

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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

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Mount St. Mary's set to graduate class of 2018

Shea Rowell

MSMU Class of 2019

Mount St. Mary's University will hold its 2018 Commencement ceremony on May 13 at 11 a.m. in the Knott Arena. Attendance is reserved for ticket-holders, but all are welcome to attend the Baccalaureate Mass, May 12 at 5 p.m. in the Knott Arena.

The 2018 Commencement speaker is Agnus Beranato, C'80. Bernato has dedicated her career to developing university women's basketball programs. She has coached at many universities, and her teams have 461 wins under their belts. Bernato has also been elected into the Mount St. Mary's Sports Hall of Fame.

This year, we celebrate the achievements of three *Emmitsburg News-Journal* writers, Samantha Barbato, Hannah Opdenaker and Sarah Muir.

Samantha Barbato is the *News-Journal's* Sports Writer. Samantha is a communications major with concentrations in public relations and human communication and is passionate about sports media. Samantha plays on the Mount's women's tennis team.

Additionally, she helped found the Communications Club, and applies her writing skills to the school paper, *The Mountain Echo*.

Samantha is excited to move on to the next chapter of her life, a position as Communications Coordinator for the Washington Kastles, a World Team Tennis team in Washington, DC. "It's a blend of two of my passions," Samantha says, "so I couldn't have imagined a better job for me!"

Hannah Opdenaker, the *News-Journal's* Arts Writer, will also be graduating this spring. She is a theater and political science major, and has been writing for the *News-Journal* for a year. Hannah is a Mount Ambassador and just like Samantha, writes for *The Mountain Echo*. She is the president of Alpha Psi Omega, and participates in the Mount Theater program. Hannah's directing project, *Lysistrata* by Aristophanes, premiered in April.

Hannah plans to apply to graduate schools and teaching fellowships to bring theater to underprivileged communities near her home city, Philadelphia. She reflects on her experience with the paper: "I feel as though you learn a lot from a person's writings, and it is clear that



This year the *Emmitsburg News-Journal* says farewell to three of our Mount writers. From left to right, Hannah Opdenaker, Sarah Muir, Samantha Barbato.

the Mount's ENJ team is filled with strong, talented, young women that bring a lot of experience to the table."

Finally, the *Emmitsburg News-Journal* says farewell to our Senior Writer and Managing Editor, Sarah Muir, who has been writing for the newspaper for four years. Sarah is an English major who is passionate about writing. She has been working as a Donor Relations intern at the Weinberg Center and plans to start her career in publishing through an internship with Wolters Kluwer as Assistant Productions Editor.

Sarah reflects on her experience with the *News Journal*:

"The ENJ means so much to me. I am thrilled to have spent the past four years as a part of this

small family of writers and brilliant thinkers. As Managing Editor, I am proud of the great team of student writers with whom I have worked. I look forward to seeing the newspaper not only flourish, but grow the next generation of strong, intelligent writers."

On behalf of the *Emmitsburg News-Journal*, I wish to express gratitude for the contributions of each. Their commitment to the paper and to representing their school with dignity and enthusiasm has made the community proud. We will miss them on the *Emmitsburg News-Journal* team, and congratulate them as they pursue the endeavors of their post-graduate lives.

Adams County VFCs - support them or lose them

What a difference ten years makes. When this paper first started to cover Volunteer Fire Company award banquets, the noise was so loud one struggled to follow the conversations held amongst community members sharing your table. However, these days there are more echoes than voices in the award halls. Nowhere is the drop in community support so apparent as it is Adams County, where even the once impressively strong Fairfield Fire Company is struggling and had fewer members attend its recent awards banquet.

The urgent need for volunteers for Adams County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Companies has been a hot topic within local municipalities and fire departments for a few years. The need is growing stronger with every passing day.

Bill Jacobs, Fairfield Fire Chief, noted the decline in the number of volunteers since he began with the department in 1996. "Within the past twenty years, the number of volunteers has dropped by over half. Twenty years ago, Fairfield was averaging 15-18 volunteer firefighters on call at any one

time. More than enough to not only serve the local community, but to assist other communities if called upon. Today however, there are only a total of ten people in the operation side of the Fairfield Fire Department; this number is dwindling," said Jacobs.

"The main problem that many people don't realize is that the volunteer fire departments in Pennsylvania are not government agencies, nor, like their Frederick County counterparts, do they receive much in the way of County support. Other than ambulance staffing during the day, which is paid for by the fire department, the staff that makes up the volunteer fire departments is not paid," stated Jacobs. The fire tax, which has only recently been implemented, will only reimburse Fairfield Fire & EMS for 50% of any EMS wages.

Fairfield Fire & EMS covers Fairfield Borough, Carroll Valley Borough, Hamiltonban Township, Liberty Township and Highland Township, encompassing a total of 50 square miles. If volunteer numbers don't increase, Jacobs suspects many Adams Coun-



The future of volunteer fire companies is in the hands of young men and women like Colby Wivell - sadly for every Colby joining the company, three senior members retire. A trend, that if not stopped, will bring an end to the proud tradition of volunteer fire companies in Adams County.

ty fire departments, which are separate entities, will have to increase the number of paid staff. This will result in the local fire tax being increased significantly, which is currently at a minimal 0.25-mills.

Jacobs noted that it would cost approximately two million dol-

lars every year just to staff the Fairfield Fire Department, potentially bumping the fire tax up to 4.25-mills - a 17-fold tax increase for local residents. This cost does not include operational, equipment and workers compensation costs for paid fire and EMS services.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

Transient rentals considered

Emmitsburg's Board of Commissioners discussed short-term transient rentals and the possibility of modifying an ordinance to include rentals of this type into the town code during the April 2 town meeting. As it currently stands, Emmitsburg has no ordinance regarding short-term transient rentals.

The business of short-term transient rentals is particularly popular in vacation getaway spots like Ocean City where many homeowners are willing to rent their homes to guests for a few nights at a time. Popular websites like Craigslist, Airbnb, and Zillow are used to facilitate these transactions. Locally, the venture is gaining steam as a few properties in Emmitsburg have popped up for rent. The town of Emmitsburg receives visitors for family reunions and weddings often, as well as Christians on pilgrimages to the area.

This topic has been under discussion by the Planning Commission since October of last year. Town Planner Susan Cipperly gave a brief presentation before the agenda item was opened up for discussion by the Board and members of the public. As discussed by the Planning Commission, there are some concerns that the town must consider in regards to short-term transient rentals. These concerns include: the potential for

commercialization of residential districts; reduction of neighborhood cohesion due to a non-stable, transient population; possible impact on property values; safety and noise concerns; possible unfair competition with hotels and legal short-term rentals.

Any resident who may wish to establish the business of short-term transient housing may need to go through an approval process by the Planning Commission and could be required to meet conditions such as: presenting proof of liability, presenting proof of adequate on-site parking, having an on-site manager present during the rental period, and there may be a limit placed on the number of rooms rented/percent of building being rented.

An Emmitsburg resident provided feedback during the meeting on her experience with rentals of this kind. She explained to the Board that she currently rents a few bedrooms in her home to visitors in the area using the website Airbnb. She said that the drawbacks presented were worst-case scenarios. Airbnb provides a "profile" of those renting properties with a description of the property and the property owner. Also, those wishing to rent a room/property must be approved by the property owner. She noted that those using this website,

in her experience, are not troublesome individuals and have always taken care of her home. She would never rent her home to individuals who wouldn't take care of it during their stay and who would be disrespectful of her neighbors. The resident also noted through her own research she discovered that Frederick County currently has no regulation, apart from safety regulations, for these types of rentals and no ordinance regarding them currently exists.

Commissioner Joe Ritz expressed concern for the neighbors around renters, and particularly showed concern with this business taking place outside the Village Zone, or the Commercial District. Commissioners discussed the right of individual property owners to use their property as they please and understood the desire to participate in this type of business. The Commissioners all agreed that it would not be necessary to write an entirely new ordinance, when modifications to an existing one could be made.

No official action was taken on this agenda item, but town staff will research policies of similar towns regarding short-term transient rentals and will acquire information from Frederick City. This topic will be brought back at a future meeting.

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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Emmitsburg news-briefs. . .

Fire/Rescue Museum receives new installation

On March 28, a three-panel glass etching, featuring an old 1920's fire engine departing the old Independent Hose Company fire station in Frederick, arrived at the Frederick County Fire/Rescue Museum and National Heritage Center by way of Emmitsburg Glass personnel.

The owners of the building at 12 West Church Street donated the large etching to the Frederick County Fire/Rescue Museum. The three-panel etching measures over fifteen feet wide and over eight feet high.

Kenny Reaver, who led the effort on the day of installation, noted that the largest glass panel weighs 900 pounds and is some 9-1/2' x 8' in size. Emmitsburg's Mayor, Don Briggs, has been a great supporter of this opportunity. The overall transfer took some coordination with the new building owner, the original glass etching designer, William N. Cochran of Frederick, Independent Hose Company personnel and Emmitsburg Glass Company.

The National Fire Heritage Center's Executive Director, Wayne Powell stated, "The Emmitsburg Glass personnel including their President, Dan Reaver, have been terrific through the past few months of planning and coordination to get us to this point." It will be some time yet before the etching gets reassembled for proper display but it's quite magnificent.

Trail system extension placed on hold

During the April 2 town meeting, Commissioner President Tim O'Donnell briefed the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners on the progress of the upcoming trail expansion of Emmitsburg's multi-user trail.

A year and a half ago, in May of 2016, Emmitsburg received a \$30,000 state grant, which was originally accepted to fund additional signage throughout the town's multi-user trail system, additional parking, as well as the construction of another trail. However, the trail grant was later modified through the Trail Conser-

vancy and State Highway Administration and the monies were intended to be used entirely for the construction of an expansion upon one of the existing trails.

Recent changes have been made to the Trail Conservancy that will have a direct impact on how Emmitsburg receives assistance and funds for the trail expansion project. Under the former model, the Trail Conservancy was able to match the grant with their efforts in-house, which included any office-related work. This format has recently changed and the Trail Conservancy can no longer proceed this way. As O'Donnell mentioned, the Trail Conservancy has chosen to step back from the \$30,000 state grant with Emmitsburg.

The project would have included the modification of one of the existing trails by adding to it in order to allow for easier trail access from one end to the other. The trail that was marked for modification was the orange trail, which leads from the closest point in town at Annadale Road, crosses Crystal Fountain Road, and

comes out close to Rainbow Lake. The current trail is hard to manage and is a more difficult route, which may turn some hikers off from using it. The overall goal would be to allow the trail to be more accessible to a larger range of people.

O'Donnell remarked that he

would like to see the project through and is still in favor of using the grant monies. The Trail Conservancy may choose to apply the grant to another organization, but as it currently stands, the project is in stasis and it is unlikely that a new trail will be built this year.

Dog park grand opening May 5

The Emmitsburg dog park will officially open its gates, much to the anticipation of many residents in Emmitsburg. This project is several years in the making, and town staff is excited to finally unveil the park to the public.

The fenced in park, which is located west of the tennis courts in Community Park, is 80 x 200 feet, which is larger than the original proposed plan, and is divided into two areas to accommodate both large and small dogs. Pet drinking fountains, benches and waste sta-

tions will also be located within the park. A big thank you to the donors that helped to make this park possible thus far!

Feel free to join the Town of Emmitsburg, Mayor Donald Briggs and the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners the grand opening of the Emmitsburg Dog Park kicks off. The event will occur May 5 at 9 a.m. and will feature a raffle for the first big and small dogs to enter the dog park, a raffle for doggy gift baskets, a pet photo station and ribbon cutting. All are welcome!

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FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve under new management

The Strawberry Hill Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to welcome Kara Ferraro as their new Executive Director. In this role, she is responsible for strengthening the foundation's programming, outreach and development initiatives. She replaces Chuck Reid, who has joined the Mohonk Preserve in New Paltz, New York, as the Director of Land Protection.

Kara holds a Bachelor of Science degree from York College of Pennsylvania where she majored in Recreation Administration and minored in Environmental Studies & Sustainability and Hospitality Marketing. Her passion for outdoor education grew during her time spent with the York County Department of Parks & Recreation.

Most recently, Kara served as the Director of Advocacy & Public Relations for the YWCA Gettysburg & Adams County. In 2017, she became a Pennsylvania Forest Steward through Penn State's Center for Private Forests. As a Fairfield local, Kara looks forward to connecting the community with the natural world by inspiring and promoting environmental stewardship.

"We are so grateful to Chuck for leading us in securing the vision of our founder, Frances Froelicher: to protect the Swamp Creek watershed and to establish a vibrant environmental education center. And we're very excited to envision our future under Kara's leadership," said Elizabeth Brantley, Strawberry Hill president.

"I moved to Adams County for my love of nature, and we established our

home just up the road from Strawberry Hill. I am thrilled to bring that passion to this job," said Kara.

Strawberry Hill's annual meeting was held on Saturday, April 21, at the refectory at the United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg. Members and friends of Strawberry Hill were invited to attend to honor Chuck Reid, welcome Kara Ferraro, and hear about Strawberry Hill's accomplishments during the past year, and plans for the future.

One of the plans projected for the next year is the renovation and full enclosure of the pavilion at Strawberry Hill. If all goes as planned, the goal for this project is to be under contract with a construction company by this September, and hopefully begin construction by November, with completion by spring of next year.

The pavilion, as it currently stands, is in need of some serious renovation. The concept for the renovation is to enclose the back third of the pavilion for use year-round. This fully enclosed space will be able to hold a group of 25 people, so it can be used for classes and programs throughout the year. Additionally, the front two thirds of the pavilion will be enclosed in "an open barn style hall" which will allow the accommodation of larger groups. This front section will be available for three-season use: to host large educational programs in the spring and fall, and serve as the base of operations for the summer camp kids who participate in Strawberry Hill's summer educational camp. Completing these renovations to the pavilion will allow this space to be used for a variety of other

events including fundraisers and rentals for children's parties, community meetings, and special events.

The pavilion project is estimated to cost upwards of \$155,000 to complete. Strawberry Hill has already been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Adams County Parks, Recreation, & Green Space Grant Program and will continue to seek additional support. Two other grants will be submitted, including a \$15,000 Robert C. Hoffman Trust grant or Adams County Community Foundation grant as well as a \$75,000 Community Conservation and Partnership Program grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The completion of the project, once fully funded, will take approximately four to six months.

Liberty Township's 2017 audit released

Liberty Township Supervisors and members of the public were given a brief 2017 audit presentation during the April 3 Board of Supervisors meeting. The Township's External Auditors, Smith Elliot and Kearns Co. (SEK), gave the presentation and were available to answer any questions, from the Supervisors only, related to audit.

As part of the audit process, the auditors take time to review board minutes, payroll, cash balances, revenue sources and other items of importance. Included in the overview of the audit, Craig Whitmer of SEK noted that the township's 2017 audit showed a surplus in the General Fund and a small deficit in the State Fund and Capital Projects Fund.

In 2017, the township almost broke

even between its revenues and expenditures. The largest revenue source for the township is taxes, which is typical of what is seen in other small municipalities such as Liberty. On the expense side, a large portion of costs consisted of public works, such as roadwork, public safety and general government works, including normal operations of the township.

SEK representatives ended the presentation by discussing some recommendations for the township to consider moving forward. The lack of segregation between the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer was the main concern, and it can be attributed to the limited number of individuals taking care of all the financial duties on a day-to-day basis. As Whitmer noted,

a system of internal control or a system of checks and balances should really be established. The prior Secretary-Treasurer LeeEsta Shaffer was in the same situation, and unfortunately the township suffered as a consequence of her improprieties in those roles. To keep that situation from ever happening again, Whitmer recommended the Board look at the cost versus benefit of hiring more people to split the duties held by Peck. Liberty Township residents have been urging Supervisors to hire another person to assist Peck and allow the duties of secretary and treasurer to be split, but so far, Supervisors have not complied for lack of funds, as Supervisor Bob Jackson has noted several times.

Another recommendation was to

consider a "lock box" where receipts are sent to the bank instead of the township directly, meaning that the bank maintains the receipts. However, Liberty Township's bank, Adams County National Bank, does not offer the lock box as an option.

Supervisor Jackson asked Whitmer about conducting a complete forensic audit, to which Whitmer responded that the option was available for SEK to conduct an audit of this magnitude, but it would cost tens of thousands of dollars. "Establishing a set of internal controls now is the best way to stop fraud in the future," stated Whitmer.

After the presentation, residents voiced concern over the lack of communication and action in regards to pursuing the missing money after the

LeeEsta Shaffer scandal culminated a year and a half ago. Questions such as, "What's being done to pursue that money," or "Are we ever going to pursue the missing money," were heard throughout the group of residents in attendance. However, Supervisors refused to comments on the specifics of this matter, only noting that something is in fact being done. Zachary Mills, a special counselor that represents Liberty Township specifically in regards to the Shaffer investigation, spoke to inform residents that, "Because the matters are still in anticipation of litigation, we can't disclose specific details in regards to the investigation, but the township is moving forward in the investigation. We hope to have more information soon." Further details concerning the investigation will be released as they are presented.

Carroll Valley path system phase 1 completely funded

On March 28, Carroll Valley Borough was awarded a \$25,000 grant through the Adams County Parks, Recreation and Green Space Grant Program to help fund phase 1 of the Carroll Valley Path System. Combined with the \$84,564 grant received early last December from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2), Phase 1 is now completely funded through grant monies.

The \$25,000 grant application was submitted earlier this year in order to cover the cost of the Borough's 20% match required by the C2P2 grant. The total funds received between the two grants covers the cost of construction, supplies and design work for the first phase of this project.

Currently no connection between major population centers or adjoining Fairfield and Carroll Valley Boroughs exists; the Carroll Valley Path System hopes to correct this problem. Within Carroll Valley proper, the full-proposed plan calls for the connection of the trails in and around Ranch Park with the Fairfield schools. It is also proposed that a connection trail will be built to connect Michaux State Park with Straw-

berry Hill Nature Preserve. Work isn't projected to begin until next spring. Engineering designs will be drawn up this spring and summer, and the official construction of the trails will hopefully begin next year.

In other Carroll Valley "green"

news, a tree-planting event was held on April 22 at the Ranch Trail Commons in the Borough. The project was organized by a local high school student with the help of Senator Alloway and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. 200 trees were donated, includ-

ing 150 bare root trees and 50 container/planted upland trees of different species. Volunteers from Alloway's Army, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and members from the Carroll Valley community gathered together to help plant these trees.

As an ending remark, Carroll Valley is currently looking for volunteers to join some of the Borough's committees. Anyone interested in learning more or joining either of these committees should contact the Carroll Valley Borough Office at 717-642-8269.



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THURMONT NEWS

Thurmont proposes three-cent tax increase

Over the past month, Thurmont Commissioners have been discussing the \$3.67 million fiscal year 2019 (FY19) budget. The FY19 budget is \$122,640 more than last year's budget, but Commissioners are still considering pursuing a three-cent tax increase.

The Town's first attempt at balancing the budget left them \$53,000 in the red. Last year, Thurmont saw a fourteen percent increase in healthcare costs, and Chief Financial Officer Linda Joyce projected they would jump \$30,000 plus an additional fifteen percent this year. Additionally, the Board discussed the new contract with Town Planner Chris Jakubiak, at a cost of \$43,200. This new contract included an increase from 20 to 25 hours a month for potential annexation projects within the next year. Joyce

also budgeted an extra \$6,000 for additional hours if needed.

Within the Police Department, Police Chief Greg Eyer requested a \$10,000 budget line item for a new narcotics dog. The current narcotic dog, Buddy, faces lack of insurance due to his older age, at six years. If he were to become ill or seriously injured, the cost would come out of the taxpayer's pockets. The new canine would cost \$10,000 with an annual upkeep cost of \$5,000. Buddy has only been used for 56 scans since joining the department in 2013, a fact that was of concern by some of the Commissioners, who felt that number was not an adequate reason to look into purchasing another dog. However, as pointed out by Mayor Kinnaird, Buddy has been a deterrent to drug users and

the Thurmont Police Department has the reliability of being able to get the dog out at any moment's notice.

At a later meeting on April 24, the Commissioners re-addressed the general fund budget, with some amendments made by Joyce. On the revenue side, the Color Fest fund was decreased by \$5,000, per Board recommendation. The Highway User revenue was increased by \$16,972 after additional funding was recently approved, bringing the total highway revenues up to \$77,983. Local income tax and tax equity were also increased bringing their revenue totals up to \$740,000 and \$899,500 respectively.

On the expense side, the snow removal and overtime was increased by \$10,000, a decision that was made after the town almost spent its entire budgeted amount

during a late March snowstorm. Planning and Zoning overtime was increased by \$1,800, the Parks and Recreation Summer Program Coordinator item was increased by \$5,000 and a \$5,000 donation to the Thurmont Addiction Commission was added. Joyce was also pleased to announce that the originally calculated cost for healthcare was decreased by \$16,550. Now, this year, the increase, instead of jumping up by fifteen percent, has only increased by nine percent.

On the Police Department side, there were also some decreases in the budget totaling \$7,000. Monies were taken out of the line items for office supplies, vehicle expenses, recruitment, department materials and supplies, and training and education.

In total, the expenditures were de-

creased by \$19,425 resulting in a surplus of the general fund by \$43,310. However, taking in the costs of some desired capital budget projects, the town is still looking for approximately \$100,000 worth of funds. These projects include: leasing three new police vehicles, outfitting lights on the new vehicles, a new narcotics dog, in-car cameras for the police vehicles (all at a cost of \$71,000); street paving, which is projected to cost \$165,000; and Frederick Road Bridge repairs (\$30,000), just to name a few.

At the end of the April 24 meeting, Commissioners voted to advertise a three-cent tax increase, which would help account for some of the funds needed. The budget discussion will continue into May, and the tax increase will be addressed and discussed more at a future meeting.

Thurmont news-briefs...

New Gateway signs approved

Thurmont Commissioners approved a bid to purchase and install two brand new Gateway signs in replacement of the existing Main Street signs during their April 3 town meeting. In the future, the town hopes to purchase at least two additional signs, but at this time, only two were budgeted in this year's budget. The two signs will be installed on Tippin Drive and West Main Street.

A total of three bids were received to construct and install the ten-foot by seven-foot signs. Shannon-Baum Signs from Eldersburg, MD bid \$30,340; Sign Central Inc. bid \$30,672; and V&C Signs bid \$32,810. Shannon-Baum Signs has been used for many projects in town, and as the lowest bidder, Thurmont's Chief Admin-

istrative Officer Jim Humerick recommended the Commissioners choose to accept their bid. The town only has \$24,000 set aside for this project, but there are some surplus funds, approximately \$12,000, in the general fund capital budget that were left over from the purchase of a town vehicle last year.

Humerick noted that the town could, of course, re-purpose the Main Street signs to use elsewhere in the town. However, not all Commissioners were on board with the purchase and installation of these signs. Commissioner Burns stated that \$30,000 is an incredibly high cost for new signs, even if they are budgeted for. He asked if there was a grant or potential fundraising the town could utilize instead. Mayor Kinnaird looked at the new signs as an investment

in Thurmont's future.

The vote passed with Commissioner Burns strongly opposed.

Senior tax credit changes made

Thurmont Commissioners voted to approve two minor changes to the local Senior Citizens Property Tax Credit during their April 3 town meeting. The changes were made effective April 10.

The senior tax credit is something that has been available for senior citizens of Thurmont for years. However, the goal of the changes is to simplify the application process for senior citizens so that more residents will take advantage of the tax credit, said Mayor Kinnaird.

As per the new conditions of the tax

credit, at least one of the property owners must be 65 years or older by January 1 of the tax credit reimbursement year. Additionally, the adjusted gross income of the residents of the property must not exceed \$70,000 per year. Residents of the property need to provide, to the town, a copy of their latest tax return to the Internal Revenue so their income can be verified. The town will issue a ten percent credit to eligible property owners based upon the total municipal tax bill. Additionally, credits will only be given on a first come basis until the budgeted amount is expended. Seniors can apply for the tax credit before September 1 of each year.

Main Street businesses take advantage of façade grant monies

In March, Thurmont was awarded a \$40,000 grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Legacy Program for external façade improvements to qualifying commercial properties located within the Designated Main Street area. This is a matching grant and DHCD will match every dollar in-

vested by the business.

A total of five businesses applied for the grant monies, totaling approximately \$38,500 worth of façade improvements. These businesses were: Stauffer Funeral Home, Thurmont Historical Society, R.S. Kinnaird Memorials, Beth Helmick CPA and the American Legion. All applications were submitted to the Maryland Historic Trust for approval, where it will be determined if there would be any adverse affects to the historic value of the buildings in question. Official request approvals will be announced at a later time, along with the façade improvements planned.

Façade improvements have a direct impact on any business, but especially those within the Main Street area in any town according to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Thurmont is a Designated Maryland Main Street Community and has endured a complete makeover with a Main Street Beautification program, which included new sidewalks, a new gazebo in Mechanicstown Park, benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, planters, and the addition of lampposts adorning the Main Street area.

Thurmont Businesses Showcases a success

After what seemed like a winter that would never end April 28, was one of the few spring days we have experienced all year. Inside the Thurmont Event Complex the numerous chandeliers produced a warm glow along with the smiling faces of the participating businesses and attendees at the Thurmont Business Showcase!

All types of businesses such as brick and mortar, home based businesses, and non-profits participated in the annual event. The Business Showcase gives local businesses an opportunity to display

their products, skills, services, and innovation all under one roof. Two vendors were quite popular during the event, Rae-Rae the French Bulldog at Catocin Veterinary Clinic, and Emmy, a chocolate Labrador Retriever from Thurmont Veterinary Clinic both greeted guests at their booth.

The Thurmont Business Showcase was sponsored by Baker Tree Services, Black's Funeral Home, Complete Auto Diagnostic, Rebecca LaChance Art and Photography, and Stauffer Funeral Home. The Thurmont Ambulance Company sold a variety of delicious sandwiches and baked goods during

the event with plenty of seating to sit and enjoy lunch while taking in the Showcase. The Thurmont Event Complex, located at 13716 Strafford Drive, served as the picture-perfect venue for the Showcase. The complex is an ideal place to hold a local event, a regional corporate event, or private affair.

For more information on the Event Complex contact Joyce at 301-271-2923. For more information on relocating a business or starting a new business in Thurmont, contact Vickie Grinder at vgrinder@thurmontstaff.com.

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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

May 1918

May 3

Town Quiet Tuesday Night

Contrary to expectations, Emmitsburg, on the last night of the liquor privilege, was as quiet as Philadelphia Sunday. All the saloons closed promptly at midnight - some before - and after the last jugs and bottles were tucked under the arms of those who believe in preparedness, everything was "all off." Here and there were a few stragglers - all off likewise - and the legs of a number who have dallied too long around the bar of the departed spirits failed to function properly; but, taking one consideration with another, the departure of old John Barleycorn was as silent as that of the Arabs.

Exhibition Of War Shells

For the past week, the Chronicle has had a number of shells, of the type now being used over there, on exhibit. The interesting collection includes large steel projectiles twelve inches long. Ever since their arrival, the stern reminders of what is taking place on the battlefield in France have attracted a great deal of attention. They have stimulated the Liberty Bond drive, and brought home to the people of this district the necessity for complete cooperation with the government in its endeavor to win the war as quickly and as decisively as possible.

Emmitsburg feels proud that a community of its size has outstripped much larger places in the matter of exhibits of this nature. The crowds have viewed the displays and have expressed themselves as having had a fine object lesson and as being indebted to the Chronicle for putting on the display.

Emmitsburg Liberty Bond Quota

Advances just received from the Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond, state that the quota for the town of Emmitsburg is \$43,100. This amount has been oversubscribed by the Emmitsburg Savings Bank and its customers who have signed up for \$47,000 of this issue

of the third Liberty Loan. Already nearly 200 applications are on file at this institution totaling over \$25,000, and it is expected that by the time the subscription list closes tomorrow, this amount will be greatly increased. At the same time a great many people are matching Pres. Wilson by purchasing bonds on the installment plan.

May 10

Twelve Trucks In Route

From Buffalo to Georgia there was a sign displayed on twelve large trucks that passed through Emmitsburg Saturday morning. Almost daily, new cars and trucks go through town, consigned to dealers nearby and throughout the state, but this last lot was the limit for mileage.

Unearthed Old Boundary Line

While digging a ditch on West Main St. in front of the Patterson property, part of an old cedar post was unearthed. It was supposed that this was one of the posts that marked the boundary line of the town of Emmitsburg. After the Shields Addition was made the line was torn down. The post must have been standing for more than 100 years.

Honor Flag For Emmitsburg

Emmitsburg was among the ten towns in Frederick County that received an honor flag for having subscribed more than its quote of the third Liberty Loan. The flag now flies over the public square and is 36 x 54" in dimension and is made of good quality material. It has a red border and a white center, and three stripes indicative of the third loan. The Treasury Department supplied the flag.

Egg Company Robbed Again

Unknown burglars entered the storeroom of the Blue Ribbon Egg Company on Tuesday night and stole fourteen crates of eggs. Each crate contained 30 dozen, making a total of 5,048 eggs stolen. At the prevailing price of \$.35 per dozen, the amount of the whole was \$147.

It is supposed that the robbery was committed by three or four

persons. The thieves entered the premises of Mrs. Marion Houck and crossed her yard and garden to the warehouse. They pried open the warehouse window, and, after breaking three iron bars, entered the building and went to the spot where the eggs were stored. It is supposed that the fourteen cases were carried to the stable on the premises and from that place placed into an automobile, which came by way of an alley leading from the Waynesboro Pike. The robbers worked so quietly that they succeeded in getting away without attracting the slightest attention. So far no clues have been discovered.

May 17

\$100 Reward For Thieves

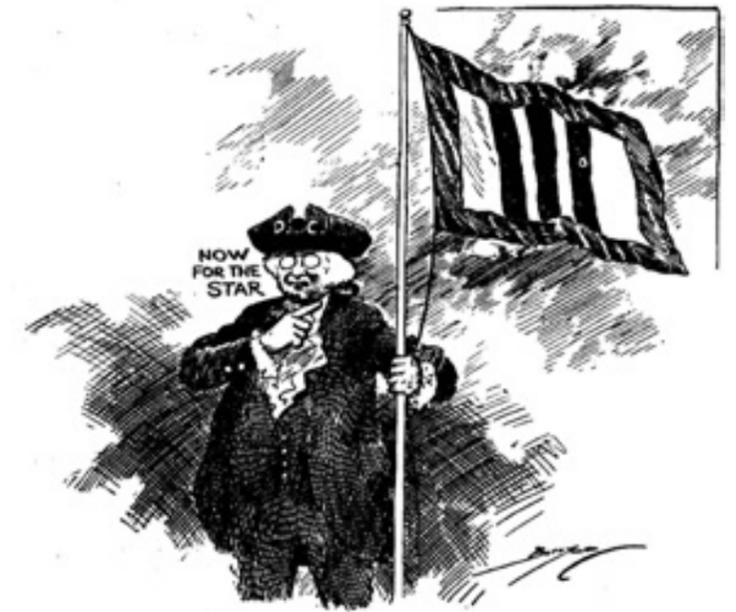
The County Commissioners authorized the State's Attorney to offer a \$100 reward for any information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the robbers who broke into the warehouse of the Blue Ribbon Egg Company. The State's Attorney will see that the reward is made known throughout the county. Not the slightest clue has been discovered that will lead to the unveiling of the thieves.

Drilling On Firemen's Field

Many people congregated at Fireman's Field on Tuesday evening to witness the drill on the younger boys of Emmitsburg. 47 youngsters - all in dead earnest - reported for duty and went through the tactics like seasoned regulars. The instructors were three sergeants and one corporal from Camp Colt in Gettysburg. After the drill, which lasted more than an hour, the four military men and several interested bystanders held the tossing canvas and catapulted the younger soldiers into the air, much to the enjoyment of the participants and to the amusement of the onlookers.

Patterson Barn Completed

The large barn of the Patterson Brothers, from which the frames were raised on April 11, (this work was done in fifteen minutes) was completed last Saturday. This new structure, which is perhaps the largest in Frederick County, replaces



the old one, which burned down on January 7. It is 133 feet long and 47 feet wide, and contains 76,000 feet of lumber. It was built - complete with stalls, mangers, granaries, &c. - in 23 days, with only twelve men doing the work. Accommodations are for 72 head of cattle and fifteen horses. Harrison Mort of Emmitsburg was in charge of the construction. This firm, which built nine barns last summer, also built the new porch to the farmhouse on the Patterson place and a 32-foot corncrib on the same property.

May 24

Thurmont Picture Show

On Tuesday afternoon, quite a number of Emmitsburgians attended the moving picture play titled "Least We Forget" at the Gem Theater in Thurmont, which was given for the benefit of the Thurmont Chapter of the American Red Cross.

More Boys Arrive Safely

Word was received in Emmitsburg of the safe arrival of Clay Shuff and John Rosenstiel in France. Meanwhile, it was announced that Thomas Frailey has entered the Fourth Officer reserves training school - the school to train candidates for infantry and artillery officers.

Soldiers Injured In**Auto Accident**

On Sunday, while returning to Camp Colt, Gettysburg, two sol-

diers were slightly injured when the Hudson car, in which the soldiers and their four companions travelled, was run into by a Ford machine at Franklinville. The accident happened at a treacherous curve in the road a mile and a half north of Thurmont. The Ford machine, driven by Frank McNulty of Mount St. Mary's, was going in the same direction, and smashed into the rear of the Hudson car. The men in the first car were thrown out, one sustaining a broken collarbone and bruises, and the driver and another soldier receiving cuts and slight wounds. The Hudson car was badly damaged, while the Ford windshield was broken and the fenders smashed.

May 31

Notice To Owners Of Lots In Mountain View Cemetery

All owners of lots, or parts of lots, in Mountain View Cemetery, are hereby requested to bring their deeds for said lots to Mr. Henry Stokes, Manager, as soon as possible, in order that they may be compared with and verified by the official record of the cemetery. Should it be impossible to call in person, the owners of lots are requested to address a card to Mr. Stokes.

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...

County Council President Bud Otis

This year's operating budget is estimated at \$608M and the capital projects budget is estimated at \$158M. The operating budget is being funded by various tax revenues, with the main source being property taxes (\$316.8M) and income taxes (\$217.4M). This year the property tax rate remains steady at \$1.06 per \$100 of property value. Income taxes have remained the same as well. This rate has not changed during our tenure as Council Members. If your property taxes went up it was due to the increase in the value of your home and land.

We should all be very proud that the cost of borrowed money is the lowest possible due to our stellar AAA bond rating with all three bond rating agencies. This

is due to not only good fiscal management but also the votes of the majority of the council to continue to fund the county's reserves.

The capital projects budget is funded thru a variety of sources including the county's general fund, developer contributions, recordation tax, impact fees, school construction fees, water and sewer fees, grants, bonds, etc. These monies pay for schools, renovations, roads, fire stations, fire trucks, parks, libraries, maintenance and much more.

By the time you read this article, the Council will have gone through at least two full days of budget workshops. It is vital work, the most important job we hold as elected officials – to pass a conservative and sensible budget

to protect our citizens.

The majority of our operating budget (82%) is mandated, with only 18% of discretionary spending. Over half of our expenditure is on education including Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS), Frederick Community College and Frederick County Public Libraries. We are very fortunate to be able to continue to fund FCPS at a level that our teacher salaries are no longer at the bottom of the pay scale in Maryland. Teacher salary deficiencies were of grave concern to me when I was elected. It is very gratifying to see the pay scale slowly emerge to a more reasonable rate of pay for such qualified and excellent educators and stewards of our children. The proposed budget has \$7.2M above maintenance of effort, and that is needed for the salary adjustments, among other projects to serve the needs of our students.

The specifics of the county budget are all available online under the budget office's section of the Frederick County website:

<https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/66/Budget-Office>

Many of the residents of the county responded to surveys asking where their priorities were for spending tax payer dollars. The vast majority voted for education and safety.

We have excellent public safety in our communities. This budget provides for continued support for our Frederick County Sheriff's Office, Fire and Rescue Services, 9-1-1 Communications Call Center, and Emergency Management. It adds an additional five 9-1-1 Communications call center employees to meet the growing demand as more people come to live and work in Frederick County. Did you know that the 9-1-1 Center takes an average of 1,300 calls per day equating to 934 dispatched calls each and every day of the week? Amazing work. And, you probably don't think too much about needing this protection until you have to call 9-1-1.

Again this year the county executive is requesting an increase for our employees. This time it is a

merit increase. I support our over 2,000 employees as they do a tremendous job day in and day out. The budget also fully funds the Frederick County firefighters proposed agreement.

We have a great environment and quality of life. This budget continues to support our senior citizens, parks and recreation, cultural amenities, bikeways and trails, TransIT, our health department, roads and bridges, water, animal control, utilities and solid waste, our cyber security, economic development, and more. We have also increased funding to help our non-profit partners which support so many of our local programs to protect our seniors, house the homeless, feed the hungry and provide a safe environment for those in abusive relationships, and address the opioid crisis in our midst.

It is a conservative budget, increasing 4.58%, which is less than the City of Frederick at 5.8%.

We honor our pledge to be good stewards of your taxes which fund the myriad of county services and keep our promises to maintain our excellent school system.



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Our Community"*

WILLIAM VALENTINE

DISTRICT 5 (R)

FREDERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

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www.votewilliamvalentine.com
www.facebook.com/WilliamValentine2018

**AUTHORITY: FRIENDS OF WILLIAM VALENTINE;
LISA VALENTINE, TREASURER**

EBPA Development Survey

The Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA) is conducting a survey to gather opinions from the residents of Emmitsburg and the surrounding area about future economic and community development initiatives. This survey helps support the EBPA's mission to protect and promote a healthy business, professional, and civic environment in the greater Emmitsburg area.

As part of this mission, the EBPA intends to use this survey to become actively involved in helping shape our community's future to ensure that we have a healthy and robust local economy and preserve our quality of life.

The opinions obtained from this survey will be used by the EBPA to develop a long-term economic development plan for marketing Emmitsburg and the surrounding area to new and relocating businesses that offer goods and services that meet our com-

munity needs. These businesses will help attract more tourists to visit the many remarkable local attractions this area has to offer which will boost the local economy and create new employment opportunities for area residents and their families.

The residents of Emmitsburg know this is a special place to live and raise families, a place where the small-town quality of life is still highly valued. The EBPA will work to ensure that the qualities that make Emmitsburg special for the residents are also shared by our current and future business partners.

The EBPA intends to be a catalyst to help promote our beautiful community, improve the quality of life, and build the local economy. To do so, we need your help. There are 10 questions on our survey that are intended to help us better understand your needs to make sure that our plan considers your preferences and addresses your concerns as well.

To help us accomplish this we are

asking that you complete the EBPA survey in this paper and deposit it into one of the three boxes we have located at the Jubilee Food Store, the Emmitsburg Post Office, and the Emmitsburg Public Library. Paper copies of the survey are located next to the boxes in each of these three locations. You can also access this survey online at www.emmitsburg.net or going to the town website at www.emmitsburgmd.gov/, click on "Our Community", then scroll down and select "EBPA Survey". Please print the survey and deposit it into one of the boxes at the above three locations.

As a way of saying thank you for your time and effort, we are offering dinner and tickets to the Frederick Keys to two survey respondents that complete this survey by May 30; please follow the instructions on the bottom of the survey to be eligible to win.

Thank you very much for your support!

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thurmontmainstreet.com

GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Executive Jan Gardner

In last month's edition of the Woodsboro Walkersville Times, the editor drew some erroneous conclusions about Livable Frederick that I am compelled to correct.

So, what is Livable Frederick? Livable Frederick is an update of the county comprehensive plan that provides a framework or master plan for the future of Frederick County. Frederick County has had a comprehensive plan since the late 1950's and has updated that plan about every 10 years.

Livable Frederick is about having the people who live here decide our future. It is citizen driven not developer driven. In the past, development interests have often driven our plans and people have been unhappy with the outcome. This puts citizens in charge and that's the way it should be.

Livable Frederick protects taxpayers. Most residents want residential housing to be timed with the ability to provide roads and schools. Most residents want the developers to pay for the needed infrastructure. Unfortunately, the Young Board of County Commissioners took the county backward by allowing developers to build housing even when schools and roads were inadequate. They inked contracts to zero out fees for contribution to transportation needs and to allow developers to overcrowd schools with no plan to fund or build them. Even though the current administration has strengthened our Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance and approved no new residential growth, we continue to live with the sins of the past.

Livable Frederick engaged people

in an unprecedented public process.

For the first time, Livable Frederick began with a year-long public engagement process to develop a shared community vision for what the citizens want Frederick County to be like in 20 years and beyond. This outreach effort included a survey, focus groups, and outreach efforts at many community events and with many community organizations. Over 100 citizens also participated in workgroups to help draft the plan rather than have county staff draft it alone. This brought other perspectives and views to the table and made for a better draft plan.

Livable Frederick establishes a development framework for the future with goals and action items to deliver the vision.

So, what's next?

The implementation of Livable Frederick very closely follows the implementation plan included in the 2010 plan with a focus on planned growth areas or corridor areas to consider redevelopment and re-zoning using a public processes that will engage property owners living and working in that area or corridor.

Livable Frederick does not give the County Executive or the County Council any additional power regarding land-use decisions. Land-use decisions and the required approval and public processes are defined in state law. Under charter government, it is the County Council not the County Executive that makes land use decision. Multiple public hearings are required before both the planning commission and the county council before a rezoning decision can be made.

We have a responsibility for the future. Livable Frederick is about

the future. It is about the future of how we will live, how we will work and our quality of life.

It should not be missed, that some who oppose Livable Frederick want us to do nothing. There is a cost to doing nothing. If the County does not protect and plan for our future, others will take advantage of our failure to plan.

Livable Frederick is the path forward to manage growth responsibly, protect what we value and love about our community, and plan for a prosperous future.

In Frederick County, we have been dealt a good hand to be successful. We have great schools, a safe community, a high quality of life, rich history, and a creative and entrepreneurial spirit. If we let the naysayers keep us from taking action, the developers will decide the future of our county instead of the citizens who live here.

It's Budget Time!

A few weeks ago, I proposed a county budget for Fiscal Year 2019 that is lean, sensible, balanced and fiscally responsible. The budget shapes our future and reflects community priorities and values. It delivers results – exceptional schools, safe communities, a vibrant economy, and a high quality of life. The budget holds the line on taxes, with absolutely no tax rate increases for the fourth year in a row. Frederick County Government has and will continue to live within its means.

Everything we do in county government is about serving people. County employees provide award winning services that ensure our high quality of life including great libraries, beautiful parks, senior centers, well-maintained roads, and much more.

So, what does the budget accomplish?

Education – To ensure every student can be successful and achieve their goals for work or higher education requires the best teachers and staff in our classrooms. The budget supports the third year of a multi-year phase-in to a new pay scale for teachers and school staff.

People – County employees work hard to provide efficient and effective services to Frederick County residents and to keep our community safe. The budget includes salary improvements for county workers to acknowledge their hard work to provide outstanding services that ensures our high quality of life.

Infrastructure – The capital budget includes a record investment in school construction and renovation; construction of the second phase of Utica Park; a new branch library in Myersville; and, numerous road and bridge projects.

Public Safety – Our volunteer fire and EMS companies will see additional funding support for the services they provide. The

budget also picks up funding of 41 firefighter/EMT positions that were created by a federal grant and includes a pay increase for firefighters offered as part of a negotiated agreement. Five additional call-takers are proposed to be added at the 9-1-1 Communications Center to help meet growing call volume.

The budget also includes a few items specific to the northern part of Frederick County. The County will partner with the Town of Emmitsburg by providing \$20,000 toward the construction of sidewalks near the elementary school and library.

The county will support Thurmont by providing the town with nearing \$10,000 to update and replace carpeting at the Thurmont Senior Center.

I am most excited about some new initiatives in the budget.

We want everyone who works in Frederick County to be able to afford to live here too. Affordable housing can be an issue for young families, senior citizens, and others. To help support more workforce housing, the budget dedicates about \$500,000 from the existing recordation tax for the Housing Initiative Fund. The Housing Initiative Fund uses

these limited dollars to leverage federal tax credits to help develop workforce housing. It also provides first time buyer assistance, rental assistance, emergency home repairs, and more.

Almost everyone knows a family who has experienced the devastating impacts of heroin and opioid addiction. The budget includes one-time money of \$500,000 to incentivize a private sector or non-profit agency to stand up a detox center in Frederick County to help people impacted by addiction. While this problem is multi-faceted, it is clear that we need more detox

and substance misuse treatment to provide hope for recovery.

Like all budgets, there are many more legitimate requests for funding than can be met. This budget focuses on core services and valuing our county workforce. I am proud to protect taxpayers, balance legitimate and sometimes competing budget needs, and to hold the line on taxes. In the end, the budget delivers community priorities including great schools, a safe community, and high quality services.

The full proposed budget is available online at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/budget.



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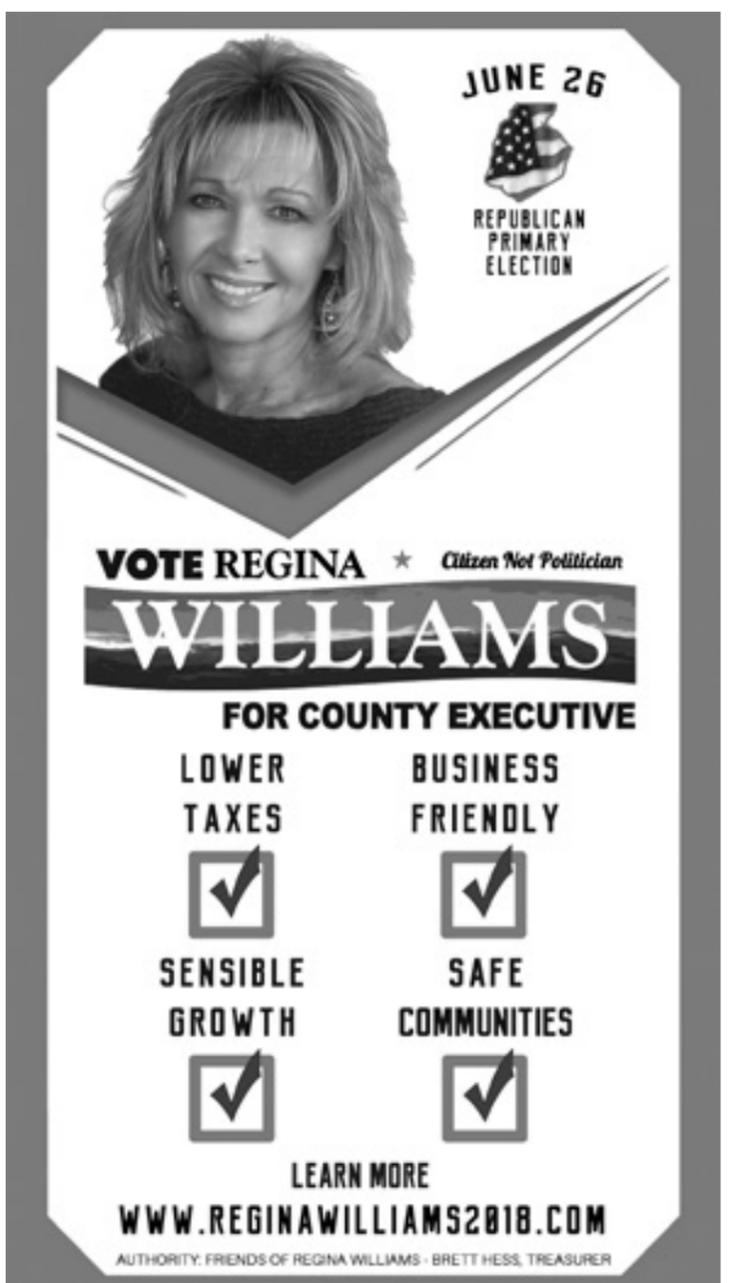
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AUTHORITY: FRIENDS OF REGINA WILLIAMS - BRETT HESS, TREASURER

FROM THE DESK OF CANDIDATE...

Justin Kiska, County Council At-large (R)

Six states, 132 counties, and 35 cities. According to the Center for Immigration Studies, as of November 2017, those are the numbers of jurisdictions across the United States that had “laws, ordinances, regulations, resolutions, policies, or other practices that obstruct immigration enforcement and shield criminals from ICE.” That’s a detailed way of saying that these are all jurisdictions that offer sanctuary, of some sort, to illegal aliens.

While the Center for Immigration Studies says there are 173 jurisdictions that turn a blind eye to illegal immi-

grants, other sources say there are closer to 300.

According to Wikipedia, a sanctuary jurisdiction is one “that limits its cooperation with the national government effort to enforce immigration law. Leaders of sanctuary cities want to reduce the fear of deportation and possible family break-up among people who are in the country illegally so that such people will be more willing to report crimes, use health and social services, and enroll their children in school.”

In plain English, what does this

mean? It means there could be up to 300 governments in the United States actively breaking federal law. That’s quite a paradox when you take into account part of the job of a government is literally to make and enforce laws.

Immigration policy in our country needs to be addressed. I don’t think anyone can argue with that. But that is something that must happen on a federal level. So until that point, state and local governments are required to follow federal law, just as you and I are. We can’t pick and choose which laws we’re going to obey and neither can

local governments. The scary part is, some are.

While I have listened to arguments from all sides, and can understand where some are coming from, illegal immigration remains just that . . . “illegal.” So for any local government to pass a law protecting an illegal alien in anyway, they are just as criminal.

Would I love to be able to say I’ve come up with a completely new way of dealing with immigration policy? Of course I would. But it is not for a city, county, or state to create federal immigration policy. Or to alter it for

that matter. Until the United States government finally takes action and comes up with real and substantial immigration reform, law is in place to deal with illegal aliens.

Here in Maryland, Montgomery County, Prince George’s County, and Baltimore City are classified in the sanctuary category. As far as I’m concerned, those are three jurisdictions too many.

As a member of the County Council, I will never support any policy allowing Frederick to go down the road of becoming a sanctuary county. It will be my job to help uphold the law, not break it. This is a red line in the sand for me. Illegal immigration is illegal.

Jason Miller, County Council At-large (R)

The people of Frederick County deserve a County Council that puts the people of Frederick County first. The purpose of any local government is to provide the public with services that individual taxpayers can either not afford to pay for alone or to solve the problems facing a community that cannot solve alone. A dysfunctional county government is not in the interest of any taxpayer no matter your political affiliation.

The partisan posturing by Frederick’s County Council that results in constant shifts over public policy reflects poorly on Frederick’s Charter government. The powers of Frederick County’s local government under the charter is supposed to be a social contract between Frederick County’s elected leaders and Frederick County’s local taxpayers. An efficient, effective, and economically

frugal county government should be demanded if taxes are expected to be paid. Democrats, Independents and Republicans have yet to see such a social contract emerge.

In recent years, the County Council has become a process obsessed partisan merry-go-round to the dismay and frustration of many taxpayers including myself. Wasted time due to bickering is the only legacy that the present County Council has to its credit. The greatest example of this Council’s public policy ineptitude is the legislative boondoggle that is wood waste recycling zoning in Frederick County. More than eighteen months have passed since our County Council began its attempt to address a zoning matter brought to it by Bussard Brothers Landscaping Supply. Eighteen months later with yet still no solution found on an issue is too long under any standard of good government.

I need only to offer two observations to illustrate my public policy frustration with our current County Council.

My first observation is that Thomas Jefferson took 17 days to write the Declaration of Independence starting on June 15, 1776 and ending on July 1, 1776. The Second Continental Congress spent two days (July 2nd and 3rd) making some changes to the text. Congress approved the declaration as we all know it on July 4, 1776.

My second observation is the Constitution of the United States was adopted and signed in convention on September 17, 1787. After only nine months and countless horseback messenger rides, New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify the Constitution on June 21, 1788 and with it the basis for our nation’s Constitutional republic became approved.

Most would agree that time manage-

ment and multitasking is a proper function of an effective local government. Why is it that our County Council in an age of email and constant connection failed to address a zoning issue using nearly double the time it took our founding fathers to both Declare Independence from Great Britain and establish the Constitution of the United States of America using quills and horseback messengers? It’s time to put the people of Frederick first and end the entrenched battle of partisan attrition between the County Executive and the County Council.

Our present County Council has surrendered its power to act as a check and balance on the County Executive to feign both political and public policy competence. Such a surrender of oversight and accountability for private partisan power reflects poorly on the overall state of Frederick entrenched battle

of partisan attrition between the County Executive and the County Council. This must cease if our Frederick County government is ever going to resolve the vital problems facing the taxpayers. The authority of the County Council is given to it by the consent of the governed in Frederick County.

If the members of Frederick’s County Council aren’t going to use their power to effectively serve the people, I would like to borrow some of that power to better serve the taxpayers. We need to raise the bar for how the Frederick County Council functions for the sake of everyone in Frederick County.

I need your vote in the Republican Primary Race for County Council At Large on June 26th. I will serve as a clarion voice of classical conservatism. I will be dedicated to real problem solving. I will put pragmatism over partisanship. I also pledge not to leave behind my traditionally conservative principles when I cross the aisle to get things done.

Philip Dacey, County Council At-large (R)

I grew up in Frederick County, riding my bicycle to the Mountaindale Convenience Store and visiting the Cozy Restaurant for special occasions. My father was a teacher and my mother a nurse on the birthing unit at Frederick Memorial Hospital. Together with my two brothers and two sisters it seemed like we knew everybody in the county. Twenty plus years since my graduation from TJ, I am raising my 2 daughters, my wife has a small

business here, and boy how the county has changed.

Since my high school graduation, believe it or not, we have many of the same politicians still in the same places. It is time for a change in the leadership in Frederick County, and that is why I am running for County Council At Large. Our County Council’s lack of accomplishment over the last four years is stunning – I challenge you to name two things they have they done

for us taxpayers. They spend more time arguing about parking spots than about how to improve services to citizens. It is time that we have leadership that works for us.

I have a record of being able to work with everybody, regardless of ideology, to deliver lower taxes and better services. I was honored to have been elected as the only Republican on the Frederick City Board of Aldermen in 2013. In four years, working togeth-

er we phased out the business personal property tax, reduced taxes on the manufacturing sector, made record investments in roads, and increased the size of the police force. These are the tangible things that local government should be focused on delivering for citizens.

Additionally, I voted consistently against increased fees and voted consistently to protect individual private property rights. When the City shut

down the private Cresap Gun Club range, I fought to help it reopen.

I pledge to reduce taxes and partner with Governor Hogan to bring the infrastructure and road investments we need to improve our quality of life. I pledge to work together to promote Frederick County across the state and region as a friendly place for business and jobs, so that fewer people who make Frederick County their home have to spend time commuting. I pledge to make sure that your tax dollars are spent delivering high quality services – police, schools, and parks.

Danny Farrar, County Council At-large (R)

I have heard the whispers and the worries. So I wanted to write an open letter to any of my fellow Republicans who might be on the fence because of it. I’d appreciate it if you’d give me five minutes of your day to read this. If you feel so inclined afterward, please share it with anyone you wish.

The elephant in the room- My appearance.

When I first considered running for public office one of the things that lingered in the back of my mind is what would people think about my appearance. I have stated on multiple occasions, I don’t look the part. As of late, I have heard the whispers of those who don’t know how to take me because of how I look. I understand it. So today is about addressing the perception that my looks generate.

I know the fact that 70% of my body

is covered by tattoos and that my haircut isn’t the typical swoosh & part, doesn’t scream Republican to a lotta people. I know many of my conservative friends may look at me and see what is wrong with the world; one that is changing far too rapidly for their taste. In their eyes, I may not embrace what they would deem to be a professional appearance. If you feel that way I am not here to judge you. Taste, after all, is subjective.

What isn’t subjective is character and principle. You either have it or you don’t. While my tattoos might not represent your taste, I earnestly believe that once you understand their story you’ll see they do embody your values.

My left arm is filled with the crossed rifles of my MOS (Infantry) and the patches of my units. The famed 82nd Airborne and the MNSTC-I J-3 section from Iraq.

On my right arm, a Black sun, to represent the dark day when “343” firefighters lost their lives on 9-11. St. Florian, the patron saint of firefighting is depicted putting out a village fire. He’s there to represent my tenure as Career Fireman.

My forearms read “Freedom or Death”. I got that tattoo before I deployed to Iraq as a mental reminder that capture wasn’t an option. On my right one is 4 expended shells with the initials O.I.F (Operation Iraqi Freedom). They are a testament to that reminder, as every time I engaged the enemies of our country they would say “Shots from four” over the radio. On my left arm is the Battle Cross representing all the men and women, including SSG. Robert Hernandez, who didn’t make it back.

On my back is my brother’s name who killed himself. Below that resides

the scorpion (a testament to our service members’ aggressiveness and fighting spirit). On the left and right of that are a Humvee and motorcycle to pay homage to my brothers who saved my life.

On my right ribcage is “JLF till Death” to show my devotion to my wife. Over my right chest is the bald eagle rising above the flames of the fight to show America will always soar high and free above the fray.

On my left chest is “Momma gone but not forgotten” with rays of heaven shining down. In the center of my chest, over my heart is my Tattoo for #RiverLynnmybestfriend, so she is always near my heart.

My latest tattoo is also one of my saddest. It reads “Baby F April 22, 2017”. It’s for our baby we lost last year. You see, I believe in life from conception, so even though we never were able to hold Baby

F in our arms, we know we’ll meet again on the other side.

Lastly, on my Collar bone, I am reminded that despite all my struggles: adoption, molestation, Pentagon on 9-11, war, homelessness, and ultimately attempted suicide, that yes, my head has been “bloodied but it is unbowed”. A quote from my favorite Poem by Ernest Henley- “Invictus”.

Some of you may see my appearance and feel compelled to not vote Farrar on election day. I see my tattoos and see the very reason I believe you should give me a chance. The story they tell is the very essence of what we all want to fight to preserve, the American Dream. I promise that no one wants the Dream preserved longer than me, someone whose life was changed because it exists.

If you made it this far - even if your opinion remains unchanged - thank you for letting me bend your ear. Should you ever want to bend mine in return, coffee is on me.

GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

Susan Reeder Jesse, County Council At-large (D)

Our kids are still dying from the exploding heroin epidemic, our senior population is still going to bed hungry, some of our schools are still over capacity, the need for more family supporting jobs is still in demand, our first responder's still need tools to do their job, and growth is still an issue in Frederick County which is the reason I ran for County Council At-Large in 2014 and is still the reason I am running for County Council At-Large in 2018.

I loved growing up in Frederick County because as a community we all cared for one another and I believe we still do. I know where Frederick County has been and have a good idea where we should go but not without citizen representation because it is YOU the citizen that

matters the most.

My knowledge combined with 37+ years of working in science and business, for private industry, government contractors, working on multi-million dollar budgets, and direct economic development experience, provides me the solid foundation necessary to understand the important issues that affect the everyday lives of our citizens.

As an FCTA endorsed candidate I am committed to providing the students the tools they need to succeed in the classroom while maintaining competitive teacher and support salaries. It's imperative we sit at the table with our BOE and FCPS partners, with the goal of providing the best education to our students. I, my parents, my brothers, my hus-

band and my children are all proud graduates of FCPS and I am committed to making sure our schools are the best in the region.

As a former board member for "Friends of Meals on Wheels", I believe it is our moral obligation to provide food, housing options, and care to our senior population. The senior population is the fastest growing population locally and throughout the US and if we don't pay close attention to their needs, many could suffer.

As the wife a small business owner in Frederick since 1985, and original board and client selection committee member at the Frederick Innovative Technology Center, I understand and support economic development initiatives in creat-

ing more family supporting jobs. We have done a good job of maintaining a diversified industrial base but I believe we can do a better job of keeping companies from leaving while attracting new companies to the area.

As a current member of the "Fire and Rescue Advisory Board", I support all first responders by providing them with the tools they need to protect our citizens and themselves while doing their job of keeping us safe, 24 hours a day. Safety is good for our citizens and is essential for our economy.

As a current Project Manager, I believe a check and balance system needs to be in place to make sure the impact of development on schools, roads, public safety and infrastructure

is covered. Sitting around the table with developers and the community is important. Good planning brings prosperity to any community.

As a scientist I understand and believe that taking care of our surroundings is essential to a healthy ecology and is the basis for a healthy economy. Sitting around the table with property owners to preserve and protect for all is the right thing to do.

As someone who understands how this opioid epidemic started we must work together by taking the stigma out of drug addiction and treat it as the health crisis that it is in our community. It will take time but I believe working together, we can win this battle because our children are worth it!

Mark Long, County Council At-large (D)

I'm writing this as we're celebrating Earth Day, a day we set aside to focus on our environment and sustainability. I remember the first Earth Day in 1970 when I was a junior in high school. People organized the event because the world recognized the need to protect our environment for the health of people and wildlife. At that time, many factories and power plants spewed toxins into our air, making it unhealthy to breathe. Raw sewage and industrial wastes were dumped into our waterways and oceans, killing aquatic life and making them inedible. Some rivers caught on fire. The Chesapeake Bay was dying.

Soon after that first Earth Day, the Environmental Protection Agency was formed, and the Clean Air, Clean Wa-

ter and Endangered Species Acts were passed. Since then many aspects of our environment have improved. Our air is generally cleaner in the U.S. and the health of most of our waterways has improved. But climate change is a very real threat and there is more work to do.

I have been a strong advocate for sustainability since I was young. My parents composted before I was born so it has always been a part of my life. My father ingrained in me his passion for reusing materials rather than throwing them away. As a child, walks in the Catoctin Mountains with my family, as well as boat trips down the Monocacy, instilled in me an appreciation and respect for nature.

Recently I was honored with the endorsement of the Sierra Club. As a

member of the County Council I will do everything possible to protect our environment and promote sustainability. I will support efforts that are going on now such as increasing the number of electric buses for our county transit system, expansion of composting in our schools and restaurants, and the Green Homes Challenge. I support smart planning in land development as a key to preserving open space and minimizing air and water pollution; I support installing solar energy to power our schools and county buildings and I am enthusiastic about policies that protect the Monocacy River and other waterways.

Budget

County Executive Gardner recently

presented the FY19 Frederick County Budget and hearings on the budget have been held by the County Council. The budget reflects our shared values and priorities as a county and one of the essential functions of the County Council is to review the budget and approve it or change it. As a member of the council, and steward of the county's funds, I will take that responsibility seriously.

Input from county residents shows that our two highest priorities are Education and Public Safety and the proposed budget reflects this. I strongly support our commitment to providing an excellent educational system and our commitment to ensuring a safe community.

In addition to Education and Pub-

lic Safety, the next priority is Community Needs and one of the most pressing needs is affordable housing for low and moderate-income families. The Housing Needs Assessment conducted in 2016 showed that we are short by 5,700 affordable housing units for people that need a place to live in our county.

The FY19 Budget included a new initiative dedicating 1.5% of existing recordation tax revenue to the Housing Initiative Fund (HIF). The HIF provides funds for a variety of affordable housing programs, and this new funding source will provide some predictable funds to the HIF. As a member of the Affordable Housing Council and board member of Interfaith Housing Alliance, I am a strong advocate for affordable housing and fully support this new initiative.

Shannon Bohrer (D), County Council District 5



My goal is to be open, honest and effect positive change in the Frederick County Government. I am running with the intent to serve the residents of our county and if elected, I will be working for the citizens.

My primary focus is on managing responsible growth. Growth is inevitable, while we all like Frederick County the way it is, it will continue to grow and growth – affects everything. The "livable Frederick Plan" is an outline and starting point for how the county should view and manage the future. (The livable Frederick Plan is a continua-

tion/update from the 2012 comprehensive plan) Roads and infrastructure are already behind the curve in Frederick County. Congestion is problematic and there is a lot of data to collect and planning needed to alleviate the current problems. While planning to correct the current problems, if we don't consider the future growth, fixing these problems will result in a short term fix. It will also cost more.

Primary education needs are determined by populations and ours is growing. If – we are not meeting the current demands for classrooms and teachers, how many more students can the system absorb? Planning for the county's educational needs will always be a long term issue.

Public safety requirements will need to expand with growth. Police, Fire and Ambulance services are foundation services of any government. The public often overlooks crowded roads and crowded classrooms, saying the services have just not caught up. However, not having sufficient emergency services is not acceptable. That is why they are called Emergency Services.

The public has a right to expect Frederick County to provide adequate roads, good schools with quality education and emergency services

county wide. These services are basic that we all should expect.

About me...

My wife, Susanne, and I reside on a small farm in outside of Emmitsburg. We are both retired and enjoy our farm, our neighbors our horses and our dog. We very much like where we live and believe that we are fortunate to live in Frederick County Maryland. My family has

been here for generations.

My former background includes 42 years in Law Enforcement, 27 years as a Maryland State Trooper. I am a small farmer and small business owner in Frederick County. Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's in Business Administration.

Associations include: Maryland State Police Alumni, the National

Rifle Association, the American Civil Liberties Union, Frederick County Farm Bureau and the Southern poverty Law Center. Please visit my website shannonbohrer.com

Shannon will be hosting a meet and greet the candidate on May 23, from 6 until 8:30 P.M. The meeting will be held at the Thurmont Library, in the TRL Community Room, 76 East Moser Road, Thurmont.



www.milleratlarge.com
jason@milleratlarge.com

Conservative Republican

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FROM THE DESK OF CANDIDATE...

Jessica Douglass, State Senate (D)

Living in Frederick County is a privilege that I value more every time I watch the sunset over Sugarloaf Mountain. Frederick County is unique in its pastoral charm while also boasting great schools and proximity to city centers.

Pastoral charm is in jeopardy.

Growing up on a farm, my father spent hours over the course of my childhood explaining life cycles and biomes to me, pointing out each organism in the food chain that he could identify and describing how the ecosystem met its needs. All of this was under our stewardship!

We explored the pond, the stream, the forests, the fields and the barn, looking for different creatures and talking about how they all interacted.

We rescued bunnies, baby birds, kids (baby goats) born on nights so cold that by morning, their ears were frozen through, and by week's end were lost to frostbite.

This is the life that I imagine farmers want for their families. From the conversations I have had with Maryland farmers, it is my understanding that they covet their roles as stewards of the land. They love their animals, their rolling hills, their streams and ponds. After decades of working the land, they still take time on a spring afternoon to marvel at the soil, the sunset, the water, and all the creatures large and small that depend on it.

A Farmer's love of the land does not pay the bills, however. Many farmers work from dawn to dusk

and still can't break even. According to the USDA, 85% of farmers can't support a family without added outside income. Shannon Bohrer, a farmer who lives in Emmitsburg, (who is also running for County Council) has told me of a dairy farmer he knows in the county who is getting older. Mr. Bohrer asked his friend how long he plans to continue to milk, and his response was, "Until my savings run out."

It is heart-breaking to hear that some farmers are made to choose between stewardship of the land or stewardship of the family. Farms should provide a living, not a hardship for the families that establish them. We should protect family farms in Maryland because we value fresh dairy and

produce. We should protect family farms in Maryland because we value this pastoral setting.

Frederick County leads the State in milk production, with one third of the State's dairy herds living and grazing here. Investing in the sustainable future of farms is the only way forward for Frederick County, and for Maryland. We cannot outsource all of our food needs, and we should not.

Some voters have pointed out that my passion for protecting the environment and my commitment to supporting farmers might be at odds. I find this dichotomy troubling. Every farmer I have talked with understands the importance of clean water. Every farmer I know loves earth worms, caddisflies, and katydids. Every farmer I have met is an environmentalist at heart.

Environmental regulations are necessary because clean water is necessary. But farms are also necessary. We cannot regulate farmers out of business. We must fund the education and infrastructure necessary to bring Maryland farms into the future of sustainable and environmentally-friendly practices. We need to expand incentives for maintenance of good conservation practices on farms because farms need us and we need them.

I look forward to a Maryland that maintains its pastoral charm while leading the farming industry in sustainable, water-friendly practices. What a beautiful place Frederick County is, and what a bright future it has if we support our family farms through encouraging and incentivizing the use of environmentally sound farming practices.

Sabrina Massett, State Senate (D)

I am a proud Democrat, excited to be running for the Maryland State Senate in District 4. As a life-long Frederick County resident living in Thurmont, I have a strong appreciation for the small towns, farming heritage, and rural landscapes that comprise our district, and the vibrant, historical cities throughout our state.

With thirty plus years of human services employment and community activism, I bring first-hand knowledge of the impact that federal and state government have on all citizens, particularly working families and those struggling to prosper. From my current employment

as a case manager for the Frederick County Department of Social Services where I've gained expertise in Medicaid and other support programs, to serving as volunteer and outreach coordinator for the Frederick County Meals on Wheels Program, and as a supervisor on an Assertive Community Treatment Team, I've observed the difference that fully funding these vital programs make in the lives of working and middle class people, senior and homebound citizens, those struggling with mental illness, substance abuse, criminal histories, and homelessness, and, by extension, in the economies and quality of life for the

surrounding communities.

Service to my community is a given. As a ten-year member of the Thurmont Planning and Zoning Commission, I gained insight into the complexities of balancing the demand for residential and commercial growth with protecting the quality of life for current residents. During my years of service, the commission developed a vision for our town, updated master and zoning plans, and grappled with county and state environmental requirements, as well as issues around annexation and in-fill development. While raising three children, I served PTAs at Thurmont Elementary and Middle

Schools. As a member of the Graceham Moravian Church, I have taken on many leadership roles and am a voice and activist for outreach and social justice.

My priorities in the Senate would be to ensure that all our citizens have the opportunity to thrive. We need to attract and support industries such as medical and renewable energy research, because they provide well-paying jobs close to home. We also need to encourage small business opportunities. We must fully fund our public school systems. All of our residents need access to safe and affordable housing, child care, and transportation. I will work to protect the state's commitment to affordable health care. Finally, I will

make retirees and senior citizens a priority in terms of supports necessary for our retirees to be able to afford to continue to live in the county and engage in meaningful activities, and for our senior citizens to age in-place and develop more safe and comfortable solutions when they can no longer remain at home.

Our natural resources must be protected, so I will work to attract green, sustainable industry, set goals for clean renewable energy sources, develop comprehensive waste reduction and management solutions, and encourage responsible residential development, including walkable and bicycle friendly communities, and public transportation options. Protecting our farming industry for the future is vital. I will work to serve as a bridge between the agricultural community and environmental protection regulators to ensure requirements are met without undue financial hardship.

We cannot continue to lose our young people to substance use illness. We must develop comprehensive solutions through partnerships with community advocates, behavioral and medical health services, law enforcement and the justice system. Funding and development of increased detox, inpatient options, recovery and transitional services must happen immediately. Our young people's lives, and those of their children, spouses and families are not expendable.

I am confident that the people of District 4, people like the friends and neighbors I have grown up with, worked with, attended church and community events with, can come together respectfully to find solutions to some of the most divisive issues facing our district and state – including common sense gun safety laws and increased awareness of mental health needs to reduce suicide rates and domestic violence and the a Maryland where our communities are safe, welcoming places to live - where all citizens are valued.

The many changes happening on the federal level make it imperative that Marylanders have a strong voice in Annapolis advocating for all citizens. I can be that voice, and I ask for your vote.



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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

Edison Hatter, Board of Education

My top priorities if elected

If I am elected to the Board of Education this November, my top priorities will be: increase funding for the Career and Technology Center and Special Education, adding new measures to increase school safety, and reducing the amount of standardized testing for our students.

The Career and Technology Center offers students, both those that are college bound and those that are not, the opportunity to learn specific skill sets in disciplines such as the culinary arts, welding, and health science. In total, the center has twenty-one unique programs, all of which offer college credit and professional accreditations for students. However, the center is unable to accept all qualified applicants who ap-

ply due to space limitations in the classes. This coming school year, 706 eligible students applied for the center, but only about 380 will be accepted into programs. The center desperately needs additional funding to secure staff and resources needed to allow more students in the county to take advantage of these opportunities.

Additionally, special education also desperately needs more funding. In my campaigning, I have stood firm in my belief that special education needs additional funds to continue the great work that they do.

This month, I had the opportunity to attend a Decoding Dyslexia meeting with a group of parents in the county who were concerned

about their children's education. I was horrified to hear some of the experiences these parents have had with the school system and how undertrained our staff is with respect to special education. As a result, I would highly prioritize increasing funding for the special education programs to ensure that all students have the same opportunity to succeed.

Specifically, we need staff that is adequately trained to handle students with special needs and the correct number of staff members needed to ensure that all state of Maryland Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) laws are followed. Next, we need to add some additional security measures to protect our students.

I strongly support an expansion of our School Resource Officer (SRO) program. Currently, one officer is assigned to each feeder pattern for portions of each school day. Ideally, we need to ensure that an officer is in every school for every minute of every school day. As it stands now, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office provides the SROs to the schools as an in-kind service. If we expand this program, the BOE will have to work with the county sheriff to determine how we will foot the bill together.

Finally, we have to do what we can at the county level to reduce the amount of high stakes standardized testing that we are forcing on our students today. The average middle

school participates in twenty-five hours of standardized testing a year, while our high school students participate in even more.

The testing is not beneficial to our students and puts some students at a severe disadvantage when compared to their peers. For example, the statewide PARCC pass rate is 41%, but only 7% of special education students, 22% of free and reduced meals students, and 25% of students of color pass the test. This testing is unfair and does little for our students. As a result, we need to look at better methods for students to demonstrate their academic abilities other than these high stakes tests. If elected to the board this November, I hope to begin work on these initiatives and more to better the Frederick County Public School system.

Brad Young, Board of Education

I am running for re-election to the Board of Education for Frederick County. I am currently serving as President of the Board and have been President the past 4 years. I have a deep passion for education and also a life-time experience working in the financial field. Managing an over \$600 million dollar operating budget and dealing with current capital projects of over \$100 million takes someone that has the financial experience to make the right decisions on how the Board's budget is being spent. We have to make sure that every dollar is spent where it will have the most impact on our children's education. I believe that

I am that person to do that and I would appreciate your support!

I am a Certified Financial Planner, CFP and have run my own business, Maryland Financial Planners, over the past 17 years in Frederick. Before that I spent 15 years in banking working for Farmers & Mechanics National Bank and FCNB Bank. In addition, I am an adjunct Professor at Mount Saint Mary's University teaching Corporate Finance, Investments and Personal Finance. I have had the pleasure of teaching many Catocin graduates at the Mount. Both of these experiences give me the experience necessary to evaluate and make critical bud-

geting decisions. Too often short term budget solutions are made that hurt our children's education.

My passion for education began with my parents. Both of my parents started as teachers in FCPS. My mother, Carol Young served as a Principal in Frederick County for over 30 years. She always knew that she was there for the kids and that they were the most important factor in every decision she made. That is how the BOE must operate! I have been very active through volunteering in the classroom, teaching Junior Achievement, and being very active with the Academy of Finance through the Career and Technology Center. In addi-

tion, I coached softball at Walkersville High School for 7 years and also coached at Hood College for 8 years. I again had the pleasure of coaching many Catocin graduates at Hood. I also visit and guests speak at many schools throughout the county. Through these activities, I have first hand experience on what goes on in our schools and where improvements can be made.

I served 15 years on the Board of Trustees of Frederick Community College including 3 years as chair of the board. I also served 6 years on the state board of community college trustees, (MACC) serving 1 year as its chair. I also served 7 years on the board of the national association of community college trustees, (ACCT), including serving as its chair. I also

served 6 years on the advisory board of the Universities at Shady Grove. This is a satellite campus for the state higher education institutions. Though my vast board experience, I am well prepared and experienced on how Boards should work and will continue to bring that experience to the Board of Education in Frederick County.

With my deep passion for education and my financial background, I believe that I am the right person at the right time to continue to bring leadership to the Board of Education. I am from Frederick County. I understand the needs of Northern Frederick County and I have and will continue to advocate for them on the BOE. I appreciate your consideration and would appreciate your vote!

Karen Yoho, Board of Education

If elected to the Board of Education, one of my top goals will be to continue to ensure that our schools are safe and welcoming places for all our students. I can tell you first hand that when a student does not feel safe in school, little learning takes place for that student. If that student becomes disruptive, the impact to learning could be felt by most of the students in that class.

Of course, for most adults, the idea surrounding safety that very likely comes to mind is school shootings. I can't speak to middle and high school students, but my experience with elementary school students is that, thankfully, most do not generally feel endangered by forces outside of their building. That doesn't mean they always feel safe in school.

At a recent Board of Ed forum, I said I would never mean to downplay the importance of safety. However, the most recent data from 2016 show that students are still one hundred times safer in school than riding in a car. We cannot overreact by spending money we don't have to take measures that, in reality, will not end up enhancing safety in our schools.

FCPS has done a review of its current protocols. They are making alterations to procedures that seem outdated and are reinforcing ones that have worked. They are currently presenting "Avoid, Deny, Defend™" in the evenings at various high schools. FCPS is constructing safer school entrances where they can be readily installed. Some of our schools were built at a time when such safety matters were not yet in our consciousness. Their entire ways will need more creative solutions to bring them on par. All of this takes time and money, but reasonable measures are being taken.

As a 25-year teacher, the area of safety that concerns me on a day-to-day basis is what the students bring with them into the classroom. Our students are experienc-

ing more trauma than we can often imagine. A few examples are homelessness, parent separation, neglect, family illness or loss, and abuse. Trauma can have a negative impact on children's brains. According to a 2005 study by Cook et al, "Exposure to chronic, prolonged traumatic experiences has the potential to alter children's brains, which may cause longer-term effects in areas such as attachment, physical health, emotional regulation, cognitive ability, behavioral control."

At staff meetings, we are reflecting on how to be cognizant of the situations our students may find themselves in. Getting to know our students, what types of activities they are involved in, likes and dislikes, etc. helps us connect with our students. Positive connections better equip teachers to provide

support to our students and allows our students to be more open to learning from their teachers.

The teachers I know set the expectation that every student will be treated with respect and dignity, and that every student is expected to reciprocate this behavior. I know some will not believe this, but in the schools where I've been, staff is constantly working to stop bullying as soon as we become aware of it. Obviously, no one should knowingly condone bullying. Interestingly, I've begun to witness a new trend. Students are conflating criticism with bullying. We need to teach them to know the difference.

As I ponder the issue of safety in schools, it leads me to dwell on

the root causes of school shootings. The vast majority of perpetrators are young men who seem to lack social skills. I believe we need to teach our children to be resilient. One break up or disappointment should not lead someone to pick up a gun as the best resolution to the problem. There are many resources available to parents and teachers and we need to take advantage of these to help our children grow up mentally and physically healthy.

If you have questions about anything I've presented here, please feel free to email me at Karen@karenyoho.com. You can also learn more about my positions on my website KarenYoho.com or Facebook page KarenYoho4BOE.

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

There are a number of important dates in May. The Adams County Chiefs of Police Association will host Adams County Fallen Officers Memorial Service on Friday, May 4 at 10 a.m. at the Adams County 9-1-1 Center. The Penna. primary is on May 15. Voting starts at 7 a.m. and ends at 8 p.m. All voting will take place in the Carroll Valley Borough building. To see who is running, go to www.adamscounty.us and then click on Administration > Elections and Voter Information > Election Resources 2018. Carroll Valley Movies in the Park is back! On May 18 bring a blanket or chair and enjoy the full-length movie the "Sing" film with your family & friends and community. Last but not least, the Fairfield Fire & EMS will be holding their Open House on May 20 from 1 to 4 p.m..

On March 31st, 100 people attended the Breakfast with Easter Bunny event held at the Fairfield Fire House. With over 400 participants and 5,000

stuffed eggs to be picked, the 2018 Carroll Valley Easter Egg Hunt, also held on March 31st, was a tremendous success! Many thanks go to those involved and they were Gayle Marthers, Grace Lilliech, Choe Smith, Erin Laird, Angela Winkler, Madison Wivell, Kelly Wivell, Lori Borden, Madie Laird, Serra Smith, Amanda Bell, Steve Bell, and Jayden Bell, Ben Marthers, Alicia Heare, 2018 Fairfield HS Baseball Team, Noah Hazlett, Jarrell Studio, Ethan Wivell, Toni Saylor, Larry Saylor, Tim Skoczen, Beth Cool, Karen Golden, Crystal Basnell, Susan Hileman, Karen Maichle, Logan Gregg, Diane Fredrikas, Tyer Pyles, Lori Kolenda and the Cheri Wojcik family.

I want to thank Fairfield High School Mrs. Siri Phelps class for their effort in beautifying the ground in front of the Carroll Valley Building by pulling weeds, picking up sticks and spreading mulch. Thanks go to Stephen Baker, Betty Belt, Cole Brooks, Jasmine

Cham, Courtney Cissel, Cammy Connelly, Abby Creager, Aly Fulton, Logan Gregg, Abby Heberton, Steve Heinebaugh, Liberty laea, Lily Kapfhammer, Katie Kollars, Bret Koons, Gabe Maturro, Gavin Myers, Ben Nagy, Hayley Ott, Colleen Rudisill, Kamryn Shaffer, Josh Siemon, Alex Stone, and Peter Warthen.

The first-ever E-Waste recycling event for Southwestern Adams County was held Saturday, April 14 at the Highland Township office for residents of Carroll Valley and Fairfield Boroughs and Freedom, Hamiltonban, Highland, and Liberty Townships. A steady flow of residents were highly appreciative of the opportunity to dispose of long-held electronic devices, with the total volume (approximately 5 tons) filling two large containers and part of a third. Thanks go to Highland Township Supervisors Craig Rockey, Ed Steinour, Jr., and Gary Dingle, and Highland Road Worker Roger Greer. If you missed this

opportunity, be sure to mark July 14 on your calendar for the next one.

As the weather warms up more people, young and old, will be bicycling and walking on our trails. This might be a good time to take a look at our Pennsylvania laws regarding both. In Chapter 35, Section 3510 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes book, requires all bicyclists age 12 and under to wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet every time they ride their bicycle. Please note that a bicycle is considered a vehicle and therefore when riding on a roadway must be operated in the same direction as required of other vehicles on the roadway. All bicyclists are required to use hand arm signals while on the road. Section 3507 mandates that bicyclists, who ride after dark, install reflective devices or lights on their bicycle. We know that pedestrians have the "right of way".

But what are your responsibilities/duties regarding walking on our trails? Well, Section 3544 states that where a sidewalk is provided and its use is practicable, it is unlawful for any pedestri-

an to walk along and upon an adjacent roadway. Where a sidewalk is not available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall walk only on a shoulder as far as practicable from the edge of the roadway. Where neither a sidewalk nor a shoulder is available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall walk as near as practicable to an outside edge of the roadway and, if on a two-way roadway, shall walk only on the left side of the roadway. Bottom-line, please follow these laws. They are for you and your family's safety on the road. For us drivers, slow down when in the Valley. Watch out for the unexpected whether it comes from people walking, jogging or bicycling on our beautiful trails.

The May Borough meetings are: May 7 - Planning Commission, May 8 - Borough Council; and May 25 - Parks & Recreation Committee. The Borough Office will be closed on May 15 - Primary day & May 28 - Memorial Day. If you have any questions, contact me at MayorRonHarris@comcast.net or 301-606-2021.

State Representative Candidate Marty Qually

One of the most important concerns facing Adams County residents is increasing property taxes, especially school taxes. When I speak with voters, they mostly fall into one of two categories, they are either against property taxes or they are really against property taxes. A current proposal to eliminate school taxes is House Bill 76, the Property Tax Independence Act. I wish that I could say the title of the bill says it all, but like many complicated issues, the devil is in the details. This bill makes big promises, but it is mostly smoke and mirrors. If approved, this bill will shift taxes away from businesses and on to residents, take control away from local government, relies on some questionable math, solidifies an out-of-date state school funding formula, which hurts Adams County schools, and

may end up increasing Adams County taxpayers' total tax burden. There are ways to improve our tax system and fairly pay for schools, and while this bill is not the solution, it does contain some items worth discussing in more detail.

Representative Cox introduced this latest tax elimination act on May 3 with a memorandum stating, "The Property Tax Independence Act will eliminate all school property taxes across the Commonwealth and will replace those taxes with funding from the Personal Income Tax and the Sales & Use Tax."

Sounds simple enough, PA will increase Personal Income Tax (PIT) and Sales and Use Tax and that will offset the revenues lost from property taxes. State government would then use those funds to pay schools for their

services. The proposal is to increase sales and use tax by one percent and to increase the items subject to sales tax. The increase in sales tax is simple enough; it would go from six to seven percent. Where it gets complicated, is the number of new items that would now be available to be taxed. Here is the list of new items to be included in the higher sales tax: food, candy and gum, personal hygiene products, storage, newspapers, bad debt, magazines, UCC filing fees, clothing and footwear, non prescription drugs, rental of films for commercial exhibition, charges for returnable containers, catalogs and direct mail advertising, caskets and burial vaults, construction of memorials, flags, horses, textbooks, liquor or malt beverage purchased from retail dispenser, coin-operated food and beverage vending machines, to

name just a few. That is not a small list and everyone will be hit with a larger sales tax.

The services that will be added to the increased and expanded Use Tax will include: dry cleaning and laundry services, personal care services, funeral parlors, death care services, spectator sports admissions, theater, dance, music and performing arts, amusement and recreation industries, museums, historical sites, zoos and parks, transit and ground transportation, air transportation, truck transportation, other transportation, legal (except business-to-business), architectural, engineering and related services (except business-to-business), accounting, auditing and bookkeeping services (except business-to-business), specialized design (except business-to-business), all other professional and technical services (except business-to-business), basic TV, veterinary fees (except business-to-business), finance and insurance, waste management, recreational parks, camps & campgrounds, design and data processing (except business-to-business), and parking lots and garages. Again, that is a lot of new items that will be taxed, but notice how many of these services are listed as "except business-to-business".

Basically, the changes to sales and use tax side will shift the property tax burden from businesses and residents to just residents. Business properties account for a large amount of property taxes in Adams County. I fully support that government has a role in assisting businesses succeed, but to me it's about infrastructure creation, not a wholesale shift away from property tax. Property taxes pay for services that benefit businesses; they can help to pay their fair share. Also, keep in mind that businesses do not pay sales tax on items for resale. Sales tax is paid by the final consumer, us.

We need to have a discussion about which items and services should be taxed, but this should occur separate

from the school tax discussion. Part of the Sales and Use tax increase argument is that it more reliable than property tax. I don't know about you, but on a personal level, I started to think about how I would change my purchasing habits to avoid items on these lists. On a larger scale, we could also see some significant local industries experience significant cost increases, namely, our tourism attractions, equine industry and campgrounds. I would anticipate that some businesses would close or relocate to other states with better tax laws. The risks on changing so dramatically from property tax to sales and use tax is too untested to take such a large leap.

The second major change for this bill will be an increase of the Personal Income Tax (PIT) from 3.07% to 4.95%. The average household income for Adams County is about \$60,000. The average family's PIT tax would go up from \$1,842 to \$2,970, and increase of \$1,128. No matter where you live, this increase tax will offset some of your school tax savings.

Yet again our legislators, including this district's 12-year incumbent, are making promises that sound good, but may end up costing us more. I believe that our legislators need to focus on PA paying our schools their fair share and let us decide how to raise local funds. Let's have a discussion about fixing the exceptions to sales tax, but let's also have a discussion about counties deciding if a sales tax increase is a good form of local school funding. And finally all of these proposed changes, presuppose that when we send our money to Harrisburg that we will get it back. Sorry, I'm not buying it. Every time Adams County taxpayer money goes to Harrisburg we get less back. The only thing that we need to send to Harrisburg is change.

As always, feel free to email me at martyqually@gmail.com or at 717-339-6514. The best way to learn about my campaign is by joining us at www.facebook.com/martyqually



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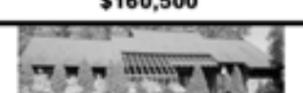
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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Commissioner Marty Qually

Last month Russell Williams of the Hanover Shoe Farm hosted a private farm tour to educate a small group of community leaders about the equine industry in Adams County. This tour marked the unofficial beginning of an Adams County equine industry economic impact study. A few years ago the county did a complete economic impact assessment of the fruit industry, which allowed us to quantify the value of the industry.

The fruit industry study assessed the total economic benefit to Adams County at \$580,000,000 per year. As a part of this study the county planning office was able to create a digital tool to begin assessing other industries. Over the past few months staff and community partners have been winnowing down the options for future studies. While dairy and poultry are very high on our list for future study, staff determined that due to impact and ease of data collection the equine industry should be their first solo mission.

The equine industry in Adams County currently ranks in the top ten of Pennsylvania counties for overall size according to the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Its influence and contribution on the county's economy can be traced back to the early 1900's. In recent years there have been proposed

state budget cuts to the horse industry that have threatened the viability of the state's industry. The proposed budget cuts made it necessary for Pennsylvania to better study and quantify the benefits of the equine industry for the Commonwealth.

The last statewide study of the equine industry was conducted and published by Penn State University in 2003. While it is great that Penn State has worked on a state wide impact study, there has never been a study focused exclusively on Adams County until now. The purpose of the study will be to determine the current total economic impact of the equine industry in Adams County, inclusive of the full range of equine-related activities contained within the county. This information will be provided to policy makers in legislature, local government officials, equine industry participants, and the general public to demonstrate the importance and contribution of the equine industry in Adams County.

While the Hanover Shoe Farm is undoubtedly the largest horse farm in Adams County and contributes significantly to the economic impact of the industry, there is more to the industry than horses bred for racing. The county study will also consider horses working in the tourism industry, personal plea-

sure horses, therapy horses, and show horses. If you want to have a great discussion about the complexities of owning a horse, go no further than the owner of this paper. Mike Hillman gave me some good advice years ago when my daughter wanted to get into horse riding. He said that falling in love with horse riding is an expensive affair.

No matter the purpose of the horse, pleasure riding, carriage rides, battlefield tours, therapy, or for show they all require a lot of specific attention. Their healthcare and housing are expensive and there is a reason for the expression, "eats like a horse". Thankfully, my family learned this lesson before Kate fell in love with horses, and while our Great Dane, Bella, does eat like a horse, she doesn't cost us a small fortune to keep and doesn't require a barn.

One of the lessons learned from the fruit industry study, is that the economic impact is much more than the direct benefit from the sale of the fruit itself. The economic benefit from indirect sources and the induced benefits are substantial.

An indirect benefit is anything that is necessary for the achievement of the direct benefit. An easy example of the indirect costs for the equine industry is that horses need to be fed and boarded. In the case of a large breeder, much of

this cost is captured within their operations, i.e. they may grow their own feed and board their horses on site. Smaller scale operators and private owners of pleasure horses need to pay farmers for these services. These related businesses are also a benefit to our economy and community.

Induced benefits are not as large as direct and indirect, but they are important to capture. An induced benefit is a result of the increased money brought into a community because of an industry. Or in political campaigns, it's why candidates always talk about "jobs, jobs, jobs". When a farmer pays another business for a service, the other business or their employees in turn spend those funds. This benefit is spread throughout the community at banks, restaurants, grocery stores, etc. . . In my opinion the benefit is best when the induced funds are spent locally.

If an employee uses funds at a local grocery store or restaurant, they too are adding to the local economy. This local spending is one of the reasons our planning office chose to focus on the equine industry. With the exception of horse race prize money, much of the money for the industry comes from outside of Adams County and most of the money earned from the industry is spent here.

To me this represents a pretty good bang for our buck.

As a county it is important for us to have a better handle on the economic impacts of our various industries. No one expects a County Commissioner to learn how to breed and sell world renowned horses or work in a fruit packing house, but residents should expect us to know the value and impact of these industries. I firmly believe that the first step to improving our overall economy, is each county understanding the industries which comprise their local economy.

This helps us to first do no harm to these industries and second our own education helps us explain the value of an industry to those not involved in a specific industry. Secondly, the County can help to focus resources and infrastructure development into areas beneficial to each industry. In the case of our farm industry, this is a concerted effort to streamline preservation funds to improve the economic and preservation impact of those funds. I am excited to be involved in this process and to see the results of the first ever Adams County Equine economic impact study.

If you have any questions about this issue or other projects on which the county planning is working, check out their website at www.adamscounty.us. And if you have any questions for me, do not hesitate to contact me at 717-339-6514.

State Representative Dan Moul

When it comes to overprescribing opioids to injured workers, Pennsylvania consistently ranks among the nation's worst offenders. According to a study by the Workers' Compensation Research Institute, Pennsylvania ranks second among states in the number of opioids given to injured workers, a whopping 87 percent higher than the average. This not only feeds our already out-of-control opioid crisis, but it is making addicts out of the bread winners who support Pennsylvania families.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, opioid deaths in the Commonwealth rose by a dramatic 44 percent from 2016 to 2017. More than 5,200 Pennsylvanians died of overdoses last year – the fourth-highest rate in the country.

In January, Gov. Tom Wolf took the unprecedented step of declaring the opioid crisis a "disaster emergency." While it is clear we have a disaster on our hands, I find it ironic that the governor will not support legislative efforts to establish a drug formulary for our workers' compensation system, which would help to curb the problem of overprescribing.

A drug formulary is an established list of FDA-approved prescription drugs, brand and generic, that are selected by a committee of health care and pharmacy professionals for their medical effectiveness, safety and value. Medicare, PACE and other government-subsidized health insurance plans have formularies, as does every private group health insurance policy, but, so far, not our workers' compensation program.

Drug formularies are common in the health insurance industry, and the benefits are obvious. Ohio enacted a drug formulary program in 2011, and

saw opioid prescriptions for injured workers drop by 51 percent in five years. California, New York and Washington are among the many states that have established formularies for their workers' compensation programs.

Legislation to establish a drug formulary for Pennsylvania's Workers' Compensation System recently landed on the governor's desk. Senate Bill 936 would have applied the same standards for injured workers that apply to Pennsylvania's other public and private group policies, and it would pass along the savings to small businesses and other employers who pay workers' compensation premiums.

The bill had widespread support, including medical and drug treatment

professionals, the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association, the Pennsylvania Occupational and Environmental Medical Society, the Hospital and HealthSystem Association of Pennsylvania, and Concentra, the largest provider of occupational medicine in the country. It also had the support of local governments, small businesses and more than 70 chambers of commerce.

While many local officials are struggling to get ahead of the opioid crisis gripping their communities, an investigation by the Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News uncovered a disturbing scheme that appears to be perpetuating the opioid problem in the greater Philadelphia area.

Reporters uncovered a pattern

whereby a prominent group of Philadelphia workers' compensation lawyers were sending injured clients to a small network of doctors who were instructed to have all prescriptions filled through a mail order pharmacy in which the lawyers were majority owners and both shared a financial interest. The investigation also found that the doctors were prescribing tubes of compounded narcotic "pain creams," not approved by the FDA, but similar to those commonly and inexpensively available at local drug stores. However, insurance companies were being billed thousands of dollars for each tube of these off-brand, unregulated medications with no proven medical benefits.

After a bill was introduced in the

House last year that would have established a formulary and curbed the flow of dangerous opioids to injured workers, Gov. Wolf was invited to an "exclusive dinner discussion" with the medical partners involved in the Philadelphia scheme. While this meeting was not billed as a fundraiser for Wolf, the contributions followed. To date, the Wolf campaign has accepted at least \$1 million from the political action committee formed by this group of doctors and lawyers.

Since then, Wolf has not been supportive of House efforts to establish a Workers' Compensation formulary, and last week the General Assembly – in Senate Bill 936 – gave Wolf another chance to do so. On Friday, he vetoed it.



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THE PASTOR'S DESK

Memory is a funny thing

Pastor Chris Spruill
Incarnation, United Church
of Christ

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines memory as “the power or process of recalling what has been learned and retained especially through associative mechanisms.” However, if you ask any two people to tell you what they remember about the same experience, you are likely to get two different answers. Often our memories can be colored to show us a flawed version of past reality. Each one of us brings earlier experiences, biases, prejudices and beliefs to every new experience and we see through the lens of our lives up to the point of that new experience to a point where even when we share the experience closely with someone else, we don't see it the same way they do.

I am reminded of a mission trip I took with several teenagers back in 2004. It was my first time traveling to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and our group was introduced, many of us for the first time, to first-hand accounts of the atrocities of our nation's past with Native Americans from their perspective and the horrific conditions under which many of the reservation people lived their daily lives. When given the chance to reflect on the experience afterwards, each of the young people who attended had chosen to remember the experience in very different ways.

Some of them seemed to have forgotten the stories we were told about

the traditions of the native people while others were somehow able to forget the sadness many of the people shared with us about their lives. It was almost as if some of them had a completely different experience than the one that I remembered. It was then that I had to reflect more deeply on my own experience to see that even I may have been remembering differently than the events had actually occurred.

While it is important to see memory as a construct of our individual brains, it is also important to understand that memories can also change over time. Sometimes it is our brains playing tricks on us. Often, it is simply the fact that older experiences bleed over into newer experiences and we begin to believe that the memory constructed in our brain is the actual reality, even when confronted with evidence to the contrary.

This month, as a nation, we are focused on memory. This year, on May 28th, we will remember the members of our fighting forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice during their time of service to our country. Other countries have similar observances, such as ANZAC Day in Australia and New Zealand, Remembrance Day in Canada, Armistice Day in much of Europe and Volkstrauerstag in Germany. In America, we had traditionally used Armistice Day (Veteran's Day) or, after the Civil War, Decoration Day (May 30) in both the North and the South as groups (often women's auxiliaries of

local Armed Services remembrance groups) would decorate the graves of soldiers who had died in various Civil War battle with fresh flowers.

The term “Memorial Day” was first used in 1882 but became even more common in usage after World War II. Finally, in 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, moving the observance of Memorial Day from May 30 to its recurring pattern of the last Monday of May where it has been celebrated annually since 1971.

Memory is also important as we focus on our religious belief systems. The three major monotheistic religious traditions, which account for more than 70% of those who profess a particular religious faith around the globe, are focused on sacred stories of history. Without history, memory is pointless. Christians are called to remember the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross as we celebrate communion in our various traditions. We tell the story once again of Jesus' final meal, shared with his followers on the night of his arrest – the day before the Crucifixion. Without exercising memory, we cannot recognize the significance of such a sacrifice made on our behalf.

Often, in our memories, we call up images of heroes in our lives as larger-than-life characters who can do no wrong. We tend to forget ways in which these real-life individuals did not always live up to heroic tendencies. History books are filled with stories of the wonderful ways in which American heroes have sacrificed parts of their lives (some their entire lives) to further the American Dream but history books never tell us the entire story. We are quick to



Memorial Day - we should not forget the real reason we take a pause on this particular Monday - to remember the fallen.

gloss over ways in which those same “heroic” individuals espoused ideals that we don't want to associate with that same American Dream. We do that with our cultural heroes also. We forget that everyone is human and when current heroes fall from the pedestals on which we have invariably placed them, we are often harder on them than we would be on ourselves for showing the same limitations of humanity. While there is an inherent unfairness in such treatment, we are often quick to allow our good memories to become overpowered by bad behavior.

Our religious heroes can also fall into those same categories. We want to remember the ways in which they were used by God to reach extraordinary goals, but we tend to forget that they were also human beings, much like us, and were flawed and ordinary, just like most of us. Noah is portrayed as the righteous man that God saved from the Great Flood, but he is also the first vintner who became hopelessly drunk after learning to ferment grapes into wine.

David is seen as the first Great King of Israel, but he is also guilty of stealing Uriah's wife and then send-

ing Uriah to certain death so that he could keep Bathsheba as his own. Peter is the Rock on which Jesus built the new Christian Church, but he also denied knowing Jesus when confronted on the night of Jesus' arrest, fearing for his safety in the unfamiliar city of Jerusalem among the uncertainty of what it meant to be one of Jesus' followers.

While Memorial Day has, for many, become synonymous with retail sales and a Monday off from work, we should not forget the real reason we take a pause on this particular Monday – to remember the fallen. You see, memory is a funny thing. Often we forget to exercise it properly. Remember during your Annual Summer Kick-Off Picnic or while you are hunting for deals on bathing suits or other new summer wardrobe needs to take a moment to say a thank-you to those who have paid the ultimate price for service to our country.

Learn more about Incarnation, United Church of Christ by joining them for Sunday service at 124 West Main Street, Emmitsburg, or visit them online at www.emmitsburg.net/iucc.



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60th Anniversary Celebration of our National Shrine Grotto!

Julianna Mastromatteo MSMU
Class of 2016, MSM MAT 2018

This year, the National Shrine Grotto is excited to celebrate the 60th anniversary of becoming a national shrine. These holy grounds have been a beloved sanctuary to hundreds and thousands of pilgrims each year.

These are the grounds where St. Elizabeth Ann Seton taught her Sunday school, and these same hallowed grounds are where Blessed Stanley Rother, the first American Martyr, worked and discerned to return to his mission in Guatemala.

Until 1958, the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes was merely a secluded, but very special corner of campus, known to Mount St. Mary's students, seminarians and rarely visited by outsiders. Monsignor Hughes Phillips (former Mount St. Mary's president, librarian and student) was appointed director of the National Shrine Grotto in 1958, and was named Grotto Chaplain by

the Archdiocese of Baltimore when it was proclaimed a Public Oratory and designated as a national shrine. After completely refurbishing the shrine, he opened it to the public. Msgr. Phillips was responsible for further enhancing the National Shrine Grotto with the handsome Pangborn Memorial Campanile crowned with a 25-foot, gold-leafed bronze figure of the Virgin Mary, and other significant statuary monuments throughout the holy grounds.

During the past 60 years, not only have the presence of saints been with us, but the legacy of Msgr. Phillips' vision of the holy grounds lives on.

Msgr. Phillips wanted to share the peace which he experienced as he walked through the holy grounds with others, and he did just that. Our present day visitors have shared with us that their experiences here have strengthened their faith and brought a sense of calm into their lives, as it has for many others over that past 60 years. This peace Msgr. Phillips experienced was and con-



tinues to be a source of faith for the pilgrims who visit. He said, “People are beginning to experience what I have known for a long time... this mountain is blessed with the presence of the Blessed Mother in a very special and tangible way.” We will be hosting a celebration on September 8, 2018 and would like to invite you to join us as we celebrate through liturgy, fellowship, and other festivities!

The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, a Catholic national shrine devoted to Our Blessed Mother Mary, is a place of worship, pilgrimage, evangelization and reconciliation. To learn more about our events, visit ns-grotto.org or call 301-447-5318.

THE BOOK OF DAYS

An early northern expedition



May 11

The discoveries and conquests of the Spaniards and Portuguese in South America had greatly narrowed the limits of English maritime enterprise, when the discovery of North America by Sebastian Cabot suggested another and shorter route to the El Dorado of the East. "Why," it was naturally asked, "should there not be a passage leading to the westward and the northern part of the great American continent, like that of Magellan in the southern?" The subject, having been canvassed for some years, at last took a practical shape, and a company was formed under the name of The Mystery Company, and fellowship of the Merchant Advent, for the Discovery of Unknown lands.

240 shares of £25 each were rapidly subscribed, and the first three ships fitted out by the Merchant Adventurers weighed anchor on May 11, 1553. They dropped down the Thames, their destination being to discover a way to China by a north-east passage. Great things were expected from the expedition, and the day was one of general rejoicing. As the ships passed Greenwich, where the court was then held, the courtiers came running out on the terraces of the palace, while the common people stood thick upon the shores below.

Cabot drew out the instructions for the conduct of this expedition, being too far advanced in years to take command of it in person. Many bold adventurers offered their services for this important post; but the Company of Merchants made greatest account of one Sir Hugh Willoughby, both by reason of his goodly personage, as also for his singular skill in war, so that they chose him for general of the voyage.

Cabot's instructions did not relate to the scientific part of the voyage alone, but took cognizance of the minutest details of discipline. Thus one clause directs: "That no blaspheming of God, or detestable swearing, be used in any ship, nor communication of ribaldry, filthy tales, or ungodly talk be suffered in the company of any ship: neither dieing, tabling, carding, nor other devilish games to be frequented, whereby ensueth not only poverty to the players, but also strife, variance, brawling, fighting, and oftentimes murder, to the destruction of the parties and provoking of God's wrath and sword of vengeance." Prayers, too, were to be said in each ship night and morning, but the explorers were not to attempt to force their religion upon any strange people they might discover; and they

were to bear with any religious rites such people might have.

The three ships were respectively named the Edward Bonaventure, the Bona Esperanza, and the Bona Confulentia. Soon after sailing, at a consultation among the captains, Wardhuus in Norway was appointed as their place of rendezvous. A gale in the North Sea occasioned the separation thus foreseen and provided for; but they never met again. Willoughby, with the Bona Esperanza and Bona Confidentia, steering northwards, discovered Nova Zembla, and from thence was buffeted by opposing winds to the coast of Lapland. Here he anchored in a bay near the mouth of a river now called by the Russians the Varsina, merely intending to wait for a favourable wind to pursue his voyage; but extremely cold weather setting in, he resolved to winter there. This we learn from the last entry in his journal, written about the beginning of October, in the following words:

"Thus remaining in this haven the space of a week, and seeing the year far spent, and also very evil weather—as frost, snow, hail, as though it had been the deep of winter—we thought best to winter there. Wherefore, we sent out three men south-south-west, to search if they could find people, who went three days' journey, but could find none; after that we sent other three westward, four days' journey, which also returned without finding people. Then sent we three men south-east, three days' journey, who in like sort returned without finding of people, or any similitude of habitation."

The English at that time had no idea of the severity of a northern winter; and, consequently, the discovery ships were not provided with the means of guarding against it. The crews of the two ships, six merchants, two surgeons, and Sir Hugh Willoughby, in all about 70 men, were frozen to death. By a signature of Willoughby, attached to his will, it is known that he and some others were alive in January 1554, and may have been rejoiced by a glimpse of the sun at midday; but what a scene of horror it shone upon!

When the gale by which Chancellor, in the Edward Bonaventure, was separated from the other ships, had moderated, he made the best of his way to the rendezvous at Wardhuus, where he waited some time for Willoughby; but the latter not arriving, and the season being far advanced, he determined to push on by himself. From this course he was earnestly dissuaded by some 'friend-

ly Scottish men,' whom, to his great surprise, he found at this distant and inhospitable place. But we are not surprised to find Scotchmen there at that time, for the marriage of James III with the daughter of Christian of Denmark, opened up an early communication between Scotland and the extreme north of Europe. And among the Russian archives there is a notice of one David Coken Cochran, a Scotch herald in the service of John, King of Denmark, who visited Russia by way of the White Sea three different times previous to 1502—half a century before it was known in England, by the result of Chancellor's voyage, that Russia could be reached in that direction.

Chancellor, however, did not listen to the 'friendly Scottish-men,' being steadfastly and immutably determined to bring that to pass which he had undertaken to do, or die the death. "So," to use the words of his chronicler, "he sailed so far that he came at last to the place where he found no night at all, but a continual light and brightness of the sun shining on the mighty sea; and

having the benefit of this perpetual light for certain days, at length it pleased God to bring him into a certain great bay, which was 100 miles or thereabouts over."

This was the White Sea. Soon after he met with some fishermen, from whom he learned that the adjacent country was called Moscovy, and that "one Juan Vasiliwich ruled far and wide in those places."

Wintering his ship near the mouth of the Dwina, Chancellor proceeded to Moscow, where he was well-received by the Czar; and in the following summer he returned to England as a great discoverer, equal to Columbus or Vasco de Gama for having been the first discoverer of a sea beyond the North Cape, and a convenient passage into the great empire of Russia.

In the spring of 1555, some Laplanders found Willoughby's ships uninjured, with their crews still frozen. Hearing the news, the Czar ordered them to be brought to the Dwins, and their cargoes preserved under seal for the benefit of their English owners.

On Chancellor's second voyage to Russia, which immediately succeeded the first, he learned the recovery of these ships; and on his third voyage he brought out men to man them and bring them to England. Sailors believe that there are what they term unlucky ships, and the fate of these would almost warrant the idea. In 1556, the three ships of the original expedition sailed from Russia, bound to England. Chancellor, returning from his third voyage in the Edward Bonaventure, bringing with him a Russian ambassador and suite, and the Bona Esperanza and Bona Confidentia, rescued from the ice the agents of another disaster. Not one of the three reached England. The Edward Bonaventure was lost on the coast of Aberdeenshire; Chancellor, his son, and most of his crew perished. The Bona Confidentia was lost, with all her crew, on the coast of Norway; and the Esperanza was swallowed up by the ocean, time and place unknown.

To read other selections from Robert Chambers's *Book of Days* visit www.thebookofdays.com.

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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

The second amendment and gun control

Shannon Bohrer

This year on Valentine's Day a lone gunman entered Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida and shot and killed seventeen people. Seventeen additional people were shot and wounded. While there have been multiple school shootings for many years, this one seems different. The difference could be the student's reactions, their voices and their demonstrations. While others have voiced concerns in previous school shootings — this time seems different.

Every time we have an "active shooter" or a "mass shooting" (where four or more people are killed in one event), we hear from grieving family members, we hear from the talking heads and we hear from politicians, yet nothing seems to change. What we also hear is that we should have better mental health treatments, better background checks and even limit the purchases of some types of weapons. We also hear that we should arm the teachers and that if the teachers were armed, potential active shooters would be deterred. What needs to be done is something that would reduce the frequency and lethality of the events. What would reduce the frequency — should be the question.

On March 24 there was a nationwide march for our lives, sponsored by school children from around the country. The NRA's response to the march was, "Stand and Fight for our Kids' Safety by Joining NRA." "Today's protests aren't spontaneous. Gun-hating billionaires and Hollywood elites are manipulating and exploiting children as part of their plan to destroy the Second Amendment and strip us of our right to defend ourselves and our loved ones."

In full disclosure I am an NRA member and the NRA's response was pitiful and demeaning. Demeaning school children for expressing their views, a right they have under the first amendment, was extremely poor. The NRA's comments were akin to bullying.

The NRA was not the only group or person to demean the students and the marchers. I guess people forget that we have a first amendment that entitled the students to gather, march and speak. Could it be that those complaining feel threatened? According to some of the complainers there is a deep state that can encourage millions of school children to protest with the intent to destroy America. I guess the deep state is just more believable than the old "fake news." It is my belief that the bullying of millions of

young people, which were exercising their right to protest adds credibility to their voices. How odd, that individuals and groups so concerned with the second amendment, do not seem to respect the first amendment.

Respecting all of the constitutional amendments is important because they are instrumental in our democracy. That being said, there are limits on our amendments, including the first and the second. It is illegal to yell "fire" in a crowded theater. Gathering for peaceful protest is allowed, but not for inciting to riot. You can practice the religion of your choice, but polygamy is illegal. While we have freedom of the press, you are not protected from slander when misrepresenting facts. Most people know and understand these limits, most of which were the result of court decisions. What many seem to be unaware of is there are also limits on the second amendment. Citizens are not entitled to have any kind of weapon they want. There are some that would like you to believe that anyone eighteen years of age should be able to purchase an AR15 type of rifle. Additionally, they would like you to believe that anything less is an infringement on their constitutional rights. But — that is not true.

The Supreme Court made a critical decision on the second amend-

ment in 2008, with the Heller Case. In that case the Supreme Court said there is an individual constitutional right to have a handgun in one's home for self-protection. Additionally, the individual does not have to belong to a state militia. The court also said that the entity (the governing body) has a right to create regulations with regard to firearms.

After the case was decided both sides claimed victory. For the pro-gun individuals they said the court upheld the constitution, allowing citizens to keep handguns in their homes. For the anti-gun individuals they said the court sided with them for allowing regulations.

Justice Antonin Scalia wrote the majority opinion for the court in the Heller decision and in his opinion he wrote:

"Like most rights, the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited..." It is "...not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose."

"Nothing in our opinion should be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibitions on the possession of firearms by felons and the mentally ill, or laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings, or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms."

"We also recognize another important limitation on the right to keep and carry arms. Miller (an earlier case) said, as we have explained,

that the sorts of weapons protected were those 'in common use at the time.' We think that limitation is fairly supported by the historical tradition of prohibiting the carrying of 'dangerous and unusual weapons.'"

While this was a case from the District of Columbia, in another case, just two years later, the court affirmed the decision and also said that it was applicable to the federal government and the states. Later the U.S. Supreme Court did not take cases that included gun laws in New York and Connecticut, both of which banned military-style assault weapons. By not taking the cases the court left the bans in place.

The Heller case said that the second amendment has restrictions, just as there are restrictions with the freedoms in the first amendment. Will the student's voices make any difference? What is the solution? It is my belief that we will continue to argue about this until the next mass shooting. At some point, after a mass shooting, we will ban military type assault weapons and we will add significant regulations for purchasers of all guns. It is just a matter of time.

"Which is the true nightmare, the horrific dream that you have in your sleep or the dissatisfied reality that awaits you when you awake?"
—Justin Alcala

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

Common Cents

Rethinking the whole country

Robert C. Koehler

Repeal and replace? How about the Second Amendment?

"A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Setting aside the antique strangeness of the wording, isn't it time to give thought to the values that permeated the era in which it was written — and who, exactly, "the people" were to which it referred?

I say this realizing that the United States has evolved over the years. Women gained the right to vote. Slaves gained quasi-freedom and then, a hundred years later, their descendants won the right to vote, the right to use a public restroom, the right to . . . live as first-class citizens, sort of. Except for the economy, the prison system, the ongoing racism.

The basic belief that sparked America's social movements over two-plus centuries has been a fierce loyalty to the nation's founding principles: All "men" are created equal, etc. The job of succeeding generations has been to expand the application of these principles, to demand that they also protect the people

who were left out of their original embrace because of the prejudices then prevalent. In other words, the founders established a great democracy, whose primary flaw lay in the short-sightedness of its citizens.

I've believed this myself, without digging too deeply into the matter. But suddenly I'm not so sure. Maybe it's time to rethink the whole country.

I say this cautiously, with respect and reverence for the nation's institutional core. I'm not suggesting we jettison the Constitution, but rather that we try to gain a clear understanding of its limits — its spiritual limits, you might say — and begin addressing how to move beyond those limits. And perhaps the place to start is the Second Amendment.

Here's what it doesn't say: A compassionate system to maintain order being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to live in safety and mutual trust shall not be infringed.

OMG, the cynics are coming, the cynics are coming! No one has that right. People have the right to defend themselves, not the right to be safe.

I quote Jonathan Tobin, lambasting the gun-hating "left" in *The Federalist*: "... a cross-sec-

tion of student protesters at the March for Our Lives rally in Washington believe security is more important than constitutional rights. Now, none of the measures they claim to support would prevent crimes such as the Parkland massacre, and American kids have a better statistical chance of winning Powerball than of being a victim of a mass shooting. Yet their position that Second Amendment rights can and should be sacrificed to assuage their fears is still essentially embraced by many Americans, even if gun control advocates rarely state their views so bluntly."

Look, kids, here's the Great Nation Divide, opening up right before our eyes! But I believe the verbal bullets fired off in this paragraph are worth pondering. The pro-gun side of the debate does not, as far as I've been able to tell, actually attempt to address the issue of public safety. The entirety of its agenda is preservation of the right to own a gun. Thus, "constitutional right" is pitted against an apparently irrational teenage desire for security. You can't have both, kids. Indeed, it sometimes seems like the right to bear arms has fewer limitations than the right to free speech, which pretty much everyone concedes does not give you the right to shout "Fire!"

in a crowded building.

But let's ponder for a moment what the concept "constitutional right" actually means. If the right to bear arms actually trumps (so to speak) the right to live in safety, this starts to address what I believe might be the country's, or the Constitution's, spiritual limits, at least in the age of modern firepower.

My question about the national cornerstone comes down to this: For America to be America, does it need an enemy? Is the unquestioned presence of an enemy at the core of how we have defined and organized ourselves? Or do the nation's constitutional ideals transcend the assumption of an ever-present enemy — that is to say, its default storyline?

No one tells the national story better than a Hollywood scriptwriter. Suddenly I'm thinking of a clip from John Ford's 1939 classic, *Stagecoach*, in which a young John Wayne, as the Ringo Kid, is poised atop the stagecoach gleefully shooting at Geronimo's band of whooping Apaches as they attack the coach. A snippet of this scene was part of Raoul Peck's brilliant documentary about James Baldwin, *I Am Not Your Negro*. In that context, the racist glee of the Ringo Kid's nonstop killing of the "savages" is unavoidably apparent.

Does the Second Amendment pay homage to the default American storyline: that the enemy is always out there and the only

defense is shooting first (or building a wall)? I will say this much. Big Two puts the right to bear arms in the context of a well-regulated militia, which is to say, in the idea that security is a collective enterprise. The amendment's present-day defenders do no such thing.

It's primarily because of the nature of the amendment's defense that I think it ought to be repealed.

Beyond that, the entirety of who we are — of what this nation stands for — ought to be rethought, perhaps via constitutional convention. When the nation came into being, about a fifth of its population were slaves, and the West's Age of Discovery, which is to say, the Age of Indigenous Conquest and Genocide, was still hemorrhaging. War itself was a certainty.

How much of this consciousness has been preserved in our basic laws? Did the founders manage to transcend even their own prejudices? Why, in any case, is this country so violent and how can we move beyond it?

I ask these questions in the midst of a new civil rights movement, spurred by teenagers, crossing traditional racial and economic divides. They're not looking for simple answers. Neither are they avoiding the simplest questions.

Robert Koehler, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is a Chicago award-winning journalist and editor.

The American Mind

The cautionary tale of Donald J. Trump

Steve Klinger

In the summer of 2016 I wrote a song titled “Not This Time,” about an unnamed demagogue seeking power in America. The song concluded that the populace, while heading in that direction, wasn’t in enough discomfort to elect an inept, transparent buffoon. My refrain hinted broadly that, instead, a descent into authoritarianism could well happen the next time around.

Not long after a grim ordeal in front of the television on Nov. 8, 2016, and the sleepless nights that followed, I rewrote the song and called it “Next Time Came This Time.” The original was fun to sing. I don’t perform the revised version much.

Although Donald Trump will very likely go down as the worst president in U.S. history, if there is anyone left alive to look back on his tenure, I have been thinking lately that there is a chance we caught a break when he became the standard bearer for the American right. Not that things have been good by any measure, but they could be oh so much worse.

Trump has set back America’s already shaky standing in the world by years, if not decades. In governing primarily by executive order, he has surely hastened the effects of climate change, made perhaps hundreds of

judicial appointments that will haunt the future of our courts, left what remains of our democracy vulnerable to catastrophic tampering by a hostile foreign government, put an administrative stranglehold on everything from immigration to equal rights to consumer protections, signed into law a tax cut for the wealthiest among us at the expense of the lower and middle classes, denigrated and thereby weakened our national security infrastructure and, perhaps most significantly, demeaned the dignity and the legacy of the highest elected office on the planet.

Not only has he failed to “drain the swamp,” he has populated the White House and the Beltway with the most corrupt, incompetent, self-serving cast of scoundrels to serve under any administration in recent memory. In the past he has almost certainly assaulted women, and these days he demeans minorities and insults the handicapped; he blusters, he rages, he defames, he lies, he distorts, he endangers American interests instead of protecting and defending them. He accepts blame for nothing, and taunts and provokes foreign leaders who, like he does, control weapons of mass destruction.

The deficit-exploding tax cut aside, he has no realistic legislative agenda, so deeply is he submerged

by the rising waters of Mueller’s Russia investigation and its offshoots. The turnover in his staff and cabinet are unprecedented and would be laughable if they weren’t frightening as international crises loom. Any benchmarks of governing normalcy have been so completely upended that his administration, the media and even Americans who don’t profess an interest in politics are reeling from a constant succession of political bombshells, seemingly on a daily basis.

The ways in which it could be worse, however, are truly chilling. Instead of Trump, our divided country could have elected an American version of Putin—smart, experienced, cunning, adept at consolidating power with icy ruthlessness—in short, a vastly more competent and effective authoritarian. Such a figure would be in control of his narcissism, better at concealing his sociopathic core, and above all, smarter about orchestrating the malevolent incrementalism through which other democratic governments have been turned into autocracies.

For all the dismaying damage Trump has done, he has also misstepped and misspoken with regularity. In doing so he has galvanized opposition among a growing majority of women and awakened ac-



tivism among millions of previously complacent and distracted Americans of all stripes. His catastrophic regime has hastened the implosion of the Republican Party and will most likely deliver the House into Democratic (and hopefully more progressive) hands in the midterm elections. At this rate the Senate could go the Democrats’ way as well. May they grow spinal vertebrae and develop the ethics they’ve lacked to rise above their historical shortcomings.

Perhaps best of all, Trump has very likely set back the ascendance of an effective authoritarian for some time. For even if his presidency survives the growing (and largely self-inflicted) onslaught, and even if the right-wing media and the truly treasonous gang of congressional Republicans ready to sacrifice country for party prevail in protecting him from legal disaster, too many truths have already emerged for him to fully seize

the power he covets. In reality, too many Americans have had enough of him and will find a way to remove him or at least render him politically impotent.

And so, in an unpredictably serpentine manner, my song may have gotten it right the first time. Trump has put us through hell. But he’s clumsily revealed for all to see the depths of his dark and immoral vision. Our awful struggle with him, which may have months or years to go, may yet serve as a cautionary tale and strengthen us for battles to come.

Steve Klinger is a veteran journalist and college English instructor based in southern New Mexico. Frequently skeptical about the capacity of the written word to inspire activism, he also writes songs, hoping to add the power of music to his topical lyrics.

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

Down Under

The Ripper effect

Submitted by Lindsay!
Melbourne, Australia

The great nations have always acted like gangsters and the small ones like prostitutes

—Stanley Kubrick, 1963

We in Australia are by now used to the bizarre way you are being governed. Government by confusion, policy by tweet, diplomacy by supposition. All these are daily news, and it’s working. Whether this is by chance or hard-headed planning is impossible to say, (no, it’s impossible to believe), but the results are the same. Mr. Trump is still there, trampling over logic, prolific throw-away lines of world shaking possibilities, covering fake news with fake news. Everyone lies but him, his deals are better because he’s the deal maker and breaker; to see his mouth curl in disdain when he flips off another member of cabinet or former friend is gut-churning, and we all want to see him fade away like the wicked witch of the west.

The picture of a very modern major moron, he has managed to get himself into the top job, protected from removal by the god-like stature the presidency has attained. A Tsar of Zany, the world is catching on to the reality that is emerging. Believe nothing, agree to nothing, sign nothing because it will be used to take advan-

tage of you after the original proclamation is destroyed.

The reality we glean is, “I’m the gangster, you’re the prostitute, and I’ll continue to rape and pay you. Just keep selling your honour and body while you can. It’s the only reason I let you live.” And we have cursed and said, “Thank you sir.” He has made us weak and despairing, angry and stumped.

The problem we have is that he is still nominally in charge of the world’s biggest economy, and we are expected to ask how high when the order is given to jump. The result is that China is becoming less horrible. We really love America and Americans, but Trump is so awful that we are looking for another suitor. A sane and relatively decent one who thinks before he speaks, is prepared to honour his promises and see we have equal rights.

And we have to live with the neighbors. Apart from the fact that China already owns a sizable chunk of your economy, it is wooing the Philippines, Vanuatu, much of Africa, South America and parts of the Middle East. They are using money, not armaments or diplomacy to win the biggest prize of all – world domination. Money that is used for infrastructure, tourism, education – which seems to be a gift, a vote of confidence, but may well prove to be the yoke that impels that country to

pull the Chinese wagon when and if it says, OK, boys, here’s the bill. Pay now or become our province.

And we will not ever do that. Nor will you. Nationhood, independence, freedom – the basics of democracy are our right and heritage, and we will fight to the death to preserve them. We will never believe that creating refugees, but not helping them is the way to go; we will never subscribe to hiding our faiths, our disadvantaged, our migrants and our right to criticize, our right to vote, and above all to hold up our heads because we are free.

But neither will we try to impose our values others, which is where you went wrong. (Although we may be just too small for dreams of such glory.) It all began when you beat the English and became independent, but when you dropped atomic bombs on Japan it consolidated you on the road to the belief that might was always right. It has led you into some very dark places where commerce and hubris has overwhelmed sense, Dr. Strangelove has been welcomed wide-eyed into the decision making processes, and the armed services have become so influential that your economy is now dependant on them.

Unlike the British Empire, you had no thought of colonising, of setting up a public service that would ensure your values were introduced at the bottom, your laws and governments system were put firmly in place. No, you went for what you could take, even to the point of getting some countries to become American Territories. Yes, they got a kind



of protection, meaning they were off limits for other nations to exploit, but the price they paid was the loss of their own values and ethnic culture – take a look at American Samoa, Puerto Rico and the other fourteen once independent countries that are classed as unincorporated territories.

But even you did not do what China is doing – giving largess in order to get the virus of subversion in place. It’s a hell of a price. China doesn’t need free trade agreements, trade wars or cartels, they will have everything without a fight. They will not ever listen to reason, (our kind at least), and so help us, they perform almost exactly as Mr. Trump, they just do it behind closed doors.

They are not afraid to grandstand, to do more than rattle a sabre or two. They just go where no human has ever gone before – the Spratleys, for instance – they build a navy that scares the pants off us, and they keep quiet. No Apprentice shows, no tweets, no grand signings, just a tiger ready to pounce. With a

burning bright smile.

And with your foreign policy made ad hoc, your fortunes spent on Hawkish wars, you are now vulnerable as never before. You have been outsmarted by these yellow Orientals who have read their history and have ancestor dreams in their eyes. You have been having too good a time and your ancestor dreams were sunk in Boston harbour.

Oh yes, Why the Ripper effect? Well, that was the name of the American Air Force General who went nuts and wanted to drop atomic bombs on Russia. He was Stanley Kubrick’s Dr. Strangelove, that most sarcastic of black comedies. It is still an ongoing mantra, the ‘we will win’ that has been proven wrong so very many times.

For goodness sakes, stop acting like gangsters and start a serious dialogue with China. Stop wasting your money on wars and prostitutes.

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

THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

Time, flying

Bill Meredith

"Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana." ... (a Paraprozdokian favored by retired genetics teachers)

"Ve get too soon oldt und too late schmaradt." ... said to be a "Pennsylvania Dutch" – proverb

Did someone say time flies? April is slipping away... the fourth month of 2018... and what still seems to me like a brand new year is actually one-third gone. And to make it worse, in a couple of weeks I will reach another birthday. It's an odd feeling, and I don't seem to get much help from my peers in coping with it. For one thing, every time I turn around, there are fewer of them left. A few seem proud of it, in a strange way; they appear to enjoy exaggerating and bragging about how old they are. I almost caught myself doing that; instead of saying I would be 85, I was going to try to make myself sound more venerable by saying I had reached the mid-point of my ninth decade.

Some folks seem not to remember their age, but whether they forgot about it on purpose isn't clear. In the case of the great rag-time pianist, Eubie Blake, someone made a mistake in his age on the cover of one of

his early recordings, and he never bothered to correct it. Years later, when he really was only 94 some friends planned a big party for his hundredth birthday, but he got pneumonia and died just a few days before it; and the papers said he was 100. A few years later someone discovered the error, but it never was clear whether Eubie had really forgotten or if he was just going along with the idea of a good party. When I hear one of his recordings, it's easy to imagine that somewhere in the background I can hear him chuckling about it.

Things like that used to be easier to get away with. When I was in college, some textbooks still told stories of villages in places like Kazakhstan or the Andes Mountains where there were said to be many individuals over 150 years old; but as methods of checking such claims improved, it turned out that such ages could not be verified. Baptismal records were commonly cited as evidence, but when checked carefully they usually turned out to belong to a grandparent with the same name as the proposed sesquicentennarian. Even now you can occasionally find Internet references to such individuals; I just found a picture of an Indonesian man named Mhab Ghoto, who recently died at a reported but unverified age of 146. He was

said to be a heavy smoker who had outlived four wives (both circumstances which raise suspicions). Anyhow, the oldest verified age was reached by a French woman, Jeanne Calmet, who was 122 when she died in 1997.

In 1933, when I was born the average life expectancy was about 61 years. Thanks to a lot of things... improved diet and health care, good heredity, and simple good luck, I have now surpassed that by nearly a quarter of a century. It is not possible to say how much longer I will last... I could make it to 100, like Aunt Ruth, or I might not finish typing this sentence. But the actuarial tables say three of every four men who reach my age will live another three years, while only one in four will survive another ten years. Life expectancy is a tricky thing to calculate, because it keeps changing all the time.

For example, when my Dad was born in 1902, his expected life span was 49.7 years. The corresponding number for his brother, born two years later, was a year less because there was an epidemic of typhoid fever going on. Things like that were more common in those days before antibiotics; and now, as the world becomes more crowded, there are indications that life expectancy may begin to drop, even in developed countries. As our national wealth becomes more concentrated in the hands of the wealthy class, we see nutritional standards dropping and the distribution of health care becoming less uniform for the average person. Worse yet, over-use of antibiotics is increasing the development of resistance among the agents that cause disease. While this predicts problems for developed countries like ours, it foretells absolute disaster for places like Africa, now facing increasing risk of famine because of climate change, and India, which will soon surpass China as the most populous country on earth.

One of the things you tend to



"The days of our years are threescore years and ten" Psalm 90. Use them well.

think about at this age is how your brain can think about yourself when it's your brain that is doing the thinking. In a way, it's actually scary; if our brains can think about themselves, could we make a computer that could think about itself? And if we did, would it be able to stop us from doing really dumb things? And if it could do that, what would prevent it from taking control of us? It used to be that this happened only in science fiction, but people are now seriously concerned about it. One of the comforting things at my age is that I don't have to worry about it happening to me... but for my grandchildren, two of whom are working in computer science, it could happen in their lifetimes.

The brain of a newborn child is not quite a blank slate. It has flexibility built into it, but it is also pre-programmed with many patterns of behavior that enabled our ancestors to survive. If you know a bit of genealogy and can also remember your childhood, you begin to understand how you got to be the way you are at 85. In my case, because of the profession I chose I had to spend more years learning facts than many of my contemporaries; it didn't make me any smarter than they are, but it made me think differently.

My basic values were formed early; my family and the people

they introduced me to taught me to tell the truth and to be honest in dealing with others. They taught me the rudiments of distinguishing between fact and fiction; it was OK to make up stories for fun, and there was an art to telling preposterous tales with a straight face like Grandpa did when I sat on his lap, but do not do that when dealing with serious topics. By the time I was in school, I understood that George Washington may or may not have cut down that cherry tree, but "I cannot tell a lie" is an important lesson. Having this attitude, living in the political climate we have now is stressful.

One way or another, we all cope. Every now and then, I read a poem by A. E. Housman that helps understand both myself and my children:

"When I was one-and-twenty
I heard a wise man say,
"Give crowns and pounds and guineas

But not your heart away;
Give pearls away and rubies
But keep your fancy free."
But I was one-and-twenty,
No use to talk to me.

When I was one-and-twenty
I heard him say again,
"The heart out of the bosom
Was never given in vain;
'Tis paid with sighs a plenty
And sold for endless rue."
And I am two-and-twenty,
And oh, 'tis true, 'tis true.

And if that doesn't help, there is always Psalm 90. It is presented as "A psalm of Moses," but I suspect it was really written by Solomon in his later years; scholars estimate that he may have lived to about 80, and judged by the way time flies, that was a lot longer then than it is now:

"The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.... So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Let's hope.

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Garden State

Tim Iverson, Naturalist

The winter has finally finished its thaw. Now that spring is finally in full swing flowers beckon us to warmer days. The April showers have come and gone. Spring rains wash away the cold winter scene ushering in new life. Springs rains also wash away nearly everything that accumulates on the surface too. Contaminated water, or runoff, is an unfortunate byproduct of nearly every rain storm.

The issue with runoff is that the stormwater picks up pollutants and chemicals from impervious surfaces like roads, sidewalks, and roofs and carries them to drains and rivers instead of through the ground where they get filtered out through the soil. Governments certainly play a role in remediating this problem, but citizens can help reduce the overall impact as well. So, what's a homeowner to do?

Citizens can't prevent rain, but they can prevent runoff. Collecting rain in rain barrels or by constructing rain gardens you can strategically utilize rain, reduce runoff, and save on your utility bill. Rain barrels are inexpensive and collected water can be used for anything. All you need is a 50 - 60 gallon drum (sold at hardware and outdoor stores), PVC coupling to connect to downspouts or roof drainage areas, screening to keep insects and debris out of the barrel, and a hose is optional. For many homeowners up to 40% of summer water usage is dedicated to watering gardens and lawns, this can help to reduce that number and your water bills. A slightly more ambitious do it yourself project would be to plant a rain garden.

The EPA advocates for rain gardens saying, "A rain garden is a depressed area in the landscape that collects rainwater from a roof, driveway or street and allows it to soak into the ground. Planted with grasses and flowering perennials, rain gardens can be a cost effective and beautiful way to reduce runoff from your property. Rain gardens can also help filter out pollutants in runoff and provide food and shelter for butterflies, songbirds and other wildlife." Excessive water that is directed into storm drains can overwhelm the system causing toxic backflows. Rain gardens can help prevent this by absorbing the water. This has the added benefit to increasing groundwater recharge for the water table. When considering a rain garden, or any other garden, it is important to remember to utilize native plants. Native plants are best equipped to handle local variable weather conditions, are most suitable for wildlife, and prevent the spread of potentially harmful invasive species.

Planting hedgerows can achieve the same water filtering effects. While hedgerows filter water, preventing runoff from pouring

through, they also retain water in their root system which hydrates surrounding plants. Once they're large enough, hedgerows block wind preventing evaporation of the ground surface and can reduce heating bills on blustery days. Additionally, they provide much needed habitat space and wildlife corridors, increasing the biodiversity of the area, while creating a natural fencing and privacy barrier.

While all roads lead to Rome, our regional rivers lead to the Chesapeake Bay - the largest and most productive estuary in the United States. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation releases an updated report every two years based on fisheries populations (crabs, Rockfish, and oysters primarily), acreage of bay grasses, total poundage of estimated pollution emptied into the bay and its tributary waterways. The most recent report, released in 2016, denotes the overall health of the Chesapeake Bay at a 'C-' grade. Restoration is costly, but failure to do so would be catastrophic.

There is a path to restoration called the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint. This is a provision of the Clean Water Act enacted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In 2010, the EPA began to legally enforce the "Total Maximum Daily Load" (TMDL) which is a scientifically derived basis of the acceptable amount of total pollutants the water system can handle while still being productive and meet water quality standards. Six states (Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, W. Virginia) and the District of Columbia are now required to incrementally reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution over two year periods through 2025. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment are the top three pollutants contaminating the bay. Farms and agribusiness are responsible for 41% of the polluted runoff, but urban and suburban areas are responsible for 15% of the total

deposited amount.

The most recent State of the Bay report card details significant improvement from the previous report card. While complete restoration is a long way off there are real successes as a result of the work. State and Federal officials recently established the largest man-made oyster reef, which covers more acreage than the National Mall, located in Harris Creek on the eastern shore. Oyster populations have been in decline for decades from overfishing and disease. This is huge news for reviving the troubled populations, but even more so because they are massive filtration organisms. A single oyster can filter 50 gallons of water per day. The plan is to create 10 of these reefs with over 1 million oysters in no fishing zones. This will allow for the reestablishment of the species that's a filtering machine. Seagrasses are also making a huge come back.

The National Academy of Sciences released a 30 year study reporting that underwater seagrass beds have increased from 38,000 acres in 1984 to 97,433 acres in 2016. Restoring seagrass is critical to maintaining healthy populations of economically important marine life like the Blue Crab, and protected marine life like the Diamondback Terrapin. These grasses serve as valuable nursery habitat for all species. They signal the overall quality of the habitat. There are many areas that are making comebacks, grass is being sighted in places it's never been seen before. However, there is still a lot of progress needed for a complete recovery.

As part of the recent Congressional Omnibus spending bill the Chesapeake restoration plan will be fully funded for another six years, despite the Trump administration's efforts to dismantle it. The state of Maryland is still warding off judicial appeals to the 2012 Stormwater Management act, but consistently upholds the law as legal and necessary for restoring wetlands and the bay. Homeowners can still play their part in



This narrow stand of trees and undergrowth between two farms not only serves to stop runoff, thereby protecting the Monocacy, but provides a natural habituate for wildlife, especially birds of all shapes and sizes. It's not uncommon to hear owls calling in the night from it.

reducing the 15% of runoff that degrades the bay by implementing gardens and reducing water usage. The progress seen over the past several years is remarkable indicating positive growth and a bright future for the Chesapeake, includ-

ing its residents and fishermen that depend on the quality of the nation's most productive estuary.

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REAL SCIENCE

Space science again

Michael Rosenthal

Here are some additional interesting developments in space science. NASA is launching a new spacecraft known as TESS, the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite which is intended to take up a lengthy residence of at least two years, between the moon and Earth, scanning the sky for alien worlds. Questions to be addressed include: Are we alone in the Universe? Are there other Earth-like planets? Is there even microbe life in the galaxy?

It was as recent as 1995 that astronomers discovered a planet outside our solar system – a planet circling the sunlike star 51 Pegasi. In 2009 NASA's Kepler spacecraft discovered some 4,000 possible planets in a small patch of the Milky Way near the constellation Cygnus. The Kepler is running out of fuel, so it's time to enter a new phase of exploration. Astronomers now speculate that there could be billions of potentially habitable planets in our galaxy, as close as 10-15 light years from Earth. The hope of TESS scientists is that we might find a planet close enough to view by telescope...or even visit with an interstellar robot.

The leader of the TESS team is

Dr. George Ricker, a researcher at MIT's Kavli Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research. He expects to find 500 or so Earth-size planets within 300 light-years of Earth. If this is the case, can we really expect that we are the only inhabited planet?

The scale is hard to imagine. Dr. Ricker says that there are some 20 million stars to look at. Most of the exoplanets will be orbiting stars called red dwarfs, stars smaller and cooler than our Sun. This fact has implications, of course, for planetary life.

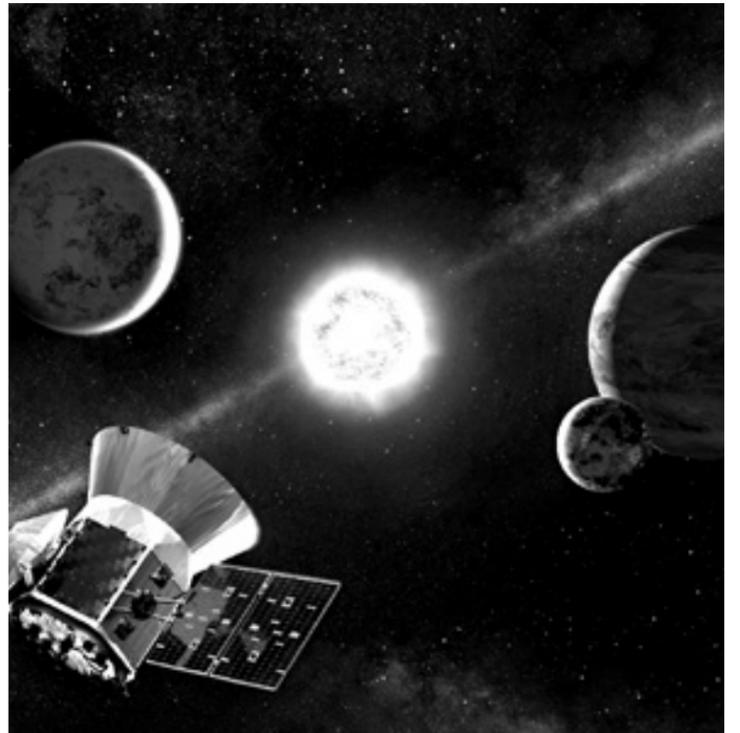
Of this enormous number of new planets, as many, they speculate, as 20,000, the plan is to come up with the masses and orbits of some 50 that are less than four times the size of Earth. The exploration team plans 80 nights of searching a year for five years on a spectrograph called Harps North (High Accuracy Radial Velocity Planet Searcher). It resides on an Italian telescope in the Canary Islands, a Spanish possession off the coast of Africa.

Harps can measure the mass of a planet and help distinguish its composition and structure. The budget for TESS is \$200 million, considered small by NASA compared to other projects.

So what does the spacecraft look like? Does it resemble spacecraft in science fiction movies? It is reported that it is the size of bulky, oddly-shaped refrigerator. The spacecraft will ascend on SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, from Elon Musk's rocket company about whom we have written previously. On top of the spacecraft will be four small cameras, each with a 24 degree field of vision. The cameras will spend some 27 days at a time in a spot, and then move on. During the first year, the entire southern hemisphere will be scrutinized. In the second year, the plan is to view the northern sky.

The scale of this study is amazing. Dr. Ricker and his colleagues are working with a list of some 200,000 stars! For life as we know it, a planet must have temperatures that allow liquid water, and there must be enough stability with their sun not to destroy potential life with violent solar flares, which rain radiation lethal to life.

Here's another astronomy development. Astronomers using the Hubble Space Telescope have found the farthest star ever observed from Earth. The star is 9 billion light years away from earth. This observation came about from the fortuitous alignment of a mas-



With the launch of the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite the search for distant planets shifts into high gear.

sive galactic cluster. The cluster warped the starlight, bending it to Earth and magnifying the starlight some 2000 times. Astronomers call the star Icarus, and it is a hundredfold more distant than any other lone star detected previously. This study has been undertaken by Dr. Patrick L. Kelly, an astrophysicist at the University of Minnesota. The discovery was a fortuitous event, discovered while the team was studying Hubble images of a supernova, and the star appeared as a "blip". The fact that this blip remained stable led the scientists to define it as a stable star, and not a supernova explosion. Another reality of such studies is the realization that Icarus no longer exists! In the time it took for its light to reach earth, it lived out its life. Blue supergiant stars do not have life spans of 9 billion years, and in the time it took for its light to reach us, its lifetime expired. The universe is 13.8 billion years old, so to view Icarus's starlight is to look back to three quarters of the age of the universe.

Writing about this topic and thinking about my recent experience with the Mother Seton STEM Fair, stimulates my thinking about the broad range of what we identify as STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, and how different from one another careers in the various components can be. There are many choices to be made. One can choose to work in a laboratory, such as I did as a "bench chemist" in graduate school. One can choose medical science and apply scientific principles to treating patients in need of healing from a wide variety of conditions. One can be a mathematician, and use no more than a computer (or pencil and paper!) to solve problems. One can use the ultimate applied techniques of engineering to do a wide variety of things, Chemical, Mechanical, Nuclear, and Biological to name a few. These choices represent only a few of the many scientific career options.

I was a successful science student from First Grade on (I skipped kindergarten!). I liked biology from

its aesthetic impact – flowers, animals, the outdoors, and more, but I found it too descriptive as a profession for me. I found physics very important, but too mathematical and often too abstract for me. But from Day 1 at it, I fell in love with chemistry, and made it my career goal in my senior year of high school with my inspiring teacher, Mr. Gillespie. It is so important to find your way into the direction that your skills and your interests coincide, and that was so evident to me in the wonderful science guidance that the students are receiving daily at Mother Seton School. I worry that those of them who head next to public school will not all receive the personal support that they received at Mother Seton, and I hope that the love of science they are developing will have the necessary momentum to bring them to college with their scientific ambition intact.

Of course, science study at college has its challenges as well. I spent 50 years or so teaching chemistry at small colleges. After my graduate education at a large public university, and watching undergraduate chemistry students in classes of as many as 100 or more students, I became convinced that the best undergraduate college education is in colleges with small classes and with dedicated teachers. Science is not easy, even for the talented, and mentorship is so important. There is no such thing, in my mind, as "A stupid question," but the classroom structure needs to be such that questions can be asked at the moment of curiosity without the student feeling he or she intruded in the presentation. My greatest satisfaction was teaching first year chemistry, helping students develop the momentum that could carry them through to STEM careers or related applied professions, such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, and other health professions.

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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

Reaching the next level

Jack Deatherage

I guess it's going on twenty-one years since the offspring asked me to teach him to shoot guns. We ended up at Marty's family farm where Jack 3, was quickly taught that all firearms are loaded all the time! His finger was never to be within the trigger guard until he was ready to actually shoot. The muzzle was to be always pointed in a safe direction. He was to think before squeezing the trigger- what is beyond the target? Where will the bullet stop? It was impressed upon him, many times, that once fired- the shot could not be taken back, and he was completely responsible for whatever happened after he touched off a round. Heady stuff for a nine year old. Headier yet that he learned to shoot pistols- a .25 semiautomatic and a .357 six-shot revolver!

A few years later he was learning to shoot a bow at the Izaak Walton League of America, Frederick Chapter 1. He was also introduced to muzzleloading firearms during his brief time at that conservation club and became proficient with a .50 caliber long rifle, but not so much with a .44 caliber six-shot revolver we bought him for his sixteenth birthday. (Yes, a 16 year old can own a cap and ball firearm. Acquiring the propellant and caps to shoot it is another matter.)

During those years, the DW also learned to shoot a .22 cali-

ber rifle and a bow. While the offspring lost interest in firearms and archery, DW took to the bow as if attempting to make up for lost time! For ten years we drove over to the Gettysburg Archery Club so she could sling arrows at paper targets. She shot leagues scores on one of the JCA teams, and in spite of her vision problems- managed to maintain a decent score over the years we competed at that club. Had she not hurt her shoulder at work, she'd still be shooting today.

My adventure with the bow mostly mirrored DW's. I eventually reached a level of skill that showed me the next step required to shoot a perfect score. I had to start working with free weights, get control of my diet and come up with the mindset to do both. My innate laziness dictated a less strenuous change of course.

Life's ups and downs also cooled my enthusiasm for sending arrows down range. With DW not shooting, and our incomes plummeting as the factory slowly closed, I couldn't justify the gas burnt to drive to the club, nor the membership fee- low as it is compared to other clubs in the area. I hung up my bows and pursued bread building and napping.

Around the time I was backing off arrow slinging the Izaak Walton youth program changed it's scheduled archery day from Sunday to Monday. Sunday being the only day I could attend I found

myself standing as a helper to the Range Safety Observers and rifle coaches on the firearms range. Not my favorite thing, but necessary to ensure each child has an adult watching over them while handling firearms.

Once out of the habit of shooting arrows, I suggested to DW we either sell our bows and equipment, or donate them to some club that might make use of them. The DW, not one to easily let go anything she's put money, time and effort into (which explains why she hasn't tossed me out, yet) suggested we hang on awhile longer. She'd like to start shooting again when circumstances allow. I went along with that figuring my slightly over average draw length bow wouldn't be of much use to the kids at the IWLA anyhow.

Sitting in the Emmitsburg Tattoo shop one evening, Tattoo Don- pillar of the community, suggested I teach him to shoot a bow. He'd acquired a bow from Cantori's shop and was determined to master the thing. While I wasn't sure I could resurrect what little I know about archery I took a look at the bow he had. An older Hoyt compound target bow that would have been state of the art in its day, but wasn't the bow Don needed. (While I could easily shoot the Hoyt I didn't want Don having to unlearn the shooting form I'd have to teach him in order to use it. Better he begin with a bow more suited to his draw length and what he planned on using a bow for. I blew the dust off my target/hunting bow and had him give it a pull. Still too short a draw for him! (I see why he often calls himself a goon! And I thought I had ape arms!) Off to JCA's shop we went.

While June was ordering parts to convert my bow to Don's needs



In a world of instant self-gratification, Jack has stumbled on an older method of inducing pleasure - teaching.

I went to the Gettysburg Archery Club and got Don and myself enrolled as members. We'd need a place indoors to shoot until Don had a solid grasp of the workings of mechanical release aids, pin and peep sights, kisser buttons and blah blah blah before we ventured outside and began shooting the club's course through the woods and along a field edge.

I've hung around the tattooer enough to know he goes hammer-and-tong at anything he takes an interest in. Archery proved no different. In just a few Mondays I watched him go from spraying arrows all around a target to grouping them better than I did after months of practice! At one point he told me I was a good coach. I laughed at him. He's a much better student than I am a coach! While Don was dialing in his form and figuring out how to sight the bow, I knocked the some years dust and animal hair off a recurve bow and found some arrows to play with.

Forty years ago I could regularly hit my mark with a recurve bow. These days? I'm happy to hit the wall and get an unbroken arrow back! Still, I stood next to Don and let fly as I tried to recall what I'd done decades ago. Little by little the motions trickled back and the

arrows occasionally hit the target, and rarely hit the mark I was aiming at. I was beginning to think I'd stick with the recurve when June announced he had a used compound bow he thought Don would find suited to his archery goals.

For a brief moment I was caught between which bows I wanted to shoot. Then it occurred to me that I'd reached a new level. I am never going to master either bow, but I'm where introducing new people to the sport of archery is more fun anyhow. Which sets me to wondering why so many archers I know seem to avoid coaching.

Some years ago I asked Coach Ben Kelkye why he kept calling me back to the IWLA to coach arrow slinging when he knew so many better archers and coaches than me.

"Because you come when I call you. You have no idea how rare that is."

Actually I see his point. In a world of instant self-gratification I seem to have stumbled on some older method of inducing pleasure. I think it used to be called-teaching?

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

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PETS

Moms are seriously amazing

**Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley
Animal Shelter**

One of the neatest things that ever happened at CVAS occurred – probably not accidentally – on the night we moved into our new building.

Let me set the scene for you. In the weeks and days leading up to the big move, we were packing like insane college kids, some of whom may have waited until the night before to load up boxes. “Strategically doesn’t make eye contact with mom and dad otherwise they’ll know I’m talking about me.”

We had a plan. We had help. We had a team that had a huge truck into which we loaded all the animals. I’m not joking about this one. We had dog and cat crates all lined up and ready to go and we had volunteers help us get the animals into the back of the huge 18-wheeler and we took off.

To this day, I can remember seeing that truck slowly pulling out of the old shelter and I thought to myself, “There goes the lifeblood of this organization.”

When we got to the new place we situated the animals as quickly as possible in the hopes of minimizing the stress they must be feeling.

It was the next day that we got our surprise.

One of the dogs, Emily, was in her kennel when we checked on everybody, only there were more dogs than just her there. Turns out she had been pregnant all along and surprised us on the very official day at the new CVAS with five puppies! They were the first new residents of the shelter!

All of the pups and their

mom eventually got adopted, but I have kind of a soft spot in my heart for mothers. Keep in mind, and with full disclosure, I’m not a mom, I never have been a mom and likely never will be a mom, unless some cosmic miracle happens the likes of which could get me on Ellen, but that will be a story for another column.

I haven’t had the connection of another life growing inside of me, but as much as I’m able, I can see the power, the humility, the poignancy of it. I have a feeling if I ever did have children I would likely be a “mother bear” and turn pretty vicious if anything happened to my child.

I sometimes fancy myself the mom of my hoard of felines, but I realize it’s absolutely not the same thing as giving birth.

So I look at the moms in the shelter with more than a little fascination.

We have moms with puppies sometimes, as well as moms with kittens, and I have to tell you, every time I glance into those kennels and see the babies nursing and the moms look up at me with an expression I can’t define any other way than “knowing,” it gets me. Right in the heart.

Then there are the moments when the babies have grown up a bit and are racing and ripping around and walking all over mom when she looks up at me with an expression that says, “I’ll give you twenty dollars if you get me out of this kennel for just a couple of hours. These kids are driving me crazy!”

There’s no doubt about it – whether human, canine, feline or any other species, moms have it rough.

Moms at the shelter have another added issue that absolutely breaks my heart. Everyone loves puppies. Everyone loves kittens. Once the puppies and kittens are old enough, they’re taken from mom, everyone is spayed or neutered and they’re put up for adoption.

Inevitably what happens is the puppies and kittens get adopted fast – sometimes we even have fights over them – and it’ll be a few months later and I’m walking through cat or dog adoption and there are those eyes, looking up at me again.

Mom is still with us. Mom gives me that look like she doesn’t really understand what happened to her and her babies. It’s like she had a purpose, did what she was supposed to do and now she’s left on her own with nothing to care for and nothing to love.

It’s heartbreaking when the moms take a while to find a home.

The moms are often super-special, super-loving and all around incredibly sweet animals. They just get overlooked because of their age or their breed or the fact that everyone wants the puppies and the kittens.

Do you know I had someone literally just the other day say to me as I was snuggling with one of the smallest kittens we have, “Isn’t she the sweetest? It’s a shame they grow into cats.”

I had to turn away because my reaction was not terribly friendly. Can you imagine? Of course they turn into cats! That’s nature! It’s what happens!

It’s incredibly frustrating and likely one of the reasons our older animals – and moms especially – tend to stay in the kennels longer.

And so, with the time of year and the talk of motherhood, let’s give a shout out to all the moms out there.

If you think about it from a purely biological perspective, moms are the only beings on the planet to actually give birth to another living creature, only to have that being eventually grow up and leave the nest or home. That, in and of itself, has to be one of the toughest aspects of motherhood – to care for another creature so deeply only to have nature dictate that the relationship won’t be one-on-one forever.

What strength that takes.

Moms (and some dads – Father’s Day is coming up next month, after all) are typically the ones we go to when we need nourishment or comfort or an ear to listen or advice or maybe just a warm hug. They give and give and give and it’s incredibly impressive.

In fact, the mom I started this column about, Emily, actually was called upon to nurse another litter of puppies after hers were ready to move to hard food – and she did! Can you believe

it? Have you ever seen the photos online of a mama cat nursing a baby squirrel?

Moms are seriously amazing.

My mom (and my pop too) are a huge part of the reason I am who I am and I’m incredibly grateful for that every day.

So with Mother’s Day coming up, let’s take a moment and thank all the moms out there – both two-legged and four-legged and remember they really are the heartbeat of the family.

Jennifer Vanderau is the Director of Communications for the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter, Chambersburg, and can be reached at cvascomm@cvas-pets.org. The shelter accepts both monetary and pet supply donations. For more information, call the shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit the website www.cvas-pets.org. CVAS also operates thrift stores in Chambersburg and Shippensburg. Help support the animals at the shelter by donating to or shopping at the stores.

Moms seeking forever homes



Kennah is a 5-year-old gray-and-white girl who came into the shelter very pregnant. We got her into foster care right away and she had her babies and now she needs to find a home. Can you help with sweet mama out?



Rhea likes to just hang out and watch what’s going on around her. She’s 5-year-old calico girl who had a litter of kittens a while ago and really needs to find a home of her own.



Ragu had a litter of kittens and we named the whole family after pasta! This sweet brown-tabby came into the shelter as a stray, so we don’t have a lot of information about her, but we do know she’s quite a lovebug and a mama looking for a good home.

For more information about Kennah, Rhea or Ragu contact the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit their website at www.cvas-pets.org.

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Snake bite

Kimberly Brokaw DVM
Walkersville Vet Clinic

It was 6 pm and my vet tech called me. A client had just gotten home from work. When she went out to feed her horses, she noticed that her horse's head was swollen from being bitten by a snake. I listened carefully to her history. As it was 38 degrees outside, and snakes are usually not active in the cold, I was already skeptical about the snake bite. I thought about other possible causes of the horse's swollen head.

I'd been to the farm several months ago when one of Mrs. Green's other horses had coliced. Mrs. Green owns a small farm with a horse barn and riding ring. She rides a few times a week but other than a quick walk down the road and back, she never takes her horses off the property. The horses are loved and well cared for. They are well fed and receive frequent vet and farrier care. However based on how worried she was when I treated a mild colic for her, I also knew that she tended to be overly concerned with minor health issues.

When I arrived at the farm, Mrs. Green told me that she thought she had seen a little swelling on her horse yesterday but it had gotten dramatically worse while she was at work. She was not overreacting. Her horse had thick yellow snot pouring out of her nostrils, the entire head was swollen and pus was oozing from the horse's throat. I immediately told her Mrs. Green that this was not a snake bite but that I was instead highly suspicious this was strangles. Strangles is a very contagious respiratory infection caused by the bacteria *streptococcus equi*. Signs of infection include fever, snotty nose, swollen, and abscessed lymph nodes.

Mrs. Green assured me that she didn't take her horse anywhere recently and no other horses came on to the property. However another one of her horses was also starting to act a little sick. After a quick physical exam of her other horse who also had snotty nose and a single swollen lymph node, I told her I was almost positive that this was strangles and that perhaps a visiting friend had brought the disease onto the property. A nasal swab lab test could confirm the diagnosis in a few days.

It was then that Mrs. Green told me that an unlicensed equine lay dentist had come and floated the horses teeth about 10 days ago. The incubation period for *strep equi* is 3-21 days. I told Mrs. Green that the lay dentist was the likely source of infection. The dentist had probably forgotten to clean his tools between barns and had floated the teeth of a horse who was shedding strep. Horses can shed strep bacteria and not show obvious signs of illness. Some horses will carry the bacteria in their guttural pouches of the throat, and periodically shed the organism and infect other horses. Multiple antibiotic flushes of the guttural pouches can clear the bacteria and prevent these horses from causing outbreaks, if the owner is aware that their horse is carrying the bacteria and receives treatment.

Unlike human dentists who have long training and required licensure, in some states, equine lay dentists do not have to go to training to call themselves dentists. While some are very knowledgeable and skilled, others do not know proper floating techniques and have minimal knowledge of basic hygiene and transmission of bacteria and viruses. Any time dental tools are not cleaned correctly between uses, infections can be spread.

While I always recommend that show horses and horses that travel off the farm receive an intranasal strangles vaccine (or a blood test titer to show that the horse is immune), Mrs. Green is the type of client that I would consider low risk. Her stay at home horses would be horses who might skip the vaccine. Usually, horses who are not showing or exposed to other horses don't get infected with strangles. Unfortunately, her horses were infected due to human error. Luckily her horses have responded well to antibiotic treatment and are on the mend. One of the things I have learned from this is that in addition to asking people if they plan to take their horse places where they are exposed to other horse, I will also be asking if they have other possible sources of exposure. This includes asking if they use a good dentist that understands disease transmission and cleans his tools.

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



Strangles is one of the most common equine diseases in horses. It is a highly contagious infection of the upper respiratory tract caused by the bacteria *Streptococcus equi*, yet easily preventable with a simple vaccine.



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THE MASTER GARDENER

Mulching and turf

Phil Peters, Adams County Master Gardener PSU

Charlie Metz, Frederick County Master Gardener (UM)

May brings out the gardener in everyone. The two biggest chores that most people do, whether a gardener or not, is mulching and worrying with their lawns.

Putting a good application of mulch on the beds accomplishes several things that cut down on stress. A layer two to four inches thick will keep soil cool, as the air trapped in the mulch insulates the ground. It also prevents soil from being splashed onto the plant leaves, thereby reducing the incidence of fungal diseases and unsightly dirt on the plant. Applied evenly, it provides a neat and pleasing look to the garden. Most importantly, a mulch layer helps the soil retain any moisture that does fall, since the same trapped air that acts as an insulator is also a poor conductor of heat that would dry out the soil. Not only are the plant's roots cool, a very important component for plants such as clematis, but they remain moist.

A trip to the garden supply store can be overwhelming. There are many different options for mulch. There is organic mulch, derived from something that was once alive and inorganic mulch made from inert stone or various synthetic materials. There is mulch in bags and piles and plastic mulch in rolls. And they come in many colors and textures: black, brown or red shred-

ded bark, large chunk bark, stone and brick chips in light reds, dark reds, various grays, black and basic white to suit every need and aesthetic taste. How to choose?

You might start by deciding whether you want organic or inorganic mulch. Organic mulches such as bark, shredded bark, peat, compost or leaf mulch convey a warmer, more inviting feeling because their colors and textures are less formal.

Organic mulches are made from natural materials: wood chips, shredded bark, coconut fiber, paper, and leaves among others. Their textures vary from coarse to fine and, depending on which you choose, evoke different emotional responses. Make your choice to fit your artistic vision. As these mulches break down, they contribute nutrients and substance to enrich the soil. To prevent a water-repellant crust from forming on the top on the finer materials, rake them occasionally and renew the top several inches periodically.

Examine the finer shredded bark mulches periodically for signs of bird's nest fungus. This is a growth that forms colonies of bird-nest-shaped cups in which egg-like fungal sacks full of spores are found. As these spread, they make the bed look unsightly. A related fungus, called artillery fungus, looks similar, but, as the bodies open, they can shoot spores up to 30 feet. They can spot house siding or a car parked in a driveway. Remove any affected areas of mulch immediately and dispose of them.

Inorganic mulches offer a selection of stones, gravel, lava and brick chips. By their very nature they convey a sense of endurance and permanence. If properly maintained, they call attention to a beautifully manicured, formal bed. They are most effective in a bed of perennials and shrubs that will not be moved or disturbed often. Planting annuals in this material will leave traces of dirt and signs that the soil was disturbed, sometimes scattering the material, and detracting from the neatness you are trying to achieve. But, if you are trying to set a formal tone for your garden, by all means, use one of these.

Remember that lighter colored materials will reflect the sun's light and may burn leaves that hang too low. Stone and brick also retain heat. A benefit in winter, when stone absorbs the day's heat and releases it gradually during the cold winter nights, this could be a drawback in summer, depending on where the garden is situated and how much sun it gets. Small plants and new plantings are more susceptible than large and mature ones.

A word about using roll plastic as mulch. Keep in mind that, while it retains moisture, it also prevents water from penetrating the soil except where there are holes for the plants. A plant's natural cycle is to use water that falls from all its leaves, all the way out to its drip line. Its roots are expecting this. Consequently, under plastic it may not get enough water. And, if you



Mulch applied correctly combined with a healthy lawn can make any garden look great.

don't cover the plastic, the material may reflect the sunlight onto the leaves and cause sunburn.

On the positive side, the color of the plastic can influence crop yields. Red will help increase your tomato crop, while white plastic can increase productivity up to 30%. Be careful with the clear plastic. It acts as a mini-greenhouse. It is used to increase soil temperature but will not kill weeds as you might think.

The best way to weed mulched beds is by hand. Since the material retains moisture and is not compacted, weeds will usually pull out without difficulty. Mulch the bed to a depth of two to three inches, a bit more if you are using coarse bark mulch. Avoid the tall, volcano shaped mounding around trees

that seems so popular today. This invites insects, disease, fungus and small rodents.

Be sure to keep mulch several inches away from trees, shrubs and flowers. Mulch that is too close can create favorable conditions for disease or insect activity. It can also provide shelter for rodents that can ring the bark of a tree or shrub or devour a plant stem.

Applied carefully and maintained regularly, mulch will beautify your garden while it keeps it moist, nourishes it, and makes it easier to care for.

In addition to dressing up the planting beds, many folks will spend time on the lawns in the spring and many will spend lots of time and money maintaining their lawn.

When maintaining a lawn, you must first get a soil test. A soil test will tell you where you have deficiencies and excesses. You need to know how acidic your soil is by knowing the pH. Many people add lime every year without knowing why. A soil test may confirm that lime is not necessary, but it is important to know the pH.

In addition to the pH of the soil, the test results will provide other important information, like the phosphorus level. Because phosphorus breaks down slowly, some soil tests may come back as showing an excess of phosphorus. It doesn't make sense to put down a fertilizer with phosphorus in it if you already have too much in your soil. Excess phosphorus eventually finds its way into the ground water and the Chesapeake Bay.

Nitrogen fertilizer will make your lawn greener. It will also make it grow faster. Spring is the second best time of the year to fertilize. If you fertilized last fall you probably don't need to fertilize this spring. Your lawn got a head start and probably looks great now. However, if you must fertilize this spring, make sure you follow the instructions on the bag. Too much nitrogen on your lawn in the spring can mean disaster this summer. Your lawn will be susceptible to several lawn diseases if too much nitrogen

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Small Town Gardener

The case for plant labeling

Marianne Willburn

We all believe (as Garden Geeks) that the minds we have at twenty-four will stay supple and fit, able to remember a thousand genera and ten thousand named species at a moment's notice – not that we have much call to provide such information at a moment's notice (at that age) unless we're lucky enough to be interning at Chanticleer or Great Dixter.

It's a bit of a shock to wake up years later and find you can't remember what you had for dinner the night before.

I exaggerate perhaps just a little, but in short, life gets complicated and the ten percent of our brains that we actually use are quickly filled with information we heartily wish we didn't know. 1040As replace Form EZs. Soon you know what 'escrow' means. Once you've passed that electrifying milestone, you very quickly learn what caulk does, how to apply it, and how to make a vulgar joke whilst ostensibly discussing home improvement.

Details crowd out details. Your children force you to recall aspects of your calculus education you were happy to forget the moment you passed the test, and your accountant forces you to recall aspects of your personal finance class you never knew in the first place.

You have an accountant. You have to remember where her office is.

The next thing you know you're standing with a friend in your garden discussing the ridiculous plot twists of *The Walking Dead* over eight interminable but not-to-be-missed years, and when she asks the name of the glorious tree under which you both stand, your mouth opens and nothing comes out.

Never mind that you researched, sought and secured it just six years before.

Which brings me, just as interminably, to plant labeling. We say it's for our visitors, but it's really for us.

There are several schools of thought about labeling one's plants – let's discuss them.

The Bad Plan

Don't label. Try to remember. That's it. Try to remember a specific Japanese maple in a grove of other Japanese maples with Japanese names...in (hint) Japanese – particularly when you're walking your guests around with a glass of wine and speaking your garbled English at best.

The Not-So-Great Plan

Keep a detailed record of all purchases and plantings in a journal far away from the actual purchases and plantings. You know, somewhere you won't be able to see it when your friend asks you what tree that is and you're forced to start discussing *The Walking Dead* again.

The Better Plan

Keep a stash of labels in your pockets with a sharpie. When you plant, plant a label too. When your chickens and/or curious children pull up the entirety of all labels in the garden because they were white and interesting, have a nervous breakdown and spend the rest of the evening with the above garden journal and a flashlight.

The Best Plan

Spend money. Yes. It has come to that. I'm going to tell you to spend money.

However, speaking as one who would rather do without than not be able to make do, I feel I am exceptionally qualified to tell you that it's worth it.

Fifteen years ago I thought I'd just remember. Ten years ago I got a journal. Seven years ago I broke down and left paper hints that also broke down...in five days. Two years ago, though it hurt, I spent real money and bought packets of white, never used, labels. That was good, but the guinea hens were worse than the chickens and the children combined. One year ago, I spent further real money and bought aluminum tags from Gempler's that could be pressure engraved with a pen and attached to a tree or woody shrub.

It was a start.

Today, I'm ordering a Brother P-touch D600, 50 12-inch stainless steel Kincaid labels and I'm not looking back. As the garden matures, I may even think about introducing a bit of technology to my trees with cool, digitally interactive labels from PlantsMap.

Quite simply, I've been to too many first class gardens, looked at too many first class plants and almost wept when the plant for which I lusted was not only labeled, but clearly labelled. The most recent garden, that of Bill and Linda Pinkham (of former Smithfield Nurseries fame), is a perfect example of how labels don't necessarily have to distract from the display. Placed discretely and (most importantly) used regularly they provide a guide for your visitors and a fabulous aide memoire for you.

Cons? Money, obviously. And I know that Chanticleer Gardens in Wayne, PA (which does not label plants) has a few thoughts upon the matter too. They have painted a canvas with flora, knocked you over with shock and awe, and they don't want you to get caught up in the minutiae while you're reeling. However, by the time you come to, there are plant lists and bustling interns to help you find what you seek.

If I ever get an intern, she won't have time to look at you, much less talk to you. I'm going with a label maker. Marianne is a Master Gardener and the author of *Big Dreams, Small Garden*. You can read more at www.smalltowngardener.com

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

has been applied to the soil.

Potassium and Calcium are also nutrients that will be measured by a soil test. Following the result recommendations will be the best thing you can do for a healthy and safe lawn.

Weeds really bother us because we have been conditioned to believe that we are some sort of social outcast if our lawn has weeds. In reality, weeds are just taking up residence in your lawn. If you want to evict them, there are many hand diggers on the market that can eliminate them safely. My dad used to pay my brother and me a penny per dandelion for hand digging. The dollar we made was difficult to clutch in our hands with blisters all over our palms, but by golly we did make a dollar. Our neighbor discovered broadleaf weed control as a spray, and we didn't see his son out earning big bucks like we were earning. So if you want to have it easier than I remember, you can take care of weeds with a weed

and feed formulation or in a post emergent spray. Or you can just tolerate them like I do.

Mowing the lawn on a regular basis is very important to maintain a healthy lawn. Make sure you start the season with sharp blades on your lawnmower. Dull lawnmower blades rip the grass blades and will result in a yellow tinge on your lawn that looks unhealthy. Remember to mow high, 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches. Many weeds will be out competed by lawn grasses with just this simple mowing practice. Regular mowing will eliminate the need to bag the grass. Leaving the clippings on the lawn can reduce your fertilizer needs by up to 25%.

Managing these two tasks this season – mulching correctly and taking care of the lawn the right way – will bring happy, healthy plants.

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

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HEALTH NOTES

Resource garden and good health

Kelsey Shupe
Frederick Memorial Hospital

For well over 100 years, Frederick Memorial Hospital has focused on treating and curing those who are ill, promoting healthy and fulfilling lifestyles, preventing illness, and increasing the quality of life in Frederick County. This philosophy inspired the FMH Green Team to spend six years creating and organizing the HOOD-FMH Resource Garden.

Jacobson, a nurse in the Frederick Memorial Hospital Emergency Department and a graduate of the Hood College Class of 1978, has a knack for seeing possibilities. As the volunteer coordinator of the FMH Green Team, she and her colleagues are charged with finding ways the hospital can implement more sustainable practices, minimize waste, and reduce its carbon footprint.

What began as a simple idea from Jacobson, has grown into the collab-

orative effort between Hood College and Frederick Memorial Hospital to construct a pollinator-friendly garden that supports people in the Frederick area who may not have access to fresh vegetables and fruits.

Today, the lot is bustling with 13 vegetable plots, all maintained by volunteers from Hood College and FMH. These volunteers are tasked with growing crops like radishes, peppers, melons, cucumber, corn, zucchini, crookneck squash, green beans, beets, carrots, basil, eggplant, and several kinds of tomatoes. These flowers have the dual purpose of providing both a pleasing view for those who pass by or work in the garden as well as attracting pollinator bees and monarch butterflies.

Creating a place that would benefit both the people and wildlife of Frederick was important to the creators of the garden. With a habitat designed to attract these influential bugs, their endangered populations have a place

to thrive. The resource garden is now a Certified Monarch Garden by the North American Butterfly Association due to the efforts made to provide resources that increase Monarch populations. Hood's student club, HEAT (Hood's Environmental Action Team), maintains the flower garden.

The process of cultivating the resource garden has been no easy task. It took an impressive team of 76 volunteers, from both Hood College and Frederick Memorial Hospital, donating 385 hours of their own time to plant, maintain, and harvest a total of 1,500 pounds of garden-fresh produce in 2017. The collection of fresh, locally grown, produce from the 2017 harvest was distributed to many locations and communities throughout Frederick County, including the Frederick Food Bank, Hearty House, the Rescue Mission, and FMH Kline Hospice House in Mount Airy. Residents of Taney Village apartments and Catoctin View Senior apartments also en-



joyed the harvest, which was delivered to them within hours of picking by Jacobson and other volunteers.

According to Cheryl Cioffi, FMH Senior Vice President, COO, CNO, and garden volunteer, "Our job is to take care of you when you become ill, but that's only part of it. We also want to encourage the healthy habits that help you get and stay well. Promoting

healthier eating through our Community Resource Garden is one way we're doing that."

According to the Harvard School of Public Health, the average person should aim to consume five servings of vegetables and fruits per day. Consuming the recommended amount of vegetables and fruits can lower a person's risks for developing heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. The Hood-FMH Resource Garden makes it possible for many people, who would otherwise not have access to fresh produce, to meet the recommended daily serving amount. In low-income neighborhoods, access to fresh and affordable vegetables is slim. By growing and donating produce, FMH is ensuring that these populations get the nutritional components they need to stay nourished and maintain good health.

The health benefits of garden produced food are not only for food-insecure populations; access to fresh and homegrown produce is valuable for all consumers. Personal gardens remove many of the chemicals and pesticides used in the mass production of produce from conventional farming, making the food safer and better tasting. By growing your own food, you ensure that what you are putting into your body is safe and chemical-free.

Additionally, studies have also shown that organically grown vegetables have greater levels of essential trace minerals like calcium, iron, potassium, and magnesium. Filling your body with the natural vitamins and minerals it requires keeps your systems running properly while removing the need to take daily supplements to fill the gaps.

If taste, nutrition, and reduction of chemicals aren't reason enough, gardening your own vegetables can easily reduce your monthly grocery bill. The sense of accomplishment in growing your own food puts your mind in the right state for promoting health.

In the future, the team from the Hood-FMH Resource Garden Project hopes to expand the number of plots to generate larger harvests and collaborate with the Frederick Food Security Network on outreach strategies. Working together, folks involved with the resource garden will increase the availability of healthy produce to Frederick residents-in-need in the coming years.

If you want to read more about the Hood-FMH Resource Garden or are interested in starting a garden of your own, visit fmh.org and search garden.

Dr. Maurice Smith is a thoracic surgeon and the medical director at Monocacy Health Partners Center for Chest Disease.

I've been working in oncology for 7 years.

Dr. Smith was just 5 years old when he watched a PBS special on heart transplants and set his goal to become a doctor. Today, with seven years of experience in thoracic surgery and Frederick Regional Health System's affiliation with MD Anderson Cancer Network[®], a program of MD Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Smith and the oncology team are one step closer to reaching their goal: ending cancer.

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Local Firefighters recognized for public service

Edison Hatter

In October 1931, representatives from volunteer fire companies in Frederick County met to discuss the possibility of forming a Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association.

Since its inception, many local firefighters have served as president including Charles Mort (1935-36; Emmitsburg), Omer Dubel (1937-38; Thurmont), Charles Troxell (1942-43, 1948-49; Emmitsburg), Saylor Weybright (1944-46; Thurmont), Charles Mumma (1954-55, 1965-66; Rocky Ridge), George Black (1956-57; Thurmont), John Hollinger (1958-59; Emmitsburg), Harry Miller (1967-68; Thurmont), James Fitzgerald (1969-70; Emmitsburg), Donald Stitley (1978-79; Thurmont), Robert Mumma (1979-80; Rocky Ridge), Thomas White (1982-83; Emmitsburg), Robert Wilhide (1987-88; Thurmont), Terry Shook (1997-98; Thurmont), and Judith White (1998-99, 2005-07; Thurmont).

Currently, Eric Smothers of the Brunswick Ambulance Company is serving as the 2017-18 President with Alan Hurley, of the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, who is serving as the first vice president.

On April 16, the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association and Ladies Auxiliary held their 25th annual awards ceremony to, as Chip Jewell, Master of Ceremonies, eloquently put it, "recognize the dedicated men and women of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and Auxiliaries for their extraordinary accomplishments, courage and lifetime achievements in making Frederick County a safer place to live and work."

President Smothers expressed how great an honor it was to "stand in front of so many volunteers who have done so much in the past year. These volunteers are always ready to answer the call and come through time and time again. These individuals are always ready to take on the challenge and are the rea-

son why the 25 stations across the county continue to grow stronger."

Ramona Ridgely, the President of the Ladies Auxiliary offered her thanks to the volunteers for everything. "You have taken steps forward to make the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association as great as it is," said Ridgely.

Newly appointed Director of Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services and Thurmont native, Kevin Fox, was next to offer comments. He remarked, "The volunteers of this association have many opportunities to improve the quality of life of their fellow citizens," and, "they help neighbors experiencing the worst days of their lives, but we also need to mention the other volunteers who help at fundraisers and ensure those on the front lines have what they need to do their job."

Finally, County Executive Jan Gardner stepped to the podium. "The Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association provides top-notch services," Gardner said. "They save taxpayers millions of dollars a year thanks to their volunteerism."

Over the course of the evening seventeen awards were given out and ten individuals were inducted into the association's Hall of Fame, among them were firefighters from Emmitsburg, Rocky Ridge, Graceham and Thurmont.

Elyssa Cool, of Emmitsburg's Vigilant Hose Company (VHC), won the James H. Stavley III Fire Prevention Award. The award was presented to Cool for her year-round dedication to educating the residents of Frederick County in important safety practices. These practices not only included fire prevention, but also other types of life-saving safety practices.

The Charles "Mutt" Deater Jr. Apprentice of the Year Award was given to Robert E. Albaugh of the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. The award is given to an outstanding member of a fire company who has not yet reached his/her 19th birthday. Albaugh, is a fourteen-year-old, fourth-genera-



Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association award winners from the Vigilant Hose Company: Dave Zentz, Josh Brotherton, Elyssa Cool, and VHC President Frank Davis. Missing James Click.

tion volunteer at Rocky Ridge. "Albaugh", Jewell said, "is always willing to do any chore that needs to be completed to ensure the success of a fundraising event. Albaugh eagerly participates in training and drills and looks forward to becoming a firefighter one day."

Joshua Brotherton of the VHC won the Millard "Mick" Mastriano Instructor/Safety Award. In receiving his award, the assembled audience was told how Brotherton would constantly scour the surroundings of a scene to ensure the safety of his men. He kept up on fire safety measures and shared information with members during monthly drills.

The Mumma Outstanding Service Award was presented to Allen "Frank" Davis Jr., President of the VHC. Davis first joined the VHC in 1977 and has shown exceptional leadership skills since day one, said Jewell. During his time, Davis has served on numerous committees and has been elected Trustee and second vice president of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association. He was instrumental in the merger of the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company and the VHC.

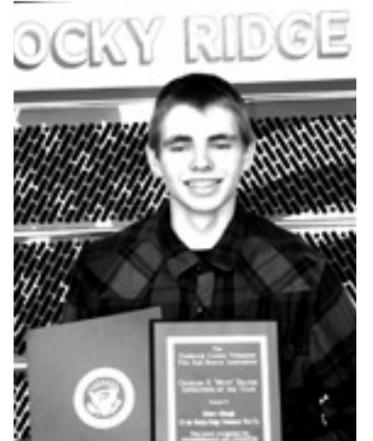
The Firefighter of the Year award was presented to David Zentz Jr. also of the VHC, for his outstanding service. Zentz had 117 responses over the course of 2017. Jewell noted that Zentz is particularly strong with interior firefighting, rescue squad work, and aerial operations. Additionally, Zentz main-

tains the company's computers, network system, and dispatch notification software.

The Michael Wilcom Officer of the Year Award was presented to James Click of the VHC. Click joined the company in 1979 and is currently serving as Deputy Chief. Click is often seen volunteering at fundraisers for the company. Jewell noted that Click is a great teacher to rookie members and is always willing to work with them to ensure they learn how to do things the right way. Click is known for motivating members to do their best, and encourages other members to come to him when they have questions or need to talk.

The Outstanding Unit Award was presented to the Thurmont Ambulance Company for their actions on the afternoon of October 8. A vehicle accident with entrapment occurred on Sabillasville Road as a vehicle carrying three passengers, one of which was disabled, was hit by a large truck. The strong teamwork and professionalism of all the volunteers from the Thurmont Ambulance Company helped ensure that the passengers from the vehicles were quickly removed and transported to local hospitals to be treated.

Finally the Graceham Volunteer Fire Company was one of three recipients of The Fire/Rescue Departmental Award. The award is presented to the top three companies with the highest number of formal training hours per active mem-



Robert Albaugh of Rocky Ridge was this year's recipient of the Apprentice of the Year Award.

ber. Graceham earned this award by compiling 73.8 hours of formal training per active member.

Over the course of the evening, ten individuals were inducted into the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association Hall of Fame. The criteria for induction into the Hall of Fame included fifteen years or more of service to one's company that led to the significant advancement of that company. Selection to the Hall of Fame is voted on by elected officers from both the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association and the Ladies Auxiliary.

This year's inductees included Bonny Hurley and Paulette Mathias of the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company for their many years of leadership for their company. Additionally, Austin E. Umbel was inducted for all that he has done for the Vigilant Hose Company.

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WWI NEWS REPORTS FROM THE FRONT

Food shortages lead to revolts



The German military force feared that unless they won the war quickly, chronic food shortages would cause the German population to rise up, just like the Russians had.

May 3

Allies Struggle To Prevent Collapse Of Belgian Line

Military experts agree that before the Germans can go forward at the center of their present salient, west of Armentieres, it will be necessary to dispose of Allied troops and guns on the flanking hills to the north. While the region where the fighting is taking place is mainly flat, the Kemmel high ground has become a thorn in the Germans' side.

If the Germans were to take Kemmel, it would settle the fate of the remnant of the Ypres salient that still remains for the British after their retirement some days ago. To stay in Ypres, with all their rear communications dominated by the Germans, would be next to impossible. It would also invite a disaster in the form of isolation and envelopment of the troops left in this region.

The Germans are driving salients, or wedges, into the Allied lines and then, when they can go forward no further in the salient, they turn and try to break down the sides from which flanking fire inhibits their main advance. If they are successful in this, as they seem to have been at Kemmel, then it will be

necessary for the Allies to consent to a retreat of their lines, and, in turn, the German salient will be ironed out and the whole affair will start over again.

This is an entirely different sort of operation from the attacks that were made in the first days of the present offensive. However, it may be merely preliminary to a new drive, a sort of clearing up of operations, finishing off one larger advance and preparing for a new one.

Any considerable progress of the Germans will put the whole Belgian army to the north in jeopardy of being surrounded. With each thrust, the Germans draw nearer and nearer to the sea, and the gap between the sea and the front lines, through which the Belgians must retire to avoid isolation, is narrowing. It is absolutely essential that there be a retreat before this becomes too narrow. It is plain from the map that an advance of not more than ten miles would compel a retreat of the whole Belgian army from the fragment of their country still left to them.

Offensive Claims Over Million Men

British losses in men killed, wounded, captured and missing on the Western front since the German offensive began

on March 21st are estimated at nearly 250,000. Estimates of Allied observers have placed the loss of Germans at a staggering figure of close to one million men. From the very nature of the fighting, military experts have pointed out that the losses of the attackers were bound to be heavier than those of the defenders. In addition to that, however, the method of German attack, advancing troops in waves faster than machine guns could mow them down, entails enormous losses.

An inkling of how serious the German losses were came some time ago when it was reported that the German military dared not disclose them to the German people, and, therefore, were sending the wounded to Belgium. Other reports have told of railways being choked with trains of wounded. All the dispatches of correspondence at the front have told how the battlefields were carpeted with gray-clad bodies.

May 10

Austria Spirals To Crisis

A critical economic and political situation is developing in Austria-Hungary. The Empire has been deep in difficulties, both political and economic, for more than a year, and it has been an open secret that Emperor Charles was desirous of bringing about peace. His efforts in this direction, however, have aroused criticism in Berlin.

In the last three months there have been increasing reports that the food situation in Austria was growing desperate. Except for the favored classes, the people are receiving barely enough food to avert actual starvation.

The difficulties in the way of securing sufficient food for the population have created a critical situation throughout the Empire. Famine during the winter was said to have been prevented only by the arrival of 50,000 carloads a grain from Romania. However, even this was insufficient, causing food riots in Prague. The separate peace with Ukraine failed to relieve the situation on account of the difficulties of transportation.

Unrest in the Slovenia district of Austria is growing daily and mutiny is spreading with great rapidity. Slovenian Deputies are demanding a separation from Austria and urge the Slovenians to free themselves forcibly from the Germans.

The main problem with the Austrian Empire is that it is made up of a large number of different nationalities including Russians, Lithuanians, Ukrainians, Poles, Romanians, Czechs and Hungarians, which regard each other like hungry wolves regard their prey.

The Czechs are unified in supporting a Czech Republic and their ambition in separating from Austria. Even the southern Slavs are openly taking a front against the Habsburgs, while the Poles are starving for union with the Congress of Poland.

Hungary, which has plenty to eat, boycotts Austria, which is starving. Almost nothing is coming from the



By May 1918, Germany's three allies had had it with the war. It was only fear of German might that kept them from actively seeking peace with the allies.

Ukrainians because the Bolsheviks burned everything on their retreat, and what does arrive goes to Bohemia to help calm the flames of insurrection in Germany.

Allies Ignore Bolshevik Demands To Cease Helping Rebels

Bolshevik demands that the Allies cease their activities at Vladivostok have brought no official statements from the Allies. The Bolsheviks accuse the Allies of participation in a Siberian counter-revolt plot.

It is believed that the Soviet government is aiming at the withdrawal of the Japanese and British troops who have landed at the Siberian seaport and are taking over the large store of military supplies there, which they believe they will then give to the Siberian anti-Bolshevik rebels.

Apparently, the Russian elements in Siberia that oppose the Bolsheviks found it impossible to make headway in organization without a supply of munitions and asked assistance from the Allies. The opposition elements approached the foreign consuls at Vladivostok, but were informed they could not act in such a matter. It is understood that the Siberian agents found that if they were to have any help at all it must come in the form of gaining access to the munitions at Vladivostok, which the Allies now control.

May 17

German Dog Defects To Doughboys

Americans participated in the successful French assault in the Aspremont forest. Slightly to the east of the section raided, American patrols created a diversion. One patrol entered Apremont village, which was found deserted. This provoked a German barrage while the men were returning.

Another patrol cut the enemy's first system of barbed wire and was engaged on the second entanglement, ten-yards from the trenches, when fifteen Germans, using rifles, bombs and pistols, attacked it. The Americans fought for fifteen minutes before retiring, without suffering casualties, on the approach of

the enemy's reinforcements.

The Americans did, however, capture a German trench dog. The American troops adopted the dog, naming him 'Fritz.' Each soldier gave a portion of their rations to their new canine ally and said he ate as if starved. Fritz, when offered the opportunity to return to his own lines, refused to leave the American trench, whereupon he was 'officially enlisted' into the American Army.

Allies Await Renewal Of German Offensive

Another week has passed without a renewal by the Germans of their offensive. A new effort by the enemy has been looked for almost every day, but no effort has been made to start one so far. Possibly the Germans have been waiting for some Allied counter-blow, which they felt able to withstand, and therefore, hoped would be dealt.

If this was the case they must have been disappointed by the waiting attitude of General Foch, which will now compel the enemy to reveal his further purpose with little delay. With the American forces now rapidly swelling to formidable numbers, time is not something he can afford to squander.

If, as it is considered certain, the Germans have employed such time as they have to build up the machinery for a new attack on probably an even greater scale than before, it is equally sure that the Allied armies under unified command have not neglected to employ the interval in making every preparation possible to meet the German blow.

German Submarine Campaign Sinking Fast

The effectiveness of the German submarine campaign is declining. The number of German submarines sunk hit an all-time high in April, May and June of 1917 when 600,000 tons of shipping were sunk. In July it declined, and by November it fell below 400,000 tons, and has diminished continuously since then.

On the other hand, the number of submarines destroyed has increased progressively since January in such proportion that the effectiveness of enemy squadrons cannot be maintained.

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With Russia in the grip of chaos, the Russian people looked to the Allies to help form a new government that would overthrow their new Bolshevik masters.

The number of U-boats destroyed this year was far greater in each month than the number constructed in the same month. Meanwhile, new allied merchant ships are being launched faster than they are sunk.

The decrease in the number of submarines has a decided effect on German morale. Every submarine sent to the bottom carries with it a trained crew, which is becoming increasingly harder to replace.

The most conclusive evidence we have seen of the failure of the enemy submarine campaign is the huge American Army in France and the hundreds of thousands of tons of stores brought across the Atlantic. These troops and munitions of war stand as irrefutable proof of the protective powers of the British and American Navies.

May 24

Allies Block German Far East Ambitions

Japan and China have been informed by the Allied governments that they have arranged for Allied military cooperation to meet the dangers threatening the peace of the Far East from German penetration.

Japan, under treaty with England, felt itself chargeable with maintaining the security of the Far East. When German influence first began to manifest itself in Siberia the Japanese government put plans in place for a military occupation of portions of Siberia, as far west as the Ural mountains.

The Allies feared that Japan's invasion of Siberia on the Russian people would be misunderstood, and that the Japanese occupation would throw Russia into the arms of Germany. Therefore, Tokyo's project was postponed.

Meanwhile, consideration is being given to how to best aid the Russian people to repel further German aggressions and penetrations into Russia in violation of the Brest-Litovsk treaty. The Allied powers have been giving much attention to the possibility of a military demonstration in the north of Russia, where a new expeditionary force in the shape of British and French soldiers landed at Kola, and occupied this Russian territory to prevent the Germans from occupying it.

The success of such an enterprise, however, will depend upon the atti-

tude of the Russian government and it will be undertaken only if a majority of the Russian people wish it.

Desire For Unity Evident In Russia

Fragmentary reports and dispatches are giving the impression that leaders of Russia, working in Allied countries, are casting about for ways to restore the unity of Russia. Rumors center on Russian military men who are still loyal to the Kerensky government, of which the Russian Ambassador to Washington and his staff are still accredited diplomatic representatives, departing from the United States.

Kerensky's recovery from a prolonged illness and his trip to Siberia are considered especially significant. The reason for Kerensky's trip to Siberia is probably that he saw the best chances there to form a new national government. One advantage of this plan, it is argued, would be to capitalize on the strong anti-German and thoroughly Russian sentiment in Siberia. Some Russian leaders in this country openly advocate the idea that Russia's rehabilitation may be brought about through Siberia. The plan, they propose, is to set up a strong government there, with Allied cooperation, and thus lay the steps for assistance of the Allies. By doing so, this will avoid any suggestion that the Allied forces invaded Russia, but suggest instead that they came at the invitation of a new Russian government inside Siberia.

Food Situation In Germany Worsens

The food situation in Germany is the most critical it has been so far. Even with the reduced ration plan now in effect, the country will not have enough food to carry the population through to the next harvest, and further reductions will have to be made.

It was hoped that grain would be forthcoming in large quantities from the Ukraine. When this hope vanished, the German government saw that the reduction must be made. Germany began consuming her 1917 wheat crop two months before they intended to start on it. The German potato crop has not turned out nearly as well as German interests had hoped.

Announcements that bread rations are to be reduced have caused grave apprehension throughout Germany. So-

cialist German newspapers speak of the surprise which the German people will feel when they realize that they must suffer more deprivations while they were counting on an improvement of the food situation based on what has been said about supplies of wheat coming from the recently conquered Ukraine and Romania.

Even more critical than the German food situation is that of Austria's food crisis. The food supplies are only sufficient enough to feed Hungary and the Army, and Austria could expect nothing but its own harvest.

It is reported that Germans are living for weeks almost entirely on mushrooms gathered in the forest outside the towns in which they live. People often faint in the streets from hunger. The health of many is such that they could hardly stand, to say nothing of work, and things are getting worse every day. Even the soldiers do not have sufficient food. They are not only sick of war but also thoroughly apathetic regarding it. It is a common sight to see soldiers begging for food.

The worst three months - June, July, and August - are yet to come. Last year there was almost nothing to eat in those months but cucumbers and fruit. Typhus and dysentery became epidemic. The people fear the prospects of these three months now.

Unrest Grows In Austria-Hungary

Martial law has been proclaimed in Bohemia. Outbreaks have occurred in many towns in the Kingdom. Accounts of great gatherings where the population demanded food and the end to the war forced the Austrian government to declare martial law. Prague was adorned with the Czech colors and the Slav tri-color flag.

Meanwhile, protests are growing across the Austrian-Hungarian Empire against the deepening of the alliance between Austria and Germany. The alliance is seen in Hungary as an obstacle to Hungary's aspirations for political and economic independence.

May 31

Germans Renew Offensive On Western Front

On Monday, Germany resumed her drive for a decision on the Western front after a lapse of nearly four weeks, striking in the north between Rheims and Soissons and in Flanders, or the northerly side of the Lys salient

While it is too early for the true German intention to be disclosed, the effort apparently is simultaneously to push through to the Channel ports in the north, thus breaking up the British front, and to strike for Paris in the south, an effort aimed mainly at the French.

The southerly blow, which covers the front of some 40 miles and apparently is by far the more important of the two, has come at a point that had not been considered the most probable field for the renewal of the German attempts. The fact that both British and French troops are found holding this front, however, gives indication that General Foch, the allied Commander-In-Chief, has hardly been caught napping and has large forces massed there.

The stroke in Flanders, while of far less magnitude, covering the front of less than 10 miles, is nevertheless aimed at points which the Germans must take before they can hope to carry their April advance further towards the coast.

The Germans, striking south in the opening of their new offensive, have pushed on rapidly and affected a crossing of the Aisne River. This represents a front nearly 20 miles long. The battle is continuing fiercely, the brunt of it being borne by the French, before whose lines there was seemingly the greatest concentration for the enemy effort.

There is no indication that the British right flank was materially affected by the shock. The left flank, however, felt the effect of the impact upon the French front further west, where crossing of the Aisne was forced, and the British left was obliged to fall back in conformity.

Although there was an extremely heavy concentration of troops for the limited front attack, the German attack in Flanders was evidently a secondary affair, not even on the scale of some of the previous offensive movements there.

Army officers here see a political, as well as a military purpose in the unexpected direction of the German drive between Soisson and Rheims. Their theory is that the Germans are aware of the great advantage to the Allies through the broad powers bestowed upon General Foch. The reason for choice of locale of their present effort is interpreted as an assault upon this unified command.

The German movement, it was explained, is probably a test of this unity of command, and the Germans seek to compel the British to rush to the aid of the French, as the French went to the aid of the British when the Channel ports were threatened.

The chief advantage of the Germans, in their swift advances of the last few days, is said not to be so much in the capture of territory or even the prisoners, but in the strain their strategy puts upon the army of reserves.

If the British and French must dispatch large numbers of reservists to the region of the present activity, it means that they must be withdrawn from Amiens and from the stronger defens-

es built up for the Channel ports. To get them back again means a considerable detour behind the semicircular line, which the Germans have marked by their penetrations.

In other words, the Allies must defend two far-distance points, and assure the safety of the long distances between them. By placing before them this problem, the Germans hope to avoid a significant concentration of troops for a heavy counterattack.

Russia Still Big Factor In War

Every day the Germans are providing fresh fuel for the fire of German hatred which is burning as red as the revolutionary flags that wave over the Russian Embassy in Berlin. The German action in the Ukraine, while pleasing to a few, is setting many violently against them.

Polish legionnaires and Germans have fought a pitched battle with 75,000 on each side. All this tends to increase the number of forces needed by the Germans in the East. The Allies should realize that the revolution keeps many German troops employed here.

From all parts of the occupied territory come fresh tales of the resentment against Germans' strictness and greed. Here is a small thing, but it will illustrate the way in which the Germans exasperate the peasantry: it is the general registration of hens. Every hen has to produce three eggs weekly. Any hen that does not must be brought in person to satisfy the Germans that it can still lay eggs. Hens that are no longer able to lay eggs must be given to the Germans where they are then butchered for their meat.

There are thousands of similar stories, and everyday peasant risings here, and they are causing a perpetual conflict not only between the Germans and the peasants, but also between the Germans and the classes they appointed to rule the states they now occupy.

There are two marked tendencies in Eastern Europe. The masses are becoming more definitely anti-German, while the privileged classes are looking more eagerly to Germany to save them from the masses.

To read past editions of News Reports From the Front visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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HISTORY

Helman's History of Emmitsburg

James Helman
Edited by the Emmitsburg
Historical Society

Part 12

Runaway slaves

During the days of slavery many Negroes, slaves in Virginia and Maryland, ran away from their masters, their object was to enter Pennsylvania at the nearest point. Many came through Emmitsburg; some thought our town was in Pennsylvania, others, more knowing ones, avoided the town, knowing there were Negro catchers, as they were called, white men who watched for these escaping slaves for the reward; it ranged from \$50 to \$500. A few were arrested in the town; as a general rule they gained their freedom once they arrived here. As many as a dozen would travel together, armed with clubs and pistols. It was dangerous to attempt to arrest such a body. Slaves have escaped from their owners here.

Felix Taney and Dr. James Shorb each had quite a number to run away; others a few. We were too near the Mason and Dixon line for slavery to exist. It was only by the kindest treatment they could be kept. The free black people living here, and we always had more free than slave, were helpers of these absconding slaves; some of them were very loud in denouncing the Negro catchers, amongst the number Roderick Dorsey, who lived on the street up town. James McCullough got up the following trick on Roderick: He blacked his face and dressed in old clothes; arrangements were made for the boys, large and small, to run him up town, to



Yes, it is hard to believe, but at one time Main Street in Emmitsburg was once adorned with mighty oak trees that provided shade its whole width and length. Ah for the days of horses...

take shelter with Roderick, which he did; as soon as he entered the house and told who he was (a runaway) Roderick closed the door. McCullough crept under the bed. Soon the boys were outside yelling a runaway in Dorsey's house. McCullough rose up, upsetting the bed and escaped through the back door, the boys opened the front door and filed through the house after McCullough, this raised Roderick's wrath.

Trees on the Streets

This locality was called Poplar Grove, which tells us poplar trees grew here. No doubt the streets in early time were shaded by poplar trees. As late as 1850 poplar trees as thick as a flour barrel stood in front of Grover's house (now Chas. Zeek), in front of John Barry, a row in front of Dr. Taney's house; at different places in the town single trees stood, also locust trees as large; one in front of Mary

Knox's house, Joseph Moritz and many others, showing locust was the second setting of shade trees. Around the ground of the Lutheran church were locust trees.

Mulberry came in about 1850. The town had trees almost from end to end of mulberry. One man said you could sit in the sun until the mulberry leaves come and you hunt the sun when the mulberry sheds its leaves; it was true. Later the Buckeye and the present poplar were planted. After the fire, P. Smith planted cherry trees along the lot now Henry Harner's. It was a feast for the children. A cherry tree stood in front of the lot where John Jackson lives, long ago. A large locust tree stood in front of Mrs. Blair's house long ago. The locusts were as long as bananas and fine eating, so the boys said, though very insipid. A few mulberry trees stood along the streets that bore delicious fruit. How eagerly they were

watched for fear they should become too ripe.

Deaths and Burials

When a person died, the undertaker went to the house, if in town, and measured the dead for a coffin. If in the country, some person took a stick and measured the length and breadth, bringing the stick to the undertaker. Coffins were not kept on hand as now; then, all were buried in the single coffin. It is within the memory of all persons over 60 years of age, when coffins were let down in the graves by ropes fastened inside the coffins; rough boxes are of recent date.

Pole Raising

During the political excitement of a presidential campaign, prior to 1860, it was customary for both political parties to raise a pole to the candidate. In front of Hen-

ry Hahn's hotel, where the bank stands, the Whigs raised the last pole (the Whigs always used poplar, the Democrats hickory). This was the most symmetrical pole ever raised in the town. This same year the Democrats raised one, a fine one, in front of Devit's hotel, now E. L. Row's house. It was not left long standing after the elections. The great labor of cutting these sticks, hauling them to town, splicing and getting ready for pole raising day incurred great labor; that day some prominent speaker addressed the crowd. In 1844, the Whigs made a ball ten to twelve feet in the Geo. Winter barn, to roll to a political meeting held at Frederick, which they did. It was a curiosity when made. It's the old saying, what compensation was there in it?

Our campaign was the singing of songs written for the occasion.

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HISTORY



The banking House of Annan-Horner once dominated the Square. As you will learn in an issue next year, its support for the WWI War Bond drives will lead to its undoing.

Our esteemed and venerable Lewis Zimmerman was the leader of the singing at that time. After the election, torch light processions; torches hung in wreaths across the street; firing of the old gudgeon; groaning the defeated as the procession passed their houses and cheering at the houses of the successful; burning of tar barrels, bands playing, drums beating. This gives the youth of today a crude idea of the past. One of the evils of these occasions was the drunkenness of these affairs. Come take a drink, was the candidates salute, and the boys took it. Happy day when this style of politics went down. Blessed conception to close the bar room on Election Day.

Vehicles

It is within the memory of some when all means of travel was horseback or walking. In the early days, if a man wished to go west, he joined a company starting from some county town or meeting place in the neighborhood. If a family moved west (Ohio was called way out west in 1825) they loaded in a two-horse covered wagon beds, pots, dishes and eatables, and started. Different families left for the west from this

community, sleeping in the wagon and cooking on the road. The travel to the city was the same way; the merchant from the west rode horseback; the farmers came to town the same way; the young men and maidens had riding parties; this continued until the old gig two-wheeled seating capacity for two was invented; the barouche came in about the same time, after 1830; this seated four persons; the springs on some were bow shaped, extending far out behind, some of wood others of sole leather; soon the sully came in. The first spring wagon had spiral springs, a curiosity; and then the buggy, a crude vehicle compared to today. Step by step the vehicle has advanced, changed in weight and style until the perfect one of today.

Church Bells

The Lutheran bell has been ringing so long; history and tradition fail to agree as to the time its silvery tone first wafted through the air. The Roman Catholic no doubt has been ringing ever since they built the church. The Reformed since 1868 when they built their church. The Presbyterian since 1868 when they remodeled their church; that

bell was damaged in the fire. Annan Horner gave the present bell as a memorial to his father. John Gellwicks, E. Smith Waddles and Wm. Fraley presented the Methodist bell in 1906.

Banks

Annan Horner & Co. opened a banking house on the corner of the Square and Gettysburg Street in 1879, built the present banking house in 1881, where they have carried on the business since.

Auctioneers

Each community has had men whose aptitude for an auctioneer surpasses other men; they loom up from time to time and serve the people. An old custom was for the auctioneer when selling real estate to get the property started, when bids fagged, he, with bell in hand, walked up or down the street ringing the bell and crying the amount bid, not knocking it down until he returned to the property. Frederick Crabbs was the last auctioneer seen on our streets; he left here sixty years ago.

Item: April 12, 1900, Eliza Smith died, aged 72; April 22, 1900, Dennis Smith died, aged 84; April 23, 1897, Peter Brown died,

aged 97; April, 1901, Maria Constan died, aged 93; John King still lives, aged 91.

Concrete Pavements

The first concrete pavement was put down in front of the engine house in 1903; the priests' house next; Lansinger next; now they are found at Roman Catholic church, Methodist church, Reformed church, Lutheran avenue to church, F. P. Zimmerman's store, Chas. Gillelan's house, Morris Gillelan's house.

Telegraph and Telephone

The W. U. Telegraph was first put up in 1866; the telephone in 1892 and 1902; now both Bell and Maryland have exchanges here.

Brass Bands

The first brass band of which any account is given was one composed of men who, if living, would all be over 50 years of age. Dr. Levi Sheets and J. Vance Danner are the only two living, they are past 80. Since, there have been many bands, they have come and gone like the seasons. The climate was healthy, the associations agreeable, but the ambitious young man could see no

fortune here, and he went west, therefore the bands could not be sustained. They organized again and again; recently there was a new organization.

Societies

Filiial Lodge, No. 62, A. F. & A. M., was started in 1840, in Hysters Hall over the jewelry shop. Great inducements caused it to be moved to Mechanicstown in 18__.

Good Samaritan Lodge, I.O.O.F., No- 46, was started in 1840, in Eysters Hall, where it continued until 1847, when for good reasons it was moved to Mechanicstown in 18__.

Masoit Tribe, No. 41, I.O.R.M., kindled its council fire in Emmitsburg 18__, met every Saturday at eight, run until 1867, when it disbanded.

Junior Order American Mechanics organized, met for years in the hall over Annan's store, purchased the school house at west end, after a short stay sold the property, moved to Annan's Hall, disbanded 18-. Emerald Beneficial Association, Branch No. 1, monthly meeting; fourth Sunday each month, organized 1893.

Part 13 next month

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MOM'S TIME OUT

Timeless Trends grand re-opening

Timeless Trends Boutique, a very unique and diverse furniture boutique in Thurmont celebrated a grand re-opening on April 8th. Store owner, Virginia LaRoche said, "We felt like it was time for a make-over. We have been at this going on nine years now and with any industry, styles and looks change and we needed to change things

up!" The store, which is located at 21 E. Main Street has a very diverse collection of vintage furniture, reclaimed items and new farm-style home décor. They build custom-made furniture from reclaimed wood, creating incredible one-of-a-kind pieces. LaRoche stated, "We are proud to be a company that custom builds furniture from re-

claimed wood and we often save furniture from being discarded by painting or re-inventing it. Our customers come back to find unique furniture for their homes."

Timeless Trends Boutique opened in August of 2009 and encompasses two buildings with over 4,000 square feet of shopping space. Since the beginning, storeowner Virginia LaRoche stated, "We are very happy to be here on Main Street, Thurmont and our goal has always been to give back to the community. We have several programs we use to donate back to the local community and to Frederick County. We match the collections in our food bank jar and two of our largest events are fundraisers for either the food bank or the Heartly house. We also recently sponsored an event for the girl scouts."

"The furniture pieces we build are all one-of-a-kind pieces! Our customers really appreciate the quality and the uniqueness of each piece. We also offer custom furniture painting. Our cus-



Virginia LaRoche, owner of Timeless Trends Boutique in Thurmont, offers a very diverse collection of vintage furniture, reclaimed items, new farm-style home décor and one-of-a-kind pieces perfect for any home.

tomers often come to us with an heirloom piece that they are not particularly in love with and we paint it to give it a fresh current look so it will bring them joy! I am always telling customers it does not matter what it looked like when your grandmother had it!

She wants this to bring you joy and if that means changing it up a bit than that it what you should do," said LaRoche. "Our store is all about our customers, we want them to feel relaxed and comfortable enough to ask us for help or advice. We are also all about family because if it were not for my husband and children, I would not have this business!"

Being in the northern end of the county they work very hard to attract their customers to Thurmont. "We are lucky to have the Main Street program here that focuses on economic development and bringing visitors to Thurmont!" said LaRoche. "I can really see an increase in traffic from some of the out-of-county advertising what Main Street program has been focusing on. If you want to visit Timeless Trends Boutique, they are open Wednesday - Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 12-5.



On March 27, a Ribbon Cutting was held to welcome another new business to Thurmont! Images of U Hair Studio is located in the Thurmont Plaza at 224 North Church Street, Suite M. Images of U Hair Studio is a full service salon offering hair care, facials, waxing, and nails. Images of U Hair Studio is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., and closed Sunday & Monday. To schedule an appointment call 240-626-5701. Welcome Rhonda Brown and Images of U Hair Studio.

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Spring, where art thou?

Kay Hollabaugh
Hollabaugh Brother's Orchard

I love living in south-central PA for many reasons. One of the primary reasons is my love for the seasons and how they subtly change from one to the next. This year – oh spring, where are you? I am surely hoping that by the time you read this article, spring will have sprung and our orchards will be pushing hard for amazing shades of whites, pinks, corals, roses – it is truly glorious in northern Adams County when the trees are all in bloom!

It is not uncommon for people to call and/or e-mail us this time of year – asking when the best time would be to come to see the blossoms. Most years, we can pretty closely nail it. I'm not so sure I can wager a guess for this year. We have silver tips just showing as I write – nowhere near bloom – but it will only take a few days of 70 degree weather until things will really be popping! For fruit growers, weather like we are currently experiencing is really more good than bad. Buds are kept at bay – avoiding hard freezes that can so easily occur in March and April. But I'm not going to lie. I am ready for spring!

We are well behind what should typically be happening on the farm this time of year. We have not begun to lay off ground for tree planting, we have not applied copper sprays – which are used as a fungicide – but must be applied while the trees are dormant. BUT – it can't be too cold to apply the copper, so we are getting boxed into a corner. The trees will soon not be dormant, BUT it's too cold to apply. We have not laid plastic for vegetable planting. We have not begun fertilizing because the temperatures must be warmer to apply many of the fertilizers we use. With the exception of some greens in our greenhouse, we have not planted the first thing. There are over 3,000 trees, just waiting to be planted! Our business – not unlike any other – is all about the bottom line. You want to be the first one to have sweet corn (by the 4th of July is ideal), the first tomatoes, and the first strawberries. This year, we will be lucky to have sweet corn by the end of July, and we already have some large wholesale orders for strawberry festivals slated right around Memorial Day. Yikes – it better warm up soon!

Let's talk just a bit about the first crop that we harvest each year – asparagus! We have cut asparagus as early in the year as April 20, and as late as May 5. It takes warm soil to cause asparagus to push, and the warmth must be during the day and overnight. It doesn't matter if the daytime temps are 70 degrees, if the overnights drop down into the 40's and 50's. Needless to say, we need some real warmth to get things pushing. Once things get rolling with asparagus, there are some days that we cut two times – once very early in the morning and then again at the end of the day. Often this is the case on a Saturday so that our field crew can have off on Sunday. Asparagus should be planted in an 8 to 10 inch trench and covered gently with soil. The pH needs to be 6.5 to 7.

Asparagus should not be cut in years one and two – so that the roots can gain in strength. By year three, cutting can begin in earnest. Asparagus spreads quite readily and rapidly, and it is not unusual to find single asparagus fronds a mile away from our big plantings. The seeds are carried in the fall by wind and by birds. My flowerbed has quite a few asparagus ferns in it! Typically, asparagus is cut for about 6 weeks. Toward the end of its season, the stalks become "seedy" which is the signal we look for to tell us the crop is done for another year.

The health benefits of asparagus are many. It is loaded with many valuable nutrients, including Vitamins A, C, E and K. Asparagus is also a good source of fiber! And asparagus can be enjoyed in so many different ways – other than cold in a dip, or steamed, or grilled! I hope you enjoy a few of my very favorite asparagus recipes!

Grilled Asparagus

Choose both volume and size of asparagus you'd like to grill. It's best to keep them as close in size as possible, for even grilling. Place on foil or grilling pan and brush with olive oil. Season with salt – or any blend of seasonings you enjoy. Grill, turning the asparagus periodically to soak up the oil and seasonings. Probably my favorite way to enjoy asparagus!

Cream of Asparagus Soup

Ingredients:

1 Lb. Fresh Asparagus
3 T. Butter
1 Small Onion, Diced
3 C. Chicken Broth
1 Small Potato, Diced
8 Oz. Package Cream Cheese,
Softened and Divided
1 Tsp. Pepper
1 Tsp. Chives
½ C. Parmesan Cheese

Cooking Instructions: Cut asparagus into 1" long pieces, removing any woodiness on the end. Melt butter in large saucepan. Add onion and sauté until tender. Add chicken broth, cut up asparagus and diced potato. Cook until potatoes are fork tender. Place half of the broth & vegetables into a blender with half of the cream cheese and puree. Then repeat with remaining broth, vegetables and cream cheese. Return all blended ingredients to the cooking pot. Add pepper, chives and Parmesan cheese. Serve hot.

Shrimp & Asparagus Linguine

Ingredients:

1 Lb. Linguine
2 T. Extra-Virgin Olive Oil
¼ C. Butter
Cherry Tomatoes, Stemmed
and Halved
Salt
Pepper
Old Bay Seasoning
1 Lb. Asparagus, trimmed, cut
into bite size pieces
1 Lb. (16 to 20 count) shrimp,
peeled and deveined

Cooking Instructions: Drain and place in a large bowl. Heat the oil and

butter in a large deep skillet over medium high heat. Roast the asparagus until tender, adding the salt, pepper and Old Bay to taste. Add the tomatoes and shrimp until the shrimp is cooked about 5 to 7 minutes. Pour the sauce over the pasta and toss to combine. Serve immediately.

Aunt Ann's Asparagus

Ingredients:

2 Lb. Fresh Asparagus
1 C. Chopped Onion
¼ C. Butter
6 T. Flour
3 C. Milk
2 Tsp. Salt
¼ Tsp. Pepper
4 Hard-boiled Eggs, Chopped
½ C. Shredded Cheddar
Cheese
½ C. Dry Bread Crumbs

Cooking Instructions: Cook asparagus until barely tender. Drain well. In a large skillet, cook onion in butter until tender (not brown). Stir in flour. Add milk and cook, stirring constantly, until thickened. Mix in salt, pepper, eggs and asparagus. Turn into a 2-quart casserole. Top with cheese and crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees about 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.



Events at
Hollabaugh Bros.

May 15

Stir Fry that Asparagus – adult cooking class. Does asparagus make you and your kids excited? It should! It is a sure sign that summer is right around the corner. Come and learn how stir-fries are a quick easy way to use asparagus and any vegetable you encounter this summer.

May 26

All you can eat pancake breakfast. All you can eat pancakes topped with delicious fruit syrups from the farm! Join us for our first an all you can eat pan-

cake breakfast of the season! Enjoy all you can eat pancakes, sausages, coffee, and juice. Then, round out your time at the farm by shopping in our beautiful retail market, and joining us for our Annual Strawberry Festival!

May 26 & 27

Annual Strawberry Festival. Fresh Strawberry Sundaes, Strawberry Pies, Strawberries n' Shortcake, Strawberry activities for the kids... it's ALL strawberries, all weekend!

For more information about any of these events at Hollabaugh Brothers, please call 717-677-8412.

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LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

Blue Ridge Free Library

Standing Events

Monday- Lego and Wee Build Creation night!!! Let your imagination show its genius! All ages welcome. From 4 - 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 'twens) 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 10:30 a.m. for Story and Craft Hour and all of its festivities! What could be better than a great book and a fun craft?

Upcoming Special Events

May 8th will be the ever popular Scherenschnitte class with Bill Hamman at 6 p.m. New members are welcome and old members are always appreciated. Please bring your knives

and boards if you are returning students. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Makes a great family project!

The Library is sponsoring the free academy award winning movie "Coco", rated PG, on May 10th at 6 p.m..

Family Game Night is May 14th from 6 until 7:30 p.m., board games, puzzles, jenga, Wii, etc. Fun for everyone!

On May 15th The Summit Stitchers Quilt Club is meeting at 5:30 p.m., new members and new projects are always welcome and any skill level may attend. These ladies love a challenge so if you are stuck on a project stop by and see what they can do.

The Dining Car Food Club will meet on May 17th at 6:30 p.m., please bring a dish to share (and a recipe!) and we will see you here! Please contact the library to find out which cuisine is being featured this month.

Ladies Night at the Library is May 19th at 6 p.m.. We are kicking off the music themed Summer Quest program of "Libraries Rock" with ABBA! Join us to watch the highly entertaining and energetic "Mamma Mia". Singing and dancing encouraged! Refreshments will be provided. Tickets

will be \$5/person and will go on sale April 19th.

The Fabulous Fables and Films club is meeting at 6 p.m., May 21st at the Library. Movies, food, books, and cool crafts will be showcased. The club is set up for all ages and this month we are traveling to Japan. Please visit or call the library to register.

The Adult Reading will be meeting at 6 p.m., May 24th. New members are always welcome. Please contact the library to find out the current book topic and grab a book and join us!

Join us on May 29th at 6:30 p.m. for a presentation by local author Gerard L. Blake on the Wright Brothers and the development and test flights of the first airplane. Gerard concentrates on the 1904-1905 time frame, following on the heels of their four successful flights in 1903.

The frees movie at the Library, May 31 will be Marvel's "Black Panther", rated PG-13. The movie will start at 6 p.m., bring your pillows!

Frederick County Public Library

Emmitsburg Branch

STEAM Explorers (Grades 2-5) - 2 - 3 p.m., 5/02: Watercolor Flowers; 5/16: Sewing Felt Wallets.

Resume and Career Coaching Workshop (Adult) - May 3, 2:30 - 4 p.m., resume, job seeking, and interview tips and tricks from a professional career coach.

Art Zone (Grades 2-5) - May 5, 11 - noon, explore the world of art through fun, hands-on projects.

The Mount Archives: Uncovering Local History (Adult) - May 8,

6 - 7 p.m., University Archivist Jessica Whitmore shares Mount St. Mary's preservation work and local artifacts, including items from the Elder Family, the history of Emmitsburg, and the history of St. Joseph's College.

DIY Felted Handmade Soaps (Grades 6-12) - May 12, 1 - 2 p.m., create a lovely gift of felted handmade soaps.

Spring Gift Workshop (Grades K-5) - May 12, 1 - 2 p.m., general Library Area, Create a springtime gift for a friend or loved one.

R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope (Grades K-5) - May 17, 5 - 6 p.m., children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

Parrot Mambo Drones (Grades 3- 5) - May 26, 10:30-12 p.m., work with our brand-new drones and circuits!

Thurmont Public Library

Family Tunes and Tales: Symphony Storytime with Frederick Symphony Orchestra (Ages 0+), May 1, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., FSO musicians perform classical music to beloved stories, followed by a musical instrument petting zoo provided by Music and Arts.

Smartphones 101 (Adult) - Wednesday, May 2, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., basic instruction for Android and Apple phones, including cloud storage, Google backup and data usage. BYO smartphone.

Catoctin Furnace History: Identifying Buried Remains (Adult and Teens) - May 3, 7 - 8 p.m., learn about the DNA identification of remains from the Cemetery of Enslaved Individuals at the Historic Catoctin Furnace.

May the Fourth Be With You Party (Ages 3-18) - May 4, 3:45 - 4:45

p.m., it's Star Wars Day! Celebrate the galaxy far, far away with crafts and activities. Costumes welcome!

Chess Club (Grades K - Adult) - May 5, 11-12:30 p.m., for beginners to advanced players. Learn, play and sharpen your skills.

Back 2 Basics Financial Stability - May 7, 7 - 8 p.m., Ryan Cooley, Associate Wealth Advisor with Jacob Williams Advocacy, shares 12 tips for improving your financial well-being, reducing debt, and increasing your net worth.

Candle Votive Craft (Grades 5-12) - May 10, 6 - 7 p.m., using an LED, a mason jar and unique paper, you will make a gift to give or keep for yourself. Supplies provided.

Thurmont Friends Book Club (Adult) - May 14, 7 - 8:30 p.m., hosted by the Friends of the Thurmont Regional Library and open to adult readers in the community who are interested in discussing books.

Friends of the Thurmont Regional Library (Adult) - May 15, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., everyone is invited to be a Friend to help support library activities.

Drama Club (Grades 6-12) - May 17, 5 - 6 p.m., are you interested in acting, costumes, or helping with props? Bring your talents to a new community drama club.

Second Annual Green Team Plant Exchange (Adult) - May 19, 10 - 11 a.m., rain or shine in the library parking lot. Swap plants, bulbs, statuary, and books - anything to do with gardening. You must bring something to swap, no sales.

Curious Minds: Volunteering at a National Park (Adult) - May 21, 2 -3 p.m., Jennie Pumphrey from Catoctin Mountain National Park provides an overview of how to become a NPS Camp Host plus other volunteer opportunities available locally and nationally.

Painting Bookends (Grades 5-12) - May 24, 6 - 7 p.m., paint bookends to match your favorite book cover, a scene from a book, or any design. Materials provided.

Forged in Fire: The Art of Knife Making (Adult, Teens) - May 24, 7 - 9 p.m., local bladesmith Erin Aylor demonstrates his artistic endeavors in metal and other media and discusses his television appearance on the History Channel. Preservation Program Series presented in partnership with the Catoctin Forest Alliance.

Let's Celebrate Pete the Cat (Ages 2-5) - May 25, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Pete the Cat-themed games and crafts!

Story Stroll: Explore a Picture Book in the Outdoors (Ages 0-5) - May 26, 10:35 - 4:30 p.m., experience a picture book in a new way! Walk your way through a picture book while enjoying the outdoors.

R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope (Grades K-5) - May 26, 11 - noon, children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

Tabletop Gaming (Grades K-12) - May 26, 2:30 - 4 p.m., Play games with friends! We'll be on the deck, weather permitting.

Drama Club (Grades 6-12) - May 31, 5 - 6 p.m., are you interested in acting, costumes, or helping with props? Bring your talents to a new community drama club.

SCHOOL NEWS

Election primaries – voter turnout critical for local races

Joy Schaefer
Frederick County
Board Of Education

Next month, there will be a primary election in Frederick County, and despite the fact that the outcome will determine the ballot in the general election; the majority of voters will not participate. In essence, voters who only turn out to vote in November will have already had their choices narrowed for them, by other voters.

In the last gubernatorial cycle, the 2014 election, there were approximately 150,000 registered voters in Frederick County. While 53% of that number voted in the general election, only 24% voted in the primary. That represents a difference of more than 43,000 voters.

Some may argue that the result of most of those races were fairly decisive, especially those that were won by a difference of twenty or more points. But there were a few close races, in that and other primary elections, which a higher turnout might have resulted in different outcomes. This is especially when it comes to lesser known, local races such as that for the Board of Education.

There are seven seats on the Frederick County Board of Education, all elected. The four-year terms are staggered, to provide continuity between elections. Four seats are up for election during the gubernatorial election cycle, three in the presidential. Voters can vote for one candidate per open seat, and, because the position is non-partisan, all registered voters, regardless of their party affiliation, can vote in the primary for the candidates they would like to see make it to the ballot in November.

In the 2014 gubernatorial primary, there were nine candidates running for the four open seats. Because the number of candidates running was more than double the number of seats available, a primary was necessary to whittle the field down to eight. The candidate who came in ninth place in that primary, and therefore did not move forward to the general election, lost by 2,600 votes.

While certainly a higher voter turnout might have changed the outcome for that race, it might be a stretch with that margin to believe that often-repeated phrase, "Every vote counts." But there have been races decided by incredibly slim margins.

The primary for the Board of Education race during the 2012 presidential cycle was decided by a handful of votes. In order to advance to the general election, candidates had to get enough votes in the primary to win one of the top six spots. After the final votes were counted on election night, Emily Ann Meyer had secured that sixth and last spot by a mere three votes. The close outcome meant voters had to wait over a week while the absentee ballots came in and were tabulated. The official results: Emily Ann Meyer lost her spot on the November ballot by 12 votes. A baker's dozen more voters at the polls during that primary would have changed the ballot in November.

There is a lot of focus on November, but the general election is

only half of the process. And, because they are often for small districts or seats that don't enjoy a great deal of media attention, local races draw from an already smaller pool of voters that are statewide or congressional. Therefore the voter turnout and participation is more critical for these positions, not just for the candidates, but for the communities they will serve.

There are few excuses for failing to exercise this privilege of citizenship, particularly with the number and variety of voting opportunities. People can register to vote as late as 9 p.m. on June 5th in order to participate in the primary elections. There are three polls around the county open for early voting, June 14 through June 21 from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. If you are unable to physically get to the polls, you can request an absentee ballot by email as late as June 22nd. It is counted as long as it is post-marked on or before Election Day. And finally, you can go "old school" and cast your votes in person at your precinct, on Election Day, June 26, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Whoever you support, it's import-



ant to participate in the entire process. And while voting is a right and privilege, it is also a primary responsibility of citizenship.

Joy Schaefer, Education Advocate, Frederick, MD. Joy serves on the Board of Education of Frederick

County, Immediate Past President of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, and serves on the Commission for Excellence and Innovation in Education. Her opinions do not reflect the positions of these entities.

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

The end of the spring semester is finally here and this month we've asked our writers to reflect on the past year and the hopes they have for the future.

Freshman Year

The first year

Kaitlin Marks
MSMU Class of 2021

Last week, a friend and I decided to go for a walk after being kicked out of the academic building in which we were studying, since it was so late. When I say we walked, I mean we took an hours-and-miles-long trek. It was one of those uncharacteristically warm nights that blooms up spontaneously, much-needed after weeks of frigid winds and misty rain. While the breeze whirled around us and the mountains stood dark against the night sky, we looked at each other and realized that somehow it happened; freshman year is almost over. A year's worth of changes, memories, dreams had unfolded in what felt like only a few moments. I remember move-in day so vividly; I was so tan, and somehow, looking at photos of that day now, I feel like I had looked so much younger. More importantly, I was so afraid. I have always been apprehensive about change, nervous and wary of the unfamiliar, but simulta-

neously excited and joyful at the prospect of something new. Starting college was so exciting but so new. Everyone around me was new; I was in a new room, with a roommate; my classes and professors were different; my routines needed some time to take shape. Reflecting on it now, I see how quickly I actually did adjust. By the end of that first week, I knew my favorite study spots on campus. I learned that sometimes, I had to ignore my friends and tuck myself away on the third floor of the academic center with a stack of textbooks and some snacks. Other times, I realized the importance of saying yes to spontaneous adventures big and small, of challenging myself to branch outside of my comfort zone and of letting homework wait until after that hiking trip or lunch date or long phone call.

Each month that I've been in college has been saturated with happy memories, nights where I felt alive with the joy of singing in a car or strolling under a starlit campus. August meant figuring out how to navigate the world of college. I fell in love with my dorm room, the quiet moments

in the sunshine while the rest of the girls on my floor were still sleeping; I fell in love with the professors I met, the opportunities they gave me, and the way I could spend hours and hours doing the things I love and people actually understood why. As September came around I realized just how much there is to be happy about, especially at the Mount. From the kindness of the staff in the dining hall to the colors of the leaves beginning to change, throughout the fall, I found myself reflecting and becoming so much more grateful for the person I was becoming. Academically, I have become a stronger writer over the course of this year. Perhaps the most important thing I learned academically, though, was not to study thoroughly or to go to class every day or to write everything out; rather, it was learning to find passion in everything I do and learn. There are so many ways to accomplish a simple task, and in college, you are encouraged to pursue your own path to success as well as to push yourself to discover what makes you light up with a spark of passion. For me, coming to college meant finally being surrounded by people who view writing as a legitimate field;

I've had professors encourage me, hand me opportunities, and help me develop a voice.

This first year at the Mount has been an adventure, and I lived by the motto of doing one thing every day that made me truly happy. Sometimes this meant treating myself and a friend to an iced coffee in the middle of the afternoon. Sometimes, it meant chasing the sunset and waking up to see the sunrise. Sometimes, this meant watching a movie with my friends and sometimes it meant getting all dressed up and going out to a fancy dinner. There were lots of conversations where some weird time jump happened, and suddenly it was 3 a.m. and I was laughing under the stars. There were early mornings. There were service trips, and corn mazes, and trips to downtown Frederick. There were fancy leadership dinners and opportunities to give back to the community. Somehow, amidst all of the busyness and chaos of to-do lists and adjustments and challenges, I found a new normal. I found people I can call my own. I learned to not only accept the person I am, but to be that person, genuinely, all of the time. I learned to take care of myself and that it is okay to take a break once in a while.

Thinking back across this year

at the Mount, I can honestly say that this is my biggest lesson: I believe everything happens for a reason. Ending up here, on this beautiful campus, with the people and professors around me, happened for a reason. Every challenge and obstacle I've faced has made me stronger, bolder, and more confident in who I am. Every joy and celebration has allowed me to see how lucky I am to have a family that is so supportive and friends that are kind and willing to go exploring. Every amazing opportunity that I stumbled into or fought to earn is pushing me towards becoming the best version of myself. Each paper, exam, and crossed-off to-do list item has let me see the value of balance and hard work. I could not be more grateful for the year I have had, and could not be any more excited for the next year here. I know that more excitement is to come, especially in a place like this where, looking back, I can find something magical and amazing in every single day. I'm still the same person I was that first day, but everything I am has evolved and shifted to reflect who I want to become.

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

Sophomore Year

Anticipation

Morgan Rooney
MSMU Class of 2020

When asked to reflect on the semester, it wouldn't be right to start from anywhere other than January. With each new year, many start off with resolutions—some harder to reach than others. Personally, I can't say I have ever been known to follow through with my resolutions, whether they be to exercise five times a week, cook some old family recipes for dinner, or try to pick up the viola more in my spare time. Each new semester, both spring and fall, I must remind myself that it is a new start. I can start all my new classes with a clean slate, and start planning around my new work schedule. It is not about the New Year for me, but the clean slate in the semester that reminds me that I can potentially be successful in the classes I have chosen.

Because I am only a sophomore, and because I didn't formally decide on a major until after the end of Freshman year, I'm only now really diving into the communication program and the potential career paths that will be open to me through it. It has been interesting taking different classes in the department and being able to write more journalistic articles for the school newspaper, *The Mountain Echo*, along with the more narrative articles I have written for the *Emmitsburg News Journal*, like this one. These have brought me to attend events I wouldn't normally attend and have challenged me to think deeper about things on which I wouldn't nor-

mally reflect. Both have been great ways to break down my own boundaries and open up more than I had before. I don't know what my future holds, but I am really excited to progress in the field and improve my writing and communication skills. This semester has really been a confirmation that this is the path I would like to continue to follow and I look forward to learning more so I can expand my horizons.

In addition to communication, I also have taken a variety of French courses with the hope of potentially double majoring in French Studies. This is the second semester in which I have been taking an Arabic through French course, where students learn basic Arabic while the class instruction is in French. Through this class, especially this semester as my Arabic and French is progressing, I have really been overwhelmed with the variety of cultures in the world that I don't often think of. After having taken this class, I feel as though an entire world has been opened up to me. Learning about people a world away only increases my eagerness to travel to different places and experience different cultures. When taking any language, especially Arabic, I feel as though there is no way it could not be a beneficial intellectual and cultural experience. As Arabic is extremely difficult for an English speaker to pick up, and my expertise only includes a very limited amount of the language. Despite the difficulty, however, I have already learned a lot. When I come across Arabic writing, I can't help but to sound out the letters and try to figure out how the word is spoken. It's re-

ally exciting to be able to take the things I've learned and apply them outside of the classroom.

This has truly been a semester filled with anticipation, for a variety of reasons. I have been planning for a while to go on the 2018 summer study abroad trip to Tours, France, where I will have the opportunity to learn and experience French culture as well as increase my proficiency in the French language. I will have endless opportunities to enrich my understanding of French culture including living with a French family and experiencing different aspects of French language, history, landmarks, and cuisine. To immerse myself completely into another culture will be such an amazing learning experience. I look forward to all the stories I will be able to tell. Overall, I will be spending over a month in France and I could not be more eager to go! My whole life, I have always been looking forward to the opportunity of traveling abroad and the day is quickly approaching. Studying French has opened up so many windows for me and is something I really enjoy, even though I may not be the fastest learner in the world. I have already decided that I want to continue to improve my language skills for the remainder of my life, whether that be in French or any other language that I decide I want to try to pick up or learn a bit about.

Coming to the end of this semester marks a halfway point in my college career, which really puts things into a new perspective. Time has really flown! Three years ago, I did not know where I would be the following year, and now I am coming across that realization once again. This 4-year decision offered me a form of security, in

my own mind at least. Even though I did not know exactly how life at a university would be or where it would take me, I knew I would be here for 4 years. As the time goes by (very quickly), I am beginning to ask myself the questions I asked myself three years ago. Where will I go when it is finally time to leave this place? What kinds of careers or studies will I be pursuing? How will the experiences I have here affect my future? What kinds of opportunities will come my

way? Although I am technically already an adult, it feels as if a much more "real adulthood" is approaching rapidly, and it is exciting and terrifying at the same time. The array of things I would like to accomplish and the unlimited possibilities makes the future look bright and fuels my eagerness to take myself there, wherever "there" might be.

To read other articles by Morgan, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

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REFLECTIONS AND HOPES FOR THE FUTURE

Junior Year

One to go

Shea Rowell
MSMU Class of 2019

Every year, as I begin sorting the contents of my dorm room into boxes, totes, and plastic bags, I am amazed by the amount of belongings I have stashed in the nooks and crannies. Under the bed, tucked in the corner of drawers, at the very top of my closet, lies a photo of my friends and I at the grotto, a book from a first-semester class, a handmade birthday card from my roommate. It occurs to me, as I rifle through piles of the stuff, that the year has gone by in a blur. Was it really nine months ago that I carefully arranged those photos on my wall? As I study and schedule my final exams, I realize that it feels like yesterday that I was looking at a brand new syllabus for a brand new course, eager to launch into new literature (I'm both an English major and a nerd).

As grateful as I am to have one more year at my home, the Mount, I can't help but realize that next year, nothing will be the same. The room where I do most of my

studying will belong to someone else, my classes will be filled with new people, and I will feel like a new person myself. When I come to campus next fall, all the students who were here at the Mount when I arrived as a bright-eyed freshman will have graduated. I will envy the freshmen, who experience the newness of this place all over again, and who have it all ahead of them.

And while I will feel a longing for the memories made in the past, I will step into the following year as a fresh start. A chance to return for the last time to the places I love, and to learn more and more about the things I love. This is the gift the Mount has given me. In this past year, I have been in such a rush to finish that paper, to study for that exam, and to practice for that performance, that I sometimes found myself forgetting the love I have for every second of it. Junior year, they say, is notorious for being the most difficult year academically. My coursework this year did not disappoint. But through the stress and the workload, I learned a lot about myself.

I learned that I thrive under pressure. I meet deadlines effectively every time, and generally put forth my best effort no matter what the assignment is. I have, through exposure, deepened my passion for writing and literature, and more than anything, I have learned that there is a lot more to learn. My when-I-have-time-to-read book bucket list has doubled in size, as has my writing portfolio. I have found that my taste in literature, movies, and music has changed drastically. I now love characters I once would have hated, and cherish the harsh dissonance that only makes musical resolution even sweeter. I now find myself seeking out books, movies, and pieces that push boundaries and challenge the viewer/listener with ambiguity. It's cliché, I know.

I have learned, painstakingly, that there is a limit to the number of things a person can do well simultaneously... and that the number is much lower than I thought! Therefore, a lesson I needed to learn was the importance of saying "no." Knowing my own limitations was half the battle; the other half was learning to value my own well-being enough not to over-extend.

My follow-up lesson was this: the experiences in life that I will

remember and value the most are the ones that don't involve straining for a good grade, or working to satisfy some ambition, but the ones that I do simply to do them. The moments when I get lost in the story of a book I'm reading in class; the ones when I am excited to write the conclusion to the paper I've worked on for days; mornings in Pangborn chapel with the bright morning-rays peeking through the stained glass; classes full of students itching to share their insights or indignations about a reading assignment; sunny days in the quad, sitting on a picnic blanket with a book; spontaneous trips to Frederick or Gettysburg; performances in the Delaplaine Theater with my friends by my side on stage. These are the moments I will never forget.

The last three years have taught me that college is worth much more than professional development. As a student worker at the Career Center, I can personally testify that the Mount does prepare its students to transition into the workforce. The skills we learn are worth their weight in gold—or rather, green. However, the Mount experience is worth much more than that. Here, I have made friends I will cherish for a lifetime,

who have challenged me to become a better person in many ways. I have met professors and staff members who are mentors to me as I begin my professional and academic life. Here, I have learned how to manage my own life and needs – grocery shopping, cooking, cleaning and the like. I have grown independent, or at least more so, and confident in my own abilities.

As this year comes to a close, I feel grateful. The Mount has truly been a home to me in my three years here. My roommates, classmates, and professors form a sort of family, united in our love for the place that brought us all together. This year has challenged me, but through the challenges it has forced me to grow. It has taught me to be responsible for the welfare, not only for myself and my loved ones, but of my community as well.

The Mount has given me more than I ever knew it could. Each year, I emerge from final exams, tired and dreaming of summer, but also sentimental and a little sad to be leaving a great year behind. Three down... only one to go.

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

Senior Year

Begin at the beginning...

Sarah Muir
MSMU Class of 2018

The time has come for me to write my last article as a senior for Four Years at the Mount. It is astonishing how fast this day has come, but what is even more surprising is how much has happened over the last four years. My time at the Mount will always be a highlight of my life and I will forever value the education I have received here and the friends I have made along the way. It is hard to believe how I have changed and in what ways I have stayed the same as I ever was. I have always found retrospectives to be difficult and it is daunting to be faced with the task of condensing my university experience down to one thousand, or so, words. But, to take advice from Lewis Carroll, the best way to retell a story is to, "begin at the beginning, and go on till you come to the end; then stop."

I was lucky Freshman year. I heard horror stories about roommates ranging from mild inconsideration to downright unbearable behavior. However, I managed to find an old friend that I spent a majority of my childhood with to be my roommate. She was an education major and I was undecided at the time, oscillating between English and History until my second semester when I landed comfortably into an English Major. We never fought, very rarely got on each other nerves, and bonded over our propensity to binge watch tv shows. After

our freshman year, we both became commuters and while we do not see much of each other we keep in touch. She is now on her way to becoming a magnificent teacher (in fact, she won the Teacher of Promise Award a few weeks ago).

My freshman year was also when I was presented with the opportunity to join the Emmitsburg News-Journal team. I remember that it happened completely by accident. I was at a retreat before the term started called, Mountward Bound. It is a retreat for incoming Freshman to meet people, participate in community service, and get advice from upperclassmen. I mentioned during one of the icebreakers that I enjoyed writing. A week or so later, I got an email from one of the leaders on the retreat, Lydia. The newspaper was looking for a freshman student writer and she wanted to know if I was interested. I sent in a writing sample and the next thing I knew, I was the new Freshman writer for the Emmitsburg News-Journal. At first, I did not speak much at the meetings. I suffer from bouts of shyness and, at the time, they were more frequent. However, the small family of the newspaper was going to mean more to me over the next four years than I could have ever imagined. At the time it was under the management of Kathryn Franke. She was a phenomenal managing editor and to this day I try to fill her shoes and handle the paper with the same grace and aptitude she did.

My sophomore and junior years were a whirlwind between work, school, and my sister's imminent

wedding. By the end of my sophomore year I was the assistant managing editor of the newspaper and by the start of my junior fall semester, I was brought up to managing editor. It was a shift, but I adapted well enough. I think the transition was made easier because my new assistant editor, Shea, is an excellent person to have on your team. Slowly, the paper found some fresh faces and hired some new writers.

When the New Year and the start of the spring semester rolled around, I was preparing for my next adventure. Study Abroad: London. It was the single most thrilling and terrifying experience I have ever done, and I would do it all again in a heartbeat. While I made new friends, being alone in another country teaches you things about yourself that you did not know before. For example, I am not as hopeless with directions as I originally thought (I mean, I am no Davy Crockett, but I can navigate a strange city with more successes than failures). The greatest thing I learned though, during my time away, is that the entire world is outside your front door and yours to explore. There is so many things that you do not know, or could even dream of, and discovering them is attainable.

This leads me to senior year. While it has had its pitfalls, there has been more highpoints than low. Graduation will be bittersweet. For while I am excited to see what the world has to offer, I will miss the family I have made here at the Mount. However, I will always hold my time spent here close to my heart and look back fondly on the memories I have made.

One of the achievements that make

me the proudest is that I have been able to see the writers I have brought on board grow into strong young minds. I have written for this newspaper for four years, and though this is not my last article for the newspaper, I know that soon I will type my last word for the Emmitsburg-News Journal. I know in

my heart of hearts, that the paper has a bright and lasting future ahead of it and that my time with this newspaper will be an experience I will cherish for the rest of my life.

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

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FASHION

A rebellious spark in Summer fashion

Valerie McPhail
MSMU Class of 2015

Without mention of the floral print, the introduction of summer fashion is released, and it is akin to an unrestricted rebellion of formal trends that support structure for a culturally stiff attitude towards fashion. The trends this season never conformed to the traditional customs that reserve white for Memorial Day weekend, announce denim cut-offs as the summer trouser, and reserved glittery fashions as evening wear pieces — rules that frame culture's comfortable idea of the industry. On the contrary, fashion week presented bold white gowns before Memorial Day, Canadian Tuxedos, a conservative alternative to the teenage Daisy Duke short shorts and glittery tops for daytime hours. Unlike the rules that have forever dictated an understanding for how to dress, the runway trends disrupt the framework with repute for the following "don'ts" of fashion.

Never wear white before Memorial Day

If you took poll and asked women if they limit their white wardrobe to the traditional summer season that runs from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend many would say "yes," or they would say "I don't but, my mother does." Customs that confine a person's fashion sense rather than allowing a sense of fashion to

be expressed freely are harmless because they offer ideas for fashion and style. However, they are incredibly destructive for culture's ideas on fashion if taken too seriously. The biggest rule-breaking statement on the runway to date was the idea of wearing white before Memorial Day.

In the summertime, nothing compares to the beams of light that bring life to the season. The sight of an all-white outfit exposes newness or a sense of rebirth that also offers angelic elegance to a fashion that never ceases to go unnoticed. Outfits styled in winter white, which in months prior struggled to make the cut for appropriate white attire, are simply second to this sacred uniform. Among a floral frenzy of Cinq a Sept's Spring 2018 Collection there were looks of full, monochromatic white that broke up the collection instead of presenting a full garden of floral outfits. A bell-shaped, white-toned slip dress, paired to a white, cropped denim jacket was a youthful look. The second look showed maturity, presenting a sash-banded dress, styled with extra long, wide leg pants as the final look to the collection. The brand's decision to show all white looks before Memorial Day, which culturally speaking is socially unacceptable, reveals the bold nature of the brand. Cinq a Sept outfitted white fashions with tenacity, playfulness and elegance. Presenting white a season ahead, before the resort-wear collections is not only scan-

dalous, but it offers a fresh new perspective to summer fashion.

Don't wear denim of the same wash

Before the daisy duke slim-cut short came into being, there was the Canadian Tuxedo. Arguably overdressed with layers overcompensated with fabric weight and coverage, appearing cumbersome against the summer sun, an industry's perspective begs to differ. Designers ran with the idea, offering an alternative perspective on denim. Stella McCartney sent acid wash styles in light indigo and lime green down her runway. A three-piece tee, vest and cargo jean look partnered with a lime colored industrial jumpsuit was a separate look compared to the relaxed, lightweight silky dresses and oversized outfits in the collection, which are normally seen as definitive to her brand. Both outfits broke fashion rules as monochromatic looks presented in the same wash of denim. In just two looks from her recent collection, McCartney breaks an old concert rule of fashion that rejects a one-wash denim look.

With a similar sentiment, Dior showed a patched two-tone denim suit: a double breasted, wide collar blazer and high-waisted pant stitched together by pins. The signature looks appeared singular to one another, creating an overall bohemian collection. The juxtaposition of two separate shades of denim, a light wash and dark indigo provides a break between the matching blazer and jean. The denim suit, made of a wide blazer and jean pant is a modern perspective on a traditionally worn uniform. In breaking the rules of fashion, Dior brings new ideas to old ways.

A head-to-toe denim outfit modernized in Raf Simons' Calvin Klein 205W39NYC Collection for Spring personalized denim with DIY-esque personal touches that lent reference to an Andy Warhol painting of Sandra Brant and Dennis Hopper. A time to customize denim commenc-



Cinq a Sept SS18 white-out looks courtesy of vogue.com.

es, sparking an interest in exploring just how to make fashion a unique experience of customized denim. Tapping into a Western rancher style of dressing, Simons' concept of same-wash denim looks, boot-leg denim, and baggy jean button-down uniforms revived a perspective of dressing outside the boundaries of utility. Irrespective of the cowboy boot, a full denim look becomes more than a uniform worn on the ranches and farms, it has become a resurgence of Calvin and his jeans; a motif of the brand that all ages should remain excited about.

Denim, arguably the most approachable fabric on the runway, was introduced unconventionally for summer. Once practically used as a conventional tactic to beat the summer's heat was redesigned with a bohemian style to counter old stereotypes.

Don't wear glitz and glam beyond the night

Glitter is no longer reserved for the evening gala or the disco. Stepping into the daylight with a sequenced top is fun and fashionable! The sequin, an approachable type of sparkle, brings a party look to an outfit even before the nightlife begins. In his recent collection American designer Tom Ford sent leotard tops and waist-length jogger pant outfits, or the synched gowns with geometric sequined sleeves, down his runway. A pastel pink, sharpened with full-length sequin sleeves kicked off the beginning of a collection of dresses, designed in other monochromatic colors of beige and yellow with sleeves armored in sequins. Notorious for extravagant eveningwear collections, the designer's approach to glitter was presented as more approachable than the Halpren and Emilia Wickstead collections that ornamented gowns and jumpsuits in head-to-toe glitter.

The most approachable sequin statement this season was Molly Goddard's Spring Collection. The young designer incorporated glitter on oversized tunics, which was showcased as a consistent look in this collection. Leaving us with another option in our summer day attire this proposal is potentially freeing for those who love glitter or want to make a bold fashion statement without having to wait for a night out to wear it.

A move to New York City introduced a whole new world, where everyone dresses to the industry standard, with pronouncement and loud expression, creating outfits that demand attention. After fashion week the runway trends trickle into daily attire. This season, the runway encouraged us to abandon the strict rules that confine fashion into a box and shares a bold fantasy for a world that sees fashion beyond societal limitations.

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



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COMMUNITY NOTES

Adams County VFCs - support them or lose them

continued from page 1

Over the last few years all across Adams County a number of fire companies and ambulance squads have already made the decision to merge. This has allowed response times to emergencies to increase as available volunteers have dwindled. Within the past five years a number of the remaining fire companies have been actively discussing mergers and the tempo is growing quickly. However, the end result of creating a merger, as Jacobs noted, really doesn't save a significant amount of money because adjacent fire company facilities will still need to remain open. Fairfield for example, works closely with the Fountaindale Fire Company to assist each other on calls.

Moreover, southwest Adams County has been described for some time as a bedroom community and currently has the highest percentage of people over the age of 55. It also has the highest percentage of the population traveling two hours outside the area for their job. This results in a limited pool of volunteers to draw from in this area of Adams County. Add in the fact that both Fountaindale and Fairfield fire companies already have some of the same emergency responders, meaning the group of volunteers is even smaller.

As Jacobs recalled, local volunteer fire departments used to be a place for social gatherings of family and friends. It was the center of the social scene at one time when volunteers were abundant, but unfortunately this is no longer the case, not in Adams County at least.

While the most pressing need is to fill the ranks of firefighters, fore police and EMS crews, there is a job for anybody and everybody who is interested in volunteering at their local fire departments; no matter how old or young you are. Volunteers are needed for administrative work, paperwork, maintenance, cleaning, fundraising, electronics, even website maintenance. Firefighters and EMTs are crucial for the survival of the volunteer departments but so are the individuals who can donate baked goods for fundraisers, serve and cook food for bingos and last chance drawings, tickets sellers, station maintenance volunteers, etc. All the tasks are important and necessary to the survival of local fire departments!

Jacobs pointed out that while it's imperative that we continually strive to increase the number of volunteers, the long-term viability of Adams County volunteer fire companies depends on our local youth. The Fairfield Fire Department currently has eight active junior members, and Fountaindale has five active junior members. As a junior member there are numerous opportunities to obtain certified fire and EMS training classes, as well as helping at various department functions. All junior members are encouraged to attend

monthly department meetings, station work details and fundraisers. Additionally, Adams and Franklin Counties now offer Junior Firefighter Cadet Academies where a junior member spends a week in the summer learning fire and EMS skills, team building exercises, discipline and respect.

Fairfield Fire & EMS has sent their volunteer firefighters to Maryland to complete their training and to take the Firefighter 1 Class. In Maryland, it doesn't cost to train firefighters and their classes are offered on a more regular basis than those that are offered locally in Adams County. Unlike in Pennsylvania, anyone 16-18 in Maryland can participate in training to include the Firefighter 1 Class. It is even offered in some high schools.

As discussed by both Adams County and Frederick County fire fighter department members, Pennsylvania differs greatly from Maryland in the kind of county support given to fire departments. In Pennsylvania emergency services are provided by local townships/municipalities. The County's only responsibility is to run the 911 Center. Adams County lacks the benefit of a strong State Fire Marshal's Office as well as a strong state-level fire & emergency services training program. While there are some government grants in place that local fire departments can apply for to assist with equipment costs, the grants only cover a fraction of the true expenses.

Unlike fire departments in Adams County and across Pennsylvania, volunteer fire departments in Maryland, such as the Vigilant Hose Company in Emmitsburg, receive a broad range of support from their county government. But as noted by Vigilant Hose member Wayne Powell, needed incentives to grow and maintain a volunteer force in Adams County and across Pennsylvania are lacking on many levels, many of which are driven almost entirely by public policy decisions or lack thereof.

Frederick County in particular provides a range of support activities and incentives to help assure the delivery of emergency services including Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services, by volunteer personnel at the local level plus Emergency Management functions to assure family, community and business preparedness in the event of major emergencies and disasters.

In support of Frederick County's volunteer companies, County government provides salaried personnel who supplement volunteer staffing and also oversee a mix of technical and specialized services ranging from training, centralized emergency communications, radios, central purchasing, insurance, standardized self-contained breathing apparatus, quality assurance services, inspections of vehicles, fire prevention & life safety inspections of public assembly buildings including multi-family residential properties, fire scene investigations, and the promulgation of regulations as issued jointly

by the Department of Fire/Rescue Services and the Division of Volunteer Fire/Rescue Services (DFRS).

DFRS helps coordinate fire and life safety advocacy among and across various county departments (health, public roads, budget, risk management, sheriff, planning & zoning, planning for future and replacement emergency services facilities, etc.), selected aspects of vehicle fleet maintenance, volunteer recruitment & retention initiatives (including LOSAP, the Length of Service Award Program that encourages volunteers to remain active and involved), IT support, record-keeping, support to incident command needs, recalls of defective equipment, hazardous materials team response plus where and when needed provides basic life support emergency medical technicians and advanced life support paramedics.

Pennsylvania's system of towns and townships makes it extremely challenging to use economies of scale as well as comprehensive system approaches to the delivery of public services. Again, Commonwealths like Pennsylvania are governed differently than states like Maryland.

However, as frustrated as they are, Adams County volunteer fire companies are not throwing in the towel yet on recruiting local volunteers. This year the Fairfield Fire Company will hold its EMS Day on May 20. Current members are hopeful the event will be a success and will draw in potential volunteers. The open house is completely open to the public and offers an opportunity for mem-

bers of the community to learn about the local fire departments, meet the volunteers and local law enforcement. Additionally, those members of the community who are already trained are also encouraged to use their skills and talents as volunteers. On special view this year will be a picture of the new fire engine, coming to the department this summer. As a result of Fairfield's hard work and planning, this piece of equipment is completely paid for and will be replacing their 1996 rescue engine.

The decline of volunteers is a problem not exclusive to Fairfield and Fountaindale. It is one faced by all small fire companies across Adams County and the nation. "It is time for our community to realize that they need to step up and help. We're the modern day minutemen. We drop what we're doing to go and help people. This is the type of commitment firemen have in the community," said Jacobs.

"Having a sense of volunteerism for the community in which you live in is something that is in your blood. It's so rewarding to do this and have pride in what we're doing for the community," noted Jacobs. It takes a family, and in this case fire departments are in desperate need of more "family members" to step up and help.

We encourage all our readers to mark their calendars and drop by Fairfield Fire Department's EMS Day on May 20 to talk to your local volunteer fire and EMS personnel and learn more about what you can do to help your community.

If we don't support them, we'll lose them.

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ARTS

Art at the Furnace

Theresa Donnelly

Please join the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society for their annual Spring in the Village, Art at the Furnace featuring Juried Arts and Crafts, Period Music, Living History Programs, Craft and Artisan Demonstrations, Children's Activities, Tours, Food Trucks, Historic/Traditional Foods, Local Wine and Craft Beer. We will have wonderful Spring and Mother's Day Gifts and Decorations for Sale and a special visit from Harriet Tubman! The event will be held May 5 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 6, from noon to 5. Admission is free.

The 7th annual Spring in the Village, Art at the Furnace will be held throughout the historic village of Catoctin Furnace. The ca. 1810 Collier's Log house and the ca. 1820 Stone House, located at 12607 and 12610 Catoctin Furnace Road, respectively, will be open, as well as the restored casting shed.

The cornerstone of this year's event will be a visit at 1 p.m. on Saturday visit from a very special guest—Harriet Tubman! Re-enactor Millicent Sparks' carefully researched living history performance of Tubman will bring to life the famed Underground Railroad conductor and engage children and adults in a profound and meaningful encounter (complete with an in-character question and answer session) with a true Maryland hero. Ms. Sparks' performance will be followed by a presen-

tation from Diane Miller, Program Manager for the United States National Park Service's Network to Freedom. Ms. Miller will give a presentation exploring Maryland's setting as a border state and its unique role in the Underground Railroad. Many nineteenth century African American leaders were freedom seekers from Maryland.

Throughout the weekend local artists and artisans will display and sell their work, the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps will perform on the furnace green, local musicians will participate in an open bluegrass jam, and the Landless Theater Company will perform musical numbers from "1776," completing the ambiance of a village spring celebration more than two hundred years ago, when the Catoctin Furnace was in blast. Visitors to this free, family-focused event will enjoy traditional foods prepared by Silver Oak Academy's Culinary Arts program students, delicious food truck offerings, hand scooped ice cream, local wines, craft beers, and fresh baked goods.

On both days, children will have an opportunity to play colonial games, make handkerchief dolls, and go back in time through creative make-believe playtime at the Collier's Log House. Festival goers of all ages will enjoy watching demonstrations of basket weaving, chair caning, horn work, broom making, blacksmithing and more. Attendees will be able to tour historic homes, learn about our latest archeological findings, enjoy a

visit with a mysterious owl or majestic hawk through the DNR's Scales and Tales program, and attend other special programs throughout the weekend.

The Catoctin Furnace was built by four brothers in order to produce iron from the rich deposits of hematite found in the nearby mountains. The iron furnace at Catoctin played a pivotal role during the industrial revolution in the young United States. The furnace industry supported a thriving community, and company houses were established alongside the furnace stack. Throughout the nineteenth century, the furnace produced iron for household and industrial products. After more than one hundred years of operation, the Catoctin Furnace ceased production in 1903.

In 1973, the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., was formed by G. Eugene Anderson, Clement E. Gardiner, J. Franklin Mentzer, and Earl M. Shankle to "foster and promote the restoration of the Catoctin Furnace Historic District...and to maintain the same exclusively for educational and scientific purposes...to exhibit to coming generations our heritage of the past."

Today, the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., is undertaking groundbreaking research, including bioarchaeological research on human remains from the African American cemetery in Catoctin Furnace. In partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and the Reich Laboratory for Medical and Population Genetics



Looking for something great to do next weekend? We suggest dropping by the Catoctin Furnace for their Annual Spring in the Village, Art at the Furnace!

at Harvard University, this project is analyzing ancient DNA and the human genome of several revolutionary-era African American workers at Catoctin Furnace. Such research, in conjunction with other technologies such as stable isotope analysis, could tell us where these workers were born, where they lived throughout their lives, and what constituted their diet. We believe that every life mattered, and every past matters now; by studying and disseminating the results of this research, we hope that people everywhere will get to meet some of these early workers and understand the critical roles they played in the development of our young nation, as well as appre-

ciate the rich, varied trajectories of their lives.

Spring in the Village, Art at the Furnace is a partnership with the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., Cunningham Falls State Park, Catoctin Forest Alliance, Catoctin Mountain Park, Silver Oak Academy, Frederick County Public Libraries, Friends of Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks, and generously sponsored by First Energy and The Maryland Humanities Council.

Proceeds from the event will be utilized for the ongoing restoration of the historic village structures, a critical need. For more information, please call 443-629-8661 or visit www.catoctinfurnace.org.

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MOUNT ARTS

What's new?

Hannah Ophenaker
MSMU Class 2018

Spring has sprung here at the Mount, and with it so many exciting arts events have taken place. April brought a month's worth of thought provoking events. The first event of the month was an exciting wind ensemble concert, conducted by Dr. Mark Carlson. The Visual and Performing Arts Department also hosted a recital on April 10th by acclaimed Lithuanian violinist Borisas Traubas, with the Maryland-based American Virtuosi. The concert featured Lithuanian and Jewish music in commemoration of "Days of Remembrance," an annual eight-day Holocaust memorial period established by U.S. Congress. Traubas is an active champion of Jewish culture in Lithuania: he founded the ensembles Jerusalem of Lithuania and The Baltica Trio, presenting Jewish music on programs throughout Europe, and he has recorded the soundtracks for two Holocaust-themed movies. He has served as principal violinist and assistant to the conductor of the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra for over forty years. This event is part of a two-week U.S. concert tour. The American Virtuosi composes and performs lively music inspired by their close familial ties as well as their deep passion for music, celebrating diversity and acceptance all

over the world. Parents Cecylia (cello), Charles (voice, harmonica) and their grown children Frances (cello), Elizabeth (piano) and Emmanuel (violin) promote creativity and free thought through their music, which they believe stimulates the brain, acting as a catalyst for growth and development around the world. The Borowskys have toured throughout the Eastern and Western world, most recently Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Ukraine, Poland, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, Jordan, Israel, Indonesia, Korea, China, Japan, Vietnam, and Cuba. It was a beautiful concert that celebrated the Mount's new initiative to increase diversity efforts on campus. Saturday, April 14th there was a small ensembles concert, in which the Visual and Performing Arts Departments showcased some of their finest ensembles in an evening celebrating the ending of the semester.

On April 18th, the Durcharme Lecture series was finally held, and presented the work of Drs. Kurt Blaugher and David McCarthy, and their new book "Saving the World and Healing the Soul". During this presentation, Blaugher and McCarthy discussed the ideas of community and love in the Batman comics and movies and delved into what community and love have to do with defining a hero, with consideration of Joseph Campbell's

idea of "The Hero's Journey." The lecture began with Blaugher, the Mount's tenured director of theater, who discussed the characterization of Batman, and how the community Bruce Wayne has created for himself shapes the decisions that Batman, the hero, makes. While Blaugher discussed the "saving the world" aspect of Batman, McCarthy discussed the idea of "healing the soul" and specifically looked at the relationships Bruce Wayne has developed, both good and evil. He first analyzes Batman and his parents, then the relationship with Robin, the "bad guys", and of course, Batman's many love interests. Their book, "Saving the World and Healing the Soul", analyzes more than just Batman, however. It takes popular, modern hero stories such as Katniss Everdeen from "The Hunger Games", Bella Swan from "The Twilight Saga", and Jason Bourne from The Bourne films, and analyzes how and why these heroes are in fact heroes, how they become heroes, and if they really follow the idea of the Hero's Journey that Campbell presents.

April 19 through the 21, the Mount presented senior theater major Hannah Ophenaker's directing project, "Lysistrata". The production presented an adaptation of Aristophanes work, which was written by Ellen McLaughlin. In this modern adaptation, the women of Greece become sick and tired of their husbands constantly being away from home, and off fighting during the Peloponnesian War. The women of Greece - Athenians, Spartans, Thracians - all ban together to stop the war, using some interesting tactics. The Athenian women take over the Acropolis, causing much distress among the men. Though the play was originally written as an anti-war piece, it has become a symbol of feminist theater in the last 2500 years. Aris-



Students Chloe Corwin (C'20) and Nikola Georgievski (C'18) in an intimate scene from Lysistrata.

tophanes wrote the piece as political satire, thinking that the most absurd thing to get the men to stop fighting would be to have the women of Greece take over. However, in this modern day, women all over the world are interpreting it as something that is no longer a joke, but rather a reality that many are not ready to accept. It is no surprise that women across the world are still not paid as much as men, given as much respect, or hired as much as men. This production was done to prove that, sure, Aristophanes may have thought this was a joke. But women do not. Women have evolved just as much as men since the times of Ancient Greece. And it is time that their desires and demands are given the same respect as any man that walks into a room. To begin the discussion on equality, Ophenaker asked all her cast to finish the statement "Equality is", and her star, Taylor Remsburg, said it best, "it simply makes sense. Inequality is irrational." The cast put on a brilliant show, and presented a cohesive message that promoted equity, equality, and the dignity of every human life and decision.

The end of April brought some exciting arts festivities for the youngest in the community. The Mother Seton School hosted their

"Fine Arts Night" on April 30, perhaps presenting some work from the next Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keefe, or Pablo Picasso. The evening was filled with exciting art exhibits that the best and brightest from Mother Seton have worked diligently on throughout the school year. The evening also included an exciting performance by the chorus and band. The event not only presented the creative works of Emmitsburg's youngest artists but enforced the idea that art and music have an important role in a child's education. Creative outlets like art class, chorus, and band allow students to learn and grow together, and uses positive outlets to express their thoughts and feelings. The smiles on all the students faces as enough to ensure the importance of arts education in schools, especially in an era where the arts are being replaced by science, math, and standardized tests. Congratulations to all of the young artists, vocalists, and instrumentalists for presenting your work, and congratulations to their educators for enforcing the importance of art and music in the young mind.

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

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SPORTS

Catoctin baseball begins with walk-off

The Catoctin High School baseball team breezed through the regular season last year, beating powerhouse teams in the county, including Urbana, Linganore, Governor Thomas Johnson, and Walkersville. Some games, like the 3-2 victory over Walkersville, were close until the end, while others, like an 11-1 rout of Governor Thomas Johnson, were blowouts in favor of Catoctin. The team ended the regular season with a 15-5 record and won the Central Maryland Conference Gambrell Division title along the way. However, the Cougars' season came to an end in shocking fashion in the first round of play-offs to Middletown, the unexpected state champions.

Earlier in the season, Catoctin defeated Middletown 6-2. In the play-off game, the game remained scoreless through the first three innings, but Catoctin pushed across a run in both the fourth and fifth innings to take a 2-0 lead after four and a half innings. Unfortunately, the Knights bounced back and scored two in their half of the fifth inning to tie it

and two more in the sixth to take the lead. The Cougars were unable to mount a comeback effort in the seventh inning and fell 4-2 to Middletown. With that, their season came to a disappointing end in 2017.

However, springtime has arrived, and with it comes a new Catoctin baseball team full of optimism for the season ahead. This year's team will be without Mikey Tylicki and Zack Scott, both of whom graduated last year. However, this year's team will be led a strong group of seniors: Corey Burke, Connor Cramer, Corbin Deviney, Ryan Fisher, Nicholas Ford, Tristan Grimes, Chase Naff, Dylan Reid, and Brett Weatherly. Underclassmen Mason Albright, Cameron Andrew, Matthew Dean, Jack Malachowski, Mark Rogers, and Issiah Wivell are also on the roster for the Cougars this season. After a few scrimmage games in the first half of March, the team was ready to begin their season. Unfortunately, the team's season opener was continuously delayed by rain, resulting in the postponement of the Cougars' first six games. "It was real-

ly frustrating to constantly see rain in the forecast," Deviney commented, "now for the next month we will be playing four games a week, and it is going to force us to go deep in our bullpen. However, the team is happy to finally be playing some ball."

The team finally got the chance to officially open their season on April 6 against Smithsburg. Dylan Reid started the game, however, his day started off with a rocky start, as he gave up a homerun on the first pitch of the game to Smithsburg's leadoff batter and then hit the next batter to the plate. Reid settled down quickly to retire the next three batters and keep the score at 1-0 Smithsburg after the top half of the first inning. The Cougars' offense quickly responded, scoring the tying run after a leadoff walk from Ryan Fisher and an RBI single from Conner Cramer. The team couldn't push across any more runs in the inning and the game headed to the second inning tied at one. Neither team was able to get anything going in the second inning and Smithsburg was unable to capitalize on a Catoctin error in the top of the third inning. However, the Cougars' offense began to heat up in the bottom of the third inning. After Deviney walked to lead off the inning, Cramer hit a double to bring him home. The team wasn't done yet, as Brett Weatherly hit a three-run homerun to give the Cougars a 5-1 lead after three innings. Despite giving up a hit, Reid kept Smithsburg off the scoreboard in the inning.

In the bottom half of the fourth, Tristan Grimes started the inning with a solo homerun, while Fisher picked up an RBI single later in the frame to give Catoctin a command-



Catoctin Cougars' Corbin Deviney sizes up the rival pitcher as he approaches home plate at the bottom of the seventh inning.

ing 7-1 lead after four innings. Reid's final inning on the mound resulted in one hit for the Leopards, but no runs. Reid's final line was five innings pitched, allowing just one run on three hits and a walk. Unfortunately, the Cougars' bullpen was unable to hold and three pitchers combined to give up six runs in the sixth inning to Smithsburg and tied the game at seven. Back at the plate, the Cougars' offense was unable to respond in the bottom of the sixth, but a strong inning from Chase Naff in the top of the seventh inning ensured that Smithsburg didn't take the lead.

The bottom of the seventh inning started bleakly for the Cougars with two groundouts. With only one out left for the Cougars, it was beginning to look like the game was headed for extra innings. However, after two walks and a dropped third strike, the bases were loaded with Deviney at the plate. "When I saw that the bases were loaded," Devin-

ey said after the game, "I thought to myself, 'Wow, I have a chance to win this thing.'" Deviney also commented that he had already faced the pitcher earlier in the game and knew that he had been throwing the ball all over the place. "I had to do whatever I could to make sure we won," Deviney said, "because there was a chance we were not going to get another opportunity like that. If a ball was coming right at me, I knew I wasn't going to flinch." After the first two pitches were not particularly close to the strike zone, the next pitch was headed straight for Deviney, but he allowed the ball to hit him in the leg for the 8-7 walk-off win for the Cougars. The uncommon ending to the game was also the first career walk-off for Deviney. "That is the kind of moments I play for," Deviney said, "giving yourself up for your team."

Much like last year's team, this year's team has the tools to have a successful season and will likely finish with a winning record again. With the drop down to 1A this season, the team will have an even better chance than last year to make a deep playoff run. It has been five years since the team won the state championship in 2013. Could 2018 be another state championship year? It is certainly possible, and you won't want to miss it. Visit www.frederickcountymc.org to view upcoming games for the Cougars' baseball team. The team will wrap up the regular season in the first week of May and the playoffs will begin the following week.

Additionally, check out the Lady Cougars' softball team schedule. After a deep playoff run last year that ended in heartbreaking fashion in extra innings at the 2A West Regional final, this year's team will be looking for revenge and will have a good chance at it. Despite the loss of three seniors last year, the team still looks to be as strong thanks to this year's seniors stepping up and a new group of freshmen on board. The softball team will wrap up the regular season in the first week of May and begin their playoff run the following week.

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Mount's spring sports heat up

Samantha Barbato
MSMU Class 2018

The weather is finally heating up on the mountain, and some of our sports teams are too! It's been a crazy spring season thanks to the strange mix of weather. Uniforms have been hidden under jackets and sweatpants for the days that games and matches didn't get rained or snowed out for majority of the season, but it is finally turning around.

The Mount St. Mary's University softball team has a short season for the month of May, but plan to make the most of it. Starting the month, the women will have a double-header against the University of Delaware on Wednesday, May 2 in Newark, Delaware. The women will head back to their mountain home to finish off their season with a double-header against conference team Sacred Heart on Sunday, May 6. The team will lose three seniors after the season, outfielder Mitch Sgrignoli (#4), third baseman Brendan Dabagian (#6), and pitcher and first baseman Jesse Archambault (#13).

The Mount St. Mary's University baseball team will go to the end of the year with their season, hoping to go far past their regular season. The team recently celebrated its senior day with a pair of wins over conference team Wagner University. The first game 2-1 and the second 10-9. The team honored its four seniors utility player Morgan Alisauckas (#15), outfielder Devon Hutchins (#27), first baseman Shea McFarland (#3), and pitcher Marian Ruf (#34). The team will start the month of May with a road trip to Georgetown for a single game on May 1. The men will then travel North for a four-game series against Central Connecticut University, the first game Friday, May 4, two games on Saturday May 5, and the final game on Sunday, May 6. The men will then hit the opposite direction and travel down to the sunshine state for three games against Florida State on Friday, May 11, Saturday, May 12, and Sunday, May 13. Finally, to round out the regular season, the team will have a home series against Bryant University after the academic year has ended. The Mount will face the Bulldogs in a three-game series Thursday, May 14 through Saturday, May 19.

The men and women of the Mount track and field team are in for huge month of championships in the month of May. Kicking off the month, the men and women will compete in the Northeast Conference Track and Field Championships on Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6. The championships will be hosted on the Mount's very own track and field this year. The next stop is Princeton, NJ for some talented men, where they will go to Princeton University to compete in the Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America/ Eastern College Athletic Conference (IC4A/ECAC) Championships. For

those athletes that keep going, next on the road trip would be Tampa, Florida, which is the location of the NCAA Championship East Preliminaries. The prelims will be held from Thursday, May 24 until Saturday, May 26 giving plenty of time for the athletes to recover and train for the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon.

Unfortunately, there were some spring sports that never got a chance to see the great weather that took its time to get here. Men's lacrosse was able to hold its own this season, with notable standouts from first year students Luke Frankeny and Dylan Furnback, both earning the title of Rookie of the Week, as well as first year Sam Stephan, who met the milestone of over 100 ground balls. Over the course of the season they have honored their seniors Matt Viheller (#10), Daniel Barber (#36), C.J. Ciserano (#43), Bennett Zaba (#52), Kyle Maxey (#46), and Brian Reilly (#33). The women's lacrosse team also had their fair share of accomplishments during the spring season. Sophomore, Carly Miller, earned NEC Player of the Week; first year, Beanie Colson, was able to earn NEC Rookie of the Week; and junior captain goalkeeper, Jillian Petito, earned Defensive Player of the Week. The women's team also honored their seniors this season by noting Liza Oakley (#9), Jannel Daufenbach (#13), Shannon Monaghan (#23), and Emily Dees (#27).

The Mount St. Mary's University men's tennis team went 6-15 in their season, going 2-5 in conference play. The men honored their single senior player, captain Brandon Wortkotter in a match against Hampton University on Tuesday, April 17. Leading the Mount for the season was first year Jackson Wood, who held 18 singles wins throughout the year, followed by first year Parth Sharma with 17 wins in singles play, senior and captain Wort-

kotter rounded out his season with 15 singles wins. Wood finished the season with 22 doubles wins under his belt, while Wortkotter finished with 18 for the season, but was only two doubles wins away from tying the all-time winning doubles leader, Austin Blake. The men, who competed in a very tough season, fell to Farleigh Dickinson in the conference tournament.

The Mount women's tennis team finished with a 5-17 record, with 3-4 record in conference play. The team honored their two seniors, Sruthi Kamprath and Samantha Barbato on Tuesday, April 17. Leading the team for the women was sophomore Alexa Quintanilla, who finished the season with 17 singles wins. Sophomore, Hannah Davis was second in line, finishing with 9 singles victories, going undefeated in singles conference play. Leading the team in doubles victories was Davis (15), Quintanilla (14), first year Megan Gamble (14), and Kamprath (13). In the conference tournament this year, the women were able to upset third-seed St. Francis Pa. in quarterfinal action. The doubles pairs Quintanilla/Davis and Gamble and junior, Emma Blake, were able to clutch the doubles point and set the tone of the match for the women. The match, which was played until clinch, finished with every match counting and finishing due to the tightness of the match. Quintanilla was able to defeat her opponent in the first spot (6-2, 6-4), first year Megan Smith defeated her opponent in the fifth flight in a tight three sets (1-6, 6-4, 6-4), and finally, Davis was able to clutch the last match to secure the 4-3 win over St. Francis with a three-setter (6-2, 3-6, 6-2). The Mount win marks the first time since 2008 that the women have made it past the first round and to the NEC Semifinals. Unfortunately, the women fell to second seed Bryant in the semifinals.



Senior, captain Sruthi Kamprath competes in the Northeast Conference Tournament where the team took down number three seed St. Francis, Pa.

Next year, the Mount looks forward to welcoming more teams into the athletic department. The Mount will welcome back the men's soccer program in the fall, after some training this year and multiple spring games. The school will also bring back the men's and women's golf program, competing for the first time since 2013, with the Mount's own Kevin Farrell. Farrell comes back after coaching the Mount golf team from 2008-2012 and his own student-athlete experience on the Mount's team, where he served as a captain and holds the record for lowest 54-hole Northeast Conference Championships score. The Mount also plans to bring in a women's bowling program. Women's bowling has proven to be extremely successful in the Northeast Conference, having at least one representative in

the NCAA Bowling Championship in eight of the past nine years, proving to be one of women's bowling's top conferences.

The Mount's year in sports has been exciting, to say the least, and it hasn't stopped yet. The Mount hopes to see many of its team continue past their regular season and continue into the beautiful spring weather that has just begun. There are plenty of opportunities to come out and watch the rest of the seasons in the sun. Come out to the Our Lady of Meadows field to watch the softball team, the E.T. Straw Family Stadium for a baseball game, or even the Morgan Track to support the Mount teams!

To read other articles by Samantha, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

The four wives

Renee Lehman

A few weeks ago, I came upon this very old, inspiring short story. It originates from the sacred land of Tibet. I don't know who wrote it, but one thing is certain, its message is profound.

The Man with Four Wives

Long, long ago when the world was young and the tiger walked with the deer, there was a rich king who had four wives. The king loved his fourth wife the most and adorned her with riches.

He also loved his third wife and was always showing her off to neighboring kingdoms. However, he always feared that she would leave him. His second wife was kind and considerate and his trusted confidant and advisor in difficult times. Wife number one was devoted and loyal and although she loved him deeply, he was not as interested and tended to ignore her.

One day, the king fell ill and the truth dawned that his life was soon to end. He thought of the luxurious life he had led and feared being alone when he died. He asked his fourth wife, "I have loved you the most, endowed you with the finest clothing, showered gifts upon you and taken great care over you. Now that I'm dying, will you follow me and keep me company?" "No way!" she replied and walked away without another word.

The sad king then asked the third wife, "I have loved you all my life. Now that I'm dying, will you follow me and keep me company?" "No!" she replied. "Life is too good! In fact, when you die, I'm going to remarry!"

He then asked the second wife, "I have always turned to you for help

and you've always been there for me. When I die, will you follow me and keep me company?" "I'm sorry, I can't help you out this time!" she replied. "At the very most, I can help with your funeral."

Then a voice called out to the king in his sadness: "I'll leave with you and follow you no matter where you go." The king looked up and there was his first wife. She was so skinny and undernourished. Greatly grieved, the king said, "I should have taken much better care of you when I had the chance!"

Truthfully, we all are the King and we all have four wives in our lives.

Our fourth wife represents our body. We love our body. We make our body look nice to the outside world every day. We wash it; we put clothes and shoes on. We give it food and we try to protect it. No matter how much time and effort we lavish in making it look good, it'll leave us when we die. It cannot follow us.

Our third wife represents the material things that we have in this life: possessions, status and wealth. We work hard for the job and status we have, the money we have earned, and the possessions that we own. Often, we are very attached to these things and are afraid to lose them. However, when we die, we are forced to let them go. We come into this world empty-handed and we leave this world that way also. So, after our death, our possessions will be divided up and given to others.

Our second wife represents our family, friends, and the society that we live in. No matter how much they have supported and loved us, the furthest they can stay by us is up to the funeral. They are sad-

dened by our death, yet there is nothing they can do but have tears of grief.

Our first wife represents our soul, often neglected in pursuit of wealth, power and pleasures of the ego. However, our soul is the only thing that will follow us wherever we go. Perhaps it is beneficial to cultivate and strengthen our soul now rather than to wait until we're on our deathbed to lament.

Moral of the Story

Take care of your body and keep it healthy so you can live life to its fullest. Enjoy your possessions, the pleasure and the comfort they provide. Cherish your friends and family and the love they provide. Yet, don't forget to nourish your soul. Consider:

- Taking a walk in nature.
- Playing! Experience the world around you as the playground that it really is!
- Praying and/or meditating.
- Not worrying.
- Smiling!
- Dancing!
- Being loving!

Take time to be alone, to pray, to meditate, for it is the source of all your life and will prove to be your most faithful friend.

The time to love your "First Wife"...is now.

"Every moment and every event of every man's life on earth plants something in his soul."

-Thomas Merton

"Take care of your body as if you were going to live forever, and take care of your soul as if you were going to die tomorrow."

-Saint Augustine

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with 30 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.



Similar to the first wife in the story, shelter animals are often forgotten but ever loyal and if given a chance, will follow their person to the end. Take Chiquita for example, an adoptable kitty from the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter. She is a 4-year-old brown tabby who came into the shelter with a litter of kittens. Chiquita seems to have had an injury to her tail at some point, so it's shorter than usual, but she is a super sweet girl who loves attention and is ready to be someone's baby! Give Chiquita a chance and call 717-263-5791 today to learn more.

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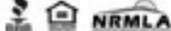


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FITNESS AND HEALTH

Healthy eating for summer

Linda Stultz
Certified Fitness Trainer

Summer can be a hard time to eat healthy because of parties, cookouts, vacations and hot weather. Going to outdoor events usually have desserts, chips, soda or other foods that can be filled with carbohydrates. Working in the hot weather can make us reach for soda, sweet tea or maybe even a good cold beer. All of these drinks are loaded with sugar and may taste good at the moment but actually may make you more thirsty in the long run.

A good cold glass of water will get that thirst under control and last longer than a sweet, sugary drink. Drinking something sweet starts a circle of wanting more because the sugar or sweetener tricks your brain into wanting more and more to be satisfied.

They taste great but they are not great for us. Carbohydrates and sugar are two of the foods we sometimes crave. The cravings are so hard to resist and so easy to fall victim to. The more carbs we eat the more our body wants and it becomes a vicious circle. Breaking the carbohydrate craving is one of the hardest temptations our body faces and while it can be done, it takes time, willpower and sometimes getting through a feeling of withdrawal. I'm sure most people have heard about how you may feel if you give up caffeine.

Believe it or not some people have similar reactions if they give up carbohydrates. Our body gets so use to the sugar high and the feeling of a short lived energy boost then comes the crash and fatigue. When we feel the let down a few hours after eating a high carbohydrate food we feel the need to replenish it with another and the addiction continues.

Carbohydrates give our body a quick burst of energy but cannot sustain the energy we need to get

through our day. Many people either don't eat breakfast or grab a doughnut, bagel or some other kind of carb as they are running out the door. By mid-morning they are hitting the vending machine for a sweet bun or granola bar with a soda. Next comes lunch and many times that is something quick at their desk accompanied by another soda or coffee. Before you know it they are back at the vending machine for a bag of chips and maybe an energy drink to get them through that afternoon slump.

The next meal of the day is dinner and for many people that consists of a meal from the drive through because the kids have practice after school and there is simply not enough time to cook, eat and get them where they need to go. I understand that today's busy lifestyle can make it very hard to eat healthy in order to fight obesity and other health issues.

Sometimes it is not until after we or a member of our family is faced with a condition that affects our health that we get se-

rious about figuring out a way to eat well, get the exercise we need and still accomplish all the daily demands. I'm not saying go cold turkey on giving up the carbs and sugar. That can sometimes be detrimental in achieving our goals. Start out by making one small change a week and after a few weeks you will see it is easier than you thought it would be. You will begin to feel better from not having the energy crashes and you may even begin to lose a little weight.

That is one of the great side effects of cutting carbs and sugar out of your diet. Processed foods are filled with carbs and sugar and are America's biggest enemy when it comes to weight gain. Do a little research and you will be surprised how making a few changes at a time will benefit your weight, mood, energy level and overall health. A little food planning and preparation time once or twice a week will also help when trying to eat healthier.

Having healthy snacks already cut up and in baggies, ready to grab as you go out the door

makes it easier to make good choices. Start slowly and stick to it and you will be eating and feeling better before you know it. Talk to friends and family members about their little tricks to making these changes or give me

a call at 717-334-6009 for more information and tips on where to look for support and ideas. Keep moving forward, both physically and in your task of achieving a healthier you.

If you have any information to share or questions you can reach me at 717-334-6009. Remember to keep moving, that always helps.

ASTRONOMY

The night sky of May

Professor Wayne Wooten

For May, the moon is full on April 29th, so the first two weeks of May find it waning in the morning sky. The waning gibbous moon passes two degrees north of Saturn on May 4th, and three degrees north of Mars on May 6th. It is last quarter on May 7th. The new moon occurs on May 15th. The waxing crescent moon passes five degrees south of bright Venus on the evening of May 17th. The first quarter moon is on May 21st, and the waxing gibbous moon passes four degrees north of Jupiter on May 27th. The full moon, the flower moon, occurs on May 29th. On the 31st, the waning gibbous moon again passes 1.6 degrees north of Saturn, both rising about 10 p.m. in SE.

Mercury is in the morning sky early this month, but disappears in the sun's glare by the 10th. Venus dominates the evening sky in the SW, and appears as a featureless brilliant gibbous disk in the telescope. Mars is still in the morning sky, but as the faster earth overtakes it at opposition on July 27th, is getting bigger and brighter each day. Jupiter is spectacular in the SE evening sky now, reaching opposition in early May in Libra. Be sure to check out the four large Galilean moons with small telescopes, arrayed in a line around Jupiter's equator. All ex-



The dog days of summer were historically the period following the rising of the star Sirius, which Greek and Roman astrology connected with heat, drought, sudden thunderstorms, mad dogs, and bad luck. They are the hottest, most uncomfortable part of summer in the Northern Hemisphere.

cept Callisto can pass in front of Jupiter and cast shadows.

This is a good month for Saturn as well, which comes to opposition on June 27th, rising in the east in Sagittarius. Good telescopes Saturn with its rings about as open as they can appear in the telescope. You can also see Titan, Saturn's biggest moon, in small telescopes easily.

The winter constellations will soon be swallowed up in the Sun's glare, but Orion is still visible, with its famed Orion Nebula, M-42, seen below the three stars marking his famed belt. Dominating the southwest is the Dog Star,

Sirius, brightest star of the night sky. When Sirius vanishes into the Sun's glare in two months, this sets the period as "Dog Days".

The brightest star in the NW is Capella, distinctively yellow

in color. It is a giant star, almost exactly the same temperature as our Sun, but about 100X more luminous. Just south of it are the stellar twins, the Gemini, with Castor closer to Capella, and Pollux closer to the Little Dog Star, Procyon.

Overhead, the Big Dipper rides high. Good scouts know to take its leading pointers north to Polaris, the famed Pole Star. For us, it sits 30 degrees (our latitude) high in the north, while the rotating earth beneath makes all the other celestial bodies spin around it from east to west. If you drop south from the bowl of the Big Dipper, Leo the Lion rides high. Note the Egyptian Sphinx is based on the shape of this Lion in the sky.

Taking the arc in the Dipper's handle, we "arc" SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of spring. Cooler than our yellow Sun, and much poorer in heavy elements, some believe its strange motion reveals it to be an invading star from another smaller galaxy, now colliding with the Milky Way in Sagittarius in the summer sky.

Moving almost perpendicular to the plane of our Milky Way, Arcturus was the first star in the sky where its proper motion across the historic sky was noted, by Edmund Halley. Just east of Arcturus is Corona Borealis, the "northern crown", a shapely Coronet that Miss America would gladly don, and one of few constellations that look like their name. The bright star in the crown's center is Gemma, the Gem Star.

Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo, then curve to Corvus the Crow, a four sided grouping. Note Jupiter now near Spica. The arms of Virgo harbor the Virgo Supercluster of Galaxies, with thousands of "island universe" in the Spring sky.

To the northeast Hercules rises, with his body looking like a butterfly. It contains one of the sky's showpieces, M-13, the globular cluster faintly visible with the naked eye. Find it with binoculars midway on the top left wing of the cosmic butterfly, then take a look with a larger telescope and you will find it resolved into thousands of stars!

Farmers' Almanac

"Motherhood: All love begins and ends there"

- Robert Browning (1812-1889)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Fair, warming trend (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) with storms (9, 10, 11); showers, mainly in the northern part of the region (12, 13, 14) turning fair and warm (15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22). Storms, mainly in the south (23, 24) returning to fair and warm weather (25, 26, 27, 28); showers in the north, storms in the south (29, 30, 31)

Full Moon: May's Full Moon occurs on Tuesday, May 29th and has traditionally been called Flower Moon (or as the Huron Indians called it, Budding Moon) because of the many flowers that start to emerge and blossom during this month. Farmers came to refer to it as Mike Moon because of the noticeable increase in milk produced by their cows as the weather starts to warm.

Hoildays: Mothers are honored on her day, Sunday May 13th. A telephone call, a sentimental card, a nice flower arrangement, or just spending some quality time with her will make her feel special. Armed Forces Day is observed on Saturday, May 19th and Memorial Day falls on Monday, May 28th. Plan to do something special to mark the official start of the summer season with family and friends but don't forget that this day was set aside for honoring those who have served in our military and those who are currently serving. Their service and sacrifice has protected our precious freedoms and ensures our way of life.

The Garden: Once your last frost data has passed, warm season crops can be planted. When the ground temperatures reach 70 degrees Fahrenheit, it is safe to begin planting Okra, Pumpkin, Sweet Potatoes, Eggplant, Peppers, Peanuts, Watermelon, Cow Peas, Black-eyed Peas,

Crowder Peas, Butter Peas and Butter Beans. Keep a vigilante eye on the roses. Keep them sprayed for aphids and other pests and diseases such as black spot. It's still not too late to fertilize your trees and shrubs. Use a Rhododendron or Evergreen type of plant food to feed evergreens and other acid loving plants like Azaleas and Rhododendrons, Camellias and Junipers, etc. Use an all-purpose garden fertilizer (10-10-10) to feed roses, deciduous shrubs and trees. Be sure to water the fertilizer in thoroughly after it is applied.

Remove the wilting seed heads from Rhododendrons and Azaleas so that the plants energy can go to foliage growth and next year's flowers, rather than seeds. Work lime in the soil around your Hydrangeas to produce pink flowers or Aluminum Sulphate for blue blooms. Remove any sucker growths from fruit trees as soon as they appear!

J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living

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COMPUTER Q&A

Computer scams

Ayse Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer

Your phone rings, an automated voice states that the IRS has sought a lawsuit against you and the recording urges you to call a phone number to get the matter resolved. Perhaps your phone rings and a live person explains that they are calling from Microsoft and that suspicious behavior was detected on your computer and they need to take control of your device immediately to prevent further damage. STOP! None of these claims are true and a large number of people especially the elderly are being taken advantage of by falling victim to their claims and many people have even paid the "IRS" or "Microsoft" to protect themselves.

Phone Scams

Let me ask you this, does a plumber call you when your pipes leak? Does the Fire department call you when your house is on fire? These scams have become increasingly popular and they are working harder and getting smarter about how they try to trick you into handing over your hard-earned money.

The scammers have gone so far as to make it appear that legitimate companies are calling you. For example, a few weeks ago we received a call with the caller ID stating it was Dell calling us, the number that called us was actually DELL's phone number but it was not Dell that was calling. The scammers were spoofing their phone number to make it appear that they were Dell in an effort to gain your trust and steal your information or money.

What to do if you are a victim of a phone scam

If you or someone you know has fallen victim to these scams you should document any information related to the incident and forward the information to your local police department. If you allowed someone to take control of your computer they could leave malicious software behind that can log your keystrokes and steal your sensitive account information. You should turn your computer off immediately and seek professional assistance in cleaning up your computer. (Jester's Computers in Fairfield provides clean-up services and they are fast, reliable and affordable).

If you provided the scammer with account information or sent them money, contact your financial institution right away and have the charges reversed. You should also cancel any accounts that you have provided information for to avoid any unexpected future charges. Many times, the scammers claim that you need to have your computer cleaned and will charge you upwards of \$250 for a service that is much less expensive locally (\$99 at Jester's Computers).

E-mail Scams

Many users have reported phishing scams in their email which are very similar to the phone scams. Users receive an email that appears to be from

their bank or a popular website such as Ebay, Paypal, FedEx, UPS or Amazon. Phishing scams are emails that are received that appear to be from a legitimate source but are not. Most of the time the emails will state that there is a problem and that they need you to logon to their website to resolve the issue. Upon clicking on the links in the email you may be taken to a website which appears to be the legitimate website but many times they are fake and steal your account information.

If you receive any emails claiming that your entitled to money or instructing you to open an attachment with a password the email could contain a virus. Don't open any attachments from anyone you don't know. You should even be wary of friends or family members that send you attachments you are not expecting since their accounts could be compromised. It's best to send a quick email to them or give them a call to verify that they sent it.

How to protect yourself from e-mail scams

If you receive an email that states your

account has a problem don't click on any links inside the email. Instead you can visit the website directly by typing the web address in the address bar at the top of your web browser. For example, if you receive an email stating that your Paypal account needs verified you should type in the address bar www.paypal.com any information that Paypal sent to you regarding your account should also be available on their website.

If it's too late and you realize you are the victim of a phishing scam you should immediately change your password for that account. If you have any other accounts that use the same password and username (or email address) you should change those as well. Mark the phishing emails you received as spam to help report the email address.

Anytime you receive an email that comes from a big company you should be able to identify if the email is real or not by looking at the actual email address. Scammers will register similar domain names to appear as though they are from a legitimate source. For example, an



email from FedEx should be coming from @fedex.com not @fedx.com. When you click on any email links you can also verify that the

web address takes you to the correct website in this example you should land on www.fedex.com not www.fedx.com.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

May 5
Grand Opening of the Emmitsburg Dog Park Community Park - 201 West Lincoln Avenue.

University of Maryland Extension Frederick County Master Gardeners seminar: "Herb Day in the Garden." This special event in the demonstration garden offers a morning seminar where you will learn all about growing, harvesting and using herbs. In the afternoon, make and take a mini edible herb garden and learn about herb spirals. For more information call 301-600-1595.

May 5 & 6
Spring in the Village/ Art at the Furnace 2018. Join us for the seventh annual outdoor art festival in the historic village of Catocin Furnace. During the past six years, more than 3,500 visitors have enjoyed the crafts, food and traditional atmosphere of the historic village during this family-friendly event. For more information visit www.catocinfurnace.org or call 301-271-7574 or 443-463-6437.

May 6
Elias Lutheran Church presents its third annual program to bring awareness to the epidemic of hungry and

homeless children in the Emmitsburg area. The concert, under the direction of Cheryl Carney, will feature several soloists from the Elias Church family, the Handbell and Vocal choirs from Elias Lutheran Church, as well as other local artists. In addition to the music, information will be presented about the plight of local children who are in need and ways that we can all help. For more information visit www.eliaslutheranchurch.com.

Music Gettysburg! presents the Gettysburg Children's Choir. An annual tradition - the choir's closing performance of the year, with all its astonishing musicianship and verve! For more information about this and other concerts in the Music, Gettysburg! schedule call 717-339-1334, or visit the www.musicgettysburg.org.

May 9
Presentation by Korey Shorb, founder of the The Up & Out Foundation, "a non-profit with a mission to educate the public about the disease of addiction, the consequences of untreated addiction, and the process of recover." Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. For more information call 301-271-2379. Open to all.

May 10
Mother Seton School May Crowning and Procession. Join us in the annual tradition of the May Crowning Pro-

cession, which honors the Holy Mother as Queen of Heaven and Earth. All, especially children, are invited to the special Mass, which culminates in the crowning of Mary on our Marian altar. Procession begins at 9:30 a.m. followed immediately by a special prayer service. Call 301-447-3161 or visit www.mothersetonschool.org for more information.

May 11
Thurmont Main Street Art Wine Stroll! If you like art, wine, and entertainment, you will not want to miss the Thurmont Main Street Art Wine Stroll! The Stroll focuses on local artists and the amazing talent that is right here in Frederick County! The Stroll, which takes place between 5 and 8 p.m., features local artisans displaying and selling their art inside participating Main Street businesses and musical entertainment in various places while you stroll.

You will find wine along the way in several businesses. The Art & Wine Stroll will also feature interactive art where you can create your own art by painting a tile or pot to take home. In addition there will be a live drawing session by Gnarly Arty at the Thurmont Bar & Grill, and wool spinning demonstrations in front of the Main Street Center.

While you are walking around, take a minute to stop at the square and listen to some great live entertainment weather permitting. At 6 p.m. the newly formed Gateway Brass Ensemble will be playing at Mechanicstown Square Park,

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and from 6:30 to 8 a showcase of awesome teen talent from previous Open Mic Night's will be performing.

In addition to the entertainment at Mechanicstown Square Park, national award winning Esp Productions will have dance performances throughout the evening in their studio. Stop in the Thurmont Historical Society and listen to accomplished musician Rocky Birley playing classics on his sax and playing at the Main Street Center you will find country music artist Harold Staley! Explore and experience a fun-filled evening on Main Street while discovering all the arts and entertainment. Thurmont has to offer. Come stroll with us!

May 12
Frederick County Master Gardeners present - "Planting a Summer Garden to Feed Your Family." Join us in the Demonstration Garden for a hands-on experience planting the home garden. Learn about seeds and transplants, planting techniques, planting for pollinators, and basic IPM (integrated pest management). For more information call 301-600-1595.

Creagerstown's St. John's Lutheran Church's World's Best Mom Pot Pie Dinner, a treat for Mom on her special day, Fried Chicken, Country Ham, Chicken Slippery Pot Pie, Ham Slippery Pot Pie, Harvard Beets, Creamy Cole Slaw, Apple Sauce, Creamed Peas, Rolls, Cake. 8619 Black's Mill Road, Creagerstown.

May 13
St Joseph Church's Mothers' Day country style breakfast buffet all-you-can-eat fundraiser. Sponsored by: St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus Council 11631. St Joseph Church social hall, 44 Frederick Street, Taneytown.

Music Gettysburg! presents Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra Sunday. The best way to spend Mothers' Day! The GCO will be joined by Gettysburg's own John Wolfe, performing music for organ and orchestra from the Baroque and modern eras. For more information about this and other concerts in the Music, Gettysburg! schedule, please call

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COMMUNITY YARD & BAKE SALE

Sat., May 19th
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
(Rain or Shine)

Proceeds to benefit the Bennett Family
Spaces available - \$10
(Those wishing to rent a space may choose what they do with their proceeds)
Lunch Items & Funnel Cakes will be available for sale!
We are looking for Yard Sale & Baked Goods items donations
If you wish to donate items or baked goods contact Carmi Saylor at 301-401-0633

Thurmont United Methodist Church will be joining us in the efforts!
St. John's Lutheran Church
8619 Black's Mill Rd., Creagerstown, MD
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COMMUNITY DINNER
Sat., May 12th - 12-5 p.m.
At The Parish Hall

(Proceeds to benefit cemetery upkeep & street lights)
Menu: Fried Chicken & Country Ham, Chicken & Ham Slippery Pot Pie, Creamed Peas, Harvard Beets, Cole Slaw, Apple Sauce, Rolls & Cake
Baked Goods & Fancy Table

Adults: \$16 Children 7-12: \$8 (Under 7 FREE)
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UPCOMING EVENTS

717-339-1334, or visit the www.music-gettysburg.org.

May 19

Creagertown's St. John's Lutheran Church's Community Yard and Bake Sale - rain or shine to benefit the Bennett family. The family is currently dealing with several medical issues requiring trips to Shriners Hospital for two of their children as well as a future neck surgery for Jennifer, the children's mother. Thurmont United Methodist Church will be joining us in the efforts. We are looking for donations of items for the Yard sale and/ or baked goods for sale. If you

nave any items that you wish to donate, call 301-271-2077. Lunch items as well as funnel cakes will also be available for sale. For more information visit www.emmitsburg.ney/sjlc.

May 21 - 26

Mother Seton School Carnival. Rides, games, food, and entertainment available each night. An annual tradition in Emmitsburg. Come and join the fun! Monday is Alumni Night (rain date Tuesday). MSS alumni who check in receive a special gift and may enter to win a door prize. For more information, visit www.mothersetonschool.org.

May 24

Catoctin forest Alliance present - Forged in Fire: The Art of Knife Making. Local bladesmith Erin Aylor will demonstrate his artistic endeavors in metal and other media and discuss his television appear-

ance on the History Channel. Thurmont Community Library.

May 27

Music Gettysburg! presents Wayne Hill and Friends. This program of

music from the Civil War at last it comes home to Gettysburg! For more information about this and other concerts in the Music, Gettysburg! schedule, please call 717-339-1334, or visit www.musicgettysburg.org.

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Open Mic Night will showcase singers at the Main Street Art & Wine Stroll Friday May 11th - 6:45-8 p.m. at Mechanicstown Square.



REGULAR TEEN OPEN MIC NIGHT

June 14th - 7-9 p.m.
July 12th - 7-9 p.m.
Community Park
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National Shrine Grotto to Hold May Crowning Ceremony

The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Mother and the National Shrine Grotto will hold a special event to crown our beautiful golden statue of Mary with a wreath of silk flowers.

May 6 | Blessing and Crowning following the noon Mass at the Grotto Cave.

Mount Men's Rugby to Compete in National Tournament



The Mount St. Mary's University men's rugby team will compete at the Penn Mutual College Rugby Championship (CRC) tournament on June 1-3. The contest is the highest profile sevens tournament in the country. The competition will be broadcast on ESPN.

The Mount heads into the CRC tournament after securing the Chesapeake Sevens Conference championship. The team won the championship with a victory over top seed James Madison University.

Learn more about the CRC tournament at www.sevensrugby.com.

Grotto to Host Pilgrimage to Ireland

Join National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes Director Lori Stewart on a 12-day pilgrimage to Ireland and Northern Ireland this November. The trip, Nov. 5-16, includes visits to landmarks and shrines in Dublin, Belfast, Sligo, Knock, Galway, Connemara, Killarney, Kilkenny and Glendalough. Registration closes June 20.

Learn more at www.nsgrotto.org



Summer 2018 Youth Swimming Lessons

The Mount offers two eight-week sessions of lessons for children. Registration opens on the following dates:

May 9 - ARCC Members

May 11 - Spring 2018 Session Participants

May 14 - General Public

Visit www.msmary.edu/swimminglessons for more information.



Events at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

Worship Opportunities

Mass

Saturdays and Sundays, noon.
Misa en Español, Sundays, 2 p.m.

Reconciliation

Saturdays and Sundays, noon.

Special Events

May 5 First Saturday Devotions

May 6 Chaplet of Divine Mercy

May 12 Our Lady of Lourdes Rosary Crusade

May 13 Ascension of the Lord, Mother's Day and Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day

May 20 Dedication of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine

May 21 Mary, Mother of the Church Feast Day

Daily Hours

9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. daily (*gates close at 5 p.m.*)

Visit www.nsgrotto.org for more information about the Grotto.

University Calendar of Events

Baccalaureate

Saturday, May 12, 5 p.m.

Knott Arena

A celebration Mass for all graduates and their families.

Commencement

Sunday, May 13, 11 a.m.

Knott Arena

There will be LiveStream coverage of the Commencement Exercises beginning at 10 a.m. Please visit msmary.edu/commencement for more information. Tickets required.

Elizabeth DiNunzio Memorial

5K Fun Run/Walk

Saturday, June 2, 8:30 a.m.

Register at www.alumni.msmary.edu/dinunziorun2018