

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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

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VHC presents three Hall of Fame Awards

The 135th Annual Banquet of the Vigilant Hose Company (VHC) was held on January 5 at the VHC Activities Building. As always, this year's banquet was well attended by members of the VHC as well as representatives from neighboring fire companies and municipalities. Each year the VHC selects one member to receive the company's highest award: the Hall of Fame Award. This award is presented to an individual(s) who has made lasting contributions to the department, community and the region. This year's Hall of Fame Award was presented to three honorary members: Bill Boyd Jr., Betty Ann Baker and Brooke Damuth (post humously).

Bill Boyd Jr. has been a member of the VHC department since 1990. After joining the VHC, Boyd extended his services to the administrative side of the department by becoming the Assistant Secretary beginning in 1991. The following year, he moved into the Secretary position, and then became Vice President from 1993-1994. For ten years from 1997-2007 Boyd served as a Board of Director and then in 2008 he became an administrative officer of the Board. Boyd remains to the present day serving as the

Assistant Treasurer for the department. Boyd has also assisted with the organization, preparation and execution of the VHC's Annual Spring Fling.

Boyd currently continues as an active firefighter in the department and continues to serve as a driver. The fire department affiliation is prominent in his family as his wife JoAnn and daughter Jen are both members of the VHC Auxiliary and his son, Matt, is an active firefighter that joined the company several years ago.

Betty Ann Baker was also honored as this year's Hall of Fame recipient. Baker has given countless hours and many years to the VHC. She joined the company in February 1988, and is a valuable asset to the Auxiliary as well as the department. Baker can be found helping at most Wednesday afternoon bingos and can be seen helping in the kitchen at many Friday evening bingos.

Recognition as outstanding members of the department seems to run in the family as multiple family members have been honored with this award already. Baker's late husband was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2001; her brother was inducted in 1998; her son-in-law,



Betty Ann Baker and her son-in-law Bill Boyd were this year's recipients of the VHC's Hall of Fame Award. Brooke Damuth was also inducted posthumously.

Frank Davis, who currently serves as the President of the fire department was inducted in 2002; her son-in-law, Bill Boyd Jr. was just inducted this year and the VHC Hall of Fame was established in honor of her late father in 1997. The affiliation is definitely prominent in this family as she, her daughters and her granddaughters are all members of the Auxiliary and her son, grandsons and several son-in-laws are members of the fire department.

The third recipient, Brooke Damuth, joined the VHC in 1949 at the age of 17. He was an active member of the VHC and one of his favorite things to do was work the booth each year at the Great

Frederick Fair. Damuth completed Basic Fire with the University of MD in May 1952 and then several years later in 1989, he completed the Professional Qualifications to become a Firefighter I on the National level. On October 25, 2002 the VHC and his family mourned the loss of Damuth, but his contributions to the department will always be remembered and celebrated.

All three recipients this year have served or are still serving the department with distinction. Members of the department and the community will always look upon their dedication and service to the VHC with the highest regard.

Mount Hope Maple Madness on its way

These cold winter days practically call for hot off the griddle pancakes smothered in fresh, warm maple syrup for hearty weekend breakfasts. Partner these delicious pancakes with local craft vendors and maple sugaring tours and you've got a morning full of fun for the whole family. Mount Hope Maple Madness has finally arrived!

Contrary to popular belief, the first sign of spring is not the appearance of a robin, but is noted as the running of sap through Maple trees, and currently Maple sugaring is kicking into high gear in this area. This year, Maple Madness will take place during the weekends of February 23 and March 2.

This annual event is a very important part of Strawberry Hill's year. The pancake breakfast helps to raise money for the environmental education programs, and offers an opportunity to open up one of the most popular group programs to individuals and families. Strawberry Hill serves more than 6,000 school children annually, providing important hands-on learning experiences. They work hard to keep field trip

fees low enough to be accessible by public schools, and fundraisers like Mount Hope Maple Madness are a means to that goal.

As discussed by Strawberry Hill naturalists, sugaring, the art of making maple syrup, has been practiced for thousands of years. Each season dozens of spiles, tubes, and buckets are used to collect maple sap. Countless hours are spent gathering from buckets and tending the evaporating pan as the sap condenses down into sticky, sweet syrup. It takes many gallons of sap to make a single gallon of syrup and people of all ages are invited to see the sugaring tradition brought to life by Strawberry Hill naturalists. You will learn how trees are tapped, view sap-collecting methods past and present, and see the boiling process that produces delicious maple syrup. This is a fantastic educational experience, with significant links to history, chemistry, geography, and – of course – ecology.

As always, the Pancake Breakfast at Camp Eder is offered between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; the cost for an adult is \$8, \$4 for a child, and children under 3 eat for free.

After breakfast, visitors can visit local art and craft vendors, then take a maple sugaring tour at Strawberry Hill from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tours leave Camp Eder, located at 914 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield, every 45 minutes, with the last tour leaving at 12 p.m. The cost is \$8 for an adult and \$5 for children. A "sweet deal" package is offered which includes breakfast and a tour. Tickets for this package are \$14 for adults and \$7 for children.

Mount Hope Maple Madness began more than a decade ago as a small pancake breakfast to raise money for environmental education. Over the years Strawberry Hill has been able to develop their maple-sugaring program and

build a strong connection with Camp Eder and as a result, the pancake breakfast has grown into a festival that serves hundreds of visitors each day. Be sure to stop by and enjoy a delicious and fun-filled morning!



Strawberry Hill Naturalist Nate Shank shows how to tap a Maple tree.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

MSMU welcomes two new on-campus facilities

More details were released in regards to the future health and wellness center located on Mount St. Mary's (MSMU) campus during the January Emmitsburg Town meeting. Don Shilling, Vice President of Ambulatory Services for Frederick Regional Health Systems (FRHS), and Simon Blackwell, MSMU's Chief Transformation Officer, were present to answer any questions in regards to this new facility in the works.

FRHS entered into a five-year contract with MSMU to support its mission to graduate ethical leaders inspired by a passion for learning. This new healthcare facility may not only contribute to this mission, but it has the potential to address the healthcare needs of citizens in the northern part of Frederick County.

The new facility plans to address the current and future needs of the university and the community. MSMU currently has needs in: Sports Medicine; Sports Nutrition and Athletic Performance Management; wellness services for the student population at no charge to the students; preventative wellness services for the employee population; healthcare for all students billable to the students' health insurer. Future needs of the Mount as discussed include: employee health care;

sports medicine for non-Mount athletic camps and events. Other community needs that have thus far been addressed are: pediatric, OB/GYN, geriatric care, transportation, access to health insurance/financial assistance.

Phase I of this project began last July and is expected to continue through September of this year. This phase includes: continuing services that support the athletic program as outlined in the existing Memorandum of Understanding; using existing MSMU location to support employee, seminarian, and student healthcare needs including acute care and outlined preventative health services. Phase II which is expected to begin in the fall, will include the transformation of on-site services into a multi-disciplined facility supporting the patient-centered medical home model of care and combining the MSMU and Community Health Center to include urgent and primary care, radiology, lab and physical therapy, chronic disease management, behavioral health.

This new 10,000 square foot facility is intended to serve the Mount population and the community. Blackwell noted that five locations have been discussed to construct this new center. The most viable options at the moment are on the North end

of campus, next to the athletic field and across from the campus cottages. Both locations would be convenient and easily accessible for students as well as safe to access.

Additionally, as a MSMU healthcare facility, the new center would follow the Catholic directives. A management/ethics committee would be formed to ensure the facility remains in compliance with the Catholic directives. No beginning of life or end of life issues would be handled at this facility.

In other MSMU news, a new student venue is in the works. The site development plan for the 5,200 square foot building was approved during the January 9 Frederick County Planning Commission meeting. The new venue will be located adjacent to existing residence halls on the southwest corner of John Walsh Way and Annandale road, and will provide a location for students to gather for events, work on group projects and engage in social activities.

The student venue would expand services to the existing student body, not directly increasing the student capacity of the school. Additionally, the building would be within walkable pedestrian access for the university and accessible from anywhere on campus. Three bike racks will be installed as well.

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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Letters to the Editor, notice of upcoming events, news stories, and interesting and creative articles are welcome and may be submitted via regular U.S. Mail to P.O. box 543, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, or by email to editor@emmitsburg.com.

Local businesses suffer from shutdown

As home base for FEMA and the National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg businesses seem to be suffering proportionally more than businesses in other communities due to the government shutdown. The loss of back-to-back paychecks of local Federal employees of FEMA resulted in them cutting back on everything from dining out to car repairs.

While many furloughed Federal employees suffered, the fact that they will be paid their lost wages does nothing for local government subcontractors

who will never recoup the wages they lost, nor local businesses who lost business during the shutdown.

Billy Kuhn, of His Place car repair, said: "I've seen a 30% drop off in business since the shutdown began." "I'd always get a few students from the Fire Academy who drove in for their classes having problems with their cars and drop them off while they were in class. But since all classes were cancelled, that business went away. In addition, a lot of regulars who work in D.C. would hitch a ride

with a friend and drop their cars off to be worked on in the morning, and pick them up on the way home. But since they did not go to work, that business dropped off as well."

For some businesses, the government shutdown formed the third leg of the "perfect band news trifecta." The shutdown happened at the same time Mount students headed home for their winter break, and the warm weather cut into the opening of the usually lucrative ski season traffic. As a result, businesses

who usually rely upon student skiers, such as local gas stations and the bars and restaurants, have seen business drop off markedly.

Lori Ott, of the Ott House, said her lunchtime business, which usually consists of workers from FEMA and the Fire Academy, was off by half. However, Lori said the good news is, "locals are filling the void. Word is spreading that the Ott House is no longer jam packed with Fire Academy students on wing night, and locals are coming in to treat themselves in a more relaxed environment." That said, Lori was quick to say she will be

"happy when the shutdown is over and things can get back to normal."

For those hit by the trifecta of bad news, the return of the Mount students and the cold weather of the last ten days has helped ease the pain. But that offers little solace to those who lost paychecks.

An estimated 4,000 Frederick County residents were furloughed by the federal government's partial shutdown.

While everyone is happy that the shutdown is over, all bets are off on what will happen with the three-week "truce" ends.

Emmitsburg news-briefs . . .

Town approves select timber harvest

The immediate select harvest of stand 5 within Emmitsburg's forested area is slated to occur this year. Commissioners voted to approve this select timber harvest due to oak decline and insect damage seen most prevalently within this particular area of the forest.

Michael Kay, representative of the Maryland Forest Service, will walk

through and mark any viable trees for sale. Only one stand will be harvested this year, but Kay estimates the town may receive upwards of \$60,000 from stand 5 alone. Within the next few years, as part of the town's adopted Forestry Plan, stands 6, 7, 8, 11 and 15 will also be harvested for trees in decline but viable for sale. In total, the town may receive \$223,000 worth of funds from future timber harvest.

In order to help ease the concerns of residents and Commissioners, town staff will ensure the contract states that any damage incurred to the trails by the logging company will be taken care of by that company.

Town approves MHAA Wayside exhibits

Emmitsburg's Board of Commissioners voted to approve the design and installation of three Wayside exhibits that will showcase the his-

tory of Emmitsburg during the January 7 town meeting. These first three exhibits are slated for placement on the square in front of the PNC Bank, and on the left-hand side of the Emmitt House.

The purpose of creating these signs is to provide a basic overview and orientation of Frederick's founding and development. Designers also wanted to show how Emmitsburg is, was and continues to be a nexus of commercial transportation and historical activity. These three signs will describe the history related to the square, the doughboy statue and the Emmitt House.

The total project cost for all three, approximately three-foot signs, is \$18,000. With a \$9,000 grant from MHAA, the town is responsible for providing the remaining \$9,000. \$6,850 will be a cash match from the town, and \$2,150 will be in-kind/staff time for research and installation. The long-term goal for this project is to create a historic walking tour for visitors and even residents of the town, as town staff hopes to install more signs of this kind in the future.

The signs will be installed this spring and a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at this time as well.

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FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

Adams County works on trail connection to GHT

Adams County's Healthy Adams Bicycle/Pedestrian, Inc. (HABPI) is in the beginning stages of establishing an off-road multiuse trail from Gettysburg to Emmitsburg. The over ten mile trail addition is still in the early stages of development, but is intended to start in Gettysburg, at the Visitor's Center for the Gettysburg National Military Park.

This multiuse trail will be part of the Grand History Trail (GHT), which is a 250+ mile loop trail that includes Gettysburg. The GHT connects Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. Back in 2009, a concept plan was put together by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy outlining the GHT. Trail planners and advocates realized that by connecting a num-

ber of existing trails, they could create a larger looped trail; so over half of the GHT is already done. However, it is up to local residents and municipal officials to complete the missing links in their jurisdictions. Currently, Adams County only has on-road components of the GHT, but is working on planning the off-road trails to connect to the GHT.

Various groups and organizations have been working on the establishment of the GHT. Meetings have been held with state officials from both Pennsylvania and Maryland and officials from Washington D.C., under the auspices of the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. Trail and bicycle advocacy groups have also been involved in the meetings and are working with local and state officials

to facilitate the continued development of this trail system. On the county level, county and local government officials are working to plan and develop trails that will be part of the GHT.

Before construction of new "connection" trail can begin, HABPI must go through a few steps, including a feasibility study, which must be initially completed. This study will contain recommended routes and cost estimates for designing and constructing the trail. However, the feasibility study will only plan the trail to the Pennsylvania/Maryland border since the funds are coming from the state of Pennsylvania.

In order to fully fund the feasibility study, HABPI partnered with the Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority (GARA) to seek

funding from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). HABPI was awarded a grant for half the cost, in the amount of \$30,000, of the feasibility study. In order to match the DCNR grant, additional funds were sought. HABPI received funds from the Adams County Green-space Grant Program, along with a grant from the Hoffman Trust, Destination Gettysburg, the Rotary Club of Gettysburg, Adams Electric Cooperative, Thrivent Financial, as well as numerous individual donors. A professional firm with expertise in conducting trail feasibility studies was contracted and preliminary work began in August.

An additional step that must be taken before trail construction can begin includes the acceptance of the trail route by all municipali-

ties along the route as well as the approval of property owners if the route should cross private property. Once the trail route is confirmed, funding must then be obtained to produce an engineering survey, which must be completed along the entire route. This study will produce detailed design documents with construction specifications and estimated costs.

Once all studies are complete funding must be obtained to construct the trail. According to Dennis Hickethier, President of HABPI, State and Federal grants would be sought from a variety of programs in order to bring this trail to fruition. Construction of the trail may be done in sections and could take 2-5 years to complete, depending on whether funding is available for the entire trail at one time or smaller sections at a time.

Borough updates Lake May emergency plan

As part of the five-year notice requirement, Carroll Valley Borough has updated the emergency plan for Section F (Lake May) Dam. Classified as a high-hazard dam by the Department of Environmental Protection, the borough had to create an emergency plan several years ago.

The Lake May dam is a 22-foot high, approximately 2,500-foot long earthen embankment recreation dam located adjacent to Toms Creek. There are approximately sixteen total buildings; one home, one agriculture structure and no businesses within the area subject to flooding from sudden dam failure. The Fairfield Regional Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for determining the dam's threat potential, and may initiate a warning and evacuation in case of emergency.

Back in 2013, about one-third of a gabion wall at Lake May collapsed into Toms Creek. Gabion walls consist of cells of wire "baskets" which contain rock fragments, and are generally used to control erosion of embankments located near streams or other water bodies. The gabion wall, installed more than a decade and a half prior to this event, protected an

embankment that served as part of the Lake May water impound. The embankment itself and the dam were not affected by the collapse. The collapse, luckily, posed no imminent threat to the safety of nearby residents.

An updated copy of this plan, including an inundation map noting areas in Carroll Valley Borough and Liberty Township subject to flooding in the event of failure, is available for public inspection at the Carroll Valley Borough office, Liberty Township Municipal office and Adams County EMS.

In other Borough news, Carroll Valley Borough's Police Chief Richard Hileman reported that crime in Carroll Valley saw a slight increase of 6.2% in 2018.

The Borough experienced a lot of small thefts last year, mainly out of unlocked vehicles, that unfortunately drove crime rates in the Borough up. This, however, seemed to be on par with surrounding areas, that also experienced an increase in these small vehicle thefts.

In 2018 the police department responded to 2,273 calls to service. He noted this as a 2% decrease in call volume from last year, when comparing core department calls. Some new calls, that were not pre-

viously tracked, were added in 2018, which made the statistics appear as though calls increased, but when comparing core department calls, the department did see an overall decrease. Of the calls that were received, a majority related to residents calling for information, either to report suspicious people or activity, or just notifying the police about a concern. Other calls included animal complaints, alarms, warrant searches and assistance to fire and EMS emergencies. Of these calls, there were 143 uniform crime reports, which was a 3% decrease from last year. Of these crime reports, 74 were filed as part 1, which is a 7% decrease from last year, and the remaining 69 reports were filed as part 2 minor offenses, showing a 1% increase.

The police report also showed that the criminal clearance rate for major crimes in the Carroll Valley Police Department is 70%, which is well over the state average of 31.2%. If the five Ski Liberty offenses were taken out of the equation, then the department is actually seeing a 75% clearance rate for major instances. As explained by Chief Hileman, crime related occurrences that take

place at Ski Liberty almost always involve a visitor from outside Carroll Valley committing crime, and then vacating the Borough. These crimes, therefore, become more difficult to trace and handle. Part 2 offense clearance rates stood at 71% in 2018, showing a 7.8%

increase from last year.

Additionally, the police report showed that DUI's were down from last year, however there was a 12% increase in traffic, non-traffic and ordinance citations; a majority of those citations were traffic related.

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THURMONT NEWS

Thurmont to install speed cameras

In an effort to help decrease driver's speed, Thurmont's Police Chief Greg Eyer proposed implementing a new program that would utilize speed cameras within the town's school zones. Thurmont's Board of Commissioners discussed this speed-monitoring program during their January 15 meeting.

As mentioned by Eyer, Thurmont's Police Department has received numerous complaints from residents, crossing guards and school personnel of speeding motorists within school zones. As much as the Police Department tries, the Department simply doesn't have enough time or manpower to monitor and enforce speeding within the school zones. "Utilizing speed cameras will provide more consistent enforcement," stated Eyer.

According to the State Highway Administration speed cameras can only be placed in a school or work zone; school zones, by definition, are designated as a one-half-mile radius around a school. The primary goal of utilizing the speed cameras is ultimately to ensure the safety of the children, residents and visitors to the area.

As part of the program, which is provided by Optotrafic, a citation will be issued if a vehicle is going twelve miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit. For the first 30 days of operation warnings will be issued to drivers who exceed the speed limit. Any driver cited will receive a maximum fine of \$40 and no points will be placed on the license. For each traffic citation, the town will receive \$28. The cameras would be in

use Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

According to Eyer, the program would come at no cost to the town, as it is a violator-funded system. Revenue generated from the speed camera would be obligated toward public safety, including street repairs, traffic signs, and public safety programs. Additionally, through Optotrafic, traffic studies can be conducted, necessary signage would be installed, and maintenance to the systems would be provided, at no cost to the town or the police department.

Although the speed cameras present what appears to be a positive solution to managing speedy drivers throughout the school zones, Commissioner Marty Burns stood

strongly opposed to utilizing them.

This seems to be a way of "using technology as big brother overseeing us," stated Burns. Burns believes that utilizing these cameras won't stop drivers from speeding, instead people will learn where the cameras are, slow down when approaching and then speed up as soon as they are out of range.

Burns also stood opposed to the idea of operating these cameras as late as 8 p.m.. "It's no longer a safety issue at that point," he argued, but more of a way to generate revenue.

Commissioner Bill Buehrer and Mayor John Kinnaird both stood on the opposing side of Burns, agreeing that the cameras would be a public safety initiative to reduce speeding through town.

Resident Jim Wilkins spoke during the public comment portion of the dis-

ussion stating that "any life you can save is worth any endeavor you put into it [however] these cameras are like cash registers on four wheels that doesn't promote anything but income." Another resident, Jay Churchill, stated that he believes that these cameras will not completely solve the problem, but they could reduce the issue of speeding.

After coming back to the January 29 meeting with a copy of the Optotrafic contract, the Mayor and Commissioners were prepared to take a vote. A motion was made to sign a one-year contract to place three speed cameras within the school zones at the Police Chief's discretion. The time of operation will be left open until 8 p.m. until the Chief sees it appropriate to change it. The town will re-evaluate the program at the end of the one-year contract.

New pavilion coming to Community Park

Thurmont's Board of Commissioners voted to approve the installation of a third pavilion in Community Park during the January 22 meeting. With the help of a Project Open Space (POS) Grant, more members of the community will be able to utilize the new pavilion for special events, reunions, and gatherings.

Thurmont received a POS Grant in the amount of \$90,810 for the installation of this third pavilion. Residents of Thurmont heavily utilize the two existing pavilions within Community Park, and often times town staff

have to "turn away" interested groups from renting the facilities due to the high demand. The addition of this third pavilion will hopefully allow more residents to enjoy the park during the busiest time of the "park season."

Town staff recommended accepting the bid from Playground Specialists, who they have contracted with many times in the past, in the amount of \$79,974. The third pavilion will be an all steel structure, constructed west of the basketball court, measuring 60 feet by 30 feet. This pavilion will be the same size as the

large pavilion already located in Community Park. This bid does not include picnic tables for the pavilion, however, they can be purchased through a separate competitive bid in the future with the remainder of the POS Grant funds received for this project. As part of the POS grant, the town is responsible for funding 25% of the balance of this project.

The Board accepted the bid from Playground Specialists. Chief Administrative Officer, Jim Humerick, stated that they hope to have the structure up and available for use by July 4.

Thurmont's Board of Commissioners also voted to approve the installation of the next phase of lights along the trolley trail during an earlier January meeting. The first phase of lights was installed between East Main Street and Park Lane. Town staff applied for and received another POS Grant in the amount of \$17,640 to complete phase 2 of this project this year. The second phase runs from Park Lane to Water Street.

Three bids were received for the purchase of nine lights total. Catocin Lighting came in with the lowest bid at \$13,230; Scott Electric bid \$17,669; and Winsupply out of Frederick bid \$18,750.

Town staff recommended Catocin Lighting, the lowest bidder, as they have used this company in the past with success. As Humerick mentioned to the Board, there is approximately \$4,400 left and if the Board should choose, they could spend the remaining amount on three additional lights to utilize the full grant funds now.

The Board unanimously accepted the bid from Catocin Lighting, including the purchase of three additional lights. The twelve lights will be installed 120 feet apart on the same side of the road as the lights in the first phase. Once purchased, town staff will install the lights.

Thurmont news briefs. . .

Thurmont businesses named "Best of the Best"

Each year the Frederick News Post opens up nominations for their Annual "Best of the Best" which covers fourteen business categories. There are several rounds of voting until only three businesses are left in each category. In 2018, several Thurmont businesses or destinations brought home the crown and the title, "2018 Best of the Best!" Congratulations to the following businesses or destinations for winning this year!

- Best Camping: Cunningham Falls State Park
- Best (non-food) Place for a 1st Date: Cunningham Falls State Park

- Best Orthodontist: Dr. John Moles, Gateway Orthodontics
- Best Landscaping Company: Hawkins Landscaping Inc.
- Best Tree Cutting Service: Baker Tree Services Inc.
- Best Wine Drink: Springfield Manor Winery Distillery Brewery
- Best Wedding Venue: Springfield Manor Winery Distillery Brewery

Additionally, the Office of Frederick County Economic Development named the Top 50 CEO's in Frederick County in November 2018. Helen Prophet, Director of Frederick County Economic Development stated that, "Freder-

ick's Top 50 CEO list recognizes outstanding leadership in Frederick County. Last year we recognized our Top 50 Businesses and this year we've focused on inspiring leaders."

The final list included criteria based on the CEO's individual responses on number of employees, tenure with the company, company's turnover rate, company's median salary, number of nominations the CEO received and the CEO's involvement in the community. Two Thurmont businesses' CEO's were included in this list: David Hawkins Jr. of Hawkins Landscaping Inc., and Jeff Barber of Playground Specialists Inc. were named in the 2018 Top 50 Frederick County CEO's.

Catocin Historical Society's "In Their Own Voices"

In commemorate Black History Month, on Feb 27, students from Silver Oak Academy will present scenes from "Spirits of the Furnace" and serve food prepared from traditional Catocin Furnace recipes.

For a little over half a century, black enslaved workers comprised a substantial part of the workforce at Catocin Furnace. These workers were involved in every aspect of life in the village: some worked in the ironmaster's manor house, some worked in the vineyards and fields of the furnace owners' farms, and many worked in the furnace as miners, blacksmiths, colliers, founders, and forgers. By the second quarter of the nineteenth century, it became more economi-

cal to hire free labor than to maintain a slave population, and, by the middle of that century, the number of enslaved workers in the village had declined sharply.

Actors from Silver Oak Academy will portray young workers and servants in vignettes based on actual events in the village. The enslaved butler at the ironmaster's mansion will discuss preparations for the meal and describe his job in the 'big house,' which includes overseeing wine pairings and proper table settings and service.

This event will take place in the parish hall of Harriet Chapel, and is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit www.catocinfurnace.org or call 443-463-6437.



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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

February 1919

February 7

Organization Formed For Fairfield Highway

The Adams County Chamber of Commerce has voted hearty cooperation to attain a satisfactory permanent road between Fairfield and the Waynesboro Pike. The idea is to work with the newly formed West End Good Roads Association and, by united effort; it is proposed to ascertain the desired results.

Fountaindale Band Reorganized

The Fountaindale Band met on Tuesday night and reorganized as follows: Charles Warren, President; John Warren, Vice President; Peter Sites, Secretary; Joseph Carson, Assistant Secretary. The band intends to hold concerts on a monthly basis in the local fire hall.

Lieut. Eyler Died In Motor Truck

Lieut. Edger Eyler, of Thurmont, who was picked up off the battlefield on September 29 wounded and singing, "There is a Long, Long Trail," died on the way to the hospital. A friend wrote his family: "I met a medical officer from another outfit who dressed his wounds and placed him on a truck en route to the hospital. At the time Ned was wounded the roads were very congested and ambulances had difficulty in getting to the front. Every available conveyance, trucks, wagons, &c. were used in the evacuation of the wounded. After being dressed, Ned was placed in a truck and started for a hospital. I knew that his wound was serious but hoped that his vitality was sufficient to carry him through. He died on the way to the hospital and the message he sent to his parents was probably written while on the truck and given to the driver for mailing."

February 14

Husband And Wife Dead

Lawrence and Ella Gillelan died on their farm just outside of Emmitsburg last week, victims of the Spanish Influenza. Mrs. Gillelan died Wednesday night, after an illness lasting only a day and a night. Mr. Gillelan died Friday,

two days after his wife, without having been told of her death, on account of his extreme illness at the time. Three small daughters, aged ten, seven, and three years survive them. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gillelan were of the same age, 34 years. A double funeral will be held in Emmitsburg on Sunday afternoon.

Confirms News Of Soldier's Death

Rev. and Mrs. Firor, of Sabillasville, Pastor of the Reformed Church, have been officially notified that their son, Carl, was killed in action on October 2. The family learned last month that another son, Paul, died of the influenza while at Fort Harrison. Up until the past week, the family of the young soldier had hoped that he was still alive. Letters had been forwarded to him, but were returned unopened. The Red Cross was appealed to assist in locating him. They found that he had been killed in action.

Civil War Veteran Dies

John Alexander Rockwell, of Hamiltonban Township, died at his home on Monday, aged about 76 years. He was a veteran of the Civil War, had always been a staunch Democrat and was elected and served a term as a Director of the Poor of the County. His interment was in the Fairfield Union Cemetery.

February 21

Shoots Through Door At Husband

Discharging the contents of a shotgun at her husband through a closed door, when he returned to their home in Harney Wednesday evening, Mrs. Frank Kaiser inflicted wounds which will prove fatal or else result in his being a mental wreck for the remainder of his life, according to the physicians in attendance.

The home life of the Kaisers had not been entirely serene, it was said, and it was about seven o'clock when Kaiser returned home. He was a huckster and traveled extensively about that section. After he entered the house and approached the door leading into one of the rooms, Mrs. Kaiser fired a shot, which went through the panel, a large portion of the charge lodging in the

left temple. The gun was fired at close range; so close that she would have blown her husband's head off had the door not intervened between them.

The wife went next door to the nearest neighbor to tell them what had occurred and to ask that some men be summoned to take charge of the badly wounded husband. Two physicians were called, Dr. Elliot of Harney, and Dr. Benner, of Taneytown. They worked with the patient for the greater part of the night.

Mr. Kaiser is a man past middle life. Reports in the vicinity of Harney say that his wife had accused him of unfaithfulness and that this was the reason for her action. They have one son, who is with the American Expeditionary Force in France. No legal action has yet been taken.

No Road From Fairfield To Waynesboro

No encouragement was given to the committee of men from the West End Good Roads Association who visited the State Highway Commissioner on Tuesday, in an effort to get action on a road from Fairfield to the Waynesboro Pike. They were told that during the next three years only one road was to be built, so far as Adams County was concerned, and that the only way the Fairfield Road could get attention was by the state aid plan which, in turn, would be possible only by bonding the Township through which it passes for the construction of a highway costing \$30,000 a mile. The Highway Commission said that roads will now be made of concrete, that they were to be permanent and would require little to no maintenance.

February 28

Last Rites For Murdered Harney Man

A large number of people attended the funeral of Frank Kaiser at his home in Harney Monday morning. His wife, who fired the shot that killed him, accompanied the funeral cortege to Taneytown where interment was made.

Mrs. Kaiser spoke freely of the long strain, which she had undergone for many months, alleging that her husband had been under the spell of another woman living in the same neighborhood of Harney. She report-



edly told the officers investigating the shooting: "I could not stand it any longer, and had to do something. Three weeks ago, as he sat at the table, I shot him with a revolver. The ball went through his coat collar and struck his collar button. I told him that the Lord had spared him that time, and that ought to be a warning. He did not run after her [the woman he allegedly was having an affair with]; she ran after him. I think she must have put a spell on him, for it did not stop. Yesterday she walked up and down on the other side of the street in front of our home. She made signs. I saw Frank waving as if to make a signal to her, and then he drove away. I thought he had gone with her, for I did not see her afterwards. I waited for him to come home and when I heard him put the horse in the stable I took the gun and stood inside the kitchen door and shot him when he entered."

Casualties Still Coming In

Over three months have passed since the armistice was signed, but the one fact remains - Frederick County casualties in the daily casualty list still mounts. In yesterday's list was Charles Sherrer, of Emmitsburg, who was listed as being wounded in action. From what could be gathered last night, Sherrer is at Camp Meade now awaiting his discharge. His wife, it is said, was at the camp with him. He left Emmitsburg for training in September 1917, and embarked for France during the middle of summer. Sherrer was wounded in the early fall.

Summerlike Storm In Heart Of Winter

The first real thunderstorm of the season, accompanied by rain, hail and lightning occurred throughout the northern part of the county on Thursday. The storm followed up unusual humidity for this season of the year. Between three and four o'clock heavy black clouds gathered in the Northeast and occasional flashes of lightning indicated that a midwinter storm was approaching. It broke in the vicinity of Emmitsburg and moved rapidly over Thurmont. Shortly before eight o'clock rain fell in torrents accompanied by heavy hail.

There is a tradition that the first storm of the season indicates the direction that the majority of the storms will follow. If this holds, heavy downpours next summer may be expected from the northwest. It is generally taken that the first real thunderstorm is the turning point towards spring and it is now felt that the backbone of winter has been broken.

Weather conditions this winter, thus far, have been unusually mild. Robins and bluebirds have made their appearance, and other harbingers of spring are far in advance of the season this year. This day last winter all the roads in the county were snowbound. For two days a force of men shoveled drifts from six to eight feet deep to open the state road between Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg.

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

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

February is Black History Month. Groundhog Day is February 2nd. February 14th is Valentine's Day. It is a day to take pause to remember loved ones. Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers or other special guy, you are invited to spend a semi-formal evening full of music, dancing, food, and fun with the special girl in your life. Mark your calendar for the 5th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance – Ties & Tiaras scheduled for Saturday February 16th at the Fairfield Fire & EMS Banquet Hall. Cost is \$35 per couple and \$10 for each additional child. Seating is limited. To register go to <https://cvdaddydaughter.eventbrite.com> or call the Carroll Valley Borough Office at 717-642-8269. Hope to see you there

Congratulations to Cameron Bream for being awarded the highest rank of Eagle Scout. Cameron, who

is currently a Biology major at Drexel University in Philadelphia, built two black soldier fly food composting bins for Camp Eder in Fairfield. The bins are located off the kitchen at Camp Eder for composting of food waste. Black soldier flies are naturally drawn to the food in the bins, lay their eggs amongst the food, and larvae that hatch eventually crawl up a ramp and out a hole into a collection bucket. The larvae are then fed to ducks and chickens that are kept at the camp. Cameron earned 32 merit badges during his Boy Scout experience, including all the required merit badges for the Eagle Scout rank.

If you haven't done it yet, renew your dog license with the County at www.adamscounty.us. All dogs three months of age or older must be licensed in Pennsylvania. Annual licenses are \$8.50 and lifetime licenses are \$51.50. For dogs that

are spayed or neutered, the annual license is \$6.50 or \$31.50 for a lifetime license. Discounts are available for senior citizens and owners with disabilities. Under Pennsylvania law, owners who fail to license and/or immunize their dogs could face fines up to \$300 per violation for each dog. Cats are not required to be licensed. They must have a great lobbyist in Harrisburg — I guess.

A federal law called "REAL ID ACT" was enacted in 2005 and will be fully implemented on Oct 1, 2020. REAL ID established the minimum-security standards for license issuance and identification cards that would be required to gain access to federal facilities and boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft. While the enforcement date is 2020, Pennsylvania is initiating issuance of REAL IDs beginning March 2019. If inter-

ested, you can acquire a REAL ID driver's license at any PennDOT Driver License Center starting this coming March at a \$30 one-time cost. Visit the PennDOT website to review what documentation you need when applying for a REAL ID license. You do not need a REAL ID driver's license to drive, vote, apply for or receive federal benefits, enter a federal facility that does not require an ID check or participate in a law enforcement proceeding or investigation. For more information, visit www.tsa.gov.

Veterans Alert! Are you aware of the Pennsylvania Veterans Registry? It is an online application that allows veterans, family members and people who work with veterans to connect with the Pennsylvania Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (DMVA) to request information related to the valuable state benefits, programs and services offered. You can also sign up for the weekly DMVA Digest to keep

abreast of the latest breaking news and other updates regarding veterans. If interested, go to www.dmva.pa.gov for more information.

The Carroll Valley Borough is seeking individuals who are interested in joining a Borough Committee and sharing your knowledge and expertise that will benefit our community. There are two vacancies on the Planning Commission, one vacancy on the Tire Board and one vacancy (alternate position) on the Zoning Hearing Board. If interested, please call our Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary 717-642-8269 on how to apply. Borough meetings in February are: Planning Commission (Feb 4th), Tree Board (Feb 7th), Borough Council (Feb 12th), Public Safety (Feb 25th), and Parks/Recreation Committee (Feb 27th). The Borough office will be closed on Monday, February 18th. If you have any questions call me at 301-606-2021 or email MayorRonHarris@comcast.net.

State Representative Dan Moul

Last month, I reported that now in my seventh term in office I had finally gained the seniority needed to be appointed chairman of a House committee. Those appointments have been made and I am pleased to report that House leaders have named me chairman of the House Local Government Committee for the 2019-20 Legislative Session.

This committee positions me to address bills governing municipal codes and pensions, tax assessments, municipal authorities, planning and zoning, the powers and duties of local officials and more.

The work of the House Local Government Committee touches all of us where we live and work. It reviews legislation that would amend the municipal codes under which Pennsylvania's 2,500 local government units operate.

This may include legislation related to local government purchases, real estate assessment policies and pensions for municipal police officers. The committee also works closely with the Local Government Commission, a bipartisan legislative service agency that provides research assistance on issues pertaining to local governments.

Numerous bills have already been submitted for consideration by my committee and I look forward to the review process. As chairman, I also plan to take a closer look at the Susquehanna and Delaware River Basin commissions and hold them accountable for the exorbitant fines and fees they charge our communities and the taxpayers who must foot the bill.

The intensive work required to chair a committee means I will no longer be able to serve on multiple committees as

I have in the past. I previously served as vice chairman of the House Children and Youth Committee, which was a particularly rewarding experience in the aftermath of the Sandusky child sex scandal. The work of our committee resulted in several new laws to protect children from abuse and increase penalties for perpetrators of these crimes.

Last session, I also served as a member of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Game and Fisheries and Tourism and Recreational Development committees. As state representative of the district that includes the Gettysburg battlefields and related historic sites and attractions, I am thrilled that House leaders reappointed me to serve another term on the House Tourism and Recreational Development Committee.

To stay up to date on committee news and my legislation, please sign up

for my weekly email updates at www.RepMoul.com. As always, I welcome my constituents to call 717-334-3010

or stop by my office at 30 W. Middle St., Gettysburg, with any questions or concerns.

State Senator Rich Alloway

There comes a moment in every person's life when they realize it is time to move on to other endeavors. After serving in the Pennsylvania Senate for the past 10 years, I recently announced that I am retiring at the end of February to explore new career opportunities.

As I look back upon the previous decade, I am filled with mixed emotions. Although much work remains to be done in order to give Pennsylvanians the state government they truly deserve, we accomplished a great deal together, both legislatively and in terms of local projects completed.

Upon taking office in 2009, one of my first priorities was to represent sportsmen and protect the Second Amendment. One of my earliest pieces of legislation helped establish the Castle Doctrine in Pennsylvania to ensure responsible gun owners would not face legal consequences when they act in self-defense if threatened by an attacker in their home or vehicle.

As Chairman of the Senate Game and Fisheries Committee, I heard many serious concerns about the risks and dangers associated with Lyme disease. After several years of strong advocacy, the state's 2018-2019 budget included \$2.5 million to support awareness, prevention and surveillance of tickborne illness.

Cutting costs and saving taxpayer dollars were goals throughout my tenure. I closed my office in Waynesboro because I felt it was underutilized. I never accepted per diems, and I supported legislation every session to reform the state's broken reimbursement system. Also, every year I fought against proposed tax increases and voted for fiscally responsible state budgets.

In addition to representing the best interests of our community, it also became apparent to me that our furry family members needed a stronger

voice in Harrisburg. With the support of an army of volunteers and animal advocates throughout the state, I was proud to lead the Senate in passing Libre's Law, which strengthened penalties for animal abuse.

I also worked to promote clean water and a healthy environment as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Delegation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, successfully fought for the elimination of inheritance and realty transfer taxes to help family farms and small businesses, and ensured dedicated funding for critical agriculture programs was preserved.

One of my highest priorities from Day One was to ensure that state tax dollars were brought home for economic development and infrastructure projects in the 33rd District. As a result of the efforts of numerous members of the community, tens of millions of dollars worth of projects were completed with financial support from the state, including road and bridge improvements, wastewater and stormwater management upgrades, community and recreation projects, tourism investments and many other public projects.

None of these legislative and local accomplishments would have become a reality without the dedicated efforts of so many community residents who took the time to advocate for the causes that were close to their hearts. The people of Adams, Cumberland, Franklin and York counties served as a guiding light throughout my tenure in the Senate, and I am eternally grateful for their support and guidance.

I never took the trust that you placed in me for granted, and I deeply appreciate the amazing opportunity to serve you since 2009. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for allowing me to be your voice in Harrisburg, and may God continue to bless you and your families in the years ahead.



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35 Blue Spruce Tr., Fairfield, PA - 0.5 ac., Ranch section or Carroll Valley, perc failed..... \$5,000	<p>← LOTS FOR SALE → UNDER CONTRACT!</p>	64 Meadowlark Tr., Fairfield, PA - 0.92 ac., well req., perc appr., close to ski & golf resort..... \$27,900
6 Shirley Tr., Fairfield, PA - 0.52 ac., sand mound, 1,353 sq. feet. Beautiful lot..... \$5,900	Pumping Station Rd., Fairfield, PA 22.28 beautiful wooded ac., near historic Gettysburg, skiing & golf..... \$189,900	12 Snow Plover Tr., Fairfield, PA - 0.52 ac., public sewer, in Carroll Valley near skiing & golf. Nice lot, well priced..... \$11,000

GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE BORDER

County Commissioner Marty Qually

Specialist Program; Peer to Peer Recovery Support Services such as Telephone Recovery Support and Recovery Coaching; Peer-facilitated Support Groups; Educational activities like vocational enrichment, computer lab, parenting, life skills, and Adult Education classes; Family Interventions; Family programs; and Positive social activities such as dances, dinners, breakfasts, cook-outs, holiday events, family game nights, recovery idol competitions, and karaoke nights

The Mercy house will have a positive impact on the utilization of Drug and Alcohol services. The Mercy house will not be utilized in place of clinical care. Providing appropriate services to those in need of help for the appropriate duration of time saves lives and resources in all areas of our society. Through involvement with the Mercy house individuals, families, and communities can gain access to recovery-focused services and support that will increase successful treatment completion rates, promote early re-engagement for those who have relapsed, and provide pathways to recovery for individuals not in need of clinical treatment services.

Services provided at the Mercy house will not replace, but rather will augment and compliment the

focus of treatment, outreach, engagement and prevention to assist people in recovery to gain the skills and resources needed to implement, maintain and sustain long-term recovery. As such, staff members at the Mercy house will make appropriate referrals to treatment providers when necessary. Mercy house services can occur in tandem with outpatient substance abuse and/or mental health treatment. For those participants in need of a more intense level of care, Mercy house services will be available to them as is deemed appropriate by the other service provider(s), and upon participant completion of the other program(s). Participants involved in the services at the Mercy house will be exposed to and encouraged to become involved in, other forms of recovery support, such as: 12-Step meetings (NA, CA, AA), faith-based recovery programs, medication assisted recovery, etc. Participants involved in programming at the Mercy house will receive services separately, independently, and in addition to any other services they may choose to access or be involved in.

The Mercy house will be a central place where individuals in recovery can participate in recovery support services, trainings/workshops, self-help groups and social activities in an environment

conducive to recovery. Recovering individuals can come together at the Mercy house to gain knowledge, learn new skills, socialize and expand their network of support. The Mercy house will offer an environment conducive to growth and change where individuals will learn how to transition into community life. At the Mercy house, people in recovery develop and implement peer-run programs that can supplement existing services offered through formal treatment systems, thus expanding community-based resources available to those in recovery. The will have ample space and rooms available to accommodate more than one service being offered at the same time.

Most programs and classes at the Mercy house will take place during normal business hours, however, in the evenings the Mercy house will become a communal spot for recovering individuals to find a safe haven. The Mercy house will provide a positive social environment where individuals will be able to find camaraderie, support, and relaxation. Participants will learn that they can have fun in recovery. The Mercy house will be stimulating and enriching at the same time, providing respite from the streets and an atmosphere of recovery at all times.

A community room equipped with coffee pots, vending machines, tables and chairs, pool table and other gaming equipment will be open and supervised every evening. There will also be A.A., N.A. and other 12-Step support groups holding meetings in segregated areas of the Mercy house during evening and weekend hours.

The Mercy house will not be a clinical program where recovering individuals are expected to follow treatment plans, receive counseling, etc. Instead, the Mercy house will be a peer-run program of choice offering community-based, peer-driven, non-clinical programs and services in a consumer-friendly environment. The same individuals who come in search of support will also support others and assist in project activities. The Mercy house will fill a unique and vital role in the addiction treatment system and surrounding communities. For a fraction of the cost of formal treatment services, the Mercy house will provide a supportive environment for recovering individuals who might otherwise resort to active substance use or other self-defeating behaviors.

The Mercy house will thus become a cost-effective means of offering community-based services and support to those in recovery at times when clinical

cal treatment services may not be readily accessible (evenings and weekends) or cannot offer the length of stay necessary to achieve and sustain recovery. The Mercy house will provide empowerment – something that clinical services cannot. By planning and directing Mercy house activities, individuals in recovery will learn practical lessons about planning, budgeting, employment and other aspects of being productive members of society.

Also, staff at the Mercy house will assume a peer status role that allows recovering individuals to develop a sense of responsibility/self-worth that will support personal growth and long-term recovery. Rather than focusing on treatment of addiction, the Mercy house will stress personal values of recovery and assist individuals in establishing a foundation that supports living a recovering lifestyle. The Mercy house will also provide important information, resources and referral services to those in need. Staff at the Mercy house will gather/disseminate information on AOD issues, treatment programs, 12-Step Programs, recovery housing/sober living, advocacy and a multitude of community-based services that can enhance the recovery process.

If you have any questions about the Mercy house or substance abuse services in our community, please contact me at mqually@adamscounty.us.

County Commissioner Candidate David Bolton (R)

I have always been mindful to keep my words directed towards facts of the matter, avoiding the archaic rhetoric of defamatory campaigns. It has always been more important to me to preserve my dignity, mind my tongue and keep my character from derision. I believe one should be evaluated on their performance and not the intimacies of their private life. As such, I offer for consideration this assessment of claims being made by our incumbents for re-election.

To this evaluation, I offer 30+ years of successful business management experience. Having been awarded by employers for outstanding performance in areas related to profit pass-through (or cost savings), I have always demonstrated a propensity to put (or keep) as much revenue as possible on the bottom line. After the 2015 Commissioner's race, I strengthened these skills through education; acquiring certification as a Municipal Administrator through the PA DCED, collecting over 90 credits towards Certified Borough Officials designation through PA State Association of Boroughs, amassing 95 credits in two semesters towards my Bachelor of Science, Business Management degree and then achieving a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in just 15 weeks, all possible through my training and understanding of business principles. The Abbottstown Council can attest to my proven fiscal prowess as Municipal Administrator.

The incumbents have claimed several victories over their 7 years in office, namely; the Radio System, the Health & Human Services Building and the county bond rating. Most recently, the staffing of the county prison was touted as a success. We have also heard

about the self-insured healthcare issue at the courthouse. Consider the following evaluation based on the principles of Fiscal Conservatism.

The incumbents' predecessors had already studied the need for a new radio system and paved the way for the project. That Board planned to sell off the Green Acres facility and put \$5M into county reserves, ultimately leading to the county's bond rating improvement. This improved rating provided affordable funding to build the system. When the current Board took control, they completed this plan.

The project's budget was administered by the current Board: \$25.1M

quoted as the starting budget, \$27.2M was the final cost.

The Health & Human Services Building's budget was \$8.3M capped at the start and \$10.8M currently.

The county controller was quoted as saying losses from 2016 in the self-insured healthcare coverage is "under \$1M". Litigation pending?

How much in excess overtime has the county prison experienced the past several years due to lack of staffing with a Commissioner serving as Chair of the Prison Board?

The last time this Board ran for re-election, they set their department budget at \$1.5M. The proposed 2019 Commissioner's department operating

budget is set at \$2.2M; that's 147% of their 2015 offering.

What of the proposed Mercy House project? In light of the above information, do you want the same Board administering that project's costs or do you want an educated, experienced and proven administrator overseeing your tax dollars for the next four years? "What could you have done better?"

A 2018 financial report to Abbottstown Council showed:

- 113.9% budget for General Fund revenues and only 89.4% budget for expenses.
- A renegotiated contract for electric generation and monitoring produced 25% less consumption

and 21% cost savings.

- Fuel saw 41% less consumption and 39% cost savings.
- 33% budget savings for Solicitor services; 17% savings from Engineer services; 33% savings for advertising/printing; 57% savings on Code Enforcement (with better results); 70% savings for postage.

All of this was accomplished in my first year as Administrator using best practices and knowledge gained through my education of municipal matters.

For more information on my candidacy visit www.DavidWBolton.org.

RE-ELECT

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FROM THE DESK OF...

County Notes

Handle with Care Maryland

On January 22, the Frederick County launched a program that provides a quick and efficient way for law enforcement and emergency medical services to alert school personnel that a student was present at a traumatic incident.

“Our community’s future prosperity lies with our children, but traumatic events impact a child’s life in a negative way,” commented Executive Gardner. “I’m proud to say that Frederick County is on the leading edge in taking an innovative approach to helping these children who face toxic stress. It takes a village, and this is a village coming together to take care of our children.”

Emergency responders trigger the Handle with Care program when someone under 18 years old is affected by a violent or traumatic incident. Law enforcement or EMS alert Frederick County Public Schools or the county’s Child Advocacy Center, depending on the child’s age. Details of an incident are not provided to the school, to preserve the child’s privacy, but teachers and administrators know that a specific child may need additional support. That support could take many forms, such as a nap for an elementary school student, extra time to complete homework or an exam for a middle or high school student, or other ways to help deal with trauma or stress. Some children may need more intensive assistance, so mental health care can be made available at a school.

The Child Advocacy Center, which is part of the county’s Division of Citizens Services, received a grant from the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention to coordinate Handle with Care Maryland in Frederick County. In addition to the CAC,

community collaboration includes emergency responders, both with the County’s Division of Fire and Rescue Services and with every law enforcement agency in Frederick County, along with partners at FCPS.

For more information about Handle with Care Maryland, call the Child Advocacy Center at 301-600-1758.

The Livable Frederick Master Plan

Want to Learn About Livable Frederick? Want to speak directly with planners About the future of Frederick County? The attending the Second FCPC Public Hearing Draft presentation February 25 at the Catoctin High School. The presentation begins at 7 p.m.

Public outreach meetings will include a short presentation from planning staff to give a brief synopsis of the plan and provide information about what has changed since the last version. Staff will be available following the presentation to hear your thoughts on Frederick County’s future.

County Seeks Nominees for 2019 Sustainability Awards

The Frederick County Sustainability Commission is accepting nominations for its 2019 Sustainability Awards to recognize individuals and organizations in Frederick County that have made an outstanding contribution in helping the county advance sustainability efforts. Awards are presented based on demonstrated leadership, innovation, and success in sustainability. Awards are available to individuals, nonprofits and commercial enterprises.

Examples of outstanding efforts include implementing energy effi-

ciency, encouraging renewable energy, improving air and water quality, building green, reusing and recycling, and/or supporting a sustainable quality of life.

Applications are reviewed by the Frederick County Sustainability Commission. Winners will be presented their awards at the 8th Annual Green Homes Challenge Nomination Forms are due no later February 14. Electronic submissions are preferred and should be sent to dashbacher@FrederickCountyMD.gov. Applications may also be mailed to the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources, 30 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701, or faxed to 301-600-2054.

Copies of the forms are available at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/SustainabilityAwards. For more information, call 301-600-6864.

County Holds First Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

The inaugural meeting of the Frederick County Veterans Advisory Council took place Jan. 23. The Veterans Advisory Council was created to serve as a conduit for information and resources for the county’s 17,000 veterans and their families who may need assistance furthering their education, finding employment, receiving counseling or finding other services.

The advisory council is comprised of seven voting members and seven non-voting members. Voting members include: Maj. Daniel Campbell, USAF, Retired; Lt. Col. Sharon D. Jacko, USMC, Retired; CWO3 David P. Kaye, USA, Retired; Veterans Affairs Director Rachel Nachlas, Frederick Community College; Col. Fred Schumacher, USA, Retired; Capt. John Lynn Shanton, USN, Retired, and Frederick Wood, Sr., USN.

Non-voting members include: Director Michelle Day, Workforce

Services; Veterans Administration – Fort Detrick – Community Based Outpatient Clinic Manager Doylette “Dee” Harrison, R.N.; Del. Carol Krimm, Maryland House of Delegates – District 3A; County Council Member Steve McKay; Assistant Vice President for Support Services Michael McLane, Frederick Memorial Hospital; Field Representative Robin Summerfield, Office of U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin, and Director Andrea Walker, Behavioral Health Services, Frederick County Health Department.

For more information, contact Administrative Officer Joyce Grossnickle at 301-600-1102 or via e-mail at jgrossnickle@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

Chief Administrative Officer Barnes to Retire

Chief Administrative Officer Raymond Barnes retired from Frederick County Government on Jan. 31. Mr. Barnes oversees daily operations for all 18 county divisions under the direction of the county executive.

“I asked Ray to come out of retirement so that I could utilize his outstanding managerial skills and knowledge of government operations. He has done a fabulous job and will be greatly missed,” Executive Gardner commented. “I join all of our directors and employees in wishing him the very best in his retirement.”

Mr. Barnes retired January 1, 2017, as chief operating officer for Frederick County Public Schools. Executive Gardner named him as

Acting CAO in September 2017. The County Council confirmed his appointment in March 2018. He brought 35 years of experience in government, including more than a decade working in the Planning and Zoning Department of Frederick County Government.

“I would like to express my appreciation to all our directors for the outstanding job they do on a day-to-day basis serving our citizens,” said Mr. Barnes. “I also want to thank County Executive Gardner for allowing me the privilege of serving as chief administrative officer.”

Executive Gardner also announced that Budget Director Rick Harcum will serve as acting CAO beginning Feb. 1. “I am very pleased that Rick will serve as acting CAO,” Executive Gardner said. “His financial experience and knowledge of county government will be a great asset to our citizens.”

Mr. Harcum was appointed budget director in February 2016. Previously, he served as director of performance management, budget director and in other budget-related roles at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority for over 25 years. He also worked at the Maryland Department of Transportation as a financial planner and as a financial analyst for a telecommunications corporation. Mr. Harcum earned his master’s degree in finance and his bachelor of science in business administration, both from the University of Maryland.

Marylanders to get hit with tax increase

Leonard J. Levy, Esq.

The change in the standard deduction on 2018 Federal tax returns is going to tax many Marylanders. With the standard deduction being raised on Federal returns to \$24,000.00 for a married couple, many Marylanders who itemized deductions in the past will opt to take the standard deduction on their Federal return, and as a result, will now have to take the standard deduction on their Maryland return.

Let’s crunch some numbers. If a Maryland couple has taxable income of \$100,000.00 after all additions, subtractions and exemptions are computed, they should be paying 4.75% of the remaining amount to the state. Let’s work with our couple having \$15,000.00 in Maryland itemized deductions. Last year, they would have paid \$4,037.50 in Maryland taxes. This year, they would pay \$4,536.25 in Maryland taxes, or an increase of \$498.75. Then there’s the additional tax paid to the State on behalf of the County where they reside. Baltimore City and six Counties are currently charging .0320 as their tax rate, so let’s use that.

Last year, the taxpayers in those Counties would have paid \$2,720.00. This year they will pay \$3,056.00 or an additional \$336.00. So between the taxes due the State and the County, there would be an additional

grand total of \$834.75 in additional taxes paid. Remember, this is occurring without Maryland doing anything to raise these moneys or offering any justification for allowing Maryland taxpayers to get hit with these additional taxes. That why I’m calling it stealth taxation.

What to do? Yes, it will provide the State of Maryland with a windfall. But not because of any action by the State Legislature or the Governor. Usually a tax increase is done after citizens are informed of a need for additional tax revenues and a bill is introduced to implement such an increase. But this increase will be the result of inaction by our State Government. Maryland taxpayers should not be punished as a result of alleged tax saving actions by the U.S. Congress and President. Remember, Congress and the President claimed they were passing a law that would reduce taxes for the average U.S. taxpayer. Well, what the Federal government allegedly giveth, the State of Maryland is on the verge of taketh away.

The State Legislature should protect Maryland taxpayers by making a simple amendment to the State Tax Code. Change the Code to say Maryland taxpayers can use the standard deduction or itemize their deductions no matter what they did on their Federal tax return.

lenilevi@comcast.net

Emmitsburg Commissioner Glenn Blanchard

A brand new year and a new beginning for everyone. I love January. It represents a time to start off right and set some goals for the new year, and you have a whole year in front of you to accomplish them! We are having a cold snap outside as I write this. A bit of the polar vortex this month. I hope everyone stays warm and takes care each other during this time. The Emmitsburg Food Bank has been helping many families this winter. If you know people in need, please direct them to our Food Bank. During the government shutdown, the Food Bank will serve Government employees who need assistance. Individuals will be asked to

provide proof of residence and to complete some necessary paperwork in order to receive assistance.

At the November town meeting, a forestry plan was discussed. This plan was submitted by the state regarding select timber harvest. Mike Kay from the Forest Service and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) explained that the DNR had completed a tree inventory of Hampton Valley Road in the Emmitsburg watershed. This data was used to create recommendations for the forestry plan.

The DNR recommends select harvesting in various stands (or groupings) of trees. Only declining trees would be harvested. The cutting of these trees helps termi-

nate invasive species and gives native seeds a chance to germinate and grow. Mr. Kay walked with town staff and commissioners in December to take a look at the plans for tree harvesting. It was a cold, rainy December day when Commissioner O’Donnell, Town Planner Zachary Gulden, and I walked the town land around Rainbow Lake examining the different tree stand to possibly be harvested. Commissioner O’Donnell and I voiced our concerns that the tree harvesting not damage the existing system of biking/hiking trails on the mountain.

The forestry plan was considered at the January meeting and adopted by the Board of Commissioners. There will be a limited tree harvest on the mountain in 2019. This is being done to keep the forest healthy, make way for new growth, and be a continued asset to the town. The harvesting should have minimum effect on recreational pursuits on the mountain. It is my interest and the interest of other board members to be good stewards of the land and maintain the town-owned property.

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ABR SRS

GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER

County Executive Jan Gardner

There has been no greater community challenge, not just in Frederick County, but across our state and nation than the challenge of heroin and opioid addiction, overdose, and fatalities. Opioid addiction has been an equal opportunity offender affecting individuals and families in both urban and rural areas and from every economic and demographic background.

In Frederick County the statistics are sobering. On average, there is one overdose every day and one fatality every week. In fact, there are more people dying from overdoses than there are from car accidents or from high profile disease like breast cancer.

For those working in the trenches on this issue, it is moving target. Opioid abuse initiated from prescription medication has declined and heroin overdoses have also declined. But, heroin mixed with fentanyl, a more potent drug, has increased the incident of overdoses and increased fatalities. Public health officials report that fentanyl is also being found in cocaine, marijuana, spice and meth. The addition of fentanyl has moved the challenge to a tougher place.

So, what have we done and what are we doing to address this community challenge?

Shortly after becoming County Executive, I created a heroin consortium, bringing together representatives from law enforcement, public health including behavioral health, our schools, drug court, parole and probation, pharmacies, Frederick Memorial Hospital, numerous non-profit organizations and substance misuse treatment providers and others to better coordinate and collaborate in our efforts to help individuals and families with the challenges of addiction.

Accomplishments include:

- Saving Lives with Narcan - Over 1,200 law enforcement, first responders, and other

individuals have been trained to use narcan to revive individuals who have overdosed. 600 kits have been distributed throughout the community to families, hotels, restaurants, retail and at community events. Businesses and other organizations requesting training for naloxone have received it. The use of Narcan or Naloxone has saved the life of numerous individuals.

- Substance Treatment at Adult Detention Center - Accreditation was received for substance abuse treatment program Project 103 at the Adult Detention Center. Vivitrol use and distribution for individuals released from jail has successfully reduced recidivism for those who were in substance abuse treatment.
- Public Health/Peer Recovery - The Health Department Peer Recovery Partnership has put paid peer recovery specialists in the Emergency Department at Frederick Memorial Hospital to connect individuals who have overdosed with needed services prior to release from the hospital. Peer recovery specialists have connected individuals to a variety of services with an 83% connection rate. Paid peer recovery specialists are also embedded at the Adult Detention Center, Work Release, Drug Court, Parole and Probation, the Community Action Agency, and Way Station. There is also a peer recovery partnership between the Health Department and Frederick City Police. Over 200 volunteer peer recovery coaches have been trained and provide support to individuals recovering from addiction.
- Drug Court - Drug Court has graduated 149 individuals who have achieved recovery from substance abuse while addressing issues with

the court system.

- Awareness - To increase awareness of this community challenge, the county along with two non-profit organizations installed a billboard on MD 85 with statistics about overdoses and fatalities so people in our community can see the magnitude of the problem. There have been numerous public awareness efforts and events including an award winning video series called Take Back My Life with individuals sharing their experience with addiction. These powerful stories can still be viewed at TakeBackMyLife.org.
- Schools and Education - Age appropriate curriculum has been added in our schools system at every level - elementary, middle, and high school - to teach our students about the risks, reality and consequences of alcohol and drug abuse. The Health Department is also conducting PSA's during morning announcements and via Find Out First. Information is distributed to all students at freshman orientation for high school. The Health Department offers at no cost, substance use assessments of adolescents and children in the school system.
- Drug Take Back Events - Events are offered Spring and Fall and collect an average of up to 5,000 pounds of unused prescription and over the counter drugs. There are also drop off sites in law enforcement facilities around the county.
- Law Enforcement - The Frederick County Narcotics Unit is a HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Team that consists of the Sheriff's Office, Homeland Security Investigations, Frederick City Police, Maryland State Police, Brunswick Police and

the States Attorney Office. In 2018, the Narcotics Unit opened 22 cases, made 20 arrests, and seized 121.4 grams of heroin. These statistics do not include arrests and seizures by patrol units.

The Local Health Improvement Plan whose goal is to address substance misuse, and identified the need for a local detox center as the greatest gap in treatment. I proposed in the most recent budget and the council agreed to commit \$500,000 for start-up money to provide an incentive for a private or non-profit substance misuse treatment provider to establish a detox facility in Frederick County and have offered space at the work release center as a potential location as suggested by Sheriff Jenkins. I requested a state capital grant for renovation of the work release space to have a separate entrance and divided space for detox and this money was included in the Governor's budget. A grant request for

proposal for a detox service provider has been issued and results should be announced soon.

Together, we are working to provide detox services in Frederick County so individuals and families can find a place for their loved ones to have medically supervised detox and then find follow up treatment services without having to go out of the county or out of state. Affected families are truly desperate for these services.

Successfully addressing the challenge of the heroin and opioid crisis will take a well-coordinated community effort. Many people are working hard and are collaborating through the heroin consortium.

There is hope for recovery. If you or your loved on are struggling with addiction and would like help accessing treatment or recovery support you can call Maryland 2-1-1 for immediate assistance of know someone who needs help, you can call the county health department at 301-600-1758 or email BHS@frederickcountymd.gov.

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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

February, our Presidents and my fears

Shannon Bohrer

February is a great month, from my perspective, possibly because I was born in February. We also have President's Day and Valentine's Day making February a patriotic month and a time to celebrate the special persons in our lives. Of course, patriotism is a love of country and Valentine's Day is about love, so the two holidays should be somewhat compatible. February is also the bridge between winter and spring, you know winter is not over, but we know spring is on the way.

It is my opinion that Presidents day is a very important and an educational holiday to our nation. I am not talking about all of the President Day sales, the automobile, mattress and furniture sales. The importance is reflecting our history, our presidents and how they have shaped and enhanced our country. In celebrating our Presidents Day, we should think about the Presidents and what they contributed to our country.

A good example to begin with is an often-cited quote from George Washington about the free press, "If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter." As a writer I feel this quote is very important today. When people say that you cannot trust

the media, often calling the media the "Fake News" I think we should question why? Do individuals or groups have a motivation to disparage real facts - as fake news? Most of the major news is real and factual. We may have different opinions about words and events, but our opinions are not facts. Just because you may not agree with something does not mean it is fake. Conversely, in the wide realm of news, fake news and alternative facts do exist, and when it does it should be exposed.

Our current president consistently undermines the major news networks, with one notable exception, and refers to them as fake news, possibly because of all the negative press coverage of him. A large part of the negative press coverage is because he has been under investigation for possible collusion with Russia, which allegedly occurred during the presidential election. The president repeats that the news is fake and there was no collusion. Yet, the Muller investigation has resulted in indictments of 33 people and three companies. This includes 26 Russians, three Russian companies and 5 (former) Trump advisors. Seven of the indicted individuals have pleaded guilty, and 5 are former Trump aids. Obviously, the president does not like the news - but these are the facts.

The president certainly has the right, as all citizens do, to protest his innocence. However, blaming the press and blaming criminal justice institutions within the government, does not address the indictments. With 33 indictments, there is something there, it may not include the president, but the press is only reporting facts. This president's lack of candor and honesty is also well documented and it calls into question - everything he questions. An appropriate quote from George Washington. "Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pains to bring it to light." Or in Harry Potter's world, "The truth will out."

Our president lies so much that organizations and media outlets have reporters and staff just to track the false and misleading statements. It has been widely reported that President Trump made 1,318 false and misleading statements in his first nine months in office. That's an average of 5 each day. The president then "trumped" that number by making 1,419 false and/or misleading statements in just seven weeks. This was the seven weeks before the midterm elections. That's an average of 30 each day. All of this information is available from multiple sources.

I know that there are some Trump supporters that will disagree with what

I have written and I have great empathy for those persons because eventually the, "Truth will ultimately prevail." Every media outlet, including conservative media, has called out the president for his misleading, half-truths and lies. What concerns me is that fact that the president still has followers that believe him. It is not fake news - that our president has trouble with the truth.

A recent example of the president's misleading and lying was when he visited a war zone, visiting our military troops during the Christmas Holidays. The president told a large group of soldiers that he authorized a 10 percent pay raise and that they (the military) have not had a raise in 10 years. In fact, the military has had a raise every year for the last 10 years. This year's raise was 2.6 percent, not 10 percent as he claimed. The president also stated that others in the government wanted a 3 or 4 percent raise and he stated, "I said, 'No. Make it 10 per cent'. Cause it's been a long time, it's been more than 10 years."

An appropriate quote by Thomas Jefferson, "Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom." It does not matter how smart or wise one is, if they can't tell the truth. The problem with dishonesty is trust. How can we trust someone that habitually does not tell the truth? The larger problem is that the person is our president. The president should be given credit for finally visiting the troops on Christmas. He arrived late on Christmas day, and

spoke to the troops the following day, but, why lie about a pay raise?

While we have president that has problems with the truth and facts, there was another story prior to Christmas that stunned me. The Trump Foundation; a non-profit charitable organization, agreed to a court-supervised closing and a distribution of any remaining funds. What shocked me were the facts in the New York Attorney General's lawsuit. The law suit alleged that the president and his family "illegally operated the foundation as an extension of his business and his presidential campaign." In other words, this "charity" was used as his personal slush fund.

The New York Attorney General's Office is seeking restitution of almost 3 million dollars and a 10-year ban of the president and three of his children, "from running any charities in New York." We have a president and his family that are prohibited from even being board members of any charity in New York, for 10 years. Those facts are distressing and frightening. This story disturbed me more than the presidents trouble with honesty and facts - and yet they have a common theme.

I would never have thought that we could have a president that is prohibited, by court order, from being involved with a charity. That scares me.

To read past editions of Words From Winterbilt, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

Common Cents

Bell weather warning

Ralph Murphy

Market turmoil in oft-cited indicators such as stock indexes, federal interest rates, and global trade numbers fanned recession fear in the world of federal authorities and economists who reported them. Despite their concerns, overall growth has remained steady and key indicators to include the labor and export markets continue as normal. The problem now is the recession reports themselves as the phenomenon of retracted growth in two or more quarters of production is seldom justified by demand changes or the resource scarcity implied in the downturns.

Internal markets in advanced economies are reasonably predictable as to supply and demand forces that generate wealth by exchange value. No single market could long sway the whole downturn of the national growth estimates tied to policy directives. There can be technical mistakes linked to the broad administration of governing management such as over or under printing currency, wage or price controls that don't reflect payment interest or excessive tax policies that can curtail growth. That type of miscue could be by design or due to simple error, but the recessions in the twentieth and early twenty first centuries seem aimed at simple wealth redistribution tied to bank theft of internal markets for programs at home and abroad. No other single variable can explain the income losses in these time frames.

Rapid or advanced growth in developing regions despite little or no change in other factors should be examined to explain the sudden capacity for wealth. These factors might include training, interest or resources beyond external cash flow.

Cash flow is tied to what economists call a current account that broadly reflects trade deals hidden or declared in currency or exchanges that cross borders.

Very briefly the current account is usually cited by governing authorities to explain import or export policies tied to growth. It also includes a flow of currency traded or FDI that is a random variable. Any measurable money that is introduced into the economy can be included- not just the trade links. The current account of exports minus imports, plus foreign direct investment balance is useful but may be misleading as the deals can fall through or payments financed despite projection of immediate earnings can be based on the whole deal.

There is a capital account that is tied to contracts or other payments which do reflect actual money received that is linked to trade as a balance of payments. It is a better indicator of the exchanges as it does reflect the payments linked to the trade balance based on past, present or future foreign deals. The capital account also includes a foreign direct investment balance and when tied to conventional investing linked to exchanges can be tracked. When linked to the FDI balance of

imported minus exported money it could track a recession source as no return grants rather than earnings from foreign regulated investments. Much of it depends on regulatory understandings, but it does imply governing collusion for the transfers to be successful given its volume. If extended for a lengthy time frame it could be considered a depression.

That was the exact pattern of the 1929 to late 1930's worldwide depression where a thriving west was suddenly thrust into deep poverty while a war-torn Germany still struggling to pay reparations for WWI. They had huge expenditures for a new, defense build-up as the National Socialist German Workers Party- later to become the infamous Nazis- seized power in 1933. Their platform was unabated socialism demanding "nationalization of all heavy industry; deviation of profit from industry, communization of all warehouses, and land reform or seizure without compensation." Usually socialist-governing- authority make pitches for governing control or redirects capital for philanthropic type programs as health care or welfare payments. The Nazis were unique in projecting a control authority where only they would be allowed such advantages. It doesn't appear they could have done that without the western cash as the American Economy entered the decade-long depression while the German economy advanced. There must have been a covert FDI exchange or a remarkable coincidence that enabled World War II.

This pattern and excuse for lost

investment has been the case for every economic downturn since WWII. It is tied to political change as in the late Carter administration where money was lost to bank actions and then were masked by overprinting as inflation went to double digits. The Reagan administration presided over cripplingly high interest rates to control it but there was a downturn to earnings which could have been avoided by better bank controls. It happened again as The George W. Bush administration ceded power in 2008 allowing the Open Doors policy of the Obama administration to send money almost anywhere in that troubled system.

The concern is not only as to the ability to make these type transfers of stored earnings, but also their justification as linked to markets that are also tied to the banks that aren't even noted as the problem. It appears the control group wanted to employ the same scheme claiming a downturn of stock indexes or high interest rates as justifying their losses, but won't be able to as the Feds now seem more cognizant of the actions and capable of stopping them.

While a boon to domestic interests the transfer system has had a major impact on foreign governments who didn't get the covert payments. But, they had counted on them for domestic programs that were tied to labor groups and are now dealing with street protests and violence to the extent that their control is jeopardized. French protestors started the "Yellow Vest" protest movement this winter demanding a tax authority fill the vacuum of American money that didn't get received as apparently promised. While they reflect a service of questionable need that is not tied to actual sales. This group has ignited worldwide protests

of similar intensity from the Balkans to Canada. They will surely continue as the recession here that would have paid it all seems curtailed.

China is another matter, but western bank money linked to their various organs such as the China Development Bank was repatriated last year. It was locked into storage beyond routine transactions, and now redistributed into smaller banks here with recent Congressional regulatory changes. These changes permit conventional community bank interest. If a major big name bank such as Well Fargo or Citibank set up retail operations in your region- it won't last long as their efforts at branch banking have failed miserably. So did their investment interest in the Far East. Dependent links to the theft issue tied mostly to covert FDI outflows from Africa won't be funded unless they have a viable good or overt service for conventional sale.

Market turmoil amid stable purchasing patterns seem more closely linked to policy maneuvering of control authority rather than real changes in purchasing or production patterns themselves. The speed of transfers and probability of immediate downturns linked to the arbitrary transfer of money and not mutually beneficial exchanges almost guarantees avoidable theft and turmoil. Recessions seemed to reflect those concerns, and rejuvenation efforts by the internal markets are an avoidable cost to a victimized nation. To project grants as investments flouts conventional growth understandings and should be discounted to provide sales-linked flows closer to production expertise.

To read past editions of Common Cents, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

The American Mind

Face crimes

William Hillman

“To wear an improper expression on your face (to look incredulous when a victory was announced, for example) was itself a punishable offense. There was even a word for it in Newspeak: Facecrime, it was called.”

—George Orwell 1984

We continue to watch the sad decline of the old-school news whose vain slogans of impartial, fair, and balanced are nothing more than a sad reminder of what once was. For those of us who commentate on such things, there are few surprises. Rushed judgments and conclusions not based on facts and objective research, but on partisan, bigoted prejudices have destroyed its credibility. These Main Street News outlets are earning the title “Fake News”.

In the last two years, the promotion of fake news by the old media has skyrocketed. Two years ago I remember listening to NPR while driving to Washington D.C. for Trump’s Inauguration when a report aired, that newly sworn-in President Donald Trump had removed Martin Luther King’s Bust from the Oval office. Within minutes, my phone exploded with news alerts from every major outlet reporting the atrocity.

I remember thinking, “How could he do that?” and of course, it was not true. It was a fabricated

news report. Not one of the reporting news outlets took the time to verify or question this story. A photo of the wall in the oval office where the bust once stood was circulated. What was not reported was that the secret serviceman in the picture was standing in front of the bust, and a photo taken seconds later when the serviceman had moved clearly shows the bust had never been moved. To this day, I still come across people who believe the President removed the MLK bust from the Oval Office.

In the glory days of independent honest journalism, newspapers and broadcast media (the Old Media) would have had days of self-reflection, long meetings in the editorial board rooms trying to figure out what when wrong. Heads would have rolled, editors and producers fired. But those were the days when papers and broadcast news believed in the pursuit of honest, fact-based reporting. Today’s Old Media is filled with commentators and social justice warriors. Too few are interested in reporting fact-based news, but see their role as an activist, shaping politics. Events and facts are exaggerated or ignored to support the political narrative that the media has chosen to support or condemn. Consider for a fact that the face of ABC news, George Stephanopoulos’ only clam to fame was that of Bill Clinton’s apologist.

The Old New Media was never asked to explain their rush to judgement and they learned just how easily they can get away with fake reports when the story sup-

ports their narrative that Trump and his supporters are evil. Yes, evil, not wrong, or misguided, but morally evil.

The argument can be made that Trump’s victory is in part due to the fall of the Old-News Media and resulting loss of trust that Middle America now has for its reporting. According to a Pew poll, in 2016, 70% of Americans didn’t trust the national news. That number has continued to get worse.

The misinformation cuts both ways. FoxNews.com and an affiliate reported on May 16, 2017 that a private investigator had uncovered evidence showing WikiLeaks collaborated with slain DNC data analyst Seth Rich prior to his murder in 2016. The reports were later pulled back because they were based on rumors, not facts.

Just when you thought that the old media could not sink to a lower level, they break out the shovels and dig. On January 20th of this year, a video went viral from the March for Life that showed the Covington high school students, some wearing “Make America Great Again” hats, taunting a Native American man. Almost every media outlet instantly took to the air with their appointed talking point prepared for the designated two minutes of hate. The problem was, no one bothered to watch the entire video, but why should they? He’s a white kid with a MAGA hat on. There cannot be any question of his guilt. The new moto of the MSM is “First we have a trial, then we’ll hang you.”

Washington Post: “The Catholic Church’s Shameful History of Native American Abuses”

The New York Times, jumped in with both feet and without looking, titling its first piece, “Boys in ‘Make America Great Again’ Hats Mob Native Elder at Indigenous Peoples March.” The next day when the “Old Gray Lady” sobered up and retracted retract much of what it published, “Fuller Picture Emerges of Viral Video of Native American Man and Catholic Students.”

CNN’s Bakari Sellers, “He is deplorable. Some people can also be punched in the face.”

Vulture writer, Erik Abriss, “I just want these people to die. Simple as that. Every single one of them. And their parents.”

GQ’s Nathaniel Friedman called for the kids and their parents to be doxed.

Ana Navarro, CNN contributor, “Nobody is born racist. Bigotry is learned from parents, teachers and society and leaders. So yes I sure as hell think Trump’s racist comments & constant dog whistles contributed to making these Asswipes Great again.”

But they all got it wrong. In the days that followed, it became apparent to everyone, even the MSM, that their hatred of the Catholic boys in MAGA hats had portrayed their hidden biases and prejudices.

Joe Concha of The Hill gets it right, “Watching the video and others in full, it is clear the reporting didn’t match reality and unfairly targeted the students. That especially goes for Nick Sandmann, who became the focus of media attention after staring at

Phillips — who approached him, not the other way around as first described.”

But still some like CNN’s Don Lemon refused to back down. The new charge was Sandmann’s “Smirk.”

This idea of moral outrage that the major news media pushed for years has settled deep into the social fabric and serves to justify moral vanity and social divisiveness. The Old Media can accuse Trump for dividing this country all they want, but the truth is, they have been doing their part for a long time and most of the divisiveness can be laid at their feet.

In my own community, lawns are dotted with the moral vanity signs, “Hate has no home here”. Neighbors took to social media to show their virtue and join the lynching mob.

From one neighbor: “that smug ass boy with his maga hat, because I hated that it was all about a hat. To me, the real story is not about a hat or a native. — You see a punk in the face of an old man and its aggressive and disrespectful.”

That was one of the tamer comments. Many of the comments I cannot post because of the paper’s vulgarity standards. These comments were not from obscure celebrities looking for attention, but from parents, and for the above quote, a one-time Sunday school teacher with kids around the same age as the young man in the video. Maybe the Bible verse, John. 8:7, “He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone” was not in her curriculum.

We are doomed.

To read past editions of The American Mind, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

Down Under

The death of reality

Submitted by Lindsay!
Melbourne, Australia

After such knowledge, what forgiveness.

—TS Elliot, Gerontion, 1920

I guess the people who wrote the constitution never imagined they should cater for a time when the president became insane while in office. Or, horror of horrors, was already insane when elected. They surely saw that someone might become ‘unfit’, whatever that means, but certifiable insanity was less likely than an Australian Aborigine getting the job.

But it has happened. Possibly before this, but now? Absolutely. You scoff. Answer this: Who in their right mind would declare that the best way to keep terrorists out of the country was to complete the building of a 2000 mile wall between a neighbor and trading partner? One who had not threatened, had taken action to infiltrate the government or try and bring it down? Who essentially was an ally that had done badly on all the deals that were guaranteed to make them better off?

It’s not as though the wall would

be impregnable or would do the job — no one could ever guarantee that — or that it would pay for itself. No, the many billions (the actual cost keeps varying, but it’s about seven. Reducing this by using steel instead of concrete makes no difference) would be paid by the taxpayer because they’d be better off. How, exactly? They’d suddenly find their take home pay was up by 20 %? Not likely. Oh yes, they’d be safer in their beds. No more nine elevens.

And 99% of the refugees waiting to get in are migrants — illegal because they do and do not have papers, who mostly come from untold tyranny and death squads or utter poverty, and hope for a safer and fairer time in the US — but terrorists? How many, pray? Yes, there are criminals and bad-dies, there are in every group on earth, America having more per capita than most countries.

But, I say again, terrorists? The current American definition is ‘The unlawful, (that is, not sanctioned by the government), use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians in the pursuit of political or religious aims.’ There are many variations, and legislation can be used to change it whenever deemed neces-

sary — or expedient. In previous times if someone drove you out, or locked you up because of your religious beliefs or practices, you were being persecuted. It’s been happening since the beginning of civilization, but to now call it terrorism is confuse civil and state crimes.

Even more to the point, how many Mexicans have been convicted of terrorism in the past forty years? Sure, drug running, people trafficking, murder and so on, but these are not terrorism. The answer is one. Yes, one. Most terrorists are Saudi and Afghani’s and Syrians, countries never mentioned in his earlier rant about the source of terrorists. Many were members of ISIS, and many of the deaths they caused were religious based. In America, however, the greatest number of religious based killings were by Americans taking their grievances into their own hands — fundamental Christians killing those who promote abortion, for instance. Far better to call the NRA a terrorist group, since they are responsible for the deaths of thousands of civilians. Oh, sorry, that’s liberty, freedom of choice, and other perverted values.

Back to La Donald. The rhetoric (sorry, the rants) go on and on, exhibiting one of the classic signs of mental breakdown. It’s called delusional paranoia. People with it finish up in for whatever passes today as asylums, given medication and

maybe shock treatment. All his tenure to date has shown this in the confusing tweets, of-the-cuff boasts, arbitrary decisions and the self-congratulatory raves about his genius. His belief that anyone who disagrees or simply doesn’t like him is out to get him is classic paranoia.

He is living in unreality, something he has created and lived with over his career, and it has taken over his reason. He is also sneakily clever. At least he thinks he is. The disease allows nothing else, just as it sees total normality in lies. Last count there were several thousand of those, some variations on a theme, and truly the only thing he could be proud of is the inventiveness of his statements.

But, as I said last time, he is a messiah figure to an astonishing number of his supporters, who remain blind to the reality of a nation in decline, of a nation that has become a wild card in international affairs, no longer dependable, no longer a power that attempts to redress some of the worst crimes and atrocities in the world.

He’s tried playing at being a diplomat, strutting the stage, a magician with his underpants showing, a puppet spouting the subversion fed to him by Putin and others. His whole attention is now centred on a wall, a delusion that also helps divert attention from his cover-ups and crimes.

The true problems are ignored. Drugs, incarceration, infrastruc-

ture, lack of aid and support, poverty, education, climate change — the needs of the nation are so great, but are ignored because he didn’t cause them. On the other hand, he believes he is solely responsible for the growth in the economy and jobs. The fed would have other ideas — it was they who held interest rates near zero until things picked up, and that gave industry time to recover from the crash.

And the ultimate proof of his insanity: Using the lives of civil service employees as bargaining chips to get money for that ridiculous wall. The repercussions of this will be felt for years to come, and will put America even further back in trade negotiations.

In the meantime, the real world goes on. States do what they believe they are best at, local issues, (although it’s too often gerrymandered collusion), local councils ignore Washington and try their best to create vibrant and wholesome communities, and the most of the media try to present balanced reporting.

Many Americans, particularly his supporters, seem incapable of any critical thinking. Even well educated, savvy folk are guilty of that. Sad, but they are too self-absorbed, too safe, too lazy — and they are Trump’s trumps.

To read past editions of Down Under, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

THE PASTOR'S DESK

Just in time for Valentine's Day

Pastor Jon Greenstone
Elias Lutheran Church

Please join me in a contemplation on the subject of Love. Love is such a huge subject, I hardly know where to begin, but I feel led to share some qualities about love that are foundational for everyone—love can be defined in three verbs: Cherish, Honor, and Respect.

I hope that it is obvious that love is foundational for Christianity. You don't need to look into the faith too deeply to hear such positive affirmations like, "God is Love," or "Jesus loves you." More specifically, as believers we are instructed: "Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God" (1Jn 4:7). And, a verse you'll probably see from somewhere at the Super Bowl stadium, a banner reading: John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son..."

One matter that must be settled before we can move beyond ourselves to love others is this: We must learn to love, honor and respect ourselves! This may come as a surprise for some Christian and non-Christians, as we may have been taught to minimize ourselves in order to elevate a brother, sister, spouse parent or partner. Some of us never were told by our parents that we were loved, and even if we were, we may not have known loving acts of kindness, endearment, forgiveness or respect in our childhood home.

As a woman I once met in a counseling session expressed it, "I thought it was normal for my father to be verbally and physically abusive to my mother, after all, later he brought her flowers and said that

he loved her." As you might guess, this young woman was now experiencing the same degradation in her present marriage.

Our feelings about ourselves, and therefore others, are shaped from our childhood. Humility is good, but everyone deserves to be cherished, honored, and none should be disrespected. Being humble, esteeming others as better than ourselves is good, even Biblical, but it can also be detrimental if unbalanced. We must ask ourselves, "Do I cherish myself? Do I honor my being?" and, "Do I respect myself?" It comes to us that we may or may not have a healthy self-image.

We may or may not have obtained the quality to love and esteem ourselves as worthy of being loved. Therefore, we need wisdom in this matter to know it's ok to cherish, honor and respect ourselves first—then we can love others and receive love in ways that are healthy and lasting.

Here's a good starting place—allow God's love to be your anchor. "I can love myself in ways that are healthy, caring, filled with honor and respect, because God cares for, honors, and respects me." Just to prove the point, we have these words of scripture to meditate on: "But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us" (Rom.5:8); and: "Cast all your anxiety on him (God, through Christ Jesus), because he cares for you" (1Pt 5:7); and: "For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving" (1 Tim.4:4). Know that love is always a response to being loved!

Our intuition tells us this is where God enters the Love Story! God, our

Creator, is as a loving parent, looking on us with compassion, and showing loving kindness and mercy to draw us away from feelings of alienation from ourselves or others. This is important to know and to pass on to our loved ones, because sometimes people we are very close to still feel alone, like nobody cares, nor understands them. But the fact is, God loves us first! Even when we don't respond, or when we have responded with anger or rage... "God where are you?!" but God has shown his great love for us in sending the person of Jesus, his beloved Son, human and divine, to show us what love is.

Jesus demonstrates his love for humanity by acts of healing, teaching, deliverance and caring for the masses—this is ongoing because Christ lives and acts through his people—the Church, living, acting and present in our world. When the crowds were following Jesus and were weary with hunger—Jesus said, "I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat" (Mk8:2). He further demonstrated his love by sharing the gift of the feeding task with his disciples, asking, "What have you to share?" "Seven small loaves of bread." Jesus, receiving the loaves and "giving thanks, broke the bread and gave the pieces to his disciples to distribute along with a few small fish; and they distributed these to the crowd and all ate and were filled!" (Mk 8:6-7).

Thus we see the love of Jesus for the masses, as well as his love enacted as he passes on the gifts of faith and acts of compassion for us to carry out to our loved ones and even those we don't love. Jesus said, "Love your enemies. Bless those who spitefully use you." Faith-filled love must be lived out in balance with respect for ourselves and others, love must be taught and shared.

Often in Jesus' acts of caring for others, he includes still additional

lessons, a kind of healing within the healing. Ultimately, our love for others grows because our faith is stretched. This was certainly true for those marching during the Civil Rights era. True Love perseveres when put to the test. Would you be willing to forgive (out of love) those who ridicule, assault or would beat you for standing up for equal rights—regardless of skin color, race or creed? The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Nonviolence is absolute commitment to the way of love. Love is not emotional bash; it is not empty sentimentalism. It is the active outpouring of one's whole being into the being of another." We learn Love's ways by engaging in the task—revealing truth is love in action! I'll even go out on a limb here to say, showing public affection for your loved one demonstrates human caring (within reason of course). We need to tastefully display our acts of cherishing, honoring and respecting our spouse, partner, children and the stranger within our

midst. What the world needs now is Love, sweet Love!

The great Love Chapter in 1 Corinthians 13 tells us everything else we need to know about love and this is why we hear these words at most weddings. Because true love is: "Patient, kind, not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love never ends" (1Cor.13:4-8). Knowing we are loved by God enables us to accept and love our spouse, partner, child, neighbor and the alien in our midst. We just need to live it out beginning by cherishing, honoring and respecting ourselves.

What's Love got to do with it? Everything!

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THE BOOK OF DAYS

The nature & folklore of February



February comes in like a sturdy country maiden, with a tinge of the red, hard winter apple on her healthy cheek, and as she strives against the wind, wraps her russet coloured cloak well about her, while with bent head, she keeps throwing back the long hair that blows about her face, and though at times half blinded by the sleet and snow, still continues her course courageously. Sometimes she seems to shrink, and while we watch her progress, half afraid that she will be blown back again into the dreary waste of Winter, we see that her course is still forward, that she never takes a backward step, but keeps journeying along slowly, and drawing nearer, at every stride, to the Land of Flowers.

Now and then the pretty goldfinch breaks out with its short song, then goes peeping about as if wondering why the young green groundsel is so long before putting forth its dull golden flowers. Then Winter, who seems to have been asleep, shoo his cloudy form once more above the bare hilltops, from whence he scatters his snowflakes; while the timid birds cease their song, and again shelter in the still naked hedgerows, seeming to marvel to themselves why he has returned again, after the little daisy buds begin to thrust their round green heads above the earth, announcing his departure.

The mild days of February cause the beautifully-formed squirrel to wake up from his short winter sleep, and feed on his hoarded nuts; and he may now be seen balanced by his hind legs and bushy tail, washing his face, on some bare bough near his dray or nest, though at the first sound of the voices of the boys who come to hunt him, he is off, and springs from tree to tree with the agility of a bird. It is only when the trees are naked that the squirrel can be hunted, for it is difficult to catch a glimpse of him when "the leaves are green and long;" and it is an old country saying, when anything unlikely to be found is lost, that "you might as well hunt a squirrel when the leaves are out."

Butterflies that have found a hiding place somewhere during winter again appear, and begin to lay their eggs on the opening buds, which when in full leaf

will supply food for the future caterpillars. Amongst these may now be found the new-laid eggs of the peacock and painted lady butterflies, on the small buds of young nettles, though the plants are only just above ground.

Everybody who has a garden now begins to make some little stir in it, when the weather is fine, for the sweet air that now blows abroad mellows and sweetens the newly-dug earth, and gives to it quite a refreshing smell. And all who have had experience know that to let the ground lie fallow a few weeks after it is trenched, is equal to giving it an extra coating of manure, such virtue is there in the air to which it lies exposed. Hard clods that were difficult to break with the spade when first dug up, will, after lying exposed to the sun and frost, crumble at a touch like a ball of sand.

Many a meal do the birds now gather from the winter greens that remain in the gardens, and unless the first crop of early peas is protected, all the shoots will sometimes be picked off in a morning or two, by our feathered friends as soon as they have grown a couple of inches above ground.

We can never know wholly, what birds find to feed upon at this season of the year, when the earth is sometimes frozen so hard, that it rings under the spade like iron, or when the snow lies knee-deep on the ground. We startle them from under the sheltering hedges; they spring up from the lowly moss, which remains green all through the winter; we see them pecking about the bark, and decayed hollow of trees; we make our way through the gorse bushes, and they are there: amid withered grass, and weeds, and fallen leaves, where lie millions of seeds, which the autumn winds scattered, we find them busy foraging; yet what they find to feed upon in many of these places, is still to us a mystery.

We know that at this season they pass the greater portion of their time in sleep, "another proof of the great Creator's providence," so do not require so much food as when busy building and breeding in spring and summer. They burrow in the snow through little openings hardly visible to human eyes, beneath hedges and bushes, and there they find

warmth and food. The little robin will even peek at the window frame if you have been in the habit of feeding him.

On the plum-tree, before the window at which we are now writing, a robin has taken his stand every day throughout the winter, eyeing us at our desk, as he waited for his accustomed crumbs. When the door was opened and all still, he would hop into the kitchen, and there we would find him perched on the dresser. If strangers came down the garden-walk, he never flew further away than the privet-hedge, until he was fed.

Primroses are now abundant, no matter how severe the winter may have been. It may be on account of its early appearance, that we fancy there is no yellow flower so delightful to look upon as the delicately coloured primrose; for the deep golden hue of thecelandine and buttercup is glaring when compared with it. There is a beauty, too, in the form of its heart-shaped petals, also in the foliage. In the country they speak of things happening at "primrose-time;" he died or she was married "about primrose-time;" for so do they mark the season that lies between the white ridge of winter, and the pale green border of spring.

Everywhere there are now signs that the reign of Winter is nearly over: even when he dozes he can no longer enjoy his long sleep, for the snow melts from under him almost as fast as it falls, and he feels the rounded buds breaking out

beneath him. The flush of golden light thrown from the primroses, as they catch the sunshine, causes him to rub his dazed eyes, and the singing of the unloosened meadow-runners falls with a strange sound on his cold, deadened ear. He knows that spring is hiding somewhere near at hand, and that all Nature is waiting to break out into flower and song, when he has taken his departure.

A great change has taken place almost unseen. We cannot recall the day when the buds first caught our eye, tiny green dots, which are now opening into leaves that are covering the lilac trees. We are amazed to see the hawthorn hedge, which a week or two ago we passed unnoticed, now bursting out into the pale green flush of spring, the most beautiful of all green hues.

We feel the increasing power of the sun; and windows which have been closed, and rendered air-tight to keep out the cold, are now thrown open to let in the refreshing breeze, which is shaking out the sweet buds, and the blessed sunshine, the gold of heaven which God in His goodness showers alike upon the good and the evil.

Historical

February was one of the two months, January being the other, introduced into the Roman calendar by Numa Pompilius, when he extended the year to twelve of these periods. Its name arose from the practice of religious expiation and puri-

fication, which took place among the Romans at the beginning of this month.

It has been, on the whole, an ill-used month, perhaps in consequence of its noted want of what is pleasant and agreeable to the human senses. Numa let fall upon it the doom that was unavoidable for some one of the months, of having, three out of four times, a day less than even those which were to consist of thirty days. That is to say, he arranged that it should have only twenty-nine days, excepting in leap years; when, by the intercalation of a day between the 23rd and 24th, it was to have thirty. No great occasion here for complaint. But when Augustus chose to add a thirty-first day to August, that the month named from him might not lack in the dignity enjoyed by six other months of the year, he took it from February, which could least spare it, thus reducing it to twenty-eight in all ordinary years.

In our own parliamentary arrangement for the reformation of the calendar, it being necessary to drop a day out of each century excepting those of which the ordinal number could be divided by four; it again fell to the lot of February to be the sufferer. It was deprived of its 29th day for all such years, and so it befell in the year 1800, and will in 1900, 2000, 2100, 2200, &c.

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ECOLOGY

Reflecting on Lady Jane and Incas

Mick Group
Strawberry Hill Naturalist

Editor's Note: After close to 24 years of writing for first the Emmitsburg Dispatch, then for the Emmitsburg News-Journal, Bill Meredith is finally taking a long deserved sabbatical. In the meantime, our friends at the Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve have graciously offered to step in and take up Bill's cause of championing the importance of protecting and preserving our local environment and ecology. We look forward to partnering with Strawberry Hill and wish Bill an enjoyable vacation! Of course, for anyone needing their monthly dose of Bill's wit and humor, all 24 years of his articles are on-line on Emmitsburg.net.

You've likely never heard of them, let alone ever seen them. But as we look back on 2018 it is important to recognize the past year as the 100th anniversary of their passing. They were considered to be the last two that remained of their species. The only parrots known to be native to North America.

Known as the Carolina Parakeet or conure, they were about the size of a mourning dove, mostly green in color with a yellow-orange head and neck. Fruit and nuts or seeds were their primary food. Their large flocks were noisy in flight. They flew, fed and roosted together.

Pennsylvania's main flocks were known to be west of the

Alleghenies. They were not migratory. Instead, they spent most of their time near an abundant food source not far from a favorite roosting area. Pennsylvania is largely regarded as the northern most exterior of the birds' range. Their range stretches south to Florida and most of the south eastern states. The last recognized sightings in Pennsylvania were in the later 1860's. Their numbers had been in decline during the 1800's.

Like the passenger pigeon, their earlier numbers are hard to imagine today. Thus, begs the question, "what happened"? Like most extinction of species, it is usually several factors. The decrease in the bird's population seems to parallel colonial expansion. The clearing of forest for agriculture certainly had an impact on habitat. The parakeets were cavity nesters. The loss of new trees would have had an impact. This was made more challenging by honey bees that use the same hollow trees for their colonies. The number of honey bees had increased in numbers due to increases in importation of them for the fruit industry's need for pollination of their fruit.

Two considerations are possible disease, which we have no evidence of, and sport shooting. Because of the bird's appetite for fruit and seeds, many farmers considered them a pest, which was made even more complicated by their perceived inability to leave

the wounded or dead behind. Like some other bird species, the flock would return to the victims by circling back only to become part of the carnage.

Not much else is recorded about these birds. The records that do exist vary. Some say they built stick nests with two-six eggs. Most believe that nesting occurred in March or April. Fledging occurred in mid-summer. The immature birds lacked the colorful yellow heads and neck colors. Observations in Pennsylvania were made by Alexander Wilson who is largely revered as the father of American ornithology. His 15th century studies indicate a varied diet of weed seeds, tree fruits and nuts including mulberries.

Stories reported that when trees were felled for firewood, the birds made no attempt to escape. This, along with the previous mentioned facts, most likely led to the parakeets being in trouble even before the passenger pigeon. During the 1830's, John Audubon wrote to this effect, although opinions vary on this.

While seldom seen north of south western PA, they were reported to be occasionally seen northwest of Albany, New York. In Pennsylvania, small flocks were reported mid-state, and some flocks in the mid 1800's around Shermans Creek in Perry County. However, after the Civil War, they were no longer seen in the Mid-Atlantic states. Their numbers continued to decline throughout the southern states as well. Ironically, some researchers such as Mikko Saikku, who wrote in "The Extinction of the Carolina Parakeet," reported that in Chapman's 1934 handbook of "Birds of Eastern North America." The author reported that the last Carolina Parakeet was killed northeast of Lake Okeechobee where in 1904 he saw thirteen and shot four. This is supposedly the last from the wild recorded of them.

Sixteen of the birds were acquired by the Cincinnati Zoo from Florida for less than \$50. By



The Carolina parakeet was a small green neotropical parrot with a bright yellow head, reddish orange face and pale beak native to the eastern, midwest and plains states of the United States. They went extinct due to man in the early 1900s.

1899, these last birds died down to the pair, Lady Jane and Incas. She would die in 1917. Incas died February 21, 1918. Much speculation existed into the 1930's as to whether or not these were the last of their kind.

Like the similar reports of the ivory billed woodpecker, their credibility was questionable. In 1937, Roger Tory Peterson, among others, held a field expedition in South Carolina after reported sightings. None were seen. Even as late as 2009 a sighting was reported from Honduras. This one, like others, were considered a hoax.

Even with the bird's hardiness, its collapse as a species is largely attributed to hunting and sport shooting, the pet and plume trade, deforestation, predators, competition with honey bees for the cavity nesting sites, behavior of the flocks, and food supply. While some experts still find this all hard to comprehend, their decline seems to follow American coloni-

zation east to west.

In the end, like other species, once populations proportion to a certain level, extinction seems inevitable. Questions remain regarding some of the issues. Albeit, it's another case of too little, too late.

At Strawberry Hill in Fairfield, two examples of the Carolina Parakeet may be seen in the nature center. They, along with several other birds, are displayed in a glass case, serving as a reminder of what once was taken for granted. And in some ways, hard to believe.

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve and Environmental Center is a non-profit environmental education and conservation organization located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of south-central Pennsylvania in Fairfield, Pennsylvania. To learn more about all they offer, we encourage you to visit them at 1537 Mt Hope Rd, Fairfield, or visit them on-line at www.strawberryhill.org.



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IN THE COUNTRY

The Commons

Tim Iverson, Naturalist

The “tragedy of the commons” is an idea and term originally coined in 1833. Hardly a novel idea, however the notion continues to find new and novel ways to be demonstrated. The “tragedy of the commons” is simply defined as individual users acting in their own short-term self interest to the long-term detriment (and potential destruction) of all. Originally the concept was actually intended to describe economic principles, but over the years the mantle has been maintained within environmental interests to protect “the commons,” public lands and interests.

The original tragedy illustrated in 1833 starts with farmers grazing cows on a shared pasture. Everybody has one cow. Everybody grazes in the same pasture. Everybody is doing alright. One day a farmer decides if he gets another cow and grazes it in this free shared pasture he can double his economic output. He does this, others take notice of his success and follow suit. Soon there are more and more cows and less and less grass. Eventually, the commons have been overgrazed and destroyed. Now no one can make any money and there are a lot of hungry cows and sad farmers.

A few solutions arise from this problem. One solution is to privatize the commons. The notion is that by selling them, the new owner will now have incentive for personally maintaining them in order to keep generating a profit. Another is to keep the commons public, but regulate them with a governing oversight. By keeping them open, but limiting access through regulation and permitting the commons remain accessible and useable for all. The last option is to just do nothing and let the problem sort itself out. That is however unlikely, as the

commons found their way into this tragedy through this avenue in the first place.

Public lands are generally considered commons. Managed by either federal, state, or local entities they are managed in such a way as to allow access and provide for the common good for everyone in perpetuity. The Organic Act of 1916 formally established the National Park Service. Its enabling legislation explicitly states its, “purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” In other words, to take care of these common goods so that everyone now and in the future can see, use, recreate, and otherwise enjoy them.

Parks protect spaces and objects that are integral to the American story and experience. Sites as magnificent as the Grand Canyon and as solemn as battlefields are to be managed for one and for all. The stories these places convey are invaluable, but they are not without value. Over the course of recent years these commons have faced more and more assaults that would imply that they are value-less. During the most recent shutdown access to the national park system has remained open. The argument is that they are the commons, the people own them and ought to be able to use them.

Within the span of only a few weeks the commons began to degrade. National parks have been subjected to damage that could, in some cases, take years to recover from. In other cases irreparable damage has been done to already endangered species that face the possibility of extinction within the century. Trash is abundant. The resources, which were to be protected for one and for all, are being

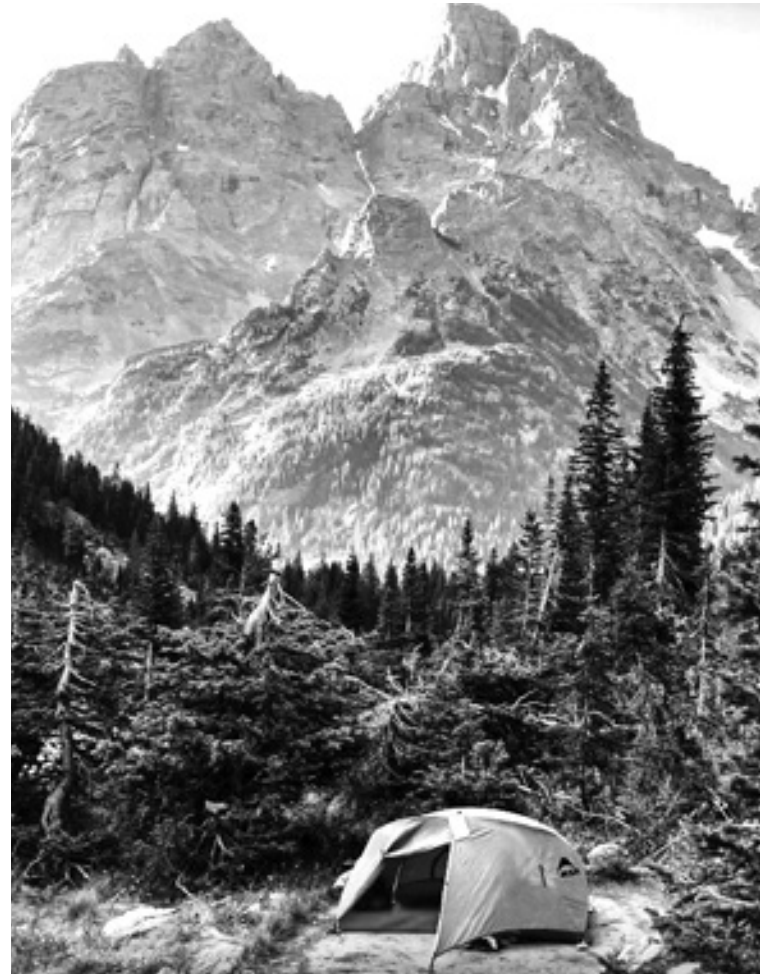
destroyed. Without any oversight, management, or enforcement the tragedy is occurring to our collective commons. This is, of course, why there are scores of dedicated public servants maintaining public lands. The problem isn’t necessarily that there isn’t currently any adult supervision. People ought to know better.

The true test of morality though isn’t what one does when others are looking. The test is what one does when no one is looking. Federally managed lands speak to the collective histories, interests, and cultures of all of us. Between the National Park Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and other land management agencies an individual can do just about anything in these commons. Hunting, fishing, camping, wildlife and plant viewing, boating, climbing, and even mineral extraction and commercial logging interests have a voice and a place to use these spaces. The only caveat is they are commons. They must be left, “unimpaired for the enjoyment (and use) of future generations.”

The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics outlines seven principles for ethical outdoor responsibility. Leave No Trace developed these core ideas to help guide hunters, campers, hikers, or any outdoor enthusiast into sustainable recreation and to minimize impact. Despite originally being intended for wilderness and backcountry use these guidelines are just as, if not more important, anywhere from front-country day hikes to your backyard.

Leave No Trace outlines these seven basic ideas:

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly




On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act into law, creating the National Park Service (NPS) to manage U.S. national parks, battlefields, historic sites and monuments. The bill tasked the NPS with preserving the ecology of the parks under its stewardship while also making them accessible for the public to enjoy.

- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors

as they are the employees who spend careers developing and maintaining them.


Collective ownership of the commons is no different than individual ownership. It requires stewardship from both the individual and the community. Parks tell cultural, historical, and natural stories that reflect the values and identity of the nation. Personal and national heirlooms are no different. When parks shutter visitor centers and services it’s no longer up to the agency, it’s up to the individual. The commons don’t have to be a tragedy. The conscience of the collective can be its champion.

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REAL SCIENCE

Studying science

Michael Rosenthal

My experiences visiting Mother Seton School to view their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Fair, has led me to review my experience with science education. My personal experience in science education included 8 years of undergraduate and graduate study with a major in Chemistry, followed by a career of some fifty years of teaching chemistry and service in academic administration in colleges. There are a variety of pathways one can take to become a scientist, and we will discuss them here. Mother Seton provides a wonderful introduction to science for its students in grades three through eight, and I have written about that experience in past issues. Science is easy for some people and very difficult for others. A good teacher of science recognizes this fact, and works hard to give individ-

ual students the attention and support required to grow toward the possibility of becoming a scientist.

I was always a “good” science student, but never imagined I would become a scientist during my elementary school or junior high school experiences. If I was asked in this period what I planned to do for a career, I most often said “probably become a lawyer”. My parents, neither of whom attended college, were always supportive of me, but they were little help in developing my career interest. In high school, the institution viewed as the best at the time in Youngstown, Ohio, I started to study science more intensely, but it was not until my senior year, when I enrolled in Mr. Gillespie’s chemistry class, that the magic occurred. I just loved chemistry, and Mr. Gillespie was a truly fantastic teacher, always giving me encouragement, never being overly judgmental, and having a great sense of humor.

There are a number of paths one can take to study science in college. One can choose a liberal arts and sciences college or a research university (and there are some institutions at the interface between the two) and major in a science field: biology, chemistry, and physics being the most historically conventional, but also in cross-over fields such as biochemistry and environmental studies. One can choose engineering, which is generally science in a more applied manner with more specific goals, such as nuclear engineering, chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, environmental engineering, and architectural engineering. Students planning to enter medical, dental, or veterinary school often major in a science field, since these programs require a strong and successful education in the sciences for acceptance to these professional schools. The same laws of nature apply in all these fields. There are colleges that are labeled as “engineering schools.” Some universities offer majors in both science and engineering. One graduate program specialty is theoretical chemistry, where all the research can be done by computer calculation, and one never enters the conventional chemistry laboratory. A bridge program is the 3-2 engineering program, where one studies basic science in a liberal arts and sciences program for three years, then transfers to another institution for two years of more specialized engineering education, graduating in five years with two degrees. In my opinion this is an excellent way to become an engineer and also obtain a broad background in the liberal arts. I began my career in an engineering school but I transferred into a liberal arts college, majoring in chemistry. One has to choose which program fits your needs and ambitions.

The other important choice for undergraduate education is whether to choose a large university or a small college of liberal arts and sciences. Does one give a better science education than the other?



To truly appreciate the change in standards of education, google the term “8th Grade Final Exam: Salina, KS - 1895” and see if you could pass their final eighth-grade exam.

The best of the liberal arts colleges have intense small enrollment science courses, with extensive laboratory experiences, and teachers who are committed to teaching undergraduates as their primary concern, combined with scientific research that they often share with upper division students. My own experience was at a liberal arts and sciences program in a moderately sized university that purposely kept its undergraduate classes small, with all classes taught by regular full-time faculty members, and which gave strong personal attention to the students. Questions were always welcomed in class, and professors’ offices were often open for assistance and conversation. The best of these colleges offer research opportunities in the senior year that helps the student cross the bridge to becoming an active scientist, and even may result in journal publication as a junior partner with the professor. Though my college did not at the time have senior research opportunities, I was fortunate in having dedicated teachers in small classes that prepared me well for graduate school.

I applied to five first-rate graduate schools in chemistry, and I was accepted with offers of teaching assistantships (TA) in all five schools.

The undergraduate world of my graduate school in a major university was very different indeed. First year chemistry students were “lectured” in large groups, often of 100 students or more, by a senior professor. There were virtually no opportu-

nities for asking questions in class! A lot of sleeping occurred! After the lecture, students were taught by the TAs in smaller groups. I was a typical TA – 22 years old with only a bachelor’s degree in chemistry, and no training whatsoever as a teacher. My research director, a wonderful mentor in many ways to us, his graduate students, told us to never let a beginning chemistry student get to his office. After the lecture ended, he said, they belonged to us, the TAs. He said his career success depended on his doing research, writing grants and bringing in research funds, publishing research results, and adding to the department’s laboratory resources, and that he did not have the time to meet individually with undergraduate students from his lecture. This is the way the university system usually works.

There is an excellent alternative at some large universities. It is The Honors Program. An Honors Program is “a college within the university.” Classes are small, and special dedicated professors who are attentive to undergraduates, teach them. Competition is high to be accepted into these programs, and they do vary somewhat in format from university to university. The Honors Program gives the student the attention given in a small liberal arts and science college with the resources of the major university.

So the student who aspires to be a scientist must choose the path that fits her or him best. Some students prosper in a larger, less personal environment; others need smaller class situations like the liberal arts college.

Our twin granddaughters entered college this fall. They chose two different small colleges of liberal arts and sciences not far from their home that seemed to fit their desires and needs. Happily, both had a good first semester and are happy. It is their experience that made me think again about the choices one has to make in college selection, and of my own experience in beginning my career to become a scientist. P.S. As a career I chose to become a chemistry professor and later in my career, an academic administrator, in small liberal arts and sciences colleges. After my official retirement from full-time work, I spent six and one-half years as a part-time chemistry instructor at Mt. St. Mary’s University here in Emmitsburg.

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

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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

2019 youth garden?

Jack Deatherage

Seed catalogs began turning up in our PO box in November 2018. A not too subtle reminder that I've yet to establish a garden suitable for families with children that might be interested in growing flowers and edibles while possibly learning something about the sciences gardening encompasses. If the garden were to go in the direction I envision the youngsters would also set up and operate a market stand for the vegetation they grow- hopefully gaining some understanding of entrepreneurship.

The market stand could be expanded to fill the holes the closing of Willow Pond Farm and Hacienda Shiloh have left in the local culinary and medicinal economies. As usual, my vision outpaces reality.

Slow coach that I am, I've been a few years trying to acquire ground for a youth garden within a comfortable walk of the town square. At Commissioner Buckman's suggestion a plan was written and sent to the Sister in charge of the old Seton Center. Sister allowed the idea was a good one, but the old Center location was being returned to cropland as soon as the new Center was built and opened. She suggested I work with the town. After months of studying satellite photos of Emmitsburg and its surrounds I settled on the Scott Road farm- which the town owns- as the second best place for a youth garden.

I'd tramped about that farm decades ago and thought it could be used not only for a garden adventure, but as a working farm offering opportunities for town kids to learn about animal husbandry, butchering and food preservation. (The vision was expanding exponentially to encompass beekeeping for pollinating an orchard while supplying honey and wax for mead and candle making, chickens for eggs and meat, heirloom sheep, swine and- Hell. What happened to my garden?) I wrote a second proposal and presented it to the town commissioners who asked the town staff to consider the plan.

As I understand the situation the farm was a gift to the town with a number of conservation leases and easements in place. With leases delaying any chance

of a garden before I'm too old to care, let alone to farm, I withdrew my proposal and went to look at a nearer piece of town property Commissioner O'Donnell suggested. After talking to the farmers willing to help me get a garden going- they recommended the town put in drain tiles and use the ground for any community project other than gardening.

Having sat through a number of town meetings I've finally gained some small understanding of why the commissioners began suggesting I work with a private landowner in my efforts to establish a garden the local citizens could care for and profit from. The amount of bureaucratic paper shuffling and consulting time with a lawyer over the legal aspects and liability for the town is ridiculous considering I don't have a single family ready to join the garden adventure.

"Gather as many people willing to support you as you can." I was told by more than one commissioner. "We like your idea and hope you succeed. But you stand a better chance acquiring ground for the garden if you have a group ready to create it when you approach either private or public landowners."

With those words of encouragement I went back to the satellite photos and eventually settled on a bit of ground a causal walk from the square. I wrote another proposal and sent it along to the property owner, certain that I'd once more picked the wrong spot. A few days later I found this waiting in my email account:

"Hi Jack, The land is for sale. But I think that we could lend to you to give gardening a try. Give me a shout back next spring."

Oops. I's caught unprepared for that! The scramble to find families interested in gardening, or buying produce from the garden begins. I turn to the tattooer, my mentor in learning to deal with people. "What do I do now?"

"First, put your ego aside and decide what it is you want to accomplish." He suggests. "If you're doing this for altruistic reasons, and I believe you are, then you have to understand your vision isn't necessarily what will end up driving this venture. You will be the one to get the garden started because no one else has the time to do that, but you won't be able to control how it evolves once other people join the proj-

ect. Can you get past that?"

I allow proposing a plan and seeing it begun are my goals- I'm 64 years old and don't much care when I begin the next turn of The Wheel. If the garden ends up needing someone better able to deal with organizing people than I, I'll happily get out of the way.

"Start a Facebook group." The tattooer advises. "The young people you want to introduce to market gardening won't see it- they're using other social media platforms you're not interested in. But their parents will see the group, and they'll be the ones who bring the kids to the garden."

"Talk to the librarians you're always bothering. Maybe they know which families would be interested in a youth garden. See if they'll pass your idea along. Go home and write an ENJ column explaining what you want to do. Get out of my shop and go do something!"

"Oh," He adds. "Once you've a Facebook group set up I'll promote it to my clients. I don't think you realize how many people here are looking for something like this garden to get their children involved in. And don't doubt that people will step up and support the garden with their money when vegetables become available for sale. I'll be your first customer."



Once again, Jack is going to attempt to overcome the Town's bureaucracy and do something meaningful for local kids.

So I creak, crackle and pop home to create the Facebook group- Emmitsburg Youth Garden, though I don't invite people to join it because the season of holy days is upon the area and people aren't generally thinking of gardening as winter finally begins to act a bit like winter. And, I honestly think I and the DW should begin building the garden by ourselves the first year, though a neighboring family tells me they'll show up to help if we acquire the ground to garden on. Setting ego aside, I'll take their help.

The DW sighs, knowing money we can't afford to spend on the gar-

den will be spent and her labor will be required to build the first rows.

"Try to keep the cost under \$200."

"Yes, dea-" I hesitate as I see her face redden and her evil eye begins to jump. Balor longs to make a smoldering cinder of me. Evidently now is not the time for my sarcasm.

"I've got this gardening method to a bare minimum now. I can stay under \$200."

The red fades, my life is temporarily given back. Will I ever learn?

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

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Animal, vegetable, mineral . . .

Debby Luquette
Adams County Master Gardener

There is a connection here: animals need to eat plants to get mineral nutrients in their diet, and plants take up minerals necessary for their own growth from the soil. Thus, our healthy bodies are connected to healthy soil. Even if you are interested in growing beautiful flowers or luxuriant shade trees, you still want healthy soil to provide minerals for healthy plant growth.

Plants and their cells differ quite a bit from animals and their cells, yet an animal digests plant material to get all the nutrients it needs. Even strict carnivores get the plant nutrients they need by consuming an animal that consumed plants. Since plants can't wander to get their food, they depend on roots to obtain everything they need from the soil (except the carbon they get from the air). What are those mineral nutrients? Think about what your own body needs.

Nitrogen, designated by the chemical symbol N, is a very important nutrient. Nitrogen is a major component of amino acids from which proteins are made. It is also found in DNA and several other molecules needed for cell structure and cell metabolism. In addition, plants need nitrogen for chlorophyll, the light gathering molecule that enables photosynthesis. Nitrogen deficiency in plants is usually first noticed when old growth begins to die. Since plants move nitrogen around easily, it is moved from old leaves to new leaves and flowering tissues.

Another important mineral is

phosphorous, taken up by plants in the form of phosphate. Phosphorous, chemical symbol P, is an important piece of the structure of DNA. It is important in the photosynthesis process and general energy use by the plant, as well as moving the sugar products around inside the plant. Most gardeners know that phosphorous is important for flower production. It is necessary for stimulating bud development, blooming, and seed production. Root development is enhanced by ample phosphorous. Adequate supplies of soil phosphate result in healthy growth, but its deficiency is usually only signaled by slow growth, sometimes by reddish or purplish leaves, and most reliably by a soil test.

Potassium, chemical symbol K, is water soluble and moves through plants to carry out a variety of functions, including assisting enzymes and enabling leaf pores to open to allow CO₂ to enter for photosynthesis. When potassium is lacking, the plant is more prone to disease, drought stress, heat damage or frost.

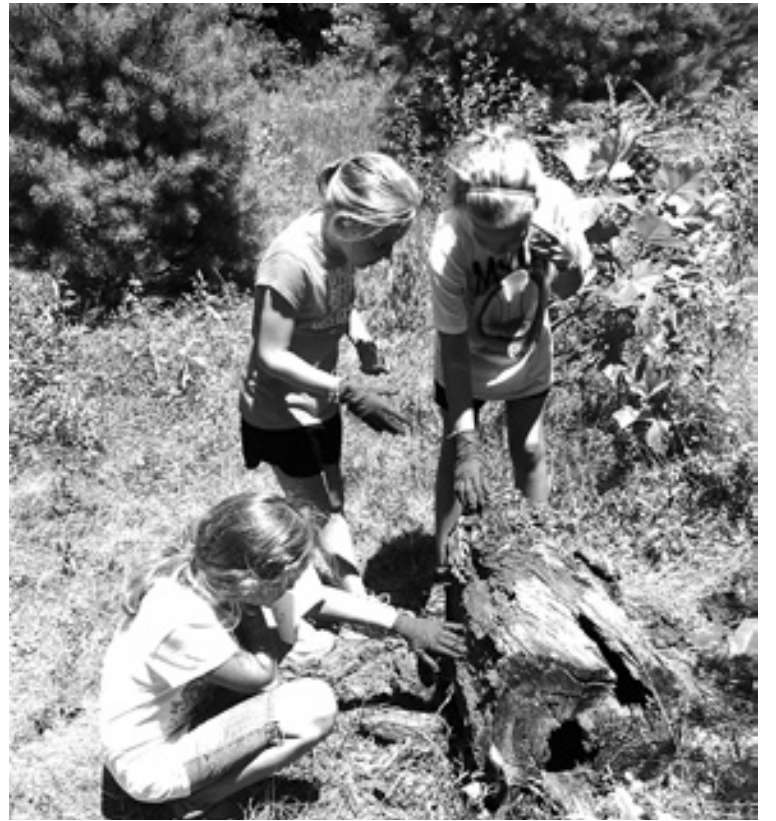
Sulfur is not a nutrient we generally hear about; it is rarely deficient in our soils. Like nitrogen, it is necessary for building proteins, but it is also necessary for the photosynthesis process. Legumes, members of the bean family, require sulfur to work with Rhizobium, their soil bacteria partners, to turn nitrogen from the air into nitrogen that the plants can use to make proteins.

Calcium helps build strong bones in people, but plant cells don't have bones. Smaller, non-woody plants rely on strong cell walls to stand straight, and they

need calcium to build strong cell walls. Besides its structural role, calcium is also necessary for several cell processes including the movement of other plant nutrients and the action of several enzymes. Once calcium is situated in a plant, it doesn't move, so calcium cannot move to new plant parts when needed. That means a deficiency is first noticed in the new plant growth, where the leaves tend to curl or wrinkle on the edges, sometimes yellowing or turning black. The most widely recognized calcium deficiency is blossom end rot in tomatoes.

Magnesium is a mineral nutrient we don't hear much about, but it is the centerpiece of the all-important chlorophyll molecule. Chlorophyll is a big green molecule that can catch light energy and send it into the photosynthesis machinery of the cell. A plant doesn't need a lot of magnesium, not like nitrogen or phosphorous, but it is most important. Woody plants will even hoard magnesium when the growing season is over, taking it out of the leaves and storing it in the woody tissue until spring. The vibrant fall colors we see come from other leaf pigments that were there all summer but hidden by the chlorophyll. I'm sure you guessed that a deficiency of magnesium is evident by leaves that aren't green.

Earlier I used the designations N, P, and K to refer to nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium respectively. The fertilizers we buy and use in our gardens contain these three nutrients, and sometimes a few of the others I mentioned. The amount of each is designated by the numbers on the package we refer to as N-P-K numbers. A package of fertilizer displays a label with three hyphenated numbers — 5-10-5, 10-10-10, or 6-5-3, for instance — telling you the composition of three nutrients. Thus, 5-10-5 means the mixture in the



Gardening isn't just for adults, even kids can get involved in discovering the intricacies of the ecosystem in which we live in.

bag contains 5% nitrogen, 10% phosphate and 5% potassium.

Many gardeners use compost and other organic-based soil amendments to enhance fertility. These have the advantage of increasing organic matter, which helps the soil microorganisms gather nutrients. These microorganisms, especially fungi, exchange the nutrients for carbohydrates produced by the plants. Organic soil amendments do not have a high content of nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium, but composted organic matter holds nutrients in place longer, decreasing the chance they will leach away with too much rain or watering. The disadvantage is that you don't have a product analysis telling you what nutrient components are present and in what quantities.

How do you know if your soil is deficient in the major nutrients? How do you know if the pH is within range to make nutrients

accessible to plants? A soil test can help. If you get a soil test from Penn State, the results will give you suggestions for proper fertilizer applications, as well as information about soil pH and suggestions to adjust it if necessary. The soil test kits are available from the Penn State Extension Office on 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg for \$9.

Gardeners should not only be concerned with the connection of soil and plant, but plant and insect, soil and insect, insect and insect. The relationships within the entire ecosystem impacts everything we do as gardeners.

One of the last things a gardener might want to find near her garden is a congregation of aphids. Worse, watching the ants practicing their version of animal husbandry, increasing the aphid herd size and encouraging feeding, so they can collect the sweet secretions, called honey dew, excreted by the aphids is not what a gardener wants to see. But if we look closer, we may also see a ladybug evaluating this as a potential meal, or a potential spot to lay her eggs. Ladybug larvae hatch from the eggs with a voracious appetite; we sometimes call the larvae aphid lions. And the spider? That was another hungry predator.

There was once a day when I thought that the precious time I did have for gardening would be better spent on plants I use for food. As I got older and slowed down a bit, I found watching insects was a good excuse for a few minutes rest. That garden was near a protected woodland, so we had lots of native plants nearby to harbor native insect life. It was then that I began to realize that flowers, especially insect-feeding flowers, were good companions for vegetables. And after moving to Adams County I began to see how native plants in the landscape could make lovely - and useful - additions to my landscape.

Walking through the woods or viewing the roadsides, we view

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Small Town Gardener

Houseplant insect infestation: a few tips from a pro

Marianne Willburn

To continue a bit where I left off last month with general houseplant care, I'd like to go into more detail about dealing with the insect infestations that tend to show up in the dead of winter, and which, if not caught quickly, can weaken and kill the plant you have taken months to look after.

By February, most houseplants have endured months of suboptimal conditions, not to mention suboptimal care, and insect levels may be higher than we think. We've still got at least three months before these pots can safely hit Mid-Atlantic patios and decks for the summer season, and if we want to have anything to show off, it's time to do something.

Scale, aphids, spider mite, fungus gnats, whitefly, mealy bug... these are not bullies that simply go away when the gardener turns the other cheek. If we don't cope with them now, they will only get worse.

Even if you were exceptionally careful in the autumn, you may still have an insect issue. Check your plants. Every October I bring in plants that have been treated at least twice with horticultural oil over a two week period outside, yet something always gets by. Pregnant aphids treat my succulents like a home for fallen girls – also sneaking in as eggs that are too tiny for these poor eyes.

Sticky honeydewed foliage is usually my first sign – or at least the sign I can no longer cross the room to ignore without gummed-up feet. Honeydew doesn't just coat foliage, it coats floors, furniture, lampshades and anything else that happens to be underneath the little vampires. It is the excrement of sucking insects – a sugar-rich liquid expelled just as quickly as the sap is ingested. A bit like a newborn baby without the diapers.

It goes without saying that by the time you notice it, you've got a big problem on your hands – and it's going to take more time and effort to solve it than it would have taken to keep an eye on the plants in the first place.

But now is not a time for judgement (says she, conveniently). It is a time for action. So I consulted local plant guru and yoga instructor, Jan Faulkner, whose successful business, Tropical Plant Outfitters beautifies skyscrapers and office buildings throughout the DC Metro area.

Jan is a pro at keeping plants looking lovely – and many is the evening that she has sat on my couch, innocently and beautifully sipping a beer before suddenly and violently pulling off three offending stems from a neighboring houseplant. She always apologizes pro-

fusely, assures me they "had to go" and then seamlessly goes back to talk of yoga and calming the mind. The contrast is a priceless one and makes me smile to think of it.

I trust her completely – after all, her business relies on great looking plants – so when I found that a gifted agave was covered in scale and my large and small umbrella plants (*Schefflera* spp.) were similarly affected this year, I decided to stop limping along with a cloth and mayonnaise and find out what the professionals were using.

Jan happened to come over during a warm spell, which made things much easier as we dragged these seven and ten gallon pots onto the deck to treat them. Had it been a cold day, they would have been dragged to a central place on my tile floor where spray would not hit furniture or curtains.

Jan's weapon of choice is OMRI listed Safer Insect Killing Soap and she mixed up a bottle as we sat on the deck, enjoying the unseasonable warmth. Though she has used neem oil, she hates the smell (as do I), and her method of spraying the plant, then gently working through the foliage with her hands to remove the insects is made vastly more pleasurable by working with soap over oil.

She inspected the plants, pronounced judgement, ("it's not that bad"), and gave the first one a light haircut to remove awkward stems, dead foliage and invisible crawlers (the first instar stage of scale insects) that like to congregate at the tips of new foliage.

And then the spraying and fondling began. Leaves, stems and woody crotches were all addressed in turn. 'A clean crotch is really important,' she stressed, and I could not disagree. Within a few minutes we'd caressed that first schefflera to within an inch of its life, and our hands, whilst covered with soap and scale, were not so covered as to make me turn in my gardener's license in shame.

As it was later in the season and the infestation had been moderate, Jan applied a light granular systemic for houseplants from Bonide and bid me to fertilize and repeat the soap procedure in a few days. For light infestations, she skips the systemic and does fine with two rounds of soap.

The spiny variegated agave didn't need fondling; or rather, if it did, it wasn't getting any from me. I sprayed where I could (scale loves those crotches), and applied systemic to the soil, watering it in well.

A week later and the worst is behind us. The schefflera are happy, glossy and clean as a whistle, and the agave is much improved as well – though another treat-

ment will be necessary. Insecticidal soap will also kill spider mite, aphids, mealy bugs and a host of other bad boys. For those in the insect air force – fungus gnats, white fly, and winged aphids, try yellow sticky cards. Jan recommends them, and after nosing about a bit into the underwear of Longwood's 300ft indoor green wall, I can report that so do horticulturalists in the know.

With houseplants trending higher and higher these days (macramé is so back, btw), it pays to stay ready to fight the pests that can quickly turn a thing of beauty into a spindly, scraggly bit of shame. Use the methods that make the most sense to you, but use something before there's no going back.

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

the garden that nature and chance throw together. It looks messy and is often loaded with invasive plants we don't want within miles of our yards. But how about deliberately building an 'ecosystem' in your yard? Let's start by understanding that an ecosystem is a situation in which a plant and animal community interacts with its physical environment.

The physical environment is something we have little control over. We can amend the soil by adjusting pH and adding organic matter and we supplement the rain with a garden hose, but we have to work within the constraints of climate and soil type when choosing the plants to build our community. And here we can have the freedom to be creative in color, shape, texture . . .

The plant community which will be the most resilient and most attractive to the animals - pollinators, pest predators, etc. - will include native plants with a variety of flower shapes and sizes. Choose some flowers in the mint family (examples, bee balm and mountain mint) and the daisy family (example, Echinacea and Coreopsis). Include others, too, like butterfly weed and greater lobelia. Be sure that blooms span the season from early spring to late fall. Golden Alexanders and Green-

and-Gold start the gardening season, with New England Asters and Goldenrods bringing it to a close.

Don't neglect shrubs! Some interesting flowers are found at the end of woody stems. The viburnums are a large group of flowering shrubs with berries that help the birds fuel up for migration and provide food for the ones that stay all winter. Others include elderberry, serviceberry and chokecherry.

Perhaps you aren't sure how some of these native plants will fit into the landscape of your own yard and neighborhood. It's never a bad idea to see how these plants actually look in a garden setting and imagine how they can fit your situation. One place to observe a variety of native plants is in Gettysburg at the Agricultural and Natural Resources Building on Harrisburg Road. The foundation plantings around the building are natives chosen to give the public a variety of native plants to think about, but there are so many good plants we couldn't possibly fit them all! Come and visit as part of the Garden Chat tour this summer, or at your convenience.

. . . And if you come by when the dedicated crew of volunteers is working, by all means stop and say hello.

Conservation District's 2019 Tree Seedling Sale

Native bareroot seedlings, transplants and containerized trees and shrubs may now be ordered from the Adams County Conservation District (ACCD) for its 2019 Tree Seedling Sale. Pick up date is Thursday April 11 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the pole building behind the Ag Center on 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg. Names of those who placed a pre-order will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a free rain barrel.

The District tries to balance its offerings for the homeowner as well as the larger landowner plus those in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program or CREP. We look for native offerings that are larger in size and smaller in price. New this year is the one-gallon containerized PawPaw (*Asimina triloba*) and the two-gallon American witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*). Bareroot hardwoods are red maple, red osier dogwood, river

birch, swamp white oak, sycamore and the much-requested persimmon. Evergreens are Eastern white pine (transplants only), Norway spruce (seedlings only) and first time for sale this year, American arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis*) (transplants only). Also offered for pre-order sale this year are five-foot Miracle tube tree shelters/oak stakes, bluebird and bat boxes and rain barrels. You may also purchase them throughout the year at the District.

Interested in ordering or have questions? Please contact the ACCD at 717-334-0636, email shull@adamscounty.us, or visit us at www.adamscounty.us in Events and Meetings and print out an order form/brochure. You will need to either mail or drop off your order form, along with your check payable to the ACCD by March 1st for the containerized plants and March 23rd for all other orders. Thank you.

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LOOKING FOR TRUE LOVE? ...

Thanks to our friends at the Emmitsburg News-Journal, we're having a third month of pet photos to start the new year! These sweet babies are looking for a home and one of the greatest gifts shelter workers could get for 2019 would be to get the four-legged souls in their care out of a cage and into a forever home. If you or anyone you know is looking for a furry friend, please take a look below. The love of an animal is often one of the strongest, most rewarding relationships a person can find. If you want to help but can't adopt, the shelter is always in need of monetary or pet supply donations, including kitten food and adult cat food with meat as the first ingredient. From all of us at CVAS to all of you, we wish you the happiest, healthiest New Year.

For more information about adopting one of these pets, please call the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit their website at www.cvas-pets.org. The Adams County Animals Shelter is always looking for humans seeking canine or feline companionship. You can contact them at 717-334-8876 or visit them on-line at www.adamscountypca.org. And you can never go wrong dropping by the Frederick County Animal Shelter. Visit them on-line at www.frederickcountymd.gov/FCAC or call them at 301-600-1546.



Banana came into the shelter as a stray in May 2018. She's a 4-year-old brown tabby who loves to sit in the window and watch the birds outside. Banana has the prettiest green eyes and we're hoping they, along with her sweet personality, will convince you to come adopt her.



Leroy is a 1-year-old black-and-white kitty who was surrendered to the shelter because his owners could no longer care for him. This guy is so incredibly sweet and loves to climb and play with toys. He's hoping you might be a match for him. Can you come out to the shelter and see if you are?



Snowball is a 3-year-old all-white boy with blue eyes who was surrendered because his owners could no longer care for him. He is a playful guy that loves to explore and likes a nice soft bed to sleep in. He is front declawed and would love to find his forever home where he will be loved!



Cash is a 4-month-old terrier mix puppy who was adopted from foster care, but returned to the shelter. For a little squirt, he's got good manners and just look at that face! Because he's so young, he will need to work on housetraining, but this boy is eager to please.



Patton is a 2-year-old Nefoundland who was surrendered to the shelter because his owner could no longer care for him. Patton weighs more than 100 pounds and will need someone who understands extra-large breed dogs. This guy is strong and gets excited with new places and people. He doesn't like other dogs and definitely chases cats. Patton must meet all family members. Because of his size and strength we're requiring a fenced-in yard. He's not in our general adoption area and can be seen by people with an approved application.



Sally is a 2-year-old Shepherd mix who was dropped off at the shelter with very little information. She is spayed and currently weighs in at 132lbs, so she will need someone that is able to handle her on walks. Sally loves to be with people and knows how to sit. She has been kind of reactive with other dogs at the shelter, so she should be the only dog in the home. Because of her size and no history with children, an age restriction may apply, so make sure you discuss that with the staff. Do you have the right place for Sally?

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Grizz is a 2-year-old lab/hound mix who came into the shelter as a stray so we don't know anything about his past. When he first arrived, poor Grizz was terrified and took some coaxing to gain his trust. He eventually warmed up and now is the sweetest boy! He seeks attention and can get a little upset when he has to go back into his kennel (who wants to be stuck in a kennel though?) He does know sit, but we have yet to figure out what else he may know. He likes treats so potential owners should keep this in mind for training. Grizz does sometimes jump up so an age restriction may apply for children in the household. Grizz has come a long way since he arrived and would love to meet you and see if you are the match for him!

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Khaleesi is a 4-year-old tabby and white girl with medium hair who was brought into the shelter because her owner was moving. She is a very sweet girl who loves attention but may do best as the only cat in a quiet home. If you have the right place for Khaleesi, please come adopt her!



Lady Bug is a 5-year-old brown tabby girl who came in as a stray in April. She's a real sweetheart and likes to supervise anything that's going on, as cats will often do. If you're looking for a fun friend, come meet Lady Bug! She's ready for her forever home and will make a great addition to a warm and loving family.



Snuggles was found as a stray and brought into the shelter. She's a 7-year-old calico girl who was already spayed when she came to us, but no one came to claim her, so she's looking for a second chance. Snuggles loves attention and to be around people. If you have the right spot for Snuggles, she will make a wonderful companion!



Josie is a 4-year-old hound/Shepherd mix who was returned to the shelter because things weren't working out. She's a sweet girl who knows how to sit, but needs to be the only animal in the home. Because of Josie's age and background, restriction for children may apply. If you think you've got the right spot for Josie, please stop out and meet her!



Sunshine came into the shelter as a stray and is just a sweetheart. She's a 3-year-old terrier and we think there may be some Shar-Pei. She loves attention and scratches! She would do best in a home without cats. She did have some skin issues when she arrived and we're working on them, but with some good food and some antibiotics she looks and feels so much better.



Blue is a 1-year-old Chihuahua who was surrendered to the shelter because his owners were moving and could not take him along with them. Blue is a special boy that does have a few quirks so he is not in our general adoption area -- he will be shown by approved application only. Blue absolutely adores people -- once he gets to know them. He can be reactive with strangers but once he knows you he can be a sweet boy (but it does take him a little while to come around). Blue needs someone that has knowledge on the "napoleon attitude" of small dogs. Because of his past history an age restriction for children may apply, so please discuss this with shelter staff.

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Before humans die, they write their last Will & Testament, give their home & all they have, to those they leave behind. If, with my paws, I could do the same, this is what I'd ask...

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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FIRE COMPANY AWARD BANQUETS

Vigilant Hose Company



VHC Member of the Year award recipient Mary Lou Little flanked by VHC Chief Umbrel and President Frank Davis.



Pam Ellison accepting the prestigious President's Award from President Tim Clark.



Cliff Shriner was the recipient of the Vigilant Hose Company's Top Responder award for 2018.



Alex McKenna accepts this year's Chief's Award from Chief Chad Umbel.



Vigilant Hose Company Auxiliary: Katie Davis, Co-Historian; Jennifer Boyd, Co-Historian; Mandy Ryder, Financial Secretary; Joyce Glass, Secretary; Jo Ann Boyd, Treasurer; Sharel Boyle, Vice President; and Patty Kuykendall, President.



Administrative Officers & Board of Directors. Front Row - Administrative Officers: Bill Boyd, Assistant Treasurer; Steve Hollinger, Treasurer; Eric Stackhouse Assistant Secretary; Tom Ward, Secretary; Dave Stonesifer, Vice President; Frank Davis, President. Back Row - Board of Directors: Dave Zentz, Randy Myers, Vance Click, Carl White, Scott Maly, Tim Clarke, Doug Orner, Mary Lou Little, and Pam Bolin.



Operational Officers & Fire Police. Front row - Operational Officers: Alex McKenna, Captain; Josh Brotherton, Assistant Chief; Jim Click, Deputy Chief; and Chad Umbel, Chief. Back row - Fire Police Officers: Sam Cool, 2nd Lieutenant; and Steve Orndorff, 1st Lieutenant. Missing from photo is the Fire Police Captain, Tom Vaughn.

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 Secretary: Thomas Ward
 Assistant Secretary: Eric Stackhouse
 Treasurer: Steve Hollinger
 Assistant Treasurer: William Boyd
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Line Officers for 2019

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 Deputy Chief: James Click
 Assistant Chief: Joshua Brotherton
 Captain: Alex McKenna

Vice President: Sharel Boyle
 Treasurer: Jo Ann Boyd
 Secretary: Joyce Glass
 Financial Secretary: Mandy Ryder
 Co-Historians: Jennifer Boyd & Katie Davis

Board of Directors for 2019

Pam Bolin, Timothy Clark, Vance Click, Mary Lou Little, Scott Maly, Randy Myers, Douglas Orner, Carl White, and David Zentz.

Auxiliary Officers for 2019

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FIRE COMPANY AWARD BANQUETS

Rocky Ridge Fire Company



Junior members of the Rocky Ridge Fire Co.: Humerick Bill Kaas, Broady Mathias, Josie Kaas, Hunter Hurley, Luke Humerick (advisor). And of course, in front are Blake & Devin Yougerman.



Administrative Officers: Sitting Dale Kline Sr. Dennis Mathias, Paulette Mathias, Christina Hurley, Bernard Wivell, -Bonny Hurley. Standing James Russell, Penny Stonesifer, Barry Burrier, Jamison Mathias, Steve Wolfe.



Blake and Devin Yougerman - the future of Volunteer Fire Companies in the county!



Bernard Wivell receiving the President's Award for his 40 years as treasurer of the company.



Auxiliary members - sitting: Betty Ann Mumma, Nancy Summers, Kay Ensor, Helen Burrier, Nancy Baker. Middle row: Christine Kaas, Linda Northrup, Debbie Eyer, Patsy Wetzel, JoAnn Hurley, Wilma Stover. Back row: Brianna Kaas, Leon Kaas, JoAnn Wetzel, Buddy Stover.



Alan Brauer receiving the Charles Mumma Firefighter of the Year award from Linda Northrup.

Administrative Officers for 2019

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HEALTH NOTES

Know the symptoms of Sepsis

Kelsey Shupe
Frederick Memorial Hospital

Did you know that infections put you and your family at risk for a life-threatening condition called sepsis?

What is Sepsis?

In a healthy body, the immune system prevents or fights infections from germs like bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites. For reasons that researchers still have not figured out, the immune system sometimes stops fighting the germs and instead turns on itself, leading to sepsis.

Sepsis is the body's extreme response to an infection. It is life threatening, and without timely treatment, sepsis can rapidly lead to tissue damage, organ failure, and death.

Sepsis happens when an infection you already have—in your skin, lungs, urinary tract or some-

where else—triggers a chain reaction throughout your body.

Who is at Risk?

Anyone can develop an infection, so anyone can develop sepsis. People with a chronic condition such as diabetes, lung disease, cancer, and kidney disease are at increased risk of developing infections that can lead to sepsis. In addition, the risk of developing sepsis increases for the very young, the elderly, the chronically ill, or those with weakened immune systems.

What are the Symptoms?

If you or a loved one has an infection, it's important to be on the lookout for a combination of sepsis symptoms, and see a doctor immediately if you have them. The Sepsis Alliance has adopted this mantra to help remember the symptoms:

- When it comes to sepsis, remember it's about TIME.

• **T – Temperature:** Any change in your body's temperature—both high or low—can be a sign of sepsis.

• **I – Infection:** You may have signs and symptoms around the affected area (such as chest pain for pneumonia), or signs like fever, fatigue, and pain for a generalized infection. Keep in mind that it is possible to have an infection and not know it.

• **M – Mental decline:** Watch for a sudden change in mental status, such as becoming confused or severely sleepy.

• **E – Extremely ill:** Sepsis survivors often say that it was the worst, sickest, or most in pain they'd ever felt.

Start a Conversation

If you or your loved one suspects sepsis or has an infection that's not getting better or is getting worse, ask your doctor or nurse, "Could

this infection be leading to sepsis?"

Here are a few examples of how you can start a conversation:

- "I have an infection that doesn't seem to be getting any better. I am concerned this could be leading to sepsis. What can I do to make sure this does not happen?"
- "My grandmother has a urinary tract infection. She has had a fever for the past few days. She has also been confused and disoriented. Could her infection be leading to sepsis?"
- "My 6-month-old son had a low-grade fever and cough yesterday. But, today, he is not alert, is making fewer wet diapers, and is having difficulty breathing. Could this be leading to sepsis?"
- "My elderly father has diabetes. Could he be at higher risk for infections that can lead to sepsis?"

How Do You Treat Sepsis?

At Frederick Memorial Hospital, a dedicated team of RRT-QC nurses are ready to respond within five minutes of a "Code Sepsis" being called from our Emergency Department or inpatient units. Rapid Response-Quality Champion (RRT-QC) nurses are expert critical care nurses who serve all of Frederick Memorial Hospital in two distinct areas: responding to clinical emergencies and assuring compliance with quality measures.

Rapid Response Team-Quality Champion nurses wear yellow jackets and blue pants to enhance their visibility to patients and families and to make them immediately recognizable to their colleagues. Available around the clock, every day of the year; RRT-QC nurses must be physically capable of responding to an RRT call within five minutes, as well as have:

A minimum of two years of critical care experience with at least six months at Frederick Memorial Hospital.

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ICU/Critical Care competencies, mandatories, and any other ICU or hospital requirements.

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Having a dedicated RRT-QC team on call for early intervention has resulted in measurably better outcomes, higher quality of care, improved communication with families, and fewer unnecessary transfers to the ICU.

The most common treatments for sepsis are antibiotics and IV fluids. Typically, a doctor will prescribe broad-spectrum antibiotics, which are effective against many of the most common bacteria, given intravenously to get into the patient's system quickly. In addition, IV fluids help to keep the blood pressure at a healthy level, keeping organs functioning properly and to reduce damage from sepsis.

How Can I Prevent Sepsis?

Like most health conditions, prevention is your best defense against sepsis.

Talk to your doctor or nurse about steps you can take to prevent infections. Some steps include taking good care of chronic conditions and getting recommended vaccines.

Practice good hygiene, such as handwashing, and keeping cuts clean and covered until healed.

Know the symptoms of sepsis.

Act fast. Get medical care immediately if you suspect sepsis or have an infection that's not getting better or is getting worse.

To learn more about sepsis, visit cdc.gov/sepsis.

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The Joint Works Program is a dedicated center within Frederick Memorial Hospital specifically designed for joint replacement, recovery, and rehabilitation. The Joint Works blends the talents of a team of experienced and expert clinical professionals—orthopaedic physicians, nurses, and rehabilitation therapists—who treat joint replacement patients every day, delivering the highest quality care.

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NFHC is here to stay (for now)

In response to last month's article on the possibility of losing the National Fire Heritage Center (NFHC), now located in Emmitsburg, NFHC President, Bill Killen responded in fervor expressing that, "The NFHC has no plans to leave Emmitsburg in the foreseeable future." In December, Sam Goldwater, Trustee for the NFHC, told the Cecil Whig that the NFHC may be relocating to Elkton, MD. This move, according to Goldwater, could be "the best option for the Fire Heritage Center in the future." According to Killen, this simply is not true.

The NFHC Executive Board was informed of the availability of the soon to be surplus Armory in Elkton, MD, and agreed with the recommendation of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to explore the matter further. However, Killen expressed that he has been in contact with Emmitsburg's Mayor, Don Briggs, in regard to this matter, and he hopes to work together to find a space suitable within Emmitsburg.

Killen did note that NFHC's Board of Directors recognizes that there is a limited availability of space in Emmitsburg, but will explore every opportunity to provide a suitable facility for the future when the archives and exhibits outgrow present facilities. The NFHC's Archivist reported that the Center could

outgrow their current space, at 300 South Seton Avenue, in two to three years, which makes it a necessity to make plans for the future of the collection now.

Moving forward, the NFHC does understand that they must work on viable options for the future of the NFHC. According to Killen, in an effort to strive for diversity, the NFHC has recently rebalanced the Board of Directors and increased its number of Trustees. They have solidified a legal arrangement with the Vigilant Hose Company (VHC) for the archive space in Emmitsburg and are in the process of putting together a team to develop a safe harbor initiative. The VHC's President, Frank Davis, informed the NFHC Board of Directors via conference call on January 8 that details of the agreement to lease the second floor of the former EMS station were complete, and the agreement could be signed this month.

"Our leadership team realizes we are at a crossroads where decisions made in the immediate future will determine the viability of this project going forward. The challenges facing the NFHC involve mission, leadership, physical location, funding, staffing and outreach. In other words, all the foundational building blocks are at stake. The NFHC is, at a point where if these matters are

not adequately addressed, the future of the NFHC is at risk," stated Killen in a letter sent to the Editor of this paper.

Once news of the possible move away from Emmitsburg hit, President of the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum and Preservation Society, Clarence Jewell, reached out to clarify that the museum definitely has no plans to move anytime soon. Jewell noted that the Fire and Rescue Museum, although housed in the same building as the NFHC, is not affected by the recent developments with the NFHC.

After the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum formally contracted with the county government for the building located at South Seton Avenue, a written agreement was developed for a sub-lease of 1,500 square feet for the NFHC. From the very beginning, the location within the museum was to "plant the flag" of NFHC and provide the organization a temporary facility with eyes to the future for a large formal archive.

The fire museum has been in existence at the South Seton Avenue location for almost nine years. "The museum has members from throughout Frederick County and has been extremely fortunate to have efforts of Emmitsburg area residents Wayne Powell, his wife Brenda and Frank Schmersal, whom have pro-



While the long term future of the National Fire Heritage Center is still in doubt, the Frederick Fire Museum, pictured above, has no intention of moving from its present location in Emmitsburg.

vided many volunteer hours for both organizations. These individuals have gone the extra mile to tackle many of the maintenance and operational issues of the facility. The Town of Emmitsburg, the VHC and former Emmitsburg Ambulance Co. have been strong advocates providing in-kind services and support of the museum. Local resident John Hollinger has graciously provided his antique Ford fire engine formally owned by the VHC for display. Mayor Don Briggs and Former Mayor Jim Hoover along with the town commissioners serving with both have been some of our most adamant supporters," stated Jewell in a press release.

The Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum is considered a viable part of the Emmitsburg community

and will be reopening for the season in April. The museum is currently working to raise funds to display the artwork by William Cochran of the glass etching formerly at the old Independent Hose Co. No. 1 firehouse in downtown Frederick. The goal is to build a lighted display that will truly serve as a fire service welcome to the Town of Emmitsburg. This intricate piece of art was skillfully removed from the Frederick building and carefully transported to the fire museum by the generosity of Emmitsburg Glass.

In 2019, the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum is refocusing on marketing, funding and membership to enhance the viability of the museum to continue operation in Emmitsburg for many years to come.

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WWI NEWS REPORTS FROM THE FRONT

League of Nations vs. Monroe Doctrine



Not a day went by that newspapers didn't print dire warnings on the creeping spread of Bolshevism.

February 7

Future Of German Colonies Debated

The Allied powers have agreed that the German colonies shall not be returned to Germany, owing to mismanagement, cruelty and the use of those colonies as submarine bases. The conquered regions of Armenia, Syria, Mesopotamia, Palestine and Arabia shall be detached from the Turkish Empire.

Provision is made whereby the well-being and development of backward colonial regions are regarded as a sacred trust of civilization, over which the League of Nations shall exercise supervisory care. The administration of these regions is entrusted to the more advanced nations, who will act on behalf of the League of Nations.

Those nations charged with the care and development of the colonial regions will undertake actions based upon the stage of current development and potential for self-government. The mandates in Palestine, Syria, and other portions of Turkey, where well-developed civilization exists, would be comparatively light and would probably include a certain degree of self-governance.

On the other hand, colonies like

those in Central Africa would require extensive management to suppress the slave trade, the liquor traffic, ammunition and arms traffic, and the prevention of military authority on the part of the natives, except for native police purposes.

Other colonies, such as those in German Southwest Africa, and some of the South Pacific islands, have such sparse and scattered populations and are so separated from other communities that the allied countries charged with their oversight will probably simply assume them into their existing empires.

Meanwhile, it is reported that Japan has reiterated her intention to hold the Marshall and Caroline Islands in the Pacific, which she took from Germany during the war, as well as her interest upon the execution of her agreement, reached in September, with China, regarding Japan's control of Shanghai.

Dardanelles Care May Fall To U.S.

It has been learned that a movement within the peace conference is to make the United States the trustee of Constantinople and the Dardanelles. The French point of view is that the Americans technically are admirably equipped to improve the port and the straits as they never were improved under the Turkish administration.

Moreover, France considers that American-proven disinterestedness is the best possible guarantee that all nations involved in commerce to and from the Black Sea will be treated with absolute fairness.

The European powers seem to feel that the United States is acting queerly in hesitating to accept trusteeship over some of the more difficult regions of the old world. "You have taken the lead," they say, "in the movement to reorganize the world on a just and liberal basis, yet you have seemed not to desire to accept full responsibility for the reorganization."

Our Monroe Doctrine, however, will have lost all meaning if we accept the League of Nations, say some. As by accepting the League, it opens the door for European meddling in the affairs of the American continent. Americans that still adhere to this Doctrine, therefore, desire to frustrate the adoption of the League's treaty in the Senate.

When it is pointed out that the United States might accept the trusteeship of Samoa and other Pacific islands where we already have interest, Europeans reply; "Yes, you are willing to administer places where no real difficulty is involved, but when it is a question of a real important region, like Constantinople, you hesitate."

Huns Face Stiff Terms

The Allies will probably demand stiff terms be imposed upon Germany, whose tactics of tacit resistance are said to have reached a climax in a threat made at Welmar by the German Chancellor to break off negotiations with the Allies.

The feeling in peace conference circles is that the Germans are more and more forgetting their position, and it is expected that the Supreme War Council will take measures to bring them to a sense of the realities.

Marshall Foch will meet with the Germans on February 17 to fix the conditions for the third renewal of the armistice. It is understood that the Council will fix a brief time within which the Germans must carry out the conditions they have only fulfilled in part. In this respect it is noted that none of the German merchant ships which were to have been sent to certain allied ports have yet been handed over.

The supreme war Council will also fix the size of the contingents of France, Great Britain, the United States and the Allied nations in the armies of occupation, both in Europe and Asia.

The Naval branch of the peace conference, bearing mainly on the turning over of the German submarines, blockade restrictions and the surrender of the German commercial fleet, is progressing. This fleet, it is stated, is ready to be turned over, but the Allies have not yet agreed on the allotment of the ships among the various Allied nations or on the compensation for the use of the vessels.

The proposal that the German warships now in Scapa Flow be sunk is practically certain to be accepted by the peace conference. The destruction of the ships is abdicated on the grounds that their division among the



As word of the Allied peace terms started to leak out, Germany began to question the cost of the peace.

victors would cause heartburn. The vessels, numbering five battle cruisers, eleven battleships, eight cruisers and 50 destroyers, are to be escorted out into the Atlantic and sunk. The question of dealing with the surrendered submarines will be considered separately where they shall be sunk or preserved.

Another point for which the British naval guild will press at the peace conference will be the raising of Heigoland. This would be a tremendous undertaking, as the island is about one third of a mile square and its highest point is 190 feet, while the post is fortified with concrete and steel. An enormous quantity of explosives would be required, but it would be the best way of consuming the German reserves of high explosives.

February 14

America For Americans

"America for Americans only" is the declared policy, which the American peace delegates here are striving to obtain so as to ensure that the United States may not become involved in European affairs any further. In this way America can maintain the Monroe Doctrine, and at the same time, live up to requirements placed upon it by the League of Nations.

It is assumed that when President Wilson takes the American public into his confidence, he will be able to announce that the sovereign interest of America has been protected by the agreement drafted in Paris. This is due to the adamant demand that America remain aloof from petty squabbles and intrigue designed to drag her into the mire of European politics.

As currently proposed, the League of Nations will be a permanent Executive Council, consisting of twelve delegates, principally from the great powers, which will decide most of the international questions. It will meet once a year. Nations will be represented proportionally to their size and strength.

There will be an international tribunal for questions in litigation, an international economic council and various special commissions, but these have not yet been determined. Finally, there will be an international army, composed of contingents from the different countries, under command of an international staff.

A series of economic and boycott measures will be adopted as a means of

exercising pressure on hostile states. If two states insist, despite everything, on fighting, the League will permit them to do so on condition that they observe the rules of warfare, which will be drafted by the League. If the rules aren't followed the League may intervene.

The League, as now envisioned, goes well beyond the original American idea, which the European Allies considered too weak to be effective. The present plan bears a strong resemblance to the American Constitution with a powerful executive, separate parliament and a tribunal.

France & Belgium Demand Reparations

The French and the Belgian plea that they should be permitted to recoup their enormous losses by the destruction of their industrial plants through the stoppage of German industries until France and Belgium had been rehabilitated is met by the American view, which is shared by the British, that such losses should be reimbursed by cash indemnities from Germany within a reasonable time. The supreme Economic Council can regulate the distribution of raw materials between countries so as to ensure France and Belgium have a proper advantage over Germany and prevent the latter from gaining the world's market.

The French are growing more negative towards Americans daily. French officials seek to deny it. But when confronted with the preponderant weight of evidence they finally have to admit that it is true.

The average argument of the average Frenchman today is: "Well, what did America do in the war, anyway, that she should come here to dictate whether we are to have full reparations and complete indemnification to any extent, we may desire to ask?"

The Allies are not antagonistic to France being fully indemnified for the ruin created by the Germans. They want France to have everything to which she is truly justified, but object to retarding the business of peace by trying to incorporate in the settlement France's economic problems, when this can be handled by other bodies satisfactorily.

But while insisting that Germany pay for her heinous deeds, they insist also that Germany be given a chance. France's demands that Germany be handicapped commercially until France has rehabilitated her industries is

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FEBRUARY 1919



French and Belgian lands were devastated by the war, but Germany itself saw little damage as a result of fighting.

not without justification and is defensible in many respects.

France has suffered more than any other nation in the war. Her prosperous northern regions are hideous remnants of once thriving communities. Years will lapse before France's financial standing is maintained without outside assistance. One sympathizes with France's desperate need of assistance and extremely plucky efforts to solve her commercial dilemma.

It is impossible to ascertain the exact detail of the damage inflicted during the war and the French argue that judgments should be agreed upon and placed in the peace treaty on the basis of a fairly comprehensive examination already made by agents of the Allied powers. Figures in possession of experts of the peace conference are believed to give a close approximation of the total sum Germany is able to pay.

February 21

Huns Accept New Armistice Terms

The German government on Sunday night accepted the Allies' terms for the extension of the armistice. The German government, meeting in Weimer, debated the new armistice conditions through Saturday night.

The Berlin staff of the foreign office is without special information regarding the armistice proposal, which apparently were published here only in part. The staff, therefore, was unable to express a definitive opinion regarding the proposed German Polish frontier.

The new frontier, as outlined, appears at least as favorable to the Germans as the present military situation, and leaves them in control of the railroad line to East Prussia, which is a vital artery of communications with the troops operating against the Bolsheviks. On the other hand the demarcation line, which coincides generally with the language boundary framed by the Poles, deprives Germany of an agriculture region on which the authorities say Germany depends for large amount of food and grain supplies.

Turkey To Lose All Ground In Europe

New states are to be carved out of belligerent countries. Advocates of immediate peace declare that such readjustments are necessary to proceed after the signing of the peace treaty. They say that Germany, Austria, Tur-

key and Bulgaria should simply be required to sign treaties relinquishing such parts of former territories as are required to form new states and rectify old boundaries.

What is to become of Turkey? Will the peace conference in Paris remember the outrageous offenses perpetrated upon civilians by the Ottoman Empire and, regardless of strictly racial and religious boundaries, divide Turkey so that it shall never again repeat the crimes of the past?

In a perfunctory way the future of Turkey has been discussed by representatives of various nations, but no definitive decision has yet been reached. But that Turkey must be rendered impotent and that Turkey must pay in full for sins of the past is a premise from which all consideration of the question starts.

It would appear that Turkey is to lose every foot of ground she now possesses in Europe, and she will be forced back over the Dardanelles to the southeast, and that the limits of her domain will stand only as far south as Syria and as far east as Armenia.

Turks are sure to be barred from realizing their old time mastery and undisputed domain in the Caucuses, Mesopotamia, and Palestine. In these regions, which for centuries has suffered under the baneful influence of control by unscrupulous persons in Constantinople, will be forever free from repression.

Turkey, territorially speaking, will shrink to less than one half of its former size and will in great measure be dependent for substance on the outside world with the loss of rich agricultural and mineral lands to the east and to the south.

Though there has been general agreement that Palestine, Syria, and Mesopotamia will fall under French and British control and that these countries will be permitted eventually to emerge free and independent of any outside influence whatsoever, there is not the same intention, opinion or desire as to the Dardanelles in Constantinople.

The world has long considered that this great international waterway and the Turkish capital could be internationalized - in fact they undoubtedly will be - since the treaty between France, England and Russia, which promises Constantinople and the Dardanelles to Russia, have been rendered null by developments in Russia, but in the meantime there exists rival leagues for eventual control of the Dardanelles and Constantinople.

The French government, declaring that Constantinople long has been under direct French influence, has set about to run things there notwithstanding the fact other European governments consider that if any steps be taken it should be by a group of nations and not one. The British, on the other hand, have dispatched forces to the Dardanelles and to Constantinople and dual authority has sprung up.

The actions of the French in taking control of Constantinople was to be expected, insomuch as the occupation naturally fell to the Allied Army operating in Macedonia under the French. That this was a fortunate circumstance for France in view of French desires to further her interest in the Dardanelles and Constantinople is generally conceded.

But it was the extension of military influence by the French in Turkish regions and the Italians on the Adriatic coast that led the peace conference to sound warning that unwarranted occupation of territories were supposed to be held by international forces and distributed equally by the peace conference.

February 28

Senators Say League Means Abdicating U. S. Sovereignty

"Free American government will be displaced by an international government controlled by European monarchs and Asiatic despots, if the League of Nations plan is adopted," says Sen. Reid of Missouri. The Missouri Senator delivered an eloquent appeal that this country should hold to the doctrine of George Washington and avoid entangling alliances.

When he closed his address the Senate chamber rang with applause, led by members of the Senate on both sides of the chamber, and in which the galleries joined. Applause in the Senate chamber is against the rules and has rarely been heard.

Following the address of Sen. Reid, senator after senator announced he would discuss the League of Nations this week, until it became apparent that this topic would occupy the Senate almost to the exclusion of other businesses until the close of the present session of Congress.

Senator Reid, in attacking the proposed constitution of the League of Nations, declared that it meant the abdication of American sovereignty in violation of the Constitution night stays and that it would involve the United States in all foreign wars. He supported the charge of Sen. Boroh, of Idaho, that the League would abrogate the Monroe Doctrine, involve America in all world conflicts and compel submission of vital American questions to a foreign tribunal.

Denouncing the League as a movement of internationalism, Sen. Reid asserted that the fangs of Bolshevism were plainly visible in the League's Constitution. "The provision requiring America to fight foreign wars," he said, "was monstrous."

"The League's charter," Senator Reid declared, "plainly conflicted with the American Constitution," but he said he would reserve discussion of that point until a future time.



The map of central Europe was almost unrecognizable with the creation of multiple new states and shifts in boundaries.

"Shall we surrender with a pen what George Washington gained by his sword," asked another senator. "Shall we repudiate the nationalism under which we have become the first people of the Earth for the doubtful experiment of internationalism? Shall we make our government of the people, by the people, and for the people, a government partially for the people and partially by teams and emperors? The answer to these questions is involved in the acceptance or rejection of the proposed constitution of the League of Nations."

There was complete realization of the fact that the greatest contest between the executive and the treaty ratifying power of the Senate, is now on.

Opponents in the Senate of the President's plan were not unmindful of the possibilities of the situation. They realize fully that they are facing a dangerous outlook. They are quite well aware of the possibilities of an appeal such as the president is to voice and campaign such as he has embarked upon.

While declaring his full sympathy with the purpose to form an international peace tribunal, Sen. Cummings of Iowa, Republican, in his speech in the Senate, declared that he was opposed to the proposed constitution of the League of Nations because he believed some of its provisions would strike at American sovereignty.

Presenting the outlines of arguments he would favor, Sen. Cummings,

said: "the League's draft presented at Paris would form a world nation, with polyglot and incoherent power which would submerge the American Republic." In the course of his address he urged speedy conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany in immediate inauguration of reconstruction work to avert unrest.

Another senator said article 10, providing guarantees against aggression and for territorial and political independence of states, is the most destructive, unjust, and reactionary proposal ever submitted. "We are asked to guarantee that the boundaries of nations as they now exist, or when the peace conference has withdrawn the map of Europe, Asia, Africa and Oceana shall remain without change forever," said the Senator.

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, solemnly warned the American people today to weigh carefully the Constitution of the League of Nations as presented to the peace conference and to insist upon its fundamental revision. Speaking in the Senate, the Republican floor leader declared his conviction that instead of safeguarding the peace of the world, the League as now planned, would encourage misunderstandings and strife, and laid the foundation for another World War.

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HISTORY

The life & times of Mike Fitzgerald

Edison Hatter
Part 1

Donald "Mike" Fitzgerald was born July 2, 1930 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to parents Allen and Naomi (Powell) Fitzgerald. He would become the middle child with two older brothers, Edward and Gerald (Jerry) and two younger, Joseph and Thomas. It was the beginning of the Great Depression and his father struggled to find work in Philadelphia. Hard times resulted in the young couple choosing to move the family south to Maryland when Mike was the infant. Other Fitzgerald relatives already lived in Emmitsburg on North Seton Avenue and south on Motter's Station Road. Allen and Naomi eventually settled in a home directly across the street from St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg. Mike was a devout Catholic throughout his life and served as an altar boy at St. Joseph's. To this day, stories of the five Fitzgerald altar boys still bring chuckles and smiles at family reunions.

Once the family settled in Emmitsburg, Mike's parents opened a gas station on Old Route 15. This was Mike's first exposure to the hospitality trade. Business was hard to come by during the depression and the family had to do something to set their enterprise apart from the usual and draw patrons from a larger radius. Mother Naomi was a gifted cook and made ham sandwiches to sell at the gas station. What began

as a small side item quickly grew into a key component. Customers were attracted by the dance-athons that were held on the lawn surrounding the station. These unique events and good food helped draw visitors as the depression wore on.

When he was only ten years old his father passed away. The boys were split when the three middle sons, Mike included, were sent to an orphanage in South Carolina. Tommy remained with an aunt in Thurmont. Ed, the oldest, was sixteen and hid his true age to enlist in the Merchant Marines. Oddly enough, their father had actually donated money to the orphanage before he passed away. The children's home was managed by a priest who would travel the east coast gathering contributions to keep the orphanage operating. On one of his journeys he happened by the Fitzgerald's doorstep and received a donation there. Years later the family learned that Mike didn't care for cornbread at all. This was surprising as it seemed to be the kind of comfort food he would enjoy. But he had always eaten so much of it in that southern orphanage, it was a daily staple, that he no longer could bring himself to eat it anymore!

After several years in South Carolina the three boys relocated to another orphanage and school in Baltimore. While there, Mike was offered a full scholarship to Calvert Hall but instead his grandfather in Emmitsburg brought him back to work on the farm. He

went to Thurmont High School in 1947-48 and became President of the Senior Class despite not having grown up with his fellow classmates. Uncharacteristically, he played the part of Scrooge in the Senior play.

Mike's parents led the way for the next generation to become involved in food businesses. Years later four of the five sons became restaurateurs. In the 1950's Ben Overstreet owned the truck stop known as Ben's Esso just south of Thurmont. Ben ran the shop and Jerry and Joe ran the restaurant known as Fitzgerald's. Their sign claimed "We make slim folks fat and fat folks jump for joy!" Today it is the site of the Woodsboro Bank. Later Ed owned a restaurant north of Emmitsburg on the Md/Pa. line known as the Mason-Dixon. In the 1960's Joe owned the Raft in Taneytown and later established the well-known Havilah Inn.

With much of the family in restauranting it made sense that Mike would go there someday, too. Several years prior though, it appeared that life was taking Mike in a very different direction. After graduating he married his high school sweetheart Doris Wastler. Their first child, Douglas, was diagnosed with leukemia and only survived a year. Donna was born two weeks before they lost him, followed by Dennis, Dawn, Diane, Debra, Daniel, David, Darrell and Dean. Today eight of the siblings live within fifteen miles of their hometown of Thurmont while Dennis, U. S. Army retired, lives in Huntsville, Alabama.

In his early twenties, Mike undertook the formidable challenge of building a home for his growing family. Cash being scarce he harvested the few remaining chestnut trees from the nearby Catoctin Mountains. He worked on a farm on Apples Church Road in trade for the use of the farmer's horse to dig the foundation. He used rocks from Roddy Creek for the beautiful stone fireplace, the



Ed Fitzgerald with son Eddie, Jerry, Tommy, Joe and Mike with daughter Donna.

only source of heat for many years. The interior walls were knotty pine that he cut and took to the mill. All of this while working full time to feed his family, and they moved into the new home when he was a mere twenty-three years old. Mike's hands-on work with timber construction left an indelible impression on his youngest son Dean. The seed for Fitzgerald's Heavy Timber Construction was planted in that home and continues to grow in the next generation. Dean's son Dillon will graduate from Oregon State University with a PHD in Civil Engineering and Wood Science in June 2019.

Mike's job history includes Price Electric in Frederick and Landis Tool Company in Waynesboro. Mike trained as a machinist at Landis. Thirty years later his son David worked there and discovered that his dad still held the highest scores ever achieved in their apprenticeship program and was always held in highest esteem by men who'd worked with him

even long after he moved on. Many years later David's son Cody also chose to enter the field of manufacturing engineering. He earned his degree at Penn State and, like his grandfather, worked in that field for several years. Also like his father and grandfather before him, Cody followed in their footsteps as part of the management team at the Shamrock.

Following Landis Tool Company, Mike joined the workforce at Moore's Business Forms in Thurmont, less than a mile from the log home he'd built. Moore's provided the opportunity for a long term career. However, in 1963 he was presented with a dilemma: Mike would have to relocate to Niagra Falls, New York. Mike decided to decline the job transfer. Instead, he chose to become an entrepreneur and invest in the building that would soon become the Shamrock Restaurant. Why such a drastic change in profession? He certainly had the roots for it given his father's and brothers' experiences. As a tight-knit



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HISTORY



Photo of the recently planted Oak tree that now proudly stands in front of the Shamrock.

spaghetti, fried chicken, scallop sandwiches, pizza or lobster tail. Mike's mother moved to Thurmont to become his first cook. She taught the family how to properly make her potato salad, cole slaw, grasshopper pie and other recipes. Together Mike and "Mom Fitz" developed crab soup and crab cakes. Decades later the family recalls that fried chicken and spaghetti were always two of Mike's favorite meals.

The Shamrock became the first restaurant to obtain the new liquor license allowing mixed drinks, or cocktails, in the sixties. Mike was careful not to let that develop into a "bar" reputation by retaining the family oriented menu and atmosphere. Friday and Saturday nights he did offer dance music and piano entertainment to draw larger crowds.

Over time the restaurant became a regular destination for several groups, including the Tuesday Bridge Club...local ladies who gathered for lunch followed by a long leisurely afternoon of bridge. They met for many years, welcoming new members as needed to fill their ranks. Jane Tresselt, Pauline Royer and Louise Stottlemeyer dealt cards here for decades. And then there's the Friday Lunch Bunch. Mike himself met with that illustrious assembly for over thirty years, since 1982. A conglomeration of a dozen to

a dozen and a half friends and cohorts continue to meet even to this day. Some have been so faithful they've hardly missed a meal. Mr. John Ashbury surely holds the record having only missed thirty-nine lunch meetings in all that time! Some familiar regulars over the years included Calvin Saylor, Sterling Bollinger, Mark Hoke, Russ Delauter, Harry Covert and Maury Hassett. Aspiring political candidates have often visited to introduce themselves and discuss their positions to the active and influential group.

One other gathering that met at the Shamrock for years was the class of 1948 of Thurmont High School – Mike and Doris's high school friends. They would meet for lunch every six weeks or so even up until 2018! Seventy years after graduating!

Mike was heartily supportive of our military and held a high level of respect for all service men and women. Mike was too young to enlist for WWII and by the time

the Korean War began his family was well on its way. He was always known to be deeply patriotic. One of his biggest dreams was to raise that giant American flag beside the restaurant. That dream came to fruition on a perfectly beautiful, warm October day in 1994. A huge 28 by 40 foot flag was raised on an eighty-foot pole by a contingent of US Marines in dress blue uniforms lead by his dear friend Sgt. Major Rusty Rockwell. Monsignor Hugh Philips from Mount St. Mary's and the Grotto said the dedication prayer and Lisa Rutter sang the Star Spangle Banner and God Bless America for a crowd of friends, family and customers. Cars pulled over along Route 15 and folks put hands over hearts while others saluted. There were many teary eyes and hearts filled with pride that afternoon.

To read other local historical articles visit the History section of emmitsburg.net

brood, he had helped and learned with them. He preferred to be his own boss and better control his own destiny. He believed that his children could get a superior education at local Mother Seton School and St. Joseph's High, which would in turn mean better futures for them. He was determined to manage a successful business and be the master of his own fate.

In the spring of 1963 Mike took over the abandoned and neglected restaurant situated beside two-lane Route 15. The first two weeks were spent cleaning and planning and preparing. He worked long, hard hours to develop his business. It was slow in the beginning. Over time more and more guests came for a good family meal. The menu offered a wide variety of food options, so as to appeal to everyone. You could get hard shell crabs, frog legs,

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MOM'S TIME OUT

A love for national parks

Mary Angel

In this month's In the Country Article the author talks about the National Park Service, its employees, and the rest of the country as having a partial stake in all these common areas. I totally agree with this, but partially from listening to an amazing man describe and bring to life these many amazing locations, and dare I say gifts, across our country. The man I speak of was my father-in-law.

My father-in-law was a historian for the National Park Service and from my perspective was an amazingly fascinating man. His priorities in life were God, family and then making sure our country's history was maintained for everyone to enjoy. I remember when I first started dating my husband and thinking there was no more intelligent and no more humble man in the world. He was constantly travelling the country working on installations for the National Park Service, whether it be setting up rooms in a historic building with an infallible accuracy or searching the country for those historically accurate furnishings.

I would love to hear the stories of his trips and all that he would find to finish an installation and how he would just beam when he would talk about the history of each and every individual piece. I am also grateful how he doted over my mother-in-law after a long trip, as my husband now brings me flowers on his return from his own business trips.

My father-in-law loved everything historical, from movies to houses to books to furniture. In their married

life my mother-in-law and father-in-law restored two historical homes, the second one they were living in when I met them. It was a gorgeous, Georgian style, 1876 home that was restored to period and on the National Registry of Historic Places. They spent so much time restoring old homes that according to my father-in-law my mother-in-law was now an expert at repairing old plaster and horse hair walls.

He was an amazing husband who never missed an opportunity to brag about his wife. He made a point of pampering her and dating her. He believed, until the day he was confined to a bed with cancer, that every man should date his wife at least once a month and more often if possible. Even in the slim years he would make her dinner (his specialties were bologna popups and grilled peanut butter and jelly sandwiches) and spend a quiet evening with her at home.

I will never forget this man who I viewed as super intelligent and very dignified pulling me aside and telling me that My husband and I only had a little time left to give him a grandchild, specifically a grandson. This is when I was informed that all of the descendants of the same name (my husband being the fourth) were each 30 years apart. I am sure it took me a good hour to recover from the actual bottom line meaning of the conversation. On a side note we did make the deadline and now our son, the fifth, has the pressure on him. Needless to say, as dignified as my-father-law was, he still had a sense of humor and knew how to have a good time. He was also an amazing grandfather. He loved all 6

of his grandchildren to the ends of the earth. There was a brief time when we were building a house and they blessed us by letting us live with them (we only had one child at the time). When my father-in-law would come home from work my son (who was about 18 months old) would be waiting at the door with what I thought was the biggest grin ever, until my father-in-law caught a glimpse of him and then I actually saw a bigger grin. They were truly inseparable.

His love of history didn't start with the National Park Service, he actually studies history in college and during his time at Maryland Public Television he produced a national prize-winning drama about colonial Maryland called "The Inventory". My father-in-law also led the First Maryland Regiment, which according to their website is an 18th century living history organization. This is an amazing group of men and women who reenact Revolutionary War battles.

My husband and his brother spent much of their youth at historical forts running around playing and watching these men and women live immersed in history. May of the original members are known as uncle in our house, even though there was no blood relation. When they were at these forts, my understanding is that, they had many "uncles" watching over them. I love the stories my husband and his brother tell about their dad setting up army men and making historically accurate forts out of Lincoln logs and then using gun powder to blow them up. My mother-in-law loved the time he spent with the boys, but I think she would have preferred a few less explosions.

It will be 9 years ago this June that he passed away and I still miss him very much every day. My boys, who had much more time with him than my girls, often talk about how they wish they had been as interested in history back when he was alive as they both are now. They are both considering majoring in history in college. My mother-in-law used to comment how our second son could make him laugh quicker than anyone else. My oldest son, who is a major movie buff, loves knowing that his granddad was asked



National Park Historian William L. Brown III

to be a historical consultant for several movies. He was an amazing man who did amazing things and loved the history of this country and loved his family and God even more!

I would not be honoring him properly if I didn't end this month a little off topic. I have heard some comments, with the government shutdown, about maybe the national parks should be run by volunteers and we could save money by getting rid of the paid positions. My

father-in-law would be very disappointed that people were dismissing the importance of the many paid positions and vital employees who keep our national parks as majestic and enjoyable as they are. I would encourage everyone to take advantage of our amazing parks and realize how blessed we are to have them.

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

Music Boosters' Annual Bingo

Featuring Kate Spade, Coach, Michael Kors, and Vera Bradley prizes - are on sale now! Please join us March 16th in the Francis Scott Key High School cafeteria for a fun-filled evening of both regular and special bingo games, raffles, 50/50, door prizes, and great food! Doors will open at 5pm; Early Bird Special game will begin at 6:45 p.m.; regular games will begin at 7 p.m.

Purchase your tickets by March 1st to receive free entry in the Early Bird Raffle and one

free Early Bird Special game card. New this year - "Bingo Bandit" Raffle: your opportunity to "steal" any regular bingo game prize before game play begins (limited number of tickets available beginning at 5pm). And back by popular demand - the Ticket for Twenty, Wristlet Raffle (prizes drawn every ten minutes from 5:30 - 7 p.m.), and Cupcake Raffles (expanded with additional cupcakes and prizes). Questions or ticket requests may be directed to fskimbbingo@gmail.com.

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Kay Hollabaugh
Hollabaugh Bros., Inc.

Did you ever notice how childhood memories – especially about food – are just so special and good? I was the 3rd child of parents who lived through the Depression. I assure you that my folks purchased what was essential – not what was necessarily wanted by their 3rd child! However, my dad loved chocolate covered peanuts so every once in a great while, he would splurge and buy a pound of them at the grocery store. Heaven! My memories are of absolute heaven! Each Easter my mom played a role in making and selling peanut butter eggs for my older sister's high school class. You guessed it – peanut butter eggs coated with chocolate! Another wonderful childhood memory surrounding chocolate. And any "duds"? Why, they could be enjoyed by that 3rd child!

It just seemed appropriate to talk about chocolate as we enter the month of February. There's really not a lot special to say about February. The days are long and cold. There is often snow. Vacations are months away. But wait. There's Valentine's Day – smack dab in the middle of an otherwise ordinary month! A simple google search will teach you more about Valentine's Day (not a very uplifting story, for sure) than you likely want to know, but ultimately the day has been reserved to tell others whom you love that you love them! And as seems to be the way of the world, the retailers start putting out beautiful, shiny, red Valentine's Day items on December 26 – or so it seems! I don't like how retailers often push the season so terribly early, but I really DO like the idea of a holiday that truly has no negative connotations – in my head – unless you don't like love!!! And heaven knows, we all need a little bit more love these days!

Chocolate covered strawberries go hand in hand with Valentine's Day. The unfortunate matter for me – as a strawberry grower – is that there are no good, luscious, local berries in February! However, we are fortunate in that we (and all other retailers who

market chocolate-covered strawberries) can source California and/or Florida strawberries in February. These berries are grown to be good shippers and are quite firm. A firm berry is perfect for dipping in chocolate. And then the rest is left up to your imagination! Dip in chocolate and then nuts or coconut. Drizzle them or not. But the important thing is – you must try some! I'm not sure my dad, now gone for nearly twenty years, ever had a chocolate covered strawberry, and likely he'd comment that they weren't quite as good as a peanut. Left to me? I think I'd take a chocolate covered strawberry over a chocolate covered peanut, unless of course, Dad was still here to share the peanuts with.

If your mouth is watering for some chocolate-covered strawberries, you can place an order on-line and pick them up in our store. From Emmitsburg? We're less than 30 minutes away – straight out route 34 out of Gettysburg. And by the way? We have chocolate covered peanuts too! <https://form.jotform.com/hbi-market/valentine>

Here are some of my favorite recipes that contain chocolate – not necessarily dipped – but some tried and true chocolate toppings and candies. I hope you enjoy! And I'm pretty sure that one other special thing about February, is that chocolates don't contain calories during this special month! Enjoy!

Hot Fudge Sauce

- Ingredients:*
 4 Oz. Unsweetened Chocolate
 ¾ C. Heavy Cream
 ½ C. Sugar
 3 T. Light Corn Syrup
 2 T. Butter
 ¼ Tsp. Salt
 1 Tsp. Vanilla

Directions:
 In a 2 quart saucepan, combine cream, sugar, corn syrup, butter, salt and half of the chocolate. Heat on medium for 5 minutes. Stir with a wire whisk. Reduce heat to low. Simmer for 10 minutes, whisking often. Remove from heat and whisk in the vanilla and remain-

ing chocolate till mixture is smooth. Serve warm over ice cream, brownies, you name it! Don't try to substitute low cal items, or low fat creams. You need the fats to make this recipe really good. It truly is a favorite in our family. I make an ice cream cake roll with peppermint ice cream and use this topping.

Pecan Delights

- Ingredients:*
 2 ¼ C. Brown Sugar
 1 C. Butter
 1 C. Corn Syrup
 1/8 Tsp. Salt
 1 14 Oz. Can Sweetened Condensed Milk
 1 Tsp. Vanilla
 1 ½ Lb. (24 ounces) Pecans
 1 C. Chocolate Chips – Semi-Sweet
 1 C. Chocolate Chips – Milk Chocolate
 2 T. Shortening

Directions:
 Combine 1st 4 ingredients. Cook over medium heat until sugar is dissolved. Add milk and mix well. Continue cooking until candy thermometer reads 245 degrees – firm ball stage. This takes nearly an hour and is VERY thick when at 245! Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Pour over pecans. VERY thick. Moving very quickly, drop by teaspoons on cookie sheets, covered with parchment paper. Chill until firm. Melt chocolate chips and shortening. Drizzle over the clusters and cool. These are delicious but don't let get past 245 or they get too hard. Make small, bite-sized clusters. You have to move fast or the mixture gets too hard to "drop" on the cookie sheets. A bit time-consuming, but one of our favorites!

Buckeyes

- Ingredients:*
 1 18 Oz. Jar of Peanut Butter
 2 Sticks Butter
 1 Lb. 10x Sugar
 2 C. Graham Cracker Crumbs
 24 Oz. Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips
 4 T. Shortening



Directions:
 In mixer bowl, blend peanut butter and butter. Beat in 10x sugar and graham cracker crumbs. Roll into balls and place in freezer about 15 minutes. Melt chocolate chips and shortening and stir. Line cookie sheet with parchment paper. Spear a buckeye with a toothpick and dip in chocolate sauce. Makes about 80 balls. You can also use a fork to dip the buck-

eye down into the chocolate. To register for any of these events call 717-677-8412 or visit www.hollabaughbros.com. Hollabaugh Brother's is located at 545 Carlisle Road, Biglerville, Pa.

To learn more about these recipes, call 717-677-8412 or visit www.hollabaughbros.com. Hollabaugh Brother's is located at 545 Carlisle Road, Biglerville, Pa.

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Valentine's Day

February 14th!

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February 9th

Here 'til Sunday

LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

Blue Ridge Library Events

Monday - Story Tour starts tonight at 4:30 p.m.. It will be immediately followed by Legos and Wee Build Imagineering until 5:30 p.m..

Wednesday - Coffee club in the community room from 4 - 5:30 p.m.! Mingle with the gang for coffee, tea, puzzles, board games, coloring books, etc. Food donations appreciated.

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

Saturday - Join us at 11:15 a.m. for Story and Craft Time and all of its festivities! What could be better than a great book and a fun craft?

Upcoming Special Events

On Feb. 11th we will have a special movie presentation at the Library of Marvel's "Ant Man and the Wasp", rated PG 13. Movie starts at 6 p.m.. "As Scott Lang balances being both a Super Hero and a father, Hope van Dyne and Dr. Hank Pym present an urgent new mission that finds the Ant-Man fighting alongside The Wasp to uncover secrets from their past."

Scherenschnitte class with Bill Hammann will be on Tuesday, Feb. 12th, from 6 - 7 p.m.. Just in time to make your Valentine something really special. All ages are welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. If you have participated before, please bring your knife and board.

There will be a special movie for teen night at the library on Feb. 13th at 6 p.m.. We will be showing "10 Things I Hate About You", starring

Heath Ledger and Julia Stiles. "A pretty, popular teenager can't go out on a date until her ill-tempered older sister does. "The movie is rated PG but due to mature language and themes permission slips are a must. You may pick up your slip at the library front desk.

The "My Tragic Valentine" program is old time storytelling at its finest. Starting at 6 p.m., hear stories of the origin of our modern Valentine's Day as well as other tales of doomed and tragic love.

Zero, our wonder therapy dog, will be at the library from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 19th for the ever popular "doghouse sessions". He loves a good book and great company so stop on by!

The Summit Stitches Quilt Club is also meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 19th. New members and new projects are always welcome! Any skill level may attend. If you have always wanted to learn how to quilt, now is the perfect time to start!

The Dining Car Food Club will be meeting at 6 p.m. on Feb. 21st. The theme this month is chocolate so please bring a dish to share.

"Summit Radio" plays on at the library on Feb 25th at 6:30 p.m.. Travel back to yesteryear when families gathered around the radio. Featured tonight will be Sam Spade and Sherlock Holmes for a cozy night of whodunnits!

Please join us at the Library on Feb. 26th for the new knitting club, Knit 1, Purl 2, You Can Too! The knitting starts at 6 p.m., beginners, experts, and in-betweens all welcome!

The Train of Thought Book Club will meet on Feb. 28th at 6 p.m.. This month's book discussions will be about "George and Barbara Bush:

A Great American Love Story" by Ellie LeBlond Sosa and Kelly Anne Chase and "America's First Daughter" by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie.

Frederick County Library Emmitsburg Branch

Sewing School (Grades 3-5) - Feb. 2, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., sew a pillowcase, all materials provided, tickets available for 6 children.

Stenciling Frames (Grades 6-12) - Feb. 2, 1 - 3 p.m., decorate a frame to take home.

Afternoon Learning Group (Grades 2-5) - Feb. 5, 2 - 3 p.m., Hurricane Construction, 2/19: Woven-Walled Skyscrapers

Transforming Glass Bottles (Grades 6-12) - January 12, 1 - 3 p.m., transform an ordinary glass bottle using a variety of decorating techniques.

Genealogy: New Year's Revelations - Thursday, Feb. 7, 6:30 - 8 p.m. adults learn the ins and outs of genealogy research with expert Mary Mannix. Bring questions!

Hello Holidays: Valentine Garlands (Ages 0+) - Feb. 9, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., create a heart garland and Valentine card.

School's Out!: LEGO Build (Grades K-5) - January 18, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., spend time building cool creations with other enthusiasts.

R.E.A.D.® with Wags for Hope - Feb. 21, 5 - 6 p.m., children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

Black History Month: Family Storytime - Feb. 23, 11 - 11:30 a.m., learn about the world of penguins through activities and a craft. Also - Feb. 27 at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

LEGO Architecture Studio (Grades 6-12) - Feb. 23, 1 - 3 p.m., be inspired by leading architects and create your own unique designs.

Digital Learning Days (Grades K-12) - Feb. 25, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., unleash your inner engineer! Hands-on activities with Breakout EDU Digital Games, Snap Circuits, BB8 Sphero and Virtual Reality with Google Expedition.

Thurmont Regional Library

Parachute Play (Ages 3-5) - Feb. 1, 10:30 - 11 a.m., movement, singing, and games around the parachute.

Sunday Funday (Ages 0-10) - Feb. 3, 2 - 4 p.m., a variety of activities, crafts, and more.

Math Skills for Preschoolers - Feb. 5, 12, 19, & 26, 2 - 2:30 p.m., promote kindergarten readiness skills like counting, number recognition, and more with fun games and activities.

Horse Night (Grades 1-6) - Feb. 6, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., enjoy horse activities and see real horse equipment. Get tips on horse care and learn how to draw a horse.

STEM Night: Drop-In STEM Lab - Feb. 7, 6 - 7 p.m., explore STEM concepts through a variety of educational toys and games.

Chess Club - Feb. 9, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., stop in to learn, play, or sharpen your skills. All ages and skill levels welcome.

Is There Really Ever a "Free Lunch"? Grants for Home-Buying - Feb. 10, 1 - 2 p.m., explore which home-buying grants are available and whether to use them or choose another path toward home ownership.

STEM Night: Owls - Feb. 12, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., dissect owl pellets and learn about owls from a Cunningham Falls State Park Naturalist.

Author Event: "In Carrie's Footprints" with Jack McBride White - Feb. 12, 7 - 8 p.m., author Jack McBride White and Warren Dorsey share the compelling story of Warren's amazing family and his own slow rise from poverty. Through intelligence and sheer will, he eventually overcame war, sickness and racism to escape his impoverished childhood and become a successful scientist, teacher and school principal.

Art Elements (Grades 3-6) - Feb. 13 & 20, 2 - 3:30 p.m., Explore art elements of color, line, shape, form, texture, and pattern with opportunities to create your own examples.

Board at the Library (Grades 6-12) - Feb. 13, 6 - 7:30 p.m., play board games, both new and older favorites.

Chocolate Lovers Unite! (Grades 6-12) - Feb. 14, 6-7p.m., sweeten your day with tasting games, trivia, cupcakes and candy...all chocolate.

School's Out: LEGO Build (Grades K-5) - Feb. 18, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., School is closed, so spend some time building cool creations with LEGO enthusiasts.

Minute to Win It (Grades 6-12) - Feb. 18, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., compete in 60-second challenges to test your skills.

Winter Carnival (Ages 3-10) - Feb. 18, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., fun and games to celebrate winter.

On-site at the Thurmont Senior Center: Volunteer with Older Adults! (Grades 6-12) - Feb. 18, 1 - 2:30 p.m., Spend the day off school socializing and playing games with Senior Center visitors! At Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main Street, Thurmont.

Dramatic Play Group (Ages 2-6) - Feb. 23, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., let your child's imagination run wild as they explore the world around them through stories and pretend play!

R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope - Feb. 23, 11 to noon, children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

Photo Fun (Grades 6-12) - Feb. 23, 2 - 3 p.m., learn basic photo editing techniques.

Open Memory Lab - Feb. 24, 2 - 4 p.m., use our equipment to convert your photos and analog home videos to digital formats. Lab volunteers will be available to help. Formats accepted: mini DV tapes, VHS tapes, VHS-C tapes, photos, slides, and negatives. This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Maryland State Department of Education.

Curious Minds: Stroke (Adult) - Feb. 25, 2 - 3 p.m., Katie Hall, MSN/RN, from Frederick Memorial Hospital discusses risk factors, signs, and symptoms of stroke and how best to respond to them.

An Informative Talk on Climate Change - Feb. 26, 7 - 8:30 p.m., Come spend 60 minutes connecting the dots between science, our climate, people and planet - and the solutions. Joyce Tuten an expert at teaching science to non-science people will explain the science of the greenhouse effect and global warming and what humans are doing to cause the climate to change. Short but information-dense, her presentation will bring to life the chain of events happening around the planet. And the solutions you can be a part of. Walk away as a new ambassador for understanding and an agent for change that will last generations.

Teen Advisory Board (Grades 6-12) - Wednesday, Feb. 27, 6 - 7 p.m., let your voice be heard and influence the library! Gain leadership experience and discuss what the library can do for you.

Digital Learning Days (Grades K-12) - Thursday, Feb. 28, 6 - 7 p.m., unleash your inner engineer hands-on with Little Bits Droids, Spheros, Digital Breakout EDU games, Robotics Demonstrations and more.



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The state education budget

Joy Shaffer
Frederick County School Board

The 2019 legislative session in Annapolis holds a lot of promise for public schools, giving the governor, state delegates and senators the opportunity to provide increased levels of funding to local schools over and above what is required by law.

Maryland's Constitution requires the establishment and maintenance of a "thorough and efficient system of free public schools," supported by "taxation, or otherwise." Legislators created the "general state school fund" in order to annually appropriate money to support our public schools.

Funding is distributed to counties based on the number of students enrolled through a "per pupil allocation." This is a set amount of money districts receive for every student enrolled. In addition, districts receive a certain percentage above this per pupil allocation for each student that

has special needs – students who are English language learners, those who receive special education services, and students whose families qualify for free and reduced priced meals.

In November, 89% of voters in Maryland passed a ballot initiative, known as the "Lockbox" bill, that required a certain percentage of gaming revenue to fund education and be used to increase education funding, over and above the formula established by the law.

Introduced by Senator Joan Carter Conway and Delegate Maggie McIntosh (both representing Baltimore City), the ballot initiative made changes to the State Constitution, that require the governor to include in the annual budget an increase to education funding of \$125 million in FY 2020, \$250 million in FY 2021, \$375 million in FY 2022. Beyond FY 2022, it requires 100% of all gaming revenues dedicated to public education be used to supplement established

funding formulas to public schools.

It was not the intent of legislators to merely increase dollars provided to schools. They had specific intentions for school systems' use of these additional dollars.

A statewide Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, which has come to be known by the name of its chairman, Dr. William Kirwan, has made far-reaching policy recommendations for the State's public education system that will require greater investment as well as require school systems to use the money in prescribed ways.

For example, the Commission recommends raising starting teacher pay to a certain level across the state within ten years. It also recommends that, at the same time, the licensure and certification requirements for teachers increase, as well as requirements for continued education and professional development throughout their career. So the result is not just more

money for teachers, but more rigorous requirements for teachers preparing to enter the profession, and higher requirements for obtaining and keeping a teaching certificate.

Another recommendation is to raise the additional per pupil amount school systems receive to serve special needs students. However, in order to receive this money, school systems are required to provide the recommended services and resources as outlined in the Commission's recommendations.

If the governor and legislature pass the first round of funding recommended by the Commission in this session, a total of \$325 million, Frederick County stands to benefit from a substantial share of these new funds.

While there is the recommendation to expand prekindergarten programs, the Commission is recommending that school systems be given a per pupil allocation for preK students.

Currently, prekindergarten students are not counted in the enrollment numbers that the State uses to provide money to systems. This change would mean Frederick County would receive the dollars to cover the costs for educating these students for the next school year and wouldn't have to carve that funding from other areas of the budget.

Additionally, Frederick County Public Schools would get increased funding for special education students, and for students who need interventions and support in the primary grades so schools can better ensure students start their academic careers with the strongest foundation. And, the recommendation to raise starting teacher salaries could provide money to assist our County in our last year of shifting to our new salary scale.

With the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission, that state is validating what has been a Frederick County value for a very long time. We know very well it's not just the amount of dollars we invest, but it's how those dollars are used that bring meaningful results.

Are scholarships dead?

Ralph Serpe
Adams County
Community Foundation

With tuition and fees at colleges and universities rising faster than the amount of most scholarship awards, it can feel like the days of traditional scholarships, used to bridge the difference between what a student needs and the resources they and their families can provide, have past.

Just a few years ago, a modest one-time scholarship could help a student complete their first year, prove themselves worthy to their school and secure scholarships and awards for years two through four.

Today, the cost of undergraduate study for many in-state public schools starts at \$30,000, and some private colleges exceed \$70,000. While many schools offer need-based financial aid to lessen that burden, a student who is also receiving a private scholarship, will see many colleges reduce the college's own grants first, replacing a grant with the private scholarship. The student derives no net financial gain from winning the private scholarship and the student's net price remains unchanged. That's called scholarship displacement.

Between the price tag and scholarship displacement, it's easy to understand why some have declared the traditional scholarship award obsolete, if not dead.

Scholarships have always been popular with donors because it feels good to make a difference in a young person's life. But let's reimagine scholarships and consider a few recommendations to make awards as meaningful to students as they are to donors:

Consider supporting students over four years, or more. Multi-year scholarships, with a minimum grade requirement, lessen the finan-

cial burden on the student, provide a sense of responsibility that goes beyond their family and themselves, and could deepen the relationship between the student and the donor.

Consider increasing your scholarship award. In many cases, the cost of books could far outweigh an individual scholarship amount. Scholarships have remained relatively flat while the cost of education has increased dramatically.

Invest in local K-12 education or extracurricular activities. Yes, certain colleges will compete for that one star athlete, but imagine the competition for an entire class of well-rounded students from colleges or companies. It happens in certain school districts across the country and it can happen here in Adams County.

A word to the Class of 2019. Many of your neighbors have already pitched in to provide meaningful scholarships through the Community Foundation, but we need you to take the next step by completing a scholarship application prior to April 5, 2019.

To do this, please visit the Adams County Community Foundation's website at adamscountycf.org and take a look at the scholarship page. There you will find several community scholarships and a link to our Adams County Dollars for Scholars website where you can complete an application that will automatically match you with local competitive scholarships based on your high school, field of intended study or other specific criteria. Once you complete an application, our review team reads every application and selects the students who best match the donor's intent and the scholarship's purpose.

For the rest of us, it's our responsibility to invest in the lives of others by providing access to education and opportunity for all.

Consider a gift to the Adams County Community Foundation Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund is open to all students across Adams County. Your gift, combined with others, will provide a deserving student a gift that will last a lifetime.

And finally, to our scholarship donors and 2019 scholars, please save the date of May, 9, 2019 for our first Adams County Scholars Breakfast. That morning we will recognize over 75 scholarship winners and introduce them to the donors that made these

awards possible. We hope you can all join us.

Ralph M. Serpe is President & CEO of the Adams County Community Foundation. He can be reached at rserpe@adamscountycf.org

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

As Valentine's Day approaches, we asked our writers to write about what it means to truly love another person.

Freshman Year

Love is not an emotion

Harry Scherer
MSMU Class of 2022

A couple days ago, I picked up Fulton J. Sheen's *Way to Happiness: An Inspiring Guide to Peace, Hope and Contentment*. The exterior of the 170-page work is very similar to his other works: the title laid on the top of a paperback cover in a simple font, supported by the picture of a handsome bishop with full episcopal garb in the 1950's. What lays inside of the elegant and tasteful cover is nothing short of brilliantly worded darts of wisdom from a man who has never dated or married, but who has encountered the Source of Love for his entire life.

In the introduction, Sheen lists the three things that man longs for as a "fulfillment of the purpose of his being": life, truth and love. He further qualifies the type of love that man yearns for as "not with a time-limit, not mixed with satiety or disillusionment, but love that will be an abiding ecstasy." This qualification leads directly to my primary assertion: the love that

will give man ultimate fulfillment is not a psychological emotion, but rather a personal encounter with Christ, either in His Image or in an extension of His Image, our fellow man.

Sheen then invites us to "go beyond the limits of the shadowed world, to a Love not mingled with its shadow, hate." Finally, he points out this purity of Life, Truth and Love as the definition of God: "His Love is so deep and spiritual that it is a Spirit." Recognized or not, this is the Love that every man is seeking. Sheen invites us to push out of the barriers of purely emotional love into a Love that is transcendent and cognizant of the purpose of our existence.

All these conclusions lead to curiosity about the features of genuine love. One of the first components that comes to mind is its sacrificial nature; "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). It seems that the point of true love is not a relationship of mutual amelioration of the circumstances of two peo-

ple. A well-trained and good-intentioned government bureaucrat can accomplish this goal. There is something different about dying for another, to say the very least.

The immediate question then presents itself: how can a love of "ecstasy", as Sheen puts it, be the same love of sacrificial death? With deeper consideration, there is really nothing contradictory about the two at all. The ecstasy that Sheen is pushing for is not a perpetual state of happiness. For example, would one consider William Wallace's death on *Braveheart* a moment of ecstasy? He was dying for a cause that was deeply engrained in his being. Every form of torture that the English government put upon him was, for Wallace, a furthering of his goal. Wallace's love of heritage and people was certainly a form of true, sacrificial love. He did not die in vain because he died for something that was good.

What, then, is the distinction between the death of William Wallace and a suicide bomber? Both certainly are dying for causes that they deeply care about. The act of a suicide bomber is not an act of love because one cannot love evil. The reality of evil is completely contradictory to the reality of love, that which is good in itself.

Then we come to the free nature

of love; it cannot be imposed on us like taxes or even death. Love is a choice, a beautiful choice, to see the good in another, and in all, no matter what the circumstances are. As is the case with all the other virtues, we can choose to be joyful, prudent and temperate and may or may not recognize the positive benefits of these choices later in life. But consider if we were forced to speak joyfully, think prudently or act temperately. We would become immediately resentful of the imposition of some self-righteous rule-creator that thinks he or she knows how to live in all circumstances. Even though impossible, consider if God did not give us free will. We would become immediately resentful of Him, our Creator.

Finally, it seems that another necessary component of true love is that it is faithful. One who loves never turns his or her back on another because of self-interest, pride or any other material motives. What incentive does the lover have in carrying out this commitment? Like many things in life that have transcendent meaning, the answer does not seem to present itself immediately. Thankfully, when one stays faithful to another out of love, he unites himself to the Cross of Christ. As Fulton Sheen says, "Every

other person came into this world to live. He came into it to die." When we give ourselves to others in total love, we are being Christ for the people around us.

While some may think that love is in short supply these days, it can become easy to forget that every day a couple is joined together in free, total, faithful and fruitful marriage. Every day, expectant parents welcome a new person into the world and a family sits by the bedside of a dying parent as they expect to pass into the next life. All of this is surrounded by true love. Of course, sacrifices were made in all cases. The happy couple leaves their family to start a new life in the unknown. The mother of the newborn child has labored for nine months to allow the full development of her young child. The grieving family has put their life completely on hold as they tend to the needs of a parent who has never stopped caring for them.

We live in this world, today. People in our community, our country and our world still lovingly give of themselves in a sacrificial and faithful choice that brings the image of Christ back to the flesh.

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

Sophomore Year

Attention to details

Angela Guiao
MSMU Class of 2021

Oh love. The sweet romance, the butterflies in your stomach, the absentminded smile that creeps onto your face when you so much as see your crush's name. Love, the overwhelming feeling that takes over your entire body, that makes you feel tickles in your toes, and causes blood to rush to your cheeks.

Now for many, February is rather exciting. It means chocolates and flowers, dates and kisses. It is the perfect opportunity for those who are already in love to show their significant others that they do, in fact, love them! Proud girlfriends show off the beautiful roses they received, or elderly wives go on dates with their dotting husbands.

And there are the few that sit at home and scream "Bah! Humbug!" at all the lovey-dovey, cushy romance that will effectively take over all their social media timelines during the days nearing the fourteenth of February.

Oh, but love. Love is a beautiful thing. It is not reserved for those in a relationship but for all who connect with others. It is for our mothers and siblings, teachers and friends; it is for our dogs, our books, our favorite foods. We can love, and we always will love. It is human nature.

But how can we show love? Not everyone is sincerely capable of showing their love despite how much we may love a person. Not all people can be as demonstrative as Marianne was to Willoughby (I apologize ahead of time for the numerous references I will include to *Sense and Sensibility*). In fact, many may relate more to Colonel Brandon, who loves deeply but quietly and without aggression.

Love is visible through the smallest of actions. It is your lover holding the door open for you, or your mother's reminder to wear a jacket. It is your friends complimenting your outfit or daughter's good morning hug. Love can be shown and seen in so many ways, as long as you are paying attention.

And that, I believe, is the greatest way one could show love: to pay attention. Paying attention means listening to your partner's childhood stories even if you've already heard them a dozen times before. It means noticing all of the small things, the important things, like the kind of flowers you like or the small passions that bring you the utmost happiness. It is saying "I love you" when you can tell that your loved one needs to hear it, and surprising them when you know they had a more difficult day than usual. Love is noticing, paying attention, and making your loved ones feel important.

Love is appreciating the things that others do for you and being

grateful that they did it. It is understanding the significance of their actions and being thankful that they've gone out of their way to do those things for you.

For example, when Marianne sprained her ankle running in the fields, both Colonel Brandon and Willoughby called upon her. However, Willoughby brought wild flowers that he picked along the way, while Colonel Brandon brought flowers he bought from a florist. Marianne appreciated Willoughby more because he noticed how much Marianne loved nature and the wild, hence the wild flowers. She failed to appreciate Colonel Brandon, despite his effort, because he wasn't as attentive.

Willoughby paid attention! He noticed Marianne's personality and consequently performed accordingly. This made Marianne feel special and as though Willoughby truly understood her. This is what is important.

This Valentine's Day let us make those who we love and love us feel noticed. Instead of getting the basic, almost expected, flowers and chocolates, maybe get them something you know they would truly appreciate. Put in the extra effort and think about what would truly make your loved one smile.

Paying a little extra attention shows that you care just a little bit more.

Now, I have a short little story. Growing up, I lived with only my mother. Since my dad wasn't in the picture, I, naturally took on the job of being her Valentine's Day

date. Now, of course, being just a young kid, I didn't really appreciate flowers or cards or such. And she couldn't give me chocolate because, well, I'd eat them all in one go. So, my mother had to think of clever things to give me that still remained somewhat relevant to Valentine's Day.

So, over the years she did a number of things. She was often at work, being a single mother and all, so she'd leave me notes hidden around the house to remind me how much she loved me. Then other years, she'd give me snow globes (since I collected them) and have them engraved "Happy Valentine's Day". And other times, when work permitted, she'd take me on a really fancy date and let me order whatever dessert I wanted.

In all honesty, my mother showed me how it felt to be loved properly. She made me feel important despite always having to be at work. She paid attention to

the things I liked, and the things that she knew made me smile, and would go out of her way to do them just so I'd be happy.

So, this is probably the best advice I could give to all of you. It's the best advice I'd ever given myself, in fact. Pay attention, love, appreciate, and be grateful for the people around you. No one is an expert, and it may take time before you get it right. But it will all be worth it when you see the smile on your loved one's face because of such little nuances in your actions, in such a slight increase in your attention.

Let us learn to be better. Let us put our loved ones first this Valentine's Day. Let us try to be a little bit more like Colonel Brandon: learning, understanding, appreciating, and loving all and everything around us.

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

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TO TRULY LOVE

Junior Year

The languages of love

Morgan Rooney
MSMU Class of 2020

On many occasions I have read and heard about the different ways people receive love. I don't know the exact details or the science behind any of this information, and I tend to be a bit skeptical when I read things online, but I found that it ran true with me and most people whom I know well enough to understand what makes them feel loved.

When wanting to show somebody love, whether that be a close friend, sibling, parent, or significant other, it's important to try and figure out what would make them feel the most loved and most appreciative. When you spend enough time with someone, it's becomes apparent which they fall into.

One way the people tend to receive love is through "Words of Affirmation." Receiving compliments now and again boosts everyone's mood, but it's not limited to telling someone that they look nice. There is something much deeper to it. These people like to hear what's appreciated about them. This could be a thank you gift or a letter. Whatever makes this person feel appreciated.

Over time, I began to notice that this is how my mom feels love. She likes to know that she's appreciated,

and that time and thought was put into her because we care about her. I learned this several years ago when it was her birthday. There was something specific that she wanted from a store. This wasn't an expensive object or anything. It was just something we had discussed recently, and I had decided that it would make a good gift considering that I was making under minimum wage as a high school student. There was not a store nearby where I could have bought this gift, so I told my mom that I had to stay after school for an orchestra rehearsal and then drove an hour in rush hour traffic to buy the gift. When she opened it and told her how far I had gone to buy it, she was so happy because she could see how much of an effort I went through to show her that she was appreciated. I try to keep this in mind every time I am searching for gift for my mom.

An "Act of Service" would be another way. People like this appreciate when people go out of their way to do something for them. This could be running an errand, washing your car, or doing your dishes for you. There are endless examples of things to do to appease someone who best receives love through acts of services. Though it may be a bit more effort, it's rewarding to know that your loved one feels loved.

The third way, is through receiving gifts. This does not necessarily make

this person materialistic or revolve around the monetary value. It's about knowing that someone went out of their way to get something for them, because they thought of them. The more personalized the gift, the better. Knowing that someone spent time and money to get you something that you would appreciate is more than enough to make this person feel loved.

Through the years, I've noticed that my sister has a more excellent response to gifts than many. Some people feel guilty when someone else buys them a gift but whenever Christmas comes around and I need to shop for a gift for my sister, I tend to go for multiple, smaller gifts. It's not necessarily about value. She feels loved when she knows that I went to several different places and thought of her when I saw something. When Christmas is coming close, I always keep one of my eyes out for small gifts to give her.

The next way would be through the spending of quality time. This is definitely where I would fall. Whether we are sitting up late at night, laughing and having deep conversations, or spending the day exploring someplace new, knowing that I'm worth someone's time and that someone else enjoys my presence makes me feel better than any gift or praise I could receive. Having the knowledge that multiple people want to spend time with me, especially if they reach out to me themselves makes me feel like out of anything they could be doing with their time, they'd rather be spending it doing something with me.



Looking for true love, consider a shelter pet like Lady Bug. For more information on adopting Lady Bug, see page 21.

The best "gifts" that I've received were not the physical objects (although they were much appreciated, of course). The ones that I will remember forever are the experiences that I had. One example is when it was my birthday and my friends bought us both tickets to a concert. We went to the concert, had a great time, and I will never forget it.

The last of these love languages is physical touch. This doesn't mean that it's a romantic sort of touch, although it could be. People who best experience love from physical touch appreciate hugs or holding their significant other's hand.

I have close friend who always hugs me when we say hello or goodbye and if we don't hug, she seems to be disappointed. I was confused by this at first because I didn't understand how a hug could be so important as I've

never been one to hug a lot of people. Now it's something I never forget to do and even something I've adopted with other people whom I appreciate.

Overall, I think when you want someone to feel loved, you must think about them and their own unique way of feeling appreciated, whether you should plan a day with them, fill up their car with gas, or just give them a hug. Love is something personal and should be thought through as it is not uniform with everyone. Giving one person a hug can have a completely different impact on another. Although most people appreciate all of these different signs of love, knowing that what you've done for someone made them feel particularly warm and appreciated is very rewarding.

To read other articles by Morgan, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

Senior Year

A day of joy and love

Shea Rowell
MSMU Class of 2019

Love is in the air this February, or at least on the shelves of every store I've been to since Christmas. The Valentine's Day rush is impossible to escape, as grocery stores plaster their shelves with red-heart greeting cards, plastic roses, assorted chocolates and stuffed animals. Jewelry stores advertise the perfect sparkly gift, and restaurant reservation books begin filling all their tables-for-two. As fun as these little traditions are, the real charm of Valentine's Day is that it reminds us all to appreciate the loves in our lives whom we take for granted.

As a child, I remember the excitement of Valentine's Day fondly, as my parents always tried to make it quirky and fun. My mom would leave candies for me and my siblings wrapped in red paper, and leave a note that said "I love you!" for us before we left for school. Our dinner that evening was sure to have something pink or heart-shaped. I even remember one year when she used food coloring to serve pink mashed potatoes! My father also pitched in to make the day special, leaving roses for his daughters and my mother around the house.

As silly as these things are, they filled my Valentine's Days with laughter and love. Of course, this was not the romantic Valentine's Day we see on television,

but it was a joyful one that I'm sure I will remember for years to come. As a college student, my Valentine's celebrations have taken many forms. I remember my first year of college, when my roommate and best friend left me a hand-written note that said, "Will you be my Valentine?" It brought a smile to my face, and filled me with gratitude for our friendship. In the following years, a significant other left me hand-drawn flowers, a beautiful letter, and sometimes a movie or dinner date!

As my Valentine's Days have transitioned from family-centered, to friend-centered, to romantic (or even all three at once!) I have found that what makes me happiest on Valentine's Day has not changed. It's the personal touches that bring joy to others, from pink potatoes and hand-written notes to quality time spent with our loved ones. It's the time that we take to think about what makes our loved ones smile, and the joy on their faces when we hand over that thoughtful little gesture.

Of course, Valentine's Day is just a small part of what it takes to show love to a person, as love is much more than thoughtful gestures and romantic outings. If I, with only as much experience as I can claim after 21 years of life, were to describe the best way to show love to another person, I would divide it into three parts: presence, prayer, and perseverance.

In family, friend, and romantic relationships, presence is both the most difficult and one of the most important components. In the world today,

there are many different distractions that drag us away from our relationships, even the ones we cherish the most. It is difficult to resist checking that smart phone, or scrolling through a social media feed, and simply spend time with those we love. Amid the obligatory pull of work, school, or various other commitments, our friends and family remember the moments we choose to make them the priority instead. As a student, I continually have to remind myself that my work will be there tomorrow, but the time to spend with a loved one may not be. Being present in a noisy world is what will keep our relationships strong.

The second is prayer. I truly believe in the importance of praying for those whom we love, and keeping their needs and struggles in our hearts. While some might say that prayer is too passive a way to love someone, I think it is the way we dedicate our relationships to God, and endeavor to love as He loves. When loved ones struggle, sometimes I find it difficult to realize that I am not the one who can solve their problems. I, as much as I may wish it, do not know what is best, even for my closest friends and family members, and therefore turn my anxiety on their behalf over to the one who does know, God. Praying for others is important, whether or not they request your prayers. Praying with others is still more powerful, and ensures that the love shared comes from God, and looks to God for its strength and continuity.

It is no secret that relationships of all sorts pose their challenges. No person is perfect, try as we might, and unfortunately our faults can cause others

pain. This is why perseverance is a vital component of love. When we reduce love to a feel-good experience, we destine it to failure, as no relationship can supply such constant pleasure. Relationships of all sorts require the strength to accept the faults of the other, and to be cognizant of our own. This requires humility and forgiveness, and the will to act in love even when we do not feel it. Perseverant love will be full of struggles, both from within and without, but if it is rooted in God, the difficulties can cause the relationship not only to survive but to flourish.

Love is what makes us who we are

as people, and it is the quality that unites us most to God. Of all the things in life, love, in its many forms, is what will make it most rich and most worthwhile. This year, I hope I will be able to reciprocate the wonderful love I have received from friends, family and loved ones, both on Valentine's Day and every day of the year. I hope to bring smiles to their faces, as they have done to me so many countless times, and to remind them, with my prayer, presence and perseverance, that they are truly loved and appreciated.

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

**Liberty Mountain
February Events***

Gettysburg Rocks!

Saturday, February 9th from 5-10pm
Visit the Eagle & The Owl for an evening of live music—featuring a variety of live bands! Benefits Four Diamonds fund whose mission supports children battling pediatric cancer.

Friday Tap Takeovers

Eagle & The Owl select Fridays from 6-8pm
February 1 - Rusty Rail Brewing Company
February 15 - Full Pint Brewing Company
March 1 - Rivertowne Brewing

Live Music Every Weekend

Friday & Sunday / McKee's Tavern
Saturday / Eagle & The Owl

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FASHION

The evolution of keeping warm

Valerie McPhail
MSMU Class of 2015

People will go to ridiculous lengths to find warmth these days. The fashion statement of my oversized duvet winter coat stakes a claim to the far length we will take to ensure a shield of protection from winters' bite. With curiosity comes the natural progression and modernization that has impacted humanity's approach to finding comfort in the cold: from the Stone Age, and after Christ, into the 1800s through 1879, the year the first coat was invented, and through current day fashion statements.

3001 BC

The Stone Age: a small time frame known as the Neolithic Period, and the resurrecting era of Stone Hedge. This time period presents a colony of hunters and gatherers that operated in union with nature, without heating machinery and without fashion and clothing for warmth and protection. Rather, this culture led their lives by decorating their bodies with ochre and paint - relying on the natural environment among them - for the necessities of life, including dressing and adorning the body. God's providence and Mother Nature's blessing offered enclave huts as homes where societies established shelter and retreated to building fires, hunting hides and utilizing animal fur for warmth; the later resource is not as socially appropriate to a modern world that is cautious of our carbon footprint.

To track the influence fashion and clothing has held over society throughout history, the BBC published author Melissa Hogenboom's argument for the purpose of clothing in society. She concludes, "We did not invent clothes simply to stay warm... when it got too cold to show off painted bodies, early humans were forced to cover up." She reflects on the University of Sydney's Ian Gilligan's theory on the relationship between body painting and clothing expression. Hogenboom reiterates Gilligan's reasoning: "decorative function gets transferred onto clothing... once that happened, humans needed clothing for that social purpose as well as any thermal purpose." The hunters and gatherers that lived in the Stone Age were not only beautiful creators that left us with one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Stone Hedge, but also left traces of the first methods to keeping warm.

476 AD

As humanity became more civilized, the necessity for clothing and fashion emerged into an integral part of human existence, not just expression. The Medieval Period acknowledges a society that fully engaged with wardrobe. Cloaks, tunics, mittens, and even boots made of leather became a uniform for civilization. Wool was a favored fabric and linen materialized into undergarments and lined outerwear to insulate heat.

"Stone hearth fires" and amateur chimneys, much later progressing to the use of coal-heat and

the invention of supplemented heated air circulation in the home and public gatherings such as churches, were critical. However, the developments of these secondary tools were still a work in progress. Writer Sandra Alvarez shares in the blog post "Surviving Winter in the Middle Ages," that wool outer garments were heavily relied upon. "Indoor heating wasn't exactly great, so many people wore their outer garments inside to keep warm...sweating would reduce the warmth of wool, so medieval people often removed layers when they perspired and then reapplied them when they cooled down." Wool became a primary resource for keeping warm. While in relationship with fashion design it elevated a societal regard for clothing and its place in society.

1700s - 1800s

As America established its liberty in the 18th Century, history shares stories illuminating a reliance on clothing - a wardrobe of coats and cloaks offering support to a modernizing society building a culture amidst cold weather seasons in a barren land. As homes built fireplaces and chimneys, the women of the household worked together to sew and utilize scrap material for additional comfort in fierce winters. Before the invention of the sewing machine, dated to 1790, "Mothers taught daughters how to card wool and coax soft fibers from the hard stems of flax; how to spin fibers into threads; how to stitch and mend the heavy coats and hooded cloaks that soon must ward off the biting winds. Cloth scraps and worn-out clothing found new life in quilts and coverlets. Finer stuff went into quilted petticoats to keep a lady warm (David Robinson, "Coping with Cold"). Such beginnings created culture. As fashion materials carried monetary value, society regarded particular goods as a gauge for social status.

Fabric sourcing was a family affair. Caring for herds of sheep,



Men's Overcoat, an icon of classic fashion.

carding, and weaving wool engaged each member of the household. As fabric experimentation started to unravel - linen, cotton and silk - clothing designs began to fashion. A variety of coats for men reflected social status and long skirts and capes for women were all lined with wool to support warmth (Jane Wheeler, "Clothing of the 1830s"). The progression from animal fur to fiber-based materials transpired.

1973 - 2000s

Simultaneously, a design termed "an overcoat" was first introduced in this time period and marked the start of contemporary culture. The men's full-length garment, brushing the knees of a gentleman wearing the item, is a particular piece of fashion formalized as a style accompanied by a top hat and loafers, typically outfitting a man in a suit for work, and also, in some instances, a symbol of military personnel. As the style carried through decades as a mark of a well-dressed gentleman, the item of clothing became

less concerned with a piece of fashion that was functionally intended to keep a person warm, and became more concerned as a mark of fashion history.

The puffer coat, a design of current fashion that resembles the looks of a sleeping bag, is another style that has left an impression on fashion. "The Skyliner," originating in the year 1936 by male designer Eddie Bauer, was said to have been "created out of personal necessity after Bauer nearly lost his life to hypothermia whilst on a fishing trip in mid-winter" (Shonagh Marshall, A Brief History of the Puffer Jacket). Today, the puffer jacket is available for both men and women, creating buzz on the runways of fashion week, and from my personal experience, found disrupting daily life by comments to how cozy and warm the style appears.

The history of the method to keeping warm shows evolution in how society has created socially acceptable methods to achieving warmth and comfort. From animal skins to silk, the militant overcoat to today's ever so popular puffer jacket - fashion has developed resources to a common human dilemma: securing warmth. Has practicality always been at the essence of the objective? Maybe fashion never really compromised practicality for sex appeal, or have we as a society become stimulated, and sold by the wackiest concepts to the point of sell-out trends? My personal decision to purchase my sleeping bag puffer jacket derived from a need for protection from the cold and stylistic interest. After all has been said and done, in the end it's a wonder to whether history is sharing a story on how fashion is slowing taking culture to a vegan and cruelty free perspective for everyday living.



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The Hot Sardines debuts at the Majestic

Proclaimed as the “Leaders of New York’s jazz revival” (“CBS This Morning”), The Hot Sardines make their Majestic debut on Friday, February 15, 2019 at 7:30p.m. In the talented hands of the New York-based ensemble, music first made famous decades ago comes alive through their brassy horn arrangements, rollicking piano melodies, and vocals from a chanteuse who transports listeners to a different era with the mere lilt of her voice.

On French Fries & Champagne, The Hot Sardines’ new album for Universal Music Classics, the jazz collective broadens its already impressive palette, combining covers and originals as they effortlessly channel New York speakeasies, Parisian cabarets and New Orleans jazz halls.

Bandleader Evan “Bibs” Palazzo and lead singer “Miz Elizabeth” Bougerol met in 2007 after they both answered a Craigslist ad about a jazz jam session above a Manhattan noodle shop. The unlikely pair — she was a London School of Economics-educated travel writer who grew up in France, Canada and the Ivory Coast, he was a New York City born and raised actor who studied theater at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia — bonded over their love

for Fats Waller. Influenced also by such greats as Dinah Washington, Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday, they began playing open mic nights and small gigs and by 2011, they headlined Midsummer Night Swing at New York’s Lincoln Center.

The Hot Sardines’ self-titled debut album, named by iTunes as one of the best jazz albums of 2014, spent more than a year on the Billboard Jazz Chart, debuting in the top 10 alongside Michael Bublé, and Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga. The accolades began pouring in for the band: Downbeat called The Hot Sardines “one of the most delightfully energetic bands on New York’s ‘hot’ music scene,” while The London Times praised their “crisp musicianship” and “immaculate and witty showmanship,” declaring them “simply phenomenal.”

“We found ourselves in the perfect place at the perfect time,” says Evan. “As we explored this 100 year-old jazz, we began to look at it as a journey forward, not so much as a look back. This is music for today, not a museum piece.”

The Hot Sardines played more than 100 shows last year, taking their act from the familiar confines of New York across the country. And, to no one’s surprise



but their own, they were greeted by music lovers everywhere. “In a weird way, it never occurred to me that anyone was listening to us outside of New York City. To show up in a town and have people say, ‘I love this song. I love this video’ is mind-blowing to me,” says Elizabeth, who adds she remembers the towns by the food. “I’m always trying to find some sort of mom-and-pop place where I can eat something that they make in that area.”

In New York City, The Hot Sardines draw a young audi-

ence. In the rest of the country, multi-generations come to enjoy the music. “We’ll see daughters, mothers and grandmothers coming to our show together,” Evan says. “In Long Island, a young girl came up to Elizabeth with a can of sardines to sign. She was 7!”

In the hot jazz movement, The Hot Sardines stand apart for the innovation, verve and sheer joy they bring to music, both new and old. “It’s a really cool time to be making music,” Elizabeth says. “Especially if you’re mak-

ing music that started its life 100 years ago.”

Tickets starting at \$35, can be purchased at gettysburgmajestic.org, by calling 717-337-8200, or at the Box Office, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg. The Box Office is open Monday through Saturday, 12 – 7 p.m. and Sunday, 1 – 5 p.m.

The Majestic Theater at the Jennifer and David LeVan Performing Arts Center is owned and operated by Gettysburg College as a cultural treasure for its campus and the community.

New Gallery Art Show in Gallery 50

The Arts Alliance of Greater Waynesboro (AAGW) on behalf of Gallery 50 is pleased to announce the opening of their first 2019 show: Known & Discovered- Artful Expressions. The show will run through March 31st and will feature five local female artists.

The theme behind the show, Known & Discovered- Artful

Expressions, is a play on the recognition and how each views the world. “The artists participating in the show are names that some might be familiar with, and others might be newer names to the public,” according to Executive Director of the AAGW, Kathryn Gratton. “All of the artists have a common theme of causing you to search their works for new mean-

ings or interpretations on everyday items.”

The artists participating in the show all reside locally bringing together a connection of creativity from the area. Beth Berry is a Chambersburg, based photographer who focuses her work on still life and landscapes. Catherine Christopher is a Smithsburg based artist who creates

multi-layered, almost dimensional paintings of shimmering color and light.

Christine Lehman is an American painter and artist who resides in Waynesboro, PA with works inspired from her love of nature. Colleen Clapp is an award-winning artist from Frederick, MD who is also part of the TAG Gallery in Frederick. Marion Grif-

fin is an abstract artist located in New Market, who draws inspiration from nature and her inner passion for spontaneity. A complete list of the artists’ contact along with brief bios on each are available on the Arts Alliance of Greater Waynesboro’s website, www.artsalliancegw.org/gallery50.

For more information about AAGW, call 717-655-2500. Visit AAGW at www.artsalliancegw.org.

“Symphonic Dances for Two Pianos”

The Cumberland Valley School of Music invites the public to welcome Yu-Hsuan Liao, piano professor at Shepherd University, and Tzu-Yun Maggie Chen, Taiwanese pianist.

Thomson Hall Chapel as they share compositions by Rachmaninoff and Bernstein (West Side Story Suite).

Yu-Hsuan Liao serves as Associate Professor of Piano and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies at Shepherd University in West Virginia. A native of Taipei, Taiwan, Yu-Hsuan received her Masters and Doctoral Degrees of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from University of Texas at Austin under Danielle Martin, Dariusz Pawlas, and Gregory Allen. She began her musical studies in Tung-Hai University under Thomas Linde, receiving her

Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. She is a piano soloist, collaborative artist, and music educator.

She has expanded her repertoire in instrumental, chamber, vocal and choral music in various styles and periods. Yu-Hsuan worked with “American Repertory Ensemble” and performed piano solo, chamber and accompanying vocal music in the company’s performance series. Her solo performance with A.R.E. (“Valses Poéticas”, Passion at Play) was nominated for best instrumentalist in the Austin Critics Table Award for season of 2008-2009. She gave a piano lecture-recital based on her published book (2009) titled “Manuel de Falla’s Cuatro Piezas Españolas: Combinations and Transformations of the Spanish Folk Modes” and a solo piano performance in com-

posers’ new composition concert at the College Music Society conferences.

Tzu-Yun Maggie Chen is a native Taiwanese pianist, Maggie received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in composition from Taipei University for the Arts, Master of Music degree from Auburn University and Doctor of Musical Arts degree from University of Texas at Austin. She won several titles of piano competitions, held by organizations such as the Music Teachers National Association and the Alabama Music Teachers Association.

As a lifetime member of Phi Kappa Lambda, Dr. Chen now is the associate professor of Ling Tung University, Taichung, Taiwan. She used to be a member of the faculty of Graduate School of Collaborative Arts at the Tainan

National University of the Arts from year of 2003 to 2009. She is an active concert pianist and enthusiastic collaborative pianist worldwide, performed internationally in Taiwan, USA, Canada,

Austria, France, and China. From year of 2000 until 2007, she served as pianist and voice coach for the Austrian American Mozart Academy in Salzburg, Austria. And from year of 2007, she serves as pianist and voice coach for the Franco American Vocal Academy in France.



A Valentine's Day you won't ever forget!

Chloe Corwin
MSMU Class of 2020

February is the time of year where you treat yourself a little. You may do something with a partner, friend or just for you. Whatever the case may be, the Mount St. Mary's University's Visual and Performing Arts has some spectacular events prepared to be that extra little something so you can relax and enjoy your evening.

The first event to this February to make its way to the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center on the Mount campus is the Khanh Le exhibit located in the Williams Gallery.

Professor Elizabeth Holtry is very excited to bring this artist in and share their work with the Mountaineer community as well as our neighbors in Emmitsburg. The show will open on February 14, and will be greeted with a reception at 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. that same night with light refreshments. This event is available just in time for a unique Valentine's Day date, and will be on display until March 15.

On the topic of Valentine's Day activities, at 8:00 p.m. on Feb. 14, 15 and 16 the annual musical review will be making its way to the Horning Theater stage in the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center. This show has been an immense collaborative effort amongst students, alumni, and faculty members, making it one you cannot miss!

The show is based on senior Tahreem Fayiz's own life story. Though this tale is not a particularly happy one, everyone who has partaken in the show's creation and read the script is moved by her bravery and strength. In her story, she brings forth issues of racism, feminism, and religious awakening while transitioning from childhood into adulthood. The writing, alongside the musical selection, is bound to move any audience member. Kelley Northam, a Mount junior, assisted in the music selection for the production. The songs chosen are an array of Broadway Musical songs from a variety of shows that enhance the previous scene's messages and themes. The collaborative effort has been a success, and the cast is diving into the material with open hearts and minds.

Northam says, "It was a great experience to collaborate with Tahreem to help decide the music for 'My Way'. Really, I just wanted to serve as resource for her to help her story and script come alive through music. Musical theatre, I believe, is one of the most intimate ways to convey emotion and we really tried to pick songs that reflected the emotions of the various scenes. I really dug for songs that were emotionally provoking as to make the audience think more deeply about what went on in the scene and I'm confident that the songs chosen will do just that. It's going to be an amazing show for sure."

As for the direction of the project, alumni Thomas Baker, class of 2018, has returned to continue directing after having success in previous years in this position. His familiarity with the students and proximity in age promotes a positive and productive rehearsal environment for actors and technicians alike. He is joined by his up-and-coming co-director, sophomore Chris-

topher Heilos. Heilos is a first-time director and is excited to learn from such an experienced peer.

Heilos describes his experience as such, "Being that this is my first time directing a show, this process has been very different for me... This show is nothing like I have ever experienced because it is written by one of the students and we have to do all the stage directions with what we think is best for the show. It has been very interesting at rehearsals trying to figure out what to do with each scene. Everything is dealt evenly between Tom and me. We each have songs and scenes that we block for and the other director can add input to try and make it better. I enjoy directing a lot and cannot wait to see how well the show turns out."

The stage manager for the production has been junior Quinlan Boyle. He has had the difficult job of keeping track of the behind-the-scenes props management, technical notes, and costume notes while attending all rehearsals and being a full-time student. Stage management is no joke! Despite all of this work, though, when asked about how the show is going, Boyle responded positively, stating, "Everyone jokes during the rehearsals about how absurd it would be to have one thing happen during the play that would totally change the meaning of the play... The cast has really come together and have been working hard to make this review an great show and to bring the story written for it to life."

The show is separated into two different sections, the actors and the singers. The actors have been working with directors Baker and Heilos. The singers

spend most days with the music director, Dr. Andrew Rosenfeld, Professor of Music and Visual and MSMU Performing Arts Department Chair Head. Singers also have an opportunity to work with either director in the blocking of their song, meaning they have put in a significant amount of work and dedication into this show.

To demonstrate the blood, sweat, and tears these performers have put into their craft, freshman Michael Moore has given us a glimpse into his world. He is an actor and performer with two songs, as opposed to the usual one song per singer. Moore has a lot on his plate, but has been very upbeat about the process. He states that the "musical revue has been going really well! I am both acting and singing so I've been involved in both sides of the rehearsal process. The acting rehearsals have been really fun and the cast is binding really well through mid-scene mess ups and general theater shenanigans. On the music side, I'm singing two songs, the first is "You've Got to be Carefully Taught" from South Pacific... The second is an upbeat song called "I Have Confidence" from The Sound of Music... This is going to be such a great show, everyone is so talented and the script is powerful."

As the testimony of all four interviewees have stated, this show is going to be grand and everyone involved is very excited for opening night. The turnout for the show is bound to be a great. As for cost of the show, a \$7 donation is suggested at the door. The cast and crew of "My Way" cannot wait to see you there!

The following weekend brings the



Rehearsal for "My Way" at Mount St. Mary's. Shows will take place at 8 p.m. February 14, 15, and 16.

final event for February, though this one is not open to the public. The music subject area is sponsoring a Spring Swing dance night filled with blues, early rock, big band, and jazz music. On Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. music will be pouring out of the doors of the Seminary Dining Room into Patriot Hall, inviting students to join in the festivities.

It is the season for treating yourself or another. This Valentine's Day consider attending an event on the Mount campus to make this year stand out from the rest.

The Mount St. Mary's University Department of Visual and Performing Arts is located in The Delaplaine Fine Arts Center and can be contacted by phone at 301-447-5308. Like our Facebook page @msmupa for more updates, photos, and videos. For more information about the department in general, search for Visual and Performing Arts on the Mount St. Mary's University official website www.msmary.edu.

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LOCAL SPORTS

Catoctin women's basketball recap

Grace Kovalcik
CHS Class of 2021

"One game at a time," says Amy Entwistle, the head coach of Catoctin's varsity girls' basketball team, after a recent win for both of the Cougars' women's basketball teams. As they work their way through the season and towards playoffs, the coach of thirteen years maintains her focus on the present day and time, while encouraging her players to do the same.

A little past the halfway point in their season, Catoctin's women's basketball program has seen a fair amount of both wins and losses. Having started their season in early December, the Lady Cougars have already seen two months worth of competition, still with more to come.

The girls' season kicked off with a home game against Francis Scott Key High School (FSK). With junior varsity facing off against the Eagles first, fans and family gathered in the gymnasium to watch the girls showcase what they had been preparing for. After four quarters of frequently changing possession, the game resulted in a score of 38-36, with the Cougars trailing a mere two points. Following the junior varsity game, each school's varsity team rallied on the court for their own face-off. After another tightly contested matchup, the varsity girls' game ended with a score of 48-47, Catoctin only one point away from tying the game. Regardless of the scores, the results showed a promising future for Catoctin's girls in the eyes of both the players and coaches.

Following FSK's visit to Catoctin was the Cougars' journey to South Carroll High School, just a few days later. Junior varsity, with twice the aggressiveness than before, secured a victory of 40-27 against the Cavaliers. Modeling junior varsity's performance executed throughout the game, varsity also went home with a win of 35-33. Freshman, Emma Wivell, and senior, Melanie Topper, both with ten points, tied for most points scored throughout the game. The following games pitted Catoctin against Boonsboro. Again, junior varsity walked away with a win of 39-25, but Varsity's game ended in a close loss to the Warriors with a final score of 47-55.

Catoctin's junior varsity girls' next two games both ended in the Cougars' favor. Defeating Williamsport High School 54-22, and Middletown High School 59-30, the girls' record climbed to 4-1. The outcome of varsity's matchup with Williamsport, although less than ideal, remained consistent with their other losses, which had all been within a few points. This home game ended in a score of 42-44. Facing off against Middletown, on the other hand, left the Cougars with a more severe loss of 25-57. After playing the Wildcats and the Knights, the varsity girls' record totaled 1-4.

The next opponent the Cougars would come to face were the Oakdale Bears. Competing at Catoctin's home court, the two junior varsity teams faced off first, which ended with a resulting score of 30-32. This loss, being only the Cougars' second of the season, brought the ladies'

record to 4-2. Varsity's game also concluded with the Bears in the lead with 55 points, and Catoctin holding 35 points. The girls' game against Oakdale would be their last regular season game of 2018.

After their crushing loss against Oakdale, the Cougars, along with the rest of Frederick County's High Schools, would enter into a week and a half long winter break. During this break, which lasted through the holidays and into the New Year, Catoctin took the opportunity to participate in a women's High School varsity basketball tournament. In this double elimination tournament, the Cougars first played the Mountain Ridge Miners, who bested the Cougars 49-58. Catoctin then went on to face the Allegany Campers, who also subdued the Cougars with a final score of 41-54, which marked the end of the tournament for Catoctin.

Coming into the New Year, the Lady Cougars would leave behind their self doubt and past defeats, and instead bring with them a newfound confidence. The first team the Cougars faced in 2019 was the Smithsburg Leopards, at Catoctin High School's home court. Throughout all four quarters of junior varsity's game, the Cougars gave their all, and used their agility to their advantage. As a result, the girls dominated over the Leopards, and scored their first victory of the year with a score of 53-13. Immediately after was the varsity teams' game. Led by sophomore Courtney Eyer with an individual total of eighteen points, the Cougars ended the game with a score of 53-45. The double victory accomplished by the Cougars provided a great start to the new year.

The next team to face Catoctin was Brunswick High School. Playing at the Railroaders' home court, the Cougars traveled to their opponents' turf driven with an intent to take home another win. Just as they had hoped, the junior varsity girls bested their competition 45-21, followed by the varsity girls' win of 57-37. Leading the team in scoring was Wivell with seventeen points, varsity's only fresh-



Freshman Emma Wivell scans her surroundings before scoring three points for Catoctin.

man on the roster. Another victory for both of Catoctin's teams brought their records to 6-2 for junior varsity, and 3-7 for varsity, including the two tournament games.

Playing Walkerville next at Catoctin high school, the junior varsity Cougars maintained their winning streak after defeating the Lions 50-35. Unfortunately, Walkersville's varsity team got the upper hand over Catoctin, and managed to win with a score of 43-54. The same week, the Cougars' varsity team traveled to Clear Spring high school, to play the Blazers. Without a junior varsity team to face Catoctin, two of junior varsity's most versatile players, freshman Emily Williams and sophomore Lily Smith, were asked to play with the varsity girls against Clear Spring. Williams with two points, and Smith with six points, both aided the team in their victory against the Blazers, which ended in a final score of 57-23.

The following week, Catoctin's junior varsity team would face Mountain Ridge for the first time, while the two varsity teams would meet again for a rematch after facing off in the December tournament. Before the game began, Williams commented

on her thoughts about the game in which she would be playing in within a matter of minutes. Emily had been moved up to play with the varsity girls a number of times, the first time being Catoctin's prior game against Mountain Ridge. "I truly believe we can beat them," Williams boldly stated. "We just need to play our A-game all four quarters." Williams' claims were correct, as both the junior varsity and varsity Cougars were able to overcome Mountain Ridge. Junior varsity's game ended with a score of 35-22, and varsity with a score of 63-41. Not only had the varsity girls managed to defeat a team they had previously lost to, but this game had also ended up being their highest scoring game yet, with senior Raegan Smith leading the team with thirteen points.

Still fired up from their most recent win, the Cougars came to their next game hungry for another victory. Hoping to continue their winning streak, the Cougars faced Boonsboro with overwhelming intensity and aggressiveness, and managed to defeat their opponents 33-19. Possessing the same wishes, varsity also emerged victorious with a final score of 50-43, with Raegan Smith as leading scorer with sixteen points.

After Catoctin's success over Boonsboro, junior varsity's record was brought to 9-2, and varsity's to 6-8. Although the girls still have room for improvement, the team and what Coach Entwistle calls their "basketball IQ" have noticeably progressed since the beginning of the season. From the viewpoint of junior varsity coaches Chris Barnhart and Jason Smith, the girls have a bright future. "This is probably one of the best teams I've ever coached," expressed Barnhart. "They're very skilled and athletic." Although both Barnhart and Smith are aware of necessary improvements, their pride in the team outweighs any negatives by far. "They want to win, and they want to fight," Smith recognized. "They already have the energy created, and they're always ready to go."

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Collin Riviello
MSMU Class of 2020

The men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's track & field and baseball teams have all released their upcoming spring schedules and the Mount community hopes many of these teams will build upon their stellar performances from last season.

Women's lacrosse looks to return to the NEC tournament after posting a 10-7 (5-2 NEC) record last season. They bring back reigning NEC Defensive Player of the Year, Jillian Petito, who as goalkeeper led all division I keepers in save percentage (.563) and ranked third in the nation in the goals against average statistic with 8.53.

The women kick off their season at home on Feb. 9 against Presbyterian at 3pm. They will then head to UMBC and Army West Point for matches on Feb. 20 and 23 respectively. In March, the Mount will host six home games with two of them being against teams from California: California (March 3) and UC Davis (March 30). Their only two away games in March will be at Radford on March 1 and at Campbell on March 23. Conference play will start in April.

Like the women, men's lacrosse will kick off their season at home on Feb. 9 too, except against Delaware at noon. Then on Feb. 15, the Mount will host Towson for a match. They'll travel to face UMBC on Feb. 23 and then head back to Emmitsburg to play Georgetown on Feb. 26. Bouts at VMI and Richmond will ensue on March 2 and 5 respectively.

On March 8, the Mount will host Mercer in their final non-conference home game and then head out to Johns Hopkins for a nationally televised matchup (ESPN3) on March 12 at 7pm. The Mount is coming off a 5-9 (2-4 NEC) season where they played against four nationally ranked teams. They posted a 5-1 record at home but went 0-8 on the road.

The women's tennis team returns five of their eight players from last year, including junior Alexa Quintanilla who led the team in singles victories (20) to earn a spot on the NEC All-Conference First Team. She helped the sixth-seeded Mount upset third-seeded Saint Francis (Pennsylvania) by a score of 4-3 in last year's NEC tournament quarterfinals. The Mount lost to Bryant in the semifinals, but it was the first time since 2008 that they reached the semifinal round.

The women will travel to Howard, Navy and Carnegie Mellon on February 2, 10 and 16 respectively, before heading to Pennsylvania to play against St. Francis (Pennsylvania) on the 17. Matches at Lehigh on the 24 and at Rad-

ford on the 26 will wrap up February play.

The Mount will play three away games in March before starting a four-game homestand on the 23 against St. Francis Brooklyn. On March 24, George Mason will visit the Mount, followed by Towson on March 27. Fairleigh Dickinson (31) will be the Mount's final home game of the month.

The men's tennis team lost only one player from last season, Brandon Wortkotter, to graduation; however, Wortkotter was essential in helping the Mount get several wins last season. He currently sits at number two in the Mount's all-time doubles win list with 69. Needing to step up will be sophomores Jackson Wood (18) and Parth Sharma (17) who went 1-2 to lead the team in number of singles wins.

The men will play their first nine games of February and March on the road. They'll take on Howard, James Madison, Carnegie Mellon, Lehigh and Radford on Feb. 2, 3, 16, 24 and 26 respectively. In March the Mount will travel to play Rollins, Keiser, Warner and Bryant.

A four-game homestand will bring the Mount back home, starting with St. Francis Brooklyn on March 23. George Mason will arrive to Emmitsburg on March 24, Fairleigh Dickinson will play the Mount March 31 and Morgan State will come on April 2.

The men's outdoor track & field team will be looking to continue the success they had in 2018. Last season, the men won the outdoor track & field NEC title at home for the first time in 21 years. They outscored the then-three-time defending outdoor champion Central Connecticut State by just two points (172-170) for the title.

The women also look to improve upon last season, where

they placed third (122.5 pts.) at the NEC outdoor championships, their highest place since 2015. They return sophomore Kayla Barnes, who took home gold in the 100m dash and 200m dash, and also won NEC Most Outstanding Performer honors.

Both teams will start the outdoor season at the Alan-Connie Shamrock Invitational from March 14-16 in South Carolina. A select few athletes will travel to North Carolina State University for the Adidas Raleigh Relays from March 29-30. The Navy Spring Meet will be held at Navy on March 30 for those athletes not traveling to North Carolina. From April 4-6, the Mount will head to William & Mary College for the Colonial Relays. From April 5-6, a select few will fly to California to compete in the Sam Adams Combined Events Invitational.

Both teams will be extremely busy between April 12-14 as athletes will be split up between six different meets. The Mount will host its annual Mount Multi meet from April 11-12. This meet is held specifically for heptathletes and decathletes. Also, being held on April 12 is the Hopkins/Loyola invitational at Johns Hopkins University. Messiah College will also be starting day one of its two-day Messiah Invitational (12-13) on the 12. On April 13, the Mount will send the remaining athletes to either the Spring Invitational at George Mason or to the two-day Bison Outdoor Classic at Bucknell (13-14).

After the Penn Relays at Penn State and the Red Flash Open at St. Francis (Pennsylvania), both teams will travel together to CCSU for the 2019 NEC Outdoor Championships from May 4-5.



Baseball attempts to return to the NEC Tournament for what would be just the fifth time in 30 seasons. Last season they qualified as the No. 4 seed.

Last season, the baseball team played to a 21-33 (15-13 NEC) record which qualified them for the 2018 NEC Tournament for just the fourth time in 29 seasons. Before 2018, the last time they went was 2008. The team returns senior short-stop Patrick Causa, who in 54 games last season hit 34 runs and led the teams in RBIs with 47. Also returning is LHP junior Trey McGough who in 76.1 innings pitched, racked up a 4-7 record with 62 strikeouts.

In February, the Mount will host Lehigh for a four-game series from the 22-24. The Mount will then travel to Florida for their annual Florida Spring Trip to play seven games against six different teams

from March 2-9. They'll travel to UMBC on March 12 for a game, before starting a three-game series and conference play at Wagner on March 15. A lone game at Navy on March 20 will mark the end of their long road trip.

The Mount will play Fairleigh Dickinson at home from March 22-24 and then Coppin State will arrive to Emmitsburg on March 26. The Mount will travel to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore for a doubleheader on March 27. March play for the Mount will end with a three-game homestand against UMBC from March 29-31.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

2019 – Year of the Pig

Renee Lehman

The Chinese New Year (also called the Lunar New Year or Chinese Spring Festival), one of the traditional Chinese festivals, is the grandest and the most important festival for Chinese people. It originated during the Shang Dynasty (about 17th - 11th century BCE), and it is an important time for families to get together, similar to Christmas Day for westerners. It is also a time to hope for the return of spring, to welcome prosperity, wealth, and longevity, and a time to remove any negative qi (pronounced “chee”) from the past. There is even a tradition prior to the New Year for every family to thoroughly clean the house to sweep away any ill-fortune in hopes of making way for good incoming luck.

Chinese Calendar History

The Chinese calendar was originated by the Yellow Emperor Huang Ti, and has been in use for centuries. The Chinese calendar is called a lunar calendar but is really a calendar based on the moon and the sun. The Gregorian calendar, which the world uses today (originated 430 years ago) is a solar calendar. (The Chinese Lunar New Year always begins on the second new moon after the winter solstice, in case you were wondering why it’s on a different date every year.)

The Twelve Animals of the Chinese Calendar

The Chinese calendar is made of five, twelve-year cycles. Each of the twelve years of the Chinese calendar is appointed one of the following 12 animal’s names (in this order): rat, ox, tiger, rab-

bit, dragon (the only mythological animal), snake, horse, goat/sheep, monkey, fowl/rooster, dog, and pig. The animal that rules the year of your birth is said to exercise a major influence over your life, and that year in general. Much of the information used for this article is taken from The Handbook of Chinese Horoscopes by Theodora and Laura Lau, 2007. The sign of the Pig/Boar is the twelfth sign of the Chinese zodiac, and the animal related to this coming New Year. The Pig last animal sign in the Chinese zodiac. The Pig tends to be peaceful, except when angered, which is rare. The Pig is a sign of honesty, simplicity, and great strength. Pigs also tend to be characterized as gallant, sturdy, and courageous. To the Chinese, the Pig values family, friend, and home. In fact, the Chinese symbol for home is a roof with a pig under it!

The Pig

Of all God’s children I have the purest heart. With innocence and faith, I walk in Love’s protective light. By giving of myself freely I am richer and twice blest. Bonded to all mankind by common fellowship, my goodwill is universal and knows no bounds.

–I AM THE PIG.
(Lau & Lau, 2007)

February 5, 2019 through January 24, 2020 is the Year of the Pig.

Pig Personality

If you were born in one of the following years, your sign is the Pig (February 16, 1923 – February 4, 1924; February 4, 1935 – January 23, 1936; January 22,

1947 – February 9, 1948; February 8, 1959 – January 27, 1960; January 27, 1971 – January 15, 1972; February 13, 1983 – February 1, 1984; January 31, 1995 – February 18, 1996; and February 18, 2007 – February 6, 2008). A person born in the year of the Pig is one of the most natural people you could ever meet. Pigs are the original nice guys, winner of the “Charlie Brown” award. They are very popular and sought after because they seek universal harmony. Sure, the Pig will have fights and differences with others, but will not carry grudges unless you give him/her no choice.

The Pig is blessed with great endurance and can work diligently on one thing at a time. The Pig will elect to work hard in life and will play just as hard, too. Although intelligent and well-informed, the Pig is not deep. S/he accepts things at face value.

Overall, the loyal and thoughtful Pig will make lasting and beneficial friendships. Credibility and sincerity are the Pigs best assets. However, the Pig is equally known for his/her excessive pursuit of pleasure, and even depravity when he/she gives into his/her negative traits. Often, the saint and sinner are intertwined. The Pig can be a bit too jovial and condescending at times and expects others to tolerate his/her weaknesses. Most of the Pig’s problems stem from his/her overgenerous and overoptimistic nature.

Famous People born in the Year of the Pig

- Andre Agassi, American Tennis Player
- Lucille Ball, American Actress and Comedian
- Prince Rainier III of Monaco
- Maria Callas, Greek Soprano
- Henry Kissinger, American Secretary of State
- Ronald Reagan, American President
- Glenn Close, American Actress



- Andrew Jackson, American President
- Sir Elton John, British Singer and Songwriter
- Julie Andrews, British Singer and Actress
- King Hussein of Jordan
- Humphrey Bogart, American Actor
- Ernest Hemingway, American Writer
- And of course, Miss Piggy!!!!

General Predictions for the Year of the Pig

We can expect mixed energies during the Year of the Pig, although there should be good news on the horizon with world events. Internationally, most relationships should be harmonious and amicable.

Overall, this is a good year for business. The Year of the Pig is a year in which you may be more likely to work harder. However, the Chinese saying is that “Businesses should plan in the Pig Year and launch new projects and expand in the Rat Year,” which is in 2020.

People will be more caring, considerate and nurturing this

year, and more willing to help others. Remember to also take loving care of yourself and nurture yourself this year. This is a very good year for dealing with family issues and overcoming previous hurts. It is also a good year for cultivating all domestic skills – like cooking, gardening, etc.

Quotes to Live by in the Year of the Pig

“Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.” – Thomas Jefferson

“Your conscience is the measure of the honesty of your selfishness. Listen to it carefully.” – Richard Bach

“There is no one on the planet to compare with moi.” – Miss Piggy

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 30 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.



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FITNESS AND HEALTH

Herb of the month – Seaweed

Susan Miller

All of you sushi lovers are well acquainted with this elegant sea vegetable. Seaweed is actually not a plant or animal, but a form of algae. A wide variety is readily available in the Asian markets or the ethnic food aisle.

A true super food, seaweed is an excellent source of calcium, iodine, folic acid and magnesium, and a host of other nutrients. It is high in ligands, plant compounds that protect against cancer and help relieve menopausal symptoms, and fucans, which can reduce inflammation. If you have

stress and anxiety issues, try seaweed for the B vitamins pantothenic acid and riboflavin, often depleted with daily tension.

Dried sea veggies can be cooked in soups, stews, casseroles, stir fry's or whatever inspires you. Some can rehydrate to four to five times their original size. I put them whole in a soup or chowder and remove the expanded portion before serving. The broth will absorb the good stuff and no one will reproach you with "What is this slimy stuff?" Seaweed is also great for cooking beans. Try 3-6 inches of dried kombu in your next pot, it will help

speed up the cooking time, add nutrients and improve digestibility.

Seaweed is also wonderfully nourishing for the skin and hair. You'll find it in every form of beauty product from soap to creams to toothpaste. A seaweed soak will relax and soften feet and hands. I have used a seaweed soak many times to treat my overworked transporters, they positively throb with happiness.

Seaweed comes in a lot of varieties. Nori are the dark sheets used for sushi, kombu comes in strips and is great for seasoning beans and soups, arame is black and wiry and probably

my favorite as it has a mild taste. Other varieties include kelp, wakame, hijiki, and dulse. All are somewhat salty. Try a few and see what appeals to you.

If you are on thyroid medication and are on a low iodine diet, check with your doctor for recommended levels of seaweed consumption.

Seaweed Recipes

Seasoning Blend – Grind equal parts dried seaweed and toasted sesame seeds in a food processor and use as a salt replacement on everything. Arame is my favorite for this.

Soups and Stews – Throw in 1/8 to

1/4 cup of seaweed to your soup, leave whole and remove it before serving, or crush it while you are adding it and leave it in. Remember to cut down on the salt in your recipe.

Stir Fry's – Add some chopped, pre-soaked seaweed to your next stir-fry.

Seaweed Soak – Get a good amount of seaweed, this is great project for a seaside vacation, and put in a container large enough to soak your feet. Add hot water and submerge those aching dogs. You could also soak seaweed in a large pot, then strain and put in your bath. Very soothing and softening.

Fresh vs. packaged foods

Linda Stultz
Certified Fitness Trainer

The way we prepare food today is so different from just a few decades ago. More people use boxed meals because of the convenience and time demands of our busy lifestyles. Preservatives and chemicals are used in pre-packaged foods to give them an inviting and appealing look and texture. While these additives should be approved by the FDA or whatever regulatory system they are subject to, sometimes they are not adding any nutritional value to us. I realize preparing fresh veggies and meals takes a little more time and effort but people are beginning to understand the health benefits of eating fresh foods.

Frozen meals also contain additives but some have less preservatives than boxed foods. Frozen veggies and fruit

can be just as nutritious as fresh because they are picked at the peak of ripeness and frozen immediately.

Some people have decided to plant their own garden and start canning and freezing their own food. This can be an overwhelming thought for some. For others, they just don't want to. Preserving your own fresh vegetables and fruits is not as hard as you may think. Getting together with a few friends, especially if one of your group has done this before, can be fun and cuts down on the work of doing all by yourself.

Groups like the farmers markets or even some agricultural education programs may offer classes on canning and freezing. They give step by step instructions and may even have a program that will do the preserving for you. This, of course, will come with a cost but would be worth it and may not be any more expensive than buying from

the store. We plant a garden each year and so enjoy the fresh tomatoes, beans and a nice variety of vegetables. We have always preserved our own foods and enjoy doing it together.

Another way of eating fresh is to prepare a few dishes on a day that you have the time and place it in the freezer

for the future week. This way it does not have added preservatives of boxed foods but is easy to pop in the microwave and heat up on those busy days.

I know everyone has a busy life and time is precious. I just wanted to present a few ideas that may help. Maybe some of these suggestions will work for

you and your family. I am always open to suggestions and ideas. If you have any helpful hints, please let me know at 717-334-6009. Gift Certificates are a great gift and may be the little push someone needs to get started. They are also a great gift for yourself. Contact me if you want to give the gift of health to someone.

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ASTRONOMY

The night sky of February

Professor Wayne Wooten

For February, the Moon will pass just north of Saturn in the predawn sky on Groundhog Day. New moon is February 4th. The waxing crescent is six degrees south of Mars in the SW evening sky on February 10th, and the moon is first quarter on the 12th. The Full moon is February 19th. The last quarter is February 26th, and it passes two degrees north of Jupiter on the 27th.

Mercury peaks out in evening twilight at the end of the month, reaching greatest eastern elongation of 18 degrees from Sun on February 26th. Venus dominates the dawn, moving eastward away from Jupiter, which it passed on January 22nd. Both rise about two hours before dawn. Mars is the only evening planet, visible in the SW after sunset but fading as the earth leaves it behind. We lose it into the Sun's glare by midyear. Saturn is back in the dawn sky, rising about an hour before sunrise in the SE.

The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. She contains many nice star clusters for binocular users in her outer arm of our Milky Way, extending to the NE now.

Cassiopeia's daughter, Andromeda, starts with the NE corner star of Pegasus Square, and goes NE with two more bright stars in



The Rosetta Nebula's numerous new-born stars makes it a breathtaking nebula to look at with a telescope.

a row. It is from the middle star, beta Andromeda, that we proceed about a quarter the way to the top star in the W of Cassiopeia, and look for a faint blur with the naked eye. M-31, the Andromeda Galaxy, is the most distant object visible with the naked eye, lying about 2.5 million light years distant.

Overhead is Andromeda's hero, Perseus. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa

would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth.

At Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance.

Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, domi-

nates the overhead sky. It is part of the pentagon on 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. UWF alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the eastern 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.

Just east of Betelgeuse is the fine binocular cluster NGC 2244. But the much fainter Rosette Nebula that it lies in the center of requires bigger scopes or astrophotography. Our feature shot for Valentine's Day is this fine looks at this young cluster being born from the inside out.

In the east rise the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises before Sirius, the brightest star in

the sky. Midway between them is the fine Rosette Nebula, a star nursery of gas and dust including the nice open cluster NGC 2244, easily found in binoculars. Several other nice clusters for binoculars are also plotted on your February sky map printout, be sure to check them out some clear, crisp winter evening.

Sirius dominates the SE sky by 7 PM, and as it rises, the turbulent winter air causes it to sparkle with shafts of spectral fire. Beautiful as the twinkling appears to the naked eye, for astronomers this means the image is blurry; only in space can we truly see "clearly now". At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida.

When Sirius is highest, along our southern horizon look for the second brightest star, Canopus, getting just above the horizon and sparkling like an exquisite diamond as the turbulent winter air twists and turns this shaft of starlight, after a trip of about 200 years!

To the northeast, a reminder that spring is coming; look for the bowl of the Big Dipper to rise, with the top two stars, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. But if you take the pointers south, you are guided instead to the head of Leo the Lion rising in the east, looking much like the profile of the famed Sphinx. The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star". Fitting for our cosmic king of beasts, whose rising at the end of this month means March indeed will be coming in "like a lion".

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—Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch:

Snow (1), fair and cold (2, 3, 4). Snow, mainly in the southern part of the region (5, 6, 7) turning fair and cold (8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13). Light snow mainly in the north (14, 15) with fair and milder weather (16, 17). Showers in the south (18, 19) with colder temperatures and lake-effect snow (20, 21). Windy, cold (22, 23) with a Nor'easter bringing heavy snow (24, 25, 26) turning fair but quite cold (27, 28).

Full Moon: In 2019, February's Full Moon will occur on Monday, the 21st. In many certain parts of North America, Native Americans suffered very harsh winters and saw the deepest snow during this month. They called it Snow Moon and because there was such an extreme scarcity of game to hunt, it was also aptly called Hunger Moon.

Special Notes: Watch out for "Punxsutawney Phil" as he makes his much-anticipated appearance on Saturday, February 2nd to 'predict' the coming of Spring. It will be determined by this little marmota monax's reaction to the day's weather. If it is sunny and he sees his shadow, he will retreat underground for another 6 weeks of Winter! If it is cloudy and he doesn't get scared by his own shadow, Spring will come early in 2019.

Holidays: Celebrate the Christian Festival of Lights, or Candlemas, on Saturday, February 2nd. It is on this day that many churches traditionally light more candles than usual during their daily services. The additional light not only made the day special but it was also believed that the additional light would provide protection from illness and plague in the coming year. Valentine's Day, February 14th, falls on Thursday in 2019. Show that special someone just how much you appreciate their being a part of your life. The birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Tuesday, February 12th) and George Washington (Friday, the 22nd) are collectively celebrated on President's Day which falls on Monday, February 18th to provide us with an extended holiday weekend. Enjoy!

The Garden: With some good news from our friend "Punxsutawney Phil", we can start thinking about things to do in an early Spring. Mid- to late-February is the time to fertilize shrubs and evergreens. Use an acid-type Rhododendron fertilizer to feed evergreens, conifers, broad leaf evergreens, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, and Camellias. Use an all-purpose fertilizer to feed Roses and other deciduous trees and shrubs. If you use granular type fertilizers, be sure to water it in thoroughly. It's a good time to stroll around and trim back any branches that were damaged by the ravages of Winter. If you haven't yet applied your dormant spray to your fruit trees, Do it now!! Stored summer flowering bulbs may try to start into growth if they are subjected to heat. They should be kept very dry, and stored at 45° F. If they are shriveling, put them into slightly damp peat moss, but keep them cool! Your house plants may notice the longer days and begin growing. You can begin feeding them again.

J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living

"You only reap what you sow, so be sure to spread more kindness and consideration for your fellow man than envy or ill will"

COMPUTER Q&A

Identify Internet scammers

Aysë Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer

Back in the day the only scammers that existed were those traveling from town to town promoting so-called "medical miracles", medicines that would cure even the most rare and worrisome diseases. Now, especially with technology so widely used, its not a matter of if you will encounter a scam but when. Read on to learn the tell-tale signs of a scammer and what you can do to protect yourself from becoming a victim.

Fake Virus Warnings – You may be visiting a website you have been to a thousand times before without a hitch, until one day up pops a virus alert. It might be blaring warning sounds or you might hear a computerized virus saying something like "Warning your computer is infected". Some warnings may even provide more details to try to scare you such as that the FBI was monitoring your device or that illegal content was found on your device. Most of the time these warnings will have a number which they indicate to call right away. Upon calling these numbers many times you will find yourself speaking to someone with an accent who will say almost anything to keep you on the phone and convince you that your computer has a virus and that they need to take control of your computer.

If you give that person access to your computer by following their instructions and letting them connect to you remotely, they will use that opportunity to show you many "error messages" in your computer. These "error messages" can be found on any computer that has been running for any length of time. Once you see the "errors" they will try persuading you into purchasing a support package either with or without antivirus. If you go through with providing them with your billing information, you have not only given them access to billing you for improper charges, you have also given them access to your computer and any information or passwords saved on your device.

Phone Scams – The scammers are getting smarter, not only will they call you pretending to be someone they aren't, they can now "spoof" real phone numbers making it appear that they are calling from a legitimate phone number (even displaying the proper caller id) when they are infact a scammer using a completely different phone number. Some calls include law enforcement claiming a family member is in jail and needs you to help bail them out. Many times, grandparents are targeted. The scammers will claim their grandchild is embarrassed and doesn't want to reach out to their parents. Other cases reported include calls from "Dell" or other spoofed tech support companies and utility companies. You will never be asked by any government official or utility company to make a payment with any kind of gift cards or green dot card.

Advertisement Scams – Sometimes

these come in the form of job opportunities or products for sale that aren't local. These scams are especially common on websites like Craigslist where anonymity is easily maintained but, can still occur on other platforms like Facebook marketplace as well. Be wary when dealing with anyone who is not local. Never provide money for any products (including deposits on animals that are to be shipped) many times these are plots to take your money and disappear. If you receive some sort of job offer and it sounds too good to be true or if you receive a check up front. Many times, they will have you deposit the check and pay back some sort of fees only for the check to bounce leaving you with fees and charges and the criminals with a payday.

Email Phishing – If you ever receive an email from a company you do business with that asks you to login you should avoid doing so from the email especially if they are "requesting that you login to update your information". If you do choose to click the link verify that you are on the correct website by checking the website address. For example if your email was

for PayPal and you clicked the link the first part of the website should read www.paypal.com it shouldn't read something like www.poypal.com they look very similar and websites can easily be replicated. You can use bookmarks in your web browser to save links to frequently visited websites so that you can make sure you are always on the correct website.

What should you do if you are the victim of a scam? If you are using a computer you should stop using your device immediately and consider having someone you trust clean your computer or at least to check for any remote or malicious software that might have been left behind by the scammer. Without following this step, if you provided access to your computer, the scammer may have access back onto your device. You can prevent them from gaining access by simply disconnecting from the internet until your computer is properly cleaned.

Most importantly if you provided any bank or credit card information you should at the very least monitor the account closely to check for any unauthorized charges over the next

6-12 months. Yes, some scammers will wait months to charge your card or bank account as a measure to try to stay under the radar. If you want to be absolutely sure you won't be charged improperly you should close out any accounts, you provided information for so that they won't be able to make any new charges.

How can I protect myself from scammers? Sometimes we can get caught up in the moment especially when scammers are skilled in convincing us that the issue is an urgent matter that needs resolved. You should never have to respond to such a thing right away. Ask for the caller or correspondents' information, let them know you will contact them back. If

a payment is being requested, they should have no problem providing a website address or billing address to make other payment arrangements. Lastly consider this, how does a warning popping up know there is an issue on your computer, how does a stranger calling you know your computer is infected or needs a license number. Technology can be an easy target because we tend to only learn what we need to know in order to use our devices. If you're not sure you can always contact a technology professional for more support before you decide how to react to a situation.

If you believe you have been scammed or would like technology support, contact Jester's Computer Services at 717-642-6611 we are located at 5135 Fairfield Road. You can visit us online at www.jesterscomputers.com.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2

Adam's County Arts Council's Introduction to Wheel Throwing. If you've always wanted to learn to throw clay on the pottery wheel, this class is for you! For more information call 717-334-5006 or visit www.adamsarts.org.

Gettysburg College's Piano Citizens Concert. The Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College presents a concert by piano studio students. This concert will be held at Gettysburg College's Schmucker Hall, Paul Recital Hall. Free and open to the public. For more information call 717-337-6815 or visit www.gettysburg.edu.

February 8

The Weinberg Center for the arts presents "The Last Waltz." "Thanksgiving, 1976, San Francisco's Winterland. Some numbers they do alone, some songs include guest artists from Ronnie Hawkins (their first boss, when they were the Hawks) to Bob Dylan (their last, when as his backup and as a solo group, they came into their own). Scorsese's camera explores the interactions onstage in the making of music. Offstage, he interviews the Band's five members, focusing on the nature of life on the road. For more information visit www.weinbergcenter.org.

February 8, 9 & 10

Gettysburg Rocks - a bi-annual music festival and fundraiser for Four Diamonds. For more information visit www.gburgrocks.com.

February 9

St. John's Lutheran Church Creagerstown's Fried Oyster and Turkey Dinner. For more information call 301-898-5167.

February 10

Civil War Dance Classes at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. Advance reservations are required. If any of your staff would like to learn mid-19th century dancing, email contact@civilwardance.org with names of attendees and dates you would like to attend. For information on our Introduction to Civil War Dancing DVD, visit our website at www.CivilWarDance.org. Click on "Dance DVD and Manual."

Gettysburg's Collage's From XIX to '19 Concert Series: Student Concert. From XIX to '19 commemorates the centennial of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, granting women the right to vote and empowering women leaders and visionaries in society, industry, and culture. This centennial commemoration

is presented by the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College and Sigma Alpha Iota, Epsilon Beta Chapter. The concert will be held at Gettysburg College's Schmucker Hall, Paul Recital Hall. For more information call 717-337-6815 or visit www.gettysburg.edu.

February 17

Fairfield's St. Mary's Church's all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner. The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 6 to 12 and under 6 free. For information call 717-642-8815.

February 23

Strawberry Hill's Mount Hope Maple Madness - Join Strawberry Hill for its annual sugaring festival! People of all ages are invited to see this tradition brought to life by Strawberry Hill naturalists. You will learn how trees are tapped, view sap-collecting methods past and present, and see the boiling process that produces delicious maple syrup. For more information visit www.strawberrylhill.org or call 717-642-5840.

The Livery's Annual Chowderfest! Help them win bragging rights! A \$10 donation at the door gets you a tasting spoon, voting ballot and tickets to taste some local craft brews (Must be 21 for tickets). All proceeds benefit the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen. For more information call 717-334-4598 or visit www.liverybarandgrille.com.

February 23 & 24

The Frederick Coin & Currency Show. Frederick Elks Club. 289 Willowdale Dr., Frederick. For more information call 443-623-7025.

February 24

Frederick's Calvary United Methodist Church presents classical guitarist Charles Mokotoff. This accomplished musician, teacher, and lecturer will share selections from the classical guitar repertoire dating from Baroque period to the present day. For more information call 301-662-1464 or visit www.calvaryumc.org.

Music Gettysburg presents Grace Kim, pianist. Music Gettysburg is a premier concert series featuring international, regional and local musical artists for the greater south central Pennsylvania region. For more information about this and other concerts in the Music, Gettysburg! schedule, please visit www.musicgettysburg.org, call 717-339-1334. All concerts take place in the chapel of the United Lutheran Seminary, 147 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg.

February 27

Catoctin Furnace Historical Society & Silver Oaks Academy presents scenes from "Spirits of the Furnace." The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are encouraged and can be made by contacting Elizabeth Comer at 443-463-6437. Parish Hall, Harriet Chapel,

12625 Catoctin Furnace Road, Thurmont.

February 28

Elias Lutheran Church's Spring Yard 100 W. North Ave., Emmitsburg. For more information call 301-447-6239.

Gettysburg National Military Park Winter Lecture Series

February 2 - Gettysburg College: The War for the Common Soldier.

February 3 - "On the Tenuous Edge of Freedom: Gettysburg's African-American Community Before, During, and After the Battle."

February 9 - Scapegoat or Scandal?: JEB Stuart during the Gettysburg Campaign.

February 10 - Twilight at Gettysburg: The 1938 Reunion of the Blue and the Gray.

February 16 - Eisenhower National Historic Site: Eisenhower and the American Civil War.

February 17 - From Albuquerque to Richmond: Longstreet's Long Journey from New Mexico to the Seat of War.

February 23 - Manassas National Battlefield Park: Unprecedented Discovery at Manassas National Battlefield.

February 24 - Lincoln Mythed: Memorial Biographies and the Damage Done to History - A Discussion.

Lectures take place Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. National Park Service rangers and leading historians offer free hour-long talks exploring important aspects of the American Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg.

Frederick County

Master Gardener Lectures

February 9 - "Pruning Your Garden." From what, when, and how, learn to prune for healthy plants.

February 16 - "Basic Vegetable Gardening & Seed Starting." Find out which plants are best started from seed and when. See firsthand how to start and plant seeds, as we demonstrate.

February 23 - "Building Native Bee Houses." Learn how to provide pollinators with habitats they need to thrive. This includes how to build houses for a variety of native bees using different methods.

All lectures take place at University of Maryland Extension Office, 330 Montevue Lane, (off Rosemont Avenue) Frederick. To register call Lisa Strong at 301-600-3576. Doors open 30 minutes prior to start times. Walk-ins are welcome if there is room.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ESP lights up Mount stage

Experience Art In Motion! ESP Performing Company's annual showcase fundraiser is a fun and entertaining evening out for the entire community. The annual ESP Showcase Fundraiser will take place on Feb. 23 at 5:30 p.m. in The Marion Burk Knott Auditorium at Mount Saint Mary's.

This year's showcase will again feature Maggie Kudirka "The Bald Ballerina". Maggie is an amazing dancer and an outstanding young lady who was diagnosed in 2014 with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer while dancing with The Joffrey Ballet Concert Group. Maggie has been dancing since she was 4 years old. Maggie shares her journey and speaks to groups around the country to help bring awareness about metastatic breast cancer. Maggie also teaches master ballet classes and continues to dance while fighting this terminal disease. You can follow Maggie on her Bald Ballerina Facebook page.

The choreography and dances presented by ESP in the showcase have already won numerous awards this season. The dancers are excited to present these performances to the commu-

nity as well as continuing to travel the east coast this competition season. ESP dancers love traveling and competing on the road but their favorite place to entertain is at home. Lucy Estep, senior dancer said "Local performances have always been my favorite events. Making the community smile though the passion we have for dance is heart-warming. I look forward to ending my very last local performance with a bang, with the best team I could ever imagine".

Mike of Mike Miller Photography said "I love taking pic-

tures of the Showcase. The ESP dancers always put on a fantastic show. Their grace, energy and talent sure make for some beautiful pictures, but they are even more amazing live. I hope everyone comes out to see them on stage and supports the company. ESP is a wonderful gift to our community. The Showcase will not disappoint!"

Tickets may be purchased through any ESP Performing Company member or at ESP Dance Studio, 301-271-7458, 15 Water St, Thurmont. Please support ESP Performing Company and help Keep Art Alive!





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