

# Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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## Mother Seton shows off blooming scientists

One hundred and sixteen students participated in Mother Seton School's annual science fair in March, employing the scientific method to determine everything from which fruits produce the most electricity to which food items go the furthest when launched from a cannon made of PVC pipe. Some looked forward to spring, experimenting to find which liquids were best for preserving fresh cut flowers, while others clung to the last chilly days of winter, testing which snowboarding wax gives the fastest ride.

The projects were judged and presented for public viewing on March 20. The first place winners were third grader Shae Archie, fourth grader Natalie Bosche, fifth grader Ana Hand, sixth grader Maria Torborg, seventh graders Maya Hand and Edison Hatter, and eighth grader Anna Eyster. Receiving second place honors were Caitlin Marron, Olivia Sica, Brede Laug, and Emily Longanecker.

Only students from grades 5 through



Winners of this year's Mother Seton School Science Fair.

**3rd Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> - Shae Archie, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Caitlin Marron, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Bella Rabaiotti. 4th Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> - Natalie Bosche, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Olivia Sica, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Marshall Mott. 5th Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> - Ana Hand, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Brede Laug, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Jeremy Hochschild. 6th Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> - Maria Torborg, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Emily Longanecker, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Caroline Mullineaux. 7th Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> (tie) - Maya Hand & Edison Hatter, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Stephen Hochschild. 8th Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> - Anna Eyster**

7 are required to participate as part of their coursework, but many others voluntarily opted into their scientific pursuits.

"With the enthusiasm and effort the students put into their projects, the hardest part of the fair is having to grade them," said Danielle Kuykendall, the Middle School Science Teacher at Mother Seton.

This year the school's science program started a new project called

Trout in the Classroom, through which students have been able to observe the life cycle of rainbow trout in a 55-gallon tank installed in the science lab. They began with about 100 tiny orange eggs, which some of the kids attempted to name. Unfortunately, nature decided to teach the end of the life cycle for many of the hatchlings, but after some replenishment, the population

rebounded and the tank now has about 150 juvenile trout.

"The seventh graders are primarily in charge of taking care of the tank as part of their life sciences curriculum," Kuykendall said. Throughout the year they have monitored the tank's water quality and learned how to keep fish healthy. They will also run tests on the waters into which the trout will be released in May.

## Carroll Valley development proposition revisited

Representatives of a development that failed to get off the ground twice during the past dozen years in Carroll Valley Borough presented their renewed plans before the borough Planning Commission at the board's March 4 meeting.

The Eluma, Inc. is seeking to develop a 107-acre, wooded tract, known as the Mallow Tract, bordered by Sanders and Tract roads and butted-up against the borough's K-section residential area.

Representing Eluma at the meeting was Ronald M. Lucas, attorney, and Bill Kick, project engineer.

What the development company is proposing is to construct a development on the tract in phases that could span years before the project is built-out (all the properties sold and all the dwellings constructed).

Lucas explained that developers have generally been moving away from conventional development schemes due to changes in the housing market that resulted from the ongoing economic crises.

"We do see small projects starting (up), but no one knows when the market is going to improve," he said. "There is very little happening" with any major development construction. "Developers are trying different things."

The developers essentially don't want to be locked-into an up-front housing design. The development could consist of 120 to 150 new homes, depending on what, if anything, is ultimately approved by the borough.

To deal with an unpredictable fu-

ture, while advancing the proposed development in Carroll valley, Eluma is proposing to construct a "flexible" development in phases, with the housing types to be constructed in each phase to be determined essentially by supply and demand.

"No one can predict today all of the housing types somebody might want" as time progresses, Lucas stated, noting right now, most homebuyers are looking for minimum indoor and outdoor maintenance (such as lawn care), thus generally rejecting larger homes with large lawns.

The site has been tentatively divided up into ten development "pods," as dictated by terrain, each pod earmarked for a specific type of housing, ranging from single-family, detached dwellings, to apartments. Each of the pods would be developed as a phase of the development.

Kick stated that the plans before the commission are only conceptual sketches. "The sketch plan to be (formally) submitted may look very different from this. We just don't know the answers yet (regarding what might impact design changes)."

Concerns expressed about the preliminary sketch plan presented at the March 4 meeting included:

- Using an existing K-section road to access the development;
- Minimizing the amount of land to be cleared during any given phase of the development;
- The possibility the borough might be faced with in dealing



The proposed development will be on a 107-acre wooded land bordered by Sanders and Tract roads.

with multiple developers on different parts of the same development project; and

- Impacts on the water table and traffic patterns (the developers have already proposed significantly upgrading the borough wastewater treatment plant)

However, to even essentially get the project off-the-ground, the developers will need for changes to be made

by the borough in the municipal zoning regulations through a text amendment, which is presently being prepared by Eluma.

The proposed text amendment will be considered at upcoming meetings of the planning commission and borough Council.

The borough Planning Commission took no formal action on the primarily sketch plan.

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## NEWS

## Council ponders chicken coops

Emmitsburg's Commissioners cautiously moved forward with a proposed ordinance at their March 18 meeting to permit town residents to keep hens in backyard coops. The Board unanimously agreed to send a recommendation to the Planning Commission to alter the "prohibited uses" section of the town's zoning regulations to allow the keeping of hens, but not roosters. They also agreed that any additional regulations will be codified under the Charter's section on keeping animals, which currently only contains provisions for dogs.

The Council has not yet approved a precise set of regulations for backyard coops, but will likely accept a pared down version of a proposed ordinance by Town Planner Susan Cipperly. Based on research of similar ordinances in other municipalities, cities, and counties, Cipperly's recommendation included requirements for residents to obtain permits from the town, keeping hens in moveable enclosures, and for the coops to be kept at least 30 feet from neighboring households for safety reasons.

"My intent on this was to allow

people to keep chickens, but also protect the neighboring properties from the smells, and the safety issues, and the noise if there is any," Cipperly said.

The commissioners agreed with several of the provisions, especially those pertaining to basic public health considerations, but sought to defer to county regulations as much as possible to limit the town's involvement in monitoring backyard coops.

"If you have a dog that's driving your neighbor crazy, we don't get involved in that," Commissioner Patrick Joy said. "And I don't want us to get involved in a chicken fight either."

So far no residents have expressed any objections to the Council to allowing chicken coops in town.

Later in the meeting the Commissioners continued discussion of an adjustment to town water rates that could lead to residents seeing a noticeable increase on their water bills. For the sake of simplicity, the Council directed Town Manager David Haller to model the rate increases after those the Board recently approved for

wastewater charges.

According to Haller, the town has fallen short of fully funding the depreciation on its water enterprise fund for the past three and a half years, leaving a gap of around \$200,000. As directed by the Council, town staff prepared rate increase schemes that would bring in an additional \$20,000 per quarter in order to avoid increasing the shortfalls going forward.

The commissioners discussed the fairness of the plans and how rate increases will be weighted for each consumption bracket, particularly the group of top users, whose large demand drives most of the costs.

"There's a lot of expense in having the amount of storage we have," Haller said. "We have a million dollar tank because there are some spigots, for lack of a better term, that are very large, and when they're turned on, if you don't have a great deal of storage, you will run out of water quickly."

Haller will present the water rates proposal based on the recent sewer rates model at the next Town Council meeting on April 1.

## Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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## Commissioners grapple with vacancy procedures

Emmitsburg's Board of Commissioners accepted a recommendation from Mayor Don Briggs at their meeting on March 4 to keep the Council's leadership roles largely unchanged after the appointment of Jim Hoover to the Board last month. The Board unanimously approved a motion to name Tim O'Donnell as president, and to make Hoover vice president. Hoover will also serve as the town's official representative to the Maryland Municipal League (MML). Commissioner Cliff Sweeney will continue to serve as treasurer, and all other committee assignments will remain the same.

Commissioner Patrick Joy called the recommendation the "least disruptive" option since the Board re-

organized its leadership and committee assignments only a few months ago.

Hoover was appointed to the Council in February to fill a vacancy after former Board President Glenn Blanchard resigned. At a special meeting on February 11, the Commissioners debated whether they were mandated to appoint a replacement by the town charter, and if so, how and how quickly they must do so. The Board appointed Hoover after more than an hour of discussion that came close to ending in an impasse, although a couple members stated they were reluctant to do so.

The Council intended to address concerns over the vacancy-filling

process at the March 4 meeting, but once again struggled to find a consensus view. Three options emerged during the deliberations.

The first option, initially favored by Commissioners Sweeney and Hoover, would establish a structure and timeline for the current practice of having the Board appoint a replacement. Town staff recommended a simple addition to the Charter to require that the appointment be made within 30 days of the vacancy opening.

The second, proposed by Commissioner Joy and supported by O'Donnell, would establish a process for holding a special election so that citizens could decide who should fill the vacancy. This would

require changing the Town Charter, and also introduces a number of details that the Board would need to work out, such as how much time citizens should be given to campaign, and how much time is needed to hire election judges.

The third option, backed by Commissioner Chris Staiger, would leave the vacancy open until the next regular election. This plan also requires changing the Charter, and other members of the Council voiced concerns that a long term vacancy could disrupt the functioning of the Board because there would be no tie-breaker in the case of 2-2 votes.

"I dread gridlock," O'Donnell said. Staiger argued that the Board

could function with four commissioners, and that even a five-member Council could be gridlocked, as it appeared to be over the issue they were presently discussing.

"I don't think it's necessarily right for us five people to pick a name out of a hat," Staiger said. "And I don't know that there's a need to go through the disruption and the cost of a special election if there's not a problem just waiting until the next general election."

As the Board seemed to coalesce in favor of Staiger's position, Commissioner Joy said he would bring back a proposal at a future meeting to change the charter to say vacancies will be filled at the next general election.

## Cunningham Falls State Park makes spring repairs

Most of Cunningham Falls State Park recovered quickly after Hurricane Sandy last October, but the storm's destructive force is still evident at the Manor Area across from the Catoctin Wildlife Preserve & Zoo on Route 15. The popular destination, featuring campsites, a visitor center, aviary, playground,

picnicking areas and hiking trails remains closed to the public five months after Sandy's strong gusts brought down more than one hundred trees in the area.

The trees took out virtually every power line in the densely wooded park and ruptured water lines. They also punctured the roofs of the Visi-

tor Center and a shop in the camping area, and damaged two Park vehicles, a few picnic tables, grills, and campsites.

According to Acting Manager Rob Dyke, the Park is still assessing the total damages and has applied for financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agen-

cy (FEMA), which has been authorized to reimburse some of Sandy's costs.

After the storm, work crews moved in to clear the roadways of trees and power lines. They marked downed trees to be sold for lumber, which helps with clean-up and raises money for the Park. Dyke said the timber sale will occur soon, but a date has not yet been set. After some brush cleanup and other minor repairs, he says the Manor Area could reopen for public use as early as mid-April.

Meanwhile, the Park is continuing its regular planning for replacing aging facilities. The Manor Area's recycled tire playground is slated for replacement sometime in 2014. Activities have resumed at the Park's

William Houck area, which includes Cunningham Falls and the lake. The 43rd annual Maple Syrup Festival in March drew a strong turnout even with cold, damp weather, and helped raise money for the Friends of Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks, which help fund park improvements.

The lake area has become a major summer destination, and visitors are encouraged to arrive early before it reaches capacity on the most popular days. Crowds could potentially become even more of an issue this summer. Dyke says that the federal Sequestration could send additional visitors to the State Park in the event that the Catoctin Mountain National Park is closed for any length of time.

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## 'No imminent threat' posed by wall collapse

Engineers consulted by Carroll Valley Borough are saying that the collapse of a structure designed to protect a dam embankment at Lake May poses "no imminent threat" to the safety of nearby residents.

Borough Manager David Hazlett said the collapse was reported on March 11 by a resident using the lake for recreational purposes. The borough owns the land adjoining the lake on which the dam complex is located.

Hazlett briefed the borough Council at their March 12 meeting regarding the incident. Specifically, about one-third

of a gabion wall at Lake May collapsed into Toms Creek. Gabion walls consist of cells of wire "baskets" which contain rock fragments, and are generally used to control erosion of embankments located near streams and other water bodies.

In this case, the gabion wall, installed more than fifteen years ago, protected an embankment that served as part of the Lake May water impound. The embankment itself, while exposed in part, and the dam, have thus far not been affected by the collapse.

Hazlett stated that the borough engineering firm, KPI, Gettysburg, and a

geotechnical consultant felt the collapse posed no immediate threat to the handful of homes around the lake, but still must be repaired.

The engineers suggested the borough "Keep an eye on it and make sure nothing changes or gets any worse" while awaiting the fix, the borough manager stated.

Hazlett said the engineers have not determined a cause, but that it may be determined as the repairs get underway.

The borough manager said Ski Liberty may be obligated to make the repairs as part of an agreement initiated last year

with the borough. The borough agreed to allow Ski Liberty to use a limited withdrawal of Lake May water as needed in exchange for the upkeep of the dam complex. "According to the agreement we approved last year, they would be contractually obligated to make the repairs," Hazlett stated.

Public access to the borough property has been temporarily suspended "until we can get the area secured," Hazlett stated.

A cost estimate for the repair has not yet been determined, as engineers are continuing to assess the repair.



## Sewer plant sale progresses

The sale of the Orrtanna Wastewater Treatment plant is somewhat closer to being finalized after action taken at the March 5 meeting of the Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors.

The problematic treatment facility came under fire from the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2010. The DEP claimed that the plant was deficient and too old, and that the facility had to be up-

graded to meet current standards.

The township is still awaiting a DEP consent agreement addressing the deficiencies, which will include construction of a new pumping station, among other perceived remedies, and the timelines that would be involved in executing the state requirements.

In 2011, the township began to review viable options to deal with the old facility, such as rebuilding a new

wastewater treatment plant versus disposing of the facility and getting out of the municipal wastewater treatment business altogether.

Hamiltonban was then approached by Franklin Township, which is also seeking to dispose of its wastewater facility, to partner in the sale of both township plants. This subsequently resulted in the creation of an inter-municipal agreement to jointly sell their facilities.

In 2012, the sale of the treatment plants progressed to the point that an agreement of sale was reached with Pennsylvania America Water Company, Hershey, was drafted. The Hamiltonban supervisors approved a resolution at their March meeting to make the agreement official in order to facilitate the approval of the Pennsylvania Utility Commission (PUC) to proceed with the sale.

The settlement is not expected to be reached until 2014, according to township Supervisor Vice-chairwoman Coleen N. Reamer.

In the interim, when Hamiltonban does complete the mandated pumping station, Pennsylvania America Water will construct a connection line between that station and the Franklin Township treatment plant to convey the wastewater to that facility for treatment as the old Orrtanna plant is taken off-line.

Hamiltonban has also received \$496,500 from an H2O grant to help defray the cost of the construction of the pumping station, although the final cost of the construction has yet to be determined.

## Mayor and police chief back local radar use

The use of radar by police to enforce speed limits began in 1948, and today is in use by state and local police in every state except Pennsylvania.

In Pennsylvania, local police forces are prohibited from using radar as the result of a 38-year-old Pennsylvania law that states, "...electronic devices (such as radar) may be used only by members of the Pennsylvania State Police."

Efforts to change state law to allow local police departments to use radar has been attempted over several decades, and have invariably failed. This could change if the latest effort that is being introduced in the state legislature is ultimately passed.

One of a number of mayors across the state supporting the change include Carroll Valley Mayor Ronald

Harris, who also happens to be the vice-president of the South Central Region of the Pennsylvania State Mayors' Association.

Writing to his fellow members, Harris stated, "I urge you to support a change to the Motor Vehicle Code restricting the use of radar to only Pennsylvania State Police Officers."

Harris noted that a "Coalition to Eliminate the Prohibition Against Municipal Police Using Radar" backing the proposed change has been formed, consisting of "major law enforcement and municipal associations affected by this legislative prohibition."

Harris noted that allowing only state police to use radar creates an unequal playing field for enforcing the law. "Prohibiting municipal police officers from using a radar gun when

those same officers are permitted to use a 40 caliber Glock or a taser is illogical and absurd."

Harris told the News-Journal, "It's just rather strange that only state police can use the radar. They (police officers) should have the same rules. They should have the same kind of equipment. If people are concerned about people who drive faster than others then the police should be provided with the tools."

Under the existing law, local police must use non-radar methods of speed limit enforcement, which normally consists of timing vehicles as they pass through two predetermined, marked intervals of roadway.

The same law also creates dual sets of standards regarding when police may cite a driver for speeding. Under no circumstance may a driver be cited by state or local police for speeding unless they are traveling more than six miles per hour (mph) over the limit.

But if the posted speed limit is less than 55 mph, only local police (or state police using non-radar enforce-

ment methods) are prohibited from issuing a citation unless the driver is traveling at ten or more mph over the limit.

Carroll Valley Borough Police Chief Richard Hileman stated, "We are stuck with either some kind of timing distance device or the ENRADD (Electronic Non-radar Device) stands which uses light beams and involves set-up time to even begin to use it."

"It's a bit of a complicated undertaking" to use the ENRADD system, he said, "and when a police car initiates a pursuit of a speeder, the equipment has to be left sitting on the side of the road unwatched. "With radar, you calibrate it, you go out and you turn it on."

The ENRADD system is also expensive, Hileman said, because it's specialized equipment made only by a Pennsylvania company for use only in Pennsylvania.

Regarding the costs, ENRADD states on its web site, "You get what you pay for and if a police depart-

ment wants up to date and accurate equipment, they are going to pay for it."

Opponents state local police only want the radar to generate revenue for their municipality. However, Hileman said the municipalities get about \$12 of any fine (which can be round \$120) assessed against a driver.

Hileman said, as far as the proposed change allowing local police to have and use radar, "Sounds like we may (finally) have a chance to have our issue heard."

Mayor Harris said the existing law states that speed limits are enforced to "protect the public from the dangers of speeding, as a matter of public policy. To specifically legislate that municipal police are restricted in their enforcement of these public safety laws when the state police...are not so restricted, is an indefensible contradiction in public policy."

"Public safety should not be compromised in the absence of a compelling reason," he stated.




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# NEWS

## Second annual "Pa\$\$port to Wealth" week

Saturday, April 6 begins "Pa\$\$port to Wealth", a week-long lineup of free, public events and workshops for area residents to learn more about how to save money and manage their personal finances. The kick off event begins at noon at Mount St. Mary's Knott Auditorium, and will feature a presentation, titled "Living a Wholesale Life in a Retail World," by humorous media personality and personal finance author, Jeff Yeager, known as "The Ultimate Cheap-skate." There will also be free food, activities for kids, and adults can get a free copy of their credit report.

The rest of the week features events for all ages, from a Basic Banking for Teens workshop at the Thurmont Library, to a presentation on avoiding identity theft at the Emmitsburg Senior Center. This year the organizers have worked to coordinate many of the events with regularly scheduled activities at sponsoring organizations, such as library story times for preschoolers, so that it's easier for people to fit them into their schedules.

The Pa\$\$port to Wealth financial literacy initiative was started last year by the Seton Center, and received major support from United Way, as well as Frederick County Public Libraries, Mount St. Mary's

University, Seton Heritage Ministries, the University of Maryland Extension, and the PNC and Woodsboro banks.

This year the number of organizations involved has tripled, according to Sister Salvatrice Murphy, Administrator of the Seton Center and organizer of the Pa\$\$port events, and she hopes that more strategic planning and marketing will help to draw larger crowds. "Turnout was low last year, and that was one of our big areas of focus in planning it this year," Murphy said. "But the people who came to it really liked it, and we got a lot of really positive feedback both from the participants

and the agencies and groups that found out about it, so we knew we wanted to do it again, but we want to do it better this year."

She added that most of this year's events will be designed at an introductory level, but that the program's long term goal is to attract participants back each year and to offer more advanced workshops.

Explaining how she came to start the Pa\$\$port to Wealth initiative Murphy said, "We saw the need over and over again... Even for people making a decent income, if they don't understand the way their money works, they end up getting into trouble."

Whether seeking advice on getting one's financial house in order, saving up for college, searching for tax assistance, or even looking for a fun and free Friday night film screening, the week will offer something for everyone.

For more information and a full schedule of events, residents can visit the program's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PassporttoWealthFrederickCounty>) or the Pa\$\$port to Wealth website (<http://www.unitedwayfrederick.org/Passport>). Schedules can also be picked up at the Emmitsburg and Thurmont libraries, and at the Seton Center.

## Fourth Annual His Place Car Show

Car enthusiasts and anyone looking for fun outdoor events this spring can mark their calendars for Saturday, May 11, when the fourth annual His Place Car Show will take place on the grounds of Mother Seton School. The yearly attraction put on by His Place automotive repair and restoration will feature food, music, a raffle and door prizes, and of course, a packed lot of classic and custom cars, trucks, hot rods, and motorcycles.

This year people are again invited to set up a table in a flea market to sell their excess collectibles and wares. For those entering cars, there are awards at stake in multiple categories, as well as the coveted People's Choice and Best in Show awards. For more information, contact Bill Kuhn at [bkuhn3@yahoo.com](mailto:bkuhn3@yahoo.com) or 301-447-2800. You can also search "His Place Inc." on Facebook to see photos from last year's show.

Kuhn, president and owner of His Place, says last year's show drew over 400 visitors, and about 100 cars registered for the con-

test, raising close to \$3,000 for the Mother Seton School and the Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center.

"Everybody's had a positive, great experience," Kuhn said.

The money raised nearly doubled that collected in 2011, when storms forced the event to be rescheduled for the rain date in September, which itself was threatened by rain from a tropical storm system off the Atlantic coast.

In previous years the event has received support from more than

20 sponsors, who pitched in for trophies and other supplies. "Everything we have is donated," Kuhn said. Any uncovered expense is paid for out-of-pocket by Kuhn, including the event insurance.

His Place was founded in 1969 by Bill Kuhn, Sr. After having been established a repair shop, the business soon started restoring classic cars, especially Corvettes.

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# One hundred years ago this month

## April 4

### Death of John Hoke

John Hoke for many years, a carpenter at Mount St. Mary's College, died by drowning during the early morning on Thursday, March 28.

He leaves a widow and a married daughter, Mrs. John Wertheim, with four grandchildren. The funeral took place on Sunday morning with a Requiem Mass at St. Anthony's Church.

The death of this faithful worker calls for something more than a passing notice. As the Pastor said the life of this man was an open book in which honesty was the brightest chapter. If we should strike the balance between his failings and merits, we should be constrained to conclude that the latter far predominated.

Those who knew him well, appreciated and will long remember his genial good nature and his willingness to extend helping hand in hours of sorrow and affliction. He possessed a mind of unusual excellence. The splendid edifices which, in recent years, have been reared at Mount St. Mary's and to which her authorities and alumni point to with great pride are to a great extent the monuments of his skill and handicraft. They plead for him and they will lead all who knew him to raise their hearts to God for him to ask Him who knows the imperfections of our common nature to have mercy on his soul and to send to his stricken wife and daughter such measure of consolation as shall enable them to bear with resignation this bereavement as submissive children bowing to the will of the Divine Father.

### Improvements

Mr. Rotering has installed a new hydraulic barber chair in his shop.

Mr. Hardman is building an addition to his house on W. Main St.. Mr. Hardman has been making various improvements to his home in the last few years.

Mrs. Horner is making improvements to her house on W. Main St., formerly occupied by Mr. Jacob Hoke.

Mr. Wagerman has purchased from Mr. Moser a lot adjoining the property of Miss Mary Topper and Mr. Kreitz on W. Main St.. Mr. Wag-

nermen intends to build a garage on this lot.

Mr. McCarron is having a C&P telephone installed in the house into which he has just moved

### Wreck on the Western Maryland Railroad

It happened on Saturday this time—the weekly wreck on the W. M. (Worst Managed) R.R.. Only two employees were killed, and two passengers and two other employees injured. The Wednesday night freight collapse and high dive specialty near the Monocacy Bridge added another innovation to the extensive repertoire of this versatile company; but there is actually nothing of the rumor that these weekly wrecks are being pulled off at the instance of a moving picture concern.

## April 11

### Six Runaways In A Week

A horse belonging to Clarence McCarran, a livery man of his place, driven by George Wagerman ran away last week. The trace became loose on Flower's Hill and the horse turned the vehicle upside down and ran through the town, partly on the pavement, at breakneck speed and was caught in front of Mr. Frezzel's warehouse. Several small children had a narrow escape, when the frightened horse came running down the sidewalk.

Ward Brown an employee at McCarran's livery tried to drive the broken vehicle to the stable without any shafts on the carriage. He succeeded until he came to a small grade when the buggy ran against the horse, which started to kick and in a few minutes was again running down the street, having thrown out and run over the driver and damaged several large trees along the way.

Another runaway occurred on Tuesday morning when two horses hitched to a hack standing in front of the railroad station ran away and were stopped in front of Mr. Michael Hoke's residence. About the same time a horse driven by Mr. Jacob Topper ran off in the alley but no damage was done.

The same afternoon a horse driven by Mr. Newcomer took fright at Mr.

Thomas Hay's motorcycle and broke the shafts and front wheel of the buggy. Another runaway occurred on Wednesday afternoon when a horse hitched to a buggy driven by Harry Hopp, who was on his way to umpire the game at Mount St. Mary's ran away and threw him to the ground.

## April 18

### Some Fine Chickens Missing

Last Tuesday, some person, unknown, paid a call during the day at "Boxwood Villa," the resident of Mrs. Margaret Barry on the state road near town, and carried off with them a fine white thoroughbred Leghorn rooster and three hens. The eggs from which these chickens were hatched, were sent to Mrs. Barry by an old friend, and she prized them very highly, and feels their loss very much. The chickens were very much admired by people passing by. Mrs. Barry thinks some person admired the birds too much and took them along. Mrs. Barry wishes the admirer would please bring them back.

### A Rara Avis, Home Raised

There are many poultry raisers and chicken fanciers around Emmitsburg and many rare birds, but it has remained for Oswald Green to raise what is probably the most unique specimen of the feathered tribe ever seen in these parts. Green is now exhibiting an Hauden Chick with four legs, four wings, one eye, and a few feathers. The agent for Barnum Circus has been in communication with "Os" for several weeks endeavoring to secure this unique freak of nature but as of yet no definitive terms have been arranged.

### Yet More Runaways

About one o'clock this afternoon as Mr. Valentine of Rocky Ridge, was driving up West Main St., leading an unharnessed horses which became frightened and got entangled with the front wheel of the wagon. The horse's fore leg was seriously cut but neither the occupant of the wagon or the other horse was hurt.

And exciting runaway occurred on Sunday evening when two horses belonging to Mr. William Ecken-



The old Wagerman garage operated by Robert Buddner and Roy Wagerman. The location of the garage, 521 West Main Street, later became home of the Wagerman's Tavern, then Green's Bakery, and is now residential property.

rode ran up Frederick Street at breakneck speed and, failing to make the turn into Gettysburg Street, crashed into the porch in front of the Rotering store. Mr. Eckenrode was not in the buggy when the horses started to run. The horses escaped with slight injuries.

### Horse Auction

An unusually large crowd attended Patterson's horse sale last week. Every were so sold and settled for. The highest price horse bringing \$202 and the lowest price bringing \$110. The net in the sale was \$4,625.

### Badly Burned

On Saturday afternoon Mr. Edwin Chrismer was burned severely about the arm and face, the gasoline lamp which is used to put on rubber tires exploded while in his hands.

## April 25

### Emmitsburg's Telephone Progress

1912 was a year of activity in the Emmitsburg exchange with 65 more subscribers enjoying the benefits of telephone service. 1913 has started out well with nine new orders on file.

Much effort was put into stringing new wires to furnish several places with service, which were without service previous to 1912. 42,970 feet of iron wire and 2,250 feet of insulated wire were strung, while 110,000 feet of old iron wire removed and replaced by new wire.

Arrangements were made and 15 year contracts entered into with three

rural connecting companies, whereby inhabitants of the following places were given service by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company: Liberty Mills, Zora, territory to the north east and west of Emmitsburg to a distance of 5 miles, and territory to the southeast of the same distance, and to Hampton Valley for a distance of 4 miles.

The toll rate between Emmitsburg and Gettysburg was reduced from \$.35 to \$.10 a minute. A new switchboard and new exchange were installed during 1912, and rural lines rebuilt and extended.

### Modern Conveniences

Mr. Charles Landers has installed in his home, on East Main St., a Hay's Acetylene Gas machine, made by the Hay's Generator Company. The machine illuminates the house and barn. Mr. Landers has had all the modern improvements in his house including an indoor privy and tub, and this, together with the outside appearance, makes it one of the best and most comfortable dwellings in Emmitsburg.

### Election Notice

A public meeting of the male citizens of Emmitsburg will be held in Fireman's Hall, Tuesday evening, for the purpose of nominating a Burgess and commissioners. Women, especially suffragettes, are requested not to interfere, allowing the governing of the town to mind's best suited for it. Signed Christian Zacharias, Registrar of Voters.

To read past editions of 100 Years Ago this month visit the Historical Society section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

**Annual Lions Club  
Chicken Barbecue  
& Yard Sale Fundraiser!**



**Saturday,  
May 4th**

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## GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

### From the Desk of Town Commissioner Chris Staiger

Is there a season for groundhog? Punxsutawney Phil still has a few weeks to redeem himself, but March sure was a disappointment in terms of getting Spring started... All and all, I guess I shouldn't complain - and just go ahead and siphon the gas from the snowblower to the lawnmower. Good advice for life (and politics) it seems!

Not a lot of major activity in town government in the month of March. A grant application was made to fund approximately half of the cost of construction drawings for the proposed town square redesign. Accurate plans which zero in on the true cost of the total project will certainly help in our efforts to obtain grants toward the current \$575,000 construction estimate.

I was pleased to hear Mayor Don Briggs hold up the Carroll Creek Lin-

ear Park project in Frederick as an example at the March 18 town meeting. The Mayor touted the two thirds project funding that the City of Frederick received from outside sources. I would agree that this is a legitimate funding requirement for our project as well.

Meanwhile, we continue to await the final verdict of the State Highway Administration on key elements of our concept design - specifically the proposal to move back the crosswalks and traffic stopping points on East and West Main Street. This is a huge part of the overall concept since it dramatically opens up the space from a pedestrian and design standpoint.

Town staff will also begin to study traffic flow and road width requirements for the alley network north and south of Main Street. North / South

connections via the smaller alleys will receive special attention. The Citizens Advisory Committee has also proposed making West Lincoln Avenue "one way" westbound from North Seton to School Lane - basically one way westbound behind the Ott House and the Fire Company.

The Board of Commissioners was still unable to agree on a process change related to filling a vacancy. No majority could be found to adopt any one of three basic proposals: a) continue as in the past with the Board appointing a replacement, or b) hold a special election, or c) leave the position vacant until the next Municipal election. Maybe this should be a ballot question at this Fall's election??? I for one am opposed to the Board 'picking a name from a hat' and would prefer to leave

the position vacant until the next regular election when the voters can decide for themselves.

The issue that has received the most press coverage recently concerns a request from a resident on West Main Street that the Board modify existing town ordinances so that residents are permitted to raise a small number of chickens at their home. I believe everyone agrees that this would be restricted to no more than four hens. Roosters would remain prohibited.

When making the original request about a month ago, the resident supplied a petition signed by over twenty others supporting the idea. The issue has been in the county press at least twice and been a topic of discussion at two town meetings. To date, I am not aware that anyone has weighed in

against the proposal.

On March 18, the Board established a framework to allow the activity. This involves some input from the Planning Commission and the eventual preparation of ordinance changes to a couple areas of the current town code. I personally am leaning towards supporting the proposal - but with an eighteen month "sunset provision" that would force us to re-evaluate the change in the future. If, after the trial run, there were truly no issues, then the change could become permanent. The proof is in the pot pie, as they say...

As always, please keep an eye out for opportunities to contribute and don't hesitate to share your opinions with your elected official by sending an e-mail to [towncouncil@emmitsburgmd.gov](mailto:towncouncil@emmitsburgmd.gov).

### From the Desk of County Commissioner Blaine Young

As Ronald Reagan liked to say, "There you go again." If I hear one more person say "When I moved here from Montgomery County," or "growth in Frederick County is out of control," or, of course, "the developers are getting a free ride and not paying their fair share," I think my head is going to explode!

And let's not forget the ever-popular "we don't want to turn into Montgomery County."

When one newcomer after another whines and complains "we don't want to turn Frederick County into Montgomery County," I have to wonder what they mean by that. Maybe they think they should be the last ones allowed to cross the border into our county, and we should tell the unfortunates left behind they are not welcome. What would they have thought if we had said that to them 10 to 20 years ago? Or 5 years? Or, as seems to apply to the most vocal of the malcontents, last year?

First we have not had over 1,000 residential building permits approved in any one year for the past five consecutive years. Now, when is the last time in this county our growth was that slow? It was in the late 1960s.

Yes, you heard correctly, the late 1960s. Frederick County is presently growing at

a pace slower than at any time in almost 50 years. And, from this sad economic fact, we have learned one thing for sure: No rate of growth will ever be slow enough to satisfy the selfish few among us who want to pull up the drawbridge behind them, lock the door and bar any new neighbors from joining us here. It is always the ones who have lived here the shortest time who complain the loudest.

Now, let's look at the facts concerning the school system and the rate of growth of the student population. How many new students joined our children in the entire public school system last year? Forty. That's right, forty more students in the school system this year than last, spread out over 62 schools, an average of less than one new kid per school; and this in a school system that has system-wide capacity at every level (elementary, middle, high) and is at less than 90% capacity overall.

This is not just a one year anomaly it is a trend. We have gained only 212 students over the last six years, an average of less than 36 new students per year. All the while this current Board of County Commissioners will have added more than 500 new seats in school construction projects.

In what fantasy world do these num-

bers amount to out-of-control growth? You could certainly argue, and I would not disagree - in the past when Frederick County was approving over 2,500 new homes per year - that was out of control. In response to those kinds of numbers, the prior county commissioners slashed the projected rate of growth for the county - all the way to 1500 homes per year. That's right, even the last board, beloved as they were by the no-growth crowd, agreed that 1,500 new homes each year was an appropriate and reasonable rate of growth in the county. And we are not even close to that, and in some of the last 5 years have not even done half that number.

What we are hearing now from a small - but overly agitated - number of our refugees from Montgomery County and other areas is by no means a debate on the "facts." No, it is looking more and more like the same old scare tactics employed by rabid anti-growth people just spewing the same tired NIMBY arguments: "I am here, in paradise, and I don't want them to let you in."

Now, let's talk about this so-called "free ride" developers are getting in Frederick County. I do not know how you call going out of business or laying off hard-working construction workers, or going

bankrupt a free ride. Trying to stay alive and meet payroll in the worst economy in generations for the construction industry is not my idea of a free ride. I may not know as much as the brilliant people who march on Winchester Hall with no clue of the facts, but the business world is something I do know a little about. I have many friends that are entrepreneurs. I am one myself. We take risk, employ people and sign loans to start and operate a business. If there is any money left at the end of the week (or, all too often, month), we get paid. But only after our employees, the bank, the power company, the tax man and everyone else with their hand out for cash from the small business owner. If you don't believe me, that's fine. But unless you have ever tried it for yourself, don't tell me it is easy, and spare me the whining about "free rides."

Developers in Frederick County are paying more than ever in the history of Frederick County. Now there is a fact for you. Yes, we created some flexibility with the process, but they are paying for that flexibility.

This Board of County Commissioners has been as aggressive with school construction projects as any in the history of Frederick County. We moved up the addition of Oakdale Elementary;

we have come up with a plan working with developers to move up the addition of Urbana Middle, by getting developer money up front. Lincoln Elementary was just renovated and North Frederick Elementary will be renovated and completed by August 2014, all while we are experiencing the slowest student growth rate in my lifetime.

The fact is we don't want to turn into Montgomery County. Frederick County is unique and is wonderful, and we don't aspire to emulate anyone else. With proper planning, which means economic (and population) growth at a reasonable pace, we will retain our identity and improve our quality of life. We need and will get, with much funding from the private sector as well as tax dollars, new roads, schools, parks, fire stations and water and sewer improvements.

I have lived in Frederick County my entire life and have no desire to live anywhere else at this time. My mother and her four sons used to welcome our new neighbors with a pie or cake.

I should ever relocate, I promise the last thing I will ever do is be uninformed, call public officials derogatory names, and tell them I don't want them turning my county into another Frederick County. That would not be neighborly.



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# GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

## From the Desk of County Commissioner Kirby Delauter

This month I'm changing my article from my usual political rant to a more personal level, which is to write about a local person that has had an impact on me as a middle school student, a high school student, a high school football player, and as a parent. This person is Paul Nolan.

First I will give some background on Mr. Paul Nolan to give some insight on his accomplishments. He graduated from Frostburg State where he played catcher on the baseball team. He taught for Frederick County Public Schools for over 32 years beginning at Thurmont High School as a History Teacher and was also the Asst. Boys Basketball Coach. He then taught Physical Education at Thurmont Middle School. He organized the Thurmont Spartans 7th and 8th grade Boys Basketball team. In 1970 he helped organize the High School Football program where he was Asst. Varsity Football Coach for 22 years. He was Head Coach of JV and 9th grade football.

He was Head Coach of 1975 JV team which was the first undefeated football team in school history. Coached several MVAL cham-

pionship varsity football teams. He coached 2 undefeated varsity football teams in 1982 and 1983, he was Assistant Girls' Softball Coach for state championship team in 1986, and became Athletic Director in 1979. As Athletic Director, Paul established a family coaching attitude with all the school coaches. Organized the highly successful Football Mothers' Club and was instrumental in unifying students, parents and athletes as a sports community. He then Coached CYA youth football for several years after his retirement, and was inducted into the Alvin G. Quinn Hall of Fame in February 2013. Recognized as a "Visionary, an Innovator, and a Role Model" during the induction ceremonies.

Now, if that's not an impressive enough resume' to get your attention, I will now tell a story of how people impact your life and at the time you may not know it, and neither may the person that has made that impact. I remember Paul Nolan as a Phys Ed Teacher at Thurmont Middle School. He had a knack for keeping everyone in line with a great sense of humor and some one liners that would

make Dennis Miller proud. He was old school, your best friend if you treated him with the respect he had earned, but your worst enemy if you decided to test his will to teach you and make you that better person. I don't mean "worst enemy" in a bad way, let's just say he had his way of getting his point across. He taught personal responsibility and excuses weren't something he'd accept easily. He didn't parse anything, you always knew where he stood and when in his class, he was in charge. I watched as he would not fail to reach every kid no matter what their background or circumstances. In a lot of cases he gave them that parental guidance that some were sorely lacking from home. Some it may have made a difference, some not, but he never gave up on anyone.

Never giving up, that's where I come in. I was on the High School Football Team from 1979 - 1982. During the 1981 season I was a junior trying to make the varsity starting lineup. At 5'-7" 160 lbs (wish I could say that today) that was no easy feat, especially since we had some very good senior talent to compete against. I believe it was our second game of

the season at Smithsburg. I can't remember the circumstance that put me in the game as a defensive back, but Coach Nolan put me in and told me one thing, "whatever you do, you absolutely under no circumstances let that receiver get behind you.....do you understand"? I nodded my head yes and off I went into the game.

The ball is snapped, I see the receiver coming at me, then to me, then straight past me like a lightning bolt. He caught the pass and scored. As I stood there wondering what the hell just happened, I started to trot off to the sideline where an extremely upset Coach Nolan greeted me. His rant lasted about thirty seconds which seemed like thirty days. He spoke to me at the next practice and explained to me what mistakes I had made and how he wanted me to play the game. He started me the next game and from there on out all the way through my senior year. He never gave up on me. Sports and mainly football played a big part of my life, sports taught me teamwork, self discipline, how to think under pressure, and take constructive criticism from your peers, things that

I have used while in the military, personal life and in business. Had Coach Nolan given up on me, I may have quit which at that point, who knows what negative impact that would have had on my life.

I am glad to see that he was inducted into the Alvin G. Quinn Hall of Fame as a Visionary, an Innovator and a Role Model. It's good to see that good things happen to good people. I don't believe for one minute that Paul Nolan did anything in life in order to receive recognition, I think he did it because he wanted to make a difference. He is a Visionary because he saw what needed to be done and made it happen, he was an innovator because he thinks outside the box, and he is a Role Model because he didn't give up on anyone, including me. It's little things through life that add up and make a difference as to who you are. Nobody is an island and everyone needs some encouragement once in a while. I was just lucky enough to have a future Hall of Famer to be one of the role models in my life.

Thanks Coach Nolan, you don't have to wonder if you made a difference.....you did.

## From the Desk of Emmitsburg Mayor Don Briggs

Our community lost another special person. This time it was Horace Waybright. On March 22, his funeral service was held at St. James Church in Gettysburg off the square. At the service his daughter reminded all that Horace often said that he, "never got far in life"... Horace a seventh generation Adams County dairy farmer was born and raised in the same farmhouse that he would later live in with Evelyn, his bride of 53 years, and raised a family. In today's highly mobile society this is astonishing. In my visits to the farm whether for discussions around the kitchen table or driving about in Horace's old white truck, he was a man who dearly loved his family and farming.

The church was predictably filled mostly with farming community people. The mood was light and respectfully accepting. Conditioned to the everyday reality on a farm of death, the role of prayer in it all was apparent. The service was a solemn tribute and good voice was given to wonderful hymns. Sensed was with the days getting longer and fields and animals again to tend to, the cy-

cle again renewed was in itself a fitting tribute to the farmer that Horace was. The service seamlessly folded in to a celebration of the coming Easter.

The words of Henry David Thoreau seems to capture it,

"In any weather, at any hour I have been anxious to improve the nick of time, and notch it on my stick too; to stand at the meeting of two eternities, the past and the future, which is precisely the present moment to toe the line.

"Time is but a stream I go fishing in. I drink at it; but while I drink I see sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. It's thin current slides away, but eternity remains."

Also coming to mind, as a challenge I suppose, was the popular expression,

"Tomorrow isn't promised (to anyone)," which seemed to fit the mood, but then again it didn't. Particularly to a farmer's where their whole life is centered around the promise tomorrow brings.

On Easter morning in all of our churches and at the non denominational 6:30 am sunrise service at the Grotto, a promise is confirmed, that tomorrow is promised and to all us. Happy Easter to all.

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U1L	10U1L	BB	6	365	300		\$45.15	
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U1R	7U1R	BB	6	235	195		\$35.23	
U1R	8U1R	BB	6	275	230		\$37.42	
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24	24M6	BB	12	820	675	115	\$90.38	
24	24M7	BB	12	1000	800	130	\$100.39	
27	27M6	BB	12	1050	840	182	\$123.69	
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24	DP24	BB	12	685	550	140	120	\$89.31
27	DP27	BB	12	810	650	175	150	\$101.54
31	DP31DT	BB	12	875	700	205	185	\$132.76
<b>MARINE DEEP CYCLE</b>								
24	DC24	BB	12	625	500	150	130	\$104.60
27	DC27	BB	12	715	575	200	175	\$119.60
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# GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

## From the Desk of Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

Spring has sprung! Hope by the time you read this column the weather has warmed up. It seemed that winter did not want to go away. Can you believe that it was April 2<sup>nd</sup> of last year when a traffic light appeared on Fairfield Road in Cumberland Township as PennDOT started their repairs on the March Creek Road Bridge. Well, the latest word is that by the end of this April the traffic light will be taken down and the bridge's both lanes will open. Are you planning to celebrate Patriot Day on April 15<sup>th</sup>? This is the day that commemorates the Battle of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775. It honors the Midnight Ride of Paul Revere when he rode through the town crying out "The Red Coats are coming!". While April is designated as the Stress Awareness month, April 16<sup>th</sup>, the day after tax day, is recognized as the Stress Awareness day. April 16<sup>th</sup> is also a holiday in Washington D. C. to mark the signing of the Compensated Emancipation Act by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862. Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>. U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson is considered the "Father of Earth Day". The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970. As a direct result of Earth Day which focused attention on environmental concerns, the Environ-

mental Protection Agency was established. By the way, when you changed your clocks to "Spring Forward", did you change all your smoke alarm batteries. You should test your alarms monthly. The entire smoke alarm system (all units) whether battery-powered or hardwired in the home's electrical system should be replaced every 8-10 years. While you are at it, you should also check your carbon monoxide detector too. Check out [www.carbonmonoxidekills.com](http://www.carbonmonoxidekills.com) for understanding the dangers of carbon monoxide.

If you are just starting to prepare your taxes to meet the April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, there are a couple of places that may offer you some help. The Director of the Adams County Office for Aging (ACOFA), Steve Niebler, has offered to help older folks to complete the local tax form received from their tax collector at no cost. Counselors are available every Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the ACOFA office located at 318 West Middle Street, Gettysburg. Their phone number is (717) 334-9296. The York Adams Tax Bureau Deputy Director, Mitch Hoffman, is also offering to help Adams County residents to complete their local tax form at no cost. Their office is located at 240 West Street Plaza, Gettys-

burg and their phone number is (717) 334-4000.

If you live within the boundaries of the area served by the Fairfield Fire and EMS then you have received the annual membership application for Ambulance Service. For a very reasonable rate of \$40 per family or \$25 per individual you and/or each resident family member are entitled to emergency service transport to the nearest appropriate medical facility, within a 75 mile radius. Emergency service is defined as an injury or illness for which an ambulance is the only suitable means of transportation for a patient to reach medical care. Emergency and non-emergency transfers between medical facilities, or from facilities to home, will be provided when manpower and equipment are available. Service beyond the 75-mile limitation is billed to the member at Fairfield Ambulance rates. Non-emergency requests for ambulance service by a member is honored only for medical necessity when manpower and equipment are available, and with a referral from a doctor, hospital, medical center or health agency. Please note that the membership is available only to those living in the Fairfield Ambulance first due area. The money generated from this Spring membership drive is



**Councilor David Wheeler (right) from Littlestown was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his many years of dedicated service to the Adams County Boroughs Association by Mayor Ron Harris.**

dedicated solely for the Fairfield Ambulance program.

On Saturday, April 27, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Fairfield Fire & EMS Department on Steelman Street, the Carroll Valley Borough Police and Liberty Township Police Departments along with the State Police will be partnering with Collaborating For Youth and Fairfield Fire & EMS fire department to carry out the fifth Adams County "Take Back" medicine collection. This medicine collection provides an opportunity for Adams County residents to dispose of unused or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications safely and free of charge. Pills, liquids, creams, and pill bubble-packs will be accepted. No needles or sharps will be accepted. Seventy percent of people abusing prescription pain relievers get them (take) from family and friends. In fact, more teens abuse prescription drugs than any illicit drug except marijuana (SAMHSA 2011). In addition, safely disposing of prescription drugs and unused OTC medications helps reduce the damage to groundwater and the environment. Adams County's medication collection and disposal is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration in partnership with local and State Police, local fire departments, Collaborating For Youth, and the Adams County Department of Environmental Services. For more information regarding the Adams County TAKE BACK, please contact Eileen Grenell at Collaborating For

Youth, (717) 338-0300 x 24, or [drugfree@cfygettysburg.com](mailto:drugfree@cfygettysburg.com).

Are you aware of the PennDOT "Yellow Dot" program. A yellow dot decal is placed on the lower left corner of participant's vehicle's rear windshield. The decal alerts first responders that vital information can be found in the vehicle's glove compartment. If you are interested, go to PennDOT's website [www.yellowdot.pa.gov](http://www.yellowdot.pa.gov). When you visit the site, you will be asked to fill out a form that documents your emergency contact information, medications, allergies and your doctor's name. Why participate? If you are in an accident and unconscious, the first responder is aware of your personal health needs at the site and will be able to communicate that information to the medical. Please consider it. If you check the Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve website at [www.strawberry.org](http://www.strawberry.org) and click on the Timberdoodle Trek link you will discover that on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. you will have the opportunity to witness the American Woodcock springtime courtship ritual.

The Borough meetings in April are: Planning Commission (April 1<sup>st</sup>); Finance Committee (April 8<sup>th</sup>); Council Meeting (April 9<sup>th</sup>); Sewer/Water Authority (April 22<sup>nd</sup>) and Parks/Recreation Committee (April 24<sup>th</sup>). Please watch your speed when driving. There will be more residents walking the trails. If you have any questions, please contact me by calling me at (301) 606-2021. Have a good month!

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## GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

# From the Desk of County Commissioner Marty Qually

According to the 2007 Ag Census Adams County contains nearly 1,289 diverse farms totaling over 174,595 acres. These farms produce everything from grains, hay, fruits and berries, poultry and eggs, to cows and horses. Adams County ranks 6 out of 67 counties in Pennsylvania for the total value of agricultural products sold. With an ever changing landscape and economy our County continues to be a leader in agriculture within the Commonwealth. One need only attend the annual South Mountain Fair or Apple Harvest Festival to notice the importance agriculture plays in our county. With tens of thousands of visitors flocking each year to these events and others related to farming the industry continues to have a strong local presence.

In 1990 the County began to invest in preserving the agricultural lands dotting our country sides. The Farmland Preservation Program was created to permanently protect these lands by placing conservation easements on them. Using state mandated guidelines the program systematically scores farms ranking them on criteria that include soil production, development potential and the proximity to existing preserved farms. While maintaining a structured scoring system the County has been able to cluster many of their preservation efforts. Eleven cluster ar-

reas containing over 700 acres each of permanent farmland exist because of the program. To date the program has preserved almost 20,000 acres. The Farmland Preservation programs work in conjunction with the Land Conservancy of Adams County to best utilize Local, State, Federal, and donated funds for preservation. It is also important to note that all of these programs are voluntary. It takes a willingness by the property owner to preserve their land and the ability of local organizations to find funds to pay for the easements on the land. Without both items preservation is not possible.

In 2012 Adams County merged its Ag land Preservation Department was merged into the Adams County Office of Planning and Development and they became the Rural Resource Division within the Planning Office. The County Commissioners did not see planning and preservation as two different areas, but as one in the same. Whether it is transportation, economic development, or farmland preservation, from now on in Adams County it is all seen through the lens of long term planning. With this merger came a new directive to begin formally prioritizing and planning out how we preserved farms in Adams County. Before we continue spending local funds to preserve land, there needs to be a plan on what should be preserved. To this

end the Rural Resources Division began creating a map of Preservation Priority Areas (PPA). While the current scoring system has guided the Farmland Preservation Program for over twenty years, one missing component to this has been a priority preservation map. This map will emphasize priority areas in significant agricultural regions within the County based upon demographic and economic data, landscape patterns, current land use plans, as well as community input. Using a geographic mapping program the County will plug many of these features into a computer program and examine their relationships and connectivity to each other. We also intend to use the same format to create an open space PPA map to spotlight the preservation of natural areas, including water resources. This analysis will help find the open space and agriculture lands most appropriate for preservation efforts. These maps are getting away from the subjective opinions of which areas are most important to our County and beginning to analytically determine regions and specific parcels that are the most crucial to the economic, recreational, and cultural viability of our landscape.

And it is not just the Office of Planning working on creating the PPA map. We have been obtaining input from the Conservation District, Land

Conservancy of Adams County, and Penn State Extension. Once a final draft is created it will be present to the Adams County Planning Commission, Ag Land Preservation Board, Watershed Alliance of Adams County, the Council of Government, and to the public for comments. For something this important to our County we want as much input as possible before finalizing our plans. Our hope is to begin soliciting public input this Summer.

With limited funds available, the preservation efforts of the County must protect the existing clusters of preserved lands and the most productive areas using priority strategies. Creating PPAs will concentrate the focus of permanent preservation on critical landscapes needed to sustain a viable agricultural land base. The PPA maps will become a guide, albeit a strongly weighted guide that will complement the current scoring systems of farmland and open space preservation. There is no doubt that agriculture and open space are valuable parts of the cultural and economic fabric in Adams County, and by creating priority maps we can make sure to get the best bang for our buck, while still leaving open for development suitable for development. Again with limited funds to pay for projects it is critical to focus on the most economically viable areas for preservation. What

sense does it make to expend time and money preserving areas that are within the growth areas of our towns and will be shortly be surrounded by residential sub-divisions? Let's instead focus on our most important lands that have the best long term potential for success and direct our resources to their preservation.

Many changes have occurred over the past 30 years in Adams County in our relationship with the landscape. Less folks live or work on farms, and many commute to work traveling over 40 miles one way. But our dependence on food has never been more important. Former Secretary of Agriculture, Russell Redding, would start many of his speeches with "How many of us eat food?" The answer is obvious. The Office of Planning hopes by creating preservation priority maps for farmland and open space we can help guide our preservation programs in protecting the most important lands of Adams County for the future. Adams County needs viable successful farms to keep our local economy strong and the creation of a Priority Preservation Area map is a great step in the right direction.

Special thanks to Mark Clowney in our Rural Resources Division of Planning for his help with this article. Mark's family has been farming in Adams County since the 1960s.

# From the Desk of State Representative Dan Moul

Eighty years after the end of Prohibition, the House voted in favor of legislation to put Pennsylvania's wholesale and retail wine and liquor sales in private hands. House Bill 790 would put beer, wine and spirits under one roof. The bill would increase the number of licenses available, giving Pennsylvania's beer distributors preference for these licenses during the first year of implementation. Thereafter, all remaining licenses would be available on a first-come, first-served basis. The bill also provides for grocery store wine licenses and convenience store takeout sales. Expanded hours and Sunday sales will be permitted under the bill, and consumers will have the opportunity to purchase beer in less than case quantities. In my legislative district, consumers overwhelmingly support privatization of the state's liquor system, many freely admitting that they go out of state to buy their wine and spirits. House Bill 790 aims to recapture those lost sales and keep consumers shopping here in the Commonwealth. The measure now goes to the state Senate.

The Legislature continues its work to ensure the safety and well-being of Pennsylvania children. The House recently passed and sent to the Senate House Bill 321, which would strengthen penalties for child pornography, and House Bill 89, which would make grants available to the state's 21 Child Advocacy Centers, which provide com-

prehensive treatment for abused children.

The House Children and Youth Committee, on which I serve as vice chairman, voted out House Bill 429, which would extend employment discrimination protections to anyone who makes a report of child abuse in good faith. Two additional bills now before the committee, House Bills 431 and 432, would require professionals licensed to care for, supervise or routinely interact with children to receive on-going training on how to identify child abuse and report it to authorities. These bills stem from recommendations made by the Task Force on Child Protection.

House action also included a measure to protect Pennsylvania's other vulnerable population – its care-dependent citizens. It passed a bill to criminalize the willful abuse and neglect of care-dependent people, which results in death at the hands of caregivers. A care-dependent person may be elderly, disabled or have mental retardation. House Bill 31 would amend the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, making it a crime for caretakers to physically or mentally abuse a care-dependent person, and for knowingly or intentionally endangering the welfare of a care-dependent person by failing to provide needed treatment, care, goods or services. The bill covers community residential facilities for the mentally disabled, adult daily living centers, licensed and unlicensed home

health care service providers, and any person who has voluntarily assumed an obligation to provide care because of a family relationship, contract or court order. The legislation is on its way to the Senate for consideration.

In other action, the House Aging and Older Adult Services Committee advanced House Bill 658, the Senior Citizen Property Tax Reduction Exchange Program. This legislation would allow school districts to set up programs in which senior citizens

volunteer in the school district in which they reside and receive a property tax credit in exchange for their services. Services may include tutoring children, monitoring classrooms or the cafeteria, helping in the library or office, assisting with afterschool programs, and similar mentoring activities.

Also, the House voted unanimously to approve legislation to establish a commission to develop a new special education funding formula. The 15-member commission is tasked with establishing requirements that will ensure a fair system of distribution among school districts. The commission report would be due by Sept. 30. House Bill 2 is on its way to the Senate.

As always, I invite my constituents to call me with any questions, concerns they may have on any state-related issue. I may be reached at (717) 334-3010 or via email at [dmoul@pahousegov.com](mailto:dmoul@pahousegov.com). Please visit my website at [www.RepMoul.com](http://www.RepMoul.com).



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## COMMENTARY

# Words From Winterbilt

## What do you want?

Shannon Bohrer

I was watching the news on television as the host, a former congressman, was lamenting about the inability of both parties to work together. The host cited several historical examples of cooperation between the parties. One of the examples was President Regan and Speaker Tip O'Neil and another was President Clinton and the Republican Congress, of which this former congressman was a member. He gave several examples of legislation that was enacted through cooperation. He added that when you are in congress and you want to work with the other side, you arrange a meeting and the very first thing you say is, "What do you want?" This reminded me of what someone once said about communication: "First, you seek to understand, then you seek to be understood." I consider this very good advice. However, understanding what someone wants is very different from what they are willing to cut.

My immediate impression was that this news host simply listed why congress cannot work to-

gether. If compromise is defined as both sides getting what they want, then compromise would occur on a regular basis in congress, as it has for many years. I am going to go out on a limb and speculate that when two sides are negotiating with the intent of both sides gaining something, it will cost money. This working together strategy worked for some time, as evidenced by our debt and deficits. However, our current problem is that, since we have spent too much, we now have to be very careful about what we spend. Instead of asking, "What do you want?" maybe we should be asking, "What are you willing to give up?"

The question of why can't congress reduce spending is commonly asked and yet the answer is simple. It has been widely reported that Congress has been bought and paid for by special interest groups; large industries and businesses, as well as the very wealthy. The importance of this should not be understated. Money is needed to run a reelection campaign, so those running depend on their special interest groups to donate. Without donations, they might not be re-

lected. Think of it this way: you are rich and you represent a business or industry that can benefit from congressional influence and legislation. If donating funds to specific members of congress would benefit your position, why wouldn't you do it? Congress and special interest groups have a symbiotic relationship, both depending on each other. It is actually very logical.

I should note that not all industry and/or businesses have influence in congress. In my opinion, small business owners, self-employed craftsman, and saddle and harness makers are not very influential in congress. These industries and businesses are of insufficient size to influence congress, basically meaning they can't contribute enough money. Two other groups that have limited influence include the very young that do not vote and the very poor that are unable to contribute to campaigns.

Because of the special interest and influence in congress, there are two significant problems that we face. The first is that congress is incapable of cutting anything of significance, and the second is the monstrous stream of revenue needed to simply run

the government. Of course, this stream of revenue, from the politician's perspective, includes money for elections.

As for the first issue, both political sides don't want to be the party that cuts anything out of the budget, because this could result in fewer votes for themselves and fewer donations to their elections. If one party receives funds from industries A and B, it not only won't want to hurt them with cuts, but it also wants to reward them with extra tax breaks, benefits etc. Parties don't want to cut anything that makes them look bad. Therefore, even when congress is supposed to be cutting, they can't help but spend. There were eight corporate subsidies in the fiscal cliff bill this past January. Yes, passing a bill to keep us from going over the cliff because we have spent too much – contained eight corporate subsidies, one of which was for Goldman Sachs. It's true, look it up. Even the emergency aid package for Hurricane Sandy relief had multiple funding for other industries. Not only can congress not cut, but they can't stop spending when they are cutting.

As for the second problem, that of having enough revenue

to run the government, the revenue sources have been shrinking for some time. It has been reported that almost half of the population does not pay federal income tax. Forty five percent of all taxpayers earn less than \$30,000 per year and they make up 80 percent of the families that don't pay federal income tax. The other 20 percent that does not pay federal income tax includes 7,000 millionaires—Millionaires that have probably received special tax breaks for their donations. Businesses and industries have also had their taxes reduced. According to one study, on any given year about forty percent of large businesses don't pay any federal income tax and many of them receive specific industry/business special tax breaks.

Since almost half the population, 7,000 millionaires, and 40 percent of businesses don't pay taxes, there are not that many of us left to pay the bills. Therefore, I would implore you that if you are still working and paying taxes, please continue to do so. Since there are so few of us to pay the bills, we need all that are able. Besides, as "good" as it is right now, what will happen when things get bad?

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

# Common Cents

## Cyber wars

Ralph Murphy

While driving to work at Andrews Air Force Base in February, I was surprised to encounter a flood of traffic leaving the base and being greeted by non functioning traffic signals. It was a real challenge to get past the exiting vehicles, and when I arrived at the Main Gate I could see there was no electricity and automated, traffic control indicators. Once past the gate guards, Military Police were directing traffic and sirens were blaring constantly. All power and telephones were out at the main buildings.

The problems lasted a little over an hour and all but the most secure areas lacked, back-up generators and most were relying on cell phones for external communication. When the lights finally came back on we all had a good laugh, but what if they hadn't? I mean this was Joint Base Andrews. A major transportation link for the President, his Cabinet and foreign dignitaries between D.C. and the outside world.

If this event had been caused by some type of a "cyber" attack, it appears there is little that could have been done to cope with it. A week after the Andrews event, Pentagon officials openly declared that the U.S. "could be devastated by a cyber assault if businesses and gov-

ernments don't act now" to defend themselves.

House Intelligence Committee Chair, Mike Rogers (R. Michigan) said on February 16th, that there was a need for private companies, who are also in the hackers' crosshairs, to share their concerns. That a concerted, coordinated effort was needed to defend against cyber attacks being mounted by private individuals, organizations and foreign governments. Rogers noted that there has "grown an exponential threat both in terms of its volume and the damage it is doing to our economic future."

A GAO report at about the same time claimed that documented, cyber security threats have jumped from 5503 incidents in 2006 to 48,562 in 2012. The report stated the attacks had put "sensitive information at risk (jeopardizing) federal and military operations, critical infrastructure, and the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of sensitive government, private sector, and personal information." It suggested developing controls. Others were more specific as to the source and effective action to be taken to counter this contemporary threat.

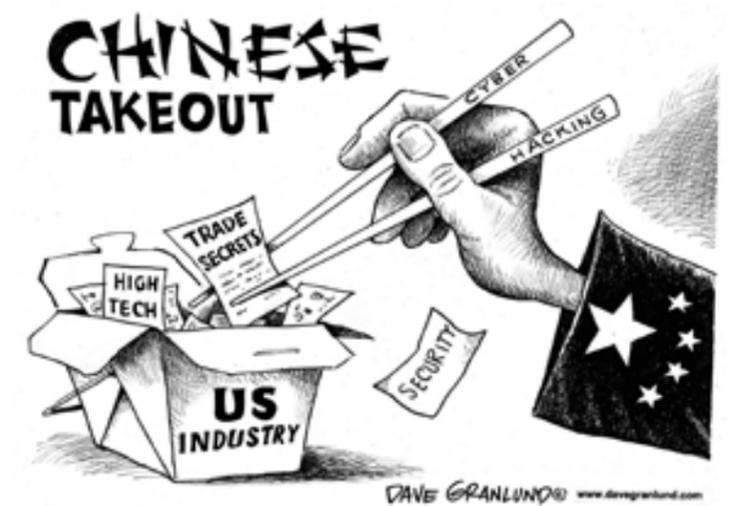
A U.S. security firm, Mandiant, claimed on 20 February, that it had traced (relevant) hacking activity to the Chinese, People's Liberation Army (PLA) Unit 61389, that had

systematically stolen hundreds of terabytes of data from at least 141 organizations." PLA Unit 61389 is based in Shanghai, China.

In a February 22nd "Washington Post" article, former CIA director Michael Hayden announced that the U.S. was "almost defenseless" against cyber attacks, and revealed that "almost all Washington institutions have been penetrated by Chinese cyber spies. Law firms, think tanks, news organizations, human rights groups, corporations, Congressional offices, embassies, and Federal agencies," have all leaked data to the east.

China vehemently denies stealing data from computers or attacking them in such a way as to threaten life, property, or livelihood. Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman Geng Yansheng went on to claim that, in 2012, "the Defense Ministry and Chinese, military online websites were hacked on an average of 144,000 times a month". The U.S. was thought to be responsible for 62% of these attacks.

Hayden suggests economic sanctions, which might be forthcoming, would do little to damage the American trade balance which is routinely in the red against that rising power. China does finance much of our debt, and the PLA actions are certainly viewed by U.S. policy makers through that prism. The "war



of words" is continuing, and even includes allies such as Germany's Military Intelligence Chief Ulrich Birkennheim, to admit in a rare interview, that one of his main challenges "was to protect defense projects from industrial espionage by the Russian and Chinese secret services." He identified the threat, but didn't indicate any, overt or covert actions to counter it. This seems to be the norm while policy makers there and in other developed and less developed nations grapple with how to deal with the new concern.

The need to protect domestic government interests are clear. What is less clear is how to protect vital commerce from attack without taking sides in what would otherwise be free market competition. Does helping one producer unfairly hurt its competitors? This has led to a "red line" which distances the U.S. and other relatively, transparent governments from thwarting economic espionage, and concen-

trating on broader national interests such as infrastructure.

The free market depends on a strong government to ensure competition and provide services such as printed money or physical infrastructure to include roads, dams, and bridges. No single company can offer such essentials, but all ultimately need them!

Advanced economies have come to depend on computers for their very existence and survival. They have, however failed to adequately protect these valuable machines from domestic and foreign aggression. A lapse that could prove devastating if not addressed.

As Michael Hayden concluded "America is almost defenseless to cyber attacks, and should hold China accountable." Hopefully it won't take a 9/11-type event to bring this view to reality!

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

# Pure OnSense

## Friendly fire

Scott Zuke

A political science professor once told my class that the higher one climbs in political leadership—or any management position, for that matter—the more time one spends praising others and receiving blame. The accuracy of that statement is abundantly clear for members of Congress, who would probably feel a great relief if their jobs were merely thankless during the last few years of cyclical fiscal crises that have driven their approval ratings into the ground.

Whether or not people know what “Sequestration” is by now, chances are that they are angry about it and so frustrated by Congress’s inability to resolve the disputes it has created for itself that they are giving up on reasonable solutions and grasping instead for poetic justice. An extremely common suggestion has been to dock the pay of members of Congress until they come to a compromise. It’s unlikely this would achieve much, but currently the Constitution’s 27th Amendment forbids Congress from tampering with its own pay anyway. (That hasn’t stopped the idea’s populist appeal, though, so John Bar-

row, a Democrat from Georgia, went so far as to propose a change to the amendment so that it only restricts Congress from voting itself pay increases, but not decreases.) Meanwhile, Congressional offices could still receive budget cuts, but all that does is hit the underpaid staffers, just grateful to have landed a salaried position after months or years of jumping between unpaid internships—not to mention the constituents they serve. That won’t really satisfy anyone.

These days Representatives are routinely shamed for acting like petulant children, but that comparison is misleading. For ‘accountability’ to actually mean something, voters have to look beyond the politicians’ public personae and understand the political forces that push them into behaving the way they do.

For decades the balance of power in Washington has been shifting in favor of special interest groups who use member fees to pump huge sums of money into influencing elections. That’s not new, but what is interesting of late is that some of these groups no longer just spend their money backing one party’s candidates over the other’s, but instead are threatening to back pri-

mary challengers to their own party’s sitting members in retaliation for any behavior perceived to be too moderate.

During budget negotiations a few months ago some Democrats, hoping to end a bitter stalemate, offered a relatively minor concession to the Republicans, who have sought to cut unnecessary spending on Social Security and Medicare by recalculating annual inflation so that the benefits seniors receive would more accurately reflect increases to their cost of living. Senior advocacy groups leaped into action and mobilized to put intense pressure on the Democrats not to “throw seniors under the bus.” One group, the Progressive Change Campaign Committee (PCCC) openly threatened to back primary challengers to any incumbent Democrats who backed the offer. Today the plan is still extremely controversial, and prominent Democrats, including Maryland’s Chris Van Hollen, strongly oppose it, limiting their bargaining options.

The strategy has popped up even more frequently on the other side of the aisle. The conservative Club for Growth has threatened primary challenges against any Republican incumbents they believe to be compromising on pure conservative principles. The group even launched a website called “Primary My Congressman!” featuring nine Representatives it pegs as “Republicans in name only,” or R.I.N.O.’s.

“...In districts that are heavily Republican,” the website explains, “there are literally dozens of missed opportunities to elect real fiscal conservatives to Congress — not more ‘moderates’ who will compromise with Democrats to just increase spending and grow government a little bit slower than usual.”

If you’re looking for one of the big sources of partisan gridlock in D.C., look no further. These special interest groups are dedicating their time and money to turning “moderate” into a dirty word and ensuring that compromise is next to impossible.

Like I said, this kind of influence by such groups is not new, and has been strongly linked to greater partisanship since the 90s. It’d be an oversight, however, not to see some of the Tea Party’s handiwork in this trend. Whether the Republican establishment didn’t know what they were getting themselves into when they worked to co-opt to the Tea Party movement, or just didn’t care, the resulting fissure in their party has become increasingly public. And for now, the bulk of popular enthusiasm seems to be favoring the insurgent, uncompromising far-right over the more moderate establishment.

To be clear, the same divisive forces are at work in the Democratic party, and they could become just as problematic in the future. The difference for now is that, by the

will of the voters, the Republicans are the minority party, but are not acting like one. The Tea Party and groups like the Club For Growth are not content to admit defeat and work towards rebuilding their base of support for the future. They see the best solution to losing ground to be going to even further ideological extremes, and they sell this vision to diehard supporters like it’s never been tried before, when in fact, they are the very roadblock to a resolution that they accuse other members of Congress of being.

There aren’t any easy solutions to this problem. Some political scientists argue that the proliferation of interest groups that clog the gears of Congress and uphold an increasingly untenable fiscal structure that benefits a few at the expense of the many is the inevitable result of a flaw in our form of governance. That’s biting off a lot more than I can chew here, but getting a little closer to understanding why our elected officials are stuck in the mud on Sequestration and other fiscal matters is a useful endeavor. Sure, they’ll still get the blame either way, as befits their position, but there’s more than enough to go around to the lesser known players standing in the way of progress.

*To read past editions of Pure OnSense visit the Authors section of emmitsburg.net.*

# Down Under

“Here I stand. I can do no other.”

—Martin Luther, 1517

Submitted by Lindsay!  
Melbourne, Australia

The name of Martin Luther will be forever in the history books. His defiance of Roman Catholic teachings, corruption, and the indifference they had to the plight of the vast majority of people made him one of the greatest reformers of all time. The theses he put on the door of the church in Wittenberg were seen as a declaration of defiance, frustration and purpose. They became the rallying flag of reform, compassion and righteous faith to a world in sore need. His courage and determination are bywords, even today, and he is rightly honored.

He could, however, not have done it alone.

Every lasting reform, every meaningful change takes the will and determination of one person and the support of thousands or even millions— who most often have no idea what they are helping set in motion. Luther took the existing widespread anger, rebellion and disillusion with the Catholic church and distilled it; His stance was both practical and symbolic, and it is the symbol that is used to galvanise support, that

becomes the beacon, the rallying point at which a stand is taken, suffering endured and the flag of liberty raised. It has happened many times throughout history, and it needs to happen again.

It is not only the purveyors of oppression who resist reform, but many citizens in their grip - for what such folk have is to them the norm, something they are used to, and although it is not always comfortable or pleasant, change could bring worse things into their lives - or so they believe. And, as the purveyors are in a very powerful position, often being the ones in control, it is daunting to take a stance against them. Life is made easier by going along with them, for otherwise the price they exact can be the forfeit of that life, and if not that, then reputation, livelihood and influence. Yet such deterrents are never enough when it comes down to the wire. When rebellion gets enough of a head of steam it takes annihilation to stop it. The self-interest of the oppressors is, in the end, just that and no more: Self-perpetuating interest, never the greater good, never the overall benefit of the community, the country, or of humanity.

In such circumstances the view from the ground is always two-di-

mensional. It is very hard to get the 3 D scene - it’s not until we fly around the globe, for instance, that we get some idea of its size, (just travelling across the country can never show us), and likewise we may know a problem exists, but cannot gauge its extent and the damage it does at home and abroad.

Many people from around the world, who can see the wider picture more readily than average citizen, despair at the problems that beset American society today, because they know full well the intense honesty, great moral responsibility and simple goodness of the great majority of voters. They hear the cries of anguish over the callous, rabid slaughter of innocent children, and despair at the heartless response of the gun lobby who place profit above all else. They cry over the bombing of civilians in countries deemed enemies of the state, and cringe in horror over the extreme torture of those who may, for even tenuous reasons, become associated with nebulous groups who are termed terrorists by a government that has lost its direction, its ideals and its right to be respected.

If ever a figure like Luther is needed, it is now. There may well be someone who could fill the role, but the will and ground-

swell of support has not happened. Many non-Catholics fled the church’s persecution before Luther got moving, but that is unlikely to repeat itself today in the U S A because it seems that there is simply too much comfort, lethargy and bewilderment there. Programs to get the economy moving, reduce unemployment, and the screaming petty fights in congress over taxation and the power of government fill the airwaves and screens. Justification for frenzy over supposed possible attacks on American soil by the enemy of the day are not allowed to be criticized in meaningful ways, yet it is still the reason for the expenditure of untold billions to ensure that anything like it cannot happen ever again. But armaments and aggression are not the answer. Neither is the installation of fear. Fear does not garner respect, but produces hidden ways of retaliation. The war on terror is actually a war of terror, and no country, no person is safe from it if they dare demur or fail to fully cooperate.

The picture that emerges is of a well-dressed loudmouthed giant thrashing about on a stage trying to deal with all manner of abuse from gnats, pickpockets and foreigners. A figure that was humiliated and horrified by an act of terrorism, whose response was the use of irrational and unsustainable aggression, denial of civil liberty to many at home, and the closing of perceived loopholes afterwards. The audience looks on, horrified, scared and sad, wishing it would stop. If it weren’t so terrify-

ing it would be piteous. Attempts to preserve its safety lead to more perilous conditions; dependence on armaments manufacture for employment only lead to self-destruction, and being the preeminent consumer society leads to printing money to pay employees and local debtors, which in turn leads to the very steep downward slippery slope of foreign domination.

It doesn’t matter where the blame lies - that can be debated forever, and will not change a thing - but why is there so little rebellion over the state of the nation today? Sure, the press is not very free, but there are so many other ways of catching and joining the waves of revulsion - unless, of course, they doesn’t exist, that you are all too scared to speak out, too comfortable in the pink glow of complacency, too ignorant and carefree - and the goodness and morality on which a society depends for continued existence are in fact just a veneer. Tell me that isn’t so, that you want to see reform, that you want to work towards a peaceable world, not just a nation that is constantly looking over its shoulder to see who is creeping up on it holding a WMD.

Raise the flag and a Luther will emerge. Send the signal and the rally will begin. You are a great nation. Take a stand, and help us respect you as once we did.

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

# THE PASTOR'S DESK

## A living hope

Pastor John Talcott,  
Christ Community Church

Out of the deadness of winter, spring comes, carrying with it a message of hope. In a world that is reeling in fear and uncertainty... politically, economically, and spiritually... there is hope for the nations. It is that very hope... a living hope, that we are celebrating Easter Sunday at Christ's Community Church. You can smell it in the air and feel it in the breeze, because it's the newness of the spring season that ushers in our Easter celebration Sunday at 10:30am. For me the sensory awareness of spring only heightens the deep inner sense of what God is desiring to do in all of our hearts.

So I join with the Apostle Peter in praise, rejoicing in God our Savior, in His first letter to the Church of Rome. Allow these words to saturate your whole spirit, soul, and body; birthing

in you a new and living hope... something as new, something as transforming, and something as unavoidable as Spring 2013. Let these words, the very words of the Living God, breathe hope into you... "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him;

and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:3-9; NIV). Amen!

This is such good news; because of the death and resurrection of Christ, we don't have to fear death. Because Jesus died and rose again from the dead, we know that for those who have trusted in the offering of His sinless, perfect, and sufficient self upon the cross... for those who have cast their sin and shame upon Christ... for those who have identified with His atoning sacrifice... there is a much better life beyond the grave, because God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Christ from the dead!

You see, we have hope, because that first Easter Sunday came. And with that Sunday came a light from within the tomb... the darkness was driven out... the Spirit of God blows and Jesus inhales. His chest expands, heart valves flutter, joints bend, and He rises. If you can just for a second, join with me in picturing this glorious moment... its so awe inspiring. Not just because of what we see, but because of what we know. We know that we too will die... that we will be buried... that our lungs, like his, will empty. Our bodies, like his, will stiffen. But the rising of His body from the dead gives birth to a living hope; a holy expectation, that if we've been united with him like this in his death through baptism, that we will certainly also be united with him in his res-



urrection (Romans 6:5). So we rejoice because death has forever lost its sting. And God in His great mercy has given us an inheritance... an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade kept in heaven by Jesus Christ, the eternal God, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

Yet today you might be someone who's skeptical and unsure of your faith. You may have a lot of doubts, but deep down inside, you want to know God... you want to have this living hope for yourself. So let me assure you that the Bible says, "He rewards those who earnestly seek him" (Hebrews 11:6). And He can turn your skepticism into belief today. Just come to Him with your questions... come to Him with your doubts... because His salvation is ready to be revealed. The opportunity is before you that you too may see, and that you too will be able to say, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

After His resurrection from the dead, Jesus told his followers, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit

comes on you..." (Acts 1:8). And it's because He is a living hope that those early followers went and turned the world upside down. It's that living hope that is the explanation for the change in their lives. And today, Jesus is still releasing the power of the Holy Spirit on those who ask. The same Holy Spirit that energized the first-century believers is here... available today... ready to empower your life.

You see, at Christ's Community Church, we love and serve a risen Lord who is still transforming lives. And He can transform your life as well. Maybe today you need some encouragement. Maybe you've drifted and gone astray. Maybe the burdens of life have spiritually challenged you and you've given up hope. Come to your Savior Jesus Christ. He is your living hope and He welcomes you in spite of your doubts, your failures, and your weaknesses. He desires to be your living hope. He wants to give you a fresh start today. And He promises, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Pray to receive Christ Jesus as your living hope, allow Him to transform you, and embrace the newness of this season of your life.

*I would love the opportunity to share with you the reason for the hope that I have. We celebrate at Christ's Community Church, 303 W. Lincoln Ave. Emmitsburg, Md. Sundays at 10:30am & Wednesdays at 7:00pm. We are excited to be continuing our tradition of celebrating Easter Sunday with an Easter egg hunt following lunch. If you are not regularly attending church elsewhere we encourage you to join us as we celebrate our living hope.*

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May 11 - 3:00 pm - Mother's Day Tea  
May 19 - 7:00 pm - Internet Safety Training  
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Dawn Snyder  
Music Ministry

# Richard Coeur-de-Lion

The outlines of the history of Richard I are tolerably well known to all readers. After a very turbulent youth during the reign of his father, Henry II, Richard succeeded to the throne of England on the 6th of July 1189, though he was only crowned on Sunday, the 3rd of September following, when his reign is considered as beginning. On the 11th of December he started for the Holy Land, and spent nearly two years on the way, engaged in a variety of adventures in the Mediterranean.

At length he joined the King of France in Syria, and they took the city of Acre on the 12th of July 1192; but the two kings soon quarrelled, and Philip returned home, while Richard remained, performing marvellous exploits against the Saracens, until the latter end of September, when the King of England made a truce with Saladin, and embarked on his return to his own dominions. He was wrecked near Aquilcia, and fell into the hands of his enemy, the Duke of Austria, who sent him prisoner to the Emperor; and the latter, as we all know, kept him in close confinement until the beginning of February 1191, when Richard's subjects paid an immense ransom for his release. The remainder of his reign was occupied chiefly in profitless wars with France; and at last, on the 6th of April 1199, this brilliant hero perished in a paltry squabble with a continental feudatory, who, having found a treasure in his own lands, refused to give more than half of it to his suzerain, who claimed the whole.

Richard Coeur-de-Lion had spent no more than a few months in his own kingdom, and he had never been anything but a burthen to his subjects; yet, for some cause or other, perhaps partly from comparison with his still more worthless brother John, the strange brilliance of his exploits, and particularly his efforts to wrest the Holy Land from the infidels, his tyranny and vices have been thrown into oblivion, and he takes the place of an imaginary hero rather than of an ordinary king. He furnishes us with the example of a king whose whole history actually became a romance within half a century after his death.

The romance of Richard Coeur-de-Lion is supposed to have been composed in French, or Anglo-Norman, towards the middle of the thirteenth century, and a version of it in English verse was composed about the end of the same century, or at the beginning of the fourteenth. From this time we frequently find, even in the sober chroniclers, the incidents of the romance confounded with those of history.

This romance furnishes us with a curious instance of the case with which history becomes pervert-

ed in popular tradition. Richard is here a mythic personage, even supernatural by his mother's side; for his father, King Henry, is represented as marrying a sort of elf-woman, daughter of the King of Antioch (of course an infidel prince), by whom he has three children, named Richard, John, and Topias, the latter a daughter. As was usual with such beings, the lady was unable to remain at the performance of Christian worship; and one day, when she was obliged to be present at the sacrament, she fled away through the roof of the church, taking with her youngest son and her daughter, but John was dropped, and broke his thigh by the fall. Richard, the eldest son, was no sooner crowned, than he proclaimed a tournament, where he jousted with his knights in three disguises, in order to discover who was the most worthy, and he selected two, named Sir Thomas Multon and Sir Fulk Doyly, as his companions, and engaged them to go with him in the guise of palmers to see the Holy Land, preparatory to his intended crusade. After wandering through the principal countries of the East, they returned overland, still in their disguise, and one day, on their way, they put up at a tavern, and cooked themselves a goose for their dinner.

When they had dined, and 'had well drunken,' which appears to have been their habit, a minstrel presented himself, and offered them minstrelsy. Richard, as we know, was himself a poet and loved minstrelsy; but on this occasion, perhaps through the effect of the drinking, the king treated the minstrel with rudeness, and turned him away. The latter was an Englishman, and knew King Richard and his two knights, and, in revenge, he went to the King of Almayn (Germany), who is here named Modard, and informed him who the three strangers were. Modard immediately seized them, and threw them into a loathsome prison. The son of the King of Almayn, who was an insolent fellow, and thought himself the strongest man in the world, insulted the King of England, and challenged him to fight with fists, and Richard struck him down dead with the first blow.

The king, enraged at the loss of his son and the heir to his kingdom, condemned his prisoner to be put to death, but Richard was saved by the king's daughter, the Princess Margery, with whom he formed an illicit intercourse. King Modard discovered by accident the disgrace done to him in the person of his daughter, and was more firm than ever in his resolution to put the King of England to death; and a powerful and ferocious lion which the king possessed was chosen as the executioner, was kept three days and nights without food to render him more savage, and was then turned

into the chamber where Richard was confined. Richard fearlessly encountered the lion, thrust his arm down his throat, tore out his heart, and killed him on the spot. Not content with this exploit, he took the lion's heart into the hall where King Modard and his courtiers were seated at table, and dipping it in salt, ate it raw, 'without bread!' Modard, in astonishment, gave him the nickname of Richard Coeur-de-Lion, or Richard Lion's-heart.

Modard now voluntarily allows Richard to be ransomed, and the latter returns to England, where he immediately prepares for the crusade, which occupies the greater part of the romance, in the course of which Richard not only kills innumerable Saracens with his own hand, but he cooks, eats, and relishes them.

Such is a very brief outline of the earlier part of the romantic history of Richard Coeur-de-Lion, which was extremely popular through the middle ages of England, and exercised a wide influence on the popular notions of history.

We know well that Richard's nickname, if we may so call it, of Coeur-de-Lion, was intended merely to express his characteristic bravery, and that it meant simply the Lion-hearted; but the old legendary explanation continued to be received even as late as the time of Shakspeare, and still more recently.

Richard was slain by a quarrel from a cross-bow, shot by Bertram de Gordon from the castle of Chalun, in Aquitaine, which the king was besieging in order to put down a rebellion. He was buried at Fontevault, at his father's feet, whom he confessed he had betrayed. His heart was buried in Rouen, in testimony of the love he had ever borne unto that city, for the steadfast love he always found in the citizens thereof, and his bowels at the foresaid Chalun.'—Stow.

The visitor of the cathedral of Rouen sees a recumbent full-length statue of the lion-hearted King. An English gentleman informs us, in the work quoted below, that, on his visiting the Museum of Antiquities at Rouen, in 1857, he 'observed a small portion of dust, having a label attached, marking it to be the dust of the heart of Richard Ceur-de-Lion from the cathedral.'



That lion heart now transformed into 'a little dust,' exposed in a paper with a label, in a Museum, for the gratification of the curious!

The case; however; is not unexampled. In the last century, a stone coffin was dug up in front of the mansion-house of Eccles, in Berwickshire. 'As it had been buried above two hundred years, every part of the body was reduced

to ashes. As the inside of the stone was pretty smooth, and the whole portrait of the person visible (though in ashes), Sir John Pateron had the curiosity to collect the whole, and (wonderful to tell!) it did not exceed in weight one ounce and a-half.'

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# THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

## A runcible season

Bill Meredith

*"They dined on mince, and slices of quince, which they ate with a runcible spoon."*

—Edward Lear, "The Owl and the Pussycat"

*"When I use a word, it means whatever I want it to mean, neither more nor less."*

—Humpty Dumpty, in "Through the Looking Glass", by Lewis Carroll

The coming of spring has strange effects on those who inhabit the natural world. The Frederick Post recently reported that a couple of tom turkeys have started expressing their testosterone-induced territorial instincts by trying to chase people away from a local church. The article in the paper did not make clear whether the turkeys were atheists who were trying to prevent people from attending, or if they wanted to join the church themselves, but it certainly seemed to be a unique and fascinating event. In fact, as I reflected on it, my imagination took over, and before long it conjured up images of the old church I attended as a child, with a herd of angry turkeys chasing elderly ladies

dressed in their Sunday best off through the cemetery and into the woods. Words like "unique" and "fascinating" were clearly not adequate to describe a scene like that; something better was called for. From somewhere in the depths of my memory, the word "runcible" volunteered to accept the challenge.

"Runcible" was introduced into the English language in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century by Edward Lear. He was an artist, and as a young man in those days before photography, he was hired by the London Zoological Society to illustrate a book about parrots. While working there he was befriended by the Earl of Derby, and wrote his first book, a collection of illustrated limericks and nonsense poems, for the Earl's grandchildren. Later, he traveled about Europe painting landscapes and wrote several more volumes of poetry, one of which included "The Owl and the Pussycat." It became one of the stories and nursery rhymes that were read to children of my generation at bedtime. My contemporaries will recall that the unlikely couple sailed off to sea in a beautiful pea-green boat, fell in love, and after sailing around for a year and a day they landed on an island, where they were married. The marriage ceremony

was performed by a turkey, and for their wedding feast, "they dined on mince, with slices of quince, which they ate with a runcible spoon."

To a child of four, a story like that did not seem preposterous at all. Primed by tales about Uncle Wiggly the Rabbit Gentleman and his companion, Nurse Jane the Muskrat Lady, or the song about Mr. Froggy who went a-courting Miss Mousie, and unaware of the complications that would arise from such unions, it did not seem remarkable to me that an owl and a cat should get married. But it did bother me that no one seemed to know what "runcible" meant. It was not until several years later that I read about Alice's trip through the Looking Glass and her conversation with Humpty Dumpty, that "runcible" suddenly made sense. However, by that time I had learned about sex, so the matter of owls and cats getting married had become a moot question, and I was left with a new and potentially useful word in my vocabulary.

So, back to the present. It is spring, and all sorts of things are starting to happen. The days are getting longer by about 17 minutes each week. It was a mild winter, but it did get cold enough for the ground to freeze, and it turned my yard to mud when it thawed, just as it always has done. Down in the mud, the shriveled roots of last year's grass detected



the lengthening days and started sending up new green sprouts. Dormant crocus bulbs responded to the light in a similar manner, as did daffodils and tulips. All over the garden, seeds too small for the unaided eye to see germinated and sent up sprouts that covered the area with tiny blue Veronica blossoms. The goldfinches that come to my feeder each morning are starting to turn yellow, and the white-throated sparrows are beginning to sing "Old Sam Peabody," their courting song. A friend just told me the mourning doves already have a nest with eggs in it by his porch. Of course we will still have

cold nights and even possibly snow for a while; but spring is coming... just as it always has.

When I was a child, my grandmother taught me to call these things miracles, and since by definition miracles are unexplainable, she was right. In those days no one understood how they happened. But science has progressed with amazing speed in the past 75 years, and long before I retired I was routinely explaining the phenomena of spring to students in my introductory classes. Of course, there are details we still don't fully understand about the changes spring brings to animals and plants, but we know too much about them to call them miracles any more. This bothers some people; but to me, being able to explain things does not make them any less amazing or wonderful than they were when I was four.

I have reached the age when, if I was ever going to attain wisdom, it should have happened by now. But it appears that either it didn't happen, or if it did, no one noticed. My mental facilities are teetering precariously between obsolescence and senility. So to make the best of it, perhaps I may be allowed to invent words to describe events that are not miracles but are nevertheless amazing, beautiful, or delightful to the spirit. So I've decided to call them Runcible Events. It is not original on my part; years ago, John Richards, who became my mentor when I was young and in need of such an influence, delighted me by referring to the song of the first house wren as a Runcible Melody. So when the first hummingbird arrives, even though physiologists have measured the number of calories in its body fat and proved that it does indeed have the capacity to fly all the way across the Caribbean without stopping, it will still be a Runcible Journey. Let the critics complain if they wish; Lewis Carroll said I could do it if I want to, and the English language needs some new words that were not invented by teenagers in California. Edward Lear would be delighted.

To read past editions of *The Retired Ecologist* visit the Authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

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# Is it really a copperhead?

Rusty Ryan

It took me 50 years, but I finally saw my first live copperhead in its natural environment last summer. I was informed that one was consistently observed in a hand placed rock wall. The sighting was northwest of Fairfield, PA in Hamiltonban Township. It may sound strange, but it has always been one of my wildlife observation goals in life to observe this snake. I've been lucky in the past few years as I also checked off my list a Wild Turkey in a tree and my first Gray Fox. I still wish to witness a groundhog (whistle-pig) in a tree as well.

Over the years, I'm frequently asked to identify dead snakes that folks drop off at my workplace – The Adams County Conservation District. Apparently the word is out that there is someone willing to identify snakes. Most of the snakes brought to me for identification are the Eastern Garter and the Black Rat Snake (immature). I can safely say I've never once identified one of the snakes as being the infamous copperhead that everyone thinks exists. Unfortunately, the people killed the snake first than asked questions about its identity.

This article is being provided to give more guidance to folks in distinguishing the copperhead from the non-poisonous snakes in hopes that fewer snakes will be unmistakably killed. \*\* You are not alone! The fear of snakes is referred to as Ophidiophobia or Ophiophobia. About one third of all adults have this phobia which is also the most common reported phobia.

The Northern Copperhead is considered common and can be found all along the length of the Mason-Dixon border. It is a strikingly patterned snake though the coloration consists of several shades of brown. The most distinguished mark for the copperhead is the chestnut brown cross bands which resemble an hour glass. When the copperhead is viewed from above, the middle of the hour glass would be found along the backbone and the wider portions of the hour glass would be found along the sides. The hour glass pattern is the darkest coloration of the snake's pattern. While the venomous snakes generally have a triangular shaped head, this feature is not the best way to identify poisonous snakes from non-poisonous snakes. Most snakes when angry or threatened tend to flare the head to look triangular versus oblong. The copperhead can reach over 40 inches but a safe average length would be 24"-30".

The copperhead can be found in a variety of habitats but they are fond of rock outcrops. This habitat provides them with foraging (food usually consists of small mammals), shelter and basking for thermal reasons. They also

seem to favor brush piles, wood slab/sawdust piles, utility right of ways, abandoned foundations and fencerows. The cold-blooded copperhead can be found primarily during the months of April through October. In the summer months, they are more nocturnal in their movements due to them needing to avoid heat from the summer days. Humid and warm nights during and after rainfall is prime time for copperhead activity. Thank goodness humans aren't active outside during this same period or there would be many more encounters. They will seek shelter and hibernate through the winter months. The copperhead is a social snake and they will commune with other snake species such as rattlesnakes and black rat snakes (kills by constriction).

The copperhead kills its prey by venom that is secreted from two fangs. The venom from a copperhead affects the blood system whereas other poisonous snakes affect the central nervous system. While human fatalities are rare from bites of the copperhead, there usually is tissue damage around the bite. The odds of dying from any poisonous animal or plant is 1 in 3 million plus. These odds are about the same as dying from food poisoning. The odds of getting stuck by lighting are much more likely.

The best method to confirm whether or not a snake in Maryland or Pennsylvania is poisonous is one of two ways. Both methods would be best suited to identification when the snake is dead for reasons which should be obvious after reading the following.

Both the copperhead and the rattlesnake have elliptical (cat-eye) pupils whereas all of the non-poisonous snakes have round pupils like humans. The other sure fire method would be to inspect them on the underside. Between the tip

of tail and the cloaca (anus), the scales on a poisonous snake are single whereas the scales on a non-poisonous snake have the scales split in half/doubled. \* An interesting fact about copperheads is that the young have a distinct bright yellow tipped tail. Supposedly the colored tail serves as a lure to attract prey to snake. Young copperheads have fully functional fangs and the venom is as toxic as adults.

Tip: While the rattlesnakes are equipped with rattles that can provide warning, the warning is not always given. Copperheads, like most snakes will vibrate their tails when frightened and when this occurs on dry leaves, the sound can be a convincing warning.

There are a few local species of "lookalikes" which end up on the receiving end of someone's shovel or other killing device. They are the Eastern Milk Snake, Northern Brown Water Snake and the Eastern Hognose Snake. I believe the Northern Brown Water Snake is the species which most closely resembles the copperhead. They are definitely found near or in water and they are aggressive biters and I definitely know from experience. Check some of the web sites out below for photos of each.

Besides the N. Copperhead, the only other poisonous snake that is native to the Mason-Dixon area is the Timber Rattlesnake. In Pennsylvania, this species is a CANDIDATE species and in Maryland, this species is a WATCHLIST species. I believe these rankings mean the species is dwindling and populations must be monitored closely. \*For those folks who claim we have Water Moccasins (Cottonmouth) let me guarantee you that they just aren't here naturally. The northern most range of the Cottonmouth is the Great Dismal Swamp in southern Virginia.

I trust this article has helped the



reader make better decisions and to think twice about whether or not to kill a snake that most likely is non-poisonous. All snakes serve an important role in the ecosystem. Killing them just because their snakes are foolish.

#### News Flash:

#### Purple Martins are back!

By the time this edition reaches you, the Purple Martins should be returning from their winter grounds. For those folks who are starting out on establishing a colony, you will be relying on the younger birds that will be searching for new homes and hopes of breeding successfully. You should

have your housing up by mid-May in order to entice those birds.

#### Useful web links:

<http://purplemartin.org/scoutreport/>  
<http://www.copperhead-snake.com/>  
<http://www.virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com/>  
<http://wwwnew.towson.edu/herpetology/Reptiles.htm>  
<http://www.paherp.org/>  
[http://www.fish.state.pa.us/amp\\_rep.htm](http://www.fish.state.pa.us/amp_rep.htm)  
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## IN THE COUNTRY

# Land Conservancy of Adams County

Erik and Ellie Vranich

Deb and Ralph Siefken granted a conservation easement to the Land Conservancy of Adams County on 173 acres. The acreage is situated within the Buchanan Valley/High Mountain District, described as a scenic resource by the Adams County's Office of Planning and Development because of its numerous fruit farms, scenic vistas and unique rural character.

The property fronts on Conewago Creek, its water flowing swiftly over rocks and its banks lined with hemlock trees and masses of rhododendron bushes. Just adjacent to their rear property line are the headwaters of the Conewago. Springs on the Siefkens' property feed into the tributaries of the Cone-

wago formed by the headwaters and flow through their property. The clear flowing water attracts the Louisiana Waterthrush to nest in the banks of the streams or in nearby clumps of moss or rotting branches.

The Siefkens' driveway winds up a steep incline through fields of grass and apple trees, part of the nine acres of their land in orchards. After the Siefkens took possession of the property about nineteen years ago, Deb asked the Pennsylvania Game Commission to plant warm-season grasses on the field and hillside to provide cover and food for birds. The Game Commission planted switchgrass, big bluestem grass, little bluestem grass, and indiagrass. Deb's hope that native grasses would attract grassland birds to build their

nests in this grass has never materialized. The grasses, however, provide food for birds and also food and cover for small animals which attract the Northern Harrier and other raptors.

The driveway ends at the crest of the incline at the edge of a forest. In early spring (late March) Deb and Ralph walk down the driveway at dusk from the edge of the trees to the clearings below in hopes of seeing the spectacular mating ritual of the male American Woodcock, who establishes his territory, known as singing grounds, in the clearing at the edges of woods or country lanes. In the dim light of evening, the male makes a call, most often represented as peent (a nasal buzzing call). After peenting for a minute or two, he then takes off and flies upward to a height of 100 to 300 feet in the air. At the peak of his flight, he pauses and hovers for some seconds. He then plunges toward the ground, spiraling or zig-zagging as he descends. While descending he sings, and his song blends with the sound of the wind rushing through his feathers. He lands on the spot from which he took off.

Into the crest of the hill facing

the front of their property, the Siefkens built their house. Constructed of timbers and stone, it is surrounded on two sides by beautiful forest land full of hemlocks, a variety of oaks and other hardwoods, rhododendrons, and some mountain laurel. In the spring each year the floor of the forest shows off a variety of wild flowers. Trees, of course, attract birds, particularly woodpeckers. Pileated Woodpeckers visit the suet feeder near the Siefkens' back door every day. The suet feeder plus a variety of bird feeders hanging from the house and decks attract Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers as well as Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Nuthatches, Chickadees, Titmice, Carolina Wrens, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Ground feeding birds such as Cardinals, Juncos, and White-throated Sparrows find plenty of feed spilled on the ground or decks. The front and one side of the house look over the Buchanan Valley with unbroken views of fields, woods, and hills in the far distance. When they built the house, Deb and Ralph, like so many of the eighteenth-century settlers of Adams County before them, gathered field stones from their

own property for the stone walls of their house.

The forest land, orchards and grassland attract a variety of animals as well as a variety of birds. The Siefkens see fox, coyotes, deer, and black bears. Last fall, before Deb had taken down the hummingbird feeder at the back of their house, she looked out the window to see a rather large black bear standing on its back legs with his front paws against the house licking the sugar water out of the hummingbird feeder.

Through the years since early settlers occupied the property, the forests have been logged and the logs taken to a nearby sawmill. Ralph has identified at least two charcoal pits on the property where some of the charcoal needed for iron foundries in the vicinity was produced. The charcoal was probably hauled to the Pine Grove Furnace in Cumberland County and/or to the Caledonia Iron Furnace in Franklin County. Many more acres were once planted as peach and apple orchards. Much of the property had been cleared and farmed through the years, acres that have now reverted to forest like so much land in Penn's Woods.

The Siefkens first became interested in land conservation about twenty-five years ago when the land conservancy movement was in its early stages of development in Lancaster County, Deb's home county. Once established in Adams County, they became members of the South Mountain Chapter of the Audubon Society, where they first learned about the beginnings of the Land Conservancy of Adams County and were among the members who voted to donate money from the chapter's treasury towards the founding of LCAC. Ralph also emphasizes the importance of Gary Sterner, who talked to the Audubon members about the importance of land conservation and who advocated so successfully for the Conservancy. As so many others in Adams County, Deb and Ralph love the land. They recognize the importance of biodiversity and of providing habitat for the sustenance of a variety of wildlife. They also feel responsible for helping to protect sources of clear water for the citizens of Adams County. By working successfully with land owners such as Deb and Ralph Siefken, the Land Conservancy of Adams County continues to fulfill its mission of preserving the rural lands and character of Adams County. LCAC preserves the county's history and insures its future.

For more information about the Land Conservancy of Adams County, call the LCAC office at (717) 334-2828 or visit [www.lc-acnet.org](http://www.lc-acnet.org).

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# IN THE COUNTRY

# Trees, trees everywhere

**Kay Deardorff**  
**Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve**

Spring is bursting all around us. The grass is growing; the trees are budding; and flowers are breaking through the once frozen ground. It's good to see nature coming to life again. Can you imagine living in an area with no trees? Prior to the 1800s the plains of Nebraska were treeless. This is what led to the founding of Arbor Day (from the Latin word arbor, meaning tree).

In 1854 a 23-year-old gentleman named Julius Sterling Morton was among the pioneers making their way to the Nebraska Territory. The lack of trees was unappealing to Morton and his wife, Caroline, who were nature lovers. Soon they planted shrubs, flowers, and trees. As a journalist, he became the editor of Nebraska's first newspaper which enabled him to touch other nature lovers with his enthusiasm for trees. The pioneers sensed the importance of planting saplings not only because they missed the trees from their native lands, but also because of the need for wind breaks, orchards, and shade trees. Trees were also needed to be used as building materials for homes, fencing, and farm buildings.

Impassioned by his value of trees, in 1872 Morton suggested to the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture a tree-planting holiday known as "Arbor Day". Favorably the idea 'took root' (pun definitely intended) and the date was set for April 10, 1872. Many individuals and counties participated as prizes were offered to whomever properly planted the largest number of trees that day. It is estimated that Nebraska had more than one million trees planted on that first Arbor Day.

Arbor Day had not yet become an annual event. The second tree-planting celebration was in 1884 and by 1885 the state of Nebraska proclaimed it a legal holiday to be observed yearly. It was planned April 22nd to coincide with J. Sterling Morton's birthday. Not to be outdone, other states such as Kansas, Tennessee, Minnesota, and Ohio announced their own Arbor Days. Today the holiday is celebrated in each of the 50 states, but the dates may vary according to the climate of the individual state.

President Richard Nixon proclaimed, at the federal level, the last Friday of April as National Arbor Day. It is also recognized in other countries including Australia. There are even variations of the observance: Japan has "Greening Week"; Israel celebrates "The New Year's Days of Trees"; Korea observes "The Tree-Loving Week"; Yugoslavia has "The Reforestation Week"; Iceland acclaims "The Students' Afforestation Day"; and India enjoys "The National Festival of Tree Planting".

Morton was pleased with the success of Arbor Day. Imagine the pride he would feel today! He preferred to use trees as memorials to persons or events as opposed to erected marble statues. "How much more enduring are the animate trees of our own planting," he noted. After his death in 1902 there was a memorial set up for him at his home, Arbor Lodge. This memorial was dedicated by President Grover Cleveland in 1905 and is adorned with Morton's quote, "Other holidays repose upon the past. Arbor Day proposes for the future."

Two states in whose future we are directly intrigued with is Maryland and Pennsylvania. Arbor Day in Maryland is celebrated on the first Wednesday of April. The state tree is the white oak (*Quercus alba*) which is a sturdy, handsome tree named for its whitish bark and grey twigs. White Oaks are large, long-lived trees that are slow-growing. They can reach the height of 60 - 150 feet with diameters between 3 to 4 feet. Sometime around its fiftieth year, it begins to produce acorns and may produce 10,000 annually. These seeds are beneficial and are the dietary mainstay for over 80 species of birds and mammals. Native Americans ground them into flour and taught the early settlers the process.

The last Friday in April marks Arbor Day in Pennsylvania. Here the state tree has been the east-

ern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) since 1931. Also known as the Canada hemlock or hemlock spruce it has been used by early settlers to build log cabins and for a source of tannic acid to tan leather. It has been considered the most picturesque and beautiful of the world's evergreens by A. J. Downing, the father of landscape gardening in America. This slow-growing, long-lived tree can take up to 250 - 300 years to reach maturity. A healthy hemlock may live for 800 years or more. However it is being threatened and killed by the woolly adelgid aphid-like insect that is attacking the hemlock trees in our region.

Arbor Day is a perfect opportunity for the home owner to take stock of trees on his or her property. Planning for the future of your plants allows the chance to view the future of your environment. It is also a great way to learn about disease and insect infestation that you can "nip in the bud." (OK, another pun!) Planting trees cannot only improve the appearance of your home; it can also help with heating and cooling, or provide wind protection.

As Arbor Day approaches this year, consider planting a tree at your home or in your community. Research on the Internet will show many suggestions about how to plant and care for trees, shrubs, and flowers. Also consider the upcoming nature programs offered at



Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve. There will be valuable information given at such times as the Edible Plants programs, Mother's Day Walk, Summer Tree ID, etc. Visit the website at [www.StrawberryHill.org](http://www.StrawberryHill.org)

or call 717-642-5840 for information regarding these and other nature programs. It's never too late to invest in the future of your community, your home, and your environment. Plant a tree!

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## PETS LARGE AND SMALL

# Shelter dogs are misunderstood

**Jennifer Vanderau**  
**Director of Communications**  
**Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter**

I think when people come in to look at our dogs available for adoption, they use their own frame of reference with the dogs they've had in their lifetime. This is completely fine — it's totally normal and human and to be expected.

But shelter dogs aren't like those dogs — they don't have the stability and security of a home. I worry that a lot of people never take the time to consider what a shelter dog has been through.

Let's look at it from their perspective.

A lot of shelter dogs actually start out in a home, but for whatever reason — they get away from someone who never bothers to look for them or their owner can no longer care for them — they find themselves in an animal shelter.

First, the shock of being in a cage must be severe. For us it would be like going from our homes to living in an elevator. Plus, a lot of dogs can sense what a shelter is. Even when they return just for a visit, they'll balk at the door, not wanting to go in — so what must that first night in a

shelter be like for a dog?

We have a lab mix who came in as a stray just today and when I went back to get some water, he was standing up watching me, while all the other dogs were sleeping for the night.

The tension and stress when that cage door first shuts must be immense.

The dog usually stays in the kennel for a few days to a week, while staff gives him time to get adjusted to his new environment. So, he's living in a cage, eating different food, surrounded by people he doesn't recognize.

Then he's given a temperament test. Can you imagine this? You're living in a new environment, one you're completely unfamiliar with, and then you're put through a series of tests to see how you react.

Once that's finished, he's neutered. Yup. Now you have to have major surgery.

Then, if all goes well, he's put up for adoption, and moved from an isolation kennel to one in adoption, where countless people walk through every day to look and maybe talk to him and possibly feed him treats.

If he's lucky — really lucky — he'll be a breed that everyone loves

— small, cute, friendly, perhaps a puppy — and he'll be adopted quite fast.

If he's not so lucky, if it's difficult to tell what he may be mixed with, if he looks even remotely like a pitbull, chances are he'll stay in adoption for a rather lengthy period of time. For purposes of our story, let's say four months.

So, again, imagine you've lost the home you've always known and you're living in an elevator. You've been tested and undergone surgery and now, four months later, you're still in that same space while people walk by looking at you.

Would you be completely perfect? I would be nuttier than I already am — a concept that frightens both of my parents, I'm sure.

Shelter dogs are not like dogs in a home. They have a massive amount of pent up energy that they aren't always able to unleash. They don't have much of a schedule, like a dog in a home does. They don't have a routine, where mom and dad come home every night and feed them the same food from the same bowl. They don't always have the same bed every night (we change and clean blankets every day, so the chances of them getting the same one are slim). Different people walk them every day.

Shelter dogs are in transition. They're very much in flux. Have you ever found yourself in that station in life? Moving from one job to another or one apartment to another? It's confusing and tiring and difficult.

So if you find yourself looking for a dog at an animal shelter, please understand that what you see in a kennel may not be what you have in your home a month or two down the line.

Know that when you take a shelter dog out on a leash, just because he pulls and yanks and drags you, doesn't mean he's a bad dog. It doesn't mean he doesn't know how to behave on a leash, it just means he has a lot of energy to burn and is too excited at being free to mind his manners.



Sadie is a 7-year-old beagle who was found wandering as a stray, so we do not have much background information on her. She is the sweetest girl you will ever meet—very laid back and cuddly. Sadie likes curling up in her dog bed for naps and exploring her surroundings. Please come meet Sadie. Her little face is going steal your heart!

Imagine what you would be like after four months in an elevator when someone would open the doors and take you for a walk. If you are anything like me, being "good" would be the farthest thing from your mind.

The most important thing to remember when looking for a shelter dog is that you're saving a life — two, technically. You're making a life-time commitment to be there for that pup — to be his stability, his foundation, his safety, his security and his love.

In addition, you're opening a kennel for the next dog who needs a space, who needs somewhere to stay while he transitions into a forever home.

Shelter dogs may be misunder-

stood, but for those people who take a chance on one, through all the trials and tribulations they may face, they will have discovered a treasure beyond price.

Find your own diamond in the rough; adopt today.

*Jennifer Vanderau is the Director of Communications for the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter, and can be reached at [cvascomm@cvas-pets.org](mailto: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](http://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.*

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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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

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

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

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

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

-- Author Unknown

# PETS LARGE AND SMALL

## Poison

Kimberly Brokaw, DVM  
Walkersville Vet Clinic

I still remember my client telling me "But he's not a mouse" when trying to explain why she thought it was okay for her Jack Russell Terrier to eat mouse poison. Apparently the dog had been eating mouse poison for years and thus far had been lucky enough not to get a high enough dose to get sick or die. In fact the dog was just in for his annual vaccines when the topic came up. In my thought processes, it is obvious that mouse poison is poisonous to mice and rats, but is also poisonous to dogs and other species, including human children. To other people, the toxicity of mouse poison to other species just doesn't seem obvious. Unfortunately, some other substances that are toxic to dogs, cats, and horses, are less known, even to experienced, long time, pet owners.

Two of the most frequent sources of poisonings that I see or am asked about are ibuprofen in dogs, and herbicides in horses. Owners often give their dogs ibuprofen because the dog hurt his leg or has some other minor injury that seems it isn't severe enough to see a vet immediately. Since it isn't a severe enough injury to see a vet, the owners don't get a prescription pain medicine like Previcox that is fairly safe for dogs. I always advise owners to avoid giving Aleve, Advil, Tylenol, or really any of your pain killers to a dog, unless you have asked a veterinarian about it first.

I am usually pretty calm when talking with clients, no matter what ill advised treatment clients have done prior to coming in. I believe that clients usually go to great efforts to take good care of their animals. When they make mistakes, it is usually because they did not know there was a better way to care for their pet. In fact I can only think of one client who upset me so much that I inadvertently yelled at him. This client had brought his dog in because the dog had hurt

his leg. He'd given the dog ibuprofen. When the dog began vomiting blood and had diarrhea, he came to me at the clinic, wondering what was wrong. I told him that the vomiting and diarrhea were caused by the ibuprofen and that ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) is toxic to dogs. He nodded as if he understood. Luckily I was able to treat the dog and the dog got better. Not only was I able to get the vomiting and diarrhea to stop promptly, but the dog was lucky in that follow up blood work showed that there had been no damage to the liver or kidneys. By the time the dog had recovered from the ibuprofen related gastrointestinal problems, he was no longer limping and his leg seemed to have healed.

Two weeks later, the gentleman came back to the clinic. The dog had been running in the field and fell in a hole and hurt his leg again. The owner even admitted that while he knew I had told him not to give the dog ibuprofen, the dog seemed so sore on the leg that he gave it to him anyway. While the dog was no longer limping, he was vomiting and had diarrhea. Again I treated the dog and told the owner that ibuprofen is poisonous and he should NOT give it.

About a month later, one of my vet assistants came into the office with a patient folder in her hand. She handed me the folder and told me to take a deep breath before I opened it. My assistant told me the gentleman was on the phone and he needed to speak with me because he had given his dog ibuprofen

and again he was vomiting. I lost my composure. I picked up the phone and flat out asked the man loudly how many times he was going to give his dog poison and risk killing him. After my brief and angry outburst, I felt guilty. I told him to put his wife on the phone. I nicely explained the situation to her. I said that her husband was repeatedly giving the dog something toxic and that while I'd discussed it with him he wasn't listening. I told her that if she wasn't lucky her husband might inadvertently kill the dog. As I was hanging up the phone I heard her screaming furiously at her husband. It has been almost a year since our phone call, and I haven't had to treat the dog for ibuprofen induced bloody vomiting.

Sometimes, things that are fine for humans to eat are not good for pets. While pets may enjoy nontraditional foods (such as my sister's older horse who loves peanut butter and jelly sandwiches) not all human food is safe for pets. Some foods that you should avoid giving your dog include: coffee and other caffeine containing products such as chocolate and tea, avocado, grapes, raisins, raw meat (salmonella and E.coli), xylitol (an artificial sweetener), onions (raw and cooked), garlic and macadamia nuts. Some of these foods are safe in moderate amounts if your dog is large. My mother's 95lb Chesapeake Bay Retriever has finished off a batch of chocolate brownies on several occasions. When the amount



of theobromine, the toxic ingredient in a chocolate brownie, is calculated, the 95 lb dog can eat several brownies without risking illness. If a Jack Russell Terrier ate the same number of brownies, it could be fatal. If your pet eats something and you are worried it might be poisonous, contact the Animal Poison Control Center 888-426-4435. There is a charge for calling the Animal Poison Control Center, but you may be able to avoid an expensive trip to the emergency clinic by listening to their advice.

Some serious poisonings are related to dogs eating old, decayed food. While the leftovers from your Easter dinner may not be a problem if Fido takes them off the kitchen counter right after dinner, they may cause serious harm if he

eats them after they have been in the trash for a week. When hunters leave deer carcasses in suburban areas, it is common for neighborhood dogs to eat the carcasses days or weeks later, and to become extremely ill. Dogs seem to not realize that their stomachs cannot always tolerate old and rotten "leftovers." These poisonings are difficult for owners to prevent because a dog can gulp down rotten food before the owner realizes that the dog has found and is eating something spoiled.

It is not always possible to avoid exposing your pet to poisonous substances. However, a little thought can prevent many common poisonings. When poisoning occurs, the Animal Poison Control Center and your local veterinarian can help you treat the problem.



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## THE MASTER GARDENER

# Spotlight on spring blooming: Perennials

Mary Ann Ryan  
Adams County  
Master Gardener Guru

Now that spring is finally here, our perennials are beginning to grow and some are blooming! As a gardener, I get so much enjoyment from plants as well as the bees and butterflies that surround the plants, and I wish to share with you some of my favorite spring flowering perennials and some of their insect value to take a chance on and enjoy in your garden too.

### Native Spring Perennials

Phlox stolonifera is a part shade loving perennial that likes well drained soils. They have colors of purple, blue and white. Butterflies are attracted to this spring beauty.

Tiarella cordifolia, or foam flower, is a lovely little perennial that sends up white spikes in the spring. Bees are attracted to this plant as well as butterflies. It takes part shade, but I have seen it grow in full sun as well. The fun thing about this little guy is its foliage, which remains throughout the growing season. There are many variations on the foliage, from size to shape and colors. This plant is definitely one to check out.

Another spring blooming native perennial worth checking out is Iris cristata, dwarf crested iris. This lit-

tle guy will bloom in May with purple flowers. It only reaches about eight to ten inches and does great in part shade to full sun. It has sword-like foliage with the small iris flowers spattered throughout. Bees are attracted to this plant.

Chrysogonum virginianum, also called green and gold, is a sweet ground cover plant that develops yellow flowers in April – May. This plant requires well drained soils and part sun. Bees will visit this perennial when in bloom. An easy to grow perennial and often overlooked, this one should be considered as a ground cover for a part sun location.

Have you ever seen Baptisia australis blooming? This is a great spring blooming native perennial! This beautiful perennial gets about 4' tall and loves well drained soils and full sun. This is a plant you would probably put in the background, due to its height. Its brilliant blue flower color on tall spikes is just a delight in any garden! Pollinator activity as great with this one!

Aquilegia canadensis, columbine, is a sweet native perennial that attracts hummingbirds as well. This spring bloomer has flowers that are yellow and red, blooming in late April through May. It naturally is found on wood's edge in rocky lo-

cations, so if growing in a soil that is very high in organic matter, the plants may not do real well. Part shade is best for this.

Dicentra eximia, our native bleeding heart, blooms in early spring, and unlike the large growing bleeding heart, the foliage will remain throughout the summer. This woodland plant has dissected leaves that add a soft texture to a woodland setting. Well drained soils are best for this part shade perennial.

Native Spring Ephemerals, early blooming plants grouped together due to their spring flowers only lasting a short time, are a joy each year. Here are some to look for while walking in the woods. Some may even be available in local garden centers or specialty catalogs. Typically, these woodland beauties like rich, woodland soils, and are found as an understory to deciduous trees. If re-creating this type of garden in your own yard, be sure to amend the soil with lots of compost and plant these little splendors in a shady location. Keep in mind that all the spring ephemerals will go away, so enjoy them while they are blooming.

Trillium is a favorite wildflower of many. With its three petaled flowers in red, white or yellow, it appears in April.



Crocus is a spring favorite of many gardeners.

Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*) are blue, bell shaped flowers emerging in the spring. The leaves are long and oval, creating an attractive groundcover while they last.

Dutchman's Breeches is probably my favorite spring ephemeral. The white flowers look like little pairs of pants along the flower stem. The foliage resembles the leaves of the native bleeding heart.

Skunk cabbage is one of the ear-

liest spring ephemerals. This one grows in moist soil, so often is found by streams. It's easily identified by its smell – like skunk! The foliage resembles hosta – large leaves with prominent venation.

Spring beauties are tiny white to pink to lavender flowers that appear in early spring. Also found in moist locations, this little wildflower has thin leaves resembling crocus.

### Spring Bulbs

Although most spring bulbs are not native, it's worth mentioning a few as they are bright and cheery and not particular about where they grow or the soil they grow in. Although planning and planting for a spring bulb garden must happen in the fall, the rewards are remarkable. Often recommended for naturalizing, they serve well for spring color in turf or in a woodland setting.

Crocus are a spring favorite of many gardeners. I was at a fellow Master Gardeners home this morning, and her entire front bed was covered with swales of yellow, blue and white crocus. They will do fine in sun or part shade, and are one of the earliest of the spring bulbs to bloom.

Chionodoxa is pretty little bulb that the flowers, to me, resemble a hyacinth, but much smaller and much less stately. The leaves are narrow and stiff. The flowers are pink, white or blue.

Kaufmanniana tulips are often referred to as water lily tulips or rock garden tulips. They are quite short, and one of the earliest tulip varieties to bloom. Many colors are available and they are very adaptable to many soil types.

Spring Perennials Noted for Foliage

As with any perennial garden, we should not forget the potential of foliage and what it has to offer. Three spring perennials that have great foliage, enough so that the flowers, although pretty, could be considered secondary to the beauty of the leaves.

Brunnera, often called perenn-

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# THE MASTER GARDENER

## Small Town Gardener Surviving the season

Marianne Willburn

As I write these words, many of you might be awaking up this morning and clutching your blankets a little tighter around your chins, aware that the ambient temperature in your bedroom has crept below 'pleasantly cool' and moved into 'nippy' territory. After weeks of temperatures soaring twenty degrees or more above normal, it may take you a minute or two to understand that April is a month for surprises, and while you were unconsciously pulling the duvet off your spouse, your tender plants outside were succumbing to the cold like the Little Match Girl of old.

Welcome to spring.

If you are new to gardening and have been enjoying the occasional warm spell, it may now be clear to you why, when you walked into a local nursery, took off your sunglasses and announced that you were looking for a nice tub of basil, the owner looked at you like you had a screw loose.

But that might not have stopped you in your quest to get your pesto underway. Just down the road, the big-box retailers were more than happy to indulge you. Far from being concerned over how their market-packs and four inch pots would fare in your early spring garden, they were far more interested in how much cash they could strip from you during a sun-induced spending spree. A quick survey last weekend confirmed that just under half of the pretty babies being peddled to unsuspecting gardeners are tender; and not just a little tender, but melt-in-a-stiff-breeze-tender.

This may not be obvious to you – after all, gardening is 90% experience. And, when you take your purchases up to the cash register, a green-thumbed clerk will not send you on your way with a few last words of wisdom about frost or protection or homemade row covers – he's far too busy wondering if it's too early to ask the blonde in hardware to the prom.

So, here you are: up the creek without some Agribon. And we are more than likely to experience these late night lows a couple times

before summer officially arrives. What does the gardener do to keep those precious plants safe?

1. Watch the forecasts. At this time of year and in the early fall, the NOAA website is my home page in the mornings, and the Weather Channel, my bedtime companion. You can't prepare for something that you don't know is coming. Luckily, the weather service knows there are people trying to break the rules out there and specifically issues frost watches and warnings to aid them in their mission to make the first salsa of the season.
2. Don't plant too early. I am all for pushing the rules a bit, but once you plant tender seedlings in cold soil, you can only cover them and pray. However, if you keep them growing on in larger pots until mid-April, you have a bit of leeway to move them to warmer spots in case of trouble, and the soil around their roots stays warmer.
3. Be prepared. Though it is conceivable that you could bring 150 tender seedlings back indoors to rub shoulders with your family on cold nights, it is not practical – especially when one considers that it may happen a few times before all is said and done. Keep your tender plants together, in the warmest part of your garden, and if possible, in a cold frame or mini-greenhouse shelving unit with protection. During the day the covers can be lifted to take advantage of or remediate against the sun – at night they can be tucked in with a kiss.
4. Know your tools. To protect plants from hard frost, you can use commercial products such as Agribon floating row covers or Wall-o-Waters; or you can access your inner cheapskate and use upturned milk jugs, pots, plastic wrapped cages or old comforters propped on sticks.

There are many ways to out think Mother Nature, but without a climate-controlled greenhouse, you can only push it so far. By all means, experiment; but never discount the effect that cold soil and cold nights have on heat-loving plants like tomatoes, basil and peppers. Some plants may be stunted and are then prey to early spring disease – and that won't bode well for your summer-time pesto.

The whole point is to keep these little guys healthy and robust, not to have them meet the summer season alive, but in a weakened state. On this great green battlefield, sometimes the better part of valor is discretion.



**Iris Reticulata is early-blooming but also early-exiting. It is a non-native plant, but it is certainly a pretty addition to any garden!**

nial forget me nots, have heart shaped leaves and continue to be effective in the garden well after the blue spring flowers die down.

Helleborus, a late winter bloomer, has interesting leaves and can tolerate dry shade, a difficult condition for most perennials.

Pulmonaria, having spotted or mottled leaves, create interesting texture in the garden and are a

shade loving plant.

As these are just a few spring selections, my hope is to inspire you to check out what is blooming this time of year in your natural habitat, as well as what is blooming in your local garden center. Talk to an expert about planning a spring garden so you can jump into the season with flowers and texture in the garden.

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## CIVIL WAR HISTORY

## Gettysburg: 150 years in the making

John A. Miller  
Emmitsburg Historical Society Civil  
War Historian

## Part 2

As Gettysburg became a tourist attraction, it was important for people to learn about what happened there. As a result, education and interpretation became a vital asset. In 1931, Verne Chatelain was appointed as the head of the historical division within the National Park Service. As the National Park Service was expanding, this was also during another lapse in America's Depression.

When the National Park Service took over Gettysburg, the park had several maintenance issues that needed attention. During his first review from October 1933 to September 1934, Superintendent James R. McConaghie explained that the Gettysburg Battlefield had operational activities in the form of Administration, Protection, Maintenance, Repairs and Alterations. For example, over twenty-two miles of roads had to be maintained and repaired. This review also had the total number of positions that were needed in order to run the park. Such as mowing, thirty-nine miles worth of fences, and the care of markers and cannon that dot the landscape

at Gettysburg, and add to the numbers of visitors to the battlefield.

In 1933 alone, more than 45,000 people came to Gettysburg, as reported by the tour guides. On top of that more than 11,000 buses and cars came to Gettysburg where a tour guide gave a tour. For actual stats on the number of visits, it was estimated that almost 200,000 people came to Gettysburg. This number was down compared to 1929, when over 700,000 people came. The drop was due to the Great Depression. Because of the cost of maintenance, preservation, and staff, the Gettysburg National Military Park relied upon the New Deal. The Civilian Conservation Corps came to Gettysburg to help with park maintenance. Also historical interpreters were on hand to tell the story of Gettysburg.

In 1938, seventy-five years had passed since the days of the battle. The attendance wasn't near what it was twenty-five years earlier. There were about 8,000 Civil War veterans that were still living. Out of that number only 1,359 Union soldiers and 486 Confederate soldiers attended the reunion. Out of those numbers, twenty-five of those veterans actually fought in the Battle of Gettysburg. President Franklin Roosevelt came to Gettysburg and dedicated the Peace



North and South veterans of the great battle shaking hands at the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion across the fence that served as the high water mark of Picket's fateful charge on July 3, 1863.

Light Memorial.

As the Gettysburg National Military Park entered into the 1940's, a war was erupting in Europe. As the United States entered into World War Two against Japan and Germany, raw materials and scrap metal were needed for the war efforts in Europe and the Pacific. Gettysburg was called upon, since its resources included many metals that were used on the monuments, fences, cannon, tablets, as well as scrap metal. However, Gettysburg was spared when the war ended in 1945.

During the 1940's brochures of the battlefield were made and handed out to the public. The National Park Service purchased the famous Battle of Gettysburg Cyclorama painting, which measures 377 feet in circumference and is 42 feet high. By 1956, Gettysburg National Military Park began to prepare for the fiftieth Anniversary of the National Park Service, which would occur in 1966. This preparation called for the resurfacing of roads, the mending of fences, and fixing farms and houses that sat on the battlefield.

However, 1961 would mark a very important year, the 100<sup>th</sup> Commemoration or Centennial of the American Civil War. The reason I wanted to provide my readers with the history of the Gettysburg National Military Park was because it went hand in hand with those Veteran Reunions. It was because of those veterans and a few people who realized the impact that Gettysburg had, or was going to have, as time moved forward into history.

To me, the Centennial is where the modern Gettysburg experience that we see today comes from. This is when you really start seeing reenacting units forming. This practice, although

new, does have its roots planted in the 1950's with the North South Skirmish Association (N-SSA). Although not considered reenactors, these guys would purchase ready made clothing made from cotton twill or wool from a modern times catalog.

During this time period, if one wanted to reenact, your choices of uniforms were very limited. There were enough original Union uniform items that were, at the time, still considered as surplus, or you could order from a Vanhorn catalog for uniform parts. As mentioned above, items from the Sears catalog were often worn. If you wanted to progress and be authentic, you had to research the items and try to make them by hand in your home. The availability of material/cloth made it difficult to make authentic Civil War reproductions. Some guys wore original Union surplus such as greatcoats, forage caps, leather accouterments and shoes. As the Centennial gained popularity, many Civil War collectors were born and soon started purchasing uniforms which drove up the prices of the surplus.

The reenactments during the 1960's were not exactly like the ones you would see today. Mass mobs of guys, National Guardsmen and some NSSA members would recreate battle scenes. Some of my colleagues who participated in some of the reenactments remember hearing the sudden burst of the M-14 rifle by the National Guardsmen, and seeing Confederate reenactors wearing clothing from the Sears, Roebuck & Company catalog.

By 1963, there were no living veterans of the American Civil War. With it being such a huge event in American history, commemoration was

needed. This is where a new Gettysburg event would unfold and set the standards for what we see today with regards to the reenactments. By the end of the Gettysburg reenactment, the National Park Service put a stop to reenactments being conducted on government owned land due to the trash that was left behind.

By the end of the Centennial, Civil War reenacting had gained in popularity, and it continues to this day. As time went on, for those who wanted more authentically made uniforms, they researched the original pieces that were left out there. As research has gotten better and information made more publicly available, the uniforms gradually got better. Even then, the authentically made cloth didn't become mass produced until the 1980's. Almost twenty years after the first reenactment, museum quality clothing would be made with the authentic material. One gentleman in particular, Charlie Childs was the front runner in cloth, uniforms and pattern making. I have met Charlie a few times and even to this day, he is considered the best of the best and he continues to making items to this day.

Today, reenactors can go to Gettysburg and buy uniforms off the rack. Whether you are a mainstream reenactor or an authentic campaigner, people like Charlie Childs, Jim Warehiem, Les Jensen, Fred Gaede, Dave Jurgella, Ross Kimmel, and Tim Sheads all contributed their research to the hobby. These guys were the ones who set the standard for uniforms in which the second and third generation of sutlers would follow. Not to mention, people like Dirty Billy who mass produced kepis and head gear, and Nick Duvall who has completed many hours of leather research. The whole entire uniform of a reenactor would look and feel as it was the real thing.

Thank you to the formal Maryland State Parks Historian Ross Kimmel for sharing his stories about reenacting during the Centennial of the American Civil War.

To read past Civil War articles by John Miller visit the Historical Society section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net)

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# CIVIL WAR HISTORY

## Reunion of war veterans

*Editors Note: While researching this month's 100 Years Ago Column, we came across the following article on the plans for the 50<sup>th</sup> Gettysburg reunion.*

To explain the plans for the great reunion of Civil War veterans at Gettysburg from July 1 to July 4 to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle there, the chairman of the Battle of Gettysburg Commission, Col. Shoemaker, has sent a circular letter to the 40,000 veterans who have been invited to attend the celebration.

The state of Pennsylvania will provide all the entertainment at Gettysburg for the veterans, and that state and the national government, by appropriations of \$150,000 each, will maintain a great camp around the battlefield, equipped with all the possible conveniences for the comfort of the old soldiers.

The camp will be established on a field, which embraces some 280 acres. The camp will be in the vicinity of the high water monument on the battlefield of Gettysburg. It lies to the south west of the town and includes part of the track covered in the first day's fight. There'll be 5,000 tents, intended to accommodate 12 men each, but only eight veterans will be assigned to each tent.

Each veteran will be supplied with a separate cot, blanket, and mess kit. The mess kit will become his property. Each tent will be furnished with

water buckets and candles. Towels, soap, and toilet articles will be provided by the veterans themselves.

Meals will be served to them at tables adjoining the kitchen at the end of each company street. The veterans will be restricted to hand baggage. To aid in prompt delivery, all mail and telegrams must be plainly addressed to the individual veteran, with the additional delegation of "Maine delegation," or "Mississippi delegation," or whatever state delegation he may be with.

The control of the grounds and camp and the movement of troops and marching bodies will be in charge of the Secretary of War, under such officers as he may detail for that purpose.

Each state through its representative must advise the Battle of Gettysburg Commission how many veterans it will send, and the state's delegation will be assigned to a section of the camp with sufficient tents for its veterans. The subdivision of tents will be left to each state representative.

Under acts by the Pennsylvania Assembly and Congress, only veterans of the Civil War will be provided with food, shelter and entertainment within the camp around the battlefield. Women and children accompanying the veterans cannot be taking care of within the camp. Veterans, therefore, are advised that they should not bring any members of the family, for whom

they will have to obtain food and quarters outside the camp without first making arrangements for them.

Before a veteran is admitted to the camp he must produce credentials such as honorable discharge, pension certificate or certificate of service from either the governor of the state in which he enlisted; or if a veteran

of the regular army, from the United States War Department; or if a former sailor or member of the Marine Corp, from the United States Navy Department, or certificate of identification from the commander of a post of the Grand Army Republic, or from a commander of the United Confederate Veterans.

It will be left to each Commonwealth, State and territory to discriminate in the issuance of free transportation. The state of Pennsylvania will furnish free transportation to only her own veterans or the veterans now living in her borders.

The Truck Line Passenger Association, with a territory embracing Gettysburg, has granted a round-trip excursion rate good from the time of starting, June 25, to the time of re-

turning to the original point, July 15; a 20 day ticket good only on the same route going and coming, at a rate of two cents a mile. The railroads at Gettysburg, for lack of space would not put any cars there on site tracks.

The program for the four days exercises and entertainment has not been perfected in detail, but the tentative suggestions are:

July 1, Veterans Day-appropriate exercises under the joint direc-

tion of the Pennsylvania Commission and the Commanders in Chief of the Grand Army Republic and the United Confederate Veterans.

July 2, Military Day - under the direction of the chief of staff of the United States Army. Special attachments of each arm of the regular servers to participate as directed.

July 3, Civic Day - Under the direction of the Gov. of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, presiding, and participating in by the governors of several states. Orations, sermon, and music.

July 4, National Day-the Chief Justice of the United States presiding, noon speech by the President the United States. High noon, President to lay at cornerstone of a great Peace Memorial. Evening, fireworks.

A great tent to see between 10,000 and 15,000 veterans will be erected immediately adjoining the camp, and therein will occur the exercises; except the military parade and fireworks, and there, also, save for the hour set apart for the exercises, the veterans may hold reunions. The tent will be subdivided into separate enclosures.

All veterans of the Civil War, North and South, are urged to wear their army, corps, division, brigade, and society badges, as a means of identification to their comrades in like commands in the expectations that will assist in imparting information as to when and where are different organizations, meet, and in bringing together comrades who would otherwise, by reason of lapse of time, fail to recognize each other.



of the regular army, from the United States War Department; or if a former sailor or member of the Marine Corp, from the United States Navy Department, or certificate of identification from the commander of a post of the Grand Army Republic, or from a commander of the United Confederate Veterans.

It will be left to each Commonwealth, State and territory to discriminate in the issuance of free transportation.

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# HISTORY

## Glimpses of Fairfield Area's Past

### Interesting Facts About Early Times

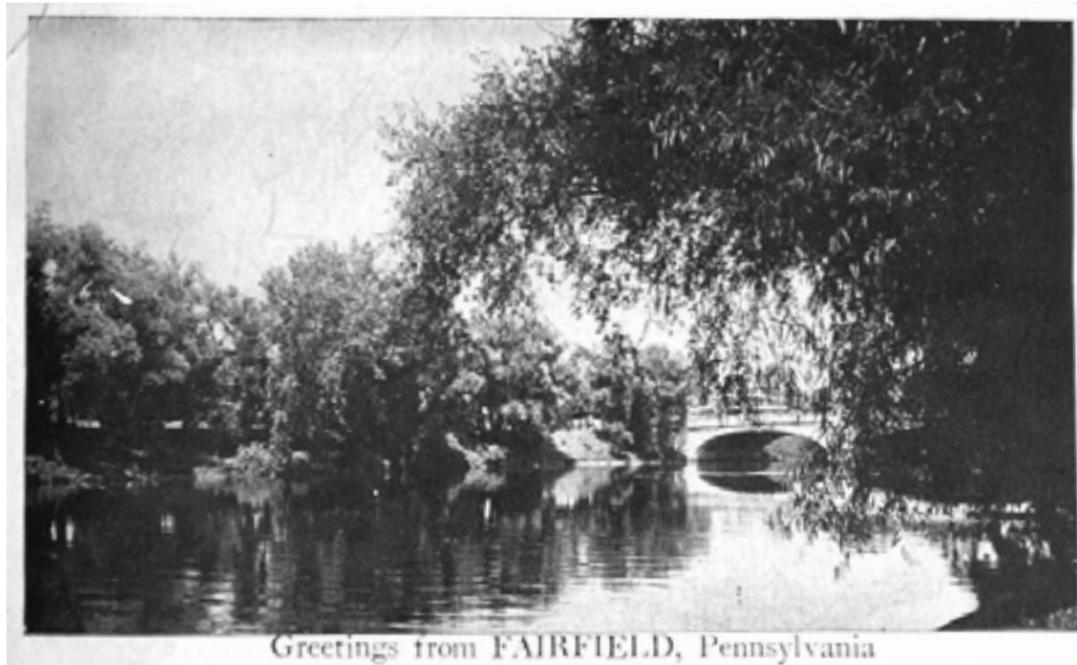
Part 4 of many

#### An early account of life in Fairfield

"The few seeds that I was able to plant the first year yielded us little produce. We however raised some half-grown potatoes, some turnips, and soft corn, with we made out to live, without suffering, until theft next spring at planting time when I planted all the seeds that I had left; and when I finished planting, we had nothing to eat but leeks, cow cabbage and milk. We lived on leeks and cow cabbage as long as they kept green - about six weeks... during the three winter months it snowed 70 days.

I sold one yoke of my oxen in the fall, and the other yoke I wintered on browse; but in the spring one ox died and the other I sold to procure food for my family, and was not destitute of a team, and had nothing other than my own hands to depend upon to clear my lands and raise provisions. We wore out all our shoes the first year. We had no way to get more - no money, nothing to sell, and but little to eat - and were in dreadful distress for the want of the necessaries of life.

I was obliged to work and travel in the woods barefooted. After a while our clothes were worn out. Our family increased, and the children were nearly naked. I had a broken slate brought from Jersey shore. I sold that...and bought two fawn skins, of which my wife made a petticoat



Greetings from FAIRFIELD, Pennsylvania

for Mary; and Mary wore the petticoat until she outgrew it; then Rhoda took it till she outgrew it; then Susan had it till she outgrew it; then it fell to Abigail, and she wore it out."

Thus the hungry hen who swallowed one of the precious vegetable seeds could provoke disaster... for then the craw must be opened, the seed removed, and while a hearty "meal" of chicken could be enjoyed, the thought of the loss of the needed eggs may have dulled the appetite.

Families settled on or near the creeks and springs for the vital water needed for household chores, and later for the mills. An Indian attack

which forced the family to withdraw could shut off the supply unless it was close to the house.

A marryin' or a burin' was, for all its other implications, still a social event. The settlers had their stills; they were not the ever-pious souls we so often think about. Most of their children married young. The wedding was a great and deliciously anticipated occasion. From miles around, the people traveled on the horse paths to the bride's house. A neglected invitation could incur wrath. The uninvited might fell a tree across the path or tie wild grape vines into maze.

The wedding, which usually took place before dinner, was heralded by gunfire. The dinner was the best the pioneers could supply. Pork, fowl, beef, bear and venison might be served. Vegetables were potatoes, cabbage and other root crops or squash. Meager rations might be the result for days after, but was the tribute, this was the blessing.

They square danced and jigged, so violently that when one couple tired another came on the floor to take their place. This was known as "jigging it off". The ladies must have looked like forest birds- in their homespun and hand dyed dresses of brown and subtle shades' Never did calico or gingham grace the ladies'

These materials' while popular in today's interpretations of frontier fashions' were actually unknown to the Pioneers.

When all the feasting and dancing wore itself out, the bride was put to bed and forced to eat and drink even more. Then her bridesmaids would stand at the foot of the bed and pitch stockings at her head. Perhaps the one whose stocking landed closest to the forehead would be the next bride.

The "race for Black Betty" then occurred' The bride's father would obtain the finest bottle of whiskey within his means, and for this prize a race would be held, the one who took it first from the hand of

the bride's father was the winner of the bottle. "Black Betty" as the bottle was called, was then sped to the bride who got the first drink, and then it was passed down the line. This merriment might continue for three days, an event which the couple would recall through all their married life.

Frontier entertainment, and you must remember this was the frontier, was far different than what we sometimes see in movies. It is true that at 13 or 14 a lad would be given his first rifle and a shot pouch, and this qualified him for a slot at the fort or the blockhouse or as a foot Soldier. All the glorified mark shooting we see pictured was done only when ammunition was available. Ammunition was hard to get, the lead difficult to come by, and few rifles carried more than 45 bullets to the pound. Mark, when it was shot, was done from a position at rest, at as great a distance as the length and weight of the barrel would throw a ball on a horizontal level.

Boys borrowed the art of throwing the tomahawk from the Indians, and bets were made as to how many turns it would take, and whether it might hit its mark edge up or down.

Boys ran, jumped and wrestled. Young ladies sang and told stories, often continued ones, each adding something. They also sewed together and did many chores of each season, each family helping the other. Jack and the Beanstalk was said to be a continued story, as popular perhaps as the tales of captured virgins being returned, their virtue intact, to their true love.

When times moved forward and slave owning became somewhat customary with the landed gentry,

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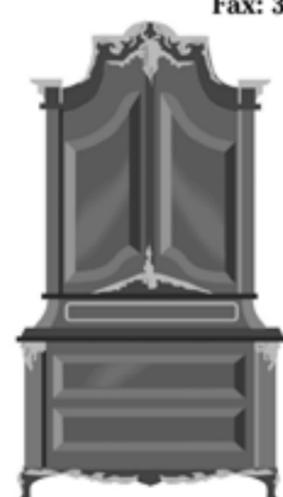
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# HISTORY / OBITUARIES

## Elsie Elizabeth May

Elsie Elizabeth May, 72, of Keysville Rd. passed away Sunday March 3, 2013 at Gettysburg Center of Gettysburg, PA.

Born December 19, 1940 in Emmitsburg, she was the daughter of the late Bernard & Lucy (Wetzel) Stouter.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years, Philip Eugene May, Sr. whom he married August 1, 1959.

She was employed by Emmitsburg Catholic Provincial House. She was an avid Bingo player, auto racing fan & loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by one daughter Barbara R. Orndorff & husband Alan of Fairfield, two sons

Philip E. May, Jr. & girlfriend Donna Hilton & Randy S. May & girlfriend Tara Ridenour all of Emmitsburg, three sisters Bernice Stouter & Myrtle McAfee both of Sabillasville, & Violet Matthews of Thurmont, two granddaughters Debra L. Orndorff & Stacy L. Williams, one grandson Wesley May, two great grandchildren Austin Welch & Addison Welch & several nieces & nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sisters Sylvia Brooks & Goldie Sentz & four brothers Melvin Stouter, Paul Stouter, Kenneth Stouter & John Stouter.

Services & burial will be private & at the convenience of the family.



**"Fairfield Fiddlers:"** Top (let to right) Jim Dolly, Fred Nintle, Paris Pentz  
Bottom (left to right) William Singley, Howard Sander, Dave McCleaf, William Shindledecker

the slave owner might play various games with his people. One favorite game was "Old Hundred," done by drawing 100 squares on a board and pitching corn kernels for the highest score. Dice and card games were not played, but horse races, cock fighting and knife throwing were popular. Large farms in our area were known in early deeds as "plantations," a term often associated with the South. One early history lists the advertisement of an Emmitsburg dancing master (perhaps bent on raising the level of entertainment).

The arrival of stage and mail coaches was often heralded by the

men at the bar of a local inn rushing into the street and waving at two different vehicles, making bets as to which one would first make it to the inn. The roads, with their wagons, coaches and assortment of drovers, groups of sheep, turkeys, etc., clogged with dust and boggy at times from rain, give us a picture of what across-country trip might have been like "way back when." Many journals tell of weary travelers stranded for days in some God-forsaken mire.

Christmas was always an advent of deep religious significance. In earlier times when much of our population

consisted of scotch-Irish, the German families lent color to the season by "bellsnicking," or the practice of mummings, by dressing in weird costumes and silently approaching the doors, filling the children with terror and pleasure, for although the bellsnickers looked frightening, when they were given handouts of apples or nuts, they rewarded their benefactors with carols.

Apple peeling, corn husking, the catching and cooking of a great turtle - all these were simple happy occasions. Sometimes a little diversion was created by sending the youths off to the woods or orchard to hunt twitches or snipes, which were to arrive red-eyed at midnight, but which never came at all.

With gossip and goodness, quilts were finished for a bride's dower or hope chest, berries picked, corn ground. Ice on the pond brought out the peculiar old skates we sometimes find today, and of course, there was sledding. Thus, the years and seasons came and went.

Sternly independent, but possessed of a togetherness in strength, these ancestors gave us our today. Their leaving is recorded on stone slabs in badly kept and errant graveyards.

### Indians of Pennsylvania

The Delaware Indians who lived near the Delaware River, called them-

selves Leni-Lenape, or "real" men. These Indians spent their lives hunting, making pottery and trading with other tribes. They used the bow and chipped flint for hunting. Their crops consisted mostly of tobacco and maize until the influence of the white man expanded their farming operations. The most serious handicap of the Delawares was their lack of a written language. They used pictographs to record events to the satisfaction of their own tribes and terms of treaties were recalled only by memory. However, these methods were not capable of preserving any information for posterity. History shows that William Penn was impressed by the Delawares, probably because they had been in touch with the white man for at least 100 years prior to Penn.

The Susquehannocks lived along the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania and Maryland. This warlike tribe fell victim to new diseases imported by the white man, and attacks by Marylanders and Iroquois destroyed the Susquehannocks as a nation by 1765.

The Shawnees settled on the Lower Susquehanna River. They were allies of the French in the French and Indian War and were allies of the British in the Revolutionary War. This tribe was constantly in conflict with early settlers.

A map of Indian paths would probably prove to be as intricate as one of today's roadmaps. Most Indian paths

were only about 18 inches wide, barely sufficient to allow persons to move in single file. The Indians never traveled in haste, as they made their home wherever they happened to be.

Originally, the Indians were not a warlike people except in avenging the death of a kinsman. The tactics used by the Indians in making raids were surprise, destruction, seizure of captives, and retreat. During the French and Indian War, the main objective of most Indian raids was the capture of prisoners.

Although white men were horrified to learn how the Indians tortured their prisoners, the Indians were likewise horrified to learn that Indian women and children captured by the white man were sold into slavery. This action appalled the Indians who adopted most white women and children into their tribes.

One of the best known Indian stories in Pennsylvania is that of dreams exchanged by Shickellamy, an Iroquois representative, and Conrad Weiser, a Pennsylvania interpreter, at the forks of the Susquehanna River. The two were traveling together on a Susquehanna Indian path opposite the Isle of Que, near Selingsgrove, when Shickellamy said, "I have had a dream. I dreamed that you gave me a new rifle."

Weiser gave him the rifle, but added, "I, too, have had a dream, I dreamed that you gave me that island in the river."

Shickellamy, the perfect diplomat, fulfilled Weiser's dream, but added, "I will never dream with you again."

In looking back over the conflicts between the Indians and the whites, it is impossible to say that one side was wholly right or wrong. The Indians were fighting to preserve the land they felt was rightfully theirs; the settlers, on the other hand were caught up in one of the great mass movements of mankind. Who is to say which side was right and which side was wrong? Even history cannot furnish the answer.

Indians were a constant presence in the area around Fairfield. Settlers encountered them throughout the area. During the French and Indian War, some of those encounters were not friendly.

To read more articles on local history visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

Part 5 next month

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## COLD WAR WARRIORS

# The silent service during the Cold War

Captain William Hicks, USN Ret.

### Part 4

#### Collision in Rough Seas

USS Tullibee SSN 597 was a small ASW submarine with turbine electric propulsion. Tullibee had unique sonar systems including the first large ball sonar dome and a passive ranging sonar which required three domes mounted on the submarine deck (PUFFS). Tullibee was not very fast and too small for adequate crew comforts with the crew size necessary to accomplish the assigned missions. Only one ship of the class was built. On a Friday afternoon while Tullibee was at sea in a storm, a merchant ship reported a collision with an unseen object, possibly a submarine. The merchant was in the vicinity where Tullibee was assigned on the transit back to New London.

The submarine force command structure activated the missing submarine planning and attempted to contact all submarines that were at sea. Ultimately, Tullibee made contact, reported that they were in a collision in very rough seas, they were still submerged, all systems were operating normally, and they intended to remain submerged to complete the transit to the surfacing point off New London. With much relief, the CSS 2 staff and Submarine Base Port Services staff made plans to berth Tullibee

when she arrived in port.

At about 10:00 pm, I was called at home and informed that Tullibee reported that when on the surface they determined there was a leak in the top of the forward ballast tanks and the forward Puffs (passive ranging sonar) dome was missing. Tullibee reported that they were able to keep water out of the ballast tank by continual deballasting with the emergency diesel engine. So long as the diesel was running, the ship was stable on the surface. That changed all the plans.

The squadron commander directed that the submarine rescue ship USS Sunbird (ASR-15) get underway with the duty crew and whoever else they could get aboard on short notice and proceed to meet Tullibee. The Tullibee and the ASR arrived in port without further challenges. Upon arrival early Saturday morning, the challenge was to patch the hole so that the diesel could be shutdown with the ship stable on the surface. The Submarine Base Repair Department formed and installed a temporary patch and the ship was stable. Notably, a week or so later, we were informed that when the merchant was inspected in Baltimore, a sonar dome was found in the hull. Reconstruction indicated that the results could have been much worse for Tullibee had the officer of the deck not taken immediate and correct emergency actions when he spot-

ted the merchant coming through the wave that was obstructing his view.

Once the ballast tank was patched, it was possible for Tullibee to return to service without the PUFFS system. Ultimately, a new PUFFS dome was obtained and installed. It was just another weekend for the squadron engineer and the entire squadron staff.

#### Maintenance of Nuclear Submarines

Maintenance of the first group of nuclear submarines in Submarine Squadron 2 was extremely challenging for a number of reasons:

- Designers of the initial group of nuclear submarines concentrated on “stuffing” a nuclear reactor and steam propulsion plant into a submarine hull. As a result, accessibility to individual components that would facilitate maintenance was not a primary consideration.
- Significantly greater amounts of seawater were required within the hull of a nuclear submarine during submerged operations. The design of the seawater systems including the ability to isolate sections and minimize the piping lengths and vulnerability of adjacent equipment was not considered as carefully as would be required in later submarine designs. Low pressure, fresh water cooling systems were not employed in the initial submarine designs.
- Ship systems such as hydraulic and high pressure air were much larger and operated at much higher pressures than found in diesel submarines although in many cases, this was not adequately considered in selection of materials and installation.
- New technologies were necessary to support the increased range and submerged endurance of the nuclear submarine such as inertial navigators, oxygen generators, atmosphere-control equipment, and advanced sensors. Many of the technologies had not been previously packaged and applied in the manner to function on a nuclear submarine. Their reliability and maintenance was a challenge.
- Maintenance procedures including rigging and removal instruc-

tions were not developed for the initial group of nuclear submarines and thus in some cases, these tasks were not evaluated prior to first use by the fleet at which time it was usually too late for design changes

- The one-of-a-kind nature of the initial nuclear submarines provided for limited experience in conduct of maintenance. It also resulted in many repair parts and replacement components being difficult to obtain.
- Routine preventative maintenance programs were not developed or were inadequate for many of the one of a kind or unique, small class submarines.
- High operational tempo plus the design and construction challenges resulted in the early submarines requiring a significant amount of corrective and preventative maintenance which exceeded the capacity of ships force and the IMA during the scheduled in port maintenance periods. As a result, the maintenance backlog increased and ship reliability was jeopardized.

One of the most significant improvements as the design and construction of nuclear submarines matured during my career was the improvements in the reliability of the systems and components and the ability to conduct maintenance when it was required. As a result, the reliability and the operational availability of ships of the submarine force improved significantly from 1962 until 1990.

#### Orders to USS Philadelphia (SSN 690)

My tour as squadron engineer was extended from two years to three, either because there was no qualified relief available, or because I was a slow learner! I guess I ultimately got it right such that I received orders back to new construction and reported in October 1974 as the Prospective Executive Of-



Captain William Hicks, USN Ret.

ficer (PXO) of the pre-commissioning crew for USS Philadelphia (SSN 690). Philadelphia was being built at the Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, CT. so we did not have to move but my commute became a mile longer. This was my second tour at Electric Boat and my third tour in the shipyard—two new construction and one overhaul. Unfortunately my reputation for shipyard success only meant more opportunity to go to the shipyard.

#### Back to the shipyard again

The USS Philadelphia was the second ship of a new class of nuclear submarines. The first ship of the class, USS Los Angeles SSN 688 was being built in Newport News Shipyard in Virginia. Philadelphia was the first of the class to be built at Electric Boat in Groton. The growing pains of being the first of the class would be significant, frustrating, challenging, and enlightening. The Los Angeles Class (688 Class) was a totally new design with larger hull diameter, more shallow test depth, greater speed, and a new design nuclear propulsion plant.

The ships navigation, fire control, and sensor systems were greatly improved, all digital with an integrated central computer concept that was both an advantage and a challenge. The central computers were built and tested to military specifications which mean they would withstand lots of abuse in a warship environment but the development cycle was very long. As



The Submarine Rescue Vessel (ASR) USS Sunbird ASR-15. Submariners referred to ASRs as “mother-pleasers” because they were incapable of rescuing sailors due to the depth of water nuclear submarines operated in, but mothers of submariners didn’t know this, so they slept better thinking their sons could be saved.



A modern US fast attack submarine under construction at Electric Boat.



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# COLD WAR WARRIORS

a result, the computers were several generations behind the state of the art when installed and fell farther behind by the time Philadelphia was commissioned. They fell even further behind as time progressed. This situation drove a critical decision for future submarine designs to use commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) digital equipment to gain the benefits of the rapid development cycle and rapid improvements in digital computers and digital systems.

As had been the case with Sunfish, the function of the pre commissioning crew was to train the crew to conduct the test program for the nuclear propulsion plant and to operate the ship on sea trials and beyond. Philadelphia was particularly challenging, since it was the first of a new submarine class upon which no crew members had previous experience. While submarine and nuclear propulsion plant operations are similar between different nuclear submarine classes, the detailed procedures and the specific systems were different and required diligent retraining of every crew member. Only the Commanding Officer had any training on the nuclear propulsion plant that he received at Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO) training in the offices of Admiral Rickover. For the rest of us, it was a matter of reading the Reactor Plant Manuals (RPM) and other training documents and lots of walk-through and talk-through practice. For ship control training, we had access to a simulator trainer in which the ship control team could practice and gain proficiency. Since no ship of the class had ever been to sea, the accuracy of the ship control simulator had never been verified. In retrospect, it was adequate but there were a few surprises when we got to sea.

When the pre commissioning unit was formed, the ship was still on the building ways. Within a couple weeks, the ship was launched into the Thames River. The launching event was the occasion for a celebration sponsored by the shipyard in which the ship sponsor broke the traditional Champagne bottle on the bow and the ship slid into the water. Then there was a party in which we saw Admiral Rickover in a totally different mode as a charming guest. My mother thought he was a very kind and thoughtful gentleman— not the persona that some of us had experienced, but one in which he was skilled when a good impression was required such as with wives and mothers or politicians.

Following the launching, we had to quickly complete initial qualification in order to support the shipyard schedule to conduct the initial filling and testing of the reactor piping systems. We had only a few weeks

to meet this challenging schedule, but we made it. The initial pre-core, cold operations, as the test sequence was known, was completed with few issues. The next sequence was pre-core, hot operations, which as the name implies, takes the systems hot to test flow rates and other operational design parameters prior to loading the nuclear fuel into the reactor. During this sequence of tests, several issues were identified that were basic design issues. Also during this period, the shipyard work force went on strike.

The shipyard management tried to keep the testing going with the non-striking, salaried staff. Part of the strategy, probably unspoken, was that ships force would do more to keep things moving forward. The crew tried to respond, but several “aw shucks” events convinced us that we needed to exercise significant care or we would get drawn into situations that we were not qualified or competent to complete. Always a learning experience. The lack of the hourly workforce and the attendant inability to fix test issues slowly brought the efforts to continue testing in spite of the strike to a slow walk. The ship was falling farther behind schedule and our dream of commissioning on July 4, 1976 in Philadelphia with the President and Queen of England in attendance was becoming the impossible dream. We never got around to inviting the President or the Queen.

The construction continued. Challenges regarding system construction and operability were a constant source of tension with the shipyard. Schedule slippage was also a thorn. When I was in Electric Boat Shipyard during the overhaul of Dace, I was always amazed at how when the shipyard got serious, they could produce. Senior management got involved, more skilled workers were assigned, and things happened to meet or recover the schedule. On Philadelphia, I saw the same efforts and strategies by senior management, but never the same results. They simply were not able to respond in the same way. In large part this was caused by the dramatic growth of the shipyard: many 688's under construction, several new Ohio Class Trident Ballistic Missile Submarines under construction, several submarines in overhaul, and a lesser experience and I believe a lesser work ethic on the part of many of the hourly workers. A beer at lunch was more important than finishing an important critical-path, work action.

In part, this was a measure of the times and also a result of the acrimonious strike which had finally ended. There were also challenges with the construction documentation provid-



**The Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Ct. One of two remaining shipyards in the US capable of building nuclear submarines. Photo courtesy of General Dynamics.**

ed to the construction trades. The ship had been designed at Newport News where the manner in which construction details were placed on drawings was different from the methodology at Electric Boat. As a result, the trades were not always sure where to find the details to complete a construction action. This situation resulted in significant rework and acrimony between the crew and the shipyard. It almost seemed that the attitude of the shipyard was that they built what was on the plans provided by the government from Newport News and if that turned out to be a submarine—that was fine, but if it did not... that was not their fault. We built “what the plan called for” was often the response. In the end however, it usually turned out that they had not looked at all the plans. Once all the plans were studied, the issues were usually resolved, but resulted in schedule delays and tension between the customer (us) and the shipyard.

As with Sunfish, the culmination of the propulsion plant test program was Power Range Testing during which the critical reactor was exercised to the allowable limits and sometimes slightly beyond. The most memorable event was the power cycles when we cycled reactor power from 15% to 100% in 10 seconds or so. The dynamics of this new reactor were such that it overshot the point at which increasing power-demand stopped. Thus we exceeded 100% power by a small amount. This event resulted in significant energy to find out why and identify who was responsible. I knew why, or at least that the same thing happened on Los Angeles at Newport News.

During the pretest review of the test procedure, I attempted to get the test procedures modified, but with no success. As it would happen, I was the Senior Supervisory Watch for the test which overshot 100%. At the critique, there was group amnesia by the

Naval Reactors and Design agency experts as to the discussions regarding procedure changes and thus it was the fault of my crew that we exceeded the allowable limits of the test procedure. I was not happy and said so. The solution was to expel me from the critique so cooler heads could identify the issue and assess responsibly. In the end it all became a footnote to the test program and the necessary changes were made to the procedures.

## Keeping Admiral Rickover Happy

Following successful completion of the test program, Sea Trials were next on the agenda. Again, Admiral Rickover would be aboard and in charge. As the Executive Officer, I had different responsibilities from the Sunfish Sea Trials. The first critical challenge was the sea trial letter that the Admiral would sign at sea during the trials. The text was provided by his staff, but it was the responsibility of me and my yeoman to type and proof-read the several hundred copies and perfection was the only acceptable standard. Computer word processors were still in the future, but the Shipyard did provide an IBM electronic card reading typewriter so that if we got the letter correct once and embedded on the magnetic card, the typewriter would produce identical copies (most of the time). Once I had a good copy, my proof reading became hold-

ing the one to be checked up to the light in front of the good one and verifying a match.

Frustrating, since I had so many other things to do as XO, but I understood my priorities. If Admiral Rickover was not happy, none of us would be happy. As always, many details were identified that were necessary to ensure Admiral Rickover was not irritated on the sea trials. The specified uniform items were procured; size small. The book list was filled at a local book store. The special foods including seedless grapes were stocked. Rules of decorum were drilled into the entire crew. And, we got ready for the first trip to sea in a new ship. The sea trials actually proceeded reasonably well with only a few challenges such as maintaining depth and angle control while going backwards; a submerged condition for which the ship was not designed. We did lose the anchor during the drop test. It was eventually recovered by divers and reinstalled. The weather was fine, so few got sea sick and we were able to transfer the Admiral off on schedule— a relief for all. Following the successful sea trials and final repairs, USS Philadelphia, SSN 690 was commissioned at Submarine Base New London on 25 June 1977, almost two years behind schedule, but ready for a successful career that would last for 34 years.

To read past Cold War Warrior article visit the Actors section of Emmitsburg.net.



**The USS Philadelphia “breaching” after a test of its emergency blow system. The emergency blow system is designed to rapidly empty the sub’s ballast tanks and in doing so, force the sub to the surface.**

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# MOM'S TIME OUT

## Fun in the county

Danielle Ryan

I have been an Ag Explorer's Day Camp counselor for the past six years and I can honestly say that even as a counselor, this camp is really fun and educational. The goal of this camp is to teach kids about the many different aspects of Pennsylvania Agriculture, through workshops and hands on activities.

Each day is centered on a different theme that relates to agriculture. Every year one of the days is centered on animals and another day is all about plants; the themes for the other days depend on the year. In the past there have been environmental studies days, fruit days and science days that centered on different kinds of renewable resources such as wind power and solar power. During our environmental studies days, the kids have been able to do stream studies, where

they have learned about stream water quality by looking at the different organisms that inhabit the streams. They also evaluated habitats that surrounded stream areas. Just about every day, apart from the workshops, we take a field trip to a place that relates to the topics that were discussed during the day.

In the past, the kids have had a blast on the different field trips that they have gone to. For instance, we have gone to several different dairy farms in the past, and the kids were able to learn about the dairy industry by participating in hands on activities. They were able to see the different aspects of the dairy industry from the baby calves, to the adult milking cows, to the milking parlors, and they were even able to have a taste of the milk that was processed at these dairy farms.

Every year we have one big field

trip that is left for the last day. We have taken some really awesome field trips in the past, which the kids really enjoyed. We have gone to the Washington D.C. zoo, the Baltimore Aquarium, the Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C., Lake Tobias Wildlife Park and Hershey Park where we visited Chocolate World, the Hershey Gardens and Zoo America. Some field trips that we have gone on during the other days of the week include Mason Dixon Dairy Farm, Whitmore Farm (an organic farm), the Hanover Shoe Farms, Boyer's Nursery, Caledonia State Park, and Hollabaugh Brother's Fruit Farm and Market just to name a few.

When we are not going on field trips, we are in different sessions, learning about agriculture. The kids have made different kinds of food such as their own butter, ice cream,



and they have also donned their brave faces while tasting some new kinds of fruits and vegetables as well. They even made their own mini pizzas while learning about where all the different products and toppings came from.

Over the years we have learned that pretty much every kid loves animals. So in the past, on the animal days, we have had animals come to us. We

have had sheep-shearing demonstrations, live chickens, rabbits, and even a horse come to visit. The kids have had many chances to play in the dirt on days when we were learning about plants, and they have even been able to take home their own plants. One thing is for sure, sometimes the kids go home with a good bit of the day all over them whether it is dirt, mud, water, or animal hair. Something else that the kids really enjoy is making their own t-shirts for the Friday trip. Every year the kids are able to decorate their own t-shirts. We have tie-dyed shirts, painted shirts, stamped shirts, and every year the kids have a lot of fun doing this.

This year there will be a day dedicated to plants, a day all about animals, and a day on environmental studies. The big field trip this year is a trip to Penn State where the kids will be taking a tour of the creamery, the animal barns, and the arboretum. This field trip occurs on the last day so the kids will be able to see everything they learned over the past days tied together.

As a counselor I have had the great pleasure of being able to get to know the kids in my groups and have been able to help educate them about agriculture. I remember the year that we went to Washington D.C. a fellow counselor and I entertained the kids by teaching them songs. We later discovered that this may not have been the best idea because the trip was close to two hours and the kids became insistent on singing those songs all the way back from the zoo. It didn't help that we taught them two of the most catchy, maybe even annoying boy scout/girl scout songs that there were. Needless to say, the kids had a blast learning and singing these songs, and probably went home to their parents and families who I'm sure had to hear these songs for the next week. Sorry parents, but chances are they will be asking to sing these songs again this year, as these songs seem to keep reappearing every year thanks to kids coming back.

As someone who is majoring in an agriculture-related field I really enjoy being a counselor for these camps. The kids are not the only ones coming away from this camp having learned something; I come away having learned many things too. I also come away, every year, with some awesome memories and honestly I love going back every year and seeing many of the same kids. If you're looking for a really fun camp for your kids, Ag Explorer's Day Camp is one that will not disappoint.

# Ag Explorers Day Camp

Penn State **Extension**



Join us as we explore the many areas of nature and agriculture! Take field trips, visit farms, parks, and more!



**When? Monday, June 24-Friday, June 28, 2013**  
**Time: 8:00am-4:00pm**

Ag & Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Gettysburg



**Who? For youth ages 8 through 12**

• No refunds if cancelling less than three weeks prior to start of camp.



Early Bird Registration: April 19, 2013: \$110.00  
 Registration deadline: May 24 2013 \$125.00  
 After May 24: \$145.00



\*\*Fee includes busing, tour fees, supplies, snacks/drinks

For more information, visit our website: <http://extension.psu.edu/adams>

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An **OUTREACH** program of the  
 College of Agricultural Sciences

### REGISTRATION FORM—Ag Explorers Day Camp June 24-28, 2013

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_M \_\_\_F

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size: CM CL AS AM AL

Does your child have a disability? \_\_\_Y \_\_\_N If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please make checks payable to: PSCE Program Fund

To charge your Visa or MasterCard, fill in the information below & sign.

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please return registration form and payment to:**

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 Adams County  
 670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Ste 204  
 Gettysburg, PA 17325  
 Phone: 717-334-6271

**BEDTIME STORIES**

# The Koala and the Snow

**Amy T. Wilkinson**

A koala rose from her bed one day, to find the ground was white and the sky was grey. And all the animals stood and frowned, for never had they seen snow on the ground.

The first to speak was the kangaroo, he said, "What's this? It simply won't do. How am I to reach the grass while it's covered with this cold, wet mass?"

The platypus showed his assent, by offering his own two cents, Said he, "There is no way to find my lake, I see not a single path to take."



The emu scowled, and the dingo howled. The snake, he sighed and the wombat cried.

The bat, he chattered, after the cockatoo sung, But the wise koala just held her tongue.

The sugar glider hopped around, the skink got dizzy and had to sit down. The crocodile hissed and moaned, and the little wallaby cried for home.

When all the animals started to shout, the koala bear began to doubt, That for the snow they would find a use, and stop their profaning and abuse.



She thought aloud to the old cane toad, "We need to form some sort of road."

The old toad turned and hopped away and to the Tasmanian devil did say, "If you run with speed into the snow and back, we may be able to clear a path."

"If we work with diligence we will get through; enlist some help; ask the bandicoot. In an attempt to part the snow, the little quokka began to blow."

The bandicoot and the devil ran, the sea lion jumped in and across he swam. The kookaburra flew back and forth and helped the others plot their course.

In as much time as it took the snow to fall, the animals had crossed, one and all. They arrived in the grass safe and sound and skipped and leapt with joy abound.

If you asked them what they learned that day, they would stand right up and say,

"When we use what we've got, every paw and feather, we can make it better when we all work together."

As she climbed down from her tree, she called to the animals, "Listen to me, There is nothing worse you can do in a bind, than abandoning your presence of mind."

Said she, "Be quiet and keep calm," exhibiting her great aplomb, "For I am sure we can find a way to overcome our deep dismay."

To the albatross, she said, "Take flight, let us know if you see any green in sight."



*Mark Your Calendar!* Penn State **Extension**  
**Spring Gardening Event**  
 May 4, 2013,  
 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Penn State Master Gardeners are holding a Spring celebration. Join us for workshops, activities, and more!

- ◆ Perennial & Annual Plant Sale
- ◆ Kid's activities
- ◆ Container workshop
- ◆ Garden Yard Sale
- ◆ Garden Tours
- ◆ Composting
- ◆ Ask the Expert

**PENNSTATE** Cooperative Extension  
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## SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

# Advocating for public education

One of the most daunting but one of the most critical responsibilities of the Board of Education of Frederick County is the budget responsibility. I say it is the most daunting because we are responsible for a large amount of public money; an amount that now has reached over a half-billion dollars. I have been asked how I can sleep at night with that amount of money on my mind.

The budget process actually goes on all year as we weigh our priorities and make decisions for the schools. We are always asking for public input to help us make the right decision for students.

Public input into public schools is the hallmark of the American public education system. It provides for local control and it provides a means by which citizens can have a say in what we teach our children and how much of our resources we should use to do so.

Good schools are good for communities. They are good for business. They are good for public safety and quality of life. They are certainly good for property values. People want to locate in communities with good schools. Businesses want to move to places that can provide an educated and trained workforce.

One of the most common questions asked of real estate agents who work with prospective home buyers is where the best schools are. People want the best education for their children.

As a school board member, I encourage everyone to pay attention to what we are doing in county government and on the BOE. I ask you to let us know what you believe is important for our children and what is important for our community. I get hundreds of emails and I read every one. I listen to people I meet in the supermarket, at community events and in the schools.

If someone asks me a question that I cannot answer, I can usually direct them to the right place for answers. Your concern and your advocacy are essential to making our schools the best they can be. Stay informed about local issues and what is happening right now in our schools. Go to the FCPS website: [www.FCPS.org](http://www.FCPS.org) and look at all the information that is available, including the latest happenings. Then, navigate the website to find relevant information or any documents that you might find helpful.

The most convenient way for the

public to advocate is to keep in touch with your elected Board members by email or phone. We even read letters. Citizens are welcome and encouraged to attend public meetings of our Board of Education. You can see those meetings listed on the FCPS website. When you come, you can sign up to make public comment.

In short, talk to us. We need to know if we are doing the right thing. If we are not, you can tell us that, too. If you have ideas about public education, we are here to listen. We are here for you. We are here for the children!

# What's new at your library

**Erin Dingle, Administrator,**  
**Thurmont Regional Library/**  
**Emmitsburg Branch Library**  
**[edingle@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:edingle@frederickcountymd.gov)**  
**301-600-7201**  
**Library Website: [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org)**

### Gardening Dewey Style

Welcome to spring! As you head out with your shovel to start working, don't forget the Friends of the Library are asking you to share your extra plants, bulbs or rhizomes for the annual Plant Exchange on May 11 from 10 to noon at the library. With Flower Power face painting for the kids, gardening demonstrations by a Master Gardener and a \$1 Per Bag Used Book sale, you can't go wrong for the perfect local Saturday morning activity. It's all for a good cause with all proceeds supporting your community library branch. Bring your plants to

the library by 9:45 am or, bring them early in the week. Plants can either be traded or purchased.

And as you prepare for the season of planting and gardening, consider all the beautiful full color books you borrow from us at no cost. Here are some new titles we are happy to order: Rain gardens : sustainable landscaping for a beautiful yard and a healthy world by Lynn Steiner; Building soils naturally : innovative methods for organic gardeners by Phil Nauta and The layered garden design lessons for year-round beauty from Brandywine Cottage by David Culp. All are new titles to inspire you!

Out in the vegetable garden, you can't go wrong checking out titles such as this one with the gorgeous full color artichoke on the cover: How to grow perennial vegetables by Crawford, Martin; or for the newbie: Food grown

right, in your backyard : a beginner's guide to growing crops at home by Colin McCrate. This hardcover is also beautiful to look at with lots of information: The beginner's guide to growing heirloom vegetables: the 100 easiest, most flavorful vegetables for your garden by Marie Jannotti.

When September comes and the blue ribbons are being handed out at the Community Show, perhaps it will be attached to your magnificent homegrown canned tomatoes or that vase of perfect Zinnias that caught the judge's eyes. We offer an easy to use inter-library loan system so if the branch doesn't have the gardening book you want on the shelf, the librarians will do what it takes to get the book quickly for you to enjoy. And of course, from the comfort of your own home computer you can visit our library catalog to search these and any

other books to help you create a garden oasis this summer. Simply place your 'hold' and it will be delivered right to the Emmitsburg branch for easy pickup. An email notice in your inbox will alert you to stop by the branch.

### Dig Into Reading This Summer

Summer Reading Club starts on May 1<sup>st</sup> at all Frederick County Public Libraries. This summer, kids will 'Dig Into Reading' when they join. Librarians will be visiting children in all of the local schools to share the details about signing up, prizes and all the exciting programs going on. One of the first SRC events will be the Summer Reading Family Festival on Saturday, May 11 from 11 am - 1 pm at the Westview Promenade on Buckeystown Pike in Frederick with many other SRC programs happening at both the Thurmont and Emmitsburg Branches. Full schedules will be available at our website and in the next edition of Library BookMarks.

are working to make the library a go-to place in Emmitsburg. Contact Cynthia or Clare at the Information Desk at 301-600-7212.

### Why Financial Literacy?

There are so many opportunities learn the answer to the question 'Why is financial literacy important.' You can make money and spend money but the best thing is when you save and invest your money to maintain a healthy, happy lifestyle. There are many community partners joining together to share information during 'Pa\$\$port to Wealth'. You and your family are invited to enjoy a presentation by the 'Ultimate Cheapskate' as he shares how to be "Living a Wholesale Life in a Retail World". Held at Mount St. Mary's University in Knott Auditorium on Saturday, April 6, this is a free and fun presentation for the entire family. The doors open at 12 noon. Take advantage of a free credit report at the Credit Café, visit with community groups dedicated to improving your financial literacy and check out activities for the kids. This program kicks off the local Pa\$\$port to Wealth initiative with a variety of activities happening at the Emmitsburg and Thurmont libraries, local schools, the Emmitsburg Senior Center and Seton Center. Here are the programs being held at your local libraries:

Pa\$\$port To Wealth: Basic Banking for Teens: Attention Teens! Sign up for this special Pa\$\$port to Wealth workshop for an overview of banking, budgeting, credit plus why a checking and savings account is important. All kinds of tips for budgeting finances plus the how and why keeping good credit. Please register by email through the Woodsboro Bank at [jenniferr@woodsborobank.com](mailto:jenniferr@woodsborobank.com)

Pa\$\$port To Wealth: Free Programs for Kids & Teens Register at [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org).

April Programs for Children & Teens at the Emmitsburg Library TAG - Teen Advisory

### TAG, You are IT!

The library's Teen Advisory Groups (TAG) at both the Emmitsburg and Thurmont libraries need your help if you are ages 11-18. Library Associates Cynthia Wintermyer (EM) and Clare Bush (TH) will be seeking input from members of TAG about what types of activities the library should have at the branch. We can host events such movie nights, book clubs, art activities, game tournaments, tutoring. But what we really want to do is give area teens to a voice in deciding what their community library provides for them. The library would be happy to partner with local organizations such as scout troops, school groups and others to plan and present events together. Both branches have comfortable community rooms and excited, creative staff who

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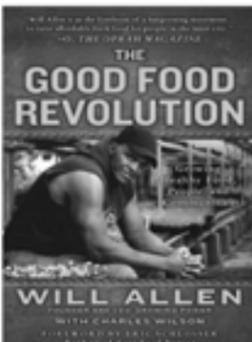
**Reads**

**Will Allen**

*He's changing the way the world grows food*



**2013 "Food for Thought"**



**Thursday, April 11**

**Discussion, Q&A, and book signing**

**Free ♦ No tickets**

**11 a.m. Frederick Community College**  
**Jack B. Kussmaul Theater**

**7 p.m. Weinberg Center for the Arts**  
**20 W. Patrick Street**

For more Frederick Reads events, visit [FrederickReads.org](http://FrederickReads.org)

**Bountiful Breakfast Benefit - Friday, April 12, 8 a.m.**

Visit [FrederickReads.org](http://FrederickReads.org) for details about our fundraiser breakfast with Will Allen and honorary chairman Bryan Voltaggio.

*A limited number of tickets are available for \$75 each.*

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# SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

## Make spring a season of service

Lynn Taylor  
Mother Seton School

Hear the birds chirping and see buds anxious to open. The stinkbugs have come out of hibernation and taken up residence in my bathroom (which also apparently happens to be the place ladybugs go to die). The tangle of bicycles in my garage forces me to stretch my muscles and my patience to get from one end to the other. And "sidewalk chalk" keeps showing up on my shopping list. Ah... it must be Spring!

It's been a long, rough winter. I'm looking forward to the only fever in the house being Spring Fever, which is slowly spreading. Walking through the halls at Mother Se-

ton School, you can feel the change in energy. After five months of erratic winter weather that kept everyone inside shivering for warmth one day and rolling up their sleeves the next, we are anxious to put that season behind us and start enjoying long days playing outside among the flowers soon to bloom.

This season of newness appropriately sees our Church welcome a new Pope, one who is known for his dedication to the poor and his gentle humility. Here at Mother Seton School, we were particularly excited about this choice. Our foundress, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, also dedicated her life to serve those less fortunate. Our other patron saint, Saint Vincent de Paul, models for us what it means to serve

Christ by serving those most in need. So to have a Pope who is just as conspicuously dedicated to this service is especially poignant for us.

The day of Pope Francis' installation, I came across a blog post that offered five ways to show your support of the new Pope by doing or giving something to an organization that serves those in need. I thought they were great ideas, especially tip #4—give to a local Catholic school's tuition assistance fund. But something else struck me about the list—the fact that we need a special event to prompt us to do something for the poor.

Think about it—we gather supplies for the food banks around Thanksgiving, sponsor children and families at Christmastime, and donate coats to shelters when winter comes. But what do we do in April or May? Maybe we spring clean and donate our excess to Goodwill, or hold yard sales to beef up our vacation fund. But what do we do for charity? I admit, making a Goodwill run during spring cleaning week or putting a little extra in the Easter offering is probably the most I normally do. And I bet that's true for most of us.

At Mother Seton, part of our mission statement is to inspire students to dedicate their lives to love

and serve Christ in the tradition of Mother Seton and St. Vincent de Paul. That means serving one another, particularly those in need. We encourage our students to live the mission statement year-round. During Lent, the students collect money for Catholic Relief Services. Penny Power Week generates funds for the technology program at school. At the end of this month, the annual Walk-a-Thon will again raise money for a Daughters of Charity mission. And through the Vincen-tian Marion Youth program, students perform community outreach all year round.

I'm humbled by what I can learn from our students about dedicating myself to those in need.

So this spring, why don't we all vow to do a little more all year round and not just at Christmas? Here are a few simple ways to do this:

1. Instead of sending your excess clothing and household goods to Goodwill, donate it locally to the Seton Center.
2. On your next grocery run, pick up a few extra non-perishable items and donate them to the

food bank.

3. If you hold a yard sale, considering donating the proceeds to your church, a relief organization, or a school to improve their facility, buy new equipment or books, or help students who need a little financial assistance.
4. Sponsor one of our students for the Walk-a-Thon. Just call the front office at 301-447-3161 to make your pledge.
5. Create your own charity drive to benefit a cause close to your heart. For example, my MOMS group is holding a drive this summer to collect baby supplies for the pregnancy crisis center.
6. Give up a few hours of your time to volunteer at a nursing home, food bank, shelter, etc.

"Only, we were to be mindful of the poor, which is the very thing I was eager to do." (Gal 2:10 NAB) As we eagerly anticipate the sunshine of spring, let's also be eager to bring a little sunshine to those in our community who need it the most.

### "What's new at your Library" continued from page 30

#### Group Teen Program

Monday, April 1 @ 4:00 pm

Join other teens to plan upcoming Teen Programs, create displays and other ways to be a teen volunteer at the Emmitsburg Branch Library. Pa\$\$port to Wealth: Piggies and Pennies Children's Program Saturday, April 13 @ 11:00 am

Explore penny facts and get involved in creative science experiments with pennies. Then create a piggy bank out of recycled materials, because "a penny saved is a penny earned." It all adds up to lots of fun! Registration required.

#### Rainbow Rally Children's Program

Saturday, April 20 @ 11:00 am

Celebrate Earth Day as we uncover fascinating facts about rainbows and create our own beautiful and colorful creations. Snacks may be served. Registration required.

#### Spring Planting Frenzy Children's Program

Saturday, April 27 @ 10:00 am

Put a little spring in your step as the Silver Fancy Garden Club presents a special Spring planting program. Enjoy a fascinating hands-on experience with a

take home project included. Registration required.

#### Poetry Art Collage Teen Program

Thursday, April 25 @ 5:00 pm

In honor of National Poetry Month, design and create a piece of art using poetry and verse as inspiration. Registration required.

*Invite you to contact me anytime with suggestions and comments. Just email me at edingle@frederickcountymd.gov.*

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## FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

# Freshman Year

## Mating season

Lydia Olsen  
MSM Class of 2016

Imagine her endless preparation for that night. She probably had to beg for permission from her parents. I bet she spent hours making herself look so beautiful and composed. Unlike most females, she didn't go out and buy a new outfit; she merely cleaned the one she already had. Her mother probably marveled at her daughter's appearance as she emerged into sight.

No one could look at her daughter and not find her stunning. The daughter's eyes were filled with innocence, her legs long with strength and her sleek figure filled with poise. Her parents must have been concerned when they learned that she was going to be traveling by herself, even though she claimed she knew the way. I bet they were still hesitant to let her go off alone and insisted that they escort her. I bet she was embarrassed by her parents and refused to have their accompaniment on her journey. Adolescents are like that, aren't they? Of course, the nerves of a first date must have been getting to her as well.

I can picture her walking down the street to his neighborhood with her heels tapping on the pavement and butterflies in her stomach. I can see her thinking the glimmering lights from inside indicated the correct direction and leaping toward them with excitement, until she found herself dizzy and in a heap. She lay on foreign ground. Her thoughts must have been jumbled and, with her head pounding, she must have questioned her surroundings in search of her destination. "What just happened?" she had to have wondered. She hadn't moved from where she had tumbled into the house, until she heard voices and became frantic. "Gosh, I must look a mess!" must have run through her mind.

In a panic, she must have decided to sprint up the stairs still intent on heading toward the lights. Following the only open path, she fumbled up the steps and through a narrow hallway that led to the kitchen. She was trying to be composed and well mannered but she became clumsy with her lack of familiarity. The smooth wooden floor caused her heels to slide. Her legs sprawled out from un-

der her once again. With a bang she slid into the kitchen table and knocked it over along with a few chairs. Distressed by the piercing crash, I quickly turned around and watched as she fell in a heap once again. Utter confusion was beginning to set in for the both of us.

Gaining motor control, she was able to balance back onto her feet again. With her standing, we happened to be eye to eye.

That was the only time we met. We stood from each other only within an arm's span. She stared into my green eyes and I gazed into her brown eyes as if we were communicating. She was flustered and had clearly realized that this was not where she was supposed to be. This stranger startled me, though her beauty mesmerized me. She was puzzled and I was, too. In our confusion, we were both paralyzed. Standing still, our eyes were locked, conversing without words or motion until I broke the silence. "You're alright," I whispered, in a voice barely audible. Her ears flickered gently and I knew she had understood. She glanced side to side, as if exploring her options and then grasped hold of my eyes again as if to apologize. The next instant, she was gone. Heavy footsteps signaled her departure as well as the

glimpse of white that waved back at me.

The way I tell the story is that she had a wonderful first date. After she mistook the dimly glowing lights for the sunshine on an open field, she was successfully able to rendezvous with her date. I like to think that he was a gentleman and was not upset at her tardiness. I can see them grazing next to each other and communicating back and forth. I think she must have told him all that had happened and they shared a laugh or two. They must have then watched the sunset and waited for the stars to reveal themselves. I like to think that they fell in love. I envision them staying together and sharing their own piece of land in the neighborhood and starting a family.

Released from her trance, I maneuvered through the kitchen and picked up the table and chairs. I straightened them and pushed them back into place. I walked down the stairs and examined what was left of the door. Pieces of varying sizes of Plexiglas were scattered across the foyer. A gaping hole was positioned in the center of the storm door where she had leapt through. I looked out through the hole in the door into the dusk outside. I searched to see where she had run off to, but she was nowhere in clear sight. I turned to head back upstairs

but was halted by what I saw in front of me.

On the wooden stairs, she had imprinted her footprints permanently as she had rushed off. The proof still remains. The way I tell the story is that she is living happily with her mate. I like to think that among the population they are still there. They don't have to live in fancy house or anything; a field with some shrubs for shelter is luxury enough. I don't think that it is too far-fetched to believe that she will live happily ever after. After all, no one truly knows what happened after she left my house that night and so far she hasn't come to offer me any corrections on the version of the story I tell.

Sometimes, when I head home at dusk, I search for the signs in yellow diamonds that display their address. I locate the glowing eyes that contain caution and mystery and think of the ones that were so captivating that evening. I watch their ears as they quiver back and forth with the sounds of motion. I raise my hand to wave as they turn and raise their tails to say goodbye. In reflection, I laugh at how she gave the phrase "OH DEER" a whole new meaning.

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

# Sophomore Year

## Lessons from the Editor

Kyle Ott  
MSM Class of 2015

Ahh April, a time of spring, renewal, rebirth, and most importantly, laughter! For some reason, we seem to lose track of laughter somewhere in between the idea of spring and the festivities of Easter. Through all the chaos of preparations, we lose a little bit of humor.

I'm happy to say that my life is full of little nuggets of humor: moments when people and events seem a little more humorous than they should. In honor of this time for laughter and mirth, I've decided to share some of my experiences with you.

Perhaps one of the more humorous parts of my life is working here at the Emmitsburg News-Journal. It's been an amazing place

to work, especially when I'm getting paid to write. In addition to getting the chance to put my ideas and experiences on paper, I've had the opportunity for more than a few laughs thanks to Mike Hillman, our editor and the man who has built this paper from the ground up.

One would assume and anticipate that our meeting conversations would be filled with incredible professionalism and moments extolling the virtues of journalism from a man who runs a very professional paper.

Although this is indeed the case, we have quite a few humorous moments during our meetings.

I had received an email early on in my first semester of my freshman year asking for English majors who would be willing to write for a local newspaper. Being the

young go-getter that I was, I of course applied in a heartbeat, hoping for the chance to get paid for writing my experiences and sharing my insights with the whole campus and with the town of Emmitsburg. Later that month, I got another email saying that not only had I received a position with the paper as its freshman columnist, but I was also supposed to contact Mr. Michael Hillman for further information. Excited beyond all reason, I grabbed my cell phone, sprinted down the stairs like a caffeinated jackrabbit, and dialed Mr. Michael Hillman. So went my first conversation with Mr. Hillman:

Me: "Hello, Mr. Hillman?"

Mr. Hillman: "Yes this is Mr. Hillman who is this?"

Me: "This is Kyle, your new freshman columnist."

Mr. Hillman: "Oh hello Kyle, call me Mike."

Me: "Sure! I have to say Mr. Hillman...er...I mean Mike, I am so excited to write for the paper!"

Mike: "Well we're glad to have you. Oh and Kyle before you start, you should know something."

Me: "Sure, what is it?"

Mike: "I failed English in college."

Yes folks, the man in charge who built the paper from the ground up had bombed his English class like a literary Hindenburg. Hearing this come from the other side of the phone was more than a little shocking, but after a moment to gather my thoughts I replied, "Oh wow, that is actually rather funny." In the back of my mind, I could not help but think,

"Dear God, what have I gotten myself into?"

Luckily for all of us, though Mike may have failed English in college, he runs the newspaper incredibly well. He makes sure that only the best content finds its way into the pages of the paper, and that not only is the information enjoyable for our audience but also informative. In addition to policing the content, Mike's incredibly concerned with our personal growth as writers. He challenges us to come up with creative themes and (when the need strikes him), he gives us assignments to help pique our creative interests.

Coming into this environment, I was impressed by the way Mike runs things. He has an incredible memory for the standards of newspapers around the world, particularly the London Financial Times (if that paper was a woman, Mike's marriage would be in serious jeopardy) and the standards for professional writing.

Which was great because Mike has absolutely no memory of our names.

I remember I could not stop fidgeting immediately before my first payment meeting with Mike and the other writers for the Emmitsburg News-Journal. I could not believe that I was going to get my first paycheck for something that I had written, and even more miraculously, there would be more paychecks coming my way because of my writing. I was sitting in one of the plush chairs in the library with the other student writers when a thin man carrying a bundle of papers and wearing a flannel shirt came up to us.

"Hello everyone...and who are you?"

"I'm Kyle, Mr. Hillman. We spoke on the phone."

"Oh, well hello Kyle."

Our meeting went on for another 30 minutes as Mike picked over and analyzed our work and wrote out our checks. He went through everyone's name and stopped at me.

"Kathryn, Megan, Sam...oh whatever your name is!" he exclaimed.

"Its Kyle, Mike."

"Oh! Don't worry I'll get it."

Spoiler alert, he didn't. Every time the checks were passed around I was boy-of-no-name, much to the amusement of the others. Finally, after my freshman year and the majority of my first semester of sophomore year, I have moved up from "that guy" to "Kyle." There is no guarantee with my last name or anyone else's. If he happens to remember (which is very rare indeed) he will have no idea how to spell it. When asking you how to spell your last name, he will get so distracted by a new idea he has that he will end up spelling it wrong anyways.

In the end, there are many funny things that Mike has done, but they have served a greater purpose. The sole purpose of our columns is to take our experiences and make them applicable to our own lives and the lives of our readers. I am proud to say that my editor has given me some laughs and more than a few experiences along the way. I'm Kyle Ott, won't you sit and read for a while?

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

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## HUMOR ON THE MOUNT

## Junior Year

## Diaries are dangerous

Nicole Jones  
MSM Class of 2014

I've always been very fond of writing, and like many young girls, I used to keep a diary as a child. Many notebooks came and went, but the focus of this story is a small notebook I decorated myself. The cover was a ridiculous glittery scrap of cardboard covered in orange paint and craft jewels, which I took great pleasure in gluing on in the shape of my initials. Pages of inviting blank paper lay in between, just waiting to be scribbled on. It was my prized secret possession.

Many times I had tried and failed to continue with keeping a diary, but I thought this time would be different. This time, I would write in it every day, even if it were just a line or two. Centuries later, after I was six feet under, people would find it and know that I had lived. I would be famous. Posthumously famous, but famous nonetheless. That night before bed, I wrote my first entry on the crisp white paper, and slid the gaudy orange notebook under my mattress for safekeeping.

The next day, my cousins came for a visit. Olivia, about 16 at the time, and

her brother Andrew, about 13, always had a way of bringing excitement and maybe just a touch of chaos with them wherever they went. This visit was no exception.

We lounged around my bedroom, laughing and playing games. Little did I know my mattress defense mechanism was being infiltrated and the precious diary was being stolen right out from under my unsuspecting nose. I continued my day in the care-free bliss of a child. It was not until later that I would discover what treachery had taken place.

That night, I wandered into my brother Zack's room, where I found Andy. He twitched as if I had startled him. I was instantly suspicious. What was he up to? Andy gave me an ornery smile and glanced at Zack, clearly sharing a secret that I would be stupid not to ask about. Slowly, with a widening grin the Cheshire Cat would envy, Andy reveals the bright orange diary in all its glory. I gasp in horror. How dare he read my diary?! There was only one entry in it; nothing important. It didn't matter! It was the principle of the thing and the violation of my privacy. What an outrage! I huffed and puffed all night long.

The next morning, I approached Olivia. She had to help me exact my revenge. We girls had to stick together. What should we do? Come up with a plan. The two of us concocted in secret all morning, devising a way to make sure Andy faced proper retribution for his sticky fingers. The plan had two steps. The first: an obvious, outright attack on Andy's person. The second: a more subtle affair that he would never see coming, thinking our bloodlust already satisfied by the first attack.

With the plan solidified, we began to prepare. Rope. Check. Blindfold. Check. Prison. Check.

And then we waited.

That afternoon, my cousins and I sat around the living room watching television and eating lunch. We casually chatted, commenting on the show and giggling when appropriate. Andrew and Olivia sat on the sofa while I bided my time in the rocking chair, steadily rocking back and forth. The conditions were perfect. Andrew was relaxed. Zack wasn't around to save him. I made eye contact with Olivia. She nodded. The wheels began to turn as the plan was set into motion.

Olivia began to tickle Andrew. In his attempt to evade her nimble fingers, he found himself writhing on the floor. I dove for the tools Olivia and I had strategically placed under the couch. Rope quickly wound

its way around Andy's wrists and ankles and the blindfold fastened itself across Andy's line of vision until everything was dark. He thrashed and struggled so loudly that my parents probably thought there was a wild animal in the basement. They weren't entirely wrong.

Olivia lifted Andrew at the shoulders while I grabbed his squirmy legs and we hauled him into the laundry room where we shoved him into a dog cage. The latch slid into place with a satisfying snap. High five. Justice had been served.

The prisoner managed to escape his bonds and began working at the latch, protesting loudly, "What was that for? There was nothing in your diary! You guys suck!"

Olivia and I looked on in amusement. Let him escape. It was only a matter of time before he truly suffered.

The rest of the day remained relatively quiet. Andy silently fumed a little and avoided us by hanging out with Zack and playing video games. Late after dinner, with my parents in bed and us cousins up probably later than we should have been, we set the second stage into motion.

Olivia and I casually walked into Zack's room.

"We're going to make chocolate mousse. You guys want any?"

"You know how to make mousse?" asked Andy.

"Duh. It's really simple. We'll be back in a sec," and the two of us skipped up the staircase and into the kitchen. What should we use but the vilest concoction of ingredients: chocolate syrup and mayonnaise. Perfect. Stirring together the glop-py combination, we tried our best to make it as fluffy and appetizing in appearance as possible. With two cups prepared, we returned downstairs to the awaiting boys. Sharing a sly smile, we delivered our false confection to the boys.

Zack instantly knew something was wrong, but he couldn't speak up fast enough. It was too late. Andrew had taken a bite. Just as quickly as the chocolaty gob of mayonnaise disappeared into his mouth, it reappeared in the cup. As he ran to the bathroom gagging, the rest of us howled with laughter. The taste, he says, still haunts him to this day.

We never let Andrew forget that last bit—being tricked into eating a spoonful of mayonnaise. It has been recorded in cousin history and shall remain a source of endless teasing and torment for years to come. Needless to say, he learned his lesson and my diary—if I still had one—would be perfectly safe from his prying eyes.

A better revenge has never been had.

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

## Senior Year

## Picture perfect meal gone wrong

Samantha Strub  
MSM Class of 2013

I hear a knocking at the door. Amidst the smoke, I know who it is without opening the door. When I open the door and see Public Safety standing there, I'm defeated. I'm done. My picture perfect meal blew up in smoke.

The fire extinguisher is pulled out and its contents are poured out onto the remains of my meal. Once that clears, the Public Safety officers ask what happened. I take a deep breath, not knowing where to begin. My mind goes back to where it all began...

The image was in my head when I saw the "pin" of the delicious-looking dish on Pinterest. I immediately got the idea of making a feast for my roommates. It was a picture perfect moment. I knew exactly how I wanted it to turn out. I had seen the pictures and the directions on Pinterest. It all looked so delicious. The expected result was set at a high standard. I knew how I wanted the meal to turn out. I could just imagine my roommates and friends all seated around the table complimenting me on the hard work that I put into the feast that was there before them.

This crazy idea ended up taking on a whole other life, which was why I was standing in my smoky room with Public Safety in front of me. It started out with mentioning the idea of a "family dinner" to my roommates. They got excited and immediately began discussing what we would make. I quickly showed them the picture that started this crazy idea in the first place, and all discussion ceased. It was the

picture perfect meal.

What was the recipe that was so perfect it was impossible to resist? Spinach-stuffed chicken breasts topped with marinara and mozzarella cheese. Does that not sound heavenly?

The preparations began. It started with returning to Pinterest to find ideas for the rest of the meal. I was drawn toward the roasted mushrooms while Kirsten was drawn toward roasted potatoes and Colleen toward the Caesar salad. It was going to be a wonderful meal.

We decided to have our meal on a Friday night, that way we could go grocery shopping after classes and cook. We were going to be culinary chefs. We were undaunted by the task even though we probably should have been. We thought we could do anything, including cooking this meal.

We studied the recipes in order to make sure we had all of the ingredients. We printed out the recipes so we would be able to easily look at them while we were cooking. The Friday came and the three of us went out grocery shopping. It was defiantly an interesting shopping experience. We did succeed in this part of our picture perfect meal, obtaining all of the necessary ingredients for our splendid plan.

We brought the grocery bags up the four flights of stairs, which was an impressive feat in itself. We unpacked the groceries and began making the necessary preparations in order to begin the cooking. We decided while we were at the grocery store that we should make brownies as well, so we figured we would make those first. That was

probably our first mistake. Kirsten said she would make them. Allowing her to make the brownies was our second mistake. Kirsten succeeded in getting the brownies prepared and in the oven. However, not realizing she did not set a timer, we went along on our merry business. The brownies were out of our minds until we smelt something burning. Realizing our mistake, we rushed to save them, but it was too late. The horrible smell overtook the apartment. The attempt to remove the smell was futile, even with the windows open and fans circling the air. The only solution was to remove the brownies from the room. We scraped the rock hard brownies from the pan and brought them outside, but the smell still lingered. We were disappointed that the dominate smell was the repulsive smell of burnt food instead of the tantalizing aroma of brownies.

This night would turn around...or so I thought...

We moved our focus onto the main event. The main meal would go according to plan. We had the recipes and ingredients. All we had to do was mix it all together and keep an important focus on the timer.

Our attention became divided. Kirsten focused on the roasted potatoes and mushrooms. Colleen focused on the Caesar salad. I focused on the main course—the spinach-stuffed chicken breasts topped with marinara and mozzarella cheese. We cleared the table and each took over a section of it in order to prepare our portions of the meal. The spinach-stuffed chicken breasts topped with marinara and mozzarella cheese would take the longest to cook, so I asked Kirsten and Colleen to assist me in grating the cheese and stuffing the chicken breasts. This was a time-consuming process,

but it was enjoyable because we listened to music and chitchatted while we waited.

Once the main dish was in the oven, Kirsten and Colleen focused their attention on their parts of the meal. It was looking delicious and the main dish was tempting us with its aroma. The meal was coming together. We washed the dishes that were dirtied so far and made sure to keep eye on the mushrooms and potatoes.

It appeared as if we had the situation under control, but things are not always what they seem...

The spinach-stuffed chicken breasts topped with marinara and mozzarella cheese were simmering, but somehow some of it fell onto the bottom of the oven. This is generally a minor mishap that sometimes happens during the cooking process. However, our oven thought that it was a mishap that should haunt us. When I checked on the food I did not notice the food that was at the bottom of the oven. The food was being cooked very nicely but in the midst of cooking, the food that fell to the bottom of the oven was burned.

This went unnoticed by us until we saw smoke coming out of the oven door. We quickly opened the door and smoke poured out, spreading all over the room. We had trouble seeing and started tearing up because the smoke was burning our eyes. I closed the oven door in order to grab a towel to spread the smoke around but suddenly I heard a loud beeping noise spreading across the apartment. The smoke detectors were going off...oh no...

The buzzing continued as I attempted to clear the smoke by turning on the fan, opening a window and waving a towel. The attempt was futile. It was only a matter of time before Public Safety showed up.

Then there was the knocking at the door. The smoke swarmed out of the apartment while the officers stepped in. They put out the small fire that had started in our oven.

My mind went back to the memories of my excitement when I saw the "pin" on Pinterest, but the Public Safety officers sure did not look as excited as I was when I saw the pin. The Public Safety officers were understanding and merciful though, and I cannot help but think they were laughing at me while I explained the story.

We will forever be known as that apartment that started a fire attempting to cook dinner.

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

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## MOUNT SPORTS

## The Mount welcomes “Emmit”

Elizabeth Puleo  
MSM Class of 2013

Homecoming weekend is always an exciting time at the Mount with basketball games, returning alumni, and the homecoming dance. However, this year there was an extra surprise to look forward to: the unveiling of Mount St. Mary's new mascot, Emmit S. Burg! Katie Price, who is a sophomore at the Mount and a member of SGA, helped lead the committee that created the mascot. “The Mount has wanted a mascot for a long time,” commented Price. “Several attempts have been made but nothing stuck.”

It was last year that Sarah Pargan, a member of the Class of 2012, decided that something needed to be done and presented the idea of a mascot to the SGA. The SGA all agreed that this was a great idea because it would be a fantastic way to have more school spirit.

The SGA tries to hold an open forum with President Powell several times throughout the year and they invite all students to come voice their opinions or suggestions. It was during one of the open forum meetings when the students presented President Powell with the possibility of creating a mascot. “Dr. Powell was very enthusiastic about the idea and supportive of what the students wanted. He basically told us that if students wanted it and had the initia-

tive to do it, he would pay for it,” said Price.

A committee was formed in the spring of 2012 to help create the mascot. The committee consisted of several students from each class and it met once a week to discuss ideas. One of the first questions that was brought up was whether there should be someone simply dressed up as a mountaineer or if there should be a full costume. Many universities, such as West Virginia University, who are also mountaineers, have a student dressed as a mountaineer to represent the mascot. The committee decided that they did not want to be like everyone else and that a full-on costume would help the Mount stand out. Plus, who wouldn't want a giant mascot representing their school?! The Mount is a great school, so our mascot should be, too!

A survey was also sent around the campus, and it was quite clear that most of the Mount community wanted a mascot in a costume. From there, the committee started to figure out details about what the mascot might look like, such as facial features, clothing, and possible props. One of the art students on the committee, Rosie Mastromatteo, sketched out some designs based on the information provided by the committee. Once the committee agreed on a design, the drawings were shown to President Pow-

ell for his approval and they were given to Street Characters Inc., the company that brought Emmit to life. Another survey was sent around campus to provide name suggestions for the mascot. Emmit S. Burg received the most votes.

Homecoming basketball games at the Mount are always filled with screaming fans and nonstop excitement, but during that timeout when Emmit ran out on court for the first time, everyone started cheering. Price and the committee felt like “proud parents” at that moment, knowing all their hard work had paid off. “We also had a proud moment as committee members when we got to see him travel with the team to the NEC Championship. Seeing him on TV was amazing.”

Besides basketball games, Emmit has already made several other appearanc-



Emmit is a fantastic new addition to the Mount.

es, including a video for Annual Giving's Philanthropy Day and Accepted Students Day. He plans to attend other sporting events to support his Mountaineers.

So next time you attend a Mount

sporting event, don't be shocked to see a red-haired guy in a blue plaid shirt walking around and dancing every now and then. It's just Emmit S. Burg, our newest addition to Mount St. Mary's.

## Mount Ruggerfest

Ryan Golden  
MSM Class of 2016

If you've never seen a live rugby match before, or are just looking for some exceptional local sporting entertainment, you need not travel too far to experience authentic collegiate competition; the Mount St. Mary's University men's and women's rugby club programs are showcasing their talents for their spring and fall 2013 seasons.

On Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, I got my own first taste of rugby at the Mount's “Ruggerfest 2013” event, located right in front of the college's seminary. With matches for both Mount squads against visitors from Susquehanna University, spectators were able to enjoy the beauty of the sport while socializing with alumni, students, and other community members.

“Ruggerfest was one of the few chances to catch both the men's and women's teams in action on the same day,” said women's club President Kayla Bishop. “Both teams have a lot of heart,

and the event was a great way to get a feeling for rugby at the Mount.” Bishop, a junior, became President of the club last year in March 2012 when she, with just six other players, reformed the team after a short-term hiatus. “I knew that the women's program had had issues getting started, and I felt I had the drive to keep it straight and see that it continued to grow.”

By this past fall, the team had increased in size and experience, bringing in new head coach Scott Stratton, a veteran manager who led the Shippensburg University women's team to the national championship two years in a row. But there's much more than leadership on the sidelines, as the women's team has steadily grown to become more of a family after roughly a season together.

The Ruggerfest itself was an uncommon but flawless mix of cold, hard-hitting competition with the social atmosphere of a festival. Parents of players mixed with community members while waiting for refreshments, and

all cheered as the Lady Mountaineers slammed their way past the goal line for a successful “try” (think of it as a touchdown in our native football). Prospective students, who came with their families to visit the Mount on that day for Accepted Students Day, treated themselves to the spectacle.

“There is nothing better than looking up while on the field and seeing the hill in front of the seminary covered with spectators,” Bishop stated. Indeed, both teams have continued to establish a warm relationship with the surrounding towns since their reformation. This past fall, the clubs jointly hosted the popular “A Mile in Her Shoes” walk-a-thon event on campus, where members of the men's team were sponsored to walk a mile in high heel shoes in order to raise awareness of domestic abuse. Bishop also brought up the women's club's partnership with Friends of Waterford Park late last year, where they worked until they “formed blisters” to remove invasive plant species in Frederick, MD. The men's club will repeat this effort on March 24<sup>th</sup>, as will the women on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Bishop stressed that both events will be open to volunteers from the surrounding community and to students from the Mount.

Right now, both rugby programs could use some support as well. The easiest way to do so is simply to attend matches and cheer them on.

“The more the community gets involved in the teams, the more the teams get to do as far as attending tournaments and purchasing better equipment,” explained Bishop. After attending Ruggerfest, I left satisfied with being able to appreciate a different sport and share a moment with the supporters of the two rugby clubs. Judging by the excitement of those watching with me, it's clear that they would say the same.

The next home match for the women's team will be April 20<sup>th</sup> against Juniata. Be sure to mark it down on your calendar so that you may support a well-meaning organization and enjoy the intensity and competitive spirit that rugby has to offer.



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# Habemus Papam!

Kelly Conroy  
MSM Class of 2012

We have a Pope! I received a text message from Pope Alarm – a service set up to notify followers about papal announcements during the conclave – as soon as the white smoke rose. My phone was also flooded with texts from my Mom, Dad, siblings, and friends. I was in my apartment on campus and rushed out to the TV in the living room. One of my roommates was already flipping the TV to EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network), the Catholic TV channel.

It wasn't long until we were joined by other friends in the living room. "Have they announced who it is?" we kept asking each other. No – the white smoke had risen but the announcement hadn't yet been made. We waited. And waited. Come on, Vatican, speed it up, we thought in impatience.

I had tennis practice at 3:30 and needed to leave the apartment soon. But I couldn't leave the TV. The suspense was too much. The next Pope – the next leader of the Church – was about to be announced. I could only imagine being in St. Peter's Square that day!

Finally, an hour after his election, Jorge Mario Bergoglio walked out from behind the curtain and stood in front of the over 100,000 people who were soaked from rain in St. Peter's Square. The crowd erupted into applause, my roommates and I cheered, and then we asked each other if anyone knew anything about Pope Francis. We discovered that he was from Argentina, and then I was off to tennis practice!

"Who's the new Pope?" some of my teammates asked as I walked up to practice.

"Pope Francis!" I replied, "But I don't know much about him." Some of my teammates and I exchanged the little tidbits that we did know about him with each other as we did our warm-up runs around the tennis courts. I felt excited and relieved. It was strange to not have a pope for a period of time! I knew that the Holy Spirit would take care of the Church, and I was confident that a good Pope had been chosen. I was looking forward to finding out more about him later.

After practice, my friends and I celebrated the election of Pope Francis with a chocolate cake and a toast for the Pope! Later that night, 10pm daily Mass on campus was full of students. We knew that Fr. Brian would share what he knew about Pope Francis during the homily!

When Pope Francis greeted the crowds in St. Peter's Square, he said, "You know that the duty of the conclave was to give a bishop to Rome. It seems that my brother cardinals went almost to the end of the world to get him. But here we are."

Pope Francis is from Argentina – and he is the first Pope from the Americas! He's also the first Jesuit Pope and the first Pope to take the name Francis. He chose the name Francis after St. Francis of Assisi, a man who promoted peace and was part of a poor

church for the poor. St. Francis of Assisi gave up his own wealth and prestige to serve the poor.

In his first words in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis prayed with the crowds for our pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI. Then he said:

"Let us always pray for us, one for the other. Let us pray for the whole world, so that there may be a great fraternity. I hope that this journey of the Church that we begin today and which my cardinal vicar, who is here with me, will help me with may be fruitful for the evangelization of this beautiful city.

Now, I would like to give you a blessing, but first I want to ask you for a favor. Before the bishop blesses the people, I ask that you pray to the Lord so that he blesses me. This is the prayer of the people who are asking for the blessing of their bishop."

The Pope asked for the people to pray for him before he blessed the people! Immediately the Pope displayed all humility and I began to admire him. I think that his service to the Church will continue to be carried out with humility.

When Pope Francis was first named a Cardinal, an Italian tailor wanted to charge him 6,000 euros for his cassock. Instead, he bought the cloth in Italy and asked his sister to sew the cassock for him.

After his papal election, Pope Francis received all of his cardinals standing, instead of on the papal throne. When he headed back to have dinner with all of the cardinals, he didn't take the special papal car, but rather he rode in the minibus with the Cardinals. Indeed, he was known for using the public transportation systems in Argentina and often spending time in the poorest slums.

Achbishop Chaput of Philadelphia said, "As the Epistle of James says, faith without works is dead. Likewise, works without faith have no permanence or larger meaning. As a cardinal in Argentina, the Holy Father preached the Catholic faith and then showed what

that means by his actions, especially his witness of charity. I suspect he'll do exactly the same as Pope."

In the Pope's closing words to the people on the day of his election, he said, "Tomorrow I want to go to pray to the Madonna so that she protects all of Rome."

Again, Pope Francis reaffirmed that he cannot do the work of a Pope on his own.

There's so much to learn about the Pope. Did you know he studied chemistry? There's also going to be so much to learn from the Pope, by both his words and his example.

Jorge Mario Bergoglio (Pope Francis) was born on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina into a humble family with five children, three boys and two girls. His mother and father fled from Italy during the Fascist regime of Benito Mussolini. In Argentina, his father was a railway worker and his mother was a housewife. Jorge was ordained in the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) as a Catholic priest on December 13, 1969, at the age of 33. Now, one of his nephews is also a Jesuit priest. Jorge spent years teaching theology and completed his doctoral dissertation in Germany.

In 1992, he was appointed titular Bishop of Auca and Auxiliary of Buenos Aires and he became Archbishop in 1997. He also served as the President of the Bishops' Conference of Argentina. Jorge was proclaimed Cardinal by Bl. John Paul II in 2001.

During the Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2001, he served as the Adjunct Relator General. He was also a member of several curial congregations: for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments; for the Clergy; for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, as well as the Pontifical Council for the Family and the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

In the papal election of Pope Benedict XVI, he was a favorite. But it wasn't until March 13, 2013 that Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, was elected Su-



An early photo of Pope Francis shortly after he was appointed Cardinal.

preme Pontiff on the second day of the Conclave, on the fifth ballot.

Pope Francis is known for spending much of his time hearing Confessions and offering spiritual guidance – ministering to the spiritual needs of the people. Besides his native Spanish, he also speaks Italian and German.

After the election, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York was asked by the media if the new Pope would embrace "reform." Cardinal Dolan turned the question on its head and affirmed that, as the Vicar of Christ, Pope Francis would certainly call on Catholics to "reform their lives."

The Church has upheld the same teachings on faith and morals for 2000 years and these truths won't change. They haven't changed even during difficult time periods in the Church when some popes lived very sinful lives – and there is still sin in the clergy today. The media loves drama and instead of focusing on the holiness of the newly elected Pope, the media often chooses to concentrate on the priest scandals and the sinfulness in the Church.

I agree – the priest scandals are ter-

rible. There will always be sin in the Church because it is made up of failing humans. That doesn't excuse sin – Pope Francis is urging all Catholics to reform their lives!

Pope Francis took time to address journalists and thanked them for their service in recounting the many events taking place at the Vatican. He noted, "Your profession requires study, sensitivity and experience . . . [the journalistic profession] requires particular attention to truth, goodness and beauty – and this brings us particularly close together, because the Church exists in order to communicate precisely this: Truth, Goodness and Beauty in person."

Pope Francis points to the imitation of the Saints – those who have achieved perfection and are experiencing the fullness of God in Heaven. Those are the people we should imitate. That is the type of person Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be praying to become for himself and the whole Church. And that is the direction Pope Francis wants to lead his fold. It's a wonderful time in the Church. It's a wonderful time to be Catholic.



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## ARTS

# The Gettysburg Festival

When you hear the word, “Gettysburg” your mind automatically jumps to the Civil War, doesn’t it? Rightly so... Gettysburg, Pennsylvania is known across the globe as the home of the costliest battle in the war. In just three days, there were more than 46,000 casualties and losses. 150 years later, there is a proud and respectful atmosphere in the town. The Battle of Gettysburg was the turning point of the Civil War. It changed the nation – and, the world.

But, there is much more to this little town. Beyond the battlefields and cemeteries lies a well of talent, creativity and booming business. The Gettysburg Festival was created to celebrate this...American arts, culture and cuisine...against its beautifully historic backdrop.

“I believe a community is defined by how it celebrates – the community’s similarities and differences...its culture and heritage,” explains Randy Prasse, the Festival’s executive director. “Gettysburg is so rich in culture and heritage – including but

also in addition to the Battlefield. The Gettysburg Festival celebrates the community and region for all of its assets.”

In its sixth year, the Gettysburg Festival – a 16-time international Pinnacle Award winner – is a sought-out event, which has grown to become a yearly tradition for the entire family with both area residents and tourists alike. With an average attendance of 23,000 people from 30 states and the District of Columbia, the Festival showcases local talent within the community in the areas of visual arts, culinary arts, theater, film, music and children’s events, as well as presenting world-renown experts in these categories. Participants in past years include James Earl Jones, comedy legend Bob Newhart, Kevin Eubanks of Tonight Show fame, former White House Chef Walter Scheib and the critically-acclaimed Boston Brass.

Gettysburg Festival 2013 will be held June 8 -16<sup>th</sup>. Highlights of the 10-day event include Phil Dirt presents Surfs Up! A Tribute to the

Beach Boys as well as crowd-pleasing perennial favorites: Blues, Beer, & BBQ, the History Meets the Arts Edible Art Tour, and the Gettysburg Brass Band Festival, to name a few. There will also be a concert from an award-winning mystery country artist, who will be announced soon.

One of popular music’s most romantic singing groups, The Letterman, are bringing their close-harmony pop songs to the Majestic Theater stage during Gettysburg Festival 2013. In a career spanning over 50 years, the talented trio has given us iconic songs like “When I Fall In Love,” “The Way You Look Tonight,” “Sealed with a Kiss,” and “Unchained Melody,” and is sure to be a crowd-pleasing favorite feature of the Festival. This performance will be Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are currently on sale and can be purchased for \$32.50, \$42.50 and \$52.50 on the Festival website.

New York Times bestselling author and master storyteller of historical and military fiction, Jeff Shaara will present his lecture, “History

through Storytelling, Jeff Shaara’s Journey Through the Legacy of his Father” to the Gettysburg Festival audience in a luncheon on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Son of Pulitzer prize-winning author, Michael Shaara (The Killer Angels), Shaara carried on his father’s work and wrote a prequel (Gods and Generals, 1996) and a sequel (The Last Full Measure, 1998), which were both big best sellers, with Gods and Generals winning the American Library Association’s William Young Boyd Award. Now, with nine additional books to his credit, Shaara captivates audiences by bringing America’s vivid past to life in stories that span from the Civil War to World War II.

The Gettysburg Festival Fringe – a festival within the festival – showcases the talent within the community and has deep roots that span the ocean. The “fringe” concept began in 1947 in Edinburgh, Scotland as an alternative event that ran concurrently with the Edinburgh International Festival and the following year a local Edinburgh journalist, Robert Kemp, gave it the name Fringe. These events are now found around the world, and have also caught on in the United States.

Like all fringe events, the Gettysburg Festival Fringe is an open community cultural experience. Part of the larger Gettysburg Festival, the Fringe is designed to provide the opportunity for every artist, writer, performer, cultural organization, historical venue, church and business in Gettysburg and the regional area to present their event.

This year’s Fringe showcases will include many events that have become staples within the community as well as a few new ones.

Historic Gettysburg and Adams County, Inc. will be sponsoring the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual BarnArt Show, an exhibit showcasing artists’ interpretations of Adams County barns. The artists’ style can be representational or ab-



stract, and may be any art medium, including photography. Artwork is judged and prizes are awarded in the following categories: Adult Fine Art; Adult Photography; Student Fine Art and Student Photography.

“Gettysburg in Bloom” 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garden Tour will take place 1:00-5:00pm June 8<sup>th</sup>. Host, Brafferton Inn, invites attendees to discover the beauty and utility of the gardens of the Gettysburg area by spending an afternoon exploring seven gardens, each with its own rich appeal. No two places feel quite the same. There are flower filled gardens, new gardens, formal and informal, large and small, all bursting in riots of color and overloading the senses with fragrant smells and sights. Also this year, enjoy a taste of wines from the Gettysburg Wine and Fruit Trail. Proceeds from tickets to the Garden Tour will benefit Adams County Heart and Stroke Walk.

Striving to be an event for the entire family, Gettysburg Festival also plays host to a great children’s program. The Children’s Festival, on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, will pay tribute to the agricultural heritage of Adams County with cutout farm animals and a kid-size barn ready to explore. In addition, local farmers will present a market of fresh fruits and vegetables. Held from noon-5pm on the Gettysburg College campus, the program is designed as a world market of creative ideas with a focus on healthy living. Performers throughout the afternoon include storyteller Ann Griffith and the Gettysburg Community Theater. The Children’s Festival is free and open to the public.

Gettysburg, often referred to as a town located at the crossroads of history, is now poised at a cultural crossroads. This charming Civil War-era town, ideally situated in central Pennsylvania, is located within a day’s drive of 60% of the entire North American population. What better place than Gettysburg, an iconic spot in American history, to celebrate American arts, culture and cuisine.

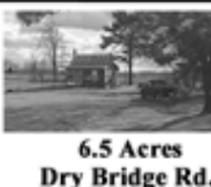
For more information about Gettysburg Festival 2013, to view the schedule, plan your visit and purchase tickets to various events, go to the Festival website at [www.gettysburgfestival.org](http://www.gettysburgfestival.org).



## Peggy Koontz

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# Think outside the canvas

Kathryn Franke  
MSM Class of 2013

As a college student, I have really taken an interest in the concept of majors. If you think about it, it's truly fascinating how we all gravitate toward a certain field, one that seems to define us as individuals. Some people take longer to figure out that path that is the best fit for them, while others are fortunate enough to have a childhood dream that becomes a reality.

Over the course of my four years here at the Mount, I have met many wonderful people who have shaped my Mount experience, and each of them is as unique as the backgrounds that brought them to our mountain home. The different disciplines that my peers and I are involved with really demonstrate how much we learn from our studies and from each other. We are a community striving to create a better future, and each of us has something unique to offer in order to make that happen.

Of course I'm a little biased as an art major myself, but I have to say, there are so many valuable lessons that are fostered through arts education. These lessons hold true for anyone who wants to get involved in the arts. Whether a young child experimenting with a box of Crayola crayons or an adult who is picking up a paintbrush for the first time, so many life lessons can be learned through the simple, yet complex act of creating a work of art. Allow me to share just a few lessons that I have personally learned through my own studies:

## Creativity is key.

You see tubes of paint and some paintbrushes in front of you. To some, that is all they see. But to someone who is educated or even just inspired by the arts, what you see is potential. A vision. A creation waiting to be unveiled. Art allows you to make masterpieces from seemingly simple things. You can visualize and produce something that is completely your own; all you need is a vision and some inspiration. I can remember times when I had "artist's block" and thought there was no way I could come up with a good idea for my next project, but sometimes it is those times that bring forth my best ideas. There is always something new to create, and as artists, we are lucky enough to be a part of that creation.

## Branching out may be intimidating, but it is important

I've learned that art has its own version of the old saying, "Think outside the box." Think outside the canvas. I used to think of art in a very limited sense: pictures of pretty nature scenery, sculptures that are very literal, and anything else that an average person would want to hang in his or her home. I didn't really look beyond the traditional concept of art. At the Mount, I have

been able to take such a wide variety of art classes, including Sculpture, Graphic Design, Photography, Basic Design, Life Drawing, art history courses, and several drawing and painting courses. It took me a while to be able to push myself to create work that was out of my comfort zone, but once I dove in and tried something new, I was shocked to find that some of those works were my favorite things I've ever created. Branching out to try new things is difficult, but trust me, it's worth the challenge.

## Take time to appreciate the beauty in the world around you.

After taking art classes, I see things differently. Because of studying color, shadow, and other formal elements, I see the world through an artistic eye. I can actually imagine the way I would paint everything I see. It's an amazing feeling really, because the beauty of the world is so often overlooked. The old saying to "stop and smell the roses" is honestly very fitting for artists, because we can take even the simplest objects and see so much more meaning in them than they are typically credited with. There is always something new to discover, and to be a part of that constant sense of discovery, it is important to start seeing things differently.

## Never limit your own potential.

"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." This phrase holds so much importance for an individual's success. Have a vision, go with it, make a plan (whether that plan is to just wing it or something more regimented), and adapt as obstacles arise. If a work of art doesn't go as planned, keep moving forward! Mistakes are a part of life; they may be permanent, but we can work with/around them and make beautiful, unique pieces that define us and are an expression of ourselves. Art teaches us to ac-

cept constructive criticism and use it to strengthen and refine our efforts, and in turn, better ourselves. It fosters in us a constant willingness and desire to push ourselves to improve. We learn to appreciate and admire the things that others can do that we might struggle with, but we push ourselves to learn that new skill or at least give it a try. We can always do more than we expect, so we should never limit ourselves. Life is a constant journey, and every day teaches us so many lessons that we must not hesitate to grasp.

Through studying art, you learn the concepts of dedication and perseverance. Most of the time, artists put in extra effort because they want to. We love what we do. We work long hours and get lost in the work, but you know what they say, time flies when you're having fun! Many artists work not just until the piece is "completed," but rather until they are completely satisfied with the piece. Granted, this requires superior time management skills, but generally artists do not have a problem staying up until the wee hours of the morning in order to work. It's such a rewarding feeling to see concrete proof of your hard work paying off, and all those late nights are truly worth it in terms of both the process and the end result.

## Understanding something's context magnifies its impact.

Appreciation, enthusiasm, and knowledge about other artwork can help you further your own skills. In order to get the most out of an arts education, it is important to understand the influence of our own work and the work of others, but it is also important to study the history and culture that the arts convey. Art movements throughout history are a perfect example of this because they are a direct representation of the values and customs that a culture held at a given point in time.

Studying the things that inspired the creation of a work of art gives you a better understanding of its message. Art can be used for many different purposes: personal, social, political, etc. The economic, sociological, psychological, and political climate affecting a particular time period or individual can contribute to the outcome of a work of art. Art represents time but does not get lost with it. To understand the smaller picture, you sometimes have to understand the bigger picture.

## Your decisions are a representation of yourself.

Artists recognize just how much can go into a process that brings forth an end result. Every mark that is made can have a significant meaning, and because of this intense thought process that goes into making a work, our pieces can represent and even bring back emotions or memories that we associate with them. This consciousness of the impact of decisions juxtaposed with the spontaneity and creativity that artists often display are valuable lessons to bring to other aspects of life, ones that will undoubtedly help us in any future endeavors.

## Do what you love and love what you do. Find and follow your calling.

Stay true to yourself. Not everyone may like your art, but someone out there does, and that person or group of people will be able to relate to it on a very deep level. Art is a way to discover yourself, and your art is in turn a representation of yourself. Art can be a passion, a stress reliever, and a life-long hobby. It enables you to create something lasting that is an extension of your talents, your interests, and your ideas.

As you can see, just like any other passion or field of study, the arts can teach you so many valuable life lessons. Interaction, innovation, refined motor skills, intricacy, independence, open-mindedness, versatility, confidence, organization, and expression are just a selection of what art brings to its enthusiasts. These are skills that can be applied in any facet of life. If you allow art to teach you these things, it will be a lasting experience that will always enable you to create and inspire. You just have to take the next step and immerse yourself in the arts. To get started, all you have to do is think outside the canvas.

To read other articles by Kathryn, visit the Authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

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# FAIRFIELD FIRE AND EMS AWARD BANQUET

The Fairfield Fire & EMS presented their 2012 recognition awards March 9 at their annual banquet held at the fire house in Fairfield Borough.

More than 200 attendees packed the meeting hall-turned banquet room, including state Representative Dan Moul, county commissioners Jim Martin and Marty Qually, Fairfield Borough Mayor Robert Stanley and Carroll Valley Borough Mayor Ronald Harris, as well as a number of other dignitaries, and area police officers.

Fairfield Fire & EMS firefighters, which provides coverage to the boroughs of Fairfield and Carroll Valley, and Hamiltonban, Liberty, and Highland townships, responded to 144 calls in 2012.

The Firefighter of the Year Award was presented to firefighter Bill Jacobs at the awards banquet, whom, Chief Kevin Koons state "has been there to whatever has to be done," including driving the company apparatus and standing-by for ambulance duties.

The Chief's Award was presented to firefighter Dave Millstein, who serves as the company's policies and grants writer.

Five firefighters were recognized for the number of times they responded to emergency incidences during 2012.

Leading the charge was firefighter Bill Jacobs, who responded to 161 fire calls in 2012. Adam Jacobs was the second highest responder, with 100 incident responses.

The next three highest responders were Brad Hardigan, with 93 responses, James Moe, with 74 responses, and Jesse Sanders, with 70 responses.

The top three fire police responders were also recognized during the event.

Fire Police Captain Chuck Schussler topped the list with 105 responses, followed by Roger Miller with 65 responses. 'A.J.' Aldrich was credited with 54 responses.

Training recognition awards were presented to five individuals in the company.

The member garnering the most training time in 2012 was Bill Jacobs, who completed 268 hours of emergency medical and firefighting training. Runners-up

included Adam Jacobs with 211 hours, James Moe with 207 hours, and Zach Sites with 192 hours.

The EMS side of the company responded to 765 calls in 2012.

Top ambulance responders includ-

ed Chad Fogle with 190 calls, Neil Abrams with 153 calls, Bill Jacobs with 137 calls, Derrick Martin with 81 calls, and Bret Smith with 70 calls.

Fogle also received the Captain's Award for 2012.



2012 Board of Directors: (left to right) Neal Abrams, Derrick Martin, Chuck Schussler, Larry Schneider, David Millstein, Jim Phillips, Doug Tomko, Bob Fitez, Jr.



2012 EMS Top Responders: (left to right) Chad Fogle, Neal Abrams, Bill Jacobs, Derrick Martin, Brett Schmidt



Captain's Award Winner: (left to right) Chad Fogle recipient, Kip Hamilton, 2012 Ambulance Captain



2012 Company Officers: (left to right) Chief Kevin Koons, Deputy Chief Adam Jacobs, Assistant Chief David Millstein, Fire Captain Adam Kuykendall, Fire Lieutenant 2-1 Jesse Sanders (not pictured Fire Lieutenant 2 Kyle Benner)



2012 Top Fire Responders: (left to right) Bill Jacobs, Adam Jacobs, Brad Hartdagen, Fire Chief Kevin Koons, Jesse Sanders, James Moe



President's Award Winner: (left to right) President Bob Fitez, Sr., Charlie Deardorff, recipient



2012 Chief's Award Winner: (left to right) David Millstein, recipient, Fire Chief Kevin Koons



2012 Firefighter of the Year: (left to right) Bill Jacobs, recipient, Fire Chief Kevin Koons

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# A family full of seeds

Alexandra Tyminski  
MSM Class of 2015

Changes. Changes are uncomfortable. They have never been my favorite. Today especially reminded me of how much I disliked them. After my father's funeral, I hopped into my silver Honda and drove by our old house. I hadn't been home since I started my new job in Colorado. As I finally made the sharp left turn, I noticed the street sign still remained crooked and a "g" must have recently fallen off our street name "Wollongong." My dad used to call our family the "Wollongang" in an attempt to be clever.

When I arrived at the curb of the old house, I instantly noticed how everything was the way we left it six years ago. The small pond still filled about halfway, the bamboo forest drifted off in the distance behind the house, and the pale green shutters laid perfectly next to the windows.

I would often come here in times of despair or confusion, but this time, I came in simple peace. I carried myself along with my brown shoulder bag across the street and sat on the green hill overlooking the house. The spring air fell on my freckled skin, and chills ran up the back of my spine. The day was quieter than ever, and I observed the massive land around the property I once called home. The more I looked around, the more I treasured the place. I reached for the black leather-bound journal from my bag. Lying down, I opened the journal to the first page and began to re-read my past.

*Journal Entry: 4/29/97 Fun times with my daddy*

"Daddy! Let's plant the tree by the little pond in our backyard," I said.

"Sweetie, how do you feel about planting the tree in between the pond and the vegetable garden?" he asked.

"Okay, I guess that's nice!" I said in excitement.

We headed over to the place my daddy pointed out for our little tree. He always enjoyed playing outside like me, so I figured he knew what he was doing.

"Daddy, why are we planting this tree?"

"Well, little Rosie, we are planting this tree because today is Arbor Day. I was going to wait until we planted it to tell you why we were planting a tree today!" he answered.

"What's Arbor Day?"

"Arbor Day is a tree holiday," he said as he looked at me with a funny smile.

"Trees get holidays, too? Where do they go for vacation?" I asked with a bit of confusion in my voice.

He laughed and said, "No, no darling. Arbor Day is when people

are encouraged to plant and care for trees!"

"Ohhh, well that is kind of funny. Why aren't the neighbors planting trees early this morning then?"

"Well, we just got an early start in taking care of our tree! I'm sure they will plant one later today," he assured me.

We dug up a BIG hole and my daddy was digging very fast. He is verrrry strong and the sun was shining down on him.

"All right champ, throw the seeds in the ground and let's put the dirt over it," Daddy said.

I carefully placed the seeds in the ground and handed the shovel to my father. He patched up the hole in the ground, and I stood there in my yellow t-shirt and blue jeans.

"How long do you think this tree will be here for, Rosie?"

"I think...I...well I'm not sure, but probably forever," I said.

"Ha! Yes, Rosie. It will be here forever. When the tree grows at first, it won't be big enough for you to sit under, but when it becomes extremely large, you can sit underneath its leaves and shade," Daddy told me.

*Journal Entry 8/14/97*

Daddy and I watered the tree again today. It has grown a little bit since the first seedlings were planted. It makes me sad that the tree hasn't grown much. I keep trying to convince Daddy that maybe the seeds are sick. He tells me that's not true at all. I'm not sure though.

*Journal Entry 4/29/02*

"Dad! Can you believe how fast the tree has grown in the 5 years since we planted it?" We both stood around the tree examining it.

"In five more years it will be extremely big, and I promise it will give us shelter from all this sun, Rosie!" Dad said, glancing over at me with his big white smile.

*Journal Entry 10/15/07*

Today was the first day of high school, and it was scary. I didn't want to go, but I made it. And, I even made a friend. Her name is Darcy, and she's the most energetic person I've ever met. I hope we stay friends for a long time. She was only a freshman in high school too, but she had so much confidence. I spotted her red curls from numerous lockers down the hallway. After some conversation with my new friend at the end of the day, I scratched up some confidence and asked her to come to my house tomorrow. I don't know how it's going to go or if I sounded creepy or desperate for friends. Did I sound desperate? Oh no, good going Rosie. She will probably not show up, or worse, tell people not to be my friend. I guess we will see what happens. I will have to update my journal about

it tomorrow. Until then... -Rosie

...

After this entry, I placed the journal down by my side. I stared up into the blue sky and felt extremely lost. The time period jumped about 5 years, and my handwriting had gotten better and I had stopped writing about that tree. I shrugged my shoulders and began to read again.

*Journal Entry 10/16/07*

"And this is where I like to sit after school and do my homework when it is nice outside," I said, pointing to the tree that my dad and I planted about 10 years ago.

"Wow that is so nice! I really like it a lot. I wish I had a big yard where I could plant trees like that," Darcy said.

I explained to her that my dad and I planted the tree on Arbor Day. I watched her face as her smile went from ear to ear looking up toward the tree that towered above us. I wonder if she noticed me catching her facial expression.

"It's just that it's so pretty here. Would you mind if I came over sometime and hung out with you here?" she asked.

"Not at all! I only ever sit here alone. My dad used to come outside more with me but ever since he got a new job, he has been so busy. He hasn't had much time to enjoy it the way I do. I would love for someone else to join me!"

Overall, I would say today was a successful day. Darcy and I agreed that every Friday after school, we would hang out by "the tree."

*Journal Entry 4/29/11*

Arbor Day. The last one Darcy and I will ever share together. We are graduating high school in May, and who knows what breaks we will have while we are in college. We stood there today, appreciating the tree. Darcy and I wrote out all of our favorite memories from high school and put them under the tree. We dug up a spot and gently placed our memory box there. Darcy just left, and now I'm currently sitting under the tree. My dad just came up to me and he noticed the sadness in my eyes.

"My little Rosie, don't be too sad. College is an exciting adventure! I know you will miss this spot while you are away, but it will always be here for you when you return," he said.

"Yeah I know. I guess the tree has just been another memory for me and now things are about to change," I said, staring at the ground.

"Rosie, you can learn from this tree. Fourteen years ago when we planted this tree, I knew you would then too."

"Learn what, Dad?"

"Learn how to grow. Trees grow because that is what they are supposed to do. You also grow because we are supposed to grow in order



to become better people. Changes are uncomfortable so that we might grow and learn from them. Do you think the tree was comfortable when it had no leaves and was left in the cold winter?"

He left after that and went back inside to make dinner. I sit here now thinking about what he said. This tree has taught me more than I realized.

...

I closed my journal and took a deep breath. I had forgotten about the tree for a long time. College was a change. When we moved houses my junior year, it was harder and harder to come back to the tree. It slowly trickled away. I sat up and scanned across the field to find the tree. Indeed, it was still standing strong. On my way to the tree, I went to my car and took a small jar from another purse in the trunk. I walked over to the tree and sat underneath it. It didn't look like the current family was home, so I decided it was ok to go. I eased myself to the ground and my perspective was instantly changed. I felt the peace of the tree, the breeze of the spring day, and the voice of my father calming me down.

I looked down at my feet, and I noticed a red object sticking up out of the ground. I reached to touch it, thinking it was nothing but a piece of trash,

but I looked harder and saw it was not. I ferociously dug with my hands in the dirt. I got to the bottom of a red box deeply wedged in the ground. My heart started to beat really fast, and I opened the box. It was the memory box Darcy and I had buried many years ago. In the box were letters from my first boyfriend that I wanted to treasure, a journal entry about how I felt about moving, some old photos, and the memory list we made. Something inside of me began to get excited. It was that feeling every child gets when experiencing something for the first time. I noticed an envelope at the bottom of the box with my name on it. I didn't know why I would place something like that for myself in a memory box. I reached for the envelope. It wasn't very heavy, and the edges were a little wrinkled. I pulled out the note and out fell a packet of seeds with it. The note read:

To my little Rosie, in hopes that you will one day find your roots here again. I placed a packet of your very own seeds for your own family one day.

With much love always,  
Daddy

*To read past articles by Alexandra Tyminski visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.*

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## COOKING WITH LOVE

# An invitation to tea!

**Brooke Hagerty**  
**Chef/Owner Gunner's Grille**  
**at Taneytown**  
[www.gunnersgrille.com](http://www.gunnersgrille.com)

As I sit to write this article we are experiencing a mini winter wonderland with an early spring snow here in northern Carroll County. Most folks are grumbling a bit at this but I am not one of them. I find it refreshing and it brings back memories of a late snow in 1983, my senior year in high school that shut down the school for an entire week. Today I am sitting in front of a beautiful fireplace, sipping on tea and looking across the field of white knowing that by tomorrow most of the snow will be gone and spring will begin to emerge by the end of the week. That's the thing about life, it is continually changing and what amazing changes we are in for this spring; starting with TEA! We will begin serving Tea Parties in May. Keep an eye out on our website, [www.gunnersgrille.com](http://www.gunnersgrille.com) for additional information.

What exactly is a Tea Party and when did they begin? Afternoon tea was invented in England in

1840 when Duchess Anna of Bedford began a liking for an afternoon snack before her late night dinner. Soon thereafter she began inviting friends and family over to partake in the event and thus the Tea Party was invented. The world of the Tea Party has changed over the years but the basics are still the same; three courses that include a selection of dainty sandwiches, scones, and a choice of cakes and pastries and of course tea. It is best to offer a selection of teas to include decaffeinated and herbal infusions as well as traditional Earl Grey and Darjeeling (which, by the way is the most popular tea in history). Be sure to have milk, lemon slices and sugar on hand so that each guest can make the tea to their own liking. Tea, like wine, reflects the region in which it is grown and the greatest teas come from five countries; China, India, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Japan. Altitude, climate, soil and seasonal changes effect the tea as well as the leaf's maturity at the time of plucking and processing during the harvest.

I have compiled for you, recipes I received when I renewed my membership to WBJC, a Baltimore radio station that con-

centrates on classical music. My membership renewal included Invitation to Tea which included several recipes and a wonderful CD of light classics. I hope that you enjoy the recipes as much I have. For additional information please visit [www.menusandmusic.com](http://www.menusandmusic.com).

### Plaza Tea Sandwiches

- 12 each whole wheat and white bread slices
- 4 tablespoons softened butter
- 9 tomato slices
- 3 hard boiled eggs, chopped
- Leaves from 3-4 watercress sprigs
- 4 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 18 thin cucumber slices

Spread 6 of the whole wheat bread slices with 2 tablespoons of the butter. Arrange 3 of the tomato slices on each of 3 bread slices and season with salt and pepper. Cover the remaining 3 buttered bread slices and set aside

- In a small bowl, mash one of the hard boiled eggs, the watercress leaves, and 1 tablespoon of the mayonnaise together with a fork. Spread the mixture on 3 of the white bread slices. Cover with three of the white bread slices and set aside.
- Spread the remaining 6 white bread slices with the

remaining two tablespoons butter. Arrange 6 cucumber slices on each of 3 slices of white bread and season with salt and pepper. Cover with 3 slices of white bread and set aside.

- In small bowl mash the remaining 2 hard boiled eggs, the remaining 3 tablespoons mayonnaise and salt and pepper with a fork. Spread on 3 of the remaining 6 slices of whole wheat bread. Cover with the other 3 slices of wheat bread.
- Stack one of each type of the sandwiches on top of each other. Using a serrated knife, trim the crusts off the bread. Cut the stack into fourths. Arrange the sandwiches on a plate. Repeat the process with the remaining sandwiches
- Makes 24 sandwiches

### Raspberry Meringue Shortbread

- ½ cup unsalted butter
- ¾ cup sugar
- 1 large egg yolk
- 1 ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup raspberry jam
- 2 large egg whites
- ¾ cup blanched almonds, chopped
  - Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter and 8 inch square baking dish
  - In a large bowl, beat the butter and ½ cup sugar together until light and creamy. Add the egg yolk and beat until thoroughly blend-

ed. Stir in the flour until thoroughly combined.

- Press the shortbread dough into the prepared baking dish and prick it all over with a fork. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until pale golden brown around the edges. Remove the shortbread from the oven.
- Evenly spread the raspberry jam over the baked shortbread layer
- In a large bowl, beat the egg whites until foamy, then gradually beat in the remaining ¼ cup sugar and continue beating until stiff, glossy peaks form. Gently fold in the almonds.
- Spread the almond meringue over the jam. Return the pan to the oven and bake for 20 minutes or until golden. Let cool, loosen the edges and cut into bite-sized squares
- Makes sixteen 2-inch squares

**Winterthur Perfect Iced Tea** (in anticipation for the warm weather to come)

- ¼ cup maple syrup
- 8 cups hot brewed tea
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- Ice cubes for serving, fresh lemons and mint sprigs for garnish
  - Stir the maple syrup into the hot tea and let stand until cool. Pour the tea into a pitcher and refrigerate for at least two hours
  - Just before serving stir in the lemon juice. Pour over ice cubes in tall glasses and garnish with a lemon slice and a mint sprig.

If ever you have questions regarding any recipes or articles please do not hesitate to contact me. Also, if you have a favorite recipe that you'd like to share or have a request for an article or I would love to hear from you! HAPPY EATING!



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## IN MY OWN WORDS

# Forgotten holidays

Nick Pane

At long last, after enduring a bitterly cold winter, the warm weather is slowly coming back. I am sure many people are eagerly anticipating spring and summer, as trips to the shore, vacations, outdoor parties, and road trips are definitely being planned out. Everyone simply seems to be happier when they get to store their coats and boots away and exchange them for bathing suits and flip flops.

Spring, in particular, represents new life, as plants begin to regrow and common birds and other small animals return from migration and hibernation. For me at least, it's definitely preferable to the dreags of winter, and the first sign of the changing of seasons is something I always look forward to. In the past, people used holidays in the month of April to celebrate just that, as Earth Day is recognized April 22, and Arbor Day is recognized the final Friday of April. Both of these holidays demonstrate and promote the environment, and Arbor Day in particular is a day dedicated to planting trees. Events and projects are held worldwide to support environmental protection just around the time that spring truly blossoms. Earth Day and Arbor Day promote a good cause, and something that people should embrace way more than they currently do. For as long as I can remember, I do not recall either holiday getting much recognition or attention at all by anyone.

I honestly could not even tell you if I have ever even physically seen an activity or event related to Earth Day or Arbor Day. Nothing stands out, and apart from seeing random internet pictures of people planting trees, stories about people partaking in something related to the environment seem few and far between.

How do holidays with such good intentions fall so far off of the map?

Earth Day was first recognized as a holiday in 1970, after John McConnell proposed an idea for environmental awareness at a UNESCO conference in 1969. McConnell suggested that the first day of spring would be an appropriate day to honor and recognize the importance of the environment. Nationwide movements took place, as millions of people gathered in favor of reform. A section of New York City was shut down for a peaceful demonstration, and students in Philadelphia spearheaded the idea for Earth Week. The results were overwhelming, as hundreds of organizations and colleges from around the country responded, bringing attention to many different environmental issues. Today, almost every country in the world observes Earth Day in some capacity, as supporters raise awareness about the dangers of anything from oil spills to global warming, and what we can do to more effectively use clean energy. These are just some of many examples that surely come up on Earth Day, and each topic is incredibly important.

Arbor Day is actually a much older holiday, having originated in the 1870s. J. Sterling Morton, a newspaper editor in Nebraska, laid the foundations for Arbor Day in 1872, embracing the importance of forestry and what trees do for the environment. The holiday began in Nebraska City, and on April 10 of that year, about one million trees are believed to have been planted. Like Earth Day, different Arbor Day traditions have been adapted and observed by different countries around the world. The one main change that has since taken place since the holiday's debut is the change in date. As previously

stated, the holiday is now generally observed on the last Friday of April instead of April 10. Though the date varies in certain locations, the holiday basically goes into full effect when the weather for tree planting is appropriate, so there can be some fluctuation with the exact date, and understandably so.

I will admit, I am not surprised that these two holidays do not get nearly the amount of recognition that they deserve. In this fast-paced world that we live in today, where people are much more concerned about cars and laptops, they have distanced themselves (perhaps inadvertently) from what else is important. I could go on an incredibly long rant about how this needs to change, but I will spare the reader because you and I both know that that isn't going to happen, nor do I necessarily think that it needs to change. We as a society just need a little more balance in our lives.

If there is a holiday, which is literally one whole day out of the year, calling for people to go plant a tree because it's good for the environment, I don't see why we can't just do that. Either through being lazy or careless, we lost sight of something so simple, and let's be honest, we could definitely pay the price for it later. The facts do not lie - water levels are rising at alarming rates, and the temperature is overall warmer over the course of a calendar year than it was 50 years ago. This is not



a coincidence, and if we care about future generations of this world, it wouldn't kill us to become a little more environmentally active.

If you are like me, and cannot recall ever seeing anything associated with one or both of these two holidays, you have probably already concluded that there is no feasible way to argue that they will make a comeback, and I unfortunately agree. They fell off of everybody's radar for a reason; there are probably some who have never heard of the holidays in the first place, let alone know anything about their histories. I get that most of the major holidays have some sort of familial or religious ties, and for those reasons they stayed popular. Earth Day and Arbor Day don't have that luxury - it is about getting active in the community, something not enough Americans do.

According to data from The Federal

Agency For Service And Volunteering, 26.8% of Americans dedicated time to volunteer work in 2011. Not a terrible number, but certainly a number that could be higher. We can do better in this country, and we should strive for that. I'm not advocating for you to jump out of your chair and plant a forest - but do your part at the very least. Don't throw trash out of the car window, because we all know how ridiculous polluting like that is. If you are feeling ambitious enough to get involved with something volunteer-related, then more power to you. Earth Day and Arbor Day might be playing second fiddle to the likes of Christmas and Thanksgiving, but the least we can do is recognize their messages and understand that it is in our best interest to listen.

To read more article by Nick Pane visit the Authors section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

Spring is in the air. Spring is a time for new beginnings, plants appear from nowhere and color returns to the great outdoors. It is a time to nurture new ideas and plan the summer vacations. It's a time to accomplish those projects that have been on ice, so to speak, all winter long. You feel invigorated by the fresh warmer air and energized by plans to do new things. At the Carriage House our chefs and staff are never short of new ideas. We regularly bring you cutting edge entrees and offer culinary delight. We offer services in our



Historic Emmitsburg home and all over our tristate area as one of the prominent catering companies. Many awards such as wedding wire with years in a row as top wedding caterers.

We strive to keep you excited about food and spirits as well as supporting our community and friendships. So as you can see we are much more than a restaurant, we're a family and part of your family. As families often do, we strive to find new exciting things to try. Our latest project is scheduled for

Saturday April 13th. We gave you the Irish month of March to practice for our awesome "Goose Island Beer

Dinner." Where great food and beer come together in a unique way. We will bring you the special "Vintage" Series of Belgian Ales. You will have a five course meal, each course paired with a different brew. As always in Spring the geese fly back home to our area from the warm South. So fly back with them and reserve your seat now for this microbrew feast. We always strive to support local farmers and vendors in a quest to our fresh and fully sustainable menu.

As we spring forward don't forget Mothers Day with our popular buffet in Joann's Ballroom and our delicious a la carte menu in our lower historic dining areas. This year tell the relatives to come visit you and we would love to serve you. Remember us for all your special needs, your place or ours.

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## COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

# Being a responsible driver

Renee Lehman

Part 2

In the March 2013 article, it was mentioned that the United States spends more than any other country on healthcare (\$8000 per person/year), and that the average cost of healthcare per person/year (per capita) is \$3000 for the rest of the developing world (www.oecd.org). Many proponents of public health care tend to blame the U.S.'s highly privatized system as the reason for such high costs. However, a number of factors influence the spending on healthcare: 1) How medical services are used: Expensive diagnostic procedures and elective surgeries, like MRI scans and corrective knee surgeries, drive up costs. 2) High costs of drugs: In the U.S., drug costs are more than \$950 per capita (the largest amount when compared to the other OECD member countries). 3) Poor health-related behaviors: Excessive alcohol consumption, tobacco use, poor nutrition, and poor exercise, increase health problems.

Our current healthcare model is a "Disease care" model. You go to the doctor or seek medical advice when you are sick. It is a great system for acute illness and trauma. However, this model doesn't promote wellness and prevention of disease. Eighty percent of our chronic illnesses (diabetes, heart disease, and obesity to name a few) are not ef-

fectively addressed by our current "Disease care" model of healthcare. Why, you may ask? It is because these diseases are largely preventable and even reversible by changing diet and lifestyle. Yes, treatment of these and other chronic diseases account for 75% of our healthcare costs, and yet they are preventable or even reversible!!! (Dean Ornish, MD, the founder and president of the non-profit Preventive Medicine Research Institute in Sausalito, California; and Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco).

There is a different model that involves health promotion and disease prevention, and encourages us to become active in our own healing. At the center of this model is SELF - CARE. It is up to each one of us to learn how to maintain and protect our body's potential to heal itself. In continuing with the analogy of the body being like a car, and our mind and consciousness being the DRIVER of the car, here is Part 2 of the article: Being a Responsible Driver.

In one of my acupuncture classes, Bob Duggan, licensed acupuncturist, and former president of Tai Sophia Institute (now known as the Maryland University of Integrative Health) asked each of us to identify five symptoms that appear and disappear. At first, I thought, I don't have five symptoms that come and go. I have since realized that almost everyone that I have ever

met has around five symptoms that come and go. Using me as an example, if I begin to rub my eyes, it means that I'm tired and I want to sleep, but I'm rubbing my eyes to keep my eyes stimulated. Then, if I don't get enough sleep, I'll begin to strain my eyes and lean my head closer to what I am reading or writing. Then in a day or two, I'll begin to get left-sided neck tightness, and will feel like I need to crack my neck. This then leads to a left-sided headache which forces me to lie down and sleep. I then wake up the next day without a headache. So, when I have a headache, do I need an MRI/CT scan and a specialist to tell me that I am tired and need more sleep? No.

What five symptoms do you have that come and go? Sit down, and think about what "minor symptoms" show up before the major symptom shows up. They may occur from a few minutes to a few days before the major symptom occurs. I have had many clients learn to pay attention to "minor symptoms," and then use them as a warning system (like a lit check engine light on your car). These "minor symptoms" can also be used as teachers. They can "teach" you about your lifestyle (the amount of sleep you are getting, the types of foods you are eating, the way that you handle stress, etc.).

By paying attention to these "teachers," you can open yourself up to the possibility of avoiding the major symptom. The major symptom may even become your "friend." Bob Duggan, in his book, Breaking the Iron Triangle, used the following example to demonstrate this concept: More than 20 years ago, a patient named Charlie, told me, "Asthma has become my friend. Now, when I begin that minor wheezing, I pay attention and take care of myself, and I avoid going to the emergency room or going on heavy medications."

Over the years we have been taught to "be tough," to ignore, override, and eliminate the sensations of our body until, out of desperation, they become a disease. We now ignore our body's



wisdom of how to live well and in harmony with natural laws. For example, some of you may feel tired all day long. You feel tired because you don't get enough sleep. You don't get enough sleep because you participate in certain behaviors that can lead to an inability to sleep, such as, cigarette smoking, physical inactivity, heavy drinking, consuming too much caffeine, being "over-wired" (video games, Web browsing, social media, texting), and being over-worked (longer hours, night shifts incompatible with our biological clocks). You then become chronically sleep deprived and very tired. Therefore, you may drink energy drinks to stay alert when you feel tired, and may choose not to go to bed earlier. This cycle continues and in the long run is associated with health problems, such as, obesity, depression, increased risk for diabetes, high blood pressure, heart problems, and increased risk of stroke.

So, what you really need is sleep. So how could you get sleep? Listen to your body's wisdom, learn from your body's wisdom, and adjust your ways of living. What makes sense to you to help

get more sleep? Do you really want to increase your risk of obesity, depression, increased risk for diabetes, high blood pressure, heart problems, and increased risk of stroke? Simple things like learning to meditate, learning to breathe deeply, shutting off electronic devices several hours before bedtime could be all that is needed to get a good night's sleep. Quieting the body/mind/spirit with the above techniques does not cost a lot of money. Simple, low tech, low cost techniques can make a big impact on our lives.

Take responsibility for what is yours; your precious life that is full of potential! Don't ignore your body's wisdom and give over your power to any "expert." There is plenty of opportunity in your community to learn how to listen to your body's wisdom. Empower yourself!

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 25 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.

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# Keep Moving

## Three steps to a healthy life

**Linda Stultz**  
**Certified Fitness Trainer/  
 Therapist**

Many people ask me what the best diet is or what exercise will help them lose their belly. My answer is simple but I do realize putting the answer into practice is not always easy for some. I believe there are three steps needed to achieve their goal. Food, cardio and weightlifting are the components working together needed to lose weight and maintain it for a lifetime. We all know eating the right kind of food in the correct portion size is a key to losing weight. The problem comes in when people think of the word diet as a punishment. The word diet should be thought of as what we need to eat to stay alive not as a word only associated with losing weight. Fresh foods such as vegetables, fruits, grains and meats are the way to enjoy foods at its best. Processed and pre-packaged foods are adding so much to our diet that causes weight gain. You can usually have larger amounts of fresh foods

because they do not contain added salt, sugar and other ingredients that convert into fat and is stored in your body. Portion size is another part of the food component. You do need to be strict with the type and portions of food while trying to lose weight but after you reach your goal will can enjoy a fun food every now and then.

Cardio exercise is second component of losing weight and keeping it off. Find an exercise you like and will have fun doing. I have written many suggestions in past articles but I will mention a few again. Play with your kids or animals, find a friend to walk with, take a dance class or something you enjoy. Movement is the important part. Cardio is also the things we need to do like cleaning the house, washing the car and mowing the grass. Doing these things get the necessities done and the exercise at the same time.

Weightlifting is the third component in my prescription for losing weight and maintaining it throughout your life. Strong



muscles not only help with balance as we get older but they help with fractures, energy and possibly the ability to keep our independence longer. Strong, lean muscles also burn calories and help maintain a healthy weight. Utilizing the three things a men-

tioned in this article can promote and help you achieve the lifestyle most people want. Good food and physical activity not only keep our body in shape but our mind as well. Taking care of ourselves gives us the satisfaction we need to feel better about our-

selves because we know we are doing something to live a longer and healthier life. Do some research and talk to your doctor before jumping into something that may not work for you. Call me at 717-334-6009 with questions and remember Keep Moving!

# Fitness Matters

**George Puvel**  
**Anytime Fitness Owner**

Question: Does cooking food in a microwave cause nutrient loss?

Answer: This is a great question because microwaves are pervasive throughout society. In fact, they're a staple in almost every kitchen. Despite their popularity, many people are convinced that radiation from microwaves destroys nutrients. Thankfully, research does not back this up. The primary determinants of nutrient loss are cook time, cook temperature, and the amount of liquid used. In other words, any form of cooking can lead to nutrient loss, but microwaving is actually a BETTER option. Microwaves do a great job of heating your food very quickly, and microwaves heat at temperatures that are lower than most other forms of cooking. The water-soluble vitamins, B-complex and C, are easily the most susceptible to heat, and are commonly found in beans, fruits, and vegetables. Bottom line—use the microwave as often as you need to, but try to avoid using water in the cooking process to avoid leaching those water-soluble vitamins.

Question: I've never been the best sleeper. Is this having a negative impact on my overall health?

Answer: Unfortunately, yes, it probably is! There is a lot of emerging research revolving around sleep (or the lack thereof) and its associated health implications. There's some data now indi-

cating that those who get just one night of poor sleep end up with abnormal lab values indicative of pre-diabetes. That's right, pre-diabetes! Folks with poor sleep cycles can end up with suppressed insulin secretion after a meal, which leaves them with elevated blood sugar levels for far too long. They also have lowered resting metabolic rates, which could ultimately contribute to weight gain as well. Other researchers have discovered that hundreds of genes get disrupted after just one week of suboptimal sleep, thereby impairing the

body's ability to heal itself. Chronic sleep problems have been associated with heart attacks, stroke, diabetes, and obesity for years, but now we're starting to see direct observations in the laboratory setting. In the end, optimal sleep is just as important as your fitness level and your nutritional status when it comes to overall health, so try to get at least 8 hours a night, and more when you can.

Question: I lift 5 days per week consistently, but my strength gains have flat-lined. How do I continue to get stronger?

Answer: Despite not having much

industry information to go on here, let's see if I can provide some insight. First of all, there's the possibility that you're working out too much. Maybe your volume (the combination of sets and reps) is too high—a common problem for those looking to gain strength as quickly as possible. And how long has it been since you've taken some time off to allow your body to fully recuperate from the stress of exercise? Some much-needed rest may do the trick, and amazingly, people often come back even stronger. I also wonder if you're changing up your workouts enough. Many people get into a habit of using machines or free weights, but don't incorporate other forms of ex-

ercise. Cables, tubing, bands, kettle bells, medicine balls, and even bodyweight exercises can all increase strength, so you should try to vary your routine. Lastly, you have to remember that strength doesn't just increase exponentially on a continual basis. There is a threshold that you'll reach at some point, and you could be there already. If you feel like you need help with your current program, talk to a certified personal trainer.

*About the author: George Puvel is the Club Owner. To submit a question for future articles, please contact the author at [ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com](mailto:ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com).*



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## ASTRONOMY

# The night sky of April

Professor Wayne Wooten

For April 2013, the Moon will be last quarter on April 3rd, and new moon on April 10th. The waxing crescent moon passes 2.2 degrees south of Jupiter on April 14th. The moon is first quarter on April 18th. The full moon, the Egg Moon, occurs on April 25th, and the moon is just 3.5 degrees south of Saturn the following evening. Saturn comes to opposition, rising in the east at sunset, on April 28th.

Mercury, Venus, and Mars all lie too close to the sun for naked eye observation this month. Jupiter is still well up in the western evening sky as April begins, but gets lower in the sky and closer to the sun each evening. But this is the month for Saturn. The ringed wonder is at its best in the east in Libra, rising at sunset on its opposition date of April 28th. This is the best time to observe the most beautiful object in the sky. When viewed with a telescope, the rings are open 19 degrees open, to reach their greatest tilt of 27 degrees wide at its solstice in 2017, and Titan and several smaller moons fall on either side of the most beautiful telescopic sight in the sky. In addition to its glorious rings, Saturn hosts a huge moon, Titan, visible in most any telescope, and several smaller ones needing at least a 6" scope to spot.



Distant galaxies in Virgo Cluster

Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the northwestern sky. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini. South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the southern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee.

Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstand-

ing binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. The bright diamond of four stars that light it up are the trapezium cluster, one of the finest sights in a telescope. In the east are the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius dominates the SE sky as darkness falls. At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida.

To the northeast, look for the Big Dipper rising, with the top two stars of the bowl, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. Look for Mizar-Alcor, a nice naked eye double star, in the bend of the big dipper's handle. Take the pointers at the front of the dipper's bowl south instead to the head of Leo, looking much like the profile of the famed Sphinx. The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star".

Now take the curved handle of the Big Dipper, and follow the arc SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of the spring sky. Recent studies of its motion link it to the Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy, a companion of our Milky Way being tidally disrupted and spilling its stars above and below the plane of the Milky Way, much like dust falling away from a decom-

posing comet nucleus. So this brightest star of Bootes the Bear Driver is apparently a refugee from another galaxy!

Now spike south to Spica, the blue-white gem in Virgo rising in the SE. Virgo is home to many gal-

axies, as we look away from the obscuring gas and dust in the plane of the Milky Way into deep space. To the southwest of Spica is the four sided Crow, Corvus. To the ancient Greeks, Spica was associated with Persephone, daughter of Ceres, goddess of the harvest. She was abducted by her suitor Pluto, carried down to Hades (going to Hell for a honeymoon!) and when Jupiter worked out a compromise between the newlyweds and the angry mother-in-law, the agreement dictated Persephone come back to the earth's surface for six months of the year, and Mama Ceres was again placated, and the crops could grow again. As you see Spica rising in the SE, it is time to "plant your peas", and six months from now, when Spica again disappears in the sun's glare in the SW, you need to "get your corn in the crib"...so was set our calendar of planting and harvesting in antiquity. In the arms of Virgo is a rich harvest of galaxies for modern astronomers.




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## Farmers' Almanac

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Fair and cool (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9) with showers mainly in the southern part of the region (10, 11). Fair and mild (12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) with severe storms (18, 19). Fair and mild again (20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25) with more storms in the south (26, 27). Stormy and heavy rains (28, 29, 30, 31).

Tornado Watch: Some tornado activity is forecast moving into the Mid-Atlantic Region from the South Plains from March 13th to the 19th.

Full Moon: March's Full Moon will occur on April 25th at 2:57 PM EST. It has been commonly referred to as Fish Moon because with the warmer weather, fishing in lakes and streams would begin to improve at this time of year. It also has been often referred to as PINK MOON because of the many flowers that turn pink and bloom during the month.

Special Notes: Earth Day is observed on Monday, April 22nd. Make a special effort today (and every day!) to go a bit easier on ol' Mother Earth. To find some appropriate activities to help you get into the habit of treating her better, call the Earth Day Network at (202) 518-0044 or go to [www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net). Here's an idea.... Check out the 80+ varieties of trees at the National Arbor Day Foundation's website at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org) and try and plant a tree on Arbor Day on Monday, April 29th. Mother Earth can always use more trees! April 30th is International Jazz Day. Celebrate America's own original music and listen to some good contemporary jazz as well as some of the old classics by Miles Davis, Dave Brubeck, John Coltrane, and Charlie Parker. Really cool, man!

The Garden: Spring has been officially here since March 21st and

the weather will continue to get warmer and warmer. Spend those warmer days outside cleaning up debris from garden beds and around bushes, hedges, and shrubs. Check trellis and support wires for climbers and rose bushes before the plants fully develop. Winds, frost and snow can often dislodge supports during the winter. Set out annuals, perennials, and other bedding plants in late April and remember to apply a balanced fertilizer appropriate for your soil. Now is a great time to plant shrubs, such as Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Spiraea, and Viburnums for late Spring color. Get the lawn ready by treating it with some pre-emergent crabgrass killer right after forsythia bloom. If you plan on starting a new lawn from seed, prepare the soil now. Rake the surface level and add a general fertilizer. Don't forget those fruit trees! When the temperatures exceed 40 degrees daily, spray with dormant oil. Do this before they start to leaf out.

COMPUTER Q&A

# Watch out for computer scams

**Ayse Stenabaugh**  
**Jester's Computer Tutor**  
**717-435-3605 OR**  
**help@thecomputertutor.info**

The majority of computer users are not experts thus leaving them more vulnerable to being scammed online. Even those who are wary of online scams have fallen victim to the increasingly clever scams. Now many scammers are using scare tactics to make people believe they are in big trouble if they don't act fast. Read on to learn more about some of the most common scams online right now and how you can prevent yourself from being another victim.

**Ransomware Scams**

This malware uses scare tactics as a means to extort money from unsuspecting targets. In exchange for your payment the ransomware promises to remove the warning (which is really a virus) that is preventing you from using your computer.

**FBI Warning**

The most recent and common type of ransomware is known as the FBI warning. When trying to access their computers, unsuspecting victims are told that they have performed illegal activity and must pay a \$200 fine to the FBI to avoid being arrested within 72 hours. With piracy (illegal downloading) and pornography on the rise many users feel they may have violated the law and agree to pay up not knowing the entire gig is a scam.

**Fake Antivirus Software**

For a while now viruses have been posing as fake antivirus software that looks almost identical to legitimate software. The software will prompt you that you have certain number of viruses, malware, or spyware and will prompt you to pay to have them removed. Victims who have paid to have the virus remove are surprised to have money from their bank accounts removed instead.

You can protect yourself from ransomware by asking yourself a few simple questions before giving away any personal or financial information

1. Did I actually do something wrong to trigger a threat? Many times users have done absolutely nothing wrong but fear that they have!
2. Would a government or another official agency really use the internet to contact me?  
 Realistically if you were in trouble with the FBI they would knock on your door, write you a certified letter, or contact you another way, not through your computer screen!
3. Is there a phone number or a way to reach the threatening party?

Many times the contact information given will lead you to a disconnected number, an ob-

vious scammer, or an automated email. This should be a red flag!

4. Have I researched the threat elsewhere online to see if it was legitimate or not? Always take the time to research something like this! You can always call your local computer shop, do a search on Google, or ask a few friends! It only takes a few minutes!

**Phishing Scams**

Emails and other forms of online communication from seemingly reputable companies are used to send out claims of security breaches and/or requirements to update personal information. The claims are fraudulent and are instead an attempt to steal your password or personal information.

**eBay**

One popular phishing scam involves an email appearing to come from Ebay asking you to update

your billing or personal information. Some emails even claim your account will be suspended if you do not comply with supplying your information. Links found in the email take you to another website that looks like eBay but is not! Filling out the form located on the link's website would actually go to an unidentified third-party.

**Paypal / Banks**

In this scam victims would receive an email stating that their information must be verified. Users are asked to click on a link and enter in their account or card information. The websites have been known to look convincingly similar to the real websites. Information entered into the fake websites are provided to an unknown third-party to use without your permission!

You can protect yourself from phishing scams by asking yourself a few

simple questions before taking any action with the email or notices you receive.

1. What is the email address that the email came from? Many times the email address that sent the email may be pretty obviously fake. For example a phishing email coming from "ebay" might come from support@ebay.info or billing@ebaytu.com they appear similar but are not coming directly from @ebay.com!
2. Are there any grammar/spelling errors in the email?  
 Many scammers know how to extort money but aren't spelling bee champs! Many times errors are obvious and most of the time legitimate contact from big companies remains error free!
3. Do I even use the company or

service that is contacting me? If you are getting an email from a company that you no longer use then you probably have no reason to update your information anyway. Many emails can be spam coming from companies you have never even heard of before!

4. Can I access the same notice by going directly to the company's website? If you really feel that the message is legit you should be able to access the same information by going directly to the company's website (not through the link the email provides). If you still see the message you should be safe to proceed (from their website) but if you still can't find the warning contact the company directly to find out!

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FREE HEALTH SEMINAR

# Taking Control of IBD

**TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013  
6:00PM - 8:30PM**

*University of Maryland Medical Center's Inflammatory Bowel Disease Program invites you to a discussion about the latest therapies, research and treatments for Crohn's and colitis. Our goal is to empower patients with information so that they may confidently work with their physician team in making decisions about their care.*



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
MEDICAL CENTER

[www.umm.edu/ibd](http://www.umm.edu/ibd)



## SPEAKERS:



**Jonathan Chun, MD**  
*"Surgical  
Management  
of IBD"*



**Mark H. Flasar, MD**  
*"Medical Therapy  
for IBD"*



**Sandra Quezada, MD**  
*"Women's Health  
Issues in IBD"*



**Runa Watkins, MD**  
*"Pediatric Issues  
in IBD"*

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Frederick, MD 21703

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and space is limited.**

Call **1-800-492-5538**  
today. Dinner will  
be served.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**April Events**

**April 2**

The Majestic Theater presents DanceBrazil. For over thirty years, DanceBrazil has thrilled audiences across the United States and throughout the world with its dazzling artistry, which is inspired by the cultural tapestry of Brazil.

**April 3 & 7**

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve' Welcome to Our Neighbor Woods. An excellent opportunity for preschool-aged children to explore the wonders of nature on a bi-monthly basis. For more information visit [www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org) or call 717-642-5840

**April 5 & 6**

Gettysburg Community Theater presents Once Upon A Time (a fairy tale concert). For more information call 717-334-2692 or visit [www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org](http://www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org).

**April 6 & 7**

Bell and History Days at the Seton Shrine - Come and enjoy the festivities that kick-off the 2013 museum season in Frederick County. Get your Bell and History Day passport stamped, For more information call 301-447-8037.

**April 6**

Tom's Creek United Methodist Church Turkey and Oyster Supper. For more information call 301-447-3171 or visit [www.tomscreekumc.org](http://www.tomscreekumc.org)

St. Anthony's Church's Work Camp Bingo at Mother Seton School, Free Spaghetti dinner! Proceeds help support OLMC/SAS high school youth to attend WorkCamp. For more info call 301-447-2367.

**April 11**

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's Ghosts of Everest and Other Hiking Tales. Join us for a special evening as local guest speaker & climber Larry A. Johnson, takes us on a journey to Mt. Everest in Tibet to try to solve one of exploration's greatest mysteries. For more information call 717-642-5840 or visit [www.StrawberryHill.org](http://www.StrawberryHill.org).

**April 12**

Hauser Estate Winery presents Project Gettysburg-León 10th Annual Soirée - an evening of live jazz, fine wine, great food, and good company. The Hauser Estate Winery is located on a hill overlooking Adams County's beautiful orchard country. For more information call 717-334-4888 or visit [www.hauserestate.com](http://www.hauserestate.com).

**April 13**

St. Joseph's Church in Taneytown's Spring Vendor Sales Event - funds used for the Renovation Fund of St. Joseph's old Rectory. For more information call 443-340-6603

The Elias Lutheran Church's The Basement coffee house ministry continues o with Emmitsburg's own children's praise choir!—and silver lining band! Come on down for Emmitsburg's best

contemporary Christian music scene and lots of goodies, snacks and coffee! See you then. For more information call 301-447-6239 or visit [www.eliaslutheranchurch.org](http://www.eliaslutheranchurch.org).

Emmitsburg Lion's Club Dance featuring the "Rock & Roll Relics" Band. Emmitsburg Ambulance Company Building. To purchase tickets call Zurgable Hardware at 301-447-2020.

**April 14**

15th Annual Art Auction benefiting the Land Conservancy of Adams County at the Blue Parrot Bistro, Gettysburg. For more information visit [www.lcacnet.org](http://www.lcacnet.org)

**April 18, 19, 20**

6th Annual Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg Rummage Sale. 136 S. Stratton St., Gettysburg

**April 18**

Silver Fancy Garden Club will hold an open meeting at the Taneytown Library. Light refreshments will be served, followed by two presentations and a club meeting. The public is invited.

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve is hosting a Timberdoodle Trek at the Preserve. The American Woodcock (Timberdoodle) demonstrates an amazing springtime courtship ritual that you won't want to miss. For more information call 717-642-5840 or visit [www.StrawberryHill.org](http://www.StrawberryHill.org)

**April 20**

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve welcomes the public to Spring on the Hill at the Preserve. Guided hikes will include amphibian walks, plant ID, and birding for beginners. Hands-on workshops and projects will be offered. For more information call 717-642-5840 or visit [www.StrawberryHill.org](http://www.StrawberryHill.org)

St. John's Lutheran Church Fried Shrimp and Baked Ham Dinner, St. John's Lutheran Church, 8619 Blacks Mill Rd, Creagerstown.

**April 21**

Union Bridge Fire Company's Slippery Pot Pie Chicken Dinner. Come for a ride in the county, and enjoy a meal like Grandma made and served

**April 26, 27, 28**

15th Annual Greyhounds in Gettysburg. The 2013 Greyhounds in Gettysburg weekend is dedicated to celebrating the adoption of retired racing greyhounds. Various Locations in Gettysburg For a full schedule of festiv-

ities and locations, call 717-337-9705 or visit [www.greyhoundsingettysburg.com](http://www.greyhoundsingettysburg.com).

**April 27**

Catoctin Mt. Parks Spring Wildflower walk at the Owens Creek Picnic Area. Join a ranger at the Brown's Farm Trail in Owens Creek Picnic Area for an interpretive wildflower walk. The ranger will acquaint you with the flowers that are blooming, and will tell you why they are so particular about where they grow and when they flower.

Opening Day of the 22nd Season of the Gettysburg Farmers' Market. The friendly farmers will be back with locally raised early produce, flowers, plants for landscape and garden, pastured meat and eggs. Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. For more information call Gettysburg, PA 717-359-9989 or visit [www.gettysburgfarm-market.com](http://www.gettysburgfarm-market.com).

For more events visit [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Friday, April 5th  
5 pm to 8 pm**

**\$8 Adults \$4 Children  
Children 4 and Under FREE!**

Proceeds To Benefit Brooke Riggs Cancer Treatments  
**Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co. Activity Building**  
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## Summer at the Mount— A Bright Place to Be!



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### ACADEMICS

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### GRANDPARENTS UNIVERSITY

July 18-19 (Ages 8 through 108!)

Grandparents and their grandchildren choose a "major" and attend hands-on classes taught by Mount St. Mary's faculty. Make memories for a lifetime as you share stories, learn, and have fun together!

### PROJECT DISCOVERY: ROBOTICS CAMP

July 22-August 2 (Students entering grades 4-6)

Camp is held at St. John Regional Catholic School in Frederick, MD. Learn to use Lego Mindstorms™ and design robots to solve problems. Students will learn basic programming the first week, then use that knowledge to solve problems in a series of robotics challenges the second week. This exciting program develops and promotes STEM education. Program includes a supervised lunch and recreation break each day.

### C.S.I. CAMP

June 24-28 (Ages 14 through Adult)

(Advanced C.S.I. Camp offered July 8-10)

Experience the real world of forensic investigation with the help of crime scene professionals. This 15-hour program includes team processing of crime scenes.



### 4TH ANNUAL SCRIPTURE INSTITUTE

July 9-11

Join the members of the Mount's Theology Department for an engaging exploration of Scripture and Prayer. Includes study, reflection and more, plus the option to stay overnight at Mount St. Mary's Seminary.

### OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CAMP

July 15-19 OR July 22-26 (Ages 11-13); July 29-August 2 (Ages 14-15)

Looking for some major adventure for your active child this summer? The Mount's amazing Outdoor Adventures program provides a week of the best outdoor sports the area has to offer! Rock climbing, caving, canoeing, hiking, and more, all led by our professionally trained staff. Equipment and transportation to all activity sites included. Space is very limited, so sign up early.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Spring Mainstage Production—The Eumenides

Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6, 8 p.m.

Sunday, April 7, 2 p.m.

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

The concluding play of the only surviving Greek tragic trilogy, THE EUMENIDES presents the trial of Orestes for the murder of his mother, Clytemnestra. That is not all that is at stake in the play, however, as the outcome of Orestes' trial will affect all of Greek civilization. Athena must choose—find Orestes innocent and acknowledge blood lust and revenge as acceptable, or find him guilty and condemn a fragile peace to possible destruction. Tickets \$7.

### Senior Student Performance Projects

These performances are the "capstone" performances for the graduating students in Music and Theatre.

### Theatre Projects

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 18-20, 8 p.m.

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

### Guitar Recitals

Tuesday, April 23, 8 and 9 p.m.

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

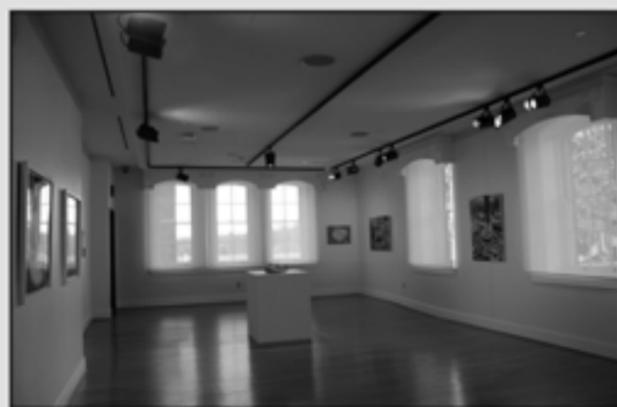
### Senior Art Show

Exhibition for Art Show I Thursday, April 25-Thursday, May 2

Reception for Art Show I-Thursday, April 25, 5 p.m.

Williams Art Gallery, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

The senior student art show is the thesis exhibition for graduating visual artists. The following Fine Arts major students will present their works: John Bruno, Lauren Dillon, Kathryn Franke, Teresa Fredericks, Elizabeth Guevremont, Daniel Lewis, Samantha Shepard, Melissa Siesputowski



For more information on Mount Summer:

[www.msmary.edu/summer](http://www.msmary.edu/summer)

301.447.8329

[summer@msmary.edu](mailto:summer@msmary.edu)

## JOIN US FOR THE MOUNT'S SPARC FESTIVAL

The SPARC Festival is a campus-wide celebration of academic and artistic accomplishments of Mount students. Join us during the three-day event!

### Tuesday, April 23

3:30-5:30 p.m.: Opening Ceremony

Knott Auditorium

Featuring Honored Faculty Address by Jonelle Hook, Ph.D and a Musical Address by Dr. Andrew Rosenfeld and students

6-9 p.m.: Honors Session I

Purcell, O'Hara Dining Room, and Laughlin Auditorium

7-9 p.m.: Art Exhibition

Williams Art Gallery, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

7-9 p.m.: Musical Collage

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

9-11 p.m.: Film Festival Session I

Laughlin Auditorium

### Wednesday, April 24

9 a.m.-Noon: Honors Session II

Purcell, O'Hara Dining Room, and Laughlin Auditorium

9 a.m.-Noon: Lightning Talks Session I

Phillips Library

10 a.m.-Noon: Poster Session I

Patriot Hall

Noon-1 p.m.: Film Festival Session II

Laughlin Auditorium

1-4:30 p.m.: Honors Session III

Purcell, O'Hara Dining Room, and Laughlin Auditorium

1-4:30 p.m.: Lightning Talks Session II

Phillips Library

1-3 p.m.: Poster Session II

Patriot Hall

4:30-5:30 p.m.: Lighted Corners Publication Premiere

Phillips Library

6-7 p.m.: Keynote Speaker: Sam Kean

Knott Auditorium

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.: Theatrical Performance

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

### Thursday, April 25

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Honors Session IV

Purcell, O'Hara Dining Room, and Laughlin Auditorium

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Lightning Talks Session III

Phillips Library

Noon-2 p.m.: International Fair

Cardinal Keeler Dining Room

12:30-2:30 p.m.: Film Festival Session III

Laughlin Auditorium

3:00-5:30 p.m.: Closing Celebration

Founder's Plaza

For more information, visit

[www.msmary.com/SPARC](http://www.msmary.com/SPARC)



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