into France.

As eleven years elapsed between the second and third visitation of this fell destroyer, so the very same period intervened between its third and fourth appearance, the latter taking place in 1528. The previous winter had been so wet, that the seed corn had rotted in the ground. Some fine weather in spring gave hopes to the husbandman, but

scarcely had the fields been sown when a continual series of heavy rains destroyed the grain. Famine soon stalked over the land, and with it came the fatal sweating sickness. This, as far as can be collected, was its most terrible visitation, the old writers describing it as The Great Mortality. All public business was suspended. The Houses of Parliament and courts of law were closed. The king, Henry VIII, left London, and endeavoured to avoid the epidemic by continually travelling from place to place. He lived in total seclusion from the outer world, the house being surrounded with large fires, which night and day were kept constantly burning, as a means of purifying the atmosphere.

There are no accurate data by which the number of persons destroyed by this epidemic can be estimated, but they must have been many, very many. The visitation lasted much longer than the previous ones. Though the greater number of deaths occurred in 1528, the disease was still prevalent in the following summer.

As before, the epidemic did not ex-

tend to Scotland or Ireland. It was even affirmed and believed that natives of those countries were never attacked by it, though dwelling in England, as a result it was a disease known only in England, and fatal only to Englishmen; consequently, the learned gave it the name of Sudor Anglicus—the English sweat. And the learned writers of the period all cordially agreed in ascribing the English pestilence to the sins of Englishmen, though they differed in opinion as to the particular sins which called down so terrible a manifestation of Divine displeasure.

On its last visit to England, in April 1551, it made its first appearance at Shrewsbury. It was found to have undergone no change. It attacked its hapless victims at table, on journeys, during sleep, at devotion or amusement, at all times of the day or night. Nor had it lost any of its malignity, killing its victims sometimes in less than an hour, while in all cases the space of twenty-four hours decided the fearful issue of life or death.

Contemporary historians say that the country was depopulated. Women ran about negligently clothed, as if they had lost their senses, and filled the air with dismal outcries and lamentations. All business came to a stand. No one

thought of his daily avocations. The funeral bells tolled night and day, reminding the living of their near and inevitable end. Breaking out at Shrewsbury, it spread westward into Wales, and through Cheshire to the north-western counties; while on the other side, it extended to the southern counties, and easterly to London, where it arrived in the beginning of July. It ravaged the capital for a month, then passed along the east coast of England towards the north, and finally ceased about the end of September.

Thus, in the autumn of 1551, the sweating sickness vanished from the earth; it has never reappeared, and in all human probability never will, for the conditions under which a disease of its nature and malignity could occur and extend itself do not now exist. Modern medical science avers that the Sudor Anglicus was a rheumatic fever of extraordinary virulence; still of a virulence not to be wondered at, when we take into consideration the deficiency of the commonest necessities of life, that prevailed at the period in which it occurred.

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COMMENTARY

Words from Winterbilt

Why?

Shannon Bohrer

"It was the best of times and it was the worst of times...." Depending on your perspective

During the primaries, then candidate Donald Trump said that if he lost the election it would be because of voter fraud. Then he won the election and he now says that 3 to 5 million votes were fraudulently cast and all of the fraudulent votes were cast for Hillary. According to his logic, he would have won the popular vote if not for voter fraud. President Trump cited the Pew studies to justify his claims of voter fraud. But the Pew studies, which do exist, never examined voter fraud. What is the issue?

The idea of wide spread voter fraud has been raised numerous times and the Trump administration continues to defend it. Even with the responses by election officials around the country that the voter fraud described by the Trump Administration does not exist, the false claims persist. The responses from around the country and numerous studies tell us that voter fraud does exist, but the fraud is usually in the single digit numbers, not millions.

Then, after the voter fraud issue seemed to go away, it was not mentioned for several days - it came

back. On a Sunday morning talk show President Trump made the claim that buses from Massachusetts carried illegal voters to New Hampshire where they voted in the presidential election. He made these claims with no evidence. Then White House adviser Stephen Miller went on national television and repeated the administration's unfounded claims of voter fraud in New Hampshire. When pressed for evidence, Steven Miller said: "I can tell you that this issue of busing voters into New Hampshire is widely known by anyone who's worked in New Hampshire politics. It's very real. It's very serious."

In response to this claim of "Voter Fraud in New Hampshire" the former New Hampshire GOP chairman Fergus Cullen offered a \$1,000 reward for evidence of a single illegal vote from the state of Massachusetts. The offer was repeated in the national news media and no one collected the reward. As Mr. Fergus Cullen said, "The idea that people are coming to New Hampshire to commit fraud on a massive scale like this is just preposterous and it needs to be called out as untrue."

We seem to have an administration that projects untruths, false and/or unsubstantiated claims, on numerous topics. It is not unusual for people to have various perspectives of an event. Sometimes words are spoken that can have several meanings. A gathering or demon-

stration can be an exercise of free speech and with a few words or disruptions the same gathering it can be viewed as a riot. But what is unusual is that when the President and his administration make false statements that are refuted - and they continue to make them. Facts are facts and science is science. Saying something repeatedly does not make it true.

The question we should be asking is why? If the facts don't add up, why restate them? Why are we being told that the administration's truths are different? What is the motivation, or is there motivation?

The White House seems to have problems with multiple facts beyond the voter fraud issue. These "alternative facts" continue to appear, so you have to ask why? In this day and age with instant news and multiple fact check reference sites why would this pattern of behavior even exist - let alone continue? Is there a benefit? After the stories have been refuted - do people still believe them?

When talking to a group of police administrators the President repeatedly talked about the increases in murders and violent crime. He said that homicides in the U.S. are at a 47 year high, when they are actually low. The homicide rate did go up for one year, but it is at a 51 year low. Crime is at a 57 year low. Since this information is so available why do the alternative facts

keep being used?

When the press does challenge the President, he tells us that the press is to blame and that you can't trust the media. The media does have its biases and the biases are on both sides, but in general terms the media does get the facts, not the alternative facts but the facts. In fact when the media does get it wrong, they say so. It is good to have a healthy skepticism of the media, but the media is not "the enemy of the state."

"If you tell the same lie enough times, people will believe it; and the bigger the lie, the better." -Joseph Goebbels.

The administration even accused the media of not covering terrorist attacks. From my perspective there are many times the media covers the story too much, but rarely too little. A trump spokesperson Ms. Conway, said the media was unaware of the "Bowling Green massacre," because they failed to cover it. As she said "Most people don't know that because it didn't get covered." Of course the reason the media did not cover the story, was because there was no massacre.

When President Trump was told by the intelligence community that Russia interfered in the election and the purpose was to discredit Secretary Clinton, he consistently did not believe it. In doing so he basically said that our intelligence community had made mistakes before, so there was a reason to mistrust them. Why would someone with no evidence of voter fraud, consistency say that 3 to 5 million illegal voters fraudulently for Secretary Hillary? Conversely, when told by

17 intelligence agencies that Russia interfered in our election - he disbelieved the intelligence report(s).

Does President Trump have some unknown connections to Russia and President Putin that we don't know about? President Trump's wife Melania was born in Slovina, which had been part of Yugoslavia. This was before the break-up of Yugoslavia in the 1990s. Marshall Tito ruled Yugoslavia, which was a satellite state of the USSR. Melania's father Viktor Knavs was a registered Communist. Maybe Melania is a Manchurian candidate? Why has this not been reported? Maybe because it ranks right up there with Obama being born in Kenya. Except for the Manchurian candidate, the rest is true.

"Think of the press as a great keyboard on which the government can play." -Joseph Goebbels

We have heard from the media that President Trump likes to have competing sides. We have also heard that he uses the outlandish comments to distract from other issues. The problem with both of these theories is just that, they are theories. When the president tells us we cannot trust the government and we can't trust the press, then he and his administration espouse false narratives - I think the problem is deeper than we realize.

"The great masses of the people will more easily fall victims to a big lie than to a small one." -Adolf Hitler

Why?

To read past editions of Words from Winterbilt, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

Common Cents

Treasury leaks

Ralph Murphy

The House of Representatives approved a \$ 584 billion defense bill in early March demonstrating strong bipartisan support in a 381-48 vote. It now goes to the Senate and White House facing some changes and then approval. No bill of that type has been rejected out of committee since the Eisenhower administration in the early 1960s. At issue now is the delineation of executive and legislative powers as the Constitution is either vague on the subject or redirected by statute from its original civil, economic role.

The American Constitution of 1789 affords Congress almost absolute control over daily running of the nation's economy. Within Article 1 Section 8 of the document, Congress was given the authority to "collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, pay debt... borrow money, regulate commerce with foreign nations and (domestic) states, it may coin money, regulate the value thereof as well as foreign coin."

Despite that legal mandate - almost all these powers have been devolved from the Legislature to the Executive within a broad standard of compliance. That may

reflect the transient nature of the lawmakers relative to standing civil structure that can develop expertise in those finance directives. The Treasury department was one of the three, original U.S. Presidential Cabinet positions, however its ascribed duties in the Constitution appear to be limited to simple storage of the nation's sovereign, government wealth. While involving mostly tax and duty receipts of the era- the system has expanded now to include private sector storage and that is largely done through the Federal Reserve banks.

A taxation role for excise taxes that target specific goods (e.g. gasoline or cigarettes) was allowed as were import and export of duties and tariffs. These taxes often last longer than originally intended and can distort the patterns or costs to the consumer as well as the industry producing such goods or services. While these are a concern, the real process with potentially greatest impact is the storage of private sector funds.

The credit and cash storage potential in the 12 Federal Reserve banks may not have been foreseen by the framers of the Constitution in 1789 nor Congress when it created the Federal Reserve System in 1913. It was designed for bank regulation, but also linked a centralized, money supply provision and

its regulation needs amid increased economic complexity and credit requirements. The Fed by statute was nominally independent of both the President and Congress, but there has been such a leap in storage capacity with financial metadata of all relevant systems, that it is dangerously prone to manipulation and theft. This has seemed the case without a clearer definition of the Fed's roles and responsibilities. The money should remain in the private sector as monitored by the Fed team in its regulatory role for investment competence.

Since the 2002 Department of Homeland Security Act was passed- various executive programs were realigned to ostensibly provide for streamlined security product used by policy makers for defense concerns. The Treasury Department was affected. For example, the Secret Service was spun out - as were the ATF and others. Linked legislation defined the Treasury's functions to "manage United States government finances and resource, produce all currency, collect taxes, duties, money paid to and due the United States, pay bills owed by the government, manage federal finances and accounts of the US public debt." It almost exactly mirrors the 1789 document, but again has enough leeway that without a clearer delineation of specific

powers, can be used by either lawmakers or law compliers in various executive agencies.

The technology aspect of the stored wealth trust presumes that the private sector's access agents are legally compliant in their legal, investment strategies and that supposition is very suspect given current personality profiles and actions. Fiscal spending discretion of the stored funds is also a concern as few developed nations require a national budget be balanced. This is to ensure program competition or justify its need amid ideological largesse that now affords almost unlimited billing. It appears that the colonists did borrow, but quickly settled with consolidation of the new nation. Last year's national budget stood at just under \$4 trillion. The economy generated just over \$17 trillion

So, at present, about 25% of the private sector's spending- including social programs linked to the Executive Branch- are directed by Washington. This involves tax receipt funding and distribution, as well as the various duties previously discussed. The issue now is that, while the money is then reinjected into conventional private concerns, government spending directives invariably are not the spending types that consumers would undertake if they could control their own funds. We won't starve, but it's just not optimal. There'd clearly be a draw down of directed spending and increased

consumer discretionary purchases with more accountability as to fiscal need.

Much of the current spending is tied to interest on the national debt. The latter continues to expand. The interest on the debt is paid- as is the federal debt that does logically lead to the conclusion that the budget is balanced as almost none of the debt principle is paid beyond links to money supply, tied bonds or bills. Of concern is the Constitutional directive affording Congress the financial management role and that has not been amended. Rather, it has been legally "worked around". That is done one law at a time and the duty is now under executive control by standing bodies that are vetted for this purpose.

Congress still establishes the legal parameters for the spending itself. That is how the system has evolved so the Constitution wasn't that far removed from current spending pressures. Ideally, they could have limited government handling of public money closer to administration needs. This, with a sound regulatory role that doesn't actually interfere with corporate strategies. It ensures a competitive framework of the propriety. All this, while meeting inelastic or survival needs of a well scrutinized, balanced budget would help as well.

To read past editions of Common Cents, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

The American Mind

Face it, IPAs are horrible

William Hillman

This month I've changed focus a little bit to talk about the politics of beer. Specifically, the current rage for IPAs.

When I started occasioning bars back in the 1980s, the choice of beer was limited to Budweiser, Miller, Schlitz, and maybe Rolling Rock. These beers were best served very cold so that the taste buds would be numbed. Most people could not tell the difference between the major brands. If the bartender gave you the wrong beer, you would never notice.

My favorite neighborhood pub had two taps on the bar, Miller and Budweiser. One evening while watching a baseball game with some of the regulars, the tap ran dry. Jerry, the bar owner, just had a hip operation and asked me if I'd change the keg. After a brief description of where it was in the basement, I obliged. What I came to learn that night was, the bar had two taps, but both taps were connected to the same keg. I switched the keg. God only knows what the beer was since it was not labeled. I went upstairs to resume my position at the bar. At some point Jerry left to use the restroom. I turned to an old construction worker next to me known as "Cookie" and said, "Both of those beer tabs are connected to the same

keg in the basement, so it doesn't matter what you order, it's the same stuff. Cookie shrugged his shoulders and said "Everyone knows that, but the beer that comes out of the Budweiser tap tastes better."

American mass produced beer was just interchangeable swill. The only option was German beer imported at prohibited costs. As students, those \$30 - \$40 German beers were not considered when Schlitz was \$8 for a case of 24.

The explosion of boutique breweries started in the early 90s and was a welcome rescue for us beer drinkers. Finally, it was possible to buy domestically brewed beer of quality and taste at reasonable prices. I had never heard of the term "microbrewery" until the Boston brewing company, Sam Adams, opened a small brewery restaurant in Philadelphia. With fresh lagers and ales, how refreshing it was to have locally produced clean, tasteful beer. Soon Dock Street Brewery was opened in the city. Each year passing saw more small breweries added. This trend spread throughout the country.

This was the First Great Awakening. We learned that there was something better than the beer produced by industrial breweries at a rate of millions of gallons per day. Their marketing mind control that made

us believe we had no other choice would no longer work.

Twenty-five years later and every small hamlet and town has its share of micro-breweries. The town I live in has three microbreweries.

But more does not mean better. We have entered another Dark Era of beer.

My local beer shop is stocked with a staggering number of beers from every part of the country. They have names like "Hoppy Ending Pale Ale", "Arrogant Bastard Ale", "Blind Pig IPA" and Polygamy Porter." There are literally thousands of these beers to choose from. The overwhelming majority of these beers are Indian Pale Ales. The one thing they all have in common is they taste awful and are expensive.

Four dollars for a can of beer? That equates to \$96 for a case. Who can afford that you ask? From my unofficial survey of the beer shop, it appears to be college students with massive school loans and young millennials living in their parents' basement.

Why does it have to all be IPAs? A pilsner, clean lager or ale is a wonderful thing. Indian pale Ale is poison!

For a few weeks last year, I found myself working out of an office in Ardmore Pennsylvania. There is a Brewery in this town called Tired Hands. One would think by the lines of people winding for blocks, all waiting for the chance to buy the

latest beer being canned each Thursday, this must be the greatest beer ever made. At 8:00 in the morning there would be a hundred people in line for a "release" at 3:00. From my office window, I would watch this line grow longer, stretching several blocks. Curiosity got the best of me. I had to find out what this beer was and who these people are so I walked down and spent some time talking to them. People were there from as far away as New York and Baltimore. They had taken the day off (assuming they worked) and traveled just for the beer. It was interesting to see these people walk out of the store with their two six packs, giddy like young school girls. As is the custom these days, everyone had to stop a take a selfie with the beer. At the end of my day, I stopped by the Brewery to try some of this legendary beer with two of my friends, Jim and Richard. The fleeting trend at the time was adding grapefruit to the brews. All I can say is, what a horrible thing to do to a beer. It was awful. The three of us each tried every beer on their menu. None of us could find anything palatable. To be fair to this brewery, I've been back three different times, but have yet to finish a glass of their beer. I just don't get it.

So where did this horrible stuff come from? In the early part of the 18th Century a request was made by the East India Company to the Bow Brewery of Middlesex for an ale that could be exported to India. To help

preserve the ale, the brewers added extra hops. Hops have antibiotic and preservative properties. Hops also add the distinct bitterness to the IPA. The reason they drank it was because it was the only beer they could get that would not spoil.

We are not limited by lack of refrigeration and sterile bottling systems. We can drink a better beer.

It is not just the ales that are being bastardized, last fall I was given some pilsner from a brewery out west. It had zucchini in it. What sick mind would put zucchini in my beer? These people should not be permitted to walk amongst us. As a people, we must have standards.

I beg of my fellow beer drinkers, don't buy that bottle because it has a funny name and a half naked girl on the label. Have some dignity.

The time for the Second Great Awakening has arrived. Reject the IPAs. Next time you are at a party and someone tries to give you an orange labeled IPA, stand tall, look them in the eye and say, "I don't drink that shit, do you have a lager?" We must reach out to our friends and pull them into the light. Be the prophet that brings Pilsner Urquell to the party and open your friends' eyes. Only when we come together as beer drinkers and reject the IPAs will the breweries be forced to produce beer we can drink.

To read past editions of *The American Mind*, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

Down Under

The new religion

Lindsay Coker
Melbourne, Australia

"Religion: A daughter of Hope and Fear, explaining to ignorance the nature of the unknowable."

—Ambrose Bierce, the Devil's Dictionary

President Trump was elected for a reason that has never been stated or understood. No matter his lies, absurd statements, off the cuff pronouncements and communication by twitter, he did what no other person could: he restored a sense of purpose to the lives of those who had lost it.

When it doesn't seem to matter what you do, and you stay stymied, put down, ignored, and treated like second class citizens, as well as being made to exist on part time and demeaning work and ridiculed by those in power, you will respond to anyone who promises to hope and restore purpose to your life.

Whether it was intended or not, his slogan of making America Great Again buried itself in the psyche of middle America where it grew wings and took off into an Alice-in-Wonderland world where strange things are normal, trips down rabbit holes, mad hatter's tea parties and white rabbits are typical. Where the world is a fantasy - but so real. Where you are not in control, but you instinc-

tively know that nothing really bad happens - even when your body seems to lose shape you somehow know it will come out right in the end. You will wake up in the shade, the story on your lap, find the world is as it was in the good old days, and go out to play.

By embracing such a story you will follow its author to the ends of the earth even when the wicked red queens and their media fools are attacking you and calling you the same old names. It doesn't matter what your new hero says, because trust has nothing to do with right or wrong, truth or falsehood, morality or immorality; where he attacks your enemies, waves the banner of a righteous future, and marches over John Brown's body. That's all part of the saviour's message.

He can do no wrong. You may not like everything he says, but it's only part of this strange new wonderland. Like Dorothy you will return to Kansas safe and sound, with new found purpose - one that will carry you and your descendants into a safe and secure future. You do not know how it will be done and you do not care, but like the Wizard of Oz some levers will be pulled and presto! It will be back to normal.

If you have doubts about it, if those negative screams from the north cause you to pause, all you need do is close your eyes and wish

upon a star, because whatever transpires, it could not be worse than it was before he came along.

And this is the strength President Trump runs on. It is doubtful that he ever intended it or thought of it this way, but he has well honed instincts and like all good showmen knew a brilliant slogan when he heard one. He never dreamt of being a 'good' president, a statesman, a world leader, except that his skills, having been honed in pop-drama bathed in snake oil, were able to confound the elite and soothsayers. And they are still on a leaky boat in the middle of a stormy ocean. All manner of schemes are discussed, all known plans dissected, but being unable - and unwilling - to be in this new pseudo reality they are unable to comprehend the power he has.

They see it as a fantasy land, yes indeed, but being cold hard pragmatists with degrees in everything they cannot get a handle on it. That they helped create the twister that blew so many away cannot be comprehended. The good old Queen of the east had proved herself; democratic capitalism was the power of their liner sailing the oceans of the world, and it would never sink. They never saw that it was sinking practically everything else around it, and are still reeling in this impossible new situation.

The thing is, the supporters of President Trump are paying homage to their new Messiah. That's the role of Messiahs - to give purpose to life, to allow a glimpse of heaven to come into being, to inspire faith in followers, and to tell wonderful stories of resurrection. To condemn her-



etics, to show them that the old established religions have failed, are repressive and up to their ears in graft and corruption.

When that happens their Messiah can do no wrong. He shows it by his oratory, his ability to convince them he can perform miracles, hold up the vision of a future heaven, and that they must therefore kneel before him to honour him. That is his due. They become his disciples, spreading the word, being martyrs if need be, and willing to die in the cause.

The establishment has no answer. They may impeach and put him on a cross, causing the spread of his religion to increase, or try to reinvent themselves with grander structures and tweaked messages - but they will not suppress his appeal. Not immediately, anyway; and because we live in today's frenetic world, time is something no one has. Yes, the Messiah will ignore the barbarians at the gate, the heathens sharpening spears, the traders stealing

their money, but neither he or his followers care. Their purpose, their destiny is not today, but tomorrow when the apocalypse descends.

Then they will die happy, sure of resurrection in a remade America. Any sacrifice would have been worth it, because their purpose has been vindicated. That old time religion was no use to them. It landed them of the rust heap, and this new meld of secular nonconformism is their promised land.

I do not know what happened to the old religions in Jesus' time, but his message is still alive and well today. That President Trump's will not be doesn't matter. Apocalypse of a different kind is edging on stage, and will drown us all in its rising tides. In the meantime, here's to illusion.

Lindsay the unbeliever,
Melbourne Australia

To read past editions of *Down Under*, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

Remembering what hasn't happened

Bill Meredith

*Lord, grant Your finest benison
Upon the Carolina Wren
For it, alone among small birds,
Pronounces clearly all its words
And sings with vigor, loud and
clear So even aging ears can hear.
—So even aging ears can hear.*

Spring must have been confused when it arrived in Emmitsburg this year. After a winter that felt like an extension of fall, in the middle of March we received a foot of heavy, wet snow. Crocuses, daffodils and forsythia that had been misled by 60-degree temperatures and bloomed too early were covered for a week or so. Cherry trees in Washington that had been duped by warm nights and started to bloom were frozen. Robins that had been tricked into dreaming of an early nesting season found that the worms they depended on as food were still sleeping deep beneath the surface and out of reach.

The late snowstorm caught me off guard just like the birds and flowers. Last fall I cleared a path through the garage, woke up the snowblower, and gave it its annual checkup. It sat there in a state of anticipation for a few weeks, but no snow came, so it went back to sleep. As months passed without snow, gremlins began to sneak into the garage each night and quietly filled the path to the snowblower with boxes, bags of birdseed, old garden tools, and vagrant Christmas decorations... and so, when the March storm arrived and I went to get the snow-blower, it was nowhere in sight.

As you proceed into your ninth decade, you notice that simple tasks take about three times as long as they used to, especially when lifting and carrying things are involved; and that's what happened that day. After breakfast I waded through the snow to fill the birdfeeder, and then went into the garage and began to search for the snowblower. I was sure it was in there somewhere, but it was nearly lunchtime before I found it and got a path cleared to get it out. It was a not an unpleasant task; the snow had stopped, the sun was shining, and as I worked I could hear a Carolina wren singing out in the yard. I enjoy doing manual work like that because it allows my mind to wander back into the past, and in this case I found myself remembering a day some ten years ago when I was re-building the woodpile behind the house. That day, I had also noticed that the only bird I could hear was a Carolina wren. At that time, it didn't surprise me; the chainsaw was making enough noise to scare off all of the birds in the immediate area, and the wren was 40 or 50 yards off in the woods. But later, when I turned off the saw and replaced the rubber plugs in my ears with hearing aids, the wren was still the only thing I could hear. It was then that I wrote the verse printed above; and it came back to me there in the garage.

There are always a lot of small birds around... I regularly see as many as 20 species while having breakfast and morning coffee... and several of them are tame enough to perch within 4 or 5 feet of me while I pour seeds into

the feeder. In pre-deafness days, I knew all of their songs, but now they are gradually fading from memory, and as I gazed out into the snow I realized that the only one I could really distinguish was the Carolina wren. Several others were singing... white-throated sparrows, juncos, cardinals, nuthatches... but they were indistinct and blurred, like background music in an elevator. Not so, the wren; both he and his wife came through loud and clear. He was one of the smallest of the lot, but I could hear every syllable: "chirpity, chirpity, chirpity," or "tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea-kettle." I stood and listened to them for a few minutes, and then went inside for lunch.

As you go through life, you get into habits. After lunch I sat down in my recliner and took a short nap; then, when I returned to the garage, I realized I had forgotten to close the door when I came in an hour or more ago. The wrens were busily fluttering about in there, inspecting every hole and crevice on the shelves where we store canned goods, as wrens are supposed to do. Zoologists classify them in a family called Troglodytidae, based on the Greek word, troglodyte, which means "cave-dweller," and that is what they do. There are about ten species of them in North America, four of which occur in Maryland; and they all nest in cave-like places. 400 years ago, before the country was settled, they lived in places like abandoned woodpecker holes, crevices among rocky cliffs, or in old dead trees where limbs had broken off. Now, they have adapted to civilization by moving into



As any bird lover knows, Carolina Wrens are busy, if not downright bossy birds. They know what they want and don't stop until they get it, like this Wren who sorted through a tub of mealworms until she found just what she was looking for.

abandoned houses or farm buildings, or enticing children to hang out birdhouses for them... or by sneaking into garages when senior citizens forget to close the doors.

I chased the wrens out of the garage, closed the door, and cleared the snow from the driveway and sidewalk without further incident. But a few days later, my son came to visit and took my wife shopping; and when they got home and unloaded the car, they forgot to close the garage door. It stood open all afternoon, and when I discovered it, the wrens were in there again, and they were busy. The snow had melted and the lawn was full of dead leaves that had blown in after I raked last fall; and the wrens were carrying them in by the beak-full, singing as they went.

I chased them out of the garage again and so far I've managed to keep the door shut. I don't hold any ill feelings toward them; they were just doing what wrens are supposed to do. They are strongly territorial, and if I had allowed them to stay, the male would have built nests in every crevice in the whole garage, and allowed his bride to choose the one she liked

best; and he would have defended all the others against every other wren in the area, and against me as well when the young ones hatched out. And besides, I can't afford to leave the garage open all summer. There is still plenty of time for them to find another place to nest.

Still, they fascinate me. I've never understood how they are able to fly and sing with their mouths full all at the same time. When I was a child, their smaller cousins, the house wrens, used to build nests in an old tea kettle that sat on a shelf by our kitchen door, and I have vague memories of watching them and trying to sing myself with a mouthful of sticks and grass; but I never could do it. I was disappointed but not surprised; after all, they could also fly while singing with their mouths full, and I couldn't fly either. It's just as well that I gave up when I did, because later that summer I saw them singing while they flew to the nest with mouthfuls of worms and insects....

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IN THE COUNTRY

Arbor Day

Tim Iverson,
Naturalist

April plays host to Arbor Day. Nationally it is observed as the last Friday of April. Arbor Day is the civic holiday reserved for planting and celebrating trees. They do, in fact, do quite a bit for us ranging from the all important oxygen creation to lesser known climate regulation. Our forests are classified as primarily eastern, or temperate, deciduous forests. This forest type occurs in areas with mild winters and warm, humid summers. Our deciduous forests are also associated with their vividly ephemeral color displays in autumn.

Trees are broken down into two main categories: coniferous and deciduous. Coniferous trees have needles and produce cones. Deciduous trees have broad leaves which die off in cooler temperatures in a process called abscission. Deciduous means "to die off," which is where the name comes from, and this usually coincides with winter and cooler temperatures. Abscission happens when leaves stop producing chlorophyll and green pigmentation. During the summer the broad leaves are essential for survival, but in the winter those leaves become a lethal liability. The leaves are a costly source of water loss and consumption, and during the winter months water is hard to come by. To prepare for the change in seasons deciduous trees will shed their leaves. Conifer needles have less surface area and retain water better than leaves because of a waxy coating and smaller pores, which can allow for year round photosynthesis.

Our deciduous forests are dominated by oaks, maples, tulip poplars, hickories, and beech trees. Formerly, the American Chestnut also called these forests home. Due to an unprecedented disease arriving in the early 20th century they're all but extinct. Many of these trees, including the chestnut, were huge economic drivers throughout the region. Many of these forests were culled for agriculture, settlements, and industry. Both Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park were clear cut several times over the course of the early settlement of the region well into the early 1900's to fuel an iron furnace operation in Thurmont, MD. Most of what currently occupies the Catoctin mountains is considered a second-growth forest. By and large, it is mostly less than 100 years old and was largely replanted through efforts of the Civilian Conservation Corp and Works Progress Administration in 1936 during the creation of the Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, the forerunner of both parks.

The forests of Catoctin are relatively new second-growth forests, as are much of eastern deciduous forests. The National Park Service estimates that there are 0.1% original old growth forests left on the east coast. When defining an old-growth forest it doesn't necessarily mean the trees are old, though it often does. Second-growth forests usually contain trees that are less than 100 - 200 years old. The canopies and floors of old-growth forests are very complex. They exhibit several layers of understory growth, large old trees, standing dead trees called snags, canopy openings where dead trees have

fallen, and lots of large dead wood on the floors that become habitats and food for other forest inhabitants. Second-growth forests exhibit little or none of these examples. Given enough time and proper management they will eventually become an old-growth forest.

Whether their old or second-growth forests they still provide the same services. Chiefly among them is the creation of oxygen. Trees consume sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide (as well as other gases) to create sugars and oxygen in a process called photosynthesis. The oxygen they don't consume during this process is exhaled back out into the world. By absorbing carbon dioxide (CO₂) during photosynthesis trees store carbon both above and below ground.

As greenhouse gases accumulate in the atmosphere spurring climate change this can become a vital tool for us. The US Forest Service estimates that American forests store up to 750 million metric tons of CO₂ each year, which is about 10% of the country's carbon emissions. Carbon sequestration is a process where CO₂ is removed from the atmosphere and stored for an extended period of time. The carbon is stored within the leaves, stems, roots, and

Because trees live for so long this banks the carbon potentially for hundreds of years. Additionally, products made from wood will still contain the carbon stored within extending the sequestration period until that product either decomposes or is burned. Scientists and policy makers are trying to figure out if we can harness this ability of trees to slow or reverse climate change.

Forests can help forestall long-term climate change, but they also help to regulate local climates and weather patterns too. Globally, vegetative cover accounts for about 20-30% of total land. Within forests or areas of vegetative cover plants release water vapor and absorb and emit energy used to drive weather. Forests create their own micro-climates with leaves through transpiration, or evaporative cooling,



In 1932 the Post Office issued this Arbor Day commemorative stamp to coincide with the 100th anniversary of J. Sterling Morton's birth. (Yes, it only took two cents to mail a letter in 1932!)

which reduces the humidity and temperature in the surrounding area. As water vapor is evaporated back into the air it condenses into clouds and eventually rain.

Forests are important brokers in the water cycle. Many forests are apart of regional watersheds. A watershed is an area of land that absorbs snow and rain as it drains into rivers, streams, and lakes. Forests help keep these bodies of water clean by providing natural filtration systems through vegetative cover that promotes healthy soils and by preventing soil erosion. As water filters through a forest it may be consumed by trees and plants and later released through groundwater aquifers purifying it in the process.

The first American Arbor Day was proposed by a well-known Nebraskan journalist, J. Sterling Morton, in 1872. It was observed in Nebras-

ka on April 10, 1872 and soon caught on across the country in metropolitan areas and other states. The Nebraska Board of Agriculture held a competition among organizations and localities offering prizes for those who planted the most trees. It's estimated that about one million trees were planted that first American Arbor Day. It's alleged that, while Morton was always a prominent environmental advocate, he initially proposed the idea because he was homesick for the trees of his native Michigan. The very first Arbor Day type holiday occurred as early as 1594 in a small Spanish town. American Arbor Day is nationally observed on the last Friday in April, but some states observe the holiday earlier or later depending upon local seasonal conditions best for planting. The idea is now truly global as tree planting festivals or holidays occur in at least 44 different countries.

Whether it is to beautify your community, to reduce energy costs by shading your homes, for their carbon sequestration ability, or any of the other positive effects trees contribute consider joining others around the nation by planting trees within your yards and communities.

To read other articles by Tim Iverson, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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REAL SCIENCE

Mother Seton School S.T.E.M. Fair

Michael Rosenthal

I recently attended my third Mother Seton School S.T.E.M. Fair, and it was every bit as impressive as the first two, which I attended and wrote about earlier. S.T.E.M. represents relatively new nomenclature to explicitly include science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The Mother Seton students had the option of entering the competition in 3rd grade and 4th grade, and the primary participants were in 5th through 8th grades. There was a total of 112 projects presented and 130 participants. As in previous years, the presentations consisted of a hypothesis, materials used, procedures undertaken, observations obtained, data obtained, and conclusions drawn from the experiment or study. An error analysis was sometimes included in the conclusions. A journal was presented with all this information, as well as visible information boards and examples of the experimental apparatus for the visitor to observe. It was very professional!

The range of experiments was very wide. Here are some of the topics that the students chose:

- Tooth Paste Whitening Effectiveness
- Does the font used in a written presentation affect memory of the material?
- What type of bat is most effective in hitting a baseball the farthest?
- How greasy are my favorite po-

tato chips?

- Can I make a Coloring Robot?
- What food do dogs prefer?
- Do certain age groups have a propensity to cheat?
- Does music affect mental concentration?
- Which dog food digests better?
- How does Isaac Newton's three laws of motion apply to the wave pendulum?

I've listed all of these topics to illustrate the very wide range of subjects that these students have undertaken. It is remarkable to me that students of this age group can undertake such sophisticated experiments and experimental analyses using professional science techniques. The mentors and directors of this program deserve the greatest congratulations for their guidance.

Here are some of the conclusions drawn from the above experiments:

Font utilized was not found to have dramatic impact on memory, but Arial seemed to offer most effective reader satisfaction.

An aluminum baseball bat appears to be the most effective bat because of its harder material, not because of its weight.

Music doesn't seem to have an impact on concentration for mathematics, but reading seemed more effective without music background.

The hypothesis for dogs' preferred food favored salmon, but the results indicated dogs' favorite food was beef.

There was no clear conclusion what dog food digested best.

These are but a few of the many topics explored among the 112 presentations.

Because I attended at the session where the students were present, I was able to meet and chat with some of them. Particularly fascinating to me was the work by Michael Hohenstein, "Can I Make a Coloring Robot." I had a great conversation with Michael, and Michael was first in the 5th grade completion. Also very impressive to me was "The Scorch Case," which was a hand warmer for outdoor activity encased in a cell phone casing. The students who undertook this project were Matthias Buchheister, Jack Guinan, and Gavin Marshall, and they won the 8th grade first prize and Grand Championship for an invention. Megan Adams won the 7th Grade First Prize and the Grand Championship for an experiment for her project, "Does Mouthwash Remove Bacteria From My Mouth After Brushing With Toothpaste?"

Leadership credit for this wonderful student work goes to the program director from Mother Seton School, Danielle Kuykendall; student mentors Daryl Bruner, a web designer, Ed Hatter, a NASA scientist, and Jeff Simmons, Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at Mount St. Mary's University.

Now, here are some updates on previous topics discussed in this column.

As one reads more about nuclear power, it becomes evident that a great deal of research is underway to make nuclear power plants that are smaller, cheaper, and safer than the earlier examples we know. Funding support and Research and Development (R&D) from the federal government have assisted these efforts; environmental groups are becoming friendlier to them and beginning to admit that to cut carbon emissions, nuclear power is necessary. NuS-



An aspiring scientist explains her research to judges at the recent Mother Seton School's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (S.T.E.M.) Fair.

cale Power in Oregon, in partnership with Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, is building a small modular nuclear reactor in a factory. The success of this plan could be a major step in the clean power production effort. The plan is to have this reactor approved and then operating before 2030.

The Flint Michigan water crisis continues. The water flowing from their taps has not yet been deemed safe to drink, but the program by which resident water bills have been paid by the state is ending. The state has spent some \$41 million in credits to offset resident water bills. The Michigan governor says "the city's water meets all federal water-quality standards under the Lead and Copper Rule and Safe Drinking Water Act." The state will continue to provide water filters and filter replacement cartridges. The water, however, is still not safe to drink without the filters, and critics don't feel the water crisis is resolved until the water is drinkable without a filter. Though

improved, there is not general agreement that the water is safe for human consumption. The problem is particularly serious in Flint, where the low-income population generally cannot afford bottled water, and the State distribution of bottled water will not last forever. The real problem is the defective lead-infested pipes, which neither Flint citizens nor the State of Michigan can afford to replace entirely at this time.

I've written several times about vitamins and other drugs. We have discovered a new newsletter that I'd like to recommend to you. It's called Worst Pills, Best Pills News (www.worstpills.org) that discusses medications and their effectiveness for a variety of disorders; the editor is an M.D. I've pointed out a number of times that non-FDA approved drugs are usually useless, sometimes dangerous, and serve only as money-makers. However, there are often approved drugs of which one should be skeptical. It is well to seek advice from a competent physician regarding effectiveness and dangers from drugs, but physicians are often not able to keep up with the front-line science. My wife and I highly recommend this newsletter which costs only a modest \$12 annually.

Ultimately, however, one must try to make the best decision with the best advice about treatment by medication. Science is always seeking the truth, at least when there is no personal motive involved, but we scientists are not always right. More study is often needed, so seek the best advice you can on medication, and try to make the decision that's best for you. No one knows better than a scientist (like me!) that we are not always right.

Finally, a correction. I stated in an earlier Real Science that the Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant was on the Delaware River. It is actually on the Susquehanna River just south of Harrisburg, PA.

Of course the editors of this paper should have caught that, as he's a nuclear engineer and once worked there!

To read past articles by Michael Rosenthal visit, the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

Why I can't be Mayor

Jack Deatherage

*"Gods watch from above and wonder what went wrong
The entropy of what once was strong
The survivors of man stay up late to pray
That the world will again be theirs one day"*
—Abney Park: The End Of Days

While I meet the low requirements to be mayor of this place, something other than my absolute incompetence would keep me out of the office- the oath of office.

I swear a lot, but I no longer take oaths that bind my actions to some others' will. Swearing to uphold the constitutions of the country and state is simply a nonstarter. I've read neither constitution and haven't the intellect to understand either. I'd be flat out lying if I took the oath. While political oath takers swear to uphold the laws of our land, most of them (in my never humble opinion) set out to break them as quickly as they can. They will bully, connive, coerce, castigate, manipulate, bribe, seduce, bamboozle, lie-Hell, the thesaurus hasn't enough words for what they do once acquiring power. Though I'm not above doing all of that, I'd not have to behave that way as my goal as mayor wouldn't require any of it.

Nope. I'd have one agenda- create my education program. And, as I don't need to be mayor to do that, there is no reason for me to be mayor. Still, being mayor would probably give me the only opportunity to create the program, but I'm getting old and other than for my own amusement, bettering this place is not of great importance to me.

Having endured a town meeting, a county commissioners' meeting, as well as a library board meeting, and several Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings, I know damned well nothing I suggest will ever come to fruition. The fawning and drooling over schemes to acquire other peoples' money (grants from county, state and federal agencies) is nauseating to one who views governments as the problem more than the solution. If half the effort spent on stealing from other people was spent on actually coming up with ways to improve the general population's chances of bettering themselves I'd jump on board with my few resources and probably kill myself in the effort to make this a better place to live. But that isn't what I see and hear happening at any of the meet-

ings I've attended.

During one CAC meeting I managed to persevere through an entire presentation on how some state program can bring new businesses to this burg while building a sense of community that currently does not exist. I walked out of that meeting thinking the whole program was another government we have to do something waste of other peoples' money. (Why is it always someone else's money that will save us?)

I did hear a coupla things that, while not surprising, were at least interesting. One, was returning our main street to what it had been before the county turned the town into a stockyard of "down the road" workers. For those who do not remember that Emmitsburg; there were numerous little shops along Main Street and Seton Avenue where the shop owners lived in apartments above their shops or within walking distance of them. (I looked into opening such a shop back in the 1990s when I had the contacts, the suppliers, the money to start up and the ambition to take a shot at such an adventure. The then town government killed that dream and sent me away with a deeply seated disgust for local government. I should note the then county government encouraged me to open the shop, in Thurmont, which I did not.)

You need to attract the Millennials. They are the future and they have money to spend, was the next idea that caught my attention. "Duh" was my first thought. I closed my eyes to take a nap. Not only do these people not understand what they are up against, they honestly believe that government can fix what little they see as being wrong. That government has caused much of the ills that engulf this place seems to escape them completely.

My thoughts on setting up small businesses kids would own and keep the profits from have been met

with, "That's illegal. There are child labor laws."

My response, "The people you claim to want to help are breaking the laws every damned day" was countered with, "We can't break the law to fix the problem."

Which prompted an exasperated "They don't care about the laws that have them trapped where they are. Why the hell should you?"

Obviously we're not on the same plane of reality.

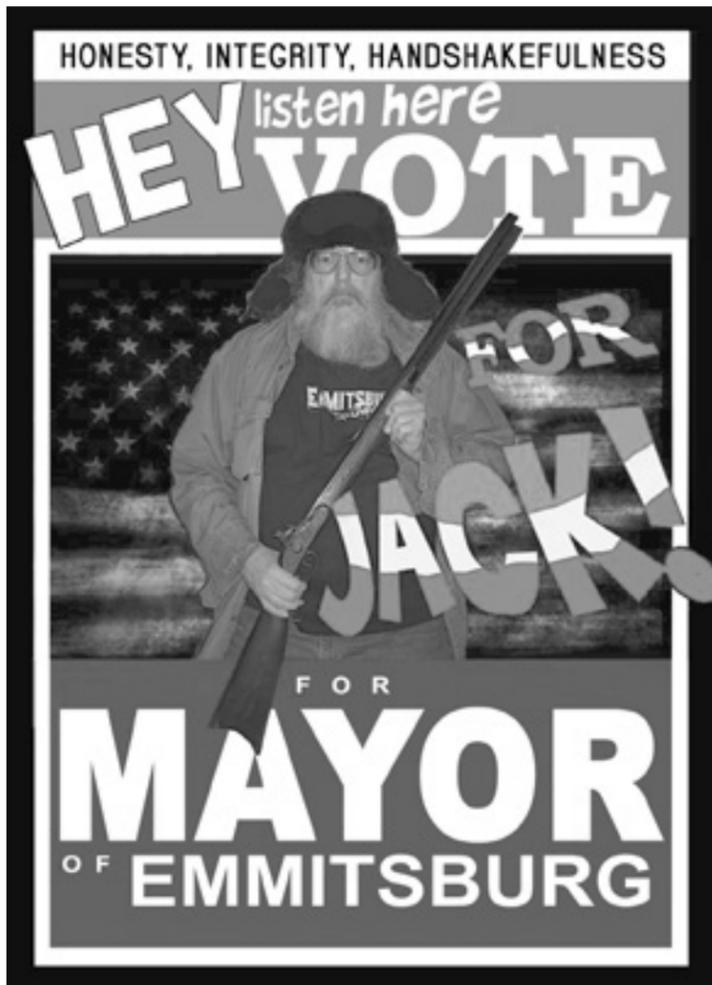
I've had admitted murderers, thieves, drug users and dealers at my table and they broke bread with me. I've trusted some of them with my life and the lives of DW and our kidlet. I can't think of a single elected official in any of our several governments I'd invite into my home let alone break bread with. Nor would I leave anything of value in their care; not my family, friends, possessions or ideas.

How I can trust murderers, but not those elected to govern and protect me and mine?

Oddly, I wouldn't hesitate to ask those murderers, thieves and dopers (who've seen a world closer to the truth than most of the pols I've met) for help in establishing the education program I have batting about in my head. I know each of those less than upstanding citizens understands the what and why of my thinking while I've yet to meet a pol who has a freaking clue. (sigh)

It has also been brought to my attention that mayors gather for some sort of confab, most likely on the taxpayers' dime, to yammer on about how to beg for the return of moneys stolen from their citizens by the counties and state. I'm simply not up to begging crumbs from those who've taken things from me against my will. Not that I'm particularly righteous, but that's where my line is drawn until I've been beaten down to where I have no other legal recourse.

My disgust, disdain, disillusionment



While Jack's intent for this month's article was to lay out the reason why he was unsuited to be Mayor - it has the exact opposite effect. When was the last time you heard a potential leader being so honest about himself?

and distrust of the elect aside, two people give me hope. One is a fellow I know through the Internet who recently came to the factory to explain what he hoped to do with the equipment we are selling off. He and a band of like minded rebels have joined together to create black market businesses that serve the low end communities around their small city. One or two of the legal businesses provide cover for the illegal ones. Illegal in that the city, county and state are unaware of them providing low cost repairs

on cars and electronics (among other things) for people who simply can't afford to deal with heavily taxed and regulated legal service businesses.

The other is MomD who summed up "Jack as mayor" succinctly. "I hope someone qualified runs for mayor and you lose."

So do I Mom, but only because I'd not be allowed to lop off heads.

To read other articles by Jack Deatherage visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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PETS

The rest of the story

Michael Hillman

Editor's Note: Every month we run a photo of a pet for adoption – this month we thought we would share with you "the rest of the story."

It had been a lazy Sunday Morning, and while we were brimming over with animals, we never failed to look at those lucky enough to get their photo in the 'pets for adoption' pages, just in case a lucky one might just fit in with us.

That day, Millie struck gold.

Her Jack Russell-like appearance was what grabbed me and her advanced age tugged at Audrey's heartstrings. We debated the pros and cons of expanding our dog population from three to four, but in reality, it was for show only, we had both already made up our minds to go take a look at her.

As it turned out, Millie's Jack Russell appearance ended with her face. Her body looked like a cross between a Basset Hound and God knows what. Her mixed breed background had left her with a small, but stout build, very long back, all supported by short, stubby legs. To make matters worse, her front legs were turned in, making every step not only painful for her, but also painful to watch.

Millie was so feeble, that the shelter had placed her in the puppy section, as opposed to the dog section, so she had a cushion to lie on. When we approached her, she only momentarily looked up at us. The depression from finding herself back in the shelter for the third time had

obviously begun to take its toll on her. It was like she was in a hospice, just waiting for death to release her.

As I watched Millie painfully move around in the short grass in the enclosure outside for perspective owners to become acquainted with dogs, I found myself wishing I had not come down to see her. It was clear Millie was not going to be a playmate for my other Jack Russell. To be honest, I was not sure what Millie would be. Maybe it was better, I thought, that we leave her.

Audrey, however, had other plans. So Millie came with us.

Like most shelter animals, Millie's history is shrouded in mystery. She had at one time belonged to a family, who upon moving away surrendered Millie to the shelter. She was then adopted by an older woman, and for years they both kept each other company. Unable to do much more than open the door to let Millie in and out of a small fenced yard, Millie's life soon shrank to little more than eating, barking at the door to be let in or out, and sleeping on the couch with the elderly woman. True, it was much better than life in the shelter, but the sedentary life did nothing to help stop the progression of the arthritis that was beginning rack her body. But it was companionship none-the-less, and both were happy.

Then one day, as unfortunately it happens all too often, Millie's life was turned upside down through no fault of her own. Unable to care for herself anymore, the woman's children moved her into assisted living,

and treating Millie with no more respect than excess furniture to be quickly cleared out of a house so it could be sold and the spoils divided between them, Millie was dumped again at the shelter to await her fate, separate from the one person she had grown to love and trust, to wait alone.

I placed Millie on the ground on the outside of the invisible fence, safe from the prying noses of the other three dogs, so she could safely take in the smells and sights of her new home.

She seemed un-perplexed.

She was introduced to each of the dogs one at a time. Being old and frail they quickly summed her up as a non-threat and went about their business. Having been formally approved by the others, Millie began to stroll about the backyard, taking in all the new smells. It was a slow stroll, but it was still probably the most she had moved at one time in years.

Kirk, our huge ex-tom cat, came up to see what the ruckus was all about. The expression on his face said it all "Geez ... another dog to break in ... alright let's get on with it."

Like the dogs before him, Millie paid no heed of Kirk, and keeping her nose firmly buried in the grass, walked right by him as if he didn't exist.

Kirk wasn't sure if he should be insulted or what, but obviously the new waddling dog was not going to challenge his supremacy and he wandered off to go find a sunny spot to sleep.

Millie slowly made her way to the back door, and once there, did what she had done for years – bark. She ignored the fact that we were both standing next to her, instead, with a laser-like focus on the back door, she sat on her haunches and simply barked – fully assured in her belief that sooner or later the door would open and she would be admitted.

She was right.

Millie waddled up and over the doorstep and panting from exhaustion, scouted the layout of the back-door entrance hall. Her eyes locked



Millie is a 14 year old female terrier mix who spent the last four years with an owner who is now faced with serious health issues and can no longer keep her. She believes that Millie was about 10 years old when she took her in. This is Millie's second time at the shelter. Would you be willing to give her a forever home?

in on the plush cat bed under a bench on the far wall. She waddled over, climbed on, and proceeded to fall asleep.

She was home. And unlike her past two homes, this one she would never say goodbye to.

As time would tell, Mille had chosen well her spot under the bench. From there she could bark at anyone entering the house from the back door – which for all intents and purposes was the only way anyone ever came into the house; monitor all the dog and cat traffic too and from my study, which was pretty much non-stop, and keep an eye on the kitchen for any sign of upcoming food.

Our first priority was to get Millie checked out. While her prior owners had done what they could for her vet wise, there was a lot of catching up to do. For a while, Millie was almost a weekly feature at the vet office.

In her drives, Audrey noted that Millie was eager to look out the window, but because of her size and lack of strength, was unable to hold herself up to look out – so she bought a booster seat for her, which allowed Millie to sit like a queen on a thrown and watch the world pass by.

Soon Audrey, with Millie strapped in the passenger seat by her side, was a normal scene. In losing her old companion, Millie had found another, and from the look on Audrey's face, she was enjoying Millie's company as much as Millie was enjoying Audrey.

Unlike her prior companion, Audrey had no intention on letting Millie sleep her day away. Like the other dogs Mille was expected to move around – movement not only helped her arthritis, but helped shed

years of fat – and with each pound dropped, Millie moved even more freely, which dropped even more weight.

Much to Millie's chagrin, barking at the back door soon had no effect. "I just let her out." My wife would reply when I asked why she was not letting her back in. "She needs to move those joints around."

Eventually Millie would give up and find a sunny spot to sleep away the afternoon. Sure, it would have been better to have been moving around like the other dogs, but the sun's warmth must have felt good on her aching joints – and Millie was normally not alone for long – more often than not she was joined by one of the other dogs during her siestas.

Life was good for Millie. When we adopted her I had mentally calculated she would last less than a year. Her stay with us would be over four years. Her life was extended by an aggressive treatment of her arthritis, which for many years allowed her to ramble about her territory as close to pain free as she probably had been since she was a puppy.

But like all old dogs, nature and time slowly took its toll, tolls even the best vet is unable to reverse.

There was no doubt in anyone's mind when Millie's time finally came. As she slipped in an out of consciousness on her bed, all her friends, be they four-footed or two, came to pay their respects. Then without even so much as a whimper, as she slept peacefully on her bed under the bench, our vet helped her join all those who had called our home their home. There, like them, she will greet all those that will surely follow and relive a life will lived.

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To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

- My happy home.
- My bowl & cozy bed, soft pillows and all my toys.
- The lap, which I loved so much.
- The hand that stroked my fur & the sweet voice which spoke my name.

I'd Will to the sad, scared shelter dog, the place I had in my human's loving heart, of which there seemed no bounds.

So, when I die, please do not say, "I will never have a pet again, for the loss and pain is more than I can stand."

Instead, go find an unloved dog, one whose life has held no joy or hope and give MY place to HIM.

This is the only thing I can give...
The love I left behind.

-- Author Unknown





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Selecting the right boarding barn

**Kimberly Brokaw DVM
Walkersville Vet Clinic**

One of the more stressful things for horse owners is choosing a boarding barn. When picking a barn it is important to remember what is important for the safety and comfort of your horse, as opposed to things that humans tend to like. Your horse doesn't care if there is a heated tack room that is always stocked with candy and hot chocolate.

However, he does care (and your vet cares) if there are numerous hazards such as groundhog holes in the field, high-tensile wire fence rather than wood or woven wire, or they don't have a source of clean, not frozen water. Your horse's welfare depends on whether the person in charge of his care is diligent and committed to good care. I have seen numerous owners get wowed by beautiful indoor arenas and not notice that there are 20 horses expect-

ed to share a 1 acre field. It is usually not until they've had to have the vet out to treat their horse's various injuries that they start to question if they picked the best boarding barn.

In addition to picking a facility that is appropriate for your horse, it is also important to make sure that the person caring for your horse is attentive and knowledgeable. Truthfully I'd choose a knowledgeable barn manager over a gorgeous facility for my horse every time. Even if you plan on visiting your horse every day, there is a lot that can go wrong. You want a barn manager who, at the very least, is going to be able to recognize that there is a problem. Even better is if they know what to do when they encounter a problem such as call the vet or just put wound ointment on the cut. A reputable barn will also have a good working relationship with a vet.

Even if you have your own vet and aren't planning on using the barn manager's vet, it is still a good

idea to see if their vet can provide a good reference. If you call the vet and ask and they say they haven't been to that barn in years, that's a sign of a problem. While you may think "oh good that means they haven't had sick horses," what that really means is they haven't provided their horses with basic care such as coggins tests or rabies vaccinations, as those can only be done by a veterinarian.

I was called out one evening to treat a colicing horse. No one from our clinic had been to the barn in several years so I'd assumed that the barn was no longer boarding horses or was using a different veterinary practice. However, we were still their preferred veterinary practice and they were, in fact, boarding horses. Most of the horses only stayed at the barn for a few months before their owners took them to a better boarding barn. Therefore no one from our clinic had been to the barn for routine care. The manager called as one of the horses was laying in the snow and ice and he couldn't get him to stand up.

When I arrived at the farm, the manager told me that the horse hadn't eaten his breakfast and had seemed lethargic. Rather than checking his temperature, calling the owner, calling the vet, or even simply checking on the horse throughout the day, the manager just turned the horse back out in the field. When the barn owner came down to feed dinner, he couldn't find the horse. Eventually, in the darkness, he found the horse recumbent in the snow and barely able to move.

By the time I saw the horse there was nothing that could be done aside from euthanasia. While I was able to get him onto his feet, he was too shocky and cold and immediately fell over again. The horse had gone down on the side of an icy hill so while the barn manager didn't own a trailer, even if he could borrow one, we wouldn't have been able to get the horse on it. I called the owner and explained the situation. She agreed that it was best to euthanize her horse rather than have him freeze to death on the side of the hill.

This was an older horse so most likely the cause of illness was a tumor strangulating the intestine which caused him to colic. However since the barn manager didn't recognize the colic early on and seek veterinary care, surgery or other treatments weren't possible. I wonder if I had been called out 13 hours earlier when it was first noticed that the horse was sick, if the horse would still be alive. So while this was a nice looking barn with brick walkways, planted flowerbeds and big grassy fields, the ignorance of the barn manager would be a deal breaker if I were ever looking at boarding my horse there.

I am always bothered when I see horses suffer or die because of something that is easily and inexpensively



There is an old saying in the horse world - the best indicator of the quality of a barn is the expression on the faces of the horses that board there. Based upon these expressions, these horses are living the life of Riley!

preventable. Accidents and illnesses happen to horses. However, owners should take precautions to avoid some of the more preventable injuries and illnesses. Owners need to scrutinize their boarding barn to see if the barn takes basic precautions to prevent problems.

It's frustrating when I see a horse get sick with a disease that could have been prevented by a simple vaccine, or die because no one had bothered to call the vet when

the horses didn't eat for the last few days. I've had owners spend thousands of dollars treating a horse for a disease that could have been prevented by a \$45 vaccine. Basic good animal care can lead to less expensive vet bills, healthier horses, and less stress for owners and their veterinarians.

To read other articles by Dr. Kimberly Brokaw, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net



AJ is a three-year-old brown tabby who is just a gorgeous fellow. Look at that face! He also happens to have a ton of personality. Whoever brings AJ home will be one lucky human! To learn more about AJ, come meet him at the Cumberland Valley Animals Shelter, or visit them online at www.cvas-pets.org.



Daisy came to us from another shelter where she was found in their overnight cages. Daisy is a pitbull mix who is a very sweet girl, but can be a little shy sometimes. Daisy can be possessive of people - especially around other dogs - so she would need to be the only dog in the house. Because we don't have any history on her, we're looking for an adult-only home for her. Daisy loves to cuddle with people and loves attention! If you can help Daisy out, please stop by to meet her. To learn more about Daisy come meet her at the Cumberland Valley Animals Shelter, or visit them online at www.cvas-pets.org.

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Green buzzwords

Mary Ann Ryan
Adams County Master
Gardener Coordinator

In the gardening world there are some words becoming over-used, like “native”, and “sustainable”, even “organic”. These words are thrown around without really knowing what they mean. These buzz words are misrepresented and misunderstood.

I think most of us want to be able to eat safe produce, grow beautiful plants without maintaining them and have an opportunity to reduce our costs as a result of our gardening practices. But understanding the words or phrases that we all use and representing good gardening practices becomes important when trying to succeed at these goals and not be misled by marketing.

By definition, according to the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), “native plants are one which occurred within the state before settlement by Europeans”. As we

become more global, our native species of plants are becoming less present in our landscapes, and unfortunately in our natural habitat. As plants from other parts of the world come into our landscapes, things happen. For instance, barberry and burning bush – now found in our forests – are reducing the herbaceous material that typically grows in forested areas. No natural predators, no natural controls.

Our concern about native plants has come about for a few reasons. Research shows that native plants attract native species. Not a difficult concept to grasp. The decline in honeybees (a European species) has brought the pollinator issue to the forefront in agriculture. Without insects to pollinate our crops, seeds are not formed, therefore no fruit and vegetables, hence limited food sources for our tables.

Another concern is our water resources. As we became landscapes of non-native species, so did our insects. These insects have become a problem because we do

not have predators that control these non-native problems. So we spray, to get rid of the insects and diseases that make our plants look bad, or even die. Many of us use sprays without understanding the implications of those sprays, better known as pesticides. Many people may incorrectly apply pesticides, thinking that if the label calls for 1 tsp per gal, why not try two? That should get rid of the little bugger!

When misused, pesticides can wash into our water sources. This is a concern because we drink water and I’m pretty sure we don’t want to drink water that is contaminated. Proper use of pesticides and fertilizers is so very important. Companies invest lots of money and time to be sure that the labels reflect proper use of their product so water contamination does not occur. So as a person using pesticides, we must be sure to follow label instructions. Pesticides include insect sprays, disease sprays, weed killers, foggers, mice poisons, and others.

So – native plants like our soils. They naturally grow here. They tolerate native insects and attract native predators for those insects. This has a direct impact on our wallets because with less insect and disease damage, hardier, tougher plants that like our environment, we will be spraying less pesticides, protecting our water, and replacing plants less frequently. Watering will be reduced, thus conserving what we have.

“Sustainable” is a word often used in the agriculture industry. Webster’s definition is: able to be used without being completely used up or destroyed. That’s it. If we use this term, we should remember that we’re talking about not using up our natural resources, like soil and water, two of the most important things for plants and human existence. Sustainable landscaping indicates the use of native plants: plants which attract native insects, plants that don’t require added fertilizers, plants that



Native plants allow for beautiful gardens with little pesticides and lots of beneficial visitors.

use less water, plants that are adapted to our area, plants that can be used without completely using up or destroying our environment.

Sustainable vegetable growing is the same idea. Using less pesticides, more compost for enriching the soil, and irrigating smartly are all reasons we use the word sustainable. It doesn’t mean “organic”, it doesn’t mean “natural”, just simply growing food so that our natural resources are not used up completely or destroyed.

Let’s define “organic”. For an organic farmer, it means certification that follows rules as to what is applied to the crops and how they must be managed. Organic farming does not mean that pesticides are not used. Organic farmers use pesticides but they are natural products and not synthetic. We don’t want to be misled to think that organic gardening is pesticide free. I try to garden organically – most of the time - but use pesticides like horticultural oil and insecticidal soap, both of which are organic pesticides. Although on occasion, products like glyphosate are used to manage weeds, but used according to label instruction.

Heirloom is a term often used, whether it is describing vegetables or ornamentals, like shrubs and perennials. This term is used rather loosely in the trade. If referring to vegetables, like tomatoes, these are typically thought to taste better. Which, in my opinion, is

true. However, the heirloom tomatoes often don’t produce as much, or may have some disease issues, which is what brought about hybrid varieties. Heirloom doesn’t mean organic, as we can spray synthetic pesticides on these plants and they would still be heirloom.

Heirloom has many connotations, depending on who you ask. Things that may come to mind may be old, hardy or passed down. In my research, I have not found a clear definition of this term. In the vegetable world, it’s typically thought of as seed prior to World War II because after WWII industry started hybridizing plants to produce higher yield and better disease resistance. In the flower and shrub world? Not so sure. There is no real definition to the term heirloom.

Once we understand the words used in the industry, we can make better choices when it comes to selection of plants and the purpose of those plants. Understanding “native”, may help you to choose a larger variety of native plants in your landscape, which may result in less pesticide usage, better success with growing the plants, and less water usage, and attracting more pollinators to your garden, which then makes for a sustainable landscape.

Because you are growing a sustainable landscape, your vegetable garden will prosper. It should make it much easier to grow organically, since you are attracting pollinators and good bugs into your yard. Choosing heirloom seeds and plants will not contribute to the organic or sustainability of the space, since heirloom simply has to do with the variety of the plant, not how it is managed and grown.

Composting will be a step you may take to reach sustainability. This simply requires a space where you can dump garden debris and green kitchen scraps into a pile and letting it break down into compost that can be used on the garden (vegetable or ornamental) as a mulch or soil additive. Compost can either replace mulch and peat moss, or certainly enhance other soil additives. Compost is free, raised on your property and applied to your plants and crops.

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Small Town Gardener

Perennials, annuals and other obsessions

Marianne Willburn

Serious gardeners like to use obscure terms as much as a teenager likes to text acronyms, and we both do it for the same reasons: to quickly communicate with others in our sub-species, and to show how hip we are.

Two of the more innocuous terms are “Perennial” and “Annual.” You will see these words at big box retailers, small town garden centers and at roadside stands. They are universally understood to be universally understood, yet I am often asked by friends to explain the difference between these two groups of plants. To make it even more difficult – “Biennial” is often stuck in with either group.

If you’re having a problem recalling what these terms mean each time you’re faced with them, remember that they are based upon a plant’s life cycle. An annual plant is one that germinates, blooms, sets seeds and dies in one year. This plant group holds some of our gardening favorites: pansies, poppies, sunflowers, and nasturtiums to name but a few.

But, in order to confuse us, it also encompasses a group that we think of as annuals but in warmer climates live longer than the allotted annum, such as petunias and garden geraniums. Allowed to live a little longer, they can make for impressive plants (flash to huge red geraniums in terracotta pots sit-

ting on an Italian terrace), but without winter protection, you’ll understand why they are termed annuals here in Maryland.

Annuals are the superstars of the garden. They are instant gratification at its finest. With deadheading, and sometimes without it, they bloom reliably all season – filling in gaps, dressing up pots and generally making you feel like summer has arrived. And as a bonus, they might just throw a bit of seed for next year’s show.

Where annuals are content to give their all in a couple of seasons and go out with a bang, perennials are in it for the long term – think: perennially beautiful. These are plants that can live anywhere from three years to thirty – and sometimes longer. Lavender, hosta, phlox, bee balm and black-eyed Susans all fall into this category.

You’ll spend more on a perennial initially, but they are divisible over time and can even become garden thugs, crowding out weaker plants, forming gangs and collecting protection money if not duly controlled.

Perennials usually only bloom between two and four weeks. With diligent deadheading, a real star might outperform that range. But perennials also bring a depth to the garden through the sheer variety of their foliage – indeed some are grown for that reason entirely. These are the plants that make up some of the bones of the garden, and one of the loveliest

reasons I know for growing and sharing them is to have a piece of another person’s garden, whether it be your grandmother’s, your friend’s or a plant from a botanical garden you visited last May.

Where do biennials fall in all this classification? Well, a biennial is a plant that splits its growth into two years, the first to set leaves and the second to bloom. There are more of these than you might think. Hollyhocks, mullein, lunaria, hesperis, foxgloves, forget-me-nots – all keep you waiting a second year for a show of color. Parsley is a biennial, as is chard – but they are biennials that are often thought of as annuals because we usually eat them in their first year. Keep them going into their second spring however and they will look beautiful right up to the moment in early summer that they send up a white flag in the form of a seed stalk.

So which to choose as you face an array of garden center beauties this month? The best gardens are those that weave these three groups together in an ever changing tapestry of color and texture – annuals for constancy, perennials and shrubs for backbone, and biennials for the beauty of now and the promise of later.

Marianne is a Master Gardener and the author of *Big Dreams, Small Garden*. You can read more at www.small-towngardener.com or follow *The Small Town Gardener* on Facebook.

and streams, gathering pollutants on its way.

As you can see, there are many ways we can live a sustainable, organic, and native existence. When the marketing world latches on to a word or phrase, be sure you take

the time to really understand what it means. This will allow us to be better gardeners and stewards of our environment.

To read other gardening articles, visit the Gardening section of Emmitsburg.net.

Frederick County Master Gardener Spring Seminars

University of Maryland Extension Frederick County (UMEFC) Master Gardeners are volunteers who love gardening and have been specially trained to help other gardeners. Our mission is to educate Maryland residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities. UMEFC Master Gardeners present the following free seminars for the general public, beginning and advanced gardeners alike.

All classes are taught at the UME Office, 330 Montevue Lane, (off Rosemont Avenue), Frederick. Register online using the links below; or find links on our website at www.extension.umd.edu or call Lisa at 301-600-1595. Doors open 30 minutes prior to start times. Walk-ins are welcome if there is room.

Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m. - noon - The ABCs of Creating a Cut Flower Bed. We will walk through the steps of designing, preparing, selecting, planting, and harvesting flowers for a cut flower bed. Your cutting garden should produce enough flowers all summer to share the joy of your bounty with family and friends.

Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m. - noon - Planting the Home Vegetable Garden. Join us in the Demonstration Garden for a hands-on experience. We will demonstrate and discuss what a typical family plot includes, square-foot gardening, companion planting, and basic IPM (integrated pest management). Learn some tried and true techniques for a successful garden.

Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m. - noon - How to Garden in Containers and More! Find out what types of containers and alternate growing mediums can be used for your plantings. We will cover selection of plants; sizing the container to the plants; proper planting, care and maintenance; and location of containers to meet your plants’ needs. We will visit the Demo Garden for planting steps.

Save These Dates for Future Seminars:

- June 3** - Ferns for the Woodland Garden
- June 10** - Using Botanical Latin: Latin Lovers Make Better Gardeners
- June 24** - Make and Take Mini-Garden
- July 8** - Get Bay-Wise Certified
- Nov. 11** - Attracting Native Birds
- Nov. 18** - Using Plant Materials for Holiday Decor

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COMMUNITY NOTES

Solar farms could cost town upwards to \$1 million in losses

Michael Hillman

Editors Note: In 2014, former town Commissioner Chris Staiger predicted: "We will slap ourselves on the back for converting to solar and tout the savings that none will bother to verify." Staiger was right on all his predictions but that one. We've waited two years for enough data to confirm or rebut Staiger. When we started this article back in February we had no idea what the outcome would be. We were honestly surprised by the twists and turns it took.

On September 23, 2013, the Town Council voted to approve a contract to provide land for a solar farm and to purchase all power produced by it for the next twenty years. In addition, the contract guaranteed UGI Energy Services LLC, the owner of the solar farms, a rate increase of 2% each year over the initial rate of 7.9 cents/kwh.

In the financial world, what Mayor Briggs, the chief advocate for the solar farms did was place a one way 'bet' on the future cost of electricity. However, as any experienced market analyst will tell you, betting on the future energy prices is not for the faint of heart, as the losses, if your bet is wrong, could prove staggering.

Mayor Briggs predicted that the solar farm would save the residents of Emmitsburg over \$1 million throughout the life of the contract. In an article authored by him for the April 2014 edition of the Emmitsburg News-Journal,

Briggs defended his push for the solar farm saying it was "to save money to maintain service level for residents."

Commissioner Staiger, in casting his no vote for the first solar farm contract, expressed concern that no one knew how electric rates would play out over the next twenty years and that the "sales pitch" by the Mayor for the solar farm was based on the most rosy of scenarios. He encouraged the town to continue to purchase power "off the grid" based upon the prevailing current rates.

Staiger pointed out that even as the Council prepared to cast their vote that "current electrical rates were in fact going down 8% the following month, and approving a contract that locked the town into guaranteed rate increases, while rates were in fact decreasing, made no sense and was a poor business decision."

In 2015, once again at the request of the Mayor, the town signed a second contract for power from a second solar farm. In doing so, Briggs 'doubled down' on his bet on the future cost of electric power, even though his first bet was already 'under water' and sinking fast.

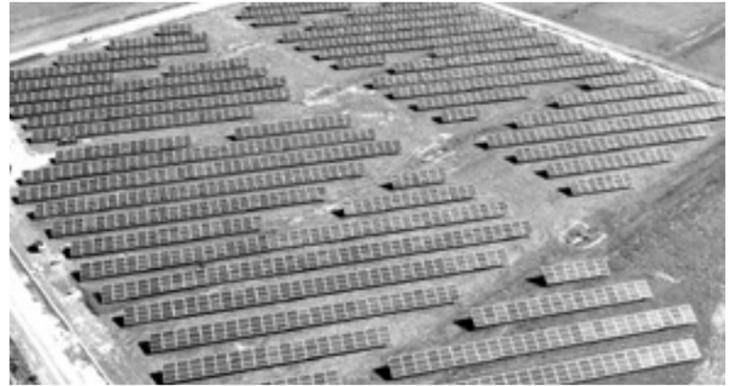
The terms of the second contract were identical to the terms of the first solar farm contract with the exception that the initial starting rate was 6.8 cents/kwh. The fact that the cost of electricity from the second solar farm had decreased by 13.9% from the first contract was not mentioned during the town

council hearings, nor did any council member question if the trend in electrical rate reductions warranted a closer look at the proposed contract, that like the first, guaranteed a 2% yearly rate increase to the solar farm's owners. [Staiger had left office before the second vote, in part over frustration over the management of the town, choosing not to run for re-election in 2014].

Briggs defended the necessity for the second solar farm, which doubled the amount of electricity the town would be committed to purchase in order to "help offset the additional energy cost of the ... (new) waste water treatment plant." Briggs said, "It is mind boggling the amount of energy this project is going to need and the burden it will impose on the town." Briggs then went on to criticize the 2-megawatt cap that had been placed on the size of solar systems and stated: "We need more (power), so we are asking our state representative to see if we can get the ceiling raised."

As it turns out, the drop in the cost of electricity over the last three years has proven Staiger correct. By the end of the twenty-year contract, the difference between buying power 'off the grid' as opposed to buying it from the solar farm will exceed \$30,000/year, for a total 'pricing' loss of over \$500,000 to the town over the length of the contract.

In addition, the town is also incurring an actual cash loss from the sale of the excess electricity it is required to purchase from the solar farms but does not



Instead of the predicted \$1 million in savings, Emmitsburg's decision to sign contracts committing it to purchase all the power generated from the solar farms on Creamery Road could cost the town upwards to \$1 million in losses over the length of the contracts.

use. In 2016, the town sold the electricity it purchased from the solar farm for \$85,922 to the power company, for just \$75,400, for a net loss to the town of \$10,500. Based upon the current output of the solar farms, considering last year's output was closer to maximum capacity, this cash loss is projected to increase to \$15,844 in 2017.

Thanks to the annual guaranteed 2% increase in the cost of electricity from the solar farm, annual losses from the sale of excess electricity are on track to increase over the life of the contract, resulting in an overall estimated real loss of close to \$530,000 from just the sale of excess electricity alone. Had Mayor Briggs gotten his wish and been able to expand the size of the solar farms, the losses due to the sale of excess electricity by the town would have been significantly greater.

So, unless the cost of electricity reverses itself and starts to rise, instead of the 1 million dollar savings pre-

dicted by Briggs, the solar farms are on track to produce upwards to \$1 million in losses to the town over the length of the contracts.

Commissioner Staiger and county officials repeatedly warned about the possible downside of the solar farm deal and its impact on the ability for Emmitsburg to fund future projects and town improvements, but sadly, no one listened.

At the request of Commissioner Joe Ritz, the status of the costs of the solar farm will be on the agenda for the April 3 town meeting. In putting it on the agenda Ritz said he wanted to learn: "what the town is actually saving, if anything at all." Ritz added he wants to know: "if implementing sustainability initiatives truly improve the quality of life for Emmitsburg residents, and is the effort to receive a sustainable community designation really worth it, especially if the citizens are faced with the burden of increased fees as a result?"

Editor's note: To fully understand the complexity of the issue it is best to break it into two parts – the cost of buying the town's power from the solar farm as opposed to 'off the grid,' and the cost to the town for being locked into purchasing all the electricity produced by the solar farm as opposed to purchasing just what it needs.

Cost of actual electricity used

Had the town followed Staiger's advice and continued to purchase electricity 'off the grid' as typical homeowners do, it would be paying the prevailing rate of 7.043 cents/kwh for electricity, as opposed to an average of 7.66 cents/kwh it now pays for electricity from the solar farm. The result, for 2016 at least, is a 'solar cost usage' of \$20,738/year. By 'solar cost usage' we mean the town is choosing to pay an extra \$20,738 solely to say it is using solar power. This can be considered a 'loss' to the town because if it had it not agreed to the deal, the town's 2016 electric bill would be \$20,738 less than it was.

However, the 2016 loss is not fixed. Because of the 2%/year increase in rates guaranteed to the solar farm owners, the annual loss will increase by at least 2% per year. By the end of the twenty-year contract the difference between buying electricity 'off the grid' as opposed to buying it from the solar farm will exceed \$30,000/year, for a total 'voluntary' loss of over \$500,000 over the length of the contract. The projected 'voluntary' loss could increase substantially beyond that if the cost of buying electricity 'off the grid' con-

tinues to decrease as it has for the past three years.

Unlike Emmitsburg, the Thurmont town government purchases its electricity 'off the grid' and negotiates the rates it pays on a yearly basis. As a result, Thurmont has benefited from the 12% drop in its electrical rates. At the same time, the Emmitsburg town government has seen the rate it pays for electricity increase by close to 8% thanks to the contract that locked the town into buying its electricity from the solar farms.

Cost of selling excess electricity

Here is where the issue really gets interesting and where the potential negative effects of a wrong way bet on the future of electric costs really comes into play.

Collectively, the two solar farms, located on the town's wastewater treatment plant site on Creamery Road, are rated to produce 3,095 MW/year.

Potomac Edison merely acts as a middleman between the town and owner of the solar farm to facilitate the transmission of electricity and payments, e.g. it keeps track of all the electricity the solar farm generates and credits the town for all of it. The solar farm owner, UGI, bills the town directly for all the electricity generated at the agreed upon contract rate.

Contrary to claims by town officials back in the 2013 and 2014 time frame that the new wastewater treatment plant would consume all the electricity from the solar farms, the wastewater treatment plant is consuming only 32% of the solar farm's output. The

remainder of the solar farm's output is used by the town for street lighting, powering town municipal facilities, etc.; but collectively, these additional uses do not exceed 54% of the output of the solar farms.

Under the terms of "Net Metering," the power company is required to purchase all excess electricity produced by renewable energy sources. The renewable energy provider is reimbursed at what is called a "Generation Rate," which is basically 2/3rd of the prevailing wholesale cost.

Excess electricity produced is tabulated monthly, and every April a check is sent to the town for the past twelve months of excess electricity produced by the solar farms. In 2016, the solar farm's excess electricity was approximately 1,121,700 kwh, with a 'Generation Rate' of 6.435 cents/kwh (according to town staff), the town was paid \$75,400.

However, before the town could sell the electricity to the power company, it had to first purchase that electricity – which it did for \$85,922, based upon the 2016 contract rate of 7.66 cents/kwh.

In short, the town sold the power company electricity it bought for \$85,922 for just \$75,400 – which resulted in a net loss to the town of \$10,500 in 2016.

This \$10,500 can be looked upon as the cost of a 'bad bet' by the town on the future of electric rates. Unfortunately, because the 'bet' is for twenty years, the town will be required to settle up every year for the remainder of that contract.

By the end of the twenty-year contract the yearly loss to the town for buying and reselling excess electricity from the solar farm and re-selling it to the power company will be at least \$47,300/year – and that is only factoring in the 2% guaranteed rate increases.

While the future of electric rates is unknown, if the current 'Generation Rates' stay the same, the town is potentially looking at a net 'real out of pocket loss' of no less than \$530,000 over the life of the solar farm contracts just from the sale of excess electricity that the town is legally obligated to buy.

Editor's Note:

We would like to compliment the town staff for their help in pulling this article together. While we incorporated key factually accurate comments from them, we did not accept all their comments. Specifically, the town staff felt:

1 – we were overly pessimistic and had not taken into account future inflation. We disagree. According to the Energy Information Agency, electric power rates appear to be in a long-term decline thanks to the amount of generation capacity coming on-line plus the decline in the price of natural gas, the dominant fuel used by the region's power plants. Any potential increase in the price of natural gas is limited by the growth in its supply as a result of fracking, which shows no sign of slowing down. Indeed, Potomac Edison has announced that the cost of electricity will decrease a further 7% this year, while the cost of purchas-

ing electricity from the solar plant will increase 2%.

2 – we should have mentioned that the rate the town is reimbursed for excess electricity will increase this year. However, they failed to note that the increase they said they would be getting will be less than half the increase in the cost of the electricity the town is forced to sell. So while the town is getting paid more for the power sold, they are paying even more to buy it in the first place. So the cost of selling the excess power will increase.

3 – we should mention that the cost to the town could be reduced by allowing non-town organizations to participate in what is called a community array – or simply put, to purchase electricity for the solar farm just as the town does. While a laudable goal, the town failed to address that to do so, an organization must be willing to increase its electric bill by 20% – something we do not foresee organizations doing.

4 – we should address that the solar farms would provide power for future town electrical needs, and thereby reduce the amount of excess power the town is forced to buy and re-sell. We agree any increase in town consumption will reduce the loss the town incurs in selling excess electricity, however, it does not address the increased cost the town incurs from using power from the solar farm as opposed to cheaper grid power.

5 – we should credit unquantified savings for unspecified charges no longer accruing. As the town failed to respond to requests for specifics, we unable to credit the savings.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Thurmont's Green Team

**Hillary Rothrock
Rothrock Outfitters**

We owe so much to our trees. They labor tirelessly day and night 365 days a year for not only us but also the local flora and fauna. They provide us with the air we breathe. They shade us from the heat. A pair of cinch straps and a hammock can even transform a pair of trees into the perfect place for a lazy afternoon nap. We spend much of our lives under their canopy and every April we celebrate all the ways in which trees enrich our lives.

The community of Thurmont knows the value of their trees. A recent arboreal survey found that the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive Asian beetle that has been decimating Ash trees all over Maryland, has infected 245 of the 276 Ash trees in Thurmont. Many of these trees are decades old. The largest in our park has a 56-inch diameter, that's a little over four feet! If we multiply the diameter of the tree by the average growth factor of Ash trees, 4, we find that this tree is approximately 224 years old. That puts its birth shortly after the birth of our Nation.

The majority of the trees in the park are approximately 19" in diameter, making them on average around 76 years old. Fifty or so relatively healthy Ash trees are being actively treated by professionals to prevent further damage and in hopes of saving them. However, according to Colleen Kenney of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Forest Service during her recent presentation "Emerald Ash Borer: Biology, Impacts, and Management" at the Thurmont Public Library, within the next five years

they too could potentially be infected by the insect.

Obviously, the loss of so many long-standing trees in such a small area has affected the canopy and health of surrounding plants and animals. The Thurmont Green Team, in collaboration with the Thurmont municipal staff, is dedicated to creating a sustainable community including stewardship of the local plants and animals. Last year, the team created a wildflower area adjacent to the railroad on a well-traveled thoroughfare, Woodside Avenue. This area now provides food and habitat for birds and butterflies migrating, as well as a scenic view and decrease in toxic herbicides typically sprayed on the area that washes into the waterway. Their hard work helped the town of Thurmont to obtain their Sustainable Maryland community certification from the Maryland Municipal League this past fall. Their next big goal is transforming Thurmont into a Tree City USA community, one of only 42 in the State.

Tree City USA is a product of the National Arbor Day Foundation's nationwide initiative to increase com-

munity spending on and celebration of our native trees. Not only does this protect the canopy for future generations, it provides a planned date and time to discuss environmental stewardship with the youth. There are four standards communities have to meet in order to apply and be considered as a Tree City USA certified town. First, the town has to create a designated tree board and staff responsible for the well being of the trees within the town. Second, they must create a town ordinance providing the public with guidance for the planting, maintenance, use, and even removal of trees within town limits. Third, they must develop an annual forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita. Lastly, commit to an annual community Arbor Day ceremony and gathering.

This past fall, the Green Team along with the municipal staff and community volunteers planted 25 trees throughout the Thurmont Community Park. This spring the volunteers are excited to work together with local groups and families again to plant another 50 trees during the Thurmont Arbor Day celebration. They would



Thurmont's Green Team hard at work last year planting trees in the Community Park. Join them April 22 and help make Thurmont even more green!

love to have friends of all ages join in on April 22nd at the Thurmont Community Park from 8:30am until noon.

Join the National Arbor Day Foundation for just \$10 and you can receive 10 native trees to plant or donate to the Green Team to be planted and cared for by local volunteers. If you suspect you have an Ash tree on your

property, you should contact a local arborist to check the tree for infestation and suggestions on whether to treat or remove the tree. For more information about events or about the Green Team, email ThurmontGreenTeam@gmail.com or follow them on Facebook www.facebook.com/thurmontgreenteam.



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HEALTH NOTES

Veterans and lung cancer

Kelsey Shupe
Frederick Memorial Hospital

When Eric Wolfe, 73, of Middletown, was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer in 2015, many of his friends who live in Texas offered the same advice—“jump in your car and drive to MD Anderson Cancer Center—it’s the only place in the country that can cure you.”

Little did Wolfe know that Frederick Regional Health System, where he would receive his cancer treatment, would become a certified member of the MD Anderson Cancer Network, a program of MD Anderson Cancer Center, that same year.

Like many of his friends, Wolfe served in the military. While his peers were headed off to Vietnam in January 1965, Wolfe was stationed at a biomedical maintenance school in Denver that belonged to the army. There, he learned to fix medical equipment and would later tour Europe repairing equipment. He stayed in Colorado, where he later attended college and went on to teach many of the same things he’d learned in the army.

In 1977, Wolfe got a call from

the Office of the Surgeon General in Washington, D.C., asking if he’d be interested in a job at the United States Army Medical Materiel Agency. His responsibilities included buying medical equipment, supporting forces and medics, and writing rules for operation. Until his retirement in 2007, he helped to field deployable CT scanners and capabilities into the tactical environment. He went into the field—in Haiti, Korea, Somalia, Iraq, and Kuwait—to live and breathe the equipment and study the soldiers supporting it.

Fast-forward to 2015. Wolfe had just returned from a Caribbean cruise with his wife. After retiring from the federal government, Wolfe worked as a contractor to various organizations. He was briefing his colleagues at work when he became winded. His wife took him to FRHS, where he had an X-ray and CT scan and was soon admitted to the hospital.

The results were grim—Wolfe was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. The cancer had already spread into his other organs, starting in his right lung then spreading into his liver, kidneys, and lymph nodes. Wolfe met with Dr. Patrick Mansky, who gave him a va-

riety of treatment options, including clinical trials. To this date, various chemicals have slowed Wolfe’s cancer but not stopped it. He’s still in treatment at FRHS.

As a former smoker some 29 years ago, Wolfe wishes he would have had a lung CT on a periodic basis, starting around age 45. “Since stage IV lung cancer is usually identified or diagnosed late in the disease—almost too late to have an effective treatment or cure—I wish I would have taken action earlier.”

Wolfe says when he was drafted in the mid-60s, tuberculosis ran rampant in the army. Many people had chest X-rays to screen for the disease. But by the late 60s, the tine test became standard, and with it, tuberculosis was essentially eradicated. The military stopped deploying X-rays because of the cost, Wolfe says.

“Because of the military doing away with chest X-rays, a lot of people would spend 20-plus years in the military, retire, and go on and carry on with life,” Wolfe says. “Unfortunately, many people who used to smoke, like me, were presented with lung cancer later in life.”

“When you quit that’s good,” he adds, “but apparently it wasn’t good enough for me. The effects can still tag up with you many, many years later.”

Complementary Therapies can help patients, and their families, cope with cancer. At Frederick Regional Health System, cancer patients are benefitting not only from traditional oncology care, but also from complementary therapies such as massage, meditation, and acupuncture. These offerings will grow when the new James M Stockman Cancer Institute opens on the hospital’s Rose Hill Campus in summer 2017.

“Mounting evidence supports that cancer patients and their families benefit from these therapies,” says Dr. Patrick Mansky, the medical director at FRHS Regional Cancer Therapy Center’s Oncology Care Consultants. “It’s becoming the state of the art when you look at all the large cancer centers in the country. It’s the preferred and optimal approach to care, and most of our patients who have gone through these approaches have been very pleased.”

FRHS has recently become a certi-

fied member of MD Anderson Cancer Network, a program of national cancer care leader MD Anderson Cancer Center, whose research data has confirmed the benefits of many complementary therapies to help patients cope with cancer and treatment side effects. Clinical studies continue to indicate that a variety of mind-body therapies can be used to control the cancer patient’s symptoms and side effects without toxicity and at very little expense.

Complementary therapies currently being evaluated to support conventional oncology treatment at FRHS include:

Exercise: Yoga and tai chi practiced under the supervision of an experienced teacher may help patients overcome fatigue associated with cancer treatment. “We know that movement, especially a mind-body approach, reduces stress and fall risks for cancer patients,” says Dr. Mansky. “There’s increasing evidence that these therapies help caregivers with their stress, too.”

Diet: “There’s a strong interest in nutrition and understanding what’s best to eat and what supplements to use,” says Dr. Mansky. Diets rich in whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables, especially green, leafy ones, can increase energy and help promote digestion.

Acupuncture: Studies have shown that acupuncture can help with nausea and vomiting, fatigue, hot flashes, neuropathy, anxiety, depression, and sleep issues.

Massage: Cancer patients sometimes experience edema, or swelling that occurs when fluids build up in parts of the body, especially the legs, ankles, and feet. Massage by a licensed therapist can help relieve swelling. Reiki, or spiritual healing by touch, may encourage emotional support and help with symptom control, too.

Mindfulness: According to Dr. Mansky, evidence shows that patients who practice mindfulness through meditation are in a better emotional state when going through cancer therapy and recovering from treatment.

In Summer 2017, the new James M. Stockman Cancer Institute will feature a beautifully and carefully designed environment to promote healing and relaxation, with ample space to accommodate a patient-centered, multidisciplinary approach to care.

“The new cancer center will have a whole suite on the second floor that offers patients complementary approaches to support in their treatment and beyond,” confirms Dr. Mansky. “In addition to what we offer so far, we’ll also have nutritional counseling on site.”

FRHS recommends consulting your oncologist before trying any complementary therapy. Not all therapies are recommended for every cancer patient, but on an individual basis depending on the patient’s needs and interests.

For lung cancer patients like Wolfe, early detection, screenings, and education are key. To learn more about cancer care at Frederick Regional Health System, visit fmh.org/cancercare.

To learn more about the FRHS Regional Cancer Therapy Center, visit fmh.org/cancercare.

14th

Frederick Regional Health System is the 14th health system in the country to become a certified member of MD Anderson Cancer Network®.

When Kathy, 59, was diagnosed with breast cancer, she knew it would be a long and challenging journey to be cancer free. With the oncology team at Frederick Regional Health System—and their affiliation with MD Anderson Cancer Network®, a program of MD Anderson Cancer Center—Kathy not only survived; **she thrived.**

Kathy Iverson is a breast cancer survivor and Frederick County resident.

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Fairfield Fire company awards banquet



Administrative Officers (back row): Larry Schneider, Steve Fitez, Brad Hartdagen, Gary Shorb, & Chuck Schussler, all Board of Directors. (Front row): Kevin Taylor, President; Betsy Bucher (Board of Directors), Gayle Marthers, Treasurer; (Missing Jill Unger, Secretary).



Fairfield Firefighter of the Year, Gary Shorb, receiving his award from Fire Chief Bill Jacobs.



2017 Line Officers: (left to right) - Chuck Schussler, Fire Police Captain; Chuck Haynes, EMT Lieutenant; Bill Jacobs, Fire Chief; Brad Hartdagen, Fire Lieutenant; Adam Jacobs, Deputy Fire Chief; Tony Gipe, EMS Captain; and Ed Bowman, Safety Officer.



Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris, flanked by past President Chuck Hayes and Fire Chief Bill Jacobs was this year's recipient of the Fire Company's Appreciation Award.



Receipts of this year's EMS Captain's award Tony Gip (L) and Chuck Haynes (R) flank EMS Captain Chad Fogel.



President's Award recipients: back row - Colby Wivell, Cole Brooks, Brad Woerner, Brad Shugart. Front row - Aimee Metz, Abigail Jesters, McKenna Kulkusky.



Top Fire Responders for 2016: Adam Jacobs, Chuck Haines, Brad Hartdagen, Gary Shorb, Robert Hardman.



Top Fire Police Responders for 2016: Mike Hartdagen, David Metz, Chuck Schussler.



Top EMS Responders for 2016: (left to right) Chuck Haynes, Bill Jacobs, Brad Hartdagen, Tony Gipe, Gary Shorb.

2017 Line Officers

Fire Chief - Bill Jacobs
Deputy Fire Chief - Adam Jacobs
Fire Lieutenant - Brad Hartdagen
Fire Police Captain - Chuck Schussler
EMS Captain - Tony Gipe
EMS Lieutenant - Chuck Haynes
Safety Officer - Ed Bowman

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Board Members - Larry Schneider, Steve Fitez, Brad Hartdagen, Gary Shorb, Chuck Schussler, and Betsy Bucher

Top Fire Responders for 2016

1 - Adam Jacobs
2 - Chuck Haines
3 - Brad Hartdagen
4 - Gary Shorb
5 - Robert Hardman

Top EMS Responders for 2016

1 - Chuck Haynes
2 - Bill Jacobs

3 - Brad Hartdagen
4 - Tony Gipe
5 - Gary Shorb

Top Fire Police Responders for 2016

1 - Chuck Schussler
2 - David Metz
3 - Mike Hartdagen

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5 - Gary Shorb



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WWI NEWS REPORTS FROM THE FRONT

America declares war - Lenin returns to Russia

April 6

The President signed a proclamation declaring a State of War between the United States and Germany today. By signing the resolution, the United States has aligned itself with 10 countries, Democratic in form or spirit, which are engaged in a desperate fight with the forces of aristocracy. The resolution specified no other opponent than Germany. The text of the war resolution is as follows:

"Whereas the Imperial German Government has committed repeated acts of war against the government and the people of the United States of America: therefore be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the state of war between the United States and the Imperial German Government which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared; and that the President be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the government to carry on war against the Imperial German Government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination, all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States."

Both the Army and the Navy, after months of preparing, are making the final plans to put a large army in the field, to protect the coast of the United States, and, possibly, to send an army to Europe to help subdue Germany and bring the conflict to an end.

The first element of the plan is the immediate assembly of a half a million-man army under a universal service system. Army officers believe 500,000 men is the maximum number they can undertake to train at once. When the work has proceeded for a few months, an additional 500,000 can be called out, followed a few months later by similar increments until an army of the desired size has been mustered.

The Army general staff officially urged that a minimum of three mil-

lion trained and equipped men should be provided for the national defense. Even with officers and the officers' Reserve Corps to call upon, there will be a shortage of training personnel. The units of the regular army, it is said, will be vitally necessary to carry the work forward. For that reason, the suggestion that an Expeditionary Force be sent to carry the flag into France as a symbol that the United States was definitely and finally aligned against Germany in the world war met with a cold reception today among officers of the general staff. One officer said such a step would be military suicide, as the only troops available for such purposes would be the regulars, who could not be spared from training work.

Plans for spending the \$133 million now available for the preparation for war against Germany have been completed by the Navy Department. \$115 million will be spent for shipbuilding and speeding up construction of destroyers, patrol boats, auxiliary merchant ships and aircraft. The remaining \$15 million will be used for equipping various Navy yards.

Immediately after the war declaration was signed, a request for an immediate appropriation of \$3.4 billion for the Army and the Navy was made to Congress. Of the great sum, a little more than \$2.9 billion is asked for the Army.

Formation of tax measures for the war have not reached a definite stage, but there are indications that the treasury will endeavor to raise by one bond issue as much of the \$3.4 billion which cannot be obtained by new and increased taxation.

Federal Reserve Board officials indicate there would be no great difficulty in raising \$2 billion by a bond issue at three and a half percent. The forthcoming bond issue will be placed before the public as quickly as possible and denominations down to \$100, possibly \$25, and the entire Army of American banks, corporations and individuals will be afforded an opportunity to subscribe.

From the present Internal Revenue taxes, the government will obtain ap-

U. S. AT WAR WITH GERMANY; PRESIDENT SIGNS RESOLUTION

EXECUTIVE IN PROCLAMATION CALLS ON ALL CITIZENS AND OFFICERS TO SUPPORT NATION

Germany's Challenge to World Formally Accepted by United States in Defense of Humanity.

Navy Department Seizes All Naval Militia and Reserves and Coast Guard Boats

HUNDRED MILLION SPECIAL WAR FUND VOTED BY SENATE



GERMANY IGNORES PRESIDENT'S SPEECH
GERMAN VESSELS IN ALL U. S. PORTS ARE TAKEN OVER

Less than five months after being re-elected on a platform committed to keeping America out of the European war, President Wilson, after months of unsuccessful efforts to get Germany to cease its unrestricted submarine warfare campaign, asked congress to declare war on Germany, making the war the first true world war.

proximately \$750 million this year. Suggested increases in the inheritance tax rate, it is estimated, will increase the return from that source alone to \$1 billion. One plan being considered is to raise the rate of taxation on large estates to 30%. The income tax, under existing rates, will yield approximately \$325 million this year. Lowering the exemption to \$2,000 and increasing the rate on large incomes would increase the government's revenue through this channel to at least \$100 million. Increased taxes on distilled liquors, beer and tobacco are also under consideration.

German merchant vessels that were in American ports at the beginning of the war are being taken over by American authorities for the purpose of protecting them from injury and until a decision can be reached as to their proper disposition, guards have been placed on board. The officers and crews have been taken into custody into the Department of Labor, pending the determination of their status.

There are some indications that the vessels will be requisitioned by the government for trans-Atlantic trade or as naval auxiliaries for a least a period of the war. Allied warships patrolling the Atlantic Coast will be withdrawn and many will be sent to the European battle fleets. Now the German merchant ships in American ports have been taken over and there is no possibility of them slipping out to sea as commerce raiders.

in American republics, Argentina and Costa Rica, have given assurances of her moral support for the United States in the war against Germany.

A campaign of colossal proportions to break down the German submarine blockade and keep the Allies plentifully supplied with food, clothing and munitions had been determined upon by the President as his country's first physical strike against the enemy.

Unable to send an army into the trenches, the President believes the United States can do greater service in the common cause against Germany by providing a great armada of merchantmen to invalidate the German submarine campaign. Virtually every detail of the plan is now complete, and by fall the campaign itself will be in full swing. Many officials believe it may attain a supremacy over the submarine, which will prove the decisive victory of the Great War.

Quickly built wooden ships will make up the first fleet of merchantmen, and to ensure maximum construction the shipping board has enlisted the country's entire shipbuilding facilities, now the greatest in the world. For the first year production is expected to reach an average of three ships a day.

Already lumber interests have given assurances of inadequate supply of timber at reasonable prices. Engine manufacturers have pledged their cooperation, and all the necessary machinery for the vessels can be assembled as fast

as they can be turned out at the yards. The Shipbuilding Board estimates that 150,000 men will be needed to work the building program. This total is nearly ten times the number of laborers now employed in building merchant craft throughout the country.

Built for the most part of pine and fir, the ships will range from 2,000 to 3,500 tons. They will be equipped with oil burning engines, and all will carry wireless and be armed. The engines will be standardized so that damaged parts may be replaced if necessary. The ships will cost about \$300,000 per ship and will carry a crew of about 30 men.

The first of the vessels are to be ready in about six months and during the following year the number afloat is expected to pass 1,000. Such a number, officials believe, consistently will be augmented in the months that follow to render it absolutely impossible for Germany to maintain her blockade with any degree of effectiveness.

In their calculations, the President and the Shipping Board have had the advice of the Allied naval authorities, and have carefully computed the ability of the German U-boat to cope with a large number of merchantmen. They are convinced that by building ships of this size, and forcing Germany to pay with a torpedo for each one sent to the bomb, the United States can exhaust the resources of the German submarine fleet.

Nobody knows exactly how many

April 13

The Austria-Hungarian Empire, under the pressure of Germany, has severed diplomatic relations with the United States. Austria's break with the United States undoubtedly is a prelude to a declaration of a state of war. President Wilson, however, was believed to have no intention of forcing a state of war with Austria by asking Congress to declare it and let some overt act be committed. The seizure of a number of Austrian ships in American ports may be interpreted as an act of war by Austria, however. The intentions of Bulgaria and Turkey were not known today, but officials generally believe that they would break relations eventually also.

Cuba, not yet out of her teens as a republic, is at war with Germany - the first of the Latin American countries to align herself alongside the United States, her liberator and protector. Without formally announcing abandonment of neutrality, two more Lat-



Once war was declared, all political bannering ceased, and members of all classes became Americans first, Democrats and Republicans second.

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After the outbreak of the Russian Revolution, Germany allowed Lenin and his lieutenants to cross from Germany to Russia. Berlin hoped, correctly, that the return of the anti-war socialists would undermine the Russian war effort, which was continuing under the provisional government. On November 7, the Bolshevik-led Red Guards deposed the Provisional Government and proclaimed soviet rule.

submarines the Germans are building, but we know they are working at a feverish pace, and have heard reports that they are turning out 2 to 3 submarines every week. The time to construct a submarine is about eight months, with a similar length of time for torpedoes, and great uncertainty exists as to how long Germany can continue to supply both vessels and torpedoes.

The crews of the submarine, as a rule, require from six weeks to two months training, but the officers and other experts require at least three months. There have been many reports that the Germans have been forced to weaken the personnel of the High Seas Fleet to maintain their supply of seamen but of this we are uncertain.

The military participation of the United States on the actual front is much in discussion in the capital here, and in Europe. Though it is declared that this country will not attempt to send an army to you for the present, there is an intense desire on the part of the general public in the ally countries to see at least a small division of American troops at the front.

April 20

Alexander Kerensky, the Russian Minister of Justice, was present during a meeting of the Finnish government and in his speech greeted the "free Finnish people" in the name of the Provisional Russian government and declared Russia would do everything in its powers to make it certain that Finland would remain free forever. A plebiscite for the population of the new Kingdom of Poland was announced to determine whether the kingdom should detach itself from Russia as well.

A number of Austrian officers and soldiers who deserted declared that the Austrians and Germans are hoping that the various organizations in the interior of Russia, which are at the moment fighting the provisional government, will bring about a state of anarchy throughout Russia and demoralized the Russian army.

According to German newspapers, a manifesto to the Russian Socialist, giving praise to the Russian proletariat for its historic participation in the Revolution, expressed the hope that the Russian proletariat will conquer the warlike elements of the country, and bring an end to the war with Germany.

The Provisional Russian government's Foreign Minister, however, said the Allies need have no fear of Russia deserting the alliance or weakening resistance to the enemy. The Russian

press considers the rumors a possibility of Russia concluding the war with the Central Powers as ruse. The Petrograd papers severely criticized the speech made by Vladimir Lenin, one of the returning socialist exiles, in which he advised the provisional government to solicit peace with Germany. The papers claimed Lenin was trying to impose a shameful peace on Russia and that the Russian people will never accept the psychology of Lenin and his friends.

Military experts in London, however, are uncomfortable over the growing split between the Russian Provisional government and the Council of Workmen and Soldiers Deputies. As presently constituted, the government is without means to enforce any of its mandates except by appeals to the patriotism of the people. The existing breach dates from the triumph of the revolution when the Council issued instructions to the people to disregard the orders of the government, which were in conflict with those of the Council.

The position of the Provisional government is the most difficult because it is not supported by any parliament, as the Council does not take the place of a real parliament. The situation is more difficult as the Revolutionary Council is not always clear in its composition. Western experts believe continued conflict between the two bodies could result in civil war.

There is evidence that the Council deputies are endeavoring to influence the country to support the government. However, their task is rendered difficult by a few radical members and professional agitators, like Lenin, who are working against the success of a Russian democracy. These influences can be attributed in large measure to the disorder in the factories where the workmen, who became easy prey for the socialist propaganda of Lenin, made preposterous demands - far beyond any representatives in the Council of the Workmen could claim for them. These fantastic demands include a four-hour working day, a 700% increase in wages a month and a general usurpation of ownership privileges, which would be tantamount to the confiscation of the factories.

Meanwhile on the Western Front, the British have announced that they have reached the Hindenburg Line. Proclaimed by German experts as a sort of Great Wall of China, that would be impenetrable to assault, a number of European military writers have taken the view that the Hindenburg Line was a myth painted to harden the German people. However, the British Journal staff, for some

time, has noted that there is a definitive line upon which the German staff was basing its defense and is known exactly where that line was drawn. If the British army can break through a sector of the line, the next chapter may be a further extensive German retreat.

That the German General staff is troubled by the progress of events since Monday is demonstrated by the fact that the German attempts to retrieve lost positions have been feeble and fruitless and that the situation has become full of uncertainty for the Germans.

Newspaper correspondence with the British armies describes, at length, the violent fighting that has been happening on the Western Front for the past week. Some of the attackers underwent a terrible ordeal, lying on the open slopes in deep snow and icy gale and swept by German machine-gun fire while the sky above them was flashing with bursts of shrapnel and high explosives.

The men were held up by a great stretch of wire and menaced most evilly by an enfilade fire from machine guns. Two tanks came to the rescue and did most daring things. They came up in their elephantine way and most skillfully guided and climbed over rough ground, cleaving through snow drifts and mud banks, then, resting their blunt noses above the open trenches and sandbag arcades, they made straight for the great hedges of barbed wire and drove straight through them, leaving behind lines and broken strands. One cruised into a village, followed by the cheers of the infantry. They trampled upon machine-gun nest and fired into the German hiding places. A second tank struck a zigzag course and in that same village struck down numbers of German soldiers. For 40-hours these two tanks did not rest, but went about breaking down the wire and searching out German strong points so the way would be easier for the infantry. Even then, our men had no easy fight, as the enemy defended themselves stubbornly.

The hot flame of war raging in the Arras region is a result of plans developed at a prolonged conference between France and England last month. The results already attained justify the conclusion that the supreme military test of the war is near at hand.

April 27

Interest in the new French offensive in the Aisne gave way to the startling news from the interior of Germany and is in focus in the Allied capitals. Veiled though the situation because of rigid censorship of the German press, it has leaked through to indicate that the German Empire is facing the great economic and political crisis.

The latest information received is that 10,000 striking munitions workers have engaged in a bloody riot in the great Prussian fortress towns of Magdeburg, and were only prevented from burning the City Hall after a sharp clash with the military. On its heels are accounts of demands made by the leaders of the Berlin strike, demands of such a revolutionary character that compliance with them would mean a prompt end to the militaristic regime and the German Empire.

Demands for the abolishment of citizenship inequalities in Germany are contained in a resolution adopted unan-

imously at a conference between the National Committee of the Social Democratic Party of Germany and representatives of the Social Democratic Party of Austria-Hungary. The resolution says: "We endorse the unalterable decision of the German working class to have the German Empire emerge from this war a free state entity. We demand the immediate abolition of all inequalities of citizenship rights in the empire, state and community, as well as the abolition of the bureaucratic regime and its replacement by the deciding influence of the people's representatives."

Meanwhile, the new Revolutionary government in Russia continues to deny it is seeking a separate peace with Germany. According to a representative of the government, "The Russian Revolutionary Democracy does not seek a separate peace, but favors international peace on the basis of the equality of all people, and encourages the proletariat of every country to do its utmost to bring about peace on the above basis."

The Council of Workmen and Soldiers Deputies meanwhile has proclaimed May 1st a holiday throughout Russia when demonstrations on an unprecedented scale are expected. May 1st, or Mayday, henceforth will be a national holiday in revolutionary Russia.

On the Western Front, the bitterest fighting of the present Anglo-French offensive is raging today along the Woten Line; they hastily organized position east of Arras to which the Germans retired when the northern end of the Hindenburg Line was turned. The Germans are putting forth a supreme effort to hold this vital portion of their defenses, the crumbling of which would bring into prospect another great retreat. The tenacity and power with which the Germans are fighting leaves the outcome of the fighting, for now, in doubt.

The Germans have a different position on the results of the recent fighting. Their press says: "the possession of single portions of terrain, such as trenches, villages and woods, no longer plays a decisive role in deeply echeloned and fortified zones." The aim of the German defense is, even at the cost of abandoning the dead, together with war materials, to maintain their own strength while destroying the enemy and preventing

him from attaining the strategic aim, which is to breakthrough. For this purpose it is necessary to keep the fighting line mobile.

Several hundred members of the National Press Club attended a talk by Stanley Washburn, the noted war correspondent, on the conditions in Russia.

Mr. Washburn warned his listener: "The first mistake which this country is making is believing the war is nearing an end; that the British success in the battle of Arras will lead to the defeat of the Germans. He passionately evoked abandonment of this mistaken idea, declaring that the war is far from nearing the finish, and may last one, two or even three years.

"German morale and discipline are not broken and her material assets are still available. If German intrigue can succeed in inducing Russia to declare a separate peace, and outcome of current efforts by no means improbable, or if Germany can capture Petrograd, and the great munitions works upon which Russia is the main benefactor of, the United States will have to fill the gap and pay in the blood of her sons."

He urged the United States to: "strike and strike quickly and heavily, for delay will mean only deplorable loss of life later on. The first thing to do is to send Russia Railway supplies of all kinds and money. Railway equipment, more equipment, and then more, is a crying need now, to enable the Russians to move men and munitions. The Germans concentrate their troops three times as quickly as the Russians and have unlimited munitions."

He said, "The only thing which will put a wholesome fear into the hearts of Germany is for the United States to make it clear that this country will furnish one million troops within a year, two million within the next year three the next in five years after that if necessary. This assurance will harden the Russians and encourage them to hold out against the German intrigue designed to destroy the Provisional government and embolden the pro-peace Council of Workingmen and Soldier's Deputies."

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HISTORY

The History of Emmitsburg

James Helman

Edited by the Emmitsburg Historical Society

Continued from February

George Hockensmith settled on the Albert Maxell farm, embracing the lands of D. S. Gillean, Row and Samuel Ohler, a large tract; he is the ancestor of that name here. George Row settled on the land now Zimmerman's; he left a large family; all the Row connections descend from him. His son Arthur was a corporal in Blair's Game Cock Company. Arthur lived and died on the farm now owned by John Allison.

Sluss settled on the farm which is now Hawk's. The foregoing as well as the Crabbs, Ohlers, Nicumes and others in that locality is supposed to have come together in 1746. In the year 1757 another company arrived. Amongst this, Zacharias, who took out a patent in 1757; Christian Keefer; and

Diggs' survey. Samuel Emmit took out a patent for 2,250 acres May 17th, 1757. William Shields came at the same time. Emmit's lands extended from Middle Creek, following Tom's Creek to Friend's Creek, then north into Pennsylvania and east, making near four miles square, including Carroll's Tract. The McDivitt mill derived its name, Carroll mill, this way.

William Shields, Samuel Carrack and Lilly had taken up a large tract. In the division, Carrack got west of Tom's Creek, including the Knob thereby getting its name Carrack's Knob. Shields, in the division, got land further west; he is buried on part of his land back of G. Grindler's house. Lilly elsewhere.

On May 27th, 1777, Christian Keefer sold to Peter Troxell of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, 479 acres for 2,500 pounds, in cash sterling (his father coming to the colonies in 1773), the present lands of Charles Keilholtz, J. W. Troxell and others; Mathias Martin, son-in-law of Peter Troxell, bought at the same



Prior to the founding of Emmitsburg in 1785, the area upon which it currently sits was divided up into several large farms - these include: Carrollsburg (45) owned by Samuel Emmit, Silver Fancy (46) owned by Daniel Delany, Douthett's Chance (47) owned by John Douthett, Forth Henry (48) owned by Henry Williams, Low Mill and Long Mile (49) owned by Conrad Hockersmith, and Dam Head (50) owned by Alex Baile.

time, 1777, the farm now Samuel Troxell's. James Martin, N. C. Stanbury, John Troxell, son of Peter, at the same time, 1777, the lands of Charles McCarren and Welty. He built a mill in 1777 or 1779.

In Pennsylvania, the early settlers were Cochrans, Overholtzers, Bakers, Zimmermans, Bollingers, Clarks, Pattersons, Fikers, Bighams, Weikends, Browns, Stevensons. These pioneers were influenced by the inducement offered by Virginia and Maryland. In 1746, Rev. M. Schlatter was sent by the Reformed church of Holland as a missionary to the Dutch Reformed Church of Frederick County, Maryland. In 1746, a number of Moravians settled at Graceham, where they have sustained a church ever since, the only one in the State.

These settlers came in colonies, frequently from the same provinces in Germany. They would locate near a stream, or build near a spring; their accommodations were limited to overhanging trees,

a covered wagon, or tent, until a log house could be erected. Some of the early residences in this locality are still remembered by the older persons living. The hardships of the eastern emigrants along the rock-bound coast were not greater than in this county. The winters were long and cold, the comforts few; Indians roamed these hills and valleys, the many streams in this locality were a fascination for them, and hard to part with as the incomers encroached upon them. The tribe was the Susquehanna's, a warlike tribe.

The last campfire, tradition tells us, was on the Gilson farm, where they had a burial place. When the tribe departed they had an old blind and sick chief, too sick to go with the tribe. A young buck was instructed to remain with him until he died, bury him, and then follow after. After they had gone one day he killed the old man, buried him, and followed on after the tribe. Few families bearing the names of the

early settlers remain. In the lists attached to each cemetery will be given the earlier interments, save those whose graves are not marked.

The earliest authentic is that of William Elder and wife who came from St. Mary's County in 1739, settling where Zentz now lives. His wife died the same year. Having no lumber to construct a coffin, they hollowed out a log, which was used instead. Some years after he moved to the farm known as Clairvoux, taking his wife's remains with him, burying her on the farm, where her tombstone can be seen today, although Bishop Elder erected a new one lately.

Krise first settled where Baltimore street now is in Baltimore; he did not like a sand farm and left, going to Rocky Ridge; settling on the farm now owned by Barrick. His son, who married Elizabeth Troxell, took up the land owned by E. F. Krise. Jonathan Hays patented the land called Brotherly Love in 1757, now owned by W. Mos-



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HISTORY - OBITUARIES

er. The land owned by C.T. Zacharias, called Single Delight, Peter Troxell's as Diggs' Lot, and Benjamin's Good Luck; the Shields' tract as Caroline, Sugar Camp, Walnut Bottom; George Row's tract, French Purchase.

The land north of town called Dothan's Chance, east as Silver Fancy, south as Buck's Forrest. The

survey of Mason and Dixon's line commenced December 7th, 1763, finished January 9th 1768. The following is the line from Monocacy to Friend's Creek 1765, August 26, at Monocacy, 73 miles 58 chains; cross Marsh Creek, McKinley's house, 80 miles 21 chains; 77 stone falling in Marsh creek 125 yards of true place, 82 miles 66

chains, Matthew Elder's house 52 chains south; August 29, 84 miles 41 chains, cross Flat Run; 85 miles, James Stevenson's house; 86 miles, William Bowers's house; with 86 miles cross Tom's Creek at foot of South Mountain; 86 miles, 76 chains, Phineas Davidson's house; 87 miles 76 chains cross Friends' Creek, South Mountain; 88 miles, John Cohorn's house.

Whilst the French and Indian war was in progress, recruiting officers went into the harvest field, took two men from along Monocacy, and both men were killed in Braddock's defeat. During one of the Indian raids through this section Alexander McKeseay, near Emmitsburg, was standing in his door, was shot and killed. A Mr. William House in this county was attacked and twelve of his family was killed.

After the defeat of Braddock, many bands of Indians roamed over the western part of Maryland, penetrating quiet settlements and alarming the people, they fled by night, some to Frederick others to Fort Cumberland. In 1756, Washington said but two families in the whole settlement of Conococheague, Md., remained. This year Washington advised the people between Conococheague and Fredericktown to assemble, which they did. With Col. Cresup at the head of 100 men of courage, known as the Red Caps, they overthrew the Indians and killed some of them.

All along the Monocacy the people fled, fearing the red skins. Armed citizens drove the Indians out. The trials of that age can only be imagined, the realities were shocking, any catastrophe could be expected; the people lived in hourly dread, not knowing when they would be murdered or carried away as captives. The foregoing and the following is told to impress the perilous and uncertain crisis through which the colonies were passing for it was in the beginning of the formative period.

At this time, the Stamp Act was causing the people to rebel. It was as much hated, as were the Indians.

The same brave men who punished the Indians now assembled to resist the Stamp Act. At Annapolis, Md., a merchant of that town, Zacharias Hood, brought with him from England a cargo of goods together with the obnoxious stamps. When he arrived at Annapolis the

ferment reached its height. The people gathered in crowds at the dock and an outbreak ensued, in which one of the number had his leg broken. Hood was compelled to draw off from the shore and land elsewhere.

Continued next month.

Death Notices

Thomas Ott, 72, of Thurmont died February 27. Thomas Layman, of Fairfield Road, died March 1. Tom was a 1947 graduate of the Thurmont High School, and a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fairfield.

Kathryn Fleming, 95, of Taneytown, died March 2. Kathryn was a former member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Union Bridge Fire Company.

Sylvia Bushman, 81, of Emmitsburg, died March 17. She was

born in Thurmont in 1936. She was the devoted wife of the late "Bo" Bushman, to whom she was married for 55 years. Sylvia was a stitcher at the local shoe factory for many years. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Emmitsburg.

Charles Myers, 82, of Emmitsburg, died March 27 at St. Joseph Ministries.

Janice Wright, 58, of Rocky Ridge, died March 24.

What is a Funeral Director?

Colt M. Black, F.D.

When mentioning the title of "funeral director" there are probably many thoughts and images conjured up within the mind. Maybe a stereotypical vision of a tall, older, slender man who speaks in a monotone voice similar to Lurch of the Adam's Family?

The reality is funeral directors as a whole are a pretty diverse group of individuals with the fastest growing segment of the profession being females.

While most people know some of what a funeral director's duties entails, it certainly can make your life a little easier to know just how many details a funeral director handles for your family when called to service. Why you ask, because sometimes the smallest details are the most worrisome.

Funeral directors wear many "hats" to those we serve. For starters funeral directors navigate their way around a litany of laws and regulations from the very moment someone calls to report a death. From coordinating with police, EMS, the medical examiner or coroner, hospice and physicians; the funeral director ensures that the deceased was not killed or injured by homicide, suicide, or accident and if so ensures that it is properly reported to authorities before taking custody of the deceased. Regardless of the cause or manner of death the funeral director will prepare a death certificate to be filed with the health department which is used for estate settlement purposes. Additionally a burial transit permit which allows for the disposal of the deceased to occur is prepared, and additional permits may be requested if the deceased is to be cremated.

Funeral directors arrange for and transport the deceased from the place of death to the funeral home. Anytime of day or night, throughout the year funeral directors respond to family's calls for help, they

drop whatever they are doing to be there for their friends and neighbors in need.

Making funeral arrangements be they for burial, cremation, or something else ensuring that no detail is left out is a tall order to fill, there is no such thing as a do over when it comes to a funeral. Gathering information for the death certificate and obituary. Helping to educate the family to make informed decisions on the type of services they wish to select, coordinating the selection of merchandise, and ordering or making in house the various items requested by the family, coordinating with the cemetery, crematory, florist, grave digger, minister, fraternal organizations and other entities to finalize the arrangements for service is all a part of the daily work of funeral directors.

Assisting in filing for various benefits claim forms from Social Security, Veterans Administration, life insurance, and other sources is part of a funeral director's services.

Obviously funeral directors prepare the deceased for the funeral from embalming, restorative work, cosmetics, dressing and casketing.

Conducting viewings, funerals and memorial services is also under the direction and supervision of the funeral director. From where the flowers go to the safe arrival of a funeral procession at the cemetery it is the funeral director's responsibility from start to finish.

While the above overview is brief, funeral directors truly are "jacks of all trades" who wear many hats; from law to event planning and science to counseling funeral directors provide a vital service to their communities when the unthinkable happens. So the next time you see one of us around town, don't be afraid to say hi or give us a wave because we are here for you. For more information about funeral directors, please give us a call at 240-288-1300.



Elizabeth Helen Fry

Elizabeth Helen Fry, 83, of New Market, passed on March 22. Born in Baltimore on March 30, 1933 to the late James Oscar and Iva Elizabeth Orndorff (nee Topper). She was the wife of the late Walter Norman Fry, whom she married in 1957.

Helen attended St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School and graduated from St. Joseph Catholic High School. She would go on to work for Mount St. Mary's University, Fort Detrick, and National Geographic Society, from where she retired.

She was a former parishioner of St. Anthony's in Emmitsburg

and was a longtime parishioner of St. John the Evangelist. She was also a member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Helen enjoyed gardening, traveling, and baking. She also loved her family deeply and enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren, and her dogs. She volunteered her time with Frederick Memorial Hospital, St. John's, where she was part of Sister Margaret's Dustbusters, and the Linganore Band Boosters.

Helen is survived by her children; Jim Fry of Columbia, Mary Johnston of New Market, John Fry of St. Marys, GA, and Joel Fry of Culpeper; siblings Mary Wivell and Lillian Layman (Richard); 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial took place at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Interment was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made in her name to the Franklin County Veteran Affairs: Operation Save-a-Vet, Save-a-Pet, 425 Franklin Farm Lane Chambersburg, PA 17202.



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MOM'S TIME OUT

Navigating college applications

Mary Angel

I find myself in a bit of shock. I am truly unsure of how my oldest child, my baby boy, is going to college next fall. Actually, truth be told, he started dual enrollment at the community college this semester. That is difficult to swallow but, going full time in the fall is even more difficult. I digress, my shock and dismay and joy of my son going to college is not the purpose of my article this month.

My purpose this month is to help other first time parents of a college student navigate the world of college applications, acceptance and how to pay for this wonderful (albeit exorbitantly priced) experience.

I will be the first one to admit that I was ill prepared to help my son navigate this amazing and somewhat complicated process. We started our college search much later than most and definitely later than we should have. We didn't start visiting colleges until the fall

of his senior year in high school. So my very first piece of advice for all parents of college bound students (even those who are undecided about college) would be to start early with your visits. Start at the latest when they are juniors, if not sophomores. If your child is not sure what area of study they want to pursue then take them to liberal arts colleges or all of the colleges within a certain radius of your home. Which schools you take them to is not what is important; it is just getting them there.

As I stated earlier we did not start visiting colleges until my son's senior year and then it was only one school, which he promptly fell in love with. It was a beautiful campus and the people couldn't have been any more pleasant. On top of that it was a Christian campus and that is very important to my son. When the tour was over we sat down with an admissions counselor (this is common practice after a tour). She gave him all kinds of information and brochures about the college and a t-shirt. I mention the t-shirt because the next college visit we went on (my son under protest because he had found "his college") he commented that he didn't even get a t-shirt. Please

don't misunderstand, he was caught quite off guard by how much the second college impressed him but, he noticed that small detail. I on the other hand noticed that the tuition at the second college started \$10,000 less than the first. I also noticed that the second college spoke more to his desired major than the first. I personally was very impressed with both campuses.

So now you have begun your college tours much earlier than I did – awesome. I would also encourage you to have your FAFSA completed as soon as humanly possible. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is your online application that colleges will use to determine your need based eligibility for financial aid (more about this in a minute). I would also, at this point, encourage you to "motivate" your child to start applying to any college they might be interested in. One money saving tip that I learned too late was that many colleges will waive your application fee if you visit them first. I would also at this point hope your child has taken the SAT or Act or both numerous times. The more they take the test the better they will score (usually). There are many grants and scholar-

ships out there for your child to begin applying for. Any scholarships that are not offered by or attached to a specific school can be and should be started as soon as possible.

Again I am getting ahead of myself. When you apply for admission to some colleges they might tell you they offer "Early Decision" or "Rolling Enrollment". I am partial to rolling or open enrollment. This means as students apply they will either be accepted or denied admission to the college they have applied for. Early decision is a whole other bucket of worms. At most colleges this means you are asking them to make a decision about you earlier than most and by doing so you agree that if they accept you, you will pull all other applications and go to that school only. This method is extremely stressful for the students and parents. Some schools will imply if you want the "best scholarship opportunities" you have to apply early decision. This is all a little too much of a strong arm tactic for my taste.

Next I want to explain the two types of scholarships/grants. The two types are need-based (you have demonstrated a financial need on your FAFSA) and merit-based (you are one of the best at what you do). Merit based usually requires proof in the form of transcripts and an interview and/or an audition. The one sad fact I have found out that has crushed the dreams of my son and many of his friends is that need-based is strictly that, however merit-based is both merit and need-based. One of my son's friends worked extremely hard at getting the best grades and being the best at his instrument of choice so that he could acquire scholarships to pay for an education. He excelled on his SAT exam and blew the socks off of every interview he went on. The professors he spoke to assured him they had to have him in their department. Then when he got his scholarship offers he was first told that he had to pick and choose because you could not "stack" most of the scholarships. When his mom called to inquire about any additional merit aid available, she was asked why his original offer was "not enough" since the FAFSA clearly indicated that they could afford to pay at least \$20k a year toward his education. This brings me to my final point. The FAFSA only takes into consideration the bare minimum information about your finances. It does care if you have a \$400 a month water bill, a child going to a specialist every few weeks; need a new transmission on your car, have a car payment at all, had to replace the heat pump/AC in your home, or any other expense for that matter.

So the bottom line is start early, apply everywhere, and take the SAT as many times as you can, visit colleges as often as possible, don't expect a free ride or even an affordable one, and above all don't overlook the value of community college for your child's first year or two. Last but not least do your homework and research the schools you are interested in and look for outside scholarships.

To read past editions of Mom's Time Out, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

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British are coming! ... for High Tea

Carol Cogliano
Hollabaugh Brothers

England certainly got it right when they adopted the daily ritual of High Tea. Setting time aside each afternoon, to enjoy some freshly-brewed tea along with indulgent pastries and scones, while enjoying the company of friends and family. Afternoon tea (or “High Tea” as it is sometimes called, since it was traditionally enjoyed seated at a table, as opposed to a comfortable chair) is a light afternoon meal that was meant to tie people over until a more formal dinner later in the evening.

The custom of afternoon tea originated in England in the 1840s, among the wealthy classes. By the end of the nineteenth century, afternoon tea became a practice that both the upper and middle classes observed. Afternoon tea might have consisted of cucumber or watercress sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam, delicate pastries and finger sandwiches (with the crusts removed).

Afternoon tea has gained popularity in the U.S., and I wonder if their appeal is due to our desire to slow things down, take a break, enjoy some delicious foods, and spend time together? It is a special occasion that you can celebrate at a tea room, a hotel or even a cruise ship; but what’s to stop you from preparing your own Tea Party, invite some friends over and enjoy some mouth-watering treats along with a “spot of tea”?

The following recipes will provide you with a proper English Tea staple: Scones, Clotted Cream and Fruit Jam. Supplement these recipes with some of your favorite sweets and sandwiches, and you are well on your way to enjoying a High Tea that’s fit for a queen!

We host quarterly Ladies’ Teas at Hollabaugh Brothers Fruit Farm and Market in Biglerville, PA. I invite you to join us for one of our upcoming gatherings! We enjoy several courses of delicious treats, then spend time creating a seasonal craft while enjoying the company of new friends. Be sure to check our website for more information: www.hollabaughbros.com.

These Fluffy English Style Scones bake up light and fluffy. Serve them with some fruit jam or clotted cream for a special English breakfast or a spot of afternoon tea.

Fluffy English Style Scones

Recipe courtesy of www.fifteenspatulas.com.

Yield: makes 9 scones, using a 2.5 inch cutter. Prep time: 10 minutes. Cook time: 15 minutes. Total time: 25 minutes

Ingredients:

- 2 cups flour
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 6 tbsp unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 2/3 cup whole milk
- 1 large egg
- Strawberry jam or other desired jam, for serving

Instructions:

1. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F.
2. In a food processor, pulse the flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar a couple times to combine. Add the butter and pulse 7-10 times until the butter is completely distributed. You shouldn’t see any chunks of butter, and the mixture should have a sandy texture to it. Transfer to a large mixing bowl. Note: If making this recipe by hand, whisk to combine the dry ingredients in a large bowl, and mix in the butter with a hand mixer. Proceed with the recipe as instructed.
3. In a small bowl, whisk to combine the milk and egg. Save 2 tbs of it for the egg wash later, and pour the rest into the mixing bowl. Stir to combine with a spatula, until a rough dough forms. Transfer to a lightly floured countertop and knead about 15 times until the dough comes together into a smooth ball. Roll the dough about an inch thick and use a 2.5 cutter to cut about 7 circles. Re-roll the scraps and cut out another
4. Place the scones onto a parchment or silicone mat lined baking sheet and brush the tops with the reserved egg wash. Bake the scones for 13-15 minutes, until about tripled in height, and golden brown on the tops and bottoms.

Slow Cooker Clotted Cream

Clotted cream is a highlight of a true English tea, but it is very hard to come by in the U.S. It’s a wonderful

topping that isn’t quite butter, but it’s not exactly cream cheese or whipped cream, either. It’s sweet and tangy... and absolutely indulgent! The traditional way to prepare clotted cream is very time-consuming, by letting the cream sit in an oven at a very low temperature, for a very long time. This one-ingredient recipe (more like a process) takes all of the guess work out – Enjoy! Recipe courtesy of: www.macheesmo.com.

Yield: 2 cups clotted cream. Prep Time: 5 minutes. Total Time: 12 hours

Ingredients:

- 4 cups pasteurized heavy whipping cream

Instructions:

1. Add the cream to your slow cooker and set on the lowest heat. Check your manual. You don’t want the cream to get above 180 degrees F. Ideally it would cook between 165-180 degrees F. Cover and let cook for 8 hours.
2. Remove from heat and transfer cream to the fridge to cool down for four hours. Be careful to not disturb the skin on top of the cream too much.
3. Once the cream is really chilled down, use a spoon to scrape the clotted cream layer off the top of the cream. Transfer it to a bowl and stir it together. There will be some cream gunk at the bottom of your slow cooker that you can just discard.
4. Transfer the clotted cream to an air-tight container and use it within a week on any sort of pastry!

Easy Strawberry Jam Recipe w/o Pectin

Top your fresh scones with a dollop of your clotted cream and a teaspoon of some fresh strawberry jam. You will instantly be transported to your own personal High Tea... fit for a Queen! Recipe courtesy of: www.scatteredthoughtsofacraftymom.com.



Ingredients:

- 16 oz strawberries, hulled and coarsely chopped
- 3/4 cup of sugar
- 2 tbs lemon juice

Instructions:

1. In a heavy bottom sauce pan, mix strawberries, sugar, and lemon juice
 2. Stir over med-low heat until the sugar is dissolved
 3. Increase heat to med-high and bring mixture to a rolling boil
 4. Stir frequently mashing the strawberries as you stir, continuing to boil, until jam is thickened and bubbles completely cover the surface of the jam (about 10 minutes)
 5. Transfer jam to a jar and let cool to room temperature
 6. Seal jars and store in refrigerator for about 10 days (or freeze)
- Makes about 1 3/4 cups.

Additional tips: If you have a candy thermometer, when the jam reaches 215 F, it’s ready.

If you want a less chunky jam, you can process fruit in a food processor before cooking or use an immersion blender while fruit cooks.

Upcoming events at Hollabaugh’s:

April 1 - Series 2 of Introduction to Iyengar Yoga (Class 4 of 4) – 10 - 11 a.m., \$15.00 per class, walk-in (no registration required)

April 15 - Hop Along the Bunny Trail (Easter Egg Hunt event) 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., \$8.00 per participating child (ages 0-8 recommended age). Included: Egg hunts every 20 minutes, craft, games, live bunnies, wagon rides

April 20 - Adult Cooking Class – “High Tea: Scones and Finger Food” 7 - 8:30 p.m., Cost: \$30, registration required

April 22 - Earth Day Events: Adult Terrarium Workshop, 10 a.m. -2 p.m. (stop in, as you are able) Cost: \$20 (base price) for glass terrarium and one plant. Additional plants will be available for an extra charge. No registration necessary. Seeds for the Bees! 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Kids plant a cup of seeds. Cost: free, no registration required.

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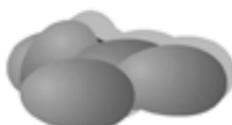
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LIBRARY NEWS

Blue Ridge Summit Free Library

Standing Events

Monday- Lego and Wee Build Creation night!!! Let your imagination show its genius! All ages welcome. From 3 - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday- Coloring Club 3 -5 p.m. Release your inner Monet! All ages welcome.

Wednesday - Coffee club in the community room from 3 - 5:30 p.m.! Mingle with the gang for coffee, tea, puzzles, board games, coloring books, &c. Food donations appreciated.

Wednesday - VITT (very important teens and 'twens) night. The community room is reserved for teen use from 6:00-7:30p.m. Just hang out or play Wii, board games, do puzzles, eat snacks, watch movies, make movies, &c!

Saturday - Join us at 11 a.m. for Story and Craft Hour and all of its festivities! What could be better than a great book, a good snack, and a fun craft?

Upcoming Special Events

Rescheduled from March! Join us at 6:30 p.m. on April 4th for the special program; Creating a Vibrant Body, Peaceful Mind and Joyful Heart - Simple steps on the journey of Well-being with Simone Heurich of Flowering Heart Yoga; Certified Yoga Teacher, Functional Diagnostic Nutrition Practitioner, and Holistic Health Consultant and Coach. "What you eat, think, and feel are ingredients to creating a Vibrant Body, Peaceful Mind, and Joyful Heart. However, underlying these elements, which can be very specific and unique to each person, is the understanding and implementation of the skills of self-awareness, self-love and self-care." Please join Simone as she

shares how to establish these foundations of health and how they serve as the basis for well-being, whether you're a man or a woman, young or young at heart.

The Fress family movie "A Monster Calls", rated PG-13 will be shown on April 6th at 6 p.m. 12-year-old Conor, dealing with his mother's illness, a less-than-sympathetic grandmother, and bullying classmates, finds a most unlikely ally when a Monster appears at his bedroom window. Ancient, wild, and relentless, the Monster guides Conor on a journey of courage, faith, and truth." Based on the novel by Patrick Ness. Stars Lewis MacDougall, Felicity Jones, Sigourney Weaver, and Liam Neeson.

The Library will be closed on April 15th for the holiday.

On April 18th the Summit Stitchers quilting club will meet at 5:30 p.m. New members are always welcome! Bring a project, bring a friend, or just bring yourself!

Thursday April 20th we will be showing the FREE Adults only movie "Lion", rated PG-13, at 6 p.m. "Five year old Saroo gets lost on a train which takes him thousands of miles across India, away from home and family. Saroo must learn to survive alone in Kolkata, before ultimately being adopted by an Australian couple. Twenty five years later, armed with only a handful of memories, his unwavering determination, and a revolutionary technology known as Google Earth, he sets out to find his lost

family and finally return to his first home." The Oscar nominated film is based on a true story and stars Dev Patel, Rooney Mara, Nicole Kidman and David Wenham.

On April 25th at 6 p.m. we will be showing the FREE family movie, Disney's "Moana", rated PG. "Mo-

ana Waialiki is a sea voyaging enthusiast and the only daughter of a chief in a long line of navigators. When her island's fishermen can't catch any fish and the crops fail, she learns that the demigod Maui caused the blight by stealing the heart of the goddess, Te Fiti. The only way to heal the island is to persuade Maui to return Te Fiti's heart, so Moana sets off on an epic journey across the Pacific. The film is based on stories from Polynesian mythology."

Composting two for one on April 27th! Starting at 6 p.m. Donna Scherer from the Penn State Extension Office will be teaching us all about composting and how to begin your own composting source. The first half of the lecture will focus on outdoor composting and the second half will be geared for adults and children to learn about worm composting. Make your garden happy and start your own composting this spring!

Frederick County Public Libraries

Looking through the lens of history provides a deeper understanding of how different things are today and it's fun to remember how things were 'back in the day'. We have a special history program scheduled for Monday, April 17 at 7 pm at the Thurmont Regional Library. Discover how the Thurmont Trolley, Emmitsburg Railroad, & Bus Connector played an important role in local transportation when Mike Hillman of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society shares information and stories of these early transportation modes. Looking to the future about history, you can also mark your calendar for June 12 when Russel Poole, author of America's Road: A Photographic History of The National Road, shares the story and beautiful photographs of the first federally funded road.

Be on the lookout for exciting new music Frederick County Public Libraries is excited to introduce Family Tunes & Tales, a collection of fun, free music programs for children. This programming is funded in part by generous grants from the Community Foundation of Frederick County and the Frederick Arts Council. Check out our website and look for the following at the Emmits-

burg or Thurmont libraries:

Symphony Storytimes (Ages 0-5): These musical storytimes feature the talents of Frederick Symphony Orchestra musicians performing classical music to beloved stories. Music & Arts will provide a musical instrument petting zoo following each storytime.

Kids Go Classic Concerts (Grades K-5): Music masterpieces come to life for school age children in these narrated concerts. A musical instrument petting zoo provided by Music & Arts will follow each concert.

Little Music Makes (Ages 3-5) and Music Makers (Ages 6-8): These programs engage children's natural love of music with activities and games that introduce early music concepts.

To learn more about FCPL's Family Tunes & Tales programming, visit fcpl.org/symphony.

There's something happening at the library every day and for every age. Visit fcpl.org for more information or stop by our information desk and ask about our latest events and happenings.

Boomer Afternoons - Rebecca Pearl Painting Demonstration: Local artist Rebecca Pearl will demonstrate for adults the process, materials, and techniques of painting. Wednesday, April 5, 3 p.m.

Cuddle Cats Rescue: A representative of Cuddle Cats Rescue will explain how to care for feral cats. Saturday, April 15, 2 p.m.

For Children and Teens

Cubetto Wooden Robot (Grades K-4): Children will program codes that make the Cubetto wooden robot move. Saturday, April 1, 11 a.m.

Family Tunes and Tales: Little Music Makers (Ages 3-5): Engage your child's natural love of music and instruments with activities that introduce early music concepts. This event is made possible in part by a grant from the Frederick Arts Council and The Community Foundation of Frederick County. Monday, April 3, 10:30 a.m..

LEGO WeDo Explorations (Grades K-5): Explore science through robot-based learning with LEGO (R) WeDo! Students will engineer, code, and experiment! Monday, April 3 and April 24, 4 p.m.

Green Living: Junior Gardener, Spring Surprise (Grades K-8): Create a unique garden related project. Instruction and materials provided by the Silver Fancy Garden Club. Satur-

day, April 8, 10 a.m.

Fairytale Engineering: Jack and the Beanstalk (Grades K-5): Build a parachute to help Jack to escape from the giant! Monday, April 17, 2 p.m.

Indoor Sports Day (Grades K-5): Basketball and volleyball games in the gym of the Emmitsburg Library building. Tuesday, April 18, 2 p.m.

R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope: The Reading Education Assistance Dogs listen to children read. *Allergy Alert! The dogs and cats are live animals. Tuesday, April 18, 5 p.m.

Paper Airplane Challenge (Grades K-5): Construct various paper airplanes and see which ones will fly the farthest, even past obstacles. Wednesday, April 19, 2 p.m.

LEGO Boat Challenge (Grades K-5): Explore the concept of buoyancy by building and testing a LEGO (R) boat. How many pennies can your boat hold before it sinks? Thursday, April 20, 2 p.m.

Green Living: Cardboard Basket Weaving (Grades 6-12): Celebrate Earth Day by creating a basket made from recycled cardboard. Snacks provided. Saturday, April 22, 10 a.m.

Green Living: Earth Day Seed Balls (Grades K-5): Celebrate Earth Day by making seed balls that will grow wildflowers. Saturday, April 22, 2 p.m.

Celebrate Money Smart Week (Ages 4-8): Listen to a story about two friends who start their own businesses and make a piggy bank. Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.

Special Adult Programs at the Thurmont Regional Library

Thurmont Trolley, Emmitsburg Railroad, & Bus Connector: Mike Hillman, the editor of the Emmitsburg News-Journal and Emmitsburg Historical Society member, will speak at the Thurmont Regional library about how the northern part of the county was once connected to Frederick via the Thurmont Trolley, Emmitsburg Railroad and Bus Connector. Monday, April 17, 7 p.m.

Curious Minds: It's All About The Brass: Curious Minds is a monthly afternoon series for older adults to engage and learn together. While targeted at older adults, it is open to all adults interested in discovering new skills, ideas, and hobbies. This month Steve Francella, owner of The Brass Lab, shares his enthusiasm and information about a wide variety of brass instruments. Monday, April 24, 2-3:30 p.m.



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S.T.E.M. Fair winners

Lynn Taylor
Mother Seton School

A rechargeable hand warmer and an experiment testing the claims of mouthwash were the top winners at Mother Seton School's S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Fair this year. Eighth-graders Matthias Buchheister, Jack Guinan, and Gavin Marshall comprised the team behind The Scorch Case, a cell phone case that doubles as a rechargeable hand warmer. They took home the distinction of Grand Champions of Invention, while seventh-grader Megan Adams earned Grand Champion of Experimentation with her project studying whether or not various mouthwashes really do kill bacteria in your mouth as claimed. (Result: they do!)

More than 100 students participated in the event, which is mandatory for grades five through eight and

optional for third- and fourth-graders. Projects included experiments on the effect of certain chemicals on soil, human perception of taste and color, the effect of rocket design on launchers, and whether multi-tasking makes one more productive and efficient. This year, inventions were a part of the program, with students coming up with ideas such as skateboard brakes, portable power packs, and robots that can color independently. "We wanted to expand the learning opportunities for our middle school students and design our expectations to include more of the important skills they will need in the future, so we gave students the option of designing and building an invention," said Danielle Kuykendall, Middle School teacher and faculty coordinator for the Fair.

Students also had the opportunity to work with mentors on their projects, such as Ed Hatter, a

NASA scientist and co-coordinator of the event; Dr. Jeffrey Simmons, Dean of the School of Natural Science and Mathematics at Mount St. Mary's University; and Daryl Bruner, who helped the students who were interested in web design and creating apps.

Judges for the event included other NASA scientists and engineers, biomedical professionals, a Hood College professor, retired educators, and MSS alumni, including recent graduates who used the opportunity to provide some guidance and mentorship to the students.

"We are grateful for the assistance from the mentors and judges," Mrs. Kuykendall said. "It certainly enhanced the experience for our students. We would love to have even more S.T.E.M. mentors for next year."

In addition to the Grand Champions, winners included the following



Seventh-graders Keola Evans and Bella Rabaiotti present their science project studying the effects of certain chemicals on soil to judge Ron Albaugh, a professor at Hood College.

students in each grade: Grace Hewitt (1st), Madison Ball and Ben Caretti (T-2nd), Thien-y Pham (3rd) for Grade 3; Isaac Jenkins (1st), Faith Collins (2nd), Brady Koenig and Michael Metz (T-3rd) for Grade 4; Michael Hohenstein (1st), Wyatt Hill (2nd), Julia Wivell (3rd), Nathaniel Hand (HM) for Grade 5; Pearl Walker (1st), Henry Greger and Jamie Price (T-2nd), Nathan

Kovalcik (3rd), Mackenzie Orndorff (HM) for Grade 6; Megan Adams (1st), Keola Evans & Bella Rabaiotti and Raphaela Smaldone (T-2nd), Aoife Nelson (3rd), Jacob Hartness (HM) for Grade 7; Matthias Buchheister, Jack Guinan, & Gavin Marshall (1st); Natalie Bosche (2nd), Avery Johnson (3rd), Liv Cliber, Grace Kovalcik, & Sydney McCarron (HM) for Grade 8.

Mother Seton School's Young Authors' Night

On April 4, Mother Seton School will be celebrating their students' literary talents at their Young Authors' Night.

Students in Kindergarten through eighth grade have been hard at work on their stories, essays, and handwriting skills which will be highlighted on the fourth. The event gives the students the opportunity to share their hard work with their families and the community. During the weeks leading up to the event the teachers and students have been working on revising and choosing which pieces to display at the event.

The school invites families and the community to come out on

April 4 at 6:30 p.m. to the school's gymnasium to see the writing pieces and to chat with the students about their work. In previous years, students have taken the audience on adventures with "Flat Stanley," inside their favorite birthday parties and what they would do if they had one million dollars. The night is filled with creativity and excitement as students share their work with their families and the community.

Mother Seton School has been celebrating both reading and writing this year. In March, the school welcomed community members to read Dr. Seuss stories to the students. Each class from Pre-K-

to eighth welcomed a guest reader. The readers read stories such as "There's a Wocket in my Pocket," "Green Eggs and Ham" and "Fox in Socks." The event was part of the "Read Across America" event created by the National Education Association to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2.

This celebration of literary talent continued when the school welcomed children's author, Caroline Hickey. During Hickey's visit, she hosted two writing workshops, one for middle school and the second for first grade through fifth. The students could practice their writing skills with Hickey as they brainstormed

ideas for stories and even created a few. When Hickey asked students from the primary and intermediate grades who kept a writing journal, almost every hand in the gym shot up.

Many of these students can be found writing in their journals in the school's writing club, Seton Scribblers. The club was started in 2015 by MSS employee Lynn Taylor as a creative outlet for students. The club consists of third, fourth and fifth graders. The students meet on Tuesdays in the library to learn more about writing and work on their skills. The students bring a journal to each meeting where they have

kept their stories, poems, or their ideas that they have been working on throughout the week to share with their fellow writers. The students are exposed to new types of writing and encouraged to try their hands at the new techniques. The club's work can be seen at the Young Authors' Night.

These are just a few of the ways that Mother Seton continues to celebrate and encourage writing in their school. The students have gotten to listen to great writing, learn how to create great writing, and then try their hand at creating great writing. All of this hard work will be highlighted on April 4 at Young Authors' Night.

Economics and education

Joy Schaefer
Frederick County School Board

In recent studies of the relationship between investments in public education and our local and state economy, researchers have found that dollars spent on K-12 public education bring a positive return on that investment to communities. Data consistently show that tax dollars spent on public schools have a positive impact on local economies, employment, local wealth, and result in reduced spending on future public costs such as health care, public safety, and welfare.

Economic Impact Studies Focus on 15 Maryland Counties

Over the last four years, fifteen counties from western Maryland to the Eastern Shore have participated in studies conducted by BEACON (the Business Economic and Community Outreach Network of the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business at Salisbury University). In three separate studies, BEACON's research established dollar values, by county and region, for expenditures in K-12 public schools. While values varied by county, the studies con-

sistently reflected a positive impact with regard to education spending on each local economy, and by extension the state's economy.

In response to shrinking local dollars for county budgets, the Eastern Shore of Maryland Education Consortium (ES-MEC), which includes all nine of the Eastern Shore Counties, began focusing on not just the costs of public K-12 education, but the benefits. In 2013, ES-MEC began working with BEACON to identify the return on investment and economic impact compared to taxpayer investment in the public school system. BEACON determined that the average return on investment in county public school systems on the Eastern Shore was approximately 35% for FY13. Of course, the return on investment differed greatly between counties resulting in varied returns on investment, but when examined as a region, the return on investment was approximately 92%. Additionally, BEACON discovered that the public school systems provided value beyond what could be quantified, including benefits to quality of life.

Since that study, the same research has been done by BEACON for Anne Arundel County Public Schools (2014)

and for the counties of western Maryland (Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington Counties in 2015). Again, both tangible and intangible benefits were identified, as well as a dollar figure for the return on investment, both by county and for the region of western Maryland as a whole.

In each study area, BEACON examined four categories of economic value: 1) economic and employment benefits, 2) value of degrees awarded to graduates, 3) impacts to economic development, and 4) reduction in public costs.

Economic Benefits of Public Education Investment to Frederick County

In terms of economic and employment benefits, a portion of direct spending by Frederick County Public Schools (for employee salaries, supplies, payments to vendors) stays in the county, recirculates and generates local economic effects. Researchers found the every \$1.00 in operational monies spent by Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS), and retained in the county, results in total spending locally of \$1.48. Every \$1 in capital spending that is retained in the county results in total spending locally

of \$1.61. For every \$1 million in FCPS capital spending, 8.4 additional jobs are supported in the county.

According to BEACON, FCPS over the last few years has annually graduated students who will realize approximately \$883.45 million in lifetime earnings. This can translate into up to \$25.45 million of county income tax per graduating class. And additional economic activity generated by FCPS graduates who work and spend in the county positively impacts property values and property tax revenues. Each graduating class is estimated to add \$116 million in real property values and \$1.23 million in real property tax revenues.

Finally, there is a good deal of research that has shown a correlation between the rise in graduation rates and a corresponding decrease in crime, public health care costs, and welfare expenditures. For Frederick County, BEACON estimates future costs savings for each FCPS graduating class as follows: \$9 million in welfare, \$18 million in public crime, and \$24 million in public health care.

The full report is available on the Frederick County Public School website www.fcps.org.

Joy Schaefer serves on the Board of Education of Frederick County and is President of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education.

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Our Four Years at the Mount writers took time to reflect on the beauty and importance of trees for upcoming Arbor Day through memories, stories and more, learning in the process just how vital they are.

Freshman Year

Philippines

Angela Tongohan
MSMU Class of 2020

When I think of a tree, I imagine the tall, narrow trunk of the coconut tree, the long rib-like leaves that sway in the wind, and the little clumps of coconuts gathered at the very top.

In the Philippines, there are many trees. Trees of different shapes and sizes. There is the mango tree, which has a small trunk that carries a large afro of banana-shaped leaves. The mangoes hide in between the leaves, clumped together like giant grape clusters.

Then there is the guyabano tree, a small tree, easily found by the side of the street. Its oval leaves are often sparse and delicate, which is quite the contradiction when you see the green, prickly skin of the guyabano.

It is a wonder to imagine my mother growing up in the Philippines. She would always tell me stories of when she was young,

She said that whenever she was hungry, she just had to walk outside to the large guyabano tree outside her house and pick the fruit off the branches. She told me of how she would often spend hours on my grandfather's farm, sitting under a mango tree and eating as many mangoes as her stomach would allow.

When I visited the Philippines a few years ago, I was determined to live life as she did when she was young. I ditched my cell phone and fancy clothes, and prepared myself to embrace the culture my mother called her own.

The Philippines is a green place. Everywhere you look, you find nature. Our house was surrounded by all types of trees. There were trees that bore fruit and trees that bore flowers. Down the street, the rice fields begin, and acres and acres of land are littered with the little sprouts from the rice plants.

Hidden in the hills surrounding our town, there were magnificent, tall waterfalls. These water-

falls slowly dripped into separate lagoons, encased in walls of silver rocks. The air was clean, fresh, and never too humid.

The days went by so slowly when I was visiting. My uncles were older and were enjoying the fruits of their labor. They no longer worried about working in the fields because they were finally wealthy enough to hire someone to do it for them. They often slept in the hammocks outside their houses deep into the afternoon, waking up every so often only to jump on a motorcycle and buy some food in the town proper.

I found myself spending my days wandering around. Sometimes, I would explore the creeks that ran through the woods, or I would sit on our front porch and watch mischievous monkeys try to steal food from small stores. My favorite thing to do was to take a trip to the city at night. Cars were only used for long trips because they were too big and bulky for the narrow streets of the countryside, so my cousins would take me along on their motorcycles.

Imagine driving down a long

road with nothing but the outline of mountains on either side of you, and a scattered disarray of twinkling stars above your head. Those were my favorite nights in the Philippines.

During the few times my mother and I were not too busy, she would take me to my grandfather's farm.

My grandfather had built a house when he was younger just for my grandmother. It was a stately house, with marble floors and columns. The inside was filled with custom made furniture and blankets. He had it placed in the very center of his citrus farm. Behind the house towered an army of coconut trees, while in front of it sat a small cluster of pineapple plants.

My mother took me to a more secluded area of the farm, where a small hut had been built beside a large mango tree. The mango tree was rather wide, and its branches hung low to the ground. She showed me how to sneak under to a spot where there was just enough space for us to sit without hitting our heads.

She showed me a small spot on the tree where the bark had

been chipped away. Etched in the trunk, now quite faded away with time, were my mother's initials.

As we sat under the tree, I imagined how different life must have been for her and my family. How simpler and happier life must have been. They grew up without the distractions of technology, without a dependency on social media to interact.

Her memories are eternal, imbedded in the places she visited and the trees she laid under. I thought of myself and the memories I created, how they were always interrupted by the need to take a video or snap a selfie.

They were enjoying life to the fullest, and taking things as they came. They felt no need to record every insignificant thing that happened to them, or to post it for all to see. They enjoyed their surrounding nature as they saw it, and I find it truly magnificent.

When I think of a tree, I imagine the tall, narrow trunk of the coconut tree, and the memories I made in the Philippines.

To read other articles by Angela, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

Sophomore Year

The family tree

Michael Kenney Jr.
MSMU Class of 2019

"Family, like branches in a tree, we all grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one." – Unknown

A clothesline runs from the porch pillar to an oak tree standing beside it. The bungalow, the tree, and the flailing clothesline cast the only shadows in the wide-open field. The bungalow houses a family of nine and, on oc-

casation, a vagrant cat named Colbie. Like its residents, the bungalow has charm and good character. In fact, the parents established the bungalow near the tree because of its nostalgic character. It marked the spot of their first date, his proposal, and their wedding ceremony. It has become a part of their identity and the pride and joy of their property.

Three of the children now run around the house and Colbie curls on the doormat, batting his tail and huffing an occasional yawn. The doormat reads "Home." The

girls race to the oak tree and tag it. The tree towers over them, its limbs entangled and outstretched in every direction. A tire swing dangles from one limb, and one of the daughters grasps hold of it. She sways from side to side. It begins to rain. They watch the raindrops pound the world around them, and they giggle at their mother who fervently tries to salvage the laundry pinned on the clothesline. They see their father and two brothers dash across the yard and make it into the house. The girls huddle together as the rain patters through the breaks in the leaves. They crouch down and curl against the tree. It is their safe haven.

Soon after, the girls scurry inside, and the rain comes down with heightened intensity, and a violent storm ensues. The power shuts off and the lightning frightens the children. Lightning splits the tree, sending a number of limbs hurling towards the house. The limbs crumple their roof and smash into the living room. The family screams as water pours into their home. They cling together, and they watch their beloved home flood for hours.

The next day, the family gazes at the tree, but they no longer recognize the strong, wily-armed oak that promised adventure and refuge. Instead, the twisted limbs and snaked roots remind them of their chaos. The drooping branches manifest their misery. The big shadow looks like a sepulcher for the house beneath it. For months, the family copes with the emotional and economic costs of the tragedy. Their home, they decide,

will never be the same.

Time continues to move on. The leaves on the tree turn from a verdant green to a dead orange brown. They drift to the ground, one by one by one until one day the father decides to remove the fractured tree. For weeks, he hacks away at the tree, hurling his anger into every swing. Splinters dig in his fingers and callouses cover his palms. He hacks and hacks and hacks. Months go by, and he continues hacking and hacking until, one moment, his grief overwhelms him, and he ceases hacking. He crouches down and cups his face in his hands. He curls by the stump. Its removal is his therapy.

The father uproots the stump and yearns to transform his pain and the lumber into something beautiful. He contemplates the piles of lumber. He imagines them as a desk and a shelf and bed frame. He whittles some twigs into an intricate cross until he decides to turn the lumber into a dining set.

He sands the trunk until it becomes a level table top. He leaves one spot portion of the trunk rough, however, because it is an etched in heart enclosing the words: "Charlie + Eleanor 1982." He sculpts the limbs into sturdy legs, each one carved with the same ornate design. He uncoils the smaller branches and contours them into chair spokes. Months go by and finally, the father finishes the dining set. He wipes his brow and stands apart from his work. It is durable and meaningful and beautiful. The father strokes his hand against the table and weeps. He crouches down and curls against it. It is his redemption.

The father plants the set at the center of their kitchen. They endow the table with a range of purposes. It becomes the center for game nights, happy birthdays, family prayer, and late night homework. Most importantly, it is the setting for family dinners each night. Every evening, the mother decorates this table with the same ornate precision as her master carpenter. She unfolds a table runner and drapes it down the middle of the table. It is topped with five dripping candles and surrounded by eight chairs. The family eats and talks, and they relearn to laugh. Family suppers provide them with a context to articulate their opinions, express themselves, and engage in substantive conversations. General pleasantries turn into hours of giggling, storytelling, and brave new memories.

The dinners allow the family to learn about and better appreciate one another. Overtime, it becomes apparent that the table grounds a new type of tree -- a family tree. It is nurtured much like any other tree. The family sows one another with confidence, hard work, good humor, faith, grace, integrity, and -- most importantly -- love. This family tree grows and grows with in-laws and grandkids, but no matter how large the family gets, there is always enough room for another at the table.

Like the tree that birthed it, the table is the family stronghold, a place for love, life, tears, and redemption.

To read other articles by Michael, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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ARBOR DAY MEMORIES

Junior Year

Plant your trees

Sarah Muir
MSMU Class of 2018

With the coming of Arbor Day, we are reminded of our responsibility to the earth. Through the act of planting trees, we endeavor to restore the balance in nature. Even with deforestation in decline, the damage left in its wake needs to be repaired to the best of our ability.

It is not a strictly modern holiday, but it in fact goes all the way back to 16th century Spain where the first recorded arbor festival took place in 1594 in Mondoñedo. Still today, the place now known as Alameda de los Remedios is lined with the trees planted centuries ago. Several centuries after this festival, in 1805, a resurgence of interest in what would become known as Arbor Day occurred. In Villanueva de la Sierra, with the help of a priest, Arbor Day entered into the world again.

In 1872, 67 years later the Arbor Day tradition entered into the Amer-

ican consciousness. Beginning on April 10 in Nebraska City, Nebraska by Julius Sterling Morgon with the planting of one million trees, Arbor Day would spread like wildfire. It was globalized by Birdsey Northrop in 1883.

With the start of the 20th century came new efforts to conserve wildlife with the help of Theodore Roosevelt. His message of conservation was directed at businessmen in the lumber industries. A leading conservationist at the time, Major Israel McCreight, tried to focus the attention on educating the America's youth on the issues facing the environment. Following his lead, and added pressure from the Chief of the United States Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot, Roosevelt began giving speeches to public school children on the importance of trees and forests in America.

People all across the world celebrate Arbor Day on different days of the year depending upon the cycle of the weather. Every year, millions of trees are planted, adding to

the beauty of the earth simply because we have recognized the importance they play in our survival. Filtering air, providing to our food supply, and being an integral part of the ecosystem, trees are truly irreplaceable. Despite the attributes of trees that are of monumental importance, there are small goods that they provide that better our lives, even if we do not realize it in the moment.

I've mentioned quite a few times my alma mater is Visitation Academy which was a small, Roman Catholic, all-girls school that has been nestled in the heart of Frederick for the past 171 years. I have many fond memories of the school and one of them is that of a pear tree. I am astonished to find that while writing this, I am unsure whether the tree in question really was as big as I remember it to be or if the years of it being in my memory have caused it to grow. Fond memories have the tendency to sweeten the most ordinary objects and raise them to the height of the extraordinary. Truth was, that it was a pear tree, probably the same as all other pear trees, but to me it is the finest pear tree ever to have existed.

It was years ago, during the time in my life when summer seemed not as hot as it is now; full of chasing fireflies and art done in a chalk on sidewalk medium. Sometimes on weekends my sister and I would go with our father to my school. This may seem odd considering summertime is mostly students avoiding educational institutions like the plague, but we went anyways, not for anything school related, but for the pear tree. The nuns who were, at the time, unable to collect the fruit themselves and did not wish to see them going to waste, were more than happy to grant us access.

So armed with a bedsheet and an extended pair of shears we would set to work harvesting. My sister and I would hold out the bedsheet like a slightly lopsided trampoline and watch as my father carefully snipped away and the fruit would fall into the sun-bleached whiteness with a soft wish of fabric. When we had gathered what we could, we would partake in some of the spoils, delighting in the sweet, soft, slightly grainy fruit and enjoy the summer day with each other. After we gave the nuns their due share of the har-

vest, we would make our way back home, heavy laden with our sweet, filling treasure. Every year we would go back for more until one year we simply couldn't.

The bit of me that is forever shrouded with nostalgia wishes to go back. Go back to the summer days with white sheets that was dappled with equal parts sunlight and shade of the pear tree. I have no idea how long it grew there, and I cannot for the life of me recall the year it was taken down, but I remember it with the rosy tinge that tends to come with childhood memories.

I feel as though, while we grow older we should leave something in our wake that will give new memories to the ones that follow behind us. We should continue to celebrate the holiday by adding on to the centuries old tradition – planting our trees and providing new, beautiful life to the earth. We should leave our mark by adding something good instead of taking it away. So, this Arbor Day, in the words of J.R.R. Tolkien, "plant your trees, watch them grow."

To read other articles by Sarah, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

Senior Year

Whirlybirds and memories

Leeanne Leary
MSMU Class of 2017

The sidewalk was perfectly covered with a fresh coat of whirlybirds that fell from the maple trees that perfectly lined the sidewalk leading to the entrance of the pre-school. The droppings were untouched, fresh from the afternoon lull. We walked into the building, we did, but we stopped every few inches to pick up a new treasure. Peeling them open at their base, we stuck them to the bridge of our noses and left them there until they fell off a few steps later, and we had to grab a new one. This was me; however, if you were my brother, you began sticking them to the tips of your ears, dangling them as earrings, pushing them aggressively onto your cheeks, and lining your little sister's face with them also.

This is my earliest memory of trees, perhaps one of my earliest memories at all.

Fast forward six years, my next one comes from fifth grade envirothon.

There was a team of about 12 of us and we spent all year preparing for this one event: the County Envirothon Competition. We came together, late April, with all the other school districts and sat at wooden tables in the middle of Gifford Pinchot State Park identifying birds, fish, and yes, trees. I was a tree specialist, primarily because I am allergic to fish so quite frankly, they grossed me out and I couldn't tell a finch from a blue jay, but that is what I did. I sat looking at leaf after leaf, rattling off what tree they each belonged to. Unfortunately, identifying tree leaves is not like riding a bike;

even if I tried, I would probably fail that fifth grade test right now.

In my next tree-specific memory, I am hiding behind one, holding back tears.

You see, at one point in my life I thought I should do what all of my neighbors and siblings were doing and asked for an AirSoft gun and equipment for Christmas. This was not, please note my intended emphasis here, not, a good idea at all. We all got AirSoft guns, face masks, barriers, targets, and so much equipment. It was set to be our next neighborhood fad, and it was. Attached to my backyard is a small, but forested, section of land. After only a few days of practicing, all 14 of my neighbors and myself – yes, I let this happen – decided we should split up into teams and play in the trees. Again, terrifying. I found myself hiding behind trees the entire time, wishing I was coordinated enough to climb one. The trees made this game terrifying as they made it nearly impossible to see anybody or keep track of anybody, but they simultaneously were a cover and a refuge. This then, became both my least favorite and my favorite part of this "game."

So up to this point, trees have provided me with laughs and dancing in circles with whirlybirds stuck to my face, a place to succeed in the world of memorization and identification, and a place to hide. It doesn't end there.

My most recent, and perhaps most significant memory of trees turned my simple recollection of tree-surrounded moments into a genuine appreciation. Up to this point, I've planted trees with the Environmental Club, dug holes in my backyard for my dad to stick

trees into, and even run into a few trees accidentally, both with my car and on a run; however, I had never spent three hours staring at a tree.

This sounds silly, I know, but hear me out. This past summer at Ft. Knox, we spent multiple days and weeks doing field training. This means sleeping, living, eating, and training in the woods. Of course, on the nights that it rained I gained a new appreciation for low hanging branches and the trees of more impressive size, which was to be expected. One time, though, I actually stared at a tree for three hours, I wasn't kidding. I was lying on my stomach in a Patrol Base, admittedly I should have been keeping security instead of staring at said tree, but if you have ever been tasked with this you will understand why that just wasn't feasible on the 12th day in the field. So, naturally, I began to watch this one tiny green caterpillar climb up the base of the tree I was lying beside. I watched as it shimmed up a few centimeters, then I decided I should definitely interact with this new little friend. So, naturally once more, I picked up a stick and began stopping it in its tracks every few minutes. Eventually I decided this was torture, and I let him go. In those moments, though, I found something to keep me occupied for hours. Yes, I realize I sound like a very, very young child, but in moments of intense boredom I think our minds do revert to a sort of childlike way of finding entertainment.

And so, I watched for hours as different bugs and creatures climbed up, down, and around this tree. This tree was home to thousands of small creatures, providing for the temporary needs of each of them. Also, provided the home of my entertainment for a few crucial hours.

Conclusion: trees are important. They drop whirlybirds that cause pursuant preschoolers and young children more joy than an ice cream cone. They start dances, they are home to readers who require their shade and a backrest, and the best ones mark a permanency of nature from century to century. They provide shelter in both real and fake wars, they stand tall as children learn to

climb them, and they serve as a home to countless creatures. So, aside from the obvious, and debatably most important, way that they provide us with oxygen, trees do more. They are more, and they should be protected as such. Happy Arbor Day!

To read other articles by Leanne, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



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FASHION

Easter inspiration

Valerie McPhail
MSMU Class of 2015

As it slows activity down in the city, frustrations over the snow are expressed through manners of dress. Anoraks, corduroys and LL Bean Duck Boots sustain the uniform as Brooklyn is sick and tired over shoveling cars out of snow. Days when the sun offers its light bring life to the fashion scene. Until we can experience the fullness of this joy, a sugar rush of sweet fashion invades the department stores. Guests of Bergdorf's, Saks and Lord & Taylor are left dreaming over fashionable fun.

Oh how we yearn for spring weather. The moment temperatures rise above 45 degrees and the sun shines, New Yorkers leave their tiny apartments and make their way out and about. The liberty that characterizes short-sleeved blouses, shorts and Birkenstocks consumes the hearts of New Yorkers this time of year, leading to Easter. With anticipation, our souls experience an identical wait on the reason of this season. As we wait, the details of spring fashion begin to blossom in our hearts.

Synonymous to spring fashion is Easter fashion, which introduces those pieces that elevate everyday dress-up. Easter fashion is more than the connotations of sheath Calvin Klein dresses and Vineyard Vine ties that have stuck in the suburbs. City goers need a little more excitement than just the stability of this classic look. Peeking behind peacoats, ruffle accents on trousers, skirts and dresses, em-

broidered jackets and shirts for men and uniform monochromatic outfits for children create statements for the season. Here in New York, the souls in the city anticipate spring through fashion.

Ruffles

Through an online shopping editorial, Net-a-porter's most recent edition of The Edit showcased a beautiful black and white polka dotted, knee length Gucci Dress. The dress screams a statement of the moment. Prints, dresses, and the highest sacrament: ruffles. From the thigh and leg down, ruffles crowd towards the hem of the dress, ready to celebrate.

Ruffles on printed blouses bring a pop of excitement to work attire. Banana Republic brought styles into fresh conversation for the boardroom. Creeping from sleeve to shoulder, asymmetrical to complement a patch on the waist side of the opposite side of the top.

With Mary Janes, oxfords or buckled shoes, ruffles bring a statement of life. From the quirky to sophisticated, this accent mark instantly set the tone for modern elegance. Far from prom gowns and the red carpet, spring heralds a sense of buoyancy with a ruche.

Embroidery

Personalized button downs decorated with the gentlemen's initials —traditionally a classic look, now cultivate spring with illustrations of tulips or forest creatures. Depicting fairy tale characters like this, are recent looks quietly fash-

ioned by men.

For an ultimate statement, men should look to fashion's favorite jacket: the bomber jacket. This stylish look is cornered between an aviator coat and the high school quarter back's prized letterman jacket.

Americano Schott and luxurious Valentino styled variations of the look in their stores. The originator of its resurgence was Gucci's Runway. The brand continued into spring 2017 with jacquard blazers on bright lime, rosy pinks and high lighter yellows.

Just as a modern gentlemen does, pair with Visvim's FBT. Classic to the Japanese brand, the FBT is unlike the CLASSIC boat shoe or driver shoe consistent on the market. For its unique perspective and modern style, the FBT is a difficult crowd pleaser. However different its look may be, this shoe should be appreciated as a genuine design of innovation for the menswear world. This piece is an investment for spring shoppers for its style will shine with personal style.

Children's fashion

The trend for mother designers to venture into children's wear has officially begun. Stella McCartney launched a successful children's line that showcases new styles each season. In most recent news, Victoria Beckham has launched a children's line with Target. The news came at surprise as a friend from work couldn't contain her excitement over collaboration. A full length girls collection, the Spice Girl "Posh Spice" retreats to cutesy, youthful styles that include: pink and white jacquard bomber jacket and matching shorts, and a matching blue gingham twill jacket and pleated dress outfit.

The ideas model juvenile collection of Beckham's established



Ruffle dresses are perfect for spring!

women's wear label. Sophisticated smart and sexy. For the designer's spring/summer 2017 Runway, opaque floral dresses and pastel colors translate into the girls' line available at Target.

This selection of spring children's fashion launches in two categories: girls and toddlers. As the girls' section reflects the women's selection including baby doll dresses, a tangerine colored jumpsuit and a fuchsia sleeveless blouse and wide leg pant suit. The idea

for a mommy/daughter look allows for a more picture – perfect opportunity timely for Easter.

If the housewife's sheath dress is synonymous with Easter fashion, and a men's check dress shirt, accented with a perky plaid tie assigns a man's fashion for the celebration, then fashion has remained traditional against all claims and efforts to innovate ideas of dressing. Styles that announce spring's arrival are surprising in the details. Ruffles accentuate dresses and embroidered pieces bring stories to classic menswear favorites. These characteristics set the tone for the creation of modern children's fashion. For despite the criticisms that shaded against the outfit coordination between celebrities including Beyoncé and her first born Blue Ivy, Kim K and her daughter, North West for dressing in identical looks, their fashion statements still captivate social media's interest. For at the end of the day, Easter brings together those important to us, and the holiday's fashion concerns picture-perfect moments that capture an the excitement of a new season ahead. The details matter, whether it be in the climate or in the features of fashion. As the weather spotlights a higher temperature, so just as in the spirit of Easter, we recognize the sacrifice we've made through the winter so to appreciate the goodness of this new season as we experience the sun.

To read other articles by Valerie, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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2 Blondes - APPAREL -

COMMUNITY NOTES

continued from page 1

and stand apart while simultaneously intermingling with Sperry's sculpted pieces. These two artists are coming together with a common theme and will create a gallery experience to invoke and inspire the minds of all who visit. As soon as Underwood saw their rust inspired portfolio of work, he knew that it would serve as the perfect way to open Buickster Hall.

The event space is coming together, and the overall design is beginning to take shape. Incredible pieces are already making their way into the building, including custom-made rustic-wood walls, which were crafted by local resident Craig Dresser. These pieces will serve as dividers within the space and can be moved so the room can be mutable, allowing for artists to utilize the area in various ways.

Underwood hopes to open Buickster Hall mid-April, and will be holding an artist meet and greet on April 20th from 5 – 7 p.m. Each exhibition will be open for two months at a time, which means that Sperry and Csuk's work will be on display mid-April through mid-June. For now, weekends during the two-month period are set, but Underwood would like to see the space open and available for visitors during some weekdays as well.

In the future, Underwood foresees the space welcoming local musicians, wine and bourbon tastings, and various other artists and their work, all with the commonality of showing what the people of Taneytown and surrounding localities have to offer. Underwood already has a local artist that creates pot-



Jerrie Cole, the designer of the artwork for the Buickster Hall sign is just one of the many talented people who has been monumental in making the opening of this new events space happen.

tery who is interested in exhibiting in June as well as other unique artists hoping to showcase their work.

There are so many talented people in Taneytown whose art isn't known, but have a world of artistic abilities and stories about themselves and their art. This event space will allow them to come forward and show visitors and residents what they have to offer while simultaneously promoting all the wonderful aspects of the town. Underwood is immensely excited to begin this journey, and looks forward to the grand opening.

Underwood stated, "We wouldn't have made it this far without the support and help of everyone involved." An incredibly dedicated group of people is making this happen. From the construction crew, Scott Davis and Craig Dresser, to Jerrie Cole, who will be designing and construct-

ing the sign, Lisa Walters, the "window lettering guru," Kim Golliday of Taneytown Dance Studio, Ronnie Putnam, building owner, and Matt Parrish, owner of Parrish in Paradise Landscaping. All of these people have been instrumental in helping this idea come into reality.

Lisa Walters of creativelei.com said it best: "I think that's really been the focus of this project ... the partnerships being made with small businesses and working as a community instead of individuals." The local business owners have come together and are working as a community to bring something uniquely special to the town; an art-centered space for the community.

Please take some time and be sure to stop by the open house on April 20 and see what all the excitement is about!

Thank You Residents from the Emmitsburg Lions Club

The Emmitsburg Lions Club wishes to thank the residents of Emmitsburg and the surrounding areas for their very generous donations of winter clothing last February during Make A Difference Month. The Emmitsburg Lions Club collected 77 bags of winter clothing along with numerous pairs of boots and shoes which were distributed to the Emmitsburg Public School and The Seton Center to help families with K-12 students make sure they stay warm and dry in the winter. With the recent snow and cold weather those donations will surely make a difference for these kids. The Lions Club also wishes to thank the Jubilee Food Store, Zurgables Hardware, PNC Bank, the Ott House, the Ambulance Building, and the Town Office/Public Library for contributing to the success of this drive by hosting these boxes in their buildings. Thanks again for a very successful Make A Difference Month last February and keep an eye out for the yellow and blue boxes in August for a Make A Difference Month Back To School Drive to collect much needed school supplies and sports equipment for K-12 students.



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ARTS

Weinberg Center presents the Quebe Sisters

Ashley Birdsell

Fiddle trio The Quebe Sisters will combine Americana nostalgia with a modern take on southern swing in a performance at the Weinberg Center for the Arts on Thursday, April 6 at 7:30pm. The performance marks the latest installment of the Weinberg Center's Tivoli Discovery Series, which presents emerging artists of varying genres.

The Quebe Sisters have been earning standing ovations since they started fiddling more than 15 years ago. Growing up in Burseson, a southern suburb of Fort Worth, Texas, Hulda, Sophia, and Grace were ages 7, 10,

and 12 respectively when they attended their first local fiddle competition and decided fiddling was what they wanted to do. The girls earned solo and group accolades early on, winning state and national championships in their respective age groups in 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002. Along with headlining their own shows to ever-growing audiences, they've shared the stage with music legends like Willie Nelson, George Strait, Merle Haggard, Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, Ray Price, Connie Smith, Marty Stuart, Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, Ray Benson, Asleep at the Wheel, and Riders in the Sky. Their most recent al-

bum is titled "Every Which-A-Way."

The Tivoli Discovery Series is pay-what-you-want with a suggested donation of \$10. Tickets may be reserved in advance at WeinbergCenter.org, by calling 301-600-2828, or in person at 20 West Patrick Street. Tickets will also be available at the door.

The Tivoli Discovery Series is sponsored by the Tivoli Society of the Weinberg Center for the Arts. This engagement of The Quebe Sisters is sponsored by Music and Arts. A complete listing of artists and performers scheduled for the 2016-2017 season can be found at WeinbergCenter.org.



Land Conservancy plans annual art auction

Marti Shaw

On Sunday, April 23, The Parrot in Gettysburg will host the Land Conservancy of Adams County's 20th annual Art Auction, featuring a wide variety of original artwork created by local and regional artists—everything from painting and drawing to ceramics and other three-dimensional work.

Over the years the Art Auction has become one of the most popular

fundraisers for the Land Conservancy, which works to preserve the rural character of Adams County. Since its founding in 1995, the Land Conservancy has worked with local landowners to preserve more than 10,000 acres of rural Adams County land.

The Parrot, located at 35 Chambersburg Street, Gettysburg, has long been the site of the Land Conservancy's auction event. The restaurant's new owners, Gus Zucco and Hillary Styer, will con-

tinue the tradition this year, and auctioneer Randy Hilker will again present the artwork for auction. There will also be door prizes, raffles, and more.

Doors for the auction will open at noon, with bidding beginning at 1 p.m. Admission to the event is \$15—though artists donating art for auction are invited to attend free of charge—and all proceeds will support the Land Conservancy's work.

Donated art will be on display at

The Parrot throughout the month of April. The Parrot will also host a First Friday Artists' Reception from 4-6 p.m., Friday, April 7, to showcase the work donated to the auction. Many of the local and regional artists who donated work to the auction will be on hand to meet attendees.

The art auction also closes Land Conservancy Month, as proclaimed annually by the Adams County Commissioners. The month began with



This painting by local artist Geoff Thulin, "The Year of the Monkey," was a favorite at the 2016 edition of the Land Conservancy of Adams County's annual Art Auction.

the Land Conservancy's annual dinner on March 9, where the organization welcomed York Springs resident Adam Boyer to its board of directors.

Boyer is an associate in the Gettysburg law firm of Puhl, Eastman & Thrasher and served last year as the Land Conservancy's Land Conservation Coordinator during the one-year leave of absence of the organization's current coordinator, Sarah Kipp.

At the dinner, the Land Conservancy honored the landowners who preserved a total of 336 acres of Adams County farmland, woodland, open spaces, and freshwater streams in 2016. These landowners included Tom and Jackie Colgan, who preserved their 19.5-acre Oxford Township property; Kenneth and Mildred Hankey, who preserved 157 acres of their farmland in Latimore Township; and Allen Knouse, who preserved 77 wooded acres in Highland Township. The Land Conservancy also honored the Hauser family, who earlier in March completed a conservation easement preserving 170 acres of their Franklin Township vineyard. Including the Hauser preservation project, the Land Conservancy of Adams County has now preserved 10,150 acres in the county since its founding in 1995.

The Land Conservancy of Adams County is a fully accredited, member-supported nonprofit land trust that works to preserve the rural lands and character of Adams County. For more information about the Land Conservancy and the events surrounding Land Conservancy Month, visit LCACnet.org.

TOTEM POLE PLAYHOUSE

May 26 - June 11
Starring Emmy Award Winner Michael Learned from *The Waltons*, *Driving Miss Daisy* tells the story of an elderly Jewish matron and her chauffeur.
Sponsored by F & M Trust

June 16-July 2
The *Drowsy Chaperone* is a loving send-up of the Jazz Age musical featuring one show-stopping song and dance number after another. An evening of madcap delight!
Sponsored by Walker, Connor and Spang, LLC, and Richards Orthopaedic

July 7-July 23
A celebration of the music of Irving Berlin, follows the journey of a piano as it moves in and out of American lives from the turn of the century to the present. Alternately heartbreaking and hilarious, rousing and reflective!
Sponsored in part by Essis & Sons Carpet One

July 28-August 20
Inspired by the famed recording session that brought together rock 'n' roll icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for the first and only time, this now-famous impromptu jam session is not to be missed!
Sponsored by Edward Jones and Paul D. Orange MD Family Medicine

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Springtime Inspiration

Jack Williams
MSMU Class of 2017

The novelist Jack London, famous author of *The Call of the Wild*, in a 1905 essay called *Getting Into Print* wrote, "You can't wait for inspiration. You have to go after it with a club."

I agree, but isn't there something beautiful and inspiring about this season? Springtime as an image and a state of feeling is quite common in art, just look at Botticelli's *Primavera* or Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, where he writes, "In springtime, the only pretty ring time / When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding; / Sweet lovers love the spring."

Spring draws us outside, but where we choose to go is our prerogative! Where do we want to go, what do we want to see? If you are interested in going after inspiration this month, there are several places that I have visited which I really loved, and I believe that you may enjoy them too. And if you're not in the market for artistic inspiration, give it a chance! Franz Kafka once said that there are some things one can only achieve by a deliberate leap in the opposite direction, and maybe this season can be that spark.

The first recommendation I have would be at Mount St. Mary's, where the Department of Visual and Performing Arts will be putting on two events this month. There will be a Wind Ensemble/Lab Band Chorus early this month, taking place on the 7th and the 8th. The Mount St. Mary's University Wind Ensemble, Lab Band and String Ensemble and special musical guests will be performing a live rendition of The Beatles' landmark album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Believe it or not, this is the 50th Anniversary of this album's release, and this live performance won't be one to miss.

It is difficult to mitigate the importance of this record, one that redefined the estimation of popular music as form of artistic expression. Scott Plagenhoef, contributing writer to *Pitchfork* online magazine, summed up the importance of this album in a column on the website, "Hailed on its release as proof that popular music could be as rich an artistic pursuit as more high-minded media as jazz and classical, the record's reputation and sense of ambition ushered in the album era. Its influence was so pervasive and so instructional regarding the way music is crafted and sold to the public that this is still the predominant means of organizing, distributing, and promoting new music four decades later, well after the decline of physical media."

Dr. Mark Carlson, the conductor and director of the bands performing in this event, told me, "We're performing this piece of music because of its historical importance, and we were looking to teach psychedelic pop to both the student body and the general public."

If you are interested in hearing some of your favorite Beatles songs, including *Lucy in the Sky With Di-*

monds, *Lovely Rita*, and *When I'm Sixty Four*, this concert will take place on Friday, April 7 and Saturday April 8 at 7:30 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public!

There are other local events that should catch your interest as well! I have visited the Weinberg Center for the Arts in the past and was taken away at some of the art they display in their gallery. The Center just wrapped up an exhibition by Shelley Marie, an artist born in Frederick who has extensive experience in the study of fine art, and her output is equally impressive. Her series of paintings on display evoked imagery of the human body using uniquely fluorescent colors as well as natural materials like rose petals.

The Weinberg Center for the Arts has several events this month, and one that drew my eye was a Piano Battle scheduled for April 8 at 8 p.m. This show will feature two renowned pianists Andreas Kern and Paul Cibis. Kern enjoys presenting classical music in an unconventional manner, taking advantage of unorthodox playing venues and the craft of other musical artists to attract audiences of all ages and backgrounds. He and Cibis will face off in a Piano Battle that the Weinberg Center says is, "Part serious classical recital, part tongue-in-cheek competition, two internationally-acclaimed pianists go head-to-head in an interactive concert experience like no other." If you're interested, tickets range

from \$20-30, and will take place at The Weinberg Center at 20 West Patrick Street in Frederick. Tickets can be purchased by contacting their Box Office at 301-600-2828, and more details can be found at <http://www.weinbergcenter.org/12577/piano-battle>.

There are a number of museums I would recommend, some that are centered in the arts and others with different points of emphasis. One place that I highly suggest, that is more local than the others, is the Schifferstadt Architectural Museum in Frederick. This museum is one of the most historic buildings in Frederick County, and one of the strongest examples of early Colonial German architecture in our area. The stone farmhouse was built by Elias Bruner in 1758 after purchasing the farm from his father in 1753. Visiting the Schifferstadt Architectural Museum is one of the best ways to get in touch with the early conditions and styles of living associated with early America, and the price is great! There is a suggested donation of \$5, children under 12 are free of charge, and is open on the weekends from April through early December. It can be found at 1110 Rosemont Avenue in Frederick, and they can be reached at 301-663-3885.

Some of my favorite art museums in Maryland are located in Baltimore County, and there are two that I highly recommend. The first is the Baltimore Museum of Art in Balti-

more City. I have been to several museums in the past, and a fair number of them center on a particular movement or period in the art world; The Museum of Modern Art in New York City is a good example of this. But there are others, like The Metropolitan Museum of Art in Manhattan that have a diverse collection of art to see. The Baltimore Museum of Art, like The Met, has an incredible diversity in the art they showcase. You will find Modern, Post-Modern and Contemporary Art, Classical Art, Impressionism, Pointalism, Abstract Expressionism, a sculpture garden, and a whole lot more! If you are interested in encountering a wide array of artistic movements, almost like a walking tour of art history, The Baltimore Museum of Art is the best local choice! They are open Tuesday-Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the best art of all, there is no admission charge!

Another of my personal favorites is The Walters Art Museum in Baltimore. What I appreciate about this place is the number of countries rep-

resented in this museum; you will find work from 18th and 19th century Europe, the Roman Empire, South Arabia, Ancient Greece, Japan and Korea, and even more than that. While the Baltimore Museum of Art takes you on an art history tour of some of the most important art movements of the past 300 years, the Walters Art Museum is fantastic if you are trying to find similarities and differences between different countries and different cultures in artistic expression. It is a phenomenal way to challenge what you may personally consider art to be! They are open from Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Thursdays are open until 9 p.m. And like the Baltimore Museum of Art, there is no charge for admission!

Let's make the coming of spring an opportunity to change ourselves! There is a lot to experience and new things to see, and who knows what else is left to discover!

To read past articles by Jack, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net

MOUNT SPORTS

Mount Mayhem in March Madness

Kelly Smith
MSMU Class of 2017

As alumni and current students watched with pride and excitement, Mount men's basketball, also known as Mount Mayhem, won the Northeast Conference Championship title and earned their way into the Big Dance.

On March 7, the team defeated Saint Francis U with a final score of 71-61. This win claimed the Mount's title as NEC champions. This was the Mount's fifth conference title in history. The historical game was the first time that an NEC Championship game was hosted at Knott Arena in Emmitsburg, Md.

The top players in the game against the Red Flash were Elijah Long, Miles Wilson, Junior Robinson and Chris Wray. Long was awarded the NEC Tournament MVP after leading all scorers in the tournament with 24 points, 9-of-19 shooting and nine rebounds. Junior Robinson was selected to the All-Tournament Team with teammate Elijah Long. Robinson scored 22 points and went 11-of-13 in free throws, resulting in a career high. Miles Wilson scored 15 points including 10 rebounds. He has been named the first freshman in 20 years to post a double-double in an NEC Championship game. Chris Wray also impressed the crowd after earning 10 points with seven rebounds to help lead the Mount to victory.

On March 14, the Mount made

their fifth appearance in the NCAA Tournament as they battled with the New Orleans Privateers in Dayton, Ohio to showcase the First Four round. Junior Robinson and Miles Wilson together earned 40 points in the close win of 67-66. This victory allowed the Mount to compete in the round of 64 in the NCAA Tournament facing the No. 1 tournament seed and defending champ, Villanova.

What a game it was, indeed. On March 16 in Buffalo, N.Y., Mayhem led for pretty much the entire first half. However, during the second half, Villanova jumped ahead with a lead. The Wildcats won the game 76-56 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. The Mount gave everything they had and left everything on the court. I would argue that 76-56 is a pretty good score versus the No. 1 seed in the tournament and reigning title champs, wouldn't you agree?

During the highly anticipated and intense game, freshman Miles Wilson scored a career high 22 points and seven rebounds. Sophomore Elijah Long scored 10 points with four assists and Junior Robinson earned seven points with three assists. These three players were definitely the ones Villanova had to watch out for!

Also, the blocks at the beginning of the game were incredible. The Mount recorded four blocks in just the first seven minutes of the match-up. Chris

Wray offered two blocks out of the four and Mawdo Sallah and Greg Alexander claimed the other two. Villanova did not even score until it hit the 13:54 mark. It looked as though the Wildcats did not know who they were up against.

For the Wildcats' Donte DiVincenzo, Jalen Brunson and Mikal Bridges came in clutch after DiVincenzo earned a double-double on 21 points with 13 rebounds, Brunson 14 points and Bridges 13 points. During the game, Villanova went 31-for-60 while the Mount scored 21-for-57. The Wildcats held a 43-27 advantage over the Mountaineers.

When the second half came along, Villanova was able to work a 20-point lead to finish the game. The Wildcats finished the season with a 32-3 overall record and are a high prospect to win the NCAA Tournament title.

During the second round of the tournament, however, the eighth-seeded Wisconsin Badgers defeated Villanova in a major upset. The final score was a close 65-62 for the underdogs. Villanova was chasing their dream toward a second consecutive NCAA Championship title but that dream was taken by the Badgers Saturday night. It is possible that the Wildcats were on the fritz based off of their first half performance against the Mountaineers Thursday evening.

Sophomore Elijah Long said about the NCAA experience, "Honestly, the trip as a whole was insane. A



Freshman Miles Wilson scored a career high 22 points and seven rebounds in the match-up against the Villanova Wildcats.

dream come true. Humbling experience and something that I will remember for the rest of my life. My favorite part of the trip to Buffalo would probably be walking onto the main court for shoot around. Taking in the fans in the stands and seeing the little kids' faces." Long continued, "The experience overall was and is surreal. It's an experience you can't really describe unless you're actually there on the court. The way the NCAA sets everything up is top notch. They take good care of the players. From having snacks and food available everywhere you go to police escorts to and from the gym...it's crazy. Have to thank God and count your blessings because March Madness isn't something that everyone can experience especially as a basketball player."

Long wants to make sure that the people of Emmitsburg know how thankful the team is for their continued support. He said, "One thing I want to say to the people of Emmitsburg is... thank you for the love and support you guys have given us throughout the year. Sold out almost every game. You guys were supportive through the highs and the lows and I thank all of you guys for doing that. Go Mount!"

Head Coach Jamion Christian has now coached his way to two NEC titles during his five seasons at the Mount. Christian said, "You play this game, it is very emotional. You got a great crowd, you are playing for everything you have been working for your entire life. The guys were so emotional... it's just about trying to settle down emotionally and understand the highs and the lows."

Christian continued, "I just love to compete, I love being down eight at the half with these guys, you know, that's just me. I just love competing, you can ask these guys, that's what I told them. They're going to score and we are going to score again. Down eight, you got great guys with you, I just felt like we were at a good place, we still had time to go."

To go along with the Mount's incredible season, Christian was recently named the Northeast Conference Jim Phelan Coach of the Year. He led the Mount to their first NEC regular season title in 21 years with an impressive 14-4 league record.

Before any conference play, the Mount took a long road trip back in November, finishing with a record of 1-11. Once play began back in January, the Mount won 15 of the last 19 games. The team finished the regular season with a record of 16-15 and 14-4 in conference play. With Christian as the coach, the men have qualified for the NEC Tournament in all five of his years at Mount St. Mary's.

When the team arrived back on campus, friends, fans, faculty and staff were there to welcome the Mountaineers home. Coach Christian as well as Interim President Timothy Trainer spoke their gratitude and thanks to all the support throughout the Emmitsburg community.

While the team fell to the Wildcats in a well-fought match-up, they are still number one in our hearts. Mount Mayhem lives on and will be ready to claim next year's NCAA Championship title.

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CATOCTIN SPORTS

Spring sports startup

Sean Vietri

Even though it has felt like spring for many weeks now, the Cougars have now made that official as they kicked off their outdoor season in late March. With powerhouses such as the Girls Softball Team, who placed second in the state championship last year, and the developing programs of lacrosse and baseball, Catocctin is very excited to get on the field.

The softball team has eight returnees and five new players. They began their season with a bang by sweeping their opener on March 21 against Frederick High in just five innings with a score of 16-1. The game began with Catocctin Pitcher #9 J. Bryant giving up one only base. This strong start on the mound was followed up by her batting, in which she hit a home run to bring two players to the plate and score herself. After this, Catocctin's #3 M. Tobery stole home followed by #23 T. Beckley making a hit to allow for her teammate #14 M. Krantz to score. As the inning came to a close, the score stood 5-0, Catocctin.

Things slowed down a bit for the Cougars in the second inning. Bryant remained tough to get by for the Cadets back at bat and behind the plate, she faired just as well. Hitting another out of the park and bringing the score to 7-0, Catocctin, Bryant had all eyes on her for the remainder of the game. Although Frederick tightened up their fielding they would need to start scoring in the third to close the gap. In the top of third, Frederick's #19 P. Villanueva impressively slid into second but no one could bring her further towards home. In the bottom, the Cougars loaded their bases with #2 A. Larochelle at the plate. She made a single while M. Tobery took home, and #8 A. Mayton made another single, which, due to an error in judgment from Frederick's defense, led to two more runs for the Cougars. After A. Larochelle made it home, once again Bryant stepped up. After hitting two home runs in her first two times at bat, Frederick did not give her another chance to continue this play. Instead, Catocctin had to slowly work their way around the plates, with Bryant and Mayton scoring two more runs for the inning to end, 13-0.

In the next two innings, the Cougars went on to score three more runs. In the fourth Frederick's #9 Taylor Routzahn strategically made her way around the bases to home to give the Cadets their first run of the game. The game ended early, 16-1. Going on at the same time as the girls' game, the Boys Baseball Team grabbed a win against Frederick in what remained a tight game, until the Cougars pulled away late to a score of 7-2.

Playing in the tough 2A West Region, Coach Mike Franklin is looking to senior leadership to help

the team compete. Having only lost two players from last year, the team has both deep pitching and team bonds.

Later in the evening, the Boys Lacrosse Team played Smithsburg. The team, which is a massive squad of 11 seniors and 13 juniors will have to prove this season that they not only have depth in players but also have depth in skill. The game started off with an early goal by Smithsburg's #18 Sam Ewing. Shortly after, the Cougars went up the left side of the field with #9 Devin Stafford scoring to put their first points on the scoreboard. After some back and forth offense from both teams, Catocctin's midfielders were caught too far up the field. Smithsburg's #28 Colby Johnson exploited this and put the ball in the back of the net. Catocctin came back, however when #15 Ryan Weaver delivered a pass to #5 Kyle Gasior who shot the ball low under the keeper for a goal. Right before the end of the quarter, Stafford took another shot at goal, this time from far out, and scored to give the Cougars an edge of 3-2 going into the second.

The Leopards started the next 12 minutes strong. After Catocctin committed a foul, Smithsburg's #24 Connor Mazenko drilled the ball in to equalize. The Cougars tightened up their defense and goalie Keith Dorsey made consecutive saves to hold off the Leopards. Senior Brandon Benitez then scored twice in less than two minutes, with his second in the last ten seconds of the quarter.

Benitez did not stop there. In the third, he made one more goal and assisted #7 Nathan Rednowers to get his first goal of the sea-

son. This four-point gap that Benitez and his team had created would prove to be enough to get their first win. The gap remained with one more goal for each team in the third, scored by Catocctin's #8 Andrew Douwes and Smithsburg's Johnson. In the fourth, the Cougars held the Leopards off but not before allowing them to score one more to bring the game to a close, 8-5 Catocctin.

Moving off the field, both the Boys Tennis Team and Girls Track Team look to leave marks this spring. The Boys Tennis Team, who won against Frederick in their opener with a score of 4-1, has four returning starters and "has strong senior leadership" says Head Coach Rob Merki. The Girls Track Team, which is home to local sensation Julien Webster, who was the indoor state champion for the 3200m, is training hard to "claim state titles" says Head Coach Ryan Lenhart. Lenhart is looking to Webster to bring in points for distance but also is relying on his relays to score big. The team's 4x800 team, consisting of Rachel Waldron, Lillie Perella, Emma Strickland, and Carrie Reaver, placed second at states with a time of 9:51.36. The 4x400 team, consisting of Perella, Strickland, Kia Braithwaite, and Phoenix Staub, placed third behind Friendly High School by less than a second. Both squads will be big components of the outdoor team.

With a great start to the season, the Cougars will showcase both talent and hard work in the upcoming weeks. Both coaches and players extend the invitation to see their teams play. Watching these teams play is a great way for our communities to get together and to enjoy sports. Upcoming games, matches, and events can be found online.



Catocctin's Kyle Gasior prepares for a faceoff against Thomas Johnson on March 23rd.

Opening day for Thurmont Little League

Melissa Kinna

On Saturday, April 15th over 275 little league players from the ages of 4-12 will take the fields for the 2017 Thurmont Little League Opening Day of Baseball. The day will begin at 8:45 am with the first round of games followed by an Opening Day Ceremony at 10:00 am with special guest announcer Brain Mo from WFRE. The Board of Directors would like to invite the entire community to celebrate the beginning of the 2017 season.

The TLL Opening Day festivities will include two Egg Hunts for the kids at 11am and 1pm as well as 50/50 drawings, ice cream and more. "Our Opening Ceremonies are always a wonderful day to celebrate our players, parents and volunteers," said

Ed Lowry, TLL President.

Little League has provided communities around the world the opportunity for families to connect and for children to come together in a healthy, safe environment to learn the values of team sports and the fundamentals of baseball. Thurmont Little League is proud to be able to provide this opportunity to our community for 66 years and continue to be one of the largest youth sports association in the Northern Frederick County area.

It will be a GREAT 2017 season at Thurmont Little League, please mark your calendars for Opening Day on Saturday, April 15th. Check us out on the web at www.TLLbaseball.com or visit us on Facebook @ThurmontLittleLeague or on Twitter or Instagram @theTLLnetwork.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

Letting go

Renee Lehman

In the 76th Chapter of the Tao Te Ching, Lao-tzu describes the flexibility that living things naturally possess. He also contrasts this flexibility with the dry brittle quality associated with death (from the Stephen Mitchell translation):

“Men are born soft and supple; dead, they are stiff and hard. Plants are born tender and pliant; dead, they are brittle and dry. Thus whoever is stiff and inflexible is a disciple of death. Whoever is soft and yielding is a disciple of life. The hard and stiff will be broken. The soft and supple will prevail.”

Choose to be a disciple of life! Learn to let go and go with the flow. How can you let go? Here’s an ancient Zen story about the concept of “letting go” of stress and worry that you might find helpful.

A Buddhist master and his student set out for a temple in a valley beyond the woods. While making a pathway through the woods, they came upon a choppy river they needed to cross. At the riverbank, they saw a young woman dressed in silk. This was somewhat of a problem because in their religion they were forbidden to look at, or even speak with, a woman. She however, was deeply upset because she had to cross this river in order to continue her journey to reach her sick father. She begged

the master and his student to help her get across the river. Very gently, the master picked her up and carried her through the shallow water and then put her down on the other side.

He said goodbye and went on his way with the student. Being a master, he could tell that his student was quite upset, even though the student was silent for the rest of their journey. Finally, that night as they were preparing for bed, he said to his student, “Is everything all right?” “No,” the student exploded. “Everything is not all right! You spoke with a woman today and then carried her across the river. How could you do that? Our religion tells us that this is wrong.” The monk replied, “Really, when did I do this?” “This morning, this morning!” his student shouted, becoming more agitated. “Oh, this morning. Now I remember,” said the master. “I already put her down, but you’ve been carrying her all day long.”

The beautiful message of this story is about compassion, and letting go (living in the present moment). The monk placed the needs of the young woman above his own spiritual practice, then had the ability to let go of the fact that he had deviated from the path of his personal commitment without feeling guilt-ridden. We can all learn from this lesson. How often do we carry around guilt, past hurts, or resentments toward oth-



A tree that cannot bend will crack in the wind. Thus by nature’s own decree, the soft and gentle are triumphant. - Lao-tzu

ers when truly the person that we are hurting is ourselves?

We must not allow ourselves to ruminate over past actions or events, because it will only weigh us down and deplete us of our energy. We must accept the transient nature of life; watch Mother Nature as she adapts and changes. In fact, we all had the opportunity to experience such a change. In late February, we had a spell of warmer spring weather. The daffodils shot up from the ground, and some even bloomed. Trees pushed buds, and some even bloomed. Many robins and other song birds showed up. Then came March 14th and Snowstorm Stella with over a foot of snow, winds, and really cold temperatures at night.

Do you think that the daffodils cried about the fact that they had bloomed and now all was lost?

No, the daffodils that bloomed had met their purpose in life – they had matured and bloomed! Do you think that the trees, while swaying in the winds, were saying, “Wind, stop blowing! Don’t blow on me?” No, the trees stayed in the moment and just swayed in the wind. We were the ones lamenting about the poor daffodils and trees. Nature is able to adapt and change. Our resistance to the transient nature of life only brings about mental suffering.

Instead of suffering, we can choose to let go of what doesn’t serve us anymore and stay focused on the present moment. When the “winds of life” hit us, be flexible and bend. Do not break because of rigid thinking. Go with the flow.

Try this exercise provided by Grand Master Lu, OMD from TCM World Foundation: Picture

a beautiful maple tree in autumn. Now project the things that you are holding onto (grudges, hurts, negative emotions), one at a time, onto that tree. Imagine that each leaf is a negative emotion that you’ve been holding onto. Picture the leaves falling and landing in a stream. Watch them flow gracefully downstream, over rocks, over smooth and rough points, and past branches, until they reach the ocean. As you picture the leaves flowing farther and farther away, imagine the negative emotion also flowing farther and farther away. By linking your issue with the image of the tree and leaves, your heart will begin to open up. Over time, you will be able to empty out that “box” of negative emotions to make room for love and forgiveness, and other positive emotions.

Choosing to remain flexible is choosing life. Be a disciple of life.

As Lao-tzu said, “A tree that cannot bend will crack in the wind. Thus by nature’s own decree, the soft and gentle are triumphant.”

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with 30 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.

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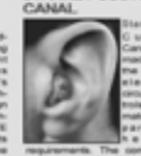
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Fight allergies with exercise

Linda Stultz
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Allergies have arrived! I know that is something many people are well aware of and this year they have arrived even earlier than usual. Allergy medication, shots and staying inside as much as possible are what get people through this time of runny eyes, noses, coughing and just feeling overall miserable.

Did you know that staying on your regular exercise program or maybe adding some exercise to your daily routine just may help lessen some of your allergy systems? I know when allergies strike you really don't feel like going for that walk, jog or to the gym for your workout but that may be just the thing to make you feel a little better.

One time when I had a bad cold and sinus infection my doctor told me to hit the treadmill. He said walking may help

relieve some of the congestion and give my energy and immune system a boost. I had never heard that before and I can't say I felt better the next day but I followed his advice and I seemed to feel better, have more energy and get over the cold sooner than usual.

Exercise will raise your endorphin level and help relieve depression so it makes sense that it may make you feel better when your body is fighting off any illness. Having something to look forward to each day can give you a positive attitude and that will always make you feel better. I realize that going for a walk or jog may be just the thing that will set off some people's allergies because as soon as you set foot outside the door you are sneezing and coughing.

Try to prepare ahead of time before the buds and allergens are in full force. Find some DVDs that you can use in your own

house so that you can walk or do a cardio routine right in your living room. Maybe you can get to the gym early in the morning or later in the evening when the wind calms down and is not blowing the allergens around so much. Think about a spin class or some other inside activity that you can do to stimulate your system, get your cardio and strength training workout in without being outside.

There are many classes offered at gyms and even some of the local schools. Talk to your friends and maybe you can get together for some exercise as well as social time. I have read different articles that suggest sharing social time with friends is just as beneficial for weight loss and many illnesses as the medication you may take or the treatments you may receive. That is not saying it should replace your medication or treatment.

I think sharing and spend-



ing time with people can let you see that you are not alone and many others have gone through or are going through right now what you are. This time together can improve your mood, give you ideas and help you find help you may never have heard about if you stayed to yourself. We can learn so much and help each other just by talking to each other.

That's why I end my articles saying, if you have any questions or suggestions you can contact me at 717-334-6009. I am always trying to learn more so I can help my clients and readers.

If you have any questions or suggestions you can contact me at 717-334-6009. Remember to Keep Moving!

Ask the trainer

Jason Blough
Anytime Fitness

Question - Well, it's that time of year again. Any advice on sticking to my New Year's resolutions this year?

Answer - To be honest with you, I don't really like the whole resolution approach at all. Wasn't it Einstein that said doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results is a sure sign of insanity? If that's true, I find it ironic that people set similar goals year after year, and yet fail to reach those goals year after year. It's clear you want to make some changes—that's what resolutions are all about—but it sounds like it's your mindset that needs to change. You have to determine how committed you are to living a lifestyle of health, even

when life throws challenges at you. After all, it takes dedication and hard work to exercise consistently, make healthy food choices most of the time, and get adequate sleep each night. And these are just some of the behaviors that define wellness. But here's the thing—when you decide that revamping your lifestyle is more important than reaching some short-term goal, New Year's resolutions will become a thing of the past!

Question - I'd love to run a 5K with some friends this spring, but I am not active at all right now. How should I go about training for something like this?

Answer - This is a great question because we are having a 5K on April 29th at Anytime Fitness! There are actually several plans on the internet that can take

you from the couch to the 5K course in as little as 8-10 weeks. In fact, you can even use one of these plans if you have no intention of running a 5K, but simply want to start incorporating fitness (running) into your lifestyle. Most of the plans start with combination walk/jog/walk session, 3 days per week, steadily increasing the actual jog time from just 2 or 3 minutes to about 10 minutes by weeks 4 or 5. At this point, you also start to add an extra day of training, totaling 4 sessions each week. As you continue to increase your jog time, you gradually remove the walking warm-up, thereby finishing each workout with just a basic walking cool-down. By the time you get to 10 weeks, you should be able to run consistently for 25-30 minutes without stopping. Not bad for a former couch potato, huh? Do a Google search for couch-to-5K training programs, or check out www.halhighdon.com for more information. Good luck!





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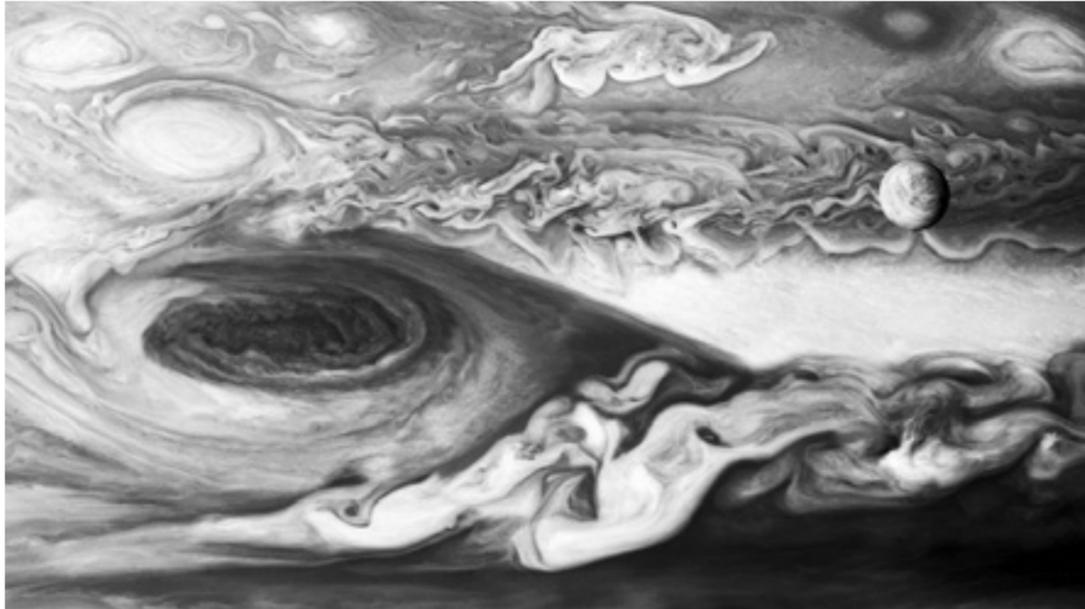
ASTRONOMY

The night sky of April

Professor Wayne Wooten

For April 2017, the Moon will be first quarter on April 3rd. The waxing gibbous moon passes two degrees north of Jupiter on March 10. The Full Moon, the Paschal Moon following the Vernal Equinox, is on March 12, and sets the following Sunday as the date for Easter this year. On Easter morning, the Waning gibbous moon is three degrees north of Saturn in the morning sky. The third quarter moon is April 19th, and the waning crescent moon passes five degrees south of brilliant Venus in the dawn sky on April 23rd. The moon is new on April 26th; only four more new moons until totality on August 21st! The waxing crescent moon passes six degrees south of Mars on April 29th.

Mercury is well placed for evening viewing as April begins, reaching greatest eastern elongation of 19 degrees east of the Sun on April 1st. But by the next week, it retrogrades into the sun's glare. Venus passed between us and the sun on March 25th, and quickly emerges into the dawn sky in early April. It reaches greatest brilliancy in the dawn at month's end. It appears as a very thin crescent in early April, but as it gets farther west of the Sun each morning, it shrinks in size but appears more fully lit. Mars is about to be lost in the Sun's glare, setting earlier in the SW each evening.



Europa photographed in front of the Great Red Spot on Jupiter.

April 2017 belongs to Jupiter. It reaches opposition on April 7th, with the bright star Spica in Virgo to the lower left of it. With a small telescope, its four largest Galilean moons are visible in a row around its equator. Our photo this month is a spectacular shot of the bright moon Europa coming onto Jupiter's disk while its black shadow is about to leave the opposite limb, and it is typical of the detail you can now get with smart phones at the eyepieces of many amateur scopes!

Saturn rises in the SE about midnight as April begins, and reaching opposition on June 15th. The ringed wonder is at its best in the

east north of bright red Antares in Scorpius, with brighter red Mars to the upper right of them. The most beautiful object in the sky. When viewed with a telescope, the rings are open 27 degrees and double the planet's disk brightness. This year Saturn is at summer solstice, with the rings most open. Note the big moon Titan and several smaller moons fall on either side of the most beautiful telescopic sight in the sky.

Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the northwestern sky. It is part of the pentagon of stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini. South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the southern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern

shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. The bright diamond of four stars that light it up are the trapezium cluster, one of the finest sights in a telescope. In the east are the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye.

To the northeast, look for the Big Dipper rising, with the top two stars of the bowl, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. Look for Mizar-Alcor, a nice naked eye double star, in the bend of the big dipper's handle. Take the pointers at the front of the dipper's bowl south instead to the head of Leo, looking much like the

profile of the famed Sphinx. The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star".

Now take the curved handle of the Big Dipper, and follow the arc SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of the spring sky. Recent studies of its motion link it to the Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy, a companion of our Milky Way being tidally disrupted and spilling its stars above and below the plane of the Milky Way, much like dust falling away from a decomposing comet nucleus. So this brightest star of Bootes the Bear Driver is apparently a refugee from another galaxy!

Now spike south to Spica, the blue-white gem in Virgo rising in the SE. Mars lies a little to the west of Spica in April, and is much brighter than anything else in the SE evening sky at opposition this month. Virgo is home to many galaxies, as we look away from the obscuring gas and dust in the plane of the Milky Way into deep space. To the southwest of Spica is the four sided Crow, Corvus.

To the ancient Greeks, Spica was associated with Persephone, daughter of Ceres, goddess of the harvest. She was abducted by her suitor Pluto, carried down to Hades (going to Hell for a honeymoon!) and when Jupiter worked out a compromise between the newlyweds and the angry mother-in-law, the agreement dictated Persephone come back to the earth's surface for six months of the year, and Mama Ceres was again placated, and the crops could grow again. As you see Spica rising in the SE, it is time to "plant your peas", and six months from now, when Spica again disappears in the sun's glare in the SW, you need to "get your corn in the crib"...so was set our calendar of planting and harvesting in antiquity. In the arms of Virgo is a rich harvest of galaxies for modern astronomers.

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Farmers' Almanac

"Here cometh April again, and as far as I can see, the world hath more fools in it than ever"

—Charles Lamb (1775–1834)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Fair and mild (1, 2) with showers and severe storms in the southern part of the region (3, 4); fair and cool (5, 6, 7, 8, 9) with more showers (10, 11, 12). Fair, windy, and cool (13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18) followed by periods of storms, some severe (19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27); fair and mild (28, 29, 30).

Tornado Watch: The Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack says be on the lookout for possible tornadoes coming from the southeast up to the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Full Moon: April's Full Moon will occur on Tuesday, April 11th. It has been referred to by many Native American tribes as Fish Moon because the fishing starts to improve as the weather warms up. It has also

been referred as Pink Moon because of the many pretty flowers displaying their bright pink hues as they bloom throughout the month.

Special Notes: April Fool's Day falls on Saturday, April 1st. Watch out for pranks and practical jokes that may be coming your way! Taxes are due on April 15th so be sure to get your taxes filed on time to avoid any penalties (and that nasty interest, too!). And never fear. If you cannot pay the full amount of taxes owed on the due date, you can request an installment plan to help spread the tax liability easily over several months. Earth Day is observed on Saturday, April 22nd. Call the Earth Day Network at 202-518-0044 or go to www.earthday.net for some interesting, fun, and easy activities that you and your family can do that will help promote a healthier relationship with Mother Earth!

Holidays: Palm Sunday falls on April 8th in 2017. Good Friday follows on April 14th and Easter is celebrated on Sunday, April 16th.

The Garden: Now is the time to do some serious Spring "cleaning" in the garden. Trim back dead foliage and gather up winter's detritus, such as small branches and excess leaves. Trees and shrubs like Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Spiraea, and Viburnums planted, if planted now, will provide some beautiful late Spring color. Set out annuals and other perennials now. Cool season vegetables, such as spinach, lettuce, peas, broccoli, cauliflower, and beets can be planted as soon as the soil can be worked. A good test of "soil readiness" is to take a handful of soil and squeeze it. If it remains in a ball, it's too moist and should be allowed to dry further. If it crumbles, start planting!

Gruber's Thought For Today's Living

"A true friend offers a helping hand without expecting thanks in return"

COMPUTER Q&A

Why can't I connect? A network troubleshooting guide

Ayse Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer

So, your internet is chugging along one day until suddenly you attempt to use the internet and you receive the dreaded "page can't be displayed" warning instead of the website you were trying to visit. Never fear! Before you take your computer to a repair shop there are a few basic troubleshooting steps that even the non-computer savvy can complete to try to resolve your issues first.

Restart your devices

More often than not, restarting your computer and your modem and router (if you have one) will resolve your issue.

To properly power cycle your devices follow the steps below.

Shut your computer down properly (always shut down by going to start > power > shut down).

Turn off your modem. Your modem is usually provided by your internet service provider and will usually have a phone line or coax cable running to it. To turn it off simply unplug power from the device until you no longer see any lights. If you still see lights after unplugging search for a backup battery that may be installed on the modem and remove that for 30 seconds and then replace it.

Once your modem is unplugged or turned off, if you have a router you will need to turn that off as well. If you don't have a router separate from your modem you can skip to step 4. If you have Wi-Fi extenders or repeaters you will want to turn those devices off now as well.

Now once your devices are off wait 30 seconds and reconnect power to your MODEM ONLY.

After 3-5 minutes your modem should be fully rebooted and you can plug in any routers and/or Wi-Fi extenders or repeaters that you are using.

Last boot up your computer again and try to re-connect to your network.

Consider software

Sometimes the problem isn't your internet connection at all and you may find that certain applications may work while others don't. Usually this is being caused by a firewall or antivirus application that is blocking the application you are trying to use. The best way to try to eliminate your firewall/virus protection as a suspect is by disabling it. Even disabling your antivirus may not work even if it is the cause and sometimes it may need re-installed. Other times your antivirus may require an update that requires a restart to make sure to try that step first.

Try another device

To determine if your network is the problem try another computer or

device on your network. If you can connect using another device on the same network the problem is most likely in the device itself. See the next suggestion for more troubleshooting tips if this doesn't resolve your issue.

Try another network

Like most electronic devices your modem or router can fail too. Try connecting your device to a friend, family member or neighbors network next. If you still can't connect then the problem is likely within your computer or device

Eliminating remaining possibilities

If you're still having trouble after doing the above troubleshooting and you can't pinpoint a specific device as the cause the next step would be to start eliminating the easiest possibilities and work your way to the harder more expensive possibilities. Software can be difficult to trou-

bleeshoot so if you can replace the hardware you could save yourself a lot of frustration by first replacing your equipment. Sometimes it can appear that a specific computer is the cause of a networking problem because it won't connect to a specific modem or router. We have found that failing modems/routers can sometimes work well with some devices but not others without explanation. Hotspots are not immune to these possible issues either and can be troubleshot the same way a modem or router would be.

Still not working? If your computer performed updates recently it may be a driver issue. If not, your wireless card or device may be failing. Either way at Jester's Computers we can diagnose your issue for just \$32.50 or less. We troubleshoot and repair most issues within 24 hours so why not bring your computer in for support. You can contact us at 717-642-6611.



For fast computer services from people you can trust contact Jester's Computer Services located at 5135 Fairfield Road Fairfield. Call us at 717-642-6611 or visit us at www.jesterscomputers.com.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Seton Center events

"Planning for Peace of Mind – An End of Life Planning" series at the Emmitsburg Senior Center, 300 South Seton Avenue. Bring an adult child with you and get entered to win a door prize. April 4, 6, 11, 13, 20 and 25 from 6 - 8 p.m.

"Credit Repair 101" with by Pam Bolin of PNC Bank. Has your credit taken a hit? Not sure how to get back on track? Register to join us for a no-nonsense workshop for tips and resources to build your credit health. April 18 from 1 - 3 p.m.

April 1

Reid's Winery and Cider House - Hard Cider and Donut Pairing. Please join us as we pair our craft hard ciders with delicious artisan donuts. This is a tasting with one of our cider makers who will talk about everything cider. Each guest will receive

a souvenir pint glass to take home, as well as exclusive event discounts. There are multiple time slots available. For more information call 717-334-7537 or visit; <http://www.reid-sorchardwinery.com>.

April 2

Destination ARTS hosts Drum Circle: West Main Street, Waynesboro. Patric Schlee invites young and old to join him for a drum circle at the co-op on Sunday. Bring in a drum or play one of ours! Students will be learning simple rhythms to play together. For more information call 717-762-8394.

April 4

Mother Seton School Young Authors Night. Come meet the next Hemingway or Beverly Cleary as our aspiring authors show off their literary talents. Visit www.mothersetonschool.org for more information.

April 7

St. Francis Xavier Parish's sixth annual Lenten Fish Fry at Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg. Dine In or Take Out. Adult, Children and Reduced Portions will be available. Children under 5 eat free. For more information call 717-334-4048 or visit www.stfccc.org.

April 7 and 23

The Land Conservancy of Adams County Art Auction held at The Parrot. Admission benefits the Land Conservancy's mission of preserving the rural lands and character of Adams County. In addition to the auction we'll also have lots of raffles and door prizes. There's also a First Friday reception at The Parrot on April 7, 4-6 p.m., where people can see the art that will be up for auction and meet the artists who created it. For more information call 717-334-2828.

April 8

Project Clean Stream at Hunting Creek at the Thurmont Community Park, 11 to 2. Help make this creek cleaner and safer place for our community! Project

Clean is coordinated by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. For more information contact Amie McDaniels-amiemcdaniels@gmail.com or Jim Humerick at 301-271-7313.

April 10

The Frederick County Commission on Aging's monthly meeting. We are interested in knowing your comments or concerns regarding the senior needs and services through out the county. For more information call 301-639-8518.

April 15

Carroll Valley Borough's Easter Egg Hunt for all kids 10 years of age and under. The Carroll Commons will be separated into 4 different age group hunting areas. This is a Free Event! Easter portraits with the Easter Bunny are being provided free of charge by our friends at AJ Photography! Before the event, the Fairfield Fire Company will be hosting a breakfast with the Bunny, from 8 - 10.30 am at the Fire Station.

April 20

Stitch and Chat at the Emmitsburg Library - Bring your current work in

progress or a new project for a get together with others who enjoy knitting, crocheting, cross stitch, embroidery, quilting, etc. All experience levels welcome. 2 - 4 p.m.

April 21

Grace United Church of Christ Basket, Pottery, Bags, & Cash Bingo. Attendees who bring one canned good for the Taneytown Food Bank will receive a free Senior Jackpot Card. All prizes are filled! The Bingo will be held at the Taneytown Firemen's Activities Building. Doors open at 5:30. Every seat requires a ticket. There will be food available for purchase. Games feature baskets, pottery, Vera Bradley and 31 bags and \$50 Cash Games as prizes and include Junior and Senior Jackpot games, door prizes and 50/50 Raffles. There is limited seating so please reserve early by calling 410-756-2898 or 410-756-2043.

April 22

Carroll Valley trout fishing derby at the Carroll Commons Park. All children 14 and under are invited to come out to Carroll Common Park with their fishing poles tackle boxes and bait and take part in the Carroll Valley fishing derby. There will be plastic goodie bags for each youngster and special handouts and souvenirs to go in the bags. There will be prizes awarded including rod and reel combos, vests, creels, etc. Pre-registration is strongly recommended but not required. Each participant is permitted to keep five fish. Catch and release is not permitted. For additional information call 717-642-8269 or email abell@carrollvalley.org

Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co. Auxillary
CASH BINGO
SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH
 Tickets: \$20 In Advance \$25 At the Door
 Doors & Kitchen Open At 11:30am - Games Begin At 1:00pm
 20 Reg. Games - \$50 • 2 Special Games - \$200 Each
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 Top of the Trees • Holder Jars • Door Prizes
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 & Info Call: **LINDA** at 301-667-1760

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BIG MONEY BINGO
SATURDAY, APRIL 22
MOTHER SETON SCHOOL
100 CREAMERY RD., EMMITSBURG
 Buy your ticket by April 7 & be entered to win \$50
 PROCEEDS help support Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Anthony Shrine, St. Anthony & St. Timothy's parishes high school youth to attend our Baltimore WorkCamp, a week long service trip where they repair the homes of those in need.
Advance Tickets: \$25 At the Door: \$30
 Doors Open At 5 p.m. - Games Start At 7 p.m.
 Ticket price includes an **ALL INCLUSIVE 9 PACK*** & SPAGHETTI DINNER from 5 - 6 p.m.
20 games pay \$100 each - 2 specials pay \$150 each
Winner-Take-All after intermission
"TWO \$500 JACKPOTS" (Fill the card)
TIP JAR GAMES FOR YOUR PLEASURE!
(MUST BE 18 TO BUY OR PLAY TIP JAR GAMES)
 OTHER FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE during games.
 Sandwiches, Nachos & Cheese, Desserts and PIZZA (by Mother Seton's own "Pizza Man")
 *LESS THAN 200 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE - We reserve the right to reduce the payouts.
BRING YOUR FRIENDS!
 For more information or tickets call:
 Parish Office 301-447-2367 or
 Patty Goff 301-271-4555 or John Dowling 301-271-4439

COME OUT & DRAW!
 Join your fellow artists for a wonderful session of figure drawing at
Thurmont's Main Street Center
 11 Water Street, Thurmont
Wed., Apr. 5th - 5 - 6 p.m.
\$10 Per Person
 Gnarly Arty will host an Open Studio drawing session with a fun & creatively costumed professional model.
 Bring your paper, pencil, charcoal, pastels, paints or Tablet.
 Lots of poses, lots to draw!

FREE Community Dinner!
 Trinity United Methodist Church, 313 West Main St., Emmitsburg,
 invites all residents of the Emmitsburg area to share a free meal and fellowship. There is no charge for these meals and we welcome your attendance.
April 26 & May 31, 2017
 Meals will be served from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
 Please call Merri Saylor at 301-667-6169 for more information.

Please Join Us!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Catoctin Mountain Park Spring Wildflower Walk. Park Ranger Becky Loncosky will lead a spring wildflower walk along the Brown's Farm Trail in the Owens Creek Picnic Area of Catoctin Mountain Park. The group will explore an easy 0.5 mile trail that meanders through several types of habitat. Ranger Loncosky will acquaint participants with the wildflowers that are blooming and explain why they grow in particular places and when they flower.

Thurmont Green Team Arbor Day tree planting at the Thurmont Community Park, 8:30 to noon. Over 40 various trees will be planted. We need your help! For more information contact Jim Humerick at 301-271-7313.

April 23
Music Gettysburg! presents Double Choir - Folkmer Psalms and More. The world premiere of Stephen Folkmer's Psalm Concert sung by the Schola Cantorum of Gettysburg and the Mt. St. Mary's Chorale, with soloists, strings, brass and organ. Plus plenty of other glorious choral masterworks for Double Choir and instruments. For more information call 717-338-3000 x2197

Catoctin Mountain Park - Wildflowers to Ferns. Park Volunteer Daryl Depres will introduce participants to the blooming flowers, captivating ferns, and other prominent vegetation along the Brown's Farm Trail in Catoctin Mountain Park. Meet at the Owens Creek Picnic Area. This program is free and open to the public.

Paint with Laura fundraiser hosted by Barkers 4 Blood Cancer benefiting the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Light

refreshments and all supplies included in the ticket price. Open to the public, all ages welcome, kid friendly activities will be planned. American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Lane Thurmont. Purchase tickets online, find the eventbrite link through www.facebook.com/paintwithlaura

April 29
South Mountain Creamery's Spring festival: Picnic on the Pasture, an outdoor, family-friendly festival where attendees can start with breakfast and stay through to a bonfire. Ticket includes cost of admission, parking, family activities, and one (adult/child) meal platter, good for either breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Additional food and snacks will be available for purchase. Activities include free tours of the farm, a petting zoo for kids, hayrides for everyone, live music, and fun farm exhibits, like ice cream churning and bee keeping. There will be a large farmers' market showcasing products from South Mountain Creamery, their partner Hometown Harvest, and several other local producers. For more information, call 410-708-5940

or email lori.sallet@smcdairy.com.
First Annual Spring Fest at the South Mountain Fairgrounds. Join us for wine tastings, a chili cook-off, food and vendors, a hot rod/antique car show and live music by "Don't Tell." Proceeds benefit the Adams County community and local charities. It's sure to be a great time for the whole family! For more information call 717-521-7891.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Center's Cash Bash. All proceeds benefit Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and St. Anthony Shrine Parishes. Doors open at 2 p.m. Tickets include food and refreshments. Music and entertainment. Games of chance and tip jars will also be available. For more information call 301-447-2367 or 301-271-4439

The Emmitsburg Heritage Day Planning Committee Tribute Show. An unforgettable night of classic music and entertainment tribute to three of the greatest performers ever: Elvis, Buddy Holly, and Dean Martin. The three celebrity tribute entertainers are guaranteed to make you laugh, smile, and

want to get back on the dance floor. The Tribute Show is being held at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Building, so tell your friends and make sure to come out to see the show, just remember to get your tickets soon because there are only 300 seats available. Tickets are available by calling 301-447-3797. BYOB and setups will be provided. Proceeds to benefit is the Heritage Day Fireworks Display.

April 30
Music Gettysburg! presents Gettysburg Children's Choir and Chamber Chorale. These area vocal ensembles, featuring students in grades three through twelve, go from strength to strength, combining the energy of youth with precision far beyond their years. For more information call 717-338-3000 x2197.

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Cash Bash
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(Only 500 tickets will be sold)

Saturday, April 29 - 3 - 8 p.m.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Center
103 Church Street, Thurmont, MD
All proceeds benefit Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and St. Anthony Shrine Parishes
Information call 301-447-2367 or 301-271-4439
Doors open at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$25.00 - includes food and refreshments
4 Drawings per hour

There is a winner every drawing - You can even win more than once!

1st Drawing - \$400 2nd Drawing - \$300
3rd Drawing - \$200 4th Drawing - \$100

8:00 P.M. GRAND PRIZE \$3,000.00
based on the 3-Digit MD Lottery Drawn at 8:00 p.m.
WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED IF NOT PRESENT

ALSO AVAILABLE: Games of Chance & Tip Jars

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT
ONLY ONE PERSON ADMITTED PER TICKET

Note - All tickets unsold will be offered for sale at the event. All unsold tickets will remain in the parish name! In case of inclement weather, the event and all drawings including the 8:00 p.m. MD State Lottery drawing will be held on the new date!

Vera Bradley
COACH

BINGO

Saturday April 1st

Treat yourself to a girls' night out!

TICKETS FOR 20 GAMES
Advance \$20 - At The Door \$25

Concessions For Sale!

Sponsored by: MSS Home & School Association
Mother Seton School
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MSS School Office
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Celebrate Easter at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

April 1 & 2 | Weekend Mass

April 9 | Palm Sunday

Reconciliation, 11 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel
Mass, noon at the Grotto Cave

April 14 | Good Friday

Reconciliation, 10:30 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel
Stations of the Cross noon, along the bronze Stations of the Cross on Corpus Christi Lane
Homily of the Last Seven Words, 1 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel
Liturgy of Good Friday, 3 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

April 16 | Easter

Sunrise Ecumenical Service, 6:30 a.m. in St. Mary's Chapel
Mass, 8 a.m. in St. Mary's Chapel
Reconciliation, 11 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel
Mass, noon at the Grotto Cave

(All activities will be moved to St. Mary's Chapel during inclement weather.)

April 23 | Divine Mercy Sunday

Reconciliation, 10 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel
Mass, noon in St. Mary's Chapel
Dedication, 1 p.m. Blessing and Dedication of the Divine Mercy mosaic memorial
Holy Hour and Confessions, 1:30–2:30 p.m.
Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

April 29 & 30 | Weekend Mass

The SPARC Festival | April 25 & 26

The festival is a campus-wide celebration of academic and artistic accomplishments of Mount students across numerous disciplines. This two-day event offers a wide variety of activities including talks, poster sessions, debates, exhibitions and much more!

Featured Speakers

Distinguished Faculty Address | Layton M. Field, Ph.D.

Where Have all the Babies Gone? Fertility Declines & the Science of Population Research.

Keynote | David Ginty, Ph.D.

How Do We Feel? An Exploration of the Sensory Neurons of Touch.

Knott Auditorium Wednesday, April 26, Field at 11:45 a.m. and Ginty at 4:30 p.m.

Visit msmary.edu/SPARC for a complete schedule of events.



Congratulations to Mount Men's Basketball, 2017 NEC Champions and Coach Jamion Christian, 2017 NEC Coach of the Year!



www.msmary.edu



University Calendar of Events

The Metromaniacs

Saturday, April 1, 8 p.m.

Sunday, April 2, 2 p.m.

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

The spring Mount Mainstage production is an adaptation of a 1738 French play. This modernized version captures the Neoclassical social satire of the original play, and at the same time mixes in traditional French bedroom farce with contemporary language and comic timing. All tickets are \$7.

How America Has Changed Since 9/11

Monday, April 3, 6 p.m.

Knott Auditorium

A 90-minute seminar intended to start the discussion of, rather than conclusively answer this important question. Panelists include Timothy Trainor, Ph.D., interim president Mount St. Mary's University, and the following Mount faculty members; Pratibha Kumar, Ph.D., assistant professor, department of communication, Tim Wolfe, Ph.D., director of human services, sociology and criminal justice, Bill Prudden, lecturer, department of history, and Tim Fritz, Ph.D., assistant professor, department of history as the moderator.

Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Tribute Wind Ensemble/Lab Bands/String Ensemble

Friday–Saturday, April 7–8, 7 p.m.

Knott Auditorium

Senior Theatre Projects

Thursday–Saturday, April 20–22, 8 p.m.

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour

Monday–Tuesday, April 24–25

Knott Auditorium

Doors open at 6 p.m., films begin at 7 p.m.. Different films shown each night. Ticket are \$16 in advance or \$19 at the door. Tickets available in the Office of Outdoor Adventures in the lower level of the McGowan Center, (next to Knott Auditorium). Email crux@msmary.edu for details.

MSMU Chorale at the Seton Basilica

Saturday, April 23, 7 p.m.

Seton Basilica

Around the Mount Triathlon and Running Festival

Saturday, April 29, 8 a.m.

Register at www.alumni.msmary.edu/triathlon

Elizabeth DiNunzio Memorial 5K Fun Run/Walk

Saturday, June 3, 8:30 a.m.

Register at www.alumni.msmary.edu/dinunziorun2017