

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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NEWS

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Town Square plan update presented

The Emmitsburg town mayor and staff held a meeting on February 19 to brief all interested residents and businesses on the status of the plans for the upgrading of the Town Square.

Mayor Donald Briggs, town Planner Susan Cipperly, state Highway Administration district Chief Scott Dutrow, and master plan designer Seth Harry attended the meeting to explain the proposed improvements.

Mayor Briggs stated that the implementation of the current proposal will cost between \$800,000 and \$1 million, and that additional money going toward façade and property improvements means that the Town Square and other private properties in proximity could total up to a \$1.4 million facelift to the general area.

Of the money going directly into the Town Square work, the mayor said the project will be "fully funded" by the state, except for a few proposed enhancements.

The current proposal represents a mulled version of two plans previously presented to the public.

Harry said the staff is "making generously sized, curved corners" which will feature planter benches



Planned improvements to and around Town Square could cost up to \$1.4 million, the majority of which will be paid for by state grants.

and other attributes. Crosswalks will be placed "close to the intersection so motorists are aware of pedestrians," he said. "We believe what we have planned is a safe intersection."

Mayor Briggs said, regarding the existing layout of the square, "It's a dangerous place," and that the proposed design is intended to "enhance safety for pedestrians."

The adjustments at the square will come with the net loss of one parking space. Actually four will be lost on the square itself, but

three new curbside parking spaces will be created on Main Street adjacent to the square.

Crosswalks will also be located on West and East Main Street, further away from the square at School Lane and Federal Avenue, consisting of "bump outs," which jut out into the roadway, to help slow traffic as it approaches the Town Square.

Other proposed enhancements will include pedestals, a town clock, and a fountain. The location of the original fountain in the

Town Square will be demarcated with a circle in the middle of the intersection.

The mayor said, "The square is kind of the romance of the town. It's very special to the community." He also said it is hoped over time to carry the theme of the new Town Square up and down Seton and Main Street.

The project is anticipated to take about 18 to 24 months, and could be completed by fall 2014 if the plans are ready to go and approved in March.

Carroll Valley fails to adopt rec plan

An ordinance that would have installed Carroll Valley Borough as a member of a proposed multi-municipality recreation district has failed to make it through the borough council.

None of the borough council members were willing to even make a motion to bring membership in the proposed southwestern Adams County joint recreational district to the table for a vote at the council's February 11 meeting.

The failure of the proposed ordinance came on the heels of comments from residents opposed to the plan, and even a call by resident Richard Matthews to have the issue put on the ballot in November to let the citizens decide.

The proposed recreation district was the product of a study conducted by representatives of Hamilton-ban Township, Carroll Valley and Fairfield boroughs, and the Fairfield Area School District which examined the recreational assets of the various governing bodies involved. Liberty Township has also indicated interest in participating in the creation of the proposed recreation district.

The purpose of the joint-study

was to evaluate how the participating municipalities and school district could jointly share those assets in a regional manner, as well as the costs of maintaining such a district. The study listed a number of "needs" that the district, once established, could fulfill for area residents.

However, Matthews told the council, before the board was to consider voting on the measure, that the study had provided "no data to justify the alleged needs. There is no justification for the need."

Matthews said the creation of the multi-jurisdictional recreation district seemed to him to be little more than "a governmental desire to insert itself on the lives" of the citizens.

Participating entities would each provide funding based on a percentage of their population, without regard to the percentage of assets each was making available.

Carroll Valley Borough, for example, would contribute 48 percent of the funding for the district based on its population of 3,876, although the "lion's share" of assets to be incorporated in the plan lie within Carroll Valley Borough.

Councilwoman Janis Ashman said, following the failed ordinance



Whether it's the annual Carroll Valley fishing derby, a golf outing, or just a day in the community park, Carroll Valley offers residents a host of recreational opportunities.

vote, "I think this would be very costly to us and not serve us well," noting that while the borough

would be picking up 48 percent of the costs, they "wouldn't get 48 percent of the vote" on how to spend it.

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NEWS

Letter to the Editor

In defense of Senator Brinkley

Well politics sure is interesting. Current Delegate Michael Hough has been campaigning in our area and was poised to run for the House of Delegates representing Thurmont, or so we thought. His current district was re-drawn moving him from serving in District 3B to now serving district 4. All of a sudden he has decided to change his plans and run for Senator David Brinkley's Senate seat.

I think that will prove to be a serious miscalculation on his part. Senator Brinkley has served us extremely well in Annapolis. He and his staff have always supported Thurmont and Northern Frederick County, and he has personally assisted me when I served as Mayor of Thurmont for the last 12 years. He personally used his position to get a special meeting with the Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment a few years ago when the town needed assistance, and at my request got a legal issue reviewed by the Attorney General's office.

He's the Minority Leader of the Maryland State Senate. Hardly the time to change direction for someone new. Being Minority leader is an extremely powerful position that pro-

vides him the opportunity to use that position to help everyone in Frederick County, not just Thurmont.

In today's political climate where most everyone hates the dysfunction between Democrats & Republicans at the federal level, Senator Brinkley is the kind of Republican who can fight hard for the conservative values many of us believe in but does so in a way that doesn't cause him to lose respect of the on the other side of the argument. That type of governing is what's needed when serving in a heavily Democrat led State government.

I'm personally sick and tired of the type of politician who attacks another politician in their own party because he/she dares to vote for anything other than the typical party position. Do you want a politician who represents the "party" or do you want a politician who supports you. They're not always the same.

Do I agree with everything David has voted for, of course not! I'm sure if David would see my voting record he wouldn't agree with everything I've voted for, but we need to choose our battles in Annapolis carefully and I think Senator Brinkley has done a great job. The members of



the Senate Republicans chose Senator Brinkley to lead the Republican party in Annapolis. That speaks volumes. So it looks like we're going to see an attack campaign that would try to convince everyone how bad David is.

Please don't fall for it.

But hey don't take my word for it either. Pick up the phone and call David. He can explain in great detail his voting record and why he supported and didn't support certain issues. We need to forgo the "party or else" mentality. Senator Brinkley is extremely talented in his knowledge and has an unbelievable ability to convey his message. Vote wisely Northern Frederick County.

Martin Burns
Thurmont Town Commissioner

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Board gets ordinance update

Emmitsburg town staff advised the Board of Commissioners at their February 17 meeting that two ordinances in need of updating would be coming before them in the near future.

The first will be the ordinance regulating reforestation.

Town Planner Susan Cipperly told the News-Journal that the reforestation is mandated by the state and that the town ordinance is patterned after state law. Basically, among other aspects of re-

forestation, the ordinance requires the replacement of trees removed during development.

The overall purpose of the regulations is to prevent a vegetative deficit within a region, a deficit meaning more trees are being destroyed than replaced. A deficit in tree coverage can affect erosion and soil loss rates, among other adverse effects, for example loss of habitat for various types of wildlife.

Cipperly stated that the updating of

the town reforestation ordinance is essentially overdue. Since 2008 it has been needed to be updated to bring it into compliance with changes at the state level. The changes are generally not significant, entailing mostly definition changes and calculation information, and that otherwise, "It's just been something we needed to do."

The second overdue ordinance concerns flood plain regulations.

Cipperly stated that the last time the

town flood plain regulations (which are required by federal law) were updated was in the early 1990s. She said the need to update the town regulations followed on the heels of a meeting with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The federal agency pointed out the need for updating in a follow-up letter subsequent to the meeting.

Again, the revisions are relatively minor, including amending or adding definitions and some jurisdictional changes.

The town planner said the town at-

orney also recommended moving the regulations to the town zoning code in order to provide a process for individuals to appeal the rules. The current flood plain ordinance is a stand-alone ordinance, and does not provide an appeal process.

Cipperly said she brought the two ordinances to the attention of the commission at their meeting "get (the proposed changes) on their radar," and that the drafts will likely be on the agenda for the second meeting in March.

Candidates in the "starting gates"

Candidates are beginning to chomp at the bit in bids to become the first county executive and council members under the new form of county government, or the state senate and delegate seats under the

new state redistricting.

The voters in Frederick County approved the proposed change of governance from a board of commissioners form to a charter form in the November 2012 election. The new seats creat-

ed are to be filled in the upcoming November election.

Those who have filed their intent to run for county executive include Democratic and former County Commissioner Jan Gardner, and Republican and current County Commissioners Blaine Young and David Gray. Mark Sweadner of Libertytown has also filed to run in the Republican primary.

The charter also provides for a seven-member county council consisting of two at-large members and five

by-district members. Candidates who have filed for the at-large seats include: Republicans Jennifer Charlton, Justin Kiska, Sam Creadick, Dick Johnson, Bud Otis, Jonathan Pocius, and current county commissioner Billy Shreve. On the Democratic side, we have Whitney Duck, Steve Burns, Susan Reader, Dave Twigg and Linda Norris.

Council District Five, which includes most of North Frederick County, will be represented by one seat on the council. Contenders include: Republicans Kirby Delauter and Ralph Whitmore and Democrats Mark Long and Fred Wood.

In the race for Sheriff, Karl Bickel is the only Democrat, while current Sheriff Chuck Jenkins will face off against Kevin Grubb in the Republican primary.

State redistricting has resulted in Frederick County being divided up into three districts. District 4 will be the largest of the Frederick County districts containing all of north Frederick County.

The district will be represented by three delegates, each serving four-year terms. Candidates who have filed for these seats include: Republicans Kelly Schulz, Wendi Peters, David Vogt, Barrie Ciliberti and Kathy Afzali and Democrat Gene Stanton.

In addition, voters will be asked to choose candidates for State Attorney, Clerk of Circuit Court, Judge of the Orphans' Court, and Register of Wills, all of which have multiple candidates running, thereby ensuring an interesting primary season.

As we have done in past elections, the *Emmitsburg News-Journal* will be offering all candidates the opportunity to submit articles to allow them to introduce themselves to the voters in the northern part of the county.

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Sheriff Chuck Jenkins and the Health Department will be on hand to answer questions.

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Fairfield paves the way for the future

The Fairfield Borough Planning Commission continued their review of the draft of an official borough map at their February 10 meeting.

The map is being prepared with the assistance of the Adams County Office of Planning and Development. The borough is empowered to develop such a map under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

The purpose of official municipal maps is to plot a course for the development of public resources, such as trails, open space, and even roads.

The current draft was presented at this month's planning commission by county Planner Robert

Thaeler, who routinely works on Fairfield Borough planning projects.

One of the key aspects reviewed at the meeting was the preliminary location of "connector roads" that future developers might be asked to complete if the proposal is ultimately approved by the borough Council.

Two new arteries would include one that would take access off two points along Carrolls Tract Road and would culminate at two or three points along the western half of North Miller Street, and a second artery that would connect to East Main Street and continue to McGinley Drive.

The two roadways almost exclusively traverse undeveloped land that could, someday, be subject to development.

Also discussed were open space trails adjacent to stream corridors, and keeping them somewhat contiguous with those proposed in the Hamiltonban Township official map adopted by the township Board of Supervisors last year.

"We did look at the Hamiltonban map" Thaeler stated. "We tried to mesh (trail) connections. There is a reasonable consistency (with what the current Fairfield draft illustrates). Using open space along streams is consistent with Hamiltonban's."

While municipal official maps are more of a wish list than law written in stone, the state code does allow municipalities to use their official map as a bargaining chip when dealing with incoming, proposed developments to ensure that the development is contiguous with what exists and what resources the community wished to expand upon.

Since the current draft of the official map had just been submitted, the planning commission took no



formal action at the meeting in order to allow time for the members to review the current proposal before their next meeting in March.

Council turns down developer's hearing request

The Carroll Valley Borough Council declined to at their February 11 meeting to reset a date for a public hearing to amend an ordinance that would essentially benefit a proposed multi-hundred unit housing development.

An attorney representing Eluma, Inc. requested the hearing in the effort to continue to make progress towards being able to ultimately submit land development plans to the borough.

The hearing would be for the council to reconsider the adoption of revisions to their zoning regulations per-

taining to cluster development.

The council already failed to approve the draft changes at a public hearing during their November 11 meeting, an effort which failed for lack of a motion to approve it, and the council instead directed that the draft be sent back to the borough Planning Commission for reevaluation and a renewed recommendation to council, if any.

Because the reevaluation of the project is still in the hands of the planning commission, the council took no formal action on Eluma's request to re-

schedule a hearing at their February meeting.

Additionally, Councilman Neil Abrams said, aside from zoning issues, he still wanted to see a number of issues concerning the development which remain unanswered, such as 1) seeing "something in writing" regarding Eluma's offer to upgrade the sewage treatment plant; 2) how the infrastructure would be phase into place, and 3) what checks and balances would exist if developers of a given phase default.

"I've probably been one of the thorns in your side," Abrams told the

attorney regarding the progress of the proposed zoning amendments.

The development being proposed is by Eluma, Inc. would be located on a 107-acre wooded site bordered by Sanders and Tract roads and butted-up against the borough's K-section residential area.

The developer is seeking approvals that would allow them to construct the development in phases consisting of a potential variety of housing types, depending on what types the housing market would support during each phase.

Eluma has a circa-2006 approved 107 single-family home, and is further "armed" with a court order which mandates that the municipality provide the development with sewer service. Under the current ordinance, the development plans could be changed to build more than 500 homes, with sewer connections paid-for by the town by virtue of the existing court order.

The company has proposed to overhaul the existing sewer plant, incorporating the connections at their expense as part of the current proposal.

Fairfield area news briefs...

SGI conditional use hearing held

The Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors will have 45 days from a February 17 hearing to render a decision on a conditional use application submitted by Specialty Granules Inc. (SGI), formerly ISP Minerals.

The hearing was held at the Fairfield School District high school auditorium. About 35 individuals attended.

SGI is seeking a conditional use approval to permit them to operate a quarry on a site acquired in a land exchange with

the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

SGI was previously granted a zoning change by the township Board of Supervisors, changing the zoning from Woodland Conservation to Industrial. Quarrying would be allowed in the industrial zone, but only as a conditional use.

SGI, which quarries metabasalt deposits in Hamiltoban for use as granules in the manufacture of shingles, want to quarry a significant deposit metabasalt which lies in the 110-acre tract

in question. Metabasalt was initially lava some 500 million years ago that flowed from a prehistoric volcano.

Council passes pro-radar resolution

The Carroll Valley Borough Council approved a resolution at their February 11 meeting supporting a change in state law to allow local law enforcement to use radar.

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."

The resolution was passed in conjunction with support for such a change backed by the state Chiefs of Police Association, state Association of Boroughs, state Municipal League, state Association of Township Supervisors, and the state Mayor's Association.

Pennsylvania is the only state in the country that does not allow local police to use radar.

Fairfield looking for council member

Fairfield Borough is seeking a

council member for a four-year term to fill a seat that remained unfilled from the past November election.

Any individual interested must have been a resident of the borough for at least one year.

The borough is also seeking a member for the borough Planning Commission for a four-year term. Any individual interested must have been a resident of the borough for at least one year.

Councilors receive \$1,000 in annual pay, while planning commission seats are voluntary positions.

Anyone interested in serving in either capacity may contact the Town Office at 642-5640.



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NEWS

Thurmont challenges citizens to volunteer

The Thurmont Board of Commissioners appealed for residents to “step up to the plate” and apply for volunteer positions with town commissions, but also cautioned about the need for people skilled in serving.

The Board of Commissioners approved over half a dozen commission appointments at their February 4 meeting, including one for the town Police Commission, one for the town Planning and Zoning Commission, and

five for the town Board of Appeals.

Mayor John Kinnaird said, “We always have once or twice a year vacancies on our commissions... I just want to thank every one of the applicants for stepping up and taking time out of their monthly schedule to come down here and participate with these commissions.”

“I wish we had more volunteers,” he said. “I wish we had twelve that we had to pick out

two or three, and that those people were anxious to do it and they stepped back and came around next year to apply again.”

“We typically have about the number of applicants we need to fill any given spot that is vacant,” Kinnaird stated. “I’d encourage anyone out there if you want to come in and help us, keep your ears open and the next time there is a vacancy come down and take a shot at it. We appreciate everyone’s hard work and participation

in this.”

Commissioner Martin Burns asked current and future commission volunteers “to step back and think about what you’re saying and how you’re saying it” when dealing with members of the public.

“Your job as a commission member is to execute the policies and procedures that the elected body up here present to you,” Burns stated. “I’m getting some complaints, and I’ve witnessed

some in certain commissions, that are absolutely over the top, rude, arrogant, disrespectful, and do not convey what I think should be conveyed to the public or a customer.”

“It is a tough job, a thankless job,” he stated, adding, “But it’s not your job to interpret or use your authority to enforce your will on someone. I just want to ask you to be careful.”

Kinnaird said there were at least two boards involved that have been the source of complaints. The specific boards were not identified.

Thurmont to hold business expo

Preparations for the 10th Annual Thurmont Business Expo are well underway, with the event to be held in March. Diana Stull, volunteer organizer and owner of The Beauty Parlor, said the expo will be held March 21 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Catoctin High School gymnasium.

Participation is free to businesses in the 21788 zip code and attendance is free to the public.

Stull said that there will be “an array of different local businesses” attending, and that last year it was very successful,

with almost 100 businesses present.

She said numerous business will be giving away samples of the products, including food and hand-outs. Members of the public attending will be provided with free “goodie-bags” in which to accumulate giveaways.

“Various business give out samples or handouts,” Stull stated, and, regarding examples of food giveaways, “Last year, Cozy Restaurant and Country Inn gave-out root beer cake samples. Mountain Gate Family Restaurant has done fruit before.”

The exposition provides local residents with a chance to see what types of businesses and services are located in the Thurmont area they might not have even been aware of.

“All local businesses come together in one place and display what they have,” Stull said. “It’s a Friday night out. People get to see people they haven’t seen all year. It’s a meet-and-greet, a nice event for the community to come together.”

Last year, public attendance of the one-day event was “estimated at be-

tween 800 and 1,000.”

The organizer said the event was first held ten years ago at the American Legion and organized by Vickie Grinder. “It was such a success that the second year they had to move it to the Catoctin High School for the additional space.” However, over the years the attendance has slowly dropped.

At a recent town meeting Commissioner Wes Hamrick inquired about the possibility of opening up the expo to business in Northern Frederick County.

Mayor Kinnaird, however, was adamant against having businesses represented at the exposition that were

located outside the current zip code restriction.

“In ten years we have never decided to invite businesses outside of the 21788. The Main Street organization is to promote Thurmont. I don’t want to support business outside the community.”

Commissioner Bill Buehrer said, “If you want to promote your businesses you don’t really care where they come from as long as they come.” Buehrer categorized Kinnaird’s opinion as “pretty narrow.”

For additional information regarding participating or attending, contact Stull at 301-271-7565.

Thurmont First presents the
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 Diana Stull- 301.271.7565, dianasbeautyparlor@yahoo.com
 Vickie Grinder- 301.748.5876, vgrinder@thurmontstaff.com
 Any Business located in the 21788 zip code can apply!

Thurmont Main Street projects

Main Street Manager Vickie Grinder briefed the Thurmont Board of Commissioners at their February 11 meeting regarding Main Street projects.

Grinder also discussed a promotional brochure for Thurmont. Grinder said that they “are a done deal.” Grinder told the commissioners that “this is a tourism vehicle. Sixty-five percent of our businesses depend on tourism. All the ads paid for it and I believe there is going to be \$500 left over. March is when all the campers start coming back to Gettysburg. I have 25 different locations I will drop these at.”

The Main Street manager said that Donna Bollinger was looking for some extra funds for a “History of Thurmont” film that the town had received a grant for a couple of years ago. Grinder said the extra funds (\$500) might be permitted to go toward that project.

“The library building, I think, will be

the brick and mortar for Main Street,” Grinder stated. “We’re talking about a mini-tour center there. It’s going to be the bow on the package for Main Street.”

“We’re also going to be displaying art

in there,” she said. “We are one of two Main Streets in the State of Maryland out of 26 communities that do not have any arts on Main Street, so that is a big piece we are lacking.

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One hundred years ago this month

March 6

Worst Windstorm on Record

One of the worst windstorms in the history of Emmitsburg blew from the Northwest beginning Sunday about noon and reaching its height late that night. According to reports across the county, Emmitsburg appeared to be in the midst of probably the severest portion of the storm that hit county wide. Damage from the storm included un-roofing of dwellings and barns, demolishing brick schoolhouses, damaging bridges, uprooting trees, and carrying away fencing and doing property damage amounting to thousands of dollars.

A party of persons coming from Thurmont to Emmitsburg Sunday evening around six o'clock had a rough experience on Payne's Hill. Their autocar was blown off the road and the occupants received minor injuries. Later in the evening a man from Emmitsburg met with a similar mishap about the same place. The buggy in this case was carried over a fence and some distance across the field. The man escaped injuries, but unlike the autocar riders, he was lucky enough to be able to ride his trusty horse bareback to safety.

The upstream side of the covering over the bridge over Tom's Creek on the state road was torn away in its aeroplaning cut nearly every wire on the C&P company's main line. Telephone poles throughout the area were snapped off like pipe stems, and lines were down everywhere. All day Monday out-of-town telephone communication was at a standstill. The telegraph line also received a knockout blow.

From every part of this district come reports of the damage wrought by the high winds. These include: the brick gable end of the high school was blown in and over half of the metal roofing torn away. The roof on Mr. Cover's and Mr. Harmer's houses in town, and Frank Wivell's home on Dry Bridge were blown off. The Cattail schoolhouse also lost its roof, and the Track Road schoolhouse was all but destroyed. The Emmitsburg Broom Factory also lost its roof.

Windows through town and in

the country were blown in. Windows were blown in at the Hotel Spangler and the Hotel Biddinger. The J. Stewart Annon house on West Main Street lost 17 windows alone. The blowing down of chimneys and the loss of roofs was almost general.

The barns of Howard Clark, Cal Walters, Herbert Koontz, John Senter, George Lingg, Joseph Rosensteel of Motters Station, and Bernard Welty were blown down and completely destroyed. The residence of Edward Long and Charles Wortz were also completely destroyed.

Thurmont was almost inaccessible. All telephone communications were cut, and roofs were torn off portions of the United Brethren Church, the townhall, the public school building and many smaller buildings. Many chimneys were blown over and water pipes burst. It is estimated that from \$8,000-\$10,000 damage was done.

Livestock has suffered much. Farmers in the country have been compelled to drive their cattle and hogs into the stalls of their bank barns to shield the animals from the piercing cold. Deer in the mountains are suffering and some have been found dead, partially covered with snow. Several deer have been seen in the barnyards.

Deaths

On Friday, February 27, Mrs. Emeline Cretin, 70, died at her home, Clairveaux, near Mount St. Mary's. She was the daughter of the late Dr. Dielman, the great musician, also of Mount St. Mary's.

Mrs. Peter Eyler, 66, of near town, died suddenly Sunday evening of heart failure, from which she had suffered for a number of years. The fatal attack was induced by fright caused by a fire in the kitchen, which threatened to assume considerable portions. Mrs. Eyler started to run from the room and fell to the floor unconscious. A physician was summoned, but she died before medical assistance could reach her.

March 13

Electric Company Expands

Construction work by the Emmits-

burg Electric Company is rapidly progressing. During the past week many houses have been connected up and there are promises of many more. As soon as the weather permits, holes will be dug, polls raised, and additional lights added to the lighting system of town.

Baseball Club

The Emmitsburg high school baseball club held its first meeting for 1914 and organized for the coming season. Said one of the nine, "We will do our best to show the fans of the town some classy baseball similar to that which they witnessed a few years ago when Emmitsburg was decidedly on the baseball map." It is understood that the manager has arranged games with Taneytown, Frederick and Gettysburg. It is expected that in a short time games also be arranged with several other clubs.

Rents Creagerstown Hotel

Mr. John Hahn, formally of Thurmont, but for the past year a resident of Emmitsburg, has rented the hotel at Creagerstown, one of the oldest hotels in the county, from Mr. Krise. This hotel was run for years by the late Charles Stevens, and later by Mr. Krise, who was there for 21 years. The place has been a hotel for 100 years, and is stated to be the most desirable hotel. It is Mr. Krise's intention to make various improvements to the hotel, including adding another story.

March 20

United Order of Former Boozers

Under the name of the United Order of Former Boozers, 300 reformed drunkards, many of whom now hold responsible positions, held a dinner recently in New York. After the banquet a constitution was adopted. The organization will be a permanent one, the object of which will be to aid others in breaking their friendship with Mr. John Barleycorn. Emmitsburg, a hotbed of woman suf-



The old covered bridge over Toms Creek was severely damaged in the storm of 1914. The bridge lasted until 1923, when it was replaced by a concrete bridge.

frage, was well represented by husbands' of women foolish enough to believe women are smart enough to vote. Upon their return home, the Emmitsburg representatives converged upon the Hotel Spangler's bar where they quickly set about making up for lost time.

New Physician in Emmitsburg

Dr. Charles Barnum a graduate of Yale Medical School, who has just finished two years service in New York hospitals as resident physician, will practice medicine in Emmitsburg associated with Dr. Stone.

New Bridge at Maxell's Mill

Claiming that a bridge spanning Toms Creek at Wilhides Ford on the road from Maxell's Mill to Motter's Station is necessary, a number of citizens of Emmitsburg have petitioned the board of County Commissioners for a 90-foot structure.

Civic League

The civic league has issued an appeal for contributions to assist in the cleaning of the town and in making it more beautiful and helpful. It is their intention to improve the fountain and dispose of disease breeding places.

New Buggy Shed

Mr. Gillelan has erected a large buggy shed at the rear of his recently purchased residence on West Main St. Mr. Gillelan is no fan of the auto car and thinks the fad will soon come to an end and people will return to their senses and once again placed their safety in the hands of trusty steeds. Mr. Gillelan noted that after the storm in the early part of the month only people with horses were able to get around the county. "Owners of auto cars", he noted, "were unable to get past fallen phone poles, which of course horses simply stepped over."

To read past editions of 100 Years Ago This Month visit the Historical Society Section of emmitsburg.net.

March 28

What Electricity Will Do

Since electricity has been introduced into Emmitsburg electric power is being consumed here daily, it is interesting to know what a single cent of electricity will do. It will do any of the following things: operate a 12 inch electric fan for two hours; make a Welsh Rarebit in a electric chafing dish; operate a sewing machine motor for 3 hours; operate a 7 inch frying pan for 12 minutes; make 4 cups of coffee in an electric percolator; keep a 6 pound electric flat iron hot for 15 minutes; and keep an electric curling iron hot once a day for two weeks.

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FROM THE DESK OF . . .

Candidate for County Executive Blaine Young

Facts Do Matter! At least that is the mantra of the former president of the Board of County Commissioners Jan Gardner and Democratic candidate for county executive of Frederick County.

I agree! So, here are some facts that you have not heard of seen on the front page of any newspaper.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners restored the Frederick County deputy sheriffs' pay scale, which had been frozen by the Gardner/Gray Board.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners created a new pay scale for Frederick County firefighters after experiencing lawsuits filed – while the Gardner/Gray Board was in office – and witnessing all time low morale among our first responders.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners has streamlined the size and operations of Frederick County Government by reducing it by 16% with very little to no impact on services. The Gardner/Gray Board approved

the largest amount of budgeted full-time personal in the history of Frederick County.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners have been able to restore pay raises and do reclassifications to Frederick County Government employees after years of recession and major state funding cuts to local governments. The Gardner/Gray Board froze pay raises of county employees and suspended the reclassification process.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners has held the Board of Education accountable on spending while maintaining funding for Maintenance of Effort for teacher salaries and providing funding for expanded infrastructure and technology for Frederick County Public Schools. The Gardner/Gray Board previously wrote blank checks to the Board of Education with no demands for accountability.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners has restored strong and effective leadership at Winchester Hall, as opposed to David Gray voluntarily

conceding the presidency of the prior board to Jan Gardner. That is why I call it the Gardner /Gray Board.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners restored \$1,000,000 in funding to Frederick Community College that had been cut by the Gardner/Gray Board.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners restored funding to the volunteer firefighters in Frederick County that had been cut by the Gardner/Gray Board, and provided an incentive fund of almost \$1,000,000 to benefit our volunteers.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners finally resolved the longstanding water crises in the Village of Rosemont, after years of acrimony and litigation between them and Brunswick. The Gardner/Gray did not want to get involved and help resolve the issue.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners has repaired the relationships between the county and our 12 municipalities. Under the Gardner/

Gray Board, municipal relationships were at their worst and lowest in the history of Frederick County. The Gardner/Gray Board provided little to no assistance or cooperation with our towns and cities, establishing double taxation on many residents and creating new fees which actually resulted in lawsuits being filed by the municipalities against the county.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners restored the property rights of those who were down zoned for no reason other than politics by The Gardner/Gray Board.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners has reduced or eliminated 202 fees and taxes. The Gardner/Gray Board never met a tax or fee that they did not like.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners restored the AAA Bond Rating which had been downgraded during the term of the Gardner/Gray Board.

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioners enacted a local senior

property tax credit. The Gardner/Gray Board only gave it lip service.

The Blaine Young Board is not perfect. The Gardner/Gray Board believes it was.

Jan Garner and David Gray are correct. Facts do matter!

The Blaine Young Board of County Commissioner which consists of Blaine Young, Paul Smith, Billy Shreve and Kirby Delauter made promises and have kept those promises. We listened to those who elected us and did what we said we would do. (David Gray is excluded because he publicly states that he does not support this Board of County Commissioners.)

Have we made some mistakes? Of course, we have!

As former County Commissioner President Mark Hoke once said to me – God rest his soul – “the only person who does not make a mistake is the person who does want to make a decision.” The Blaine Young Board can admit we have made some mistakes. The Gardner/Gray can't admit the facts.

State Delegate Kelly Schultz

Without question, the number one concern that I hear from constituents is elevated taxes in the state of Maryland. Since 2007, more than 80 taxes and fees have been raised. Unfortunately, the new revenues that have been collected have not gone to fix the annual deficits, pensions or failing infrastructure. Conversely, they have led to an additional \$9.6 billion of state spending – at a time when taxpayers have had to limit their personal spending.

These additional costs are having a severe impact on Maryland families. The \$9.6 billion equates to an additional \$4,600 per year when spread across Maryland's 2.1 million households. This breaks down to an additional \$380 per month per family.

I am happy to report that I am proud co-sponsor of House Bill 326 – The Income Tax Relief Act of 2014, along with many of my colleagues. This bill proposes to cut the Maryland income tax rate by 10% over the

next 3 years.

According to IRS data, Maryland has lost more than \$7 billion in adjusted gross income (AGI) over the past several years. This is a result of our citizens migrating to Florida, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Despite a common perception, it is not just the corporate executives or wealthy retirees who have fled the state. According to the IRS, the average annual income of the migrators

is just over \$50,000. They are small business owners, working families, and young professionals that are no longer investing their time, talent, and dollars into our local economy and community.

Marylanders' income has not kept pace with the rate of state spending increases. Consequently, families have to do more with less to pay their bills, raise their families, and run their businesses. These facts have a huge effect on our regional economic competitiveness. When companies are looking to open or expand a business, they

look at the state's economic standing and the tax consequences for their potential employees. A company considering relocating to this region will look at how their employees will fare when it comes to overall tax obligations.

Maryland needs to do a better job at attracting new jobs! Maryland needs to do a better job of keeping the jobs that we have. And, most importantly, Maryland legislators need to understand that our taxpayers are having a very difficult time living in this state. It is time to cut them a break. They deserve it.

Candidate for State Delegate Wendi Peters

“One size fits all” may work for rain slickers, wrist watches or even baseball hats, but do we really want a “one size fits all” approach to education? More importantly, is that really best for the education of our children and the future of our State and our country?

By now, even if you do not have children in the school system, you have probably heard about the new Common Core State Standards Initiatives

(Common Core). Common Core is a set of national curriculum standards for Math and English developed by academics and assessment experts in coordination with the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers. The Federal government jumped in quickly offering unprecedented funding incentives for states to sign on and relinquish local control of their education choices.

Although drafting had not been

completed, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) rushed to adopt the Common Core State Standards in 2010. (This sounds eerily similar to: “we have to pass the bill so that you can find out what's in it.” We are now seeing the disastrous results of the hastily considered reform of the health care system.) In return, Maryland received \$250 million in Race to the Top federal grant funds. You may recall Race to the Top; it is a \$4 billion-plus federal program of unproven reforms which have been widely criticized by teachers' unions, educators and parents alike.

While some laud the rigors of Common Core and the idea that Common Core promotes critical thinking at an earlier age, there is absolutely no evidence that Common Core will improve the academic outcomes for our children. The standards discount that every student is unique and prevent teachers from actually teaching to the individual. In addition, what we are seeing is that the standards are no more rigorous; they are just different from the No Child Left Behind standards and in many cases developmentally inappropriate. For example, Common Core requires that special education students be taught chronologically – not developmentally – disregarding individual learning abilities and differ-

ences in special education.

Computer-based testing for Common Core was developed by the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), but has not been fully implemented. There will be some classes in each of our Frederick County Public Schools in which the PARCC assessment will be “field tested”. The majority of our students, however, will undergo the old Maryland State Assessments (MSAs).

Failing to have our children take the MSAs may cost the State \$280 million in federal funds and could result in fines imposed by the U.S. Department of Education for noncompliance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (another federal program controlling our education decisions through funding incentives). We are teaching one curriculum and testing for another, leaving one to question whether we are really doing the best we can to ensure all of our children have the opportunity to achieve academic excellence or are we just checking off the right boxes and going through the motions to fill our coffers with federal funds?

The President of the Maryland State Education Association, Betty Weller, called implementation of Common Core a “train wreck.” She was among many parents and teachers recent-

ly in Annapolis asking the legislature for fixes to the many problems that have plagued implementation in our State. The push to repeal Common Core standards altogether in Maryland is growing. Unfortunately, there are some legislators who answer the call for repeal, or at least for fixes to the many problems, by responding that “it is too late.” For those of us who believe in limited government and individual liberty, it is never “too late.”

In short, Common Core is nothing more than a program to further centralize control of the education of our children implemented through the coercive threat of losing federal funding. And despite that initial funding, state taxpayers will undoubtedly be left paying the ever-increasing costs of implementation. This “one size fits all” approach to education is a costly challenge to local control and educational freedom in our classrooms. I support the full repeal. Education reform should focus on collaborative efforts of teachers, parents and leaders in our communities – not assessment experts and standardized testing companies. The foundations of such reform should place emphasis on parents, schools and teachers having the freedom, resources and training to meet the individual needs of each student. Charting the path to excellence in education should be a local prerogative.



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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

Candidate for County Council (District 5) Kirby Delauter

I would like to discuss in this issue of the ENJ some items that I have been involved with over the last three years while being a Commissioner in Frederick County. I will discuss things I've done, things I want to continue to do and give you a small comparison of the way things were and the way things are.

The way things were:

Let's go back to the Dec. 3rd, 2009 edition of the Gazette newspaper where Commissioner Lennie Thompson said "You look at what we've done over the last couple months, voting to give \$25,000 to Life Technologies, a \$22,000 a year tax credit to the Montessori School and a \$30,000 tax break to a power plant at Fort Detrick," he also said "We vote to give money away in open session, and now we don't have the money so we vote in closed session."

I often wonder how we could have had the "balanced budget" Jan Gardner speaks about today, referencing her previous term in office when Commissioner Thompson clearly states, "we don't have any money?"

Thompson refused to attend closed-door meetings between commissioners and developers because he thought they should be open to the public. In 2002, he refused to attend a closed-door meeting to discuss the strategic plan for the county, and on Nov. 10 he held a press conference while his board colleagues met behind closed doors to discuss a \$30 million lawsuit filed against them and the Maryland State Highway Administration by developers of the Jefferson Technology Park.

The way things are:

With the leadership of Blaine Young, the current Board of

County Commissioners has stopped the taxpayer giveaways to special interest groups. We have consistently cut spending across the board preserving your hard-earned tax dollars.

During our tenure as Commissioners, we have had multiple items "dumped" on us by the State of Maryland, such as, teacher pensions, the septic bill, the rain tax, decreased highway user revenues, cuts to police (Sheriff) and corrections officers, and increased costs to our MS4 environmental permitting. In spite of all of this dumping onto to the County by the State, we have managed your money and managed your services without raising your taxes.

This board stands firm to guard your money in open session, and in spite of being labeled "pro development" we have had no closed

session meetings with developers, as the Jan Gardner board did.

This board developed DRRAs (developer rights and responsibilities agreements) in "open session" with public comment to make sure the public was involved and had a voice in the process. We did not, as the Gazette reports about the Gardner board, go into closed session negotiations with developers. As a matter of fact, the \$30 million lawsuit referenced in the Gazette article was settled by the Young board of Commissioners early on in our term without lawyers, without a trial, and without wasting taxpayer dollars on frivolous claims. Instead we negotiated a huge win for the taxpayer in several ways. We traded dilapidated roads in our county network to the state highway administration, that would cost millions to repair

today, in return we would maintain the brand new bridge structure built by developers, without taxpayer funds, over route 340 into the Jefferson Tech Park, that will need no repairs for at least 25 years, and minimal maintenance over the next twenty years.

Yes, then and now. The question is, do you want to go back to the days of lawsuits and closed door politics (of Jan Gardner) - as then Commissioner Thompson states - or do you want to elect people that run businesses, know the value to your dollar, and govern in open session, above board and in your best interest? The choice is yours; do you research and elect people that will represent you fairly and honestly.

Kirby Delauter currently serves our community as a County Commissioner.

Emmitsburg Mayor Don Briggs

Snow, it's beautiful and needed to replenish the groundwater supply, but what ensuing disruption and inconvenience it creates. We went into the 20" storm already at the brim of our budget for snow removal. The Town priority is always safety first and to get the streets in passable conditions as soon as possible. Though there has been some angst about detailing and opening parking along Main Street, overall the feedback has been positive. Thank you for the understanding. Main Street is a shared responsibility with the State. The state clears and the town removes after it takes care of our responsibility

for clearing 12 + miles of roads. That twelve miles quickly becomes 24+ miles (the distance to the City of Frederick!) with the first two swipes of clearing two lanes.

In spite of the weather, January and February were filled with meetings with solar installation company, the Square design team and State highway officials and Department of Natural Resources staff members.

On February 19th a public meeting was held to present the Town/ State Highway Square final design plan. Over 25 residents attended the presentation by the town, designer and

state highway staff. Enhanced pedestrian and vehicular safety was always the overriding goal. From information gathered at public meetings over the last year and a half the State has agreed to 90% of our community requests as to what they are willing to fund.

We are expecting to "plug in" the solar array this March. The 1mW DC ground mount array cost or about \$2.2 million. Our investment, after offsetting grant funds, should be under \$20,000. How did we do that? Investors incentivized by federal tax credits for renewable energy projects paid for it. We

now are looking into installing the 2nd phase, another 1mW system this year, but not turning on until completion of the \$15 million state mandated wastewater treatment plant projected for mid-2015.

The General Dollar store subdivision and site plan presentation is expected to come before the Planning Commission in March.

Like the county, state and nation we have a drug problem. In February I laid out to the commissioners a three-part drug use program. Working with the Sheriff's Department the first step was an intensive assessment and identification of the problem. The second step is the town hosting a public awareness sem-

inar. On March 12th Mike Gimble, a national substance abuse consultant, will make a presentation at 7 pm at the Ambulance Company. Mike who recently made a presentation at Catocin HS, has over 30 years of experience in the field of substance abuse, education, prevention, intervention and treatment. Vigilant Hose and the Ambulance Company, Sheriff Chuck Jenkins and a County Health Department will also be participating in the presentation. The third step is a presentation to the town commissioners of an ordinance where rental property owners will be encouraged to share residents' concerns for ridding our community of the problems.

Candidate for Council at Large Linda Norris

I'm not much of a sailor. And we certainly don't have any large tidewater swells among the green hills and mountains of Frederick County. Yet at this historic time in our 266-year-old county, I love the image of charting a course for the direction we steer our community "ship". Because a vessel under full steam moves best with a straight course, and to make real headway the entire community needs to be behind it.

I will be a good representative to guide that course because of a unique combination of skills that I've assembled over the years. I know how successful corporations and small businesses are run; 2) I have the research skills and I'm free from ideological viewpoints due to my training as a journalist; and 3) I have a well-rounded perspective of being a 28-year Frederick County parent, churchgoer, volunteer and neighbor.

I took part in the campaign to bring Charter to our county, so I naturally want to be there to work out the relationships between our strong-executive model and the County Council whose job is to be watchful and provide checks and balances; I also want to be

part of local solutions to challenges that now can be handled here at home instead of by General Assembly members from all over Maryland.

Growth: I'd like to facilitate a better balance between growth and no-growth factions of our community, so that every four years we don't swing from a land-use plan that some say chokes our vitality and progress to development policies that others say benefit a select few and bulldoze the beauty and small-town feeling which we all cherish.

There is a middle-ground and my mission is to find that as a moderate who cares for environmental sustainability but knows that a good business climate underwrites our environmental and community well-being.

Education: I want to make sure that our American value of a strong educational system--in our public schools, in our community college and in our libraries--continues to bring pride to Frederick County, instead of the derision and censorship that some current officials have expressed.

Business and Economic Development: I want to continue the

work done in the past four years to improve our business climate with de-regulation in county departments; but work to see that we restore the diminished role of our Office of Economic Development to go back to being a real choice of biotechnology businesses who are flocking to Howard and Montgomery County.

I have lived in Frederick County

since 1986; for 25 years in Mountaintale; and the past three years in Middletown near Myersville (just the other side of the mountain!) I have two daughters and a grown stepdaughter and stepson; and my mom always gives me the senior citizen perspective from her home near downtown Frederick! My husband is in law enforcement training and leadership.

Currently I work at the US Composting Council in Bethesda, MD, a national trade group representing compost manufacturers. I continue to do PR & copywriting consulting and am a member of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, the Middletown Chamber of Commerce, the League of Women Voters, Holy Family Catholic Community, Wholistic Woman Retreats and the Lewistown Volunteer Fire Department.



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By Authority Tina Delauter, Treasurer

FROM THE DESK OF . . .

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

The Carroll Valley Police Department under the command of Police Chief Richard L. Hileman reported to Carroll Valley Borough Council that the Department responded to 2622 calls for service, a 2.6% increase over 2012. Calls for service are incidents requiring a police response and do not include ve-

hicle stops or other routine duties. The 2622 calls for service resulted in 236 Uniform Crime Reports or UCRs.

A UCR is crime as defined by the FBI and categorized into Part 1 and Part 2 Offenses. Part 1 are homicide, forcible rape, robbery, assault, burglary, theft and arson and Part 2 are every-

thing else except traffic offenses like stop signs or speeding. Part 1 offenses increased about 14% and Part 2 remained unchanged. Ignoring seasonal ski thefts, overall crime increased 1% overall. The Police Department cleared (solved by arrest or other means) 44% of the Part 1 crimes.

The state averaged just 30% cleared in 2012 (most recent statewide figures available). Carroll Valley Police cleared 45% more than the state average. 69% of Part 2 crimes were cleared compared to 58% statewide. How safe are we? The state-wide rural crime rate for 2012 was 18.9 Part 1 and 40.6 Part 2 crimes per 1,000 residents. Our 2013 Part 1 is 18.7 crimes per 1,000 (2% less) and Part 2 is 25.5 crimes per 1,000 (37% less) respectively. In 2013, we had about 26% less crime overall than similar rural areas in the state. Police issued 885 traffic, non-traffic and ordinance citations in 2013 including 404 for speeding, 323 for other traffic, 2 for ordinances, and 21 for criminal violations.

Our police officers also participated in roving patrols and a local checkpoint. These Adams County DUI Task Force patrols were funded by state grant funds. Carroll Valley Police arrested 36 DUI operators

in 2013. Of these, 5 were under the influence of a controlled substance or drugs and alcohol. Of the remaining 31, 14 had BAC of twice the limit or more. Of the last 17, 11 were more than 25% over the limit. If you would like to view the video presentation that Chief Hileman gave, view the January 2014 meeting. We all can be proud of the service provided by our Carroll Valley Police Department.

Based on my conversation with those who manage the firehouse, the Fairfield Fire & EMS needs your support by volunteering your time to help out in fund raising events, by volunteering your time in responding to an emergency if qualified or by volunteering your advice on how the fire company can continue to remain a volunteer service. Every Tuesday evening is training night at the fire company. If you have a moment, stop in. Talk to them.

Also this March, Liberty Resort (aka Ski Liberty) will continue their multiyear resort renovation and master plan project. Last summer, the resort reinvested 1.2 million dollars at the recently acquired Carroll Valley Golf Course, replacing the 40 plus year old irrigation system and a third of the tee boxes. More golf course improvements are scheduled for this spring and summer. Beginning in late March or early April, the resort will demolish and replace the existing club house with a new 90,000 square foot building.

The new Carroll Valley Lodge will include 2 restaurants, several

meeting rooms as well as a large banquet space that will have seating for 350 people. A new pro shop, spa, indoor swimming pool and additional hotel rooms will also be added. In addition to the new building, the intersection of Sander Road and Country Club Trail will be realigned to facilitate improved traffic flow both around and into the resort. The road construction is expected to begin in mid-April or May and be completed by early August. I have been told that interruption to normal traffic flow is expected to be minimal and no road closures are expected as part of this project.

Remember to mark your calendar for March 3rd to attend the Planning Commission meeting. Two topics to be discussed are: Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance and Chickens being grown in the Borough. At the council meeting, Ski Liberty is planning to brief the council on their near term plans regarding the demolition of the Carroll Valley Resort building and the work that will be accomplished on Sanders road. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the Council meeting. I am having surgery and hope to be back on the job in a few days after the 11th.

The Borough will be holding the following meetings in March: Planning Commission (Mon-Mar 3rd); Public Safety Committee (Mon-Mar 10th); Borough Council (Tues-Mar 11th); and Parks and Recreation Committee (Wed-Mar 26th). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at mayor@carrollvalley.org or by cell at (301) 606-2021. Please slow down while driving in the Valley!

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Commissioner Jim Martin

Will spring be on time? Some are hoping yes (those who shoveled tons of snow) and some are hoping no (those who enjoy tubing and skiing). Our county maintenance crew has mixed feelings – do we look forward to more snow and ice removal, or are we anxious for mowing and trimming? One group of individuals probably looking for relief is our first responders, 911 dispatchers, emergency coordinators, law enforcement, Penn Dot crews, and utility companies' personnel. The Adams County Commissioners wish to express our highest level of respect and thanks to these many individuals. Their services protected and kept our county operating under continually severe weather conditions. Also a well-deserved thanks goes to the families that sacrificed many hours and days without their family members who were serving for the safety and well-being of our communities.

Within the walls of our county government is a different climate. The County Commissioners are attached to a multitude of issues and concerns and, as a result, peo-

ple kindly ask with a grin, are you enjoying your job? It approaches enjoyable as we are able to keep ourselves wrapped around the issues rather than the issues wrapped around us. To accomplish this we put issues and concerns in the proper perspective through our senior management meetings. The most recent meeting was a lively roundtable discussion of important aspects related to almost every department.

The discussions that came from this meeting ranged from successful initiatives to plans to implement more effective and efficient operations. One subject that surfaced and touched many departments, and surely falls under the goals of effective and efficient operations, was staff retention. This is one area that is extremely important, but fails to rise to the top when higher profile issues such as new IT projects or proposals for a building project take the spot light.

Staff retention is very relevant when considering the dollar investment for mandated training of new and current employees. The major portion of these training expenses

is the responsibility of the county. Therefore, whenever the county is unable to retain staff for a variety of reasons, the training of replacement staff amounts to incurring a new round of expenses plus the impact of losing an experienced employee.

One avenue for improving staff retention is to enhance the level of evaluation for new hires. After sufficient research, the most practical solution was to begin conducting aptitude and suitability testing in departments experiencing higher than acceptable levels of turnover. This was in a sense a calculated experiment, thus it was limited to specific departments to evaluate the effectiveness. The consensus of departments that hired new staff aided by the testing results was that the testing has significantly reduced turnover. Based on these positive results, consideration is being given to the possibility of expanding testing to additional departments. Yes, there is an expense for testing, but the cost of testing is far less than the cost to retrain another individual due to staff turnover.

Maintaining a positive work envi-

ronment was also seen as an important aspect of staff retention. How can we accomplish this without incurring great expense? The no cost or low cost initiatives that we are focusing on are: good communication, offering opportunities for cross-training, and involving non-management staff in operational discussions. (1) The value of good communication is evident by the positive response and morale generated from the bi-weekly TGIF notebook. This is an email crafted by the Commissioners to inform staff of our current happenings and updates of ongoing projects. (2) Giving staff opportunities for cross-training is seen as a means to create an opportunity for increasing one's skills and also to provide staff with greater knowledge and confidence to better serve the public. (3) The decision to involve non-management staff in operational issues was seen as an opportunity to show that our hourly employees' insight and knowledge are truly valued by administration.

The consensus to involve hourly staff came as the Commission-

ers were looking for a special task force to examine ways to enhance revenues and to reduce county operational costs. To that end, a task force of hourly employees will come together to evaluate expenses from their perspective within their department. We felt that this review team was both an opportunity for individual employees to expand the scope of their job and at the same time to provide direct input of potential cost savings.

To learn more about our ongoing projects and future plans, please check out our "Year in Review" public forum which was filmed by Community Media. Community Media can be found at www.communitymedia.net and on Comcast Channel 12. They serve the community as a PEG station (Public, Educational, Governmental broadcasts). Last week I had the privilege of attending their annual open house. They do operate with limited resources, but are served by an excellent board and staff. Please visit their web site and consider becoming a supporter and member. Thank you.

As always, I look forward to building a better Adams County.

State Representative Dan Moul

This week, the House Appropriations Committee finished up three weeks of hearings with state departments and agencies following the release of Gov. Tom Corbett's \$29.4 billion budget proposal. The committee heard testimony from the State Employees' Retirement System and the Public School Employees' Retirement System, which carry an unfunded liability of about \$50 billion. Solving the state pension issue remains the General Assembly's greatest challenge. For the latest budget news visit www.pabudget.com.

Student financial aid deadline approaching

Now is the time to apply for college financial aid. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which may be submitted online, determines eligibility for federal grants, the need-based Pennsylvania State Grant, scholarships, reduced-cost federal student loans, work-study programs, and many school-based student aid programs. Completing a FAFSA is a vital step that students and families should take when looking for assistance in covering higher education costs.

While financial aid deadlines vary by school, students are urged to submit their application at the earliest due date. The Pennsylvania State Grant deadline is May 1 for all applicants submitting a renewal and first-time applicants in degree and transfer programs. For more information on the FAFSA and for a list of completion events in our area, go to www.pheaa.org/college-planning

2014 Mentored Youth Fishing Days

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (has announced it will offer its Mentored Youth Fishing Day program across the state this year, giving young people another opportunity to discover the joy of fishing. Under the program, youth under age 16 can join a mentor angler, who has a current fishing license and trout permit, to fish in designated waters.

The first Mentored Youth Fishing Day of the 2014 season will be held on March 22 in southeast and south central counties. For more information on participating waterways and how to sign up for the Mentored Youth Fishing Days, visit www.fishandboat.com and click on the link for Mentored Youth.

House approves bill to garnish back taxes from lottery winnings

If someone is delinquent on their Pennsylvania taxes and they win the Pennsylvania Lottery the state should be able to recoup the amount owed. I am co-sponsoring legislation that would do just that.

House Bill 1489, which re-

cently won unanimous approval in the House, would require the Department of Revenue to conduct a background check on any individual who wins more than \$2,500 in the Pennsylvania Lottery. The background check would reveal whether the winner has outstanding tax liabilities or is delinquent in their child support payments. If so, the amount of the delinquencies could be deducted from lottery winnings.

Current law only addresses back payments for delinquent child support. Under this legislation, if anyone owes both child support and taxes, the child support would be deducted first. The bill also seeks to determine if the prizewinner is a recipient of public assistance benefits prior to making any lottery payouts. If so, the Department of Public Welfare would determine if the individual remains eligible for public assistance benefits.

I am co-sponsoring this legislation because it would protect the citizens of the Commonwealth who do pay their taxes. It is only fair that prizewinners be held responsible for their liabilities. The measure now moves to the Senate for consideration.

Legislation proposed to ad-

dress penalties for online gambling.

At a Capitol news conference lawmakers unveiled plans for legislation to strengthen penalties for online gambling in Pennsylvania. Online gambling is illegal in the Commonwealth, but no penalties currently exist. Therefore, it is nearly impossible to prevent children and prob-

lem gamblers from gambling, and to catch criminals who use Internet gaming as a way to hide money they obtain illegally. Internet gaming also threatens legal gaming operations in Pennsylvania that generate millions of dollars in state revenue annually. The legislation will come before the House Gaming Oversight Committee for consideration.

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Bill Eiker

COMMENTARY

Words from Winterbilt

Heroes

Shannon Bohrer

The word “hero” is used a lot in our society. We use the word to describe members of the military, firefighters and police—people (usually in uniform) serving others. The word hero is also used to describe sports figures, television actors, and some well-known personalities. The word hero seems to fill a number of spaces in our society. I thought about this a lot recently when my cousin “Woody” passed away and my wife and I attended the services. Woody was young—70 years old—which is young, especially if you’re in your late sixties. Woody served in the Air Force and he was in the uniform division of the United States Secret Service for 37 years. He did serve and, from my perspective, he was a hero.

Marshall Woodrow (Woody) Bohrer Jr. was born in Brunswick Maryland in 1943 and he passed away in his home in Brunswick on July 11, 2014, less than one mile from where he was born. Woody was always serious—he was born that way. He had a good sense of humor, he was very responsible, and he

smiled a lot. He was very well-liked, not because he was in the Air Force or because he was in the Secret Service, but because he was such a nice guy. Woody was always interested in other people, he was not a complainer, nor did he brag or boost about what he did. People just felt good about being in his company. As one co-worker said at his funeral, if you were having a bad day at work and Woody was on post, if you sought him out always felt better.

A good while ago my wife and I were having a conversation about heroes. My wife said that a real hero is a man that goes to work every day to a job he does not like, and then goes home to a wife and children who don’t really care about him. Her idea of a hero, for the purpose of our discussion, was someone who is responsible. Responsibility certainly has a good fit with the word. I know that if you had asked Woody if he was a hero, he would not have thought of himself that way, but he would have thought of himself as being responsible.

Our society uses the word hero in many ways when describing a number of different people and circumstances. Hero is term we use when

we describe hostages. People in the wrong place at the right time and are taken as hostages in criminal events are often referred to as heroes. The word hero is sometimes used as a description because of circumstances that people find themselves in, not because of their behaviors. After the Boston bombings, the press used the term hero to describe the victims. Of course the first responders to the bombings were also described as heroes.

Does a hero have to perform an act of courage? Does a hero have to be fearless? Does a hero have to be in uniform? We use the term often and yet we use it in such a variety of ways that sometimes the intended meaning can be lost. If we say a firefighter that saved a life is a hero, we all understand the description. But if we also describe actors like John Wayne, Clint Eastwood, and Chuck Norris as heroes, does it have the same meaning? While the actors may play the part of a hero on film, does that portrayal really describe them?

During one of the last conversations that I had with Woody, we were talking about family events and experiences. We talked about a young man (I will call him Earl) who was

older than myself and lived in Brunswick, close to my Aunt Laura’s house. Woody and I both agreed that Earl was not a nice person. I was 6 or 7 years old and I remember Earl having a possum in a cage and poking it with a stick. It was uncomfortable to watch and I did nothing to stop it. I wish I did have the courage to stop it, but I did not. Woody told me that Anna Lee, a cousin or ours, used to pay boys a quarter to start fights with Earl. I never knew this and while I already liked Anna Lee, her actions elevated her status with me. I even commented to Woody that this made her a hero in my eyes. And yet, a hero should not be someone that pays someone to start a fight. However, if you knew Earl you might think differently. After all, we know that children that are mean to small animals have serious problems. I wonder if Anna Lee’s actions ever corrected Earl’s behavior.

At a later time I was thinking about Anna Lee paying boys to start fights with Earl and I wondered if it occurred early and possibly contributed to Earl’s poor behavior. If that was the case then my opinion of her being a hero could be misplaced. Context of behavior and timing can influence

our perceptions. Since the timing of Anna Lee’s behavior is unknown, I just stick with my first thoughts that she was trying to correct Earl’s behavior.

I think we can have many heroes in our lives, not just the ones in uniforms, actors, or sports persons. Heroes can be teachers, parents, neighbors, friends and co-workers—people that can influence and shape our lives in very positive ways. People that are responsible and people you can count on. A hero can be personal to us and does not have to have national status. Maybe we sometimes use the word hero too much, or maybe we don’t use it enough. It would seem logical that the heroes we know should be important to us. Do we acknowledge them? How do we show our appreciation of the heroes in our lives?

Woody enjoyed life, he liked his job, he loved his family and he loved his God. From my perspective it was not his uniform or his profession that described Woody, it was his manners, his caring and concern for others and definitely his sense of responsibility.

Recommended reading: *Man’s Search for Meaning*, by Victor Frankl.

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

Common Cents

China’s chance

Ralph Murphy

A February, 2014 United Nations Human Rights Council report blasted North Korea and its leadership for committing “crimes against humanity” in relation to treatment of repatriated exiles. The study recommended the UN Security Council send the case to the International Criminal Court (ICC). The matter puts The Peoples Republic of China (PRC) in a quandary as North Korea’s only effective international ally, and the primary source of its deportees. All this at a time when the PRC is trying to present itself as a constructive and mature world power. The returned Koreans face torture in detention camps, and certain death if ties to South Korean intelligence are proven or strongly suspected.

While neither China nor North Korea are members of the ICC, and with limited historic exceptions one must be a member to be brought before the tribunal, the imprisonment of at least 120,000 detainees in political “gulags” is a concern. It was also avoidable and most likely traced back to the PRC’s 1990’s food aid program which allowed up to 300,000 economic refugees to flood a border region on the China side of the frontier.

Many of the refugees chose to stay in what was largely an ethnic Korean region. That’s when the friction became acute as China wanted to regain control of the area, and labeled the foreign nationals “illegal

immigrants” subject to deportation rather than declaring them refugees which would provide them protection under international law.

North Korea’s Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un theoretically faces charges of crimes against humanity in the case. However, even if the case could be brought before the fledgling ICC - China as a Security Council member would certainly veto the measure. The ICC is responsible for the prosecution of the “world’s worst” human rights violators, but has “no enforcement powers of its own. Cooperation of states is the quintessential element that gives meaning to the court decisions.”

The ICC has had some successes, notably the conviction of Liberia’s President Charles Taylor, but he was “on the run” when apprehended and charged with 11 counts of crimes against humanity. A sitting ruler like Korea’s Kim hasn’t been apprehended and presented before the tribunal. Concern that a leader could be so treated has dissuaded even the United States from joining the body. There remains the possibility that one might be forced to Hague jurisdiction for international events over which the President may have had a limited role.

Historic ties between the PRC and North Korea were established during the 1950-53 Korean War. China sent 3 million soldiers to fight for the North, and lost up to 180,000 of them in the conflict.

China has economically drifted

away from a socialist planned economy. Korea remains one of the few remaining nations with such a system on the world stage. Still, the human and associated institutional ties between China and North Korea run deep.

China’s economic assistance to North Korea amounts to about half that country’s foreign aid. The PRC is North Korea’s largest export market, but is ranked 82nd for Chinese imports. Korea imports mineral fuels, oil, machinery, vehicles, and steel from the PRC while exporting ores, apparel, iron, and fish to its neighbor. Total trade turnover was about \$2.68 billion in 2009. China’s economy generated well over \$8 trillion last year- placing it second in the world. Korea is an “after thought” in Chinese trade policy, but their close diplomatic relationship is arguably China’s primary, foreign policy nightmare.

Korea’s nuclear program, which prompted even Chinese approved UN sanctions after a successful illegal 2009 testing, has mired international relations between that country and the world. It’s sinking of South Korean Warship Cheonan, and impoundment of Chinese fishing boats - some for ransom - haven’t endeared them to the Chinese either. The North Korean bombardment of the South Korean island of Yeonpyeong in 2010, occurred at a time when China was making inroads into improved relations with the South.

China and South Korea have grown closer in economic ideology at the same time as the PRC



has drifted away from North Korea’s state planned economy.

Politically, improved relations with the South have been hampered by a territorial air and sea dispute in the East China Sea, but the two sides appear to be working around their bellicose rhetoric. South Korea, which registered a balance of trade surplus of \$32.5 billion with China in 2009, continues to have strong economic ties with the Chinese despite limited sanctions associated with their political dispute.

Any attempt to unify the Korean Peninsula more likely hinges on China than any other world player. In an apparent effort to foster better ties with China, South Korea “did not condone or condemn” the Tiananmen Square massacre of June 1989, while the North predictably applauded the event. Subsequent to that, Seoul and Beijing established formal diplomatic ties in August of 1992. South Korea appears ready to work with Beijing diplomatically as well as economically, but

Pyeongyang is increasingly isolated and erratic. If it weren’t for their nuclear and chemical weapons - the North’s eccentricities might be overlooked. But, as it is - the nation has to be taken seriously.

China and South Korea will likely weather their difficulties. The South’s economy generated \$1.13 trillion in 2011 goods and services for a population of about 50 million people. In contrast, North Korea managed to produce a mere \$40 billion for a population of about 25 million. Economically the North would be wise to follow China’s lead and move away from a state planned economy. This could provide a path towards the eventual unification of the Korean people-North and South. They have been one people since the Bronze Age that are artificially separated by bad politics. China has a chance to make unification of the two Koreas a reality.

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

Pure OnSense

Nuclear negotiations

Scott Zuke

Iran celebrated the 35th anniversary of the 1979 Islamic Revolution last month with massive rallies chanting “Death to America!” “Death to Obama!” “Death to Kerry!” “Death to Sherman!” (Wendy Sherman, the United States’ lead nuclear negotiator), and of course, “Death to Israel!” It would be enough to hurt one’s feelings, except that it’s hard to think anymore that the Iranian peoples’ hearts are really in it. Since the election of the moderate President Hassan Rouhani last June, U.S.-Iranian relations have steadily, if cautiously, begun to thaw. While Rouhani hasn’t yet done anything to significantly alter Iran’s foreign or domestic policy, he has introduced a softer tone in his rhetoric that has restored hope for diplomacy and hushed those who, not long ago, were calling for preemptive military strikes against Iran’s nuclear sites.

The United States and other leading nations signed a temporary deal with Iran in November to freeze some of its nuclear development in exchange for a loosening of economic sanctions. The latest round of talks, which began on

February 18, aim to build upon that success to achieve a comprehensive, long-term deal to assure the West that Iran is not pursuing a nuclear bomb. Screaming “Death to whomever” is one thing, but doing so while possessing nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles is quite another, so the assurances have to be pretty convincing.

At the same time, however, Tehran continues to vehemently assert its right to advance nuclear technology for the peaceful purpose of generating power. There are three important things to know about Iran’s pursuit of nuclear energy production that are rarely reported. First, Iran does have a legitimate claim for needing nuclear plants. Like other developing nations it’s experiencing a boom in energy demand, but was ranked 102nd out of 124 nations for energy infrastructure and security in a recent report by the World Economic Forum. Former Iranian Ambassador Seyed Hossein Mousavian says this is an argument in favor of diversifying Iran’s energy sources, nuclear or otherwise, and adds that other oil-rich countries in the region, including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, have announced plans to build new nu-

clear plants to meet energy demand.

Second, nuclear energy and technology has become an object of national pride in Iran. The symbol for the atom even appears on its currency, along with a quote attributed to the Prophet Muhammad: “Men from the land of Persia will attain scientific knowledge even if it is as far as the Pleiades.” Attempts by outsiders to stand in the way of Iran’s technological advances are taken about as well as they would be in the United States—that is, as an intolerable insult against national sovereignty. Add to that a sting of hypocrisy, since most of the nations in the negotiations, neighbors Pakistan and India, and even arch-rival Israel, are nuclear powers.

Third, it’s not at all clear whether Iran has made up its mind about pursuing a nuclear bomb, and there are sharp internal differences of opinion on the matter. As Iran analyst Nima Gerami writes, “Although the Supreme Leader has the final say on all domestic and foreign policy issues, he governs by consensus—not by decree—through consultation with a number of advisors.” Advisors who advocate abandoning Iran’s nuclear research in order to appease the international community have been sidelined, even treated as traitors, but there are still two distinct groups between whom power shifts from time to time. The far-right nuclear supporters argue that a nuclear weapon is the only way to ensure

Iran’s adversaries treat it with respect. Nuclear centrists, like President Rouhani, on the other hand, are willing to accept certain limitations on Iran’s nuclear enrichment activities in order to foster better diplomatic relations and end crippling sanctions.

Where Ayatollah Ali Khamenei falls between these groups is intentionally unclear. The hardliners are considered to be the base of his political support, but his backing of Rouhani shows that he is willing to give the moderate centrists a chance, at least for now. Evidently even supreme leaders have to be conscious of public opinion and the positions of their political backers. As several analysts have pointed out, Khamenei has deftly positioned himself so that he may take credit for any success or distance himself from failure.

The challenge of reading Khamenei is just one part of the broader inscrutability of the U.S.-Iranian negotiations. Like any other high-stakes political negotiation, the real talks are conducted privately, while what is said publicly is mostly theater, designed either to benefit domestic audiences or influence the negotiations in a more favorable direction. One example is the oft-repeated phrase on the American side that “all options are on the table” to ensure that Iran doesn’t build a bomb. This is probably calculated to appeal to hardliners on the U.S. side, but it’s pretty clearly not true

since the Obama administration has put all of its chips on a diplomatic solution. There’s no longer a credible threat of military force (although the same may not be true for Israel).

Iran’s leaders are well aware of this fact, but nevertheless have seized upon bullying U.S. rhetoric in their own rallying speeches to the Iranian people. Which brings us back to the “Death to America!” mantra.

While the technical details of any comprehensive nuclear deal will be exceedingly difficult to settle, there is a much broader political hurdle for Iran’s leaders to figure out too: Supposing they are willing to compromise, how does a government whose defining characteristic and source of legitimacy is resistance against the United States and Israel ever sign onto a deal that serves those country’s interests at the expense of Iran’s own aspirations? With this in mind, the most impressive accomplishment the U.S. negotiators could pull off wouldn’t be forcing the Iranians into a corner, but rather closing a deal while giving Iran’s leaders a way to save face and come out looking stronger rather than weaker. Not only would that strengthen public support for the deal, but also give Khamenei incentive to stick with the moderate path.

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

Down Under

Impossible constructions

Submitted by Lindsay!
Melbourne, Australia

*“So then let us climb the mountain,
not by stepping on what is below us,
but to pull us up by what is above us,
for my part at the stars; amen.”*
—M.C. Escher

Way back in the 5th century BC the Greeks were hard at work putting on dramas and religious plays for the benefit and education of the polis. These works were nothing like the things we see today, but they did put in place the fundamentals of this art form, including, it has been said, all the plot lines that have ever existed. It took a good deal of imagination, in all probability, to relate to them, but that didn’t bother anyone, for all religions need imagination. One of the things they tried to master was that of realistic, or at least understandable scenery. They had good painters and designers, but they found it hard to depict depth. They actually resorted to moving scenery further away during the performance to indicate increasing distance, or using new screens with items reduced in size to achieve the same thing. Everyone knew that distant objects appeared to be smaller, but to them art and the appearance of reality were in different spheres.

It was not until 1413 that the way we see distance represented today was finally in place, when Brunelli introduced true perspective into scenery at the theatre. The result was so startling and realistic that all painters and artists have followed that practice ever since, developing its potential in

sometimes bizarre ways. Artists, like most other talented people, experiment and try novel ways of proceeding, and some, notably Maritz Escher, a Dutch illustrator and graphic artist, (1898- 1972), introduced us to some new and startling ways of seeing everyday things.

Perspective takes our eyes – and thus our minds – toward a distant point that is suggested by two or more lines converging near the edge of the sheet. Our curiosity is piqued by what may lie beyond that point, even as we gaze at two dimensions pretending to be three. It is this perception that Escher exploits in a series of impossible creations that seem, at first glance, to be wonderful structures in three dimensions, but which soon cause us perplexity, because they could not exist in reality: Staircases that go up as they go down, arches in a back wall that is also the front one, and many other strange things.

The concept of perspective has been so important that it has rolled over into many other disciplines and areas of life; we are told to have some perspective when we are dismissed from a job or suffer a loss, to take a long view on government policy and so on, but the ideas that Escher and others have come up with are now firmly established and far more potent. They are actually superb illustrations of the complexities of daily living, the difficulties we all have of deciding the best ways to proceed, and the deceptive claims and dead ends that are built into the many schemes for the unwary.

For instance, what starts out as a picture of white swans finishes up as

a creation of black fish, or a portrait of a fine gentleman turns out to be made of fruit and vegetables, as in the famous work by Fukuda. These are artful deceptions, and fine as art; when incorporated into prospectuses they can be fatal – unless you know how and where to look. Here’s an example: It is a fact that if you blow the whistle on corruption and money is recovered as a result – it is estimated that over five billion dollars have already been unearthed this way – you will receive a percentage of the recovery. So far, that has resulted in a few turnips from the portrait of the smiling man being produced, but little more. It’s caused by inertia more than deceit, but it still acts as a hoax.

There are plenty of other examples, but the one that is most shocking can be seen in a drawing by Sandro Del-Prete from 1961. Titled ‘Cosmic Wheels’, it shows two interlocking spoked wheels with a Mobius strip as the hub, and is nigh on impossible to make sense of. It is, to me, a perfect illustration of your gun laws. Listening to the arguments in favour of allowing the laws to continue their free reign, the circular reasoning used is so ridiculous that the flaws should be easy to spot, but that is not so. They sound logical, have interlocking reasoning with emotional beliefs and patriotic appeals, but the outcomes are actually impossible to validate in any civilized society. Taken to the only possible and logical conclusion, they say – ‘Let all citizens carry a gun and then everyone will be safe because they can defend themselves’. A Mobius strip only has one side, and the gun lobby has worn a path around it.

Their constant chant is as ridiculous as the cosmic wheels, which have “E= mc²” inscribed in the centre – a reference to the amount of profit available to the industry.

One of my favourite works of Escher is ‘Ascending and Descending’, from 1960. It shows two sets of monks passing each other as they walk up and down the same set of steps at the same time. Impossible? Not in two dimensions! It surely is a genuine illustration of congress – how it is possible for two groups to tread the same ground in opposite directions, toiling away, always climbing toward a just conclusion, never achieving it, while being watched by a couple of dropout citizens – with bemusement.

Such things happen when the nature of the real world is reduced to two dimensions. Bureaucrats and fundamentalists see life this way because it makes their dogmas easier to explain and swallow – after all, they probably believe it themselves – so they write or spout laws, sermon or creeds on pieces of paper where they seem to make sense. Should the third dimension of reality intrude, however, those without hoodwinked eyes see the impossibility of their constructions. No one pretends that reality is easy, and it is decidedly uncomfortable at times, even horrendous – but it is all we have, Hollywood notwithstanding.

If you have, or can obtain a copy of *Masters of Deception*, printed in 2004, have a look at ‘Warp’ by Akiyoshi Kitaoka on page 153. A warning, however – if you suffer from epilepsy or a similar neural disturbance, do not look at it, for the image seems to vibrate and pulse in sync with your brain waves. It is truly an amazing piece of digital art lying flat on the printed page, and which appears to become three dimensional as we move our eyes closer to it. It serves to illustrate how we are so easily deceived and seduced, as such constructs are often built into advertising of all kinds. Our brains vibrate, the offers get larger, and unless we are made aware of



the deception built in we accept the things we see as true.

Perhaps this does not matter too often, seeing we often make decisions based on incomplete knowledge or spurious claims, but there are times when casual acceptance of a proposition leads to disaster, even ruin. I know many of you do not trust the government, (we have the same problem), but we have to put trust in something or someone. And while it is us who elect people to that institution, I hope you look carefully at each major decision you are asked to make, being aware if the impossible constructions around.

In so doing you may join Herr Escher in climbing the mountain by reaching for all that is above and beyond, not by treading on the necks of those below. To recall a song, the impossible dream is motive enough, whilst if the impossible construct is at best diverting.

Lindsay, down under, where the air is hot but the stars are twinkling.

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

THE PASTOR'S DESK

The meaning of Lent

Pastor John Talcott
Christ Community Church

As we enter the liturgical season of Lent, so closely matched to spring, it calls to mind the hope of new life, growth, and change that honestly should characterize every season of our Christian lives. Lent really is both a reminder and an invitation into the grace filled life of the follower of Jesus Christ. As we enter this season of reflection, we remember the Son of God, who comes into our history, lived without sin, died on the cross, rose from the dead, and ascended back into heaven. That is good news... amazing news... not just of a believer's forgiveness today, but of lasting hope for tomorrow!

With that in mind, there is no doubt some confusion when hearing the call for believers to exercise self-denial, to identify with the Lord's suffering and death, and to prepare through works of prayer, fasting and

almsgiving. It doesn't sound or look much like good news to a world that is starving for a glimmer of hope; just a glint of good news. So how do I, pastor of Christ's Community Church... how do we, the Church, the body of Christ, align our faith, values, and practice with the gospel of Jesus Christ, who said, "When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do" (Matthew 6:16).

Well I for one, will delight in the Lord, rejoicing in God my Savior, who has clothed me with garments of salvation, even "a robe of righteousness" (Isaiah 61:10). I refuse to allow myself to get caught up in a spirit of mourning or somberness this Lenten season, because it's just not right to say, "Jesus was rejected, shamed, and suffered... so I need to be rejected, to be shamed, and suffer too." It's just not right to think that somehow there's humility in that... that somehow there's still the gospel of grace, because it's not

there. It's just not true to think that there is something... anything... that you or I can do to aid our Lord, the suffering servant, in the sufficiency of His sacrifice (Isaiah 53:11).

The Bible is very clear in Hebrews 10:10 that "we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all". It was a once for all occasion, complete, and sufficient. When the Lord had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. "It is finished" he said (John 19:30). And since that time "he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy" (Hebrews 10:12-14). As we face these 40 days of Lent, may we be reminded that it was for all 365 days, every day of the year into eternity, that Jesus Christ "gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness" (Titus 2:15). Each and every day of the year we are beneficiaries of His grace. Daily we can celebrate... daily we can rejoice... "Surely the Lord has done great things" (Joel 2:21). Our King has come, righteous and having salvation. Be glad and rejoice, for He has "made perfect forever those who are being made holy" (Hebrews 10:14). He gave himself, not inclusive of anything we do, not through the life we live, but through his sinless life, his substitutionary death, and his bodily resurrection.

The big idea I want to convey is this; God has done something for us. "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). He "gave" means it's a gift. You and I can't stand before God and say, "I earned it." No one can stand

before God and say, "I deserved it... I was baptized as a baby... I went to church my whole life... I gave generously... I tried to do good... helped the poor... looked after widows and orphans." All of that may be great, but it's not enough to overcome the debt of our sin to God... it's not enough to pay the price. But here is where we encounter the good news recorded in Romans 3:23-24, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus." So what God is saying is this, we're all sinners, we've all messed up, and we're all separated from him. His just judgment, his wrath hangs over all of us, like an unsurpassable mountain. Yet the great truth of the Lenten season is that Jesus comes as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29)! The Christ, the Son of God, lives a perfect life, and doesn't sin, but in love of us, in love for us, he goes to the cross, dies in our place for our sins, and takes the wrath of God and punishment that we deserve. The end result

being, that God's wrath is taken away, it's diverted from us, and poured out on Jesus Christ. We are the beneficiaries, receiving the inheritance, the forgiveness, the life, love, and righteousness of Jesus Christ, when we trust him and receive his grace.

That's the heart of everything I believe as a follower of Jesus Christ. That's the reason why, at Christ's Community Church, we celebrate Lent with great joy. Not only do we celebrate what Jesus has done for us, but we also celebrate what Jesus does in us and through us. I pray that we would never lose sight of the fullness of the glory of the Christ, never be derailed, and never diminishing in any way what Jesus accomplishes for us who believe. I am eternally grateful for the work he has done in us. And I pray that the joy of Christ may be in you and that your joy may be complete (John 15:11). I pray that this Lenten season, you will take the opportunity to respond to God, pursuing a new life, overseen by a new Master, whose name is the Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you!



Emmitsburg Council of Churches' Lenten Sermon Series

March 12, 7 pm at Elias Lutheran Church. A Contemporary Worship Service + Fellowship. Led by Barbara Anderson will facilitate a conversation on "Sin and Reconciliation"

March 19, pm at Trinity United Methodist Church. A Traditional Worship Service + Fellowship. Led by Rev. Katie Penick preaching on "Service"

March 26, 7 pm at Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church. A Traditional Worship Service + Fellowship. Led by Rev. Timothy Kromer preaching on "Sacrifice"

April 2, 11:45 am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. A Simple Soup/Bread Lunch & Conversation/ Led by Fr. John Holliday speaking on "Joy"

April 9, 7 pm at St. Anthony Shrine. Traditional Worship Service + Fellowship. Led by Rev. Jon Greenstone preaching on "Contentment"

April 20, 6 am - Easter Sunrise Worship Service @ The Grotto of Our Lady Lourdes. Led by Rev. Tiffany Kromer preaching on "Hope"



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The Witches of Belvoir



On the 11th of March 1618-19, two women named Margaret and Philippa Flower, were burnt at Lincoln for the alleged crime of witch-craft. With their mother, Joan Flower, they had been confidential servants of the Earl and Countess of Rutland, at Belvoir Castle. Dissatisfaction with their employers seems to have gradually seduced these three women into the practice of hidden arts in order to obtain revenge. According to their own confession, they had entered into communion with familiar spirits, by which they were assisted in their wicked designs.

Joan Flower, the mother, had hers in the bodily form of a cat, which she called Rutterkin. They used to get the hair of a member of the family and burn it: they would steal one of his gloves and plunge it in boiling water, or rub it on the back of Rutterkin, in order to effect bodily harm to its owner. They would also use frightful imprecations of wrath and malice towards the objects of their hatred. In these ways they were believed to have accomplished the death of Lord Ross, the Earl of Rutland's son, besides inflicting frightful sicknesses upon other members of the family.

It was long before the earl and countess, who were an amiable couple, suspected any harm in these servants, although we are told that for some years there was a manifest change in the countenance of the mother, a diabolic expression being assumed. At length, at Christmas, 1618, the noble pair became convinced that they were the victims of a hellish plot, and the three women were apprehended, taken to Lincoln jail, and examined. The mother loudly protested innocence, and, calling for bread and butter, wished it might choke her if she were guilty of the offences laid to her charge. Immediately, taking a piece into her mouth, she fell down dead, probably, as we may allowably conjecture, overpowered by consciousness of the contrariety between these protestations and the guilty design which she had entertained in her mind.

Margaret Flower, on being examined, acknowledged that she had stolen the glove of the young heir of the family, and given it to her mother, who stroked Rutterkin with it, dipped it in hot water, and pricked it:

whereupon Lord Ross fell ill and suffered extremely. In order to prevent Lord and Lady Rutland from having any more children, they had taken some feathers from their bed, and a pair of gloves, which they boiled in water, mingled with a little blood. In all these particulars, Philippa corroborated her sister. Both women admitted that they had familiar spirits, which came and sucked them at various parts of their bodies: and they also described visions of devils in various forms which they had had from time to time.

Associated with the Flowers in their horrible practices were three other women, of the like grade in life,—Anne Baker, of Bottesford; Joan Willimot, of Goodby; and Ellen Greene, of Stathorne, all in the county of Leicester, whose confessions were to much the same purpose. Each had her own familiar spirits to assist in working out her malignant designs against her neighbours.

That of Joan Willimot was called Pretty. It had been blown into her mouth by her master, William Berry, in the form of a fairy, and immediately after came forth again and stood on the floor in the shape of a woman, to whom she forthwith promised that her soul should be enlisted in the infernal service. On one occasion, at Joan Flower's house, she saw two spirits, one like an owl, the other like a rat, one of which sucked her under the ear. This woman, however, protested that, for her part, she only employed her spirit in inquiring after the health of persons whom she had undertaken to cure.

Greene confessed to having had a meeting with Willimot in the woods, when the latter called two spirits into their company, one like a kitten, the other like a mole, which, on her being left alone, mounted on her shoulders and sucked her under the ears. She had then sent them to bewitch a man and woman who had reviled her, and who, accordingly, died within a fortnight. Anne Baker seems to have been more of a visionary than any of the rest. She once saw a hand, and heard a voice from the air: she had been visited with a flash of fire: all of them ordinary occurrences in the annals of hallucination. She also had a spirit, but, as she alleged, a beneficent one, in the form of a white dog.

From the frontispiece of a contemporary pamphlet giving an account of this group of witches, we transfer a homely picture of Baker, Willimot, and Greene, attended each by her familiar spirit. The entire publication is reprinted in Nichols's Leicestershire.

The examinations of these wretched women were taken by magistrates of rank and credit, and when the judges came to Lincoln the two surviving Flowers were duly tried, and on their own confessions condemned to death by the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, Sir Henry Hobbert.

Victoria Cross

The 1st of March 1857, is one among many days associated with the bestowal of the Victoria Cross upon heroic soldiers and sailors. The affair is in itself a trifle; yet it involves a principle of some importance. England cannot be said to be altogether happy in her modes of rewarding merit. The friendless and the unobtrusive are apt to be pushed aside, and to be supplanted by those who can call boldness and influence to their aid. Such at any rate has been the case in the army and navy; the humble soldiers and sailors have always received their full share of hard knocks, while the officers have carried off the honours and rewards.

The nation has often felt and said that this was wrong; and the authorities of the War Office have judiciously yielded to the public sentiment in this among many other matters. It was in the middle of the Crimean war that the War Office undertook to 'consider' the subject; but a period of many months passed before the 'consideration' led to any results. At length on the 8th of February 1856, the London Gazette announced that Her Majesty had under her Royal Sign Manual been pleased to institute a new naval and military decoration entitled the 'Victoria Cross.' Unlike any other decoration recognised in our army and navy, this order is to be conferred for valour only—irrespective of rank or station; and the recipient becomes also entitled to a pension of £10 a year for life. The Victoria Cross is a simple affair as a work of art.

It consists of a bronze Maltese cross with the royal crest in the centre, and underneath it a scroll bearing the words 'FOR VALOUR;' it is suspended by a red ribbon

if worn on the breast of a soldier, and by a blue ribbon if worn by a sailor. Trifling as it is, however, the men highly prize it, for hitherto it has been honestly bestowed. The reader will call to mind that remarkable ceremony in the summer of 1857, when the Queen bestowed the Victoria Cross, with her own hand, on sixty-one noble fellows in Hyde-park. Of those thus honoured, twenty-five were commissioned officers, fifteen were warrant and non-commissioned officers, and the remaining twenty-one were private soldiers and common seamen.

Every instance there was a distinct recognition in the Official Gazette of the specific act of valour for which the cross was bestowed—whether arising out of the Crimean, the Chinese, or the Indian wars—in order to afford proof that merit, not favour, won the reward. Here we are told that Joseph Treweas, seaman, 'cut the hawsers of the floating-bridge in the Straits of Genitchi under a heavy fire of musketry;' on which occasion he was wounded. 'The late gallant Captain Sir William Peel,' we are told, 'took up alive shell that fell among some powder cases; the fuse was still burning, and the shell burst as he threw it over the parapet.'

Here is an incident which warms one's blood while we read it: 'In the charge of the Light Cavalry Brigade at Balaklava, Trumpet-Major Crawford's horse fell and dismounted him, and he lost his sword; he was attacked by two Cossacks, when private Samuel Parkes (whose horse had been shot) saved his life by plac-

ing himself between them and the Trumpet-Major, and drove them away by his sword. In the attempt to follow the Light Cavalry Brigade in the retreat, they were attacked by six Russians, whom Parkes kept at bay, and retired slowly fighting, and defending the Trumpet-Major for some time.'

In spite of the wretched official English of this description (in which 'he' and 'his,' 'they' and 'whose' are hopelessly wandering to find their proper verbs), we cannot fail to take a liking for the gallant trooper Parkes. Then there was Serjeant-Maj or Henry, of the Artillery, who at the terrible battle of Inkermann, 'defended the guns of his battery until he had received twelve bayonet wounds.' During the siege of Sebastopol, a rifle-pit was occupied by two Russians, who annoyed our troops by their fire, whereupon 'Private M'Gregor, of the Rifles, crossed the open space under fire, and taking cover under a rock, dislodged them, and occupied the pit.'

In India some of the Victoria Crosses were given to the gallant fellows by their commanding officers, in the Queen's name; and when those officers were men of tact and good feeling, they contrived to enhance the value of the reward by a few well-chosen remarks. Thus, Brigadier Stidste, in giving Crosses to two men of the 52nd Foot, pointed out to them the difference between the Order of the Bath and the Order of Valour, adding, in reference to the latter, 'I only wish I had it myself.'

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THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

The 800-pound gorilla in the plum tree

Bill Meredith

Question: "If an 800-pound gorilla comes into a room, where does he sit?" Answer: "Anywhere he likes." ... from A Compendium of the Oldest Known Jokes on Every Topic.

—Marquis deLafayette Meredith, Second Edition of *A Compendium of the Oldest Known Jokes on Every Topic*, 1896.

We moved into our new house in the fall of 1989, and began landscaping the yard as early as possible the next spring. We wanted color, so we planted two flowering plum trees in front of the house. They lived up to their billing as far as color was concerned; they produced clouds of pink blossoms early each spring, and highlighted the area with purple leaves through the following summers. But the old saying, "Nobody's perfect," applies to trees as well as people; they proved to be incurably shallow-rooted, and both blew over when the March winds arrived the next year. At that time they were still small enough

to lift, so I straightened them up and supported them with guy-wires; but as they grew they began to lean again, eventually pulling the wires out of the ground. Each year thereafter, as they got bigger I tried to move their center of gravity back to the mid-point by pruning off branches on the leeward side; but it was a losing battle. The pruning made the remaining branches on that side grow faster, and I knew their days were numbered. So I was not surprised when one of them fell over in an ice storm last month.

During the night the freezing rain had coated each twig on the tree with about a quarter of an inch of ice. It had then changed to snow, which was still falling when I got up, so there was nothing to do except sit at the kitchen table and think about it. Naturally, I began to wonder how much weight it took to bring down the tree. Collecting the information to make such a calculation was simple enough: I brought in the tin can that serves as my rain gauge in winter and warmed it; the ice and snow it contained converted into about an inch of water. The branches of the tree extended

about ten feet on each side of the trunk, and the formula for the area of a circle has not changed since I learned it in the fourth grade. The weight of a cubic foot of water (62.4 lb.) was easy to look up. Doing the calculations there at the table took longer than I expected... I can't remember the last time I did long division by hand... but eventually it came out that the water required to cover a 20-foot circle one inch deep would weigh 1,634 pounds. If half of that water stuck to the tree as ice, it would amount to about 800 pounds.

Looking at that number on the scrap of paper, it was hard to visualize what 800 pounds of ice would look like. My wife, who usually doesn't show much interest in mathematical problems, suggested that maybe a partridge had flown into the tree; but on reflection, she realized that an 800-pound partridge defied even her imagination, and besides, they never go into plum trees. However, everyone has heard the old joke about the 800-pound gorilla, and it was not long before the image of a gorilla sitting in the plum tree popped into my mind. It was an intriguing idea, so I went out to look for signs of it. I found the tracks of a dog, a couple of cats, and an indeterminate number of rabbits, but there were no gorilla tracks in sight. At that point, I realized that I really don't know much about gorillas... the image I had in mind was King Kong hanging to the top of the Empire State Building with Fay Wray in one hand and swatting at a passing biplane with the other. Being a



The snows of February saw many birdfeeders crowded with hungry birds. John Zuke of Thurmont caught this shot of a woodpecker landing on the hanging feeder in his backyard.

biologist for 60 years has taught me not to take things for granted. So I went to "Google" on my computer and typed in my question: "How much does an 800-pound gorilla weigh?" As I had suspected, the computer had no sense of humor and took the question literally. It sent me to a whole screen full of articles that explained the origin of the joke, and it also informed me that the heaviest gorilla ever recorded was an old male that weighed about 600 pounds. He lived in a zoo where there were no females to chase and no territories to defend, so he had nothing to do but sit around and eat. In the wild, male gorillas rarely reach 500 pounds, and females, a couple hundred less.

It had been rather exciting to imagine the expression on the face of an 800-pound gorilla when the tree he was in collapsed, so it was something of a let-down to learn that such a creature didn't exist. It was even more depressing to re-

alize that when it came to practical examples, I had no real experience that would allow me to visualize whether the weight of even a teen-age female gorilla would tip the tree over. So I was stumped for a while, until a down-home example came to mind. When I was a teen-ager, it was a day to be proud of when a boy was able to carry a 100-pound sack of feed from the pickup truck to the barn. I suppose I was probably 12 or 13 years old when I made that rite of passage, and after that it became a regular chore, so I have a pretty clear idea of what 100 pounds of cow feed looks like. Thus it was easy to visualize various numbers of feed-sacks perched in strategic positions in the tree, and although they didn't have the lasting visual impact that gorillas would have, I was convinced that no more than 200 pounds of either cow feed, gorillas or ice would have been sufficient to bring it down.

My wife was not thrilled by the prospect of having a fallen tree in front of the house for the rest of the winter, but I was able to convince her that wood gets harder when it is cold, and my chain-saw is balky even in warm weather, so surely it would not be possible to remove the tree when noon-day temperatures are below freezing. So the tree is still lying there; and as weeks have passed, she has become rather intrigued by it. The small birds that patronize the nearby feeder use the fallen tree for shelter whenever a marauding cat comes by, and the drama is easily visible from her chair by the window while she has her morning coffee. It has actually been educational; she has added house finches to the list of species she can recognize (the other species on the list is the cardinal), and she was quite excited the other day when a hawk swooped down and snatched a sparrow from a twig while she was watching... a practical example of the nearness of the food chain. She may yet become an ecologist.

As I write this, there is still a foot of snow on the ground, but time is drifting by, and the equinox will be here in less than a month. Days are getting longer, and I have already seen a bluebird and two robins in the yard. A great horned owl was hooting in the Great Forest behind our house last week; its mate is already sitting on her eggs, and by the time they hatch perhaps the snow will be melted, exposing the tunnels where field mice have been breeding all winter. The food chain will go on; and believe it or not, spring will come. We ecologists know these things. Trust me.

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IN THE COUNTRY

How to prevent an alien invasion

Tim Iverson
Naturalist

Soon the seasons will begin to change, and the weather will become more favorable. Warmer weather and spring showers will cause the plants to bloom. For those of us with a green thumb this is the time of year when we start planning our gardens. Most of us choose what to put in our gardens based on popular trends, appearance, and ease of care. While these are important factors when choosing flowers or plants there are more important factors to consider when selecting what or what not to plant. Before purchasing and planting you should be asking yourself one thing before everything else: Is it native?

The importance of selecting native plants over non-native plants is paramount. Non-native, or exotic, plants often become invasive species. Now you might be getting confused by throwing all these terms around, so I'll attempt to clarify. Native species are plants, animals, or any organism found in an ecosystem that is supposed to be there. Exotic or non-native species are any plants, animals, or organisms that are found in a given ecosystem that are not supposed to be there. For instance, I'm sure by now you're familiar with those pesky little brown stink bugs that can be found literally everywhere in our area these days. Prior to about 2008 you couldn't find them in Maryland. They weren't even documented to be in the United States prior to 1998. With this example we can clearly identify that these Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs are exotic or non-native. They originally hail from Japan, and are most certainly not supposed to be here. As a result of their introduction and rapid expansion they are now considered invasive.

For a species to be invasive it must aggressively invade and establish itself in an ecosystem at the expense of other species. Invasive species thrive while others suffer. Invasive aren't necessarily always exotic. Even natives can be con-

sidered invasive, certain kinds of weeds for example. The problem with invasive species is that they can cause ecological and/or economic damage on a large scale. When dealing with non-native species they can quickly become invasive because they have been pulled out of their natural ecosystem where natural checks and balances like predators or diseases can help keep population numbers in check. When those bars are removed damage caused by these species can be dramatic. In order to help curb this issue we can combat it before it even becomes a problem.

There are many natural advantages to planting native species over exotic ones. For starters because they are native they will generally be much easier to care for. They evolved to live right here for these exact conditions, and will require little attention. They've spent thousands of years figuring out how to best survive right here, and are uniquely capable of flourishing on their own. They can handle variable weather conditions, and outside of drought conditions should not need to be watered. Natives are heartier and can last for two to four seasons depending on the species allowing for longer enjoyment. Native plants usually don't require the use of pesticides or fertilizers either. Birds, bugs, and other wildlife have all developed a relationship and dependence on native plants.

Native flowers, trees, shrubs, and other plants all provide valuable food and habitat for our local wildlife. By planting things they recognize and depend on you can help cultivate a thriving habitat to observe nature up close and personal. You can even try to cater to the wildlife you wish to see. If you want to see specific birds or butterflies do a little research to find out the types of native plants they like best. If you can plant what they like you will be more likely to attract those species. For example, in the spring and fall many birds will seek out insects hiding in the leaves and bark of oak trees or poplars. Once the summer has set in they switch their

diet to fruits and berries. Monarch Butterflies rely almost solely on Milkweed for nutrition during reproduction and migration times. It's all about catering to the needs of the animals or insects you would like most to see. Do a quick internet search to identify the types of habitat and food that a specific species will need.

Any experienced or novice gardener should know there are other important factors to consider ensuring you have a successful garden. Once you've selected the type of flower, shrub, tree, or plant you wish to plant consider where and how you place it. Light conditions are very, very, very important. A shade loving plant will just not survive in the hot summer sun, so pay close attention to the location you place your plants for their specific needs. Also, consider the proximity the plant is with other surrounding plants. You want to ensure that when they all reach full growth maturity they will have plenty of room. While densely packed plants may help prevent the growth of weeds, it will also hinder the growth of some or all of your new plants too! Lastly, be sure to know when the best time to plant your new plant is. Generally, after the last frost of the spring season is likely to occur is a good time to begin that endeavor.

By planting only native species you will be doing your part to significantly reduce the chances of and prevent the spread of exotic or invasive species. Many of the invasive plant species in the southern United States were originally introduced and used for gardening and landscaping purposes. Continuing to introduce exotic species into local areas will only further the spread of newer invasive species. Valuable habitat is lost daily to development. By planting only native plants you can provide wildlife an oasis with necessary food and shelter.

To learn more about local native plants visit the Maryland Native Plant Society at www.mdflora.org or the Pennsylvania Native Plant Society at www.panativeplantsociety.org.



At one time, Bradford Pear trees were embraced by towns and homeowners in search of a fast growing, flowering tree. Unfortunately, while sold as non-self propagating, they are now crowding out native pear trees. To see the extent of the invasion all you have to do is drive along the any major road in the early spring and look for the white blossoms of this non-native pear tree.

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IN THE COUNTRY

The importance of the Iceman

Guy Neal
Strawberry Hill
Nature Preserve

This article will be most interesting for those who are not familiar with the mystery of the Iceman. About twenty three years ago, a frozen man was found high up in the Italian Alps, near the Austrian border. It was soon discovered that the corpse was much older than originally thought. Because of the remarkable preservation of the Iceman, he was initially thought to be less than 100 years old. After final carbon dating was done, and due to the nature of his artifacts, the Iceman was finally determined to be around 5,300 years old. This date placed the Iceman in

the Late Neolithic era. He turned out to be the oldest mummy ever found. Originally the Austrian police treated the discovery as a possible crime seen, which greatly compromised the archeological site. A jack hammer was used to free the corps, and some context was lost due to mixing of artifact material. Even with this site contamination, and poor initial handling, the Iceman discovery is considered to be one of the most significant discoveries of the twentieth century.

Why is it so significant? There are several reasons. The first is the amazing amount of preservation of organics at the site. Organics are carbon based materials that deteriorate easily over time. In the Iceman's case, leather, grass, cordage, wood, grains,

fruits, fungus, hair, and flesh were all found intact. Even extremely fragile items, like pollen, parasites, and viruses, were found in the Iceman. It is very rare for even a small sample of Stone Age organics to survive into the modern area. In the Iceman's case we have all of these materials, in a single find, with much defined context. This is the only example in the world of such preservation of organics from the Stone Age. The preservation was possible and brought on due to the unique nature of the Ice entombment.

I mentioned context before and it is important. Several characteristics were unique and important in the context of the Iceman's find. First, due to the remoteness of the find, we can

be fairly certain that all of the artifacts found with the Iceman were brought to the site by the Iceman himself. Second, we can assume that the site has not been disturbed or contaminated by other humans prior to its discovery. And third the Iceman died alone, wearing and using the tools and equipment that he used in his everyday life. This is the most important context for me. Often in archeology we refer to "grave goods".

Often what are found at a death site are the remains of a burial. Someone has been ceremonially, entombed or buried. This provides information, but not so much about how an average person lived every day. Rarely is a person buried with his tool belt and utility knife. For the Iceman, this happened. Usually only the most precious items are included in a burial. In the Iceman's case, this would have been his copper ax and a few stone items. However, we can be certain that the Iceman died, and was entombed, with the tools and equipment the he used everyday. This makes the Iceman an astonishingly rare find. In the world today, the Iceman find remains the only, single, clear window, back to



the Neolithic era. The window is small, but it is clear. Its context is unique and uncontaminated. I will be discussing and displaying the Iceman's reproduced tools and equipment, in an upcoming lecture for Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve.

We will take a journey back through that small clear window, and look at the unique life of the Iceman, in an upcoming lecture entitled "Iceman's Last Hours." The lecture will be hosted by Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve and held at the Adams County Ag Center at 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg on Thursday, March 27th from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Pre-registration is preferred and the cost is \$5.00 for members and \$8.00 for non-members. Please join us for this realistic trip back to the Stone Age. For more details check out www.StrawberryHill.org or call 717-642-5840.

Guy Neal will be the presenter of the Iceman's Last Hours and is the founder of Primal Knowledge, LLC. For more information about him and his passion check out his website www.Primal-Knowledge.com. He will be conducting several primitive skills programs in the future at Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve. Keep your eyes open for news of Basic Flint Knapping and How to Make Cordage in April as well as Arrow Making and Poplar Basket Making in May.

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

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This delightfully snowy winter

Jack Deatherage

I'm contemplating the Scriptures I'm going to write when the buzzing intercom interrupts my thoughts and the screen (the inside of my eyelids) goes blank. With a sigh I open my eyes, struggle off the bed I was thinking on and stagger (gods when did the joints and muscles become so stiff and uncooperative!) to the upstairs intercom. "Wha?"

"Are you sleeping?"

"No. I'm building a bread."

"Un-huh."

Why is it nonbakers can't grasp the intricacies of bread building? I don't bother to explain that I'm mentally ambeedextrous. If DW doubts I'm building bread she'll never buy into my reading Ayn Rand's Objectivism and comparing it to G. K. Chesterton and Hilaire Belloc's Distributism, working on the next Idiot column, the Scriptures, planning the garden and- Well, there's just so much to think on while bread dough is rising.

Bread building is exhausting. Not the physical aspect of it as I've learned that good bread requires more thought than muscle (though thinking is less my strong suit than muscling, which isn't my strong suit either). But done properly, bread building provides hours of thinking time. Which is truly exhausting if spent in actually contemplating thought. (Sheesh. That paragraph alone leaves me wrung out. I need a nap, my strong suit.)

This delightfully snowy winter has kept me home more than usual. As DW seems unable to tolerate my constant thinking, or napping, I've taken to building lots of bread, rolling out egg noodles and making pizzas I couldn't afford to buy from a gourmet pizza shop. When we do leave the house we're usually going for groceries or to visit with Cousin Luke and the Mad One.

The Mad One calls, "I'm making fried vinegar bread. You are going to learn to do this too. Bring wine." Or "I'm going to show you how to make stuffed cabbage rolls in yogurt sauce. Bring cabbage leaves, meats and yogurt."

To which I reply, "Yes dear. I'll also bring wine. I'm going to need it."

Which earns me another "Un-huh."

I don't know if all Bulgarians cook the way Simona does. Nor do I know if all Bulgarians call their clumsy American in-laws "stupid cows" and things much worse, some of them even true. But I did come away from those cooking lessons with a greater respect for those people who can cook beyond opening a box or tossing a packet of something in a microwave. (Having been out of Mom's kitchen for more than 35 years I'd forgotten that much of

her married life was spent moving from fridge, to table, to stove, to sink and back again, with occasional breaks to clean the house and do the laundry of eight people, all while keeping six children from killing each other.)

Just the vinegar bread took close to two hours from start to finish. The stuffed cabbages took about 2 months. Well the fermenting took that long. Getting the cabbage leaves stuffed and on the dinner plates took three and a half hours. Simona could have prepared the meal in less time, but she was attempting to teach me each step in the process which led to "You stupid cow," "Wanda, is he this clumsy at everything?," "Oh for God's sake, like this!," "How many times do I have to show you?"

I brayed a lot.

And at the end of it all, "You haven't done too badly. You're cabbage is better than mine, but you're lazy so I doubt you'll ever make the rolls again."

I'll make the rolls the way she taught me, but I'm already planning little tweaks to make them mine.

Days later, to sooth my battered ego (in truth, I destroyed my ego decades ago and mostly laugh at what little is left of it) I unscrew the caps on some flasks of short mead I started back in November. To my absolute horror they taste pretty darn good. Each experiment proving to be better than the one before it! Worse! I wrote down the recipes so I can duplicate them. Damn it. Getting something to come out right is such a setback. Years of future experimentation are now wiped away. I suddenly have a clue and all my mead attempts are going to start coming out better than I deserve. (I sigh) BUT! I have taken to making my own vinegar so I can experiment with turning good mead into good vinegar!

Fortunately, the gardening season is still ahead of us and I have plenty of things I can screw up. Having no firm plan for the garden we've been going through seed catalogs trying to decide what to order. As shipping and handling costs have risen over the years, we try to limit our purchases to as few companies as possible. Still, it looks like we'll be placing orders with at least three companies once we're done arguing over wants and needs.

Seed Savers Exchange totals \$170, though much of that will be culled. Territorial might get a \$25 order. Victory Seeds has \$15 worth of seed of interest to us, unless we take to growing tobacco, which is a specialty of theirs.

Then there is Stokes. I want two hybrid cabbages they offer. These are thin ribbed cabbages developed for the stuffed cabbage industry. (Who knew there was such an industry?) As much as I'd

like to grow them to share with the Mad One (we'd both have barrels of cabbages fermenting if I managed to grow a 100 foot row of these) I'm thinking the almost \$8 charge for shipping & handling could buy several packets of cabbage seeds from other catalogs. Besides, Glory of Enkhuizen Cabbage is an heirloom long used to make sour cabbage and costs considerably less than the hybrids!

I found a list of seeds DW has pondered as she flips pages in Baker Creek Heirloom Seed catalog. I've just begun studying that list of 1,500 varieties. If we end up with less than \$200 in wants I'll be surprised.

It's not unusual for \$600 worth of wants to be butchered to a barebones \$75. This year it may be even worse as I want to purchase a watering system so those plants needing steady watering don't have to depend on my stumbling attempts to carry 5-gallon pails of water to them every day during our garden's normal summer drought.

Finally, arriving in the mail today is a gift of dried persimmons from an Italian of German descent homesteading in Oakleehoma. His partner on the farm is the former Texas homestead-



er, henceforth known as Diane, who used the dried fruits to set flour and water to bubbling in the most active sourdough starter she's ever seen. I begged for a few persimmons and she asked for any fresh garlic I might have. Both of us are content with the trade, though I'm sure she got the

best of it. After all, she suggested I sprout some of the seeds and grow my own persimmon trees. Like I have time between naps for another project!

To read past editions of the Village Idiot visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



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PETS LARGE & SMALL

Something is missing

Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley
Animal Shelter

She has a nice house. A reliable car. A steady job. She knows she's got a great life. Yet, still, she feels as though something is missing.

She goes out with friends and has a good time, but still when she comes home and the silence of the walls that surround her really penetrates, she knows something's not there that she needs.

She watches Dr. Phil and hears all the relationship advice and checks out the dating websites, but somehow, in her heart, she knows that isn't it.

It's something else.

It bugs her sometimes at night when she's trying to sleep. She watches out the window as the moon passes by, clocking the hours she's not at rest, and she feels somehow incomplete. It's an intangible thing and it drives her a little crazy that she can't get a handle on what it is.

She's always been told she's too analytical. She has trouble shutting her mind off enough to get a good night's sleep. She dreams, sometimes vividly, of odd situations and happenings and it's so bizarre. She sometimes wonders what her dreams say about her.

Despite all the thinking and tossing and turning, she still feels it.

Something is missing.

She's driving home a few weeks later and is detoured off her usual path. She's irritated. She wanted to get home in time to see her favorite show and now, with the construction, with the inability to take the normal path, she'll likely be late.

She blinks a little as she comes upon the building. She has seen the signs for it in her travels, but has never passed by before. It's the animal shelter.

If asked, she won't be able to answer what it is that makes her turn in. Animals? Really? Sure, she'd had pets growing up and she loved them a lot, but when she graduated from high school, she'd been so focused on college and her studies and making something of herself, she had no time to even consider a pet.

She pulls into a parking space and sees him in the window. A black-and-white cat with the most shrewd, green-eyed expression she'd ever witnessed on another being. She feels an odd kinship with the animal, as though they both have the ability to think alike and analyze all options. She knows it's insane, but she swears they make eye contact as she puts her car in park and enters the building.

She tells the people she meets that she'd like to see the cat in the window. She's told he's a boy and



Say hello to Monte. This 3-year-old, black-and-white tuxedo cat was named after the cowboy movie, *Monte Walsh*. Look at that moustache! This good looking fellow can be a little shy in new surroundings, but if people are calm and gentle with him, he'll turn into quite a lovebug. Can you help Monte out of a cage and into a home?



Henley has been through a lot in his young life. He came to the shelter with a flea collar embedded into his armpit. We got the wound cleaned and it is almost completely healed now. He has been such a loving cat during his entire treatment process. He would purr and knead even as we shaved around the area, cleaned it and applied medication. We think Henley is about 2 years old. This handsome gray tabby-with-white is a special guy who will make a great companion.

relatively young and hasn't been at the shelter long.

She discovers the shelter has a place called a bonding room, which is, quite literally, where pro-

spective adopters go to bond with pets. When the cat from the window is brought to her, she shivers. And she knows it's not from cold.

The staff member places him on the floor and he immediately stretches his front paws toward her feet and looks up. Once they make eye contact, he never takes his eyes off hers. He ignores the toys in the room for the comfort of her lap and the purring begins

instantly.

He's soft and sweet and rubs against her hand when she pets him and it only takes ten minutes to know he's hers. Innately. Naturally. Undeniably.

She's approved to take him home that night and promptly flips out because she has nothing -- literally nothing -- in her home for a cat. The people at the shelter smile and help calm her down and suggest where she can go and what she needs to buy.

It's one of the most frantic shopping trips she's ever been on and yet, under everything, there's a current, a tingle, a thrum that tells her in ways she can't categorize that this is the most right thing she's ever done in her life.

She returns to the shelter an hour later, loaded with more supplies than she will likely ever need, and he's ready to come home with her.

She's been told there are no accidents in life and that everything happens for a reason. At first, she would scoff at the notion, but now... Now, she wonders at that detour on this seemingly random Tuesday and what it was that made her stop at the animal shelter.

She dozes off in bed that night with a white paw against her cheek and purring in her ear. The moon passes by over both their heads, but she doesn't see it because for the first time in a long time, she falls asleep quickly and doesn't dream.

The next morning she's awakened with a small meow and a feeling of something clicking into place, a settling sense of rightness and truth and authenticity, and she thinks she just may have found the missing piece of her life at the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter.

The question is, could you?

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

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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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

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

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

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

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

-- Author Unknown



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PETS LARGE & SMALL

Surgery or no surgery?

Kimberly Brokaw DVM
Walkersville Vet Clinic

One should always know if your horse is a candidate for colic surgery. While every horse owner hopes that he or she is never in the position of having to decide if they need to take a horse for colic surgery, every horse owner should know the answer before their horse colics. The majority of colics that I see and treat are simple colics that resolve with medication, hand walking, and nasogastric fluids. However, for those that don't, surgery may be required.

There are many factors involved in determining if your horse should have colic surgery. When you come home with a new horse you should already know if he is one you would operate on and you should reevaluate this decision every year. There are a number of factors that play into that choice. Is the horse otherwise healthy and likely to survive anesthesia and recovery? Is the horse valuable enough (real value or emotional value) to warrant surgery? Will your horse load in the trailer to go to a surgical facility? Can you afford a \$10,000-\$15,000 surgery? Will your horse be manageable during the prolonged recovery and stall rest after a major abdominal surgery. Those and numerous other questions should be answered before you have a sick colicky horse and the vet asks you "do you want to go to a referral hospital?"

When I go on vacation my pet sitter has treatment authorization to take the horses to Leesburg for colic surgery should they need it. My one horse is young and healthy and a good candidate for surgery. The other one is old, has arthritis, had to undergo chemotherapy for cancer a few years ago. He truthfully is not an ideal candidate, yet as the owner I have told her that he is to have surgery if he colics and needs it.

There are several different types of colic and differentiating which type the horse has is important for determining what kind of treatment is needed. A gas colic may require nothing more than a couple of medications and a few minutes of hand

walking. An impaction colic usually requires a lot more hand walking, medications, and fluid therapy (either given via nasogastric tube or IV or both). Displacements, entrapments, and torsions almost always require prompt surgery for the horse to survive. Colic surgery can be relatively simple and uncomplicated, or can involve major and repeated surgical interventions as well as medications. When necessary, colic surgery is most likely to be successful if it is done early after symptoms begin and before the gut begins to leak intestinal contents.

Recently, a horse belonging to the editor of this newspaper, coliced. He and his wife have owned horses for over 35 years and, like most experienced horse owners, had dealt with a fair number of colics. The editor's wife worked many years as a veterinary nurse in a horse hospital and has lots of experience caring for colic patients at the hospital.

The editor and his wife called me on Valentine's Day while I was out riding my horse. In a calm voice, I was told that Archie was colicing. Not a bad colic, and while they had given Banamine, they wanted me to come out and take a look at him. When I arrived, he was bright and alert but mildly uncomfortable. Heart rate and temperature were normal but his intestinal sounds were too quiet on one side and too loud on the other. We decided to sedate him and pass a stomach tube to give him electrolytes and water. Afterwards, he seemed to be doing well so we put him in his stall to rest while the sedation wore off. I then joined Mike and Audrey in the kitchen under the guise of wanting to see how Archie did when his sedation wore off, but really to eat all of the Valentines cookies that Audrey had made.

After dinner, we went back out to the barn. Archie looked great. He was banging at his stall and wanted his hay. I instructed Mike that he could give him a few handfuls throughout the night and we would see how he did. The next morning I received a phone call that everything was looking good. There were several piles of manure in the stall and Archie want-



Archie wowed judges with his flawless dressage and exceptional jumping skills. Unfortunately, an old racing injury to an ankle ended his short but brilliant eventing career. He spent the last ten of his 19 years in blissful retirement growing fat.

ed breakfast. It was looking like it had been a bit of an impaction and that he was through it. Archie was given a warm mash for breakfast and I was expecting to not hear anything else.

I was wrong. The following evening, I was called back. Archie was painful again. As I walked into the barn, I asked "is he a surgical/referral candidate?" The answer was "no" to surgery, but "maybe" to hospital care. While I had not even performed a physical exam prior to asking the question, it was important information to know as I designed a treatment plan. There are several things that play into what makes a horse a surgical candidate. Most important is the wishes of the owner. What makes a horse a candidate in my mind versus the owners' mind can be very different. I did not think Archie was an ideal candidate for surgery. His age alone, increased his chances of anesthetic complications. He also had a history of orthopedic issues, increasing his risk of fracturing a leg in recovery. Those, in addition to the usual risks associated with colic surgery, and the months of recovery afterwards, were what made me question if he would be good for surgery. In talking with Mike, he also had the financial reasons. He has two other younger horses in the barn that would require care and any money spent was less money for the others if a medical issue should arise with

them; in addition, Archie was a "cripple" and had been unrideable for years. So the decision was to treat the colic medically.

Archie was tubed again. Examination per rectum was performed and distended bowel was felt. The owners were prepared for a long night of walking. I also left them with several syringes of sedation and pain relief to give as needed to keep Archie comfortable while we tried to see if he could work through the colic.

At 6 the next morning, Mike called to say that the night had been horrible and it had been a real challenge to keep Archie walking and comfortable. I went out to their farm again. There was an odor in the air. An odor that I can't describe other than as the odor of a horse that needs to be hospitalized. I didn't have to recommend

that option, the Hillmans had already decided on it.

The trailer was dug out of the snow and Archie marched on the trailer. While he hadn't been in a trailer in years, having had a long career of eventing, he felt at ease with the trailer and calmly loaded. I've seen other horses that have refused to load when colicing and unfortunately it has cost them their lives. A veterinary emergency is one time when it is essential that a horse load easily into the trailer. I gave Archie more sedation and pain medications for his drive to Leesburg.

While Archie made the journey down to Leesburg, he did not come home. His intestines had displaced and had started leaking fluid into the abdomen. Even if surgery had been done, the surgery would have been high risk and Archie would have likely not survived. Few do when the stomach ruptures.

When deciding what to write about for this month's paper, Mike encouraged me to write about his horse. I usually wait a few months before writing about a case, especially one where I'm as emotionally involved. It is never easy losing a patient, especially one you've known for years. It is natural to go back and question how you approached the case and what could have been done differently to save him. The initial reaction is to want to send every colic for surgery but that doesn't guarantee survival and the majority of colics don't need surgery. So after much reflection I still believe Archie's treatment was appropriate even though the outcome was not what I wanted or what the owners wanted. Sometimes, even good management will not be enough to have a horse survive colic.



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THE MASTER GARDENER

Shade gardening

Mary Ann Ryan
Adams County Master Gardener
Professor of Latin and
Residential Horticulture,
University of Harney

I don't know about you, but when March rolls around, I'm really itching to get outside. The days are getting longer, although not particularly warmer, but longer! My garden planning goes into overdrive, and if there's a new garden to design, you better bet I'll be outside marking it off!

One of our Master Gardeners stopped at our office and she is working on a presentation on shade gardening. It made me think about the shade gardens I've

visited and how absolutely beautiful they are. Which also made me think about the little area by our deck that shade prevails. This just may be my spring gardening project!

The biggest problem with shade is that there aren't many plants that bloom. Focusing on the foliage, texture and color becomes the mainstay in a shade garden. Also depending on the type of shade may direct you to what types of plants you may want to try.

If your shade is under a canopy of trees, you should consider some of the spring ephemerals like Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginiana*), with its bubblegum-pink striped flowers; Squirrel

Corn (*Dicentra canadensis*) and Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), both with exquisite blue-green foliage and curious white flowers similar to our familiar garden Bleeding Heart; Trout Lily (*Erythronium americanum*) with purplish-green mottled foliage and yellow reflexed flowers; and Mertensia, a lovely blue flower that will glow brightly in your garden.

These spring ephemerals just show their splendor in the spring. Most of them like moist, acidic soils, as they are often found under trees with rich soils from decaying plant parts and found along streambanks. The foliage of these plants will go away as the shade deepens with leaves growing on the trees, so you'll need to plan accordingly.

The fun thing about shade gardening is that texture and leaf color really come into play for a beautiful garden. Here are some plants you may want to try for summer texture.

Wild columbine, *Aquilegia canadensis*, blooms in late spring and holds its leaves throughout much of the summer. The foliage reminds me a bit of a big clover leaf. It reaches anywhere from 8" to 18" depending on the variety.

Wild Ginger, *Asarum canadense*, is a great little ground cover that has dark green, heart shaped leaves that are absolutely stunning when they begin to cover an area. This plant likes it moist, but well drained, and can



"Turn right at the *Robinia pseudoacacia*.
 pass the garden with the *salvia officinalis*,
 cross the road when you see the *stranvaesia*
davidinia and the pub is on the left!"

tolerate shade very well.

Epimedium, although not native, is a nice perennial for dry shade. Much information I find about this particular perennial suggests moist, well drained soils, but my *Epimedium x rubrum* has grown wonderfully in a very, very dry shady spot where nothing else has grown. I've tried hosta, bleeding heart, vinca...nothing has been successful except the epimedium. This plant can grow as a ground cover, although quite slowly. There are many species and cultivars of this plant; leaf and flower color is different on each. They have a heart shaped leaf, with a white, pink or dark

rose color. The *Epimedium x rubrum* that I have has leaves with a reddish leaf margin. It's a very pretty, delicate, and a welcome resident to a spot that nothing else will grow.

Lobelia cardinalis has a spiky, red flower that reaches as much as 3' high. I love this plant! You'll find hummingbirds and bees attracted to the flower spikes in the summer, which just adds to the beauty of the plant. My experience with this particular plant is it does tend to move around a bit. It will reseed itself, and the mother plants may disappear; just something to be aware of if you choose this for your garden. There are many cultivars that have been introduced in the plant industry of this particular species, some with dark red flowers, some more delicate, others more vibrant, but all are a wonderful addition to a shade garden with moist soils, as it is naturally found along streams in a dappled shady area.

A plant group that I must mention is the *Heucheras* (coral bells). Our native species, *Heuchera americana* and *Heuchera villosa*, both have rounded leaves with scalloped edges. These are typically grown for the foliage, although the flower spikes, with small white to pink to red flowers, depending on the cultivar, are attractive as well, especially to hummingbirds.

There are many selections and new introductions of *Heuchera americana*, one of which is *Heuchera a. 'Dale's Strain'*. I have this one and just love it! It has reddish venation and is a great texture and color for the shade garden. Typically the *heucheras* should be planted in the foreground so the foliage isn't hidden by the other plants around them.

Heuchera villosa is another of our native plants. The foliage on the straight species is a light green, a nice contrast to the *americana*. Lots of selections have been made of this particular species as well, some of which have dark red to maroon flowers,

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THE MASTER GARDENER

and, my favorite, a fall blooming one called 'Autumn Bride'. This plant's flowers are very showy, white spikes that add color to the fall garden, when little else is flowering, and the foliage is pretty all season long!

There are many other Heucheras available on the market, selected or bred mostly for foliage color. You can find cultivars that have foliage in shades of lime green, rust, red, maroon, variegated, bigger leaves, smaller leaves - you get the picture. Many introductions of this pretty shade garden plant.

Two other plants I'd like to mention are Aster cordifolius and Aster divaricatus. These are both native asters worthy of the shade garden. Aster cordifolius has blue/lavender flowers, can reach 30 - 36 inches (at least it does in my garden!) and spreads very quick-

ly. This one, although very pretty, can be difficult to control as it reseeds so readily. I'm frequently pulling in from locations that I don't want it to be. I don't regret planting it, however, would caution using this on in a more controlled garden. It's wonderful for a more wilder, or natural garden type. It likes part shade, moist locations, and is touted as deer resistant, but the deer do seem to keep mine trimmed during the summer! Butterflies are also attracted to this one.

Aster divaricatus likes it shady, but can tolerate dryer conditions. This sweet aster has white flowers butterflies seem to love! Blooming in late summer - early fall, just like the divaricatus, it adds an additional flower color to the early fall garden. It reaches about 18", shorter than the divaricatus, and should probably be used more in

the middle of the perennial shade garden. This one doesn't spread as quickly as the divaricatus, so may be the selection for a more controlled or manicured shade garden.

What else can you do in February as a gardener other than planning? If you haven't already, get your seeds ordered. You'll be ready when the ground warms. Start the broccoli and cabbage

seeds for spring transplants now, if you haven't already. These are cool season crops and the transplants should go into ground by late March.

Prune! This is a great time to prune the fruit trees and most deciduous trees. Be sure you know what you're doing before making that first cut, though. Pruning fruit trees and deciduous trees are very different. Oh, and one

more thing, check your fencing for your pastured livestock. You don't want your goat to get out of their fenced area, as they are prone to prune for you and ruin your espalier apple trees! Just sayin'.

If you consider environmental issues when choosing de-icing salts and apply according to the label, you should be able to stay safe and protect the environment around you.

Small Town Gardener Orchis Enchantis

Marianne Wilburn

Just over a year ago at the end of a particularly brutal winter, I made a Scandinavian sojourn to the holy halls of IKEA to buy some bookcases to line an office wall. On my way out, weakened by meatballs and lingonberry juice, I fell prey to one of the dirtiest Swedish marketing tricks to cross the North Sea - a beautiful stand of Phalaenopsis Orchids with tiny price tags begging for homes.

I have walked away from Orchids before. I know what happens to the unsuspecting plant lover when this fatal beauty comes knocking at the greenhouse door. Heartbreak. Misery. Good money thrown away on pebble trays and sphagnum moss. Orchids were all well and good in a botanical garden under glass, tended by graduate students and misted with pure Amazonian water every ten minutes - but in my seventeen percent humidity house in the dead of winter? I was not even slightly interested. Give me a strong summer Leucanthemum or winter's hardy Hellebore. Believe me, this home and garden is no place for nature's fragile flowers (literal or otherwise).

Yet March is a cruel month in Maryland. Just as you think you might be touching the hem of spring, a freezing rain coats the plum tree in an inch of icy glass, and you have to put away your dreams for another three weeks. I was weak. The Orchid was exquisite. The price was right.

And then, like a particularly successful arranged marriage, I fell in love.

It had a lot to do with the length of bloom - Six weeks if a day. I couldn't believe it, hour after day after week of strong, succulent bloom. I was so enchanted I even bought him a wedding present in the form of a bronze water mister. And then when blossoms finally faded, I clipped back the stem and prepared the death certificate - for whom but an expert can keep an orchid alive? But my little Phal continued to grow.

I never expected he'd survive sitting next to my writing desk in the low-lit living room - but it was all I could offer him at the time. I suppose I just got lucky, because he started putting up what I thought to be new flower stalks. They were a bit whitish, and a little twisted looking, but beggars can't be choosers - I tied them up and watched ex-

pectantly.

Then I met an Orchid Specialist for the Smithsonian Greenhouses at a party. Turned out my flower stems were aerial roots. I don't like to make mistakes this egregious, and I sure don't like to admit them, but hey, it's an orchid. Ignorance is pretty common. I sheepishly untied the roots from their vertical imprisonment when I got home and apologized profusely.

It also turned out that I had accidentally given this lucky plant just the growing conditions he needed - low light and a nighttime dip in temperature (I tend to keep this room cold) to stimulate a new flower spike.

Now, said my new friend Tom-the-Orchid-Man, I just needed to encourage what seemed to be the beginnings of an inflorescence (orchid-talk for flowering spike if you're ever at a party) by bringing the temperature up a little and keeping the humidity high.

And that's precisely what I am doing: playing slave girl to an orchid taskmaster while my philodendron weeps from neglect in the back room. And, to my complete and utter dismay, I'm enjoying every minute of it.

Orchids can be difficult, granted. But a Phalaenopsis is about as easy as you can get in the orchid world - an epiphytic orchid that grows anchored into the bark of a host plant in the wild. If the stars align, and my beloved Phal sports a homemade inflorescence in the next month, perhaps I will graduate to a Paphiopedilum (the Lady Slipper orchid) in a few weeks' time...

...and buy a graveled tray
...and join The American Orchid Society
...and build a conservatory onto the back of my house
...and get a second job to support my orchid fetish.

That's the last time I visit IKEA in the dead of winter. Those Swedes have a great deal to answer for.



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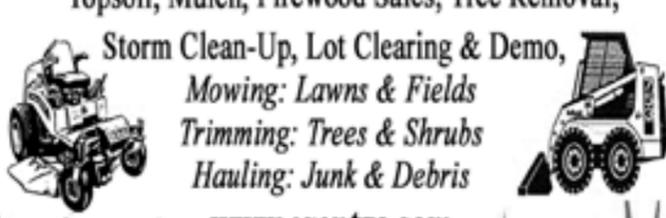
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CIVIL WAR

South Mountain during Early's raid

John Miller
Civil War Historian
Emmitsburg Historical Society

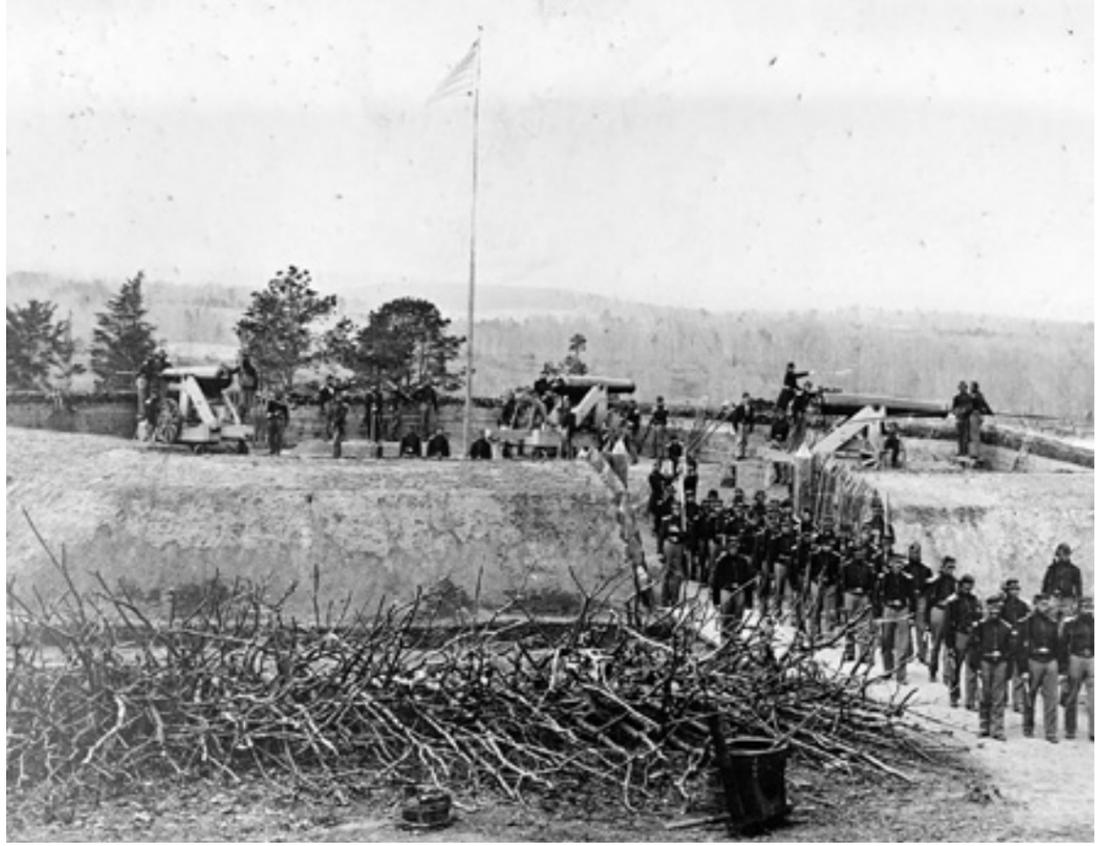
South Mountain witnessed much activity during the American Civil War, most famously the Battles of South Mountain in September 1862. During the 1863 Pennsylvania Campaign the majority of South Mountain in Maryland and Pennsylvania, saw much activity including the Battle of Monterey Pass, situated along the Mason Dixon Line. In July of 1864, South Mountain would again see major activity during Confederate Lieutenant General Jubal Early's Maryland Campaign.

On July 3, many citizens living in the Cumberland Valley heard cannon fire in the direction of West Virginia, and began to flee, crossing South Mountain in the wake of another Maryland Invasion. It was rumored by many refugees that Lt. Gen. Early was leading an army toward Shepherdstown, and would ford the Potomac River there into Maryland. As many refugees flocked east of South Mountain, Middletown residents doubted that another invasion was even going to take place.

Headquartered in Baltimore, Union Major General Lew Wallace heard the same rumors about

a massive troop movement moving up the Shenandoah Valley, that could threaten Maryland or Washington. He had also received reports about Lt. Gen. Early's movements from the officials of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Major General Wallace thought to himself about the consequences of this campaign. If Washington was the Confederate target, they could capture the defenseless city, as most of those troops were sent to Union General U. S. Grant. If the city was lost, the Confederates would capture the Quartermaster Depot, Naval Yard, and the U.S. Treasury. This would be a major blow to the Union.

The Confederate army began to ford the Potomac River on July 5. By July 7, they were fully concentrated at Sharpsburg, where in September 1862, many of these men fought in the battle of Antietam. Major General Wallace boarded a train at Baltimore and made his way to Frederick. From there he began assessing his situation and weighing his options. Union cavalry stationed in Frederick also went out to assess the situation. There, at Turner's Gap, upon South Mountain, a detachment of the 8th Illinois Cavalry skirmished with Brigadier General Bradley Johnson's Cavalry Brigade. This was no contest for the Confederate cavalry, and



Confederate Lieutenant General Jubal Early's Valley Campaign included the Battle of Fort Stevens, which took place just outside of Washington on July 11 & 12 of 1864.

they pushed ahead toward Middletown when two cannon were fired by Alexander's Baltimore Artillery, supported by the 8th Illinois Cavalry. Brigadier General Johnson and his cavalry would skirmish toward Braddock's Gap upon the Catoctin Mountain.

During the day, Lt. Gen. Early ordered his army to South Moun-

tain, skirmishing at several points along the way with Union Major General Franz Sigel's force. Confederate Major General John C. Breckenridge marched into Rohrer'sville, where he was supplied with new shoes for his soldiers, and encamped for the night. A few miles to the south, Major General Robert Rodes' Division

skirmished with Union cavalry, but by nightfall the Confederates were bivouacked near Crampton's Gap. Lieutenant General Jubal Early, along with Major General Stephen Raseur's Division were near Boonsboro.

Acting on orders, Mr. Fletcher scouted the movements of the Confederate army. Report-

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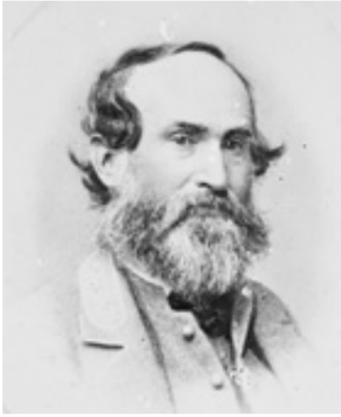
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CIVIL WAR



Confederate Lt. General Jubal Early

ing back to Major Burt about the activity near Boonsboro, Mr. Flechter recalled, "Discovered a large number scattered all over the country, gathering horses, with scouts in mountain for the same purpose, preventing my going any farther, and have gathered in a large number of horses from the Maryland farmers." Major Burt sent that information to Major General Darius Couch in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

On July 8, Early's army began marching toward Middletown. The Confederate army marched over South Mountain at three different mountain gaps. Using the National Road through Turner's Gap was Lt. Gen. Early and Maj. Gen. Ramseur's Division. Also, the wagon train that followed the Confederate army used that same route. About a mile to the south was Fox's Gap, situated on the Old Sharpsburg Road. Following this route was the Army of South Western Virginia under the command of Major General John C. Breckenridge. About seven miles south of that point was Crampton's Gap. This is the route Major General

Rodes' Division would use.

Since the Old Sharpsburg Road and the National Road both led to Middletown, this would be the concentration point by evening for both Early and Breckenridge. Major General Rodes would continue his march to the town of Jefferson. The only natural barrier that separated the Confederate army from Frederick was the Catoctin Mountain.

As the Confederate troops moved over South Mountain, the Union cavalry skirmished with the Confederate rear guard. By the end of the day, Crampton's Gap was being used to hold Confederate prisoners that were captured by the Union cavalry.

As the sun rose on July 9, the Battle of Monocacy would erupt. While, Lt. Gen. Early was there fighting, he maintained a chain of pickets that covered many of the mountain gaps situated upon South Mountain. Federal scouts entered Wolfsville, where they stated that fifty Confederate infantrymen were on picket duty, and that they were part of a chain of pickets that stretched across South Mountain from there to Boonsboro. It was also reported that several Confederate troops were fortifying the battlefield of South Mountain.

On July 10, it was reported that Confederate cavalry were foraging South Mountain from Monterey Pass to Frederick, stealing horses, and creating much alarm. During the day, Major John Burt wrote to Major General Couch, who was at Chambersburg, that about 3,000 cavalrymen under General Bradley Johnson were in Lewistown and Creagerstown, with another



Map of General Early's Valley Campaign of 1864

er 7,000 cavalrymen at Smoke-town. He also confirmed that the Confederate troops were fortifying South Mountain, and that General Imboden, with about 1,500 men, came down the west side of South Mountain, sending a small detail of men into Smithsburg, eight miles from Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

Captain Maxwell Woodhull, who was serving as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General wrote a dispatch to Union Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence that Brigadier General William Morris wanted a cavalry to scout the area near South Mountain at Black Rock Bridge. Reports were of Confederate cavalry and a section of artillery moving along the Westminster and Baltimore Pike, from Boonsboro. The Westminster and Baltimore Pike was a roadway that led from Hagerstown, over South

Mountain at Wolf's Tavern, and at the Catoctin Mountain to Emmitsburg, and continued to Westminster.

This ended the actions on South Mountain during Lieutenant General Jubal Early's Raid on Washington. This campaign is a fascinating one. Although, the majority of the Confederate army marches toward Frederick and fights a battle

along the banks of the Monocacy, one can see how far the effects of the campaign reached. Troop movements, picket lines, and smaller raid parties had a far reaching effect on the communities on and around South Mountain.

To read other articles on the Civil War visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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HISTORY

A brief history of Fountaindale & its post office

Paul E. Seabrook

Part 2

When William J. died in 1892, a son Edgar A. Sprenkle came into possession of the land which at that time consisted of 162 acres and 80 perches. In 1894 he built a new home near the site of the one that had burned. A new barn that burned before it was completed and replaced it with a smaller one. The fountain was removed and all traces of it are gone. Since his death in 1915 the land has been sold and divided into many smaller portions. The old mill is gone and not much remains but the huge stone dam that stands as a memorial to the engineering ability of the pioneer forefathers. This dam replaced the original earth and log dam built by Daniel Sprenkle and which had washed out after it was sold to Joseph Baugher. The new dam was built farther up stream.

When the Rail Road was built from Gettysburg to meet the existing Rail Road at Highfield, (now the Western Maryland), the section which is on Jacks Mountain was built in 1889, the mails were carried by train and the post between York and Hagerstown was discontinued.

The mail for the Fountaindale Post Office was dropped off at a point along the track just above the store, which was reached by a foot path, and mail was picked up by suspending the bag by top and bottom from two arms fastened to a pole along side the track, a hook was extended from the mail car, which caught the mail sack and pulled it into the car, trains did not stop at this point. It was the duty of one person to carry the sack up and place it on the pole and bring down the sack with the incoming mail. There were four trains each week day which made it necessary to make four trips each day by the foot path. This was not the duty of the Postmaster, but was done by some one who was not very much occupied otherwise.

Many new post offices were established after the Rail Road was built. Some of the nearby were Virginia Mills, Iron Springs, Jacks Mountain, Gladhill, (now Greenstone) Charmain; All of these served the small community near by and most have now been discontinued.

The tavern at the original location of the Fountaindale Post Office, was built and operated by the Gordons. It was built of logs and the bed rooms were very small. Dr. Sidneyham C. Walker, who

came from Dakota Territory, married one of the Gordon daughters and later became owner and operator of the tavern.

Dr. Walker served with the Union Army during the Civil War and was away from home at the time Lee camped in this valley on his retreat from the battle of Gettysburg. Dr. Walker had a son Horace, who married Emma Martin. They had two children.

When Dr. Walker died in 1902, he willed his property to his two grandchildren, the granddaughter getting the portion on which the buildings stood and the grandson the land on the opposite side of the Turnpike, on this land had been a saw mill, which had burned and was never rebuilt. Here also had been a log school house, known as "Walker's". This school was in Liberty Township. About 1883 a new brick school known as Minney Branch was built farther down stream and the old log building was sold to George Sprenkle and was moved about 1/2 mile away at the foot of Jacks Mountain and set up as a home, at the time of this writing it is still there and in good condition. Mr. Charles G. Flohr told this writer that his father Mr. John Flohr had let him have a team of four horses and wagon to haul the old school to its



Jack's Mountain Station House was built in the 1880s by William Heyser.

new location.

There were many other saw mills along this stream in the early days, on the Flohr land, and farther up stream the pioneer Harbaugh family had built a large brick flour and feed mill and a saw mill. Later this was bought by the Martins and operated by them for many years. This mill stood at the junction of the old "Great Road" and the Harbaugh Valley Road. In 1923 it was sold to the new First National Bank & Trust Co. of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. The building was demolished with dynamite and the bricks used in the rear walls of the new bank building on the northwest corner of the Waynesboro square, where they can be seen today. All of the gearing, pulleys and shafting in this mill were made of wood and the grain was ground by stone burrs.

When the Mercersburg, Green-castle and Waynesboro Turnpike was built through this valley, it cut through the churchyard of the Lutheran Church and the eastern portion came into possession the Schrodgers and later the Sprenkles. After some time Mr. Edgar Sprenkle built a small home for

his aged mother on this land using what was useful of the old house at the edge of the tan-yard where the Schrodgers had last lived.

Some years ago this writer went to the old churchyard to try to locate the grave marker of the Confederate soldier and record the inscription, but it was no longer there. Also gone were the stones that marked the graves of Daniel Sprenkle and his wife, but the markers of their daughter and her husband, Jacob Stover were there as well as the walled lot of the Hardman family. All of the other markers had disappeared, perhaps carried off by some of the workers when the new "Sunshine Trail" was built.

When the Lutherans began to die out, the Methodists became the stronger and the new Wesley Chapel became the center of activity in Fountaindale, with the store and post office nearby and later Mr. John Barton set up his blacksmith and wagon shop and store, just next door to the church.

A short distance away, in Harbaugh's Valley were St. Jacobs Reformed Church, the Brethren (Dunker) Church and the "Valley" school. This building now

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OBITUARIES

belongs to St. Jacobs Church. The Brethren Church was sold, turned into a home and some years ago burned. Once the members of this faith were very numerous in this section, but few if any are left.

The old Fountaindale school house was a stone building about midway between the first and last post offices. A new frame building was built farther west and the old stone building was eventually torn down and the stones used in the foundation walls of a new home built by Mr. Clarence Sprenkle, a great-great grandson of the pioneer, Daniel.

At Fountaindale Spring, Mr. Fred McIntire built an addition to his home and established a small tavern, a spring on a hill to the rear supplied water to the fountain and to the house and here it can be safely said was the first bathroom in this community. This fountain has long since disappeared, as well as the original one put in by Joseph Baugher.

When the railroad was built in 1889, the workmen had a building on the partly finished embankment of the old "Tape-worm Railroad" in which they ate and slept. These workmen were known as "Hunkies" and could not speak much English. These workmen would come down to the Sprenkle mill pond to fish and someone told them that if they would set off a charge of dynamite in the pond they would get plenty

of fish. This was attempted but the fuse was too long and the water carried the charge under the dam where the water flowed into the mill race. Here it exploded and badly damaged that part of the dam. When the owner discovered the damage, he began to look for the culprit, and finding who was responsible, let him off at the large sum of \$5.00. An old steam engine boiler was bought, the ends cut out and it was turned upside down in the breach and stones filled in around it. Here it can be seen today if anyone will crawl into the opening where once the water flowed through.

So many changes have taken place in this little valley that if any of the pioneers could return to walk through it, they would be amazed to see what has taken place. Automobiles and heavy trucks zoom up and down the mountain where once horses labored hard to haul a small portion of the weight carried today. And under Raven Rock Mountain, which was once known in part as the Beard lot, is the Underground pentagon, and farther up are the mills for manufacturing roofing granules, commonly known as "grit". Much of this area is underlain with a very hard green copper bearing rock that is used for the "grit".

About the turn of the 20th century an attempt was made to develop the copper mining industry and a smelter was built and operated for a few years, but although copper was there, it was not of a profitable quantity and

the effort was a failure. Many people who put their money into this venture went bankrupt and some of the promoters thought it wise to depart for a more healthy climate.

When later it was discovered that this same green rock could be used for the roofing granules, two separate industries put up mills and were very successful but the waste dust and fine sand was dumped into the creek and flood waters carried to the old mill ponds completely filling them and in some places changed the course of the stream, causing it to flood meadows and making it entirely useless for fish and other wildlife.

The writer had a good deal of litigation with the management of these grit mills about the deposit and the damage done by the fine sands carried into the turbine wheels of the mill, this acted like a sand blast and cut the bearings and shafts, making expensive repairs a frequent necessity. Little was accomplished as the mills had foreseen what would be the result and had strategically retained all the lawyers in the County. Promises were made to stop the dumping, but never kept. Those who did succeed in getting a damage suit before the court were promptly quashed with a nominal settlement.

When this story was begun it was intended to give only an outline of the origin of the Post Office, but many other items seemed to be part of the story and it kept enlarging. It is not intended to give any one family the center of the stage or to put another into the background, but to use all who were a part of the early history.

If anyone who reads these pages can add any authentic item, it will be most welcome, as no one person, even when they have an unusual collection of old documents, personal papers of former generations and access to early history, can put the complete 100 percent story together.

It appears that John Martin was appointed Postmaster after his return from prison for he resigned in 1866 and Samuel Martin was appointed in his place Fountaindale post office.

Jerry "Toad" Brawner



Jerry Joseph "Toad" Brawner, 65, of Emmitsburg died Tuesday, February 25, at Frederick Memorial Hospital. Born August 2, 1948 in Gettysburg, he was the son of the late Charles and Mae Crum Brawner. He was the husband of Mildred "Milly" Eckenrode Brawner, to whom he was married for 40 years.

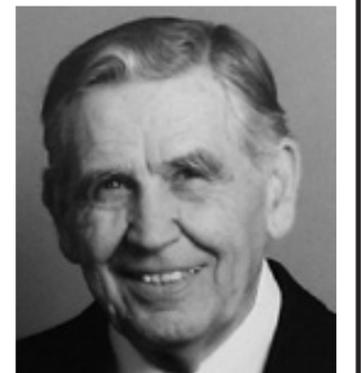
Jerry was a construction worker. He was employed with W.F. Delauter and Son for more than 20 years. He enjoyed restoring old cars, his favorite being his 1955 Chevy. He loved going to flea markets, yard sales, and car shows, and spending time with his family and friends. He especially enjoyed the company of his beloved pet, Cocoa.

Surviving in addition to his wife

are sisters, Sandra "Sue" Brawner Muench of Fairfield, Linda "Snickles" Rill Kisner of Charles Town, Lucy "Luke" Gumm of Gettysburg, and Julia Fisher and husband Dan of Fairfield; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Deb and Gene Moreland of Paw Paw, WV; and many nieces and nephews, including special nieces, Karen and Jennifer Rill, Michelle Fletcher, Hailey Shellemann, and Adyson Moreland, and special nephews, Trent and Tony Fletcher, Roger Rill, Jr., Kevin Rill, William Leatherman, Scotty Moreland, Andrew Gumm, and Kenny Gumm III. He was predeceased by brothers, Charles "Butch" Crum, and Mike Gochenour, and sister, Judy Hawbaker.

Funeral services were held at the Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home in Emmitsburg with the Rev. Jon R. Greenstone, pastor of Elias Lutheran Church officiating. Interment was in the Elias Lutheran Church Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Pl, Memphis, TN, 38105. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.

George Frailey Combs



George Frailey Combs, 92, of Frederick, formerly of Emmitsburg, died Tuesday, February 11 at Homewood at Cruiland Farms. Born January 11, 1922, he was the son of the late Cooley and Clara Rowe Combs. He was the husband of the late Doris Peeper Combs, to whom he was married for 60 years. Doris died March 9, 2011. George and Doris formerly lived in Alexandria, VA for more than 50 years where they were members of the Fairlington United Methodist Church.

Born and raised in Emmitsburg, George was admitted to Mount St. Mary's College at the age of sixteen and graduated with honors in 1942. He enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps that same year. After attending navigation school he was assigned to the 8th Air Force in England where he became a lead navigator guiding formations of B-17 bombers on missions over occupied Europe. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Air Medals, and four Battle Stars. Upon his discharge from the Army following WWII, George attended Dickinson Law School where he received

a law degree in 1948 and became a member of the Maryland Bar Association.

George was an attorney who spent his entire career with the Federal Trade Commission where he worked as a staff attorney and as a confidential advisor to several Commissioners. His principal work, however, was preparing the drafts of over a hundred Commission adjudicative opinions. His most significant achievement was his work on the opinion, which resulted in the licensing of the patent on the antibiotic Tetracycline, saving consumers millions of dollars.

Surviving are daughter, Virginia Bruce Combs of Lutherville, MD; son, and George F. "Jeff" Combs, Jr. and wife Mary of Atlanta, GA. He was predeceased by brothers Samuel and Thomas Combs.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 108 Byte Dr., Suite 103, Frederick, 21702 or to the Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Rd, Suite 300, Jacksonville, FL, 32256. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.



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NSA surveillance programs

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There's something in it for everyone!

The media is abuzz with stories about National Security Agency surveillance programs and Booz Allen Hamilton employee Edward Snowden's adventures in Hawaii, China and Russia. A tale of one man's adventure to save America and the world from the evils of big government monitoring of their cell phone calls and Email messages. Throw in images of a scantily clad young woman luxuriating in the hero's Hawaiian beach pad before the adventure began. Then a never ending tale being told from plush, Moscow hotels and airport lounges, that bring back memories of the Cold War. Big government run amok.

Throw in a smattering of high tech computer magic and 21st century, espionage. Its about big government's invasion of our personal privacy- about patriots, terrorists, whistleblowers, traitors and spies. You may not understand much of what you are reading, but you can't get enough of it. You want it and you will be getting it for some time to come! Why, because the folks who make their living in the 24 hour news cycle, will be feeding you a new dose of it every day. This is the story that just keeps on giving. I am sure that Hollywood already has feelers out for the rights to an upcoming movie expose 'Whistleblower ... The epic tale of David versus Goliath in an age of cyber warfare'. Coming to a theater near you!

Don't blame me blame the computer...

So what is it all about? As a former employee of both the National Security Agency and Booz Allen Hamilton I have thought about this a lot lately. Edward Snowden worked on NSA contracts for Booz Allen in Hawaii in 2013. Since he began his trip to Russia last June, I have been going through what psychologists call the five stages of loss and grief- denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. I think I have just entered the accep-

tion stage. I see a light at the end of the tunnel- and it may be the train.

If I put my Cold War Warrior's hat on, I would view this as a simple case of treason. You don't work for NSA & sign oaths to safeguard the nation's secrets and then release an unknown quantity of secrets without an expectation of retribution. Once you cross the line- it's payback time. But I'm also be-



When the NSA was created, modern computers had less computing power than the typical smart phone of today.

ginning to accept the idea that we are in a different kind of a war. It is not my Cold War....or World War II where peddlers of state secrets could expect very harsh treatment if and when found guilty. Snowden's case may very well end up in the U.S. Court system and if it does, it will be very interesting to see how it turns out.

How so? I am now trying to see this through the eyes of one living in today's computer-dependent, high tech world. A world of instant news and self gratification. A world of the internet, blogs, Google searches, social media, credit cards, credit checks, consumer fraud and identity theft. A world that is aggressively filing away every little "factoid" that we release into the Internet and blogosphere. And, lest you become too complacent, your friendly social network services are constantly reminding you to update your personal information or letting you know "you have new friends!"

As one who recently was the target of an internet "phishing" attack by an

Eastern European site, I am a lot more scared of these folks than I am of NSA collecting my cell phone data. Especially because they're so aggressive and unrelenting! And they all feed on each other. I NEVER gave out my Social Security Number to anyone, but I lost it in my 2013 phishing attack. Suddenly my Social Security Number and other private information is appearing

in social media and trusted credit card sites- like magic.

They say things don't get real until they get personal

I know NSA and I trust them. As a young naval officer I helped them move from Washington D.C. to Fort Meade Maryland in 1958. I worked in an office next door to infamous defectors - William Martin and Bernon Mitchell. Brilliant, young idealists who worked in one of NSA's most sensitive, analytic organizations. Like me, they had a rudimentary understanding of the Russian language. They were trying to improve their language skills by reading the top Soviet newspapers and journals of the day - Red Star, Ivestiya, Pravda and Ogonyok (The Lamp). Pure propaganda, but they were buying it. They became convinced that U.S. airborne surveillance programs along the periphery of the Soviet Union were immoral. Surveillance immoral? Sound familiar?

At any rate they walked away from their desks at NSA in the Summer of 1960. The KGB Travel Agency secretly guided them from the U.S. to the USSR via Mexico on a Soviet tramp steamer. They sailed right past me at my new, NSA station in Istanbul in September 1960. In 1963, an NSA study concluded that "Beyond any doubt, no other event has had, or is likely to have in the future, a greater impact on the Agency's security." Oh?

And how did things work out for Martin and Mitchell? Not so well! First they were milked for all the propaganda value they had through a series of showy press conferences in Moscow. Then they were exiled to separate lives near Leningrad (St. Petersburg) and lived as second class, Soviet citizens. Obviously they couldn't be trusted with any work of real importance to Soviet society.

Mitchell renounced his American citizenship and died in St. Petersburg in 2001. Martin later told a Soviet newspaper that his defection had been

"foolhardy". He applied at the American consulate in Moscow for repatriation and it was denied. He also was denied a tourist visa. Somehow he got out of the Soviet Union and died of cancer in Tijuana, Mexico in 1987.

You probably can see the similarities between the Martin and Mitchell case of the 1960s and today's Edward Snowden case. Both were triggered by a crisis of conscience over the morality of NSA surveillance programs followed by a surprise, secret journey to Russia. Then a series of press conferences before the world press- that were facilitated by a most supportive, Russian "host" who was appalled with how the U.S. was violating its citizens' civil rights.

Contractors in a high-tech cyber world

Also I know Booz Allen Hamilton, and I trust them. In my mind, Booz Allen set the "gold standard" for government contractors when they came to Washington in World War II to set up the Navy's "Murmansk Run" project office. Their highly qualified staff created a series of techniques by which complex program and project management was conducted. What they called Program Evaluation and Review Technique charts to view and control interlocking, complex activities. Goals, Milestones and Schedules in the day before computers. Techniques that later became part of the toolkit of all major businesses in the U.S.

ple that really wanted information from the computers and didn't give a darn how they worked. I found that when working with a team of screen tuggers and geeks - you had to keep the geeks focused on the situation that you were looking for.

For example, we might be looking for indications of major, Warsaw Pact exercises. A case in point would be International Women's Day that occurred like clock work each March. You could set your watch on it ... It was good training. When the exercise did start to unfold, I found my geeks were totally lost in some technical coding work that was totally insensitive to the real world situation. "Don't bother me... I'm busy".

The screen tuggers were trained to try and focus the geeks on the real world events. Sometimes this was not an easy task. From these real world events came "indicators" that were plugged into the computer's software databases. These were the early days of what was called "artificial intelligence". They provided important real world alerts of events that could occur in military operations such as the activation of major command posts or diplomatic facilities. This came from a sophisticated understanding of not only the chain of events but the organizations involved, and the command-and-control that existed for such events. Who was telling whom what to do and in what time sequence? Sounds easy enough, but only if you pay careful attention to isolated events and relate them to the overall situation.

By the late 1980s we were starting to get pretty darn good at this kind of analysis, but it took a team effort



The justification of the defection of William Martin & Bernon Mitchell in 1960 was echoed 43 years later by Edward Snowden.

I was a Principal at Booz Allen in the 1980s when we first set up a business area doing experimental intelligence analysis for government clients. I was hiring experienced, intelligence professionals. They were fully cleared and had long, impressive records in the intelligence world. Our government clients paired them with computer experts from major defense, hardware firms such as TRW, HRB Singer, BTG, Lockheed, McDonnell Douglas... you name it. They built the hardware and the Booz Allen analysts challenged and tweaked the software that made them work. Frankly I was glad I was not in the business of hiring the computer people. This was a highly competitive world. One in which these folks were good and they knew it. They were always keeping their resumes up-to-date. For the next good offer that came along. So much for corporate loyalty.

We wanted people that were "screen tuggers" not "geeks". We wanted peo-

of qualified intelligence analysts and geeks. I left Booz Allen Hamilton in 1990 and was comfortable in the fact that future intelligence analysts would have much better tools and software then we had in the early 1980s. Also, we constantly reminded our project staff that the government client was always the boss. We were there to support them. Not to do their job for them. In many cases we had more experience than the client, but they still were in charge. We were a team working together on important national issues. Our government clients called our facility the Product Development Experimentation Center.

This was in the days when the intelligence community was beginning to realize the potential of personal computers to perform what was called "relational analysis". The linking of complex, interrelated data in near-real-time that previously had been done by the human brain - when it was rested and alert. The kind of analysis you do every

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IS WATCHING YOU

day now when you pose a question in a Google search. Isn't it amazing what pops up on your screen when you ask a carefully worded question? This is the kind of thing that Steve Jobs was working on with his NeXT computer in the early 1990s - before returning to Apple. Yes, the best and the brightest were working on relational analysis in the late '80s and early '90s - when Edward Snowden was in grade school in Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

Beware of Brainiacs!

One of the dilemmas NSA and most modern computer companies face is the rapid advance of technology and the people who work with this technology on a daily basis. Call them what you want ... computer scientists, IT experts, geeks, and "gamers". I have started calling them "brainiacs". They are a highly mobile lot and will seldom remain with any one company or organization for very long. They are also very much in demand. Especially if they have special, government classified clearances. Top clearances mean top paychecks.

In recent studies, psychologists have noted that in some respects, such talented people have a form of autism or Asperger's disease. A personality disorder where one is uncomfortable interacting socially, lack nonverbal communication skills (i.e. tone and pitch, body language etc.) and empathy for their peers. As high school and college students, many brainiacs fail to achieve

at levels commensurate with their abilities. They are bright, but do not earn a high school diploma. They lack confidence in their ability to achieve goals. They may have hidden disabilities. But, they make excellent "gamers" (game developers).

Remember Brainiac? He was was one of Superman's oldest enemies in Marvel Comics. A Coluan genius who had super advanced technology at his finger tips and a brain level of 12. Whatever that meant. Brainiac roamed the universe looking for civilizations that he could

add to his collection of captured worlds. To the average person a brainiac does appear to be operating from a different planet. We don't know how they do it, but they seem brilliant and have skills that are valuable to us mere earthlings. NSA has always had a need for Supermen and Superwomen who could cope with the seemingly unsolvable problems of the day. They needed brainiacs.

We had such a group back in the early days of NSA. We called it ADVA 03. A small group of geniuses that had an unworldly gift for breaking codes. I envied them because they had a nice, comfortable office and an impressive desk with a typewriter. But, they seldom came in to work. They only came in when specifically asked - to solve a difficult problem. Otherwise they were back home in New England playing in the New Haven Symphony ... or some such. I remember thinking "I want to be in ADVA 03. This is a good deal!"

I asked one old timer, "how do you get to be in ADVA 03?" He said "John, it seems you are either a mathematician or musician. They both make good code breakers." I walked away thinking "I'm a musician maybe there's hope." But, I never made it. Maybe I played the wrong instrument? I think if I asked the same question today I would be told "mathematicians, musicians or computer scientists".

I'm sure there is such a group as ADVA 03 at NSA today. In fact, a re-

cent "60 Minutes" program visited NSA and chatted with such a group. Brilliant young men and women with exceptional skills in cryptanalysis and computer science. A cyber era reincarnation of William F. Friedman, Alistair Denniston and Lambros Callimahos from World War II. The problem with brainiacs is they are hard to control. It is like herding cats. They can wander off and get you and themselves into lots of trouble. Especially in this day and age. This was the case with my coworkers Martin and Mitchell- and I believe may be the case with young Edward Snowden.

So where do we stand in the Snowden affair?

It is a little too early to tell. We are in chapter seven (month) of this exciting adventure (Snowden "defected" on June 10, 2013). If I had been at a desk at the FSB Center (former KGB Headquarters) in Lubyanka Square, Moscow in June 2013 I would have felt pretty good. "I can't get enough of this Snowden stuff! It is propaganda bonanza. America's most secretive spy agency is spying on foreign leaders! Our Disinformation guys could not have made up such stuff! Life is good!" As for the thousands of classified documents being released to the press? "Nothing new here. We had all that stuff from our Department 16 (Russian NSA) collection of Sprint, AT&T, Facebook and Google data. Translated - Snowden will probably be of little value to the Russian security services after his propaganda value has passed. Just like Martin and Mitchell. "The data he is peddling is boring. We had it already".

Legally, I have no idea where this matter is headed. If and when Edward Snowden returns to America, he will have to face the American justice system. According to press reports he did divulge classified material and he did sign oaths not to do so. Clearly a federal crime the last time I looked. His motivation for doing so is not clear. What William Martin later labeled "foolhardy" ... in his own case. Although, I can see where our Department of Justice could make a case that Snowden was aiding and abetting an enemy in the War on Terror. Also he alerted the terrorist networks of their own vulnerabilities. He has wrapped himself in the flag of a "whistleblower". Will this somehow protect him from Federal Prison?

I doubt it, but that is to be determined.

I believe there are other Edward Snowdens out there. Young brainiacs who are just waiting for their own moment of fame. How we handle the Snowden case could send a signal to such folks. The very technology which gives the brainiacs a living... also allows them to abscond with state secrets. A small, thumb drive attached to a computer, can do a lot of damage in a few seconds. So easy. And once the deed is done you have a worldwide organization to turn to for support - WikiLeaks. Such a deal!

Martin and Mitchell only had the KGB. The Julian Assange Travel Agency will even provide you with escort services during your travels to your country of choice - be it China, Ecuador, Venezuela or Russia. They might even hook you up with a partner such as the "The Guardian" news service in London to pre-release some of your material.

Now that the horse is out of the barn what can we do?

We need to step back and figure out what to do next. Start with a "damage assessment" - to our national security, our institutions (i.e. NSA, legal system etc.), and our civil liberties.

We have to remind ourselves that we are a nation that is at war - the War on Terror. A war that is worldwide in nature and stretches its ugly tentacles from Afghanistan to Manhattan and the streets of Boston. We must be extra diligent and willing to sacrifice for the common good - as we did in World War II. Also we must remember that is the era of 21st-century, cyber warfare.

For better or worse, information flows freely and openly across national borders. We are one world enjoying the benefits and learning the risks of modern technology. Now there might be a Trojan Horse or other spyware that has been planted inside our desktop computers, cell phones, laptops or tablets. There are bad guys out there trying to



Edward Snowden

get our personal information just because it's fun and doable or because they can hurt us-physically or financially.

You want to network via social networks? Update your daily life's achievements in such convenient places as Facebook or LinkedIn or Twitter? Go ahead, but also recognize that a worldwide network of bad guys is out there waiting to scoff up your likes and dislikes, credit card information, credit status, Social Security number, IRS filings, bank records, personal contact information and the contact information for everyone in your Address book. Oh, and yes, even your cell phone metadata through your friendly AT&T or Sprint server sites. It's out there ... ripe for the taking. I know because I've been there. They're the ones you need to worry about ... not NSA.

We should now look at the personal security issues in the Edward Snowden case. The quality of our security investigations, government contractor access to highly sensitive, classified information, improved security standards and procedures for the use of government computers. We also need to conduct a thorough review of federal and international laws relating to cybercrime (i.e. espionage, copyright infringement, financial theft). We need to send a clear signal to other, would-be Edward Snowdens that are out there that they are playing in a very dangerous game. A game where we all could be the ultimate losers.

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MOM'S TIME OUT

Respect your elders

Mary Angle

My mom used to tell us when we were young. I actually can't remember a time when we weren't taught proper etiquette and manners. Don't get me wrong it wasn't always a schoolbook type lesson. Very often it was what we learned by watching the way my parents behaved. Nowadays kids don't seem to be taught the same manners and ideals that we were when we were young. I have decided to start a one woman campaign to change this!

I actually can't figure out how it happened. Is it that parents don't care (I doubt it) or don't have the

time (maybe)? Is it that more of this was taught in the schools and now teachers have their hands tied concerning anything but book learning? Whatever the reason for the disrespectful attitudes and lack of basic manners, I have decided I personally can't stand it. My husband and I have started with the basics. We are teaching table manners, like sitting in your seat properly, using a napkin properly, and even the correct placement of silverware. I know some people feel this last item is antiquated, but if my kids are going to become all they hope to be in this world then my "princess, veterinarian, doctor" daugh-

ter will mostly likely need to know how to set a proper table.

Table etiquette is just the beginning. Respect in our house is a huge deal. My kids all know there are major consequences for disrespecting their parents or any adult for that matter. We feel that respecting an adult is not something the adult earns from the child, but instead it is something they are given (although it can be lost). We have definitely had many conversations about how an adult should act. Let's not overlook the fact that you should respect yourself enough to know when someone else is not respecting you. I have had many conversations with

my daughters (especially the 9 year old) about what they should do if a boy they might date would be disrespectful to them. After all if we don't teach our children to be respectful then how will they handle someone disrespecting them?

The first lesson our kids learned (as do most) was please and thank you. It is how ever not a lesson to just teach and let go. Even at the ages of 15, 12, 9, and 6 my kids still need to be reminded periodically. Unfortunately, in this busy world where many times both parents are working it can be hard to stay on top of lessons in manners. I have had those moments where one of the kids has behaved in an unacceptable way and I point it out to them and reprimand them but neglect to hand out an appro-

priate punishment. This often reminds me of a lesson I learned in middle school wood shop (if you can believe that). We were taught that you had to sand with the grain of a piece of wood. The teacher then demonstrated what would happen if you went against the grain and how much sanding it would take to fix that one stroke in the wrong direction. Every time I neglect to follow through with a consequence for bad behavior it is the same as sanding the wood in the wrong direction. I have reinforced wrong behavior instead of appropriate behavior. It will take much longer to fix that problem than it would have if I had just had good follow through with a suitable consequence.

The other day I found myself explaining to my boys (ages 12 and almost 15) about "yes ma'am and yes sir". When I was young (I hope I am not dating myself) you said yes ma'am and yes sir about everything. If my dad asked me to put the dishes away the appropriate response was, "yes sir". My dad will turn 70 this year and he still says "yes sir" and "yes ma'am" to everyone and I mean everyone. It is truly amazing to see a grouchy person after my dad say "yes ma'am" or "yes sir" to them. You see, good manners can actually brighten someone's day. I know we have all seen a child being disrespectful in some way and it can really frustrate you. The opposite can be said for a respectful child. When my children are kind and polite it is absolutely heartwarming to me.

When they hold the door for someone, or pick up something someone has dropped for them, or speak politely to them I can't help but smile. I remember a time when my second son held the door for a never ending line of people. I couldn't figure out what was taking him so long and then I realized that the line of people coming through the door wasn't going to end any time soon. He held the door for everyone and with a smile on his face. Or the time when my daughter paid a huge compliment to the girl working the McDonald's drive thru (she had pink hair and beautiful nails). You have never seen two girls smile so much.

In a world of instant gratification wouldn't it be amazing if we gave that gift to another person. Imagine if you could change a person's bad day by just saying "please" and "thank you". Or you could put a smile on the face of an elderly stranger when they over hear you saying "yes sir" to your father. How amazing would you feel if someone came up to you in a restaurant to compliment you on your children's behavior and table etiquette. If you haven't been teaching these things please start and if you have don't forget it is a life time of learning. It is never too late to help a child become the best adult they can. Teaching and using manners can be an amazing gift to give to your children and the world we live in, so pass it on!



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MOM'S TIME OUT

What is primitive?

Sheila Eiker
The Country End Bay

Primitive décor often refers to Rustic Interior design or Country Living.

Decorating with Primitive Style is the ideal way to bring a warm and charming feel to your home. Keeping a modern home in this Primitive Style can bring back those feelings of homespun love. Having Primitive Décor in your house is a constant reminder of a simpler time when everything was handmade and the mistakes were something that made an item more special.

What Is Not To Love!!

Most of all a Primitive home needs to smell good. As though grandma is working her fingers to the bone in the kitchen. Aromas of apples, cinnamon, nutmeg and vanilla. Lavender and herbs were used not only as a fragrance but, also a decoration.

Some people say that Primitive Style of decorating is out of style. However, things that work never go out of style. The Primitive Style is here to stay as a timeless tradition and a salute to our past.

This is my story

You just never appreciate the olden days and how people made a living back then when you are young. Now, I'm 37 and I truly admire the Primitive Style. Handmade furniture and all the décor people have put their heart and soul in to make them. Putting it in your house to fill the surroundings up with love and kindness that brought them there.

I am truly blessed to have opened a Primitive Gift Shop here in Gettysburg. The name of my business is The Country End Bay, I am located on 22 Weikert Rd Suite 200, five miles west of Gettysburg. I have tall flags out on 116, so you can't miss them. I am open Thursday, Friday 9-3, Saturday 8-12.

I sell prints, handmade Primitive Furniture, all kinds of Candles, some antiques are distributed throughout the store. Rugs, Garden Flags, Crocks, Candle Warmers and Melters, and lights for decoration. Honey, Candy, Coffee, Jams, Dips are also available.

It is a very warm place to come and visit. First, when you walk in your presence will be greeted with a warm welcome. The smells are amazing as I am always burning candles. A cozy atmosphere is really important for Customers.

I have been open since last May. People may not know that I'm here, I have flags and signs out on 116. I am hoping I can get more people to notice where I am located. I do a little advertising so, I hope it works.

If you are looking to find out what Primitive Décor if like, or want to just come by to see.

Stop in at The Country End Bay, 22 Weikert Road Suite 200, Gettysburg, Pa 17325.. 717-642-6500.






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SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

Frederick County schools

Katie Groth
Frederick County School Board

There is no getting around it – this has been a very difficult winter. Frederick County Public Schools has had to close eight days so far this winter while only five snow days were built into the school calendar. Five days are the usual number of days we allow, and usually we do not go over that. This year however, we were surprised by a very difficult month in January, even after having been closed one day in December. It was clear we were going to have to deal with make-up days, and the Board of Education had to tackle this challenge on February 12 at our regular board meeting – even as the snow began to fall for what turned out to be another 2-day school closure

event. We were fast approaching the end of the allotted five days that were set aside in the school calendar for snow closures. By state law, Maryland public schools must include 180 days of instruction per year for students. Our job was to find at least three more days to add to the year, knowing that bad weather could be expected for several more weeks.

For Frederick County Public Schools, student achievement is “Job #1”. This depends on meaningful instruction and a consistent attendance pattern. It is important to limit partial weeks and keep attendance days consecutive as much as possible. This is a challenge with so many days built into the calendar by testing mandates, mandated holidays, and negotiated

agreements. So, the Board worked on the calendar make up days at its February 12 meeting and came up with a series of days that we will use to make up those we lost and additional ones to be used in case we need more.

The days that will now be attendance days for students in Frederick County Public Schools will include March 21; April 14; April 21 (if waived by the State); April 15; and June 12. March 21 is a scheduled teacher work day. April 14 is the first scheduled day of Spring Break. April 21 is Easter Monday, normally a state mandated holiday, but it may be waived this year by the state due to the difficult winter experienced by all schools systems in Maryland. April 15, should we need it, is the second day of Spring Break.

The Board decided that instruction during March and April is critical to get students ready for the important testing required by the state as well as AP tests, the dates of which cannot be changed. That is why we decided not to simply tack days on at the end of the year when instructional days are not as critical to student success.

Last year, for the first time, the Board of Education commissioned a new stakeholder work group to design, develop and recommend a school year calendar for the 2013-14 school year. This was the first time we had appointed a special committee for this. One of the things we did not do was put into the calendar a list of possible days that we could use to put back into the calendar in case we used all five days for snow closures. We be-

lieve that this is a necessary piece to add to next year's calendar and we will do that. This will avoid having to disrupt plans made by families for vacations, college visits, etc. in case we have to add attendance days for any reason next year. Families are asked to speak to their building principals if for some reason extra days away need to be arranged for students. Families are allowed excused vacation days if necessary, although the expectation is that students will make up work they have missed.

It is suggested that all FCPS families sign up for FindOutFirst, an alert system used by the school system to notify everyone about important events, early dismissals, late school days and closures, and many other important school system messages. Sign up for FindOutFirst by logging on to www.fcps.org and then to FindOutFirst. This is an excellent way to stay connected to your child's school.

Fairfield School Board

Charles P. Hatter
Fairfield School Director

The proposed Fairfield Area Recreation Commission has stirred up plenty of controversy even in its planning stage.

Although the Rec Commission hasn't officially formed, there has been an explor-

atory committee in place for several years. Carroll Valley, Hamiltonban and Fairfield are all founding members of that committee; Liberty Twp chose not to be involved. In fact the Rec Commission's logo is a silhouette of Hamiltonban, Carroll Valley and Fairfield, but the design does not include the shape of Liberty.

The Fairfield Area School Board had

voted to join the Commission. The outgoing Board voted to join during the only meeting between the election and the new Board being sworn in.

This past December, the Liberty Supervisors again decided not to vote to join the commission. Their decision was largely based on the fact that residents filled the seats to oppose Liberty Township from

joining the Commission. Following that meeting, the Superintendent of Fairfield Schools was informed that Liberty was going to remain out of the Commission.

It's been over three months and no other municipality has joined, so why was the School District in rush to join?

Perhaps the District was protecting its investment. Last summer the

Board voted to make the part-time Athletic Director, full-time. It may seem odd that a District with an ever decreasing enrollment would make such a move. But the plan was that the Athletic Director would also be the Administrator for the Recreation Commission. The outgoing Board hoped that the cost of the additional salary and benefits would be passed on to the municipalities that chose to participate in the Rec Commission.

In return, the School District would provide access to the school, gym, theater, showers etc... after hours and on weekends to Rec Commission programs. Some of these programs would start as late as 9 PM, just as student basketball practice was letting out.

Worst of all, no one can explain what the Rec Commission will bring to the community that isn't already here, aside from the cost. Salaries, benefits and expenses are only ever going to go up, so too will the cost of the Rec Commission. The program is initially being funded by what is called a “disappearing grant”. The grant decreases by 20% each year until after the 5th year when it is gone. Once the grant disappears, taxpayers will be left to pay an ever increasing bill. In the end the Rec Commission will lead to a yearly Rec Tax.

There are all sorts of activities available to every sort of person in the area. The worst decision we can make is to pay for something we already get for free. That's why I and many others oppose the Rec Commission/Tax.

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SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

What's new at your library

Erin Dingle
Frederick County Public Library

Friends Open House a Great Success

The Friends of the Library Emmitsburg Branch hosted a special Love Your Library Valentine themed open house in February and welcomed a nice gathering of people from the community throughout the morning. President Noreen O'Donnell commented that "It was a great opportunity to introduce the Friends to those unaware and it was a fun time for kids to make crafts, play a game, win a book and enjoy the library." She was joined by Vice President Sr. Anne Marie Lamoureux who encouraged visitors to play Valentine Mad Libs. Longtime member Susan Allen provided craft activities for the kids craft table and worked with Tara O'Donnell who

made duct table library card holders for many kids. Sr. Cynthia Fox won the jar of candy by guessing just 12 candies away from the number of 242. The Friends provide support to your local library. The public is invited to get involved and attend the next meeting on March 25 and to save the date for our next big fundraiser - the book sale on June 28 in front of the library on Community Day.

Celtic Concert Ticket Details

Free tickets available starting at 10 a.m. March 1 at Emmitsburg and Thurmont libraries to hear world-renowned Irish instrumental band, Lúnasa, performing at the 2014 Celtic Concert. Concert on St. Patrick's Day, Monday, March 17 at 7 pm at the Marion Burk Knott Auditorium at Mount St. Mary's University. The free

and family-friendly event, underwritten by the C. Burr Artz Trust and Plamondon Hospitality Partners, is presented annually by the Emmitsburg and Thurmont libraries. Tickets are required. Free advance tickets can be picked up (limit four/person—while supplies last) at the Emmitsburg or Thurmont Libraries beginning March 1. Patrons with advance tickets will be seated between 6:30-6:45 pm. Seats are not guaranteed after 6:45 pm for advance ticket holders. This is important! Patrons without advance tickets are strongly encouraged to pick up numbered standby tickets in the concert hall lobby beginning at 6 pm. Any unoccupied seats, if available, will be filled by standby ticket holders between 6:45 pm and 7 pm. Due to no-shows, some seats are always available.

Summer Activity Fair – Reserve Your Table Now

It's not too early to reserve your table at the Thurmont Regional Library's Summer Activity Fair on May 1st. Just let me know if you want to take advantage of this special opportunity for your organization to talk directly to parents and their kids about special summer activities just for kids. If you are hosting a summer class or camp for art, music, sports, theater, science, literacy or other types of youth activities, just register and then bring your information to the open house fair between 4-6 pm to share with interested families in the community.

Project Runway comes to Thurmont

Hey Teens/Tweens! This unique opportunity is for those who enjoy fashion and design. Sign up

for a special two-session Runway chance to showcase creativity working with a partner.

Dates and times are:

Session 1 is April 3 at 4 pm - Orientation. You and your partner will hear all the rules and check out the fabrics, trim, ribbons, buttons, and notions. Choose what you'd like to use on your project, come up with your design, and take it home to create. A representative from the American Sewing Guild will be here to answer questions and offer tips and suggestions

Session 2 is April 26 at 2 pm - Modeling and Judging. You will describe what went into creating your outfit. You will talk to the judges personally then one of you will model your creation on our library runway. The judges will choose the winners and prizes will be awarded based on degree of difficulty, originality, and overall appearance. The public will be invited to watch the show.

Mother Seton School

Lynn Tayler

The time in my daughter's life that I have been dreading has finally arrived. I knew this was the year that we couldn't put it off any longer, and I'd been preparing carefully for this time. So I sat my daughter down, took a deep breath, and plunged right in.

"What do you want to do for your science fair project?" I asked.

Yes, it's science fair season at Mother Seton School. My daughter has been begging us to let her enter the fair since third grade, when it was optional. I, knowing the time and commitment it takes, just wasn't ready. But now that she is in fifth grade and participation is compulsory, there's no more avoiding it. My husband, who was a weatherman for a number of years before moving into the medical field, is thrilled. Science is right up his alley. And my daughter, who dreams of one day being a marine biologist, is excited to finally be able to take part.

Science Fair projects are pretty serious stuff, and I will admit to being intimidated by the process. I can put together a historical diorama or present an engaging book report, but anything with science? Well, let's just say it's a good thing I didn't need to pass physics to graduate high school or I'd still be there. But luckily for my daughter, she has a father who does love this sort of thing and can actually help, not hinder, her.

I'm pretty sure I'm in the minority among the parents here in my trepidation about the Science Fair. Whenever I talk to friends about it, they speak excitedly about what their kids are working on. Many of them have students who have been participating for years, even before it was mandatory. (Participation is optional in grades, 3, 4, and 8; students in grade 5-7 receive a grade.) It's really a credit to the teachers and the curriculum here that the kids

get so fired up about science. In previous years, projects have run the gamut from what kind of bubble gum produces the biggest bubbles to which surfaces are fingerprints most easily extracted from, to plant grafting and which soil produces the best tomatoes. This year, projects will include studying the effect of salt on boiling water, best irrigation methods for grass, and extracting and comparing the DNA from different fruits.

I stopped by the cafeteria to ask some of the fifth-graders how their projects were going. They all clamored to share their experiences. Sydney, who's studying the effect of shoe design on athletic performance, enlisted the help of her sisters in trying out different shoes and performing different athletic feats. Liv also enlisted outside help,

using basketball practice to test the memories of her teammates to gauge how exercise may help our brains to work better. And Garrett was really excited about his science experiment, which is a comparison of which methods remove stains from clothing the best. "I'm putting different kinds of stains on shirts, then washing them with different cleaners to see which does the best job," he told me. I told him he could feel free to conduct his experiment at my house, I had plenty of material to work with. But he politely declined.

After watching my daughter work so diligently on her project and hearing the enthusiasm in her classmates' voices, much of my anxiety has waned. It's not going to be the struggle I feared it would be, and my lack of scientific under-

standing is okay, because her teachers have already instilled in her a terrific foundation for learning. But most importantly, she's still excited about it, even after all the hard and tedious work she's had to do for her experiment. The sense of accomplishment that comes from putting together a science fair project is priceless, and I'm only sorry I made her wait this long to take part. When her brother starts fourth grade next year, I'll be ready with pen in hand to sign off on the participation form for him.

This year's Science Fair will be held the week of March 10, with judging taking place on Wednesday the 12th. At a time when we're constantly reading about the decline of American education, particularly in the math and sciences, it will help boost your optimism about the future of our society to see what our junior scientists have been working on. And while you're here, be sure to take a peek at the seventh-grade "Trout in the Classroom" project. You won't be disappointed!

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Journalism is designed to provide readers with the world's most current events as they are happening. However, this excludes some of the best stories around the world—the ones that have already happened. In the past we find stories to learn from, to inspire us, and to discover ourselves through. This month the Four Years at the Mount writers reflected on some of these Forgotten Tales and unearthed some incredible stories worthy of a warm fireside and a steaming cup of tea.

Freshman Year Around the world

Leeanne Leary
MSM Class of 2017

This month I made it my mission to find someone at Mount with an incredible story to tell. Initially I was stuck, unable to find someone who had a story that truly captured me. Then I realized that I wasn't looking for just any story. I needed to find a person who could sit down and tell me 20 stories like my Nanna used to do. A person who could talk and talk and would never get boring because their life just seemed so fascinating. Once I started thinking this way, I knew just who I needed to talk to: one of my professors. Despite his amazing tales, he wishes to remain anonymous. This professor has been to more places in the world than I can count, and his stories capture the attention of everyone in his classes. His stories are so incredible that he truly doesn't want anyone to think he's crazy when the story is through. Although the tale that he wove for me is so amazing it's hard to believe, he spoke with such conviction that it's impossi-

ble to doubt the truth behind it.

When I asked him if he wanted to share some stories with me in depth he was a little confused, but when I explained that I was writing an article, he asked, "Sure, should I tell you about the time I was going from Greece to Germany after a conference in Lesbos, but got stuck in Hungary?" All I could do was laugh because I knew how crazy this story would surely be.

My professor had a conference where he was to deliver a talk focusing on his research on the island of Lesbos. It was the summer of 1990 and the event was scheduled immediately before he was scheduled to begin studying in Germany. The itinerary was tight, but could be worked with; he had his passport and was optimistic about the trip. His first flight was long, amusing, and a little frightening at times as he journeyed from America and landed in Turkey. From Turkey, he took a puddle jumper to the east coast of Lesbos, ready to make his way to the opposite side of the island and complete his journey. This however, is where

things got complicated.

At the time, there was only one long dirt road reaching from coast to coast, stretching through windy, mountainous territory. Imagine a path thousands of feet in the air with no guardrails. After a little navigation he finally arrived at the bus station. On the bus were people with their goats and chickens and plants. All sorts of religious knick-knacks hung from the rearview mirror. To add to the terror, he was sitting in the very front seat and the bus driver was looking back at the passengers, talking to them as he was all over the winding road thousands of feet in the air. The entire trip lasted four hours as the bus wound its way through the mountains, stopping at every little town along the way. Despite the initial fright it caused, the trip ended without incident. He arrived on the west coast and he delivered his paper and stayed for three days. The next task on his list was the simple, but deceptively difficult task of flying to Germany.

From the capital of Lesbos, my professor flew into Athens for a short layover. He got off the plane and stepped into the airport where he found a "huge open room. The circus was in town and there were elephants and lions and all kinds of animals

in cages and shackles." I know what you all are thinking, there is absolutely no way there were circus animals in the airport, but I asked about six times – there were. After meandering through the sea of animals he prepared to board his outgoing flight for Germany. Well, as fate would have it, the plane left without him. This wouldn't have been much of a story if he didn't miss a flight, would it?

He went over to talk to the people at the main desk, using the small amount of Greek he knew to communicate his problem and arrange for passage on a new flight. He had to call Germany and notify the people waiting to pick him up from the airport. He went over to the phones on the outskirts of the airport and they were lined with men in uniform holding rifles. He had to communicate his problem again, telling the armed men who he needed to call, why he needed to contact them, and the phone number. Finally he convinced the guards and had to wait for the number to be dialed for him. He got a new flight for the next day and was finally – maybe – on his way to Germany.

Well, they left out a small detail – or he didn't hear a small detail – about a layover in Budapest, Hungary. No problem you

might say? Just waste some time in the airport you might say? Quite the contrary. Hungary was still a communist country under Russian control at the time, requiring a visa to enter. And his connecting flight was not until the next day. He got off the plane and there were military men forcing the passengers in line into a makeshift plywood area where they took care of customs. Realizing he didn't have a visa to enter, he was just glad he had his passport. Because of the confusion, and the scary men with rifles, he was lucky to find an American consult working in the airport who told him everything was going to be fine...he just couldn't leave the airport. So, my professor slept in the Hungary airport that night. He ended his story with, "I finally got to Germany, but I missed the first three days of classes."

In short, I'm glad I got the chance to talk with my professor about the journey of a lifetime, complete with crazy bus trips, hordes of animals, and scary soldiers with guns. Perhaps the greatest realization for me is the fact that this man and his incredible story were right under my nose the entire time.

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

Sophomore Year Through her glasses again

Lydia Olsen
MSM Class of 2016

"I was born in May of 1935 but I really grew up in the 40s. Everyone back then was very patriotic because of the war and frugal because of the depression. It seemed everyone in the world was working in some capacity for that war and rationing in another. I wasn't old enough to work at the time but I can remember my older brother being a warden when he was only about 15 years old. While mother, daddy, my other siblings and I would stay inside during the air raids and draw our blackout curtains over the windows or go down and sit on the basement stairs to wait for the sirens to go off, my oldest brother got to stay outside. He had a patch he would wear and he would walk around to see if he could spot any light coming from a house to then alert the person to cover it immediately. I remember the same brother building a foxhole in the backyard as a sort of simulation of what it would be like to be a soldier. That hole must have been about six feet deep and you would drop down, crawl through and then come up on a different end. My sisters and I used to sneak down into that foxhole and just sort of play

around. I'm not sure how we ever got out of it but I did know that my brother was never pleased if he found out we had been in there, so we always tried to be very sneaky.

"A few years later my family moved from Silver Spring, Maryland to Washington, D.C. On the weekends I remember the family all piling into the car. Now we never had a fancy car, but we did always have a car. So all seven of us would be piled in tightly and when we got to the store Daddy would get out and get us a quart of ice cream for a quarter. The rest of the family would wait in the car and we would say silly things to people as they walked by on the sidewalk and then duck down real quick so they couldn't see us. It never worked very well because it was so crowded in that car that there wasn't much room to hide, but we loved doing that and we would always die laughing. When we got back home we'd make milkshakes. After it was divided up among all of us, all I ever really got was flavored milk. Everyone knew Daddy always gave the good lumps of ice cream to mother but we didn't object.

"My father had always dreamed of opening an ice cream shop and when I was about twelve he bought his very own. That ice cream store

was where I spent a lot of my time. It seemed as if Daddy was always asking one of my siblings or me to work because someone couldn't make it in or what not. One nice thing about working at the store was that it gave me a chance to work and have money before most people my age. This allowed me to go out to the movies or buy items that I had to have. And of course the ice cream we would eat every night was definitely a plus. I can't tell you for sure but it seemed as if there was a different flavor every time Daddy brought it home. He was always experimenting with various things. Whenever he would try something new and we would ask what it was, he'd just say, "Oh it's dingleberry." That's what he called all the flavors before he came up with a name for them. My absolute favorite flavor was this ice cream with grapenuts in it. The best part was that the grapenuts would be all crispy. I don't know how Daddy got them like that but it was just delicious. The difficulty with having an ice cream store was that there weren't very good freezers at this time. This, of course, caused the ice cream to melt so in a lot of cases we would have to eat the ice cream very quickly. Mother sometimes had to give our extra ice cream away to ensure that it was eaten before it melted.

"When I was fifteen years old and in high school I met my future husband for the first time. He was two years older than me and he was very

cool because he had his own car. It was a 1934 Chevy with two doors but, most importantly, a rumble seat. There was a handle where the trunk was that you could pull so that a seat came out and then when you were riding along on the rumble seat you would be outside of the actual car. Those were always fun times. Before he became my husband he actually worked at my father's ice cream store. There were some nights when we'd have to lock up the store together and while he drove me home the moneybox would sit on the seat in between us. It's amazing to think about how we've now been married for 60 years..."

My grandma's stories could go on for days. The astonishing thing about sharing tales of your life is that once you start it's hard to stop. One story leads to another, which leads yet again to another story, and this is

probably the most beautiful aspect of stories: they promote continuous conversation while being educational, rewarding and entertaining.

I chose to tell brief parts of my grandma's life in first person to show that her stories, in fact, are not forgotten and will never be forgotten. My stories are made up of and enriched by the stories of my family members. So you see, her stories are in fact my stories to share now, to share in the future, to remember and refer to. Her stories, while I could never know all of the details or feel all of the emotions that she has felt, are forever written in the hearts of all of those who love her. My grandma is the greatest storyteller of all. And the greatest stories are always told from her point of view.

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

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FORGOTTEN MEMORIES

Junior Year

The first forgotten tale

Kyle Ott
MSM Class of 2015

If you will allow me to paint you a picture...

A young man attending a private university in the Northeast of America is walking to eat with a few of his companions for dinner. Autumn is in full swing and the trees have begun to change the colors of their lives, turning the mountains that surround his school into a quilted patchwork of oranges, browns, and yellows and casting the old stone buildings of his home in a new light. On the way to the meal he decides to check with the mailroom and see if he has anything of note waiting for him. On any other day he would flip through the combination nonchalantly, see the empty mailbox, and move on to a boisterous conversation with his classmates. On this day, however, he finds a small envelope and a battered newspaper clipping attached to it. Curious, he waits until he reaches his table to tear open the manila shield surrounding the letter and read what it has to say. The note, in all its humble small-ness, simply says:

"I thought you'd be interested in this, it's the story of the ship I was on. We were also part of the Cuban Blockade. We and other warships were shadowing Russian Transport Ships for sev-

eral days. Tell your brother hello. Take care, Grampa and Grandma."

The young man, even more curious than before, turns the newspaper clipping over in his hands a few times before deciding to read what it contained.

The tale within the two short columns of small type was almost too amazing to believe. It told the story, not of his grandfather, but of a young sailor, trapped with 157 other crewmen on the Arctic Sea by a fierce storm. Winds reached almost 100 miles per hour as they rattled the metal walls of the boat as well as the souls of the men inside. The water wrapped around the ship, yanking it this way, tugging it that way. The coffee pot in the mess room came loose as plates and china smashed in a cacophony around the men who were stumbling and falling trying to maintain some semblance of footing. Suddenly, everything came to a head when walls of deathly green water began to crash over and over into the hull of the ship, sending the sailors who could barely stand into a frenzy of activity as they tried to save their ship and their lives. The walls of water eventually climbed to unbelievable heights.

The young man reading the paper suppressed a sharp breath when he read how casually the waves were de-

scribed, going from "mountainous" to "phenomenal." Despite the fact that the storm had already passed and the ship had undergone its ordeal years ago, the young man still struggled to read on.

The waves crashed again and again, tearing apart anything that wasn't tied tight enough or reinforced properly. The worst damage came when the 2,000-pound piece of equipment used for gunnery training, complete with real torpedoes, was torn loose. Suddenly everyone was threatened by a storm outside and the chance of a deadly explosion from within.

Despite everything, they did it. The brave men on that ship survived the storm; the green water finally giving way to something that looked far less like the angry hand of God. An almost 24-hour ordeal had finally given way to some tentative peace. Even so, the sea was still so rough that the ship had to limp on toward the North Pole before finally being able to turn back toward England for much needed repairs. The ship had been saved, the people on it had persevered, and in the face of titanic odds they had come out on top, somehow surviving the worst that nature could throw at them.

The events that I've described to you didn't begin during the opening sequence of a book or at the start of a young Indiana Jones movie (although, George Lucas, if you're listening, I'm open to negotiations). Rather, the scene that took place for you occurred to me, after opening a humbly marked letter from my grandfa-

ther, Clarence Ott, who served on the U.S. S. Rhodes in 1962 as a radio operator. The Rhodes was one of many destroyers that stalked the sea during that time period: part weapon, part deterrent against any who would seek to encroach on America, or its tons of allies. It was the kind of story that you watched on TV or read about in books, and certainly not the kind of story you'd picture your grandfather being an integral part of. Yet there I was, sitting in Patriot Hall reading this story in a newspaper that I had never seen before about an incident that I had never known happened.

For a little personal perspective, my grandfather is a tall, jolly man with a balding head that never seems to be without a ball cap of some sort. In the 20 years I've been alive I can count on both hands the times I've seen him without his signature, long-sleeved plaid work-shirts. Furthermore, I can count on one hand the times he's referred to me by my Christian name rather than "Kyle Boy." He's the kind of man that speaks more in chuckles and good natured laughs than actual words. He's the kind of man that when something needs done, he does it. Not because it's particularly pressing or important, but because he simply likes to work. He's at home on a ladder balancing a full can of paint in one hand and a hammer in the other. He wasn't the kind of man that went out on giant adventures, and he had certainly never braved a perfect storm and come out on the oth-

er side with a tale to tell. He's my gramps, the man who falls asleep at 9 o'clock on the dot, the man who lent me books on the Wild West and kindled a love of history in my heart, and the man who takes us with him to volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

ASTOUNDINGLY, here I am, writing this article. Telling my grandfather's forgotten tale to all of you in the hopes that it might never be forgotten, and in the hopes that you might go and seek out your own beloved family members and see what stories they have to share. My own father had never heard the story of his dad's battle with the storm. As far as I know, I'm the first one of the grandchildren to be privy to this amazing account of my grandfather, Petty Officer Clarence Ott, and his battle against the storm. How many other amazing tales are there just waiting to be told? How many adventures and epics have we missed because we never thought to ask our parents, uncles, and siblings? My whole life has been one big quest to tell the stories that no one had the chance to hear, to weave the tales that were almost forgotten. Thank you for being here with me, for listening to my grandfather's story, and hopefully for going out and finding some forgotten tales of your own. Who knows what brave and wondrous adventures you may discover. 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.

Senior Year

Bold and beautiful

Nicole Jones
MSM Class of 2014

The picture has sat in our house my entire life. A modest wooden frame borders the faded 3x5. A scruffy man smiles up at the camera as it clicks, capturing the moment for future reflection. His hair has grayed and thinned since then, but it's still my grandfather. The delicate arms encircling his shoulders belong to a serene, ivory-skinned face framed with short dark hair. Her red blouse stands out against an otherwise white background. Though she isn't smiling, you know she's happy; it's etched in her eyes, the lovely eyes of my Grandma Nicki.

I have no personal memories of my grandmother, only second-hand stories. Unfortunately, I never had the chance to meet her since she passed away before I was born, so naturally, I have always been curious about the woman in the picture frame. I had always been tentative about bringing the topic up for fear of upsetting my mother. Now, 21 years later, this article finally provided me with the platform to ask some questions, fleshing out the personality of the lovely lady in the red sweater.

"She was a treat," said my father as he stood in the kitchen sipping coffee. "You would have got-

ten along famously."

In the adjoining living room, I sat across from my mother who was already tearing up at the thought of Grandma Nicki.

"She was just always happy. Everyone loved her," Mom dabbed at her eyes with a tissue, "She had tons of friends." There was a pause, a moment of tearful reflection, and then the memories began making their way past my mom's lips.

"Probably the goofiest thing was, she was going downstairs because that's where the laundry room was, and I hear this thump. I just look over the railing, and she fell down the stairs, only a couple of them, and she's just lying at the bottom of the stairs," Mom spreads her arms out, demonstrating the spread eagle position my grandmother had taken, "I ask if she's okay and she's like, 'I'm so tired,' and keeps lying there!"

With a smile as sweet as the candy she loved to eat, Grandma Nicki was an affectionate, giving woman.

"She was always really active in all the stuff [my sister] Karen and I wanted to do," said Mom. From majorettes to Scrabble and card games, Grandma Nicki just liked to sit around and be together with her two little girls. Whenever one of the girls would get mad, my grandma knew the cure was a

simple song: "Sherry is mad and I am glad 'cause I know what will please her. A bottle of ink to make her stink and ten little skunks to squeeze her."

She also showed affection through elaborate pet names. "She used to call me Sherry-Annie-Pickie-Panny," laughed my mom, and my aunt was lovingly called Karen-Michellie-Pasteboard-Belly. "Just because it rhymed I guess," mom speculated, "Because I don't know what either of them means."

Grandma was a classy lady. She dressed modestly, rarely wearing much more jewelry than her simple wedding band. She read housekeeping magazines and stayed up on the trends: ceramics, crochet, and macramé. She baked a delicious dessert called Congo Squares, collected music boxes, and planted marigolds. Don't let this domestic disguise fool you, however. Underneath it all was a touch of a wild streak.

"She was a rock 'n' roller," said my dad.

"Every Saturday morning, I would get woken up to the Everly Brothers," my mother chimed in. She also had what were then current albums including Lynyrd Skynyrd, Bob Seger, Ron Stewart, and the Beatles. "She would play them while cleaning the house."

She also enjoyed riding my grandfather's motorcycle, or if it snowed, she opted for a snow mobile. These were mere surrogates, however, for her most exciting endeavor of all, trick-horseback riding.

Though she didn't ride when my mom knew her, Grandma Nicki grew up riding for her father's rodeo. We were lucky enough to happen upon a letter she wrote outlining some of her experiences with the rodeo. Though she had been riding since she was nine, she didn't start trick-riding until she was 12. Under the tutelage of Ralph Clark, a former horse trainer for the Ringling Brothers, she learned how to twist and stand and ride a horse in nerve-racking, breath-taking ways. Clark also taught her the art of trick roping, a devilishly tricky skill, yet Grandma could twirl a 20-foot loop around her, and we have an old picture to prove it.

My young grandmother's favorite part of the rodeo was what she calls "the world's best looking males, the happy-go-lucky race of guys known as the American cowboy." Every summer her family packed up their little blue trailer and travelled the road putting on rodeo performances. During the show season of her fourteenth year, the rodeo spent five weeks in Florida with the family of Joe Flores, the rodeo's manager. Grandma practiced and performed and even bought a new horse named Jackie, but what she remembers the most about that summer is a boy named Butch MacMillan.

On May 9 that year, she and Butch started "going steady." In September, Butch joined the army, and grandma waited six months for him. When Butch went on a

15-day leave, they planned to run away together and elope.

"After a while I came to realize our parents trusted in us and our judgment," she wrote in her letter, "We were too young to take such a big step." She and Butch decided to wait a little longer, at least until she was out of high school and her aspiring modeling career had kicked off in New York. "We decided to wait and be the sensible, levelheaded kids our families think we are."

I don't know what ever happened to Butch MacMillan or grandma's modeling career, but she ended up marrying Franklin Pickett, Jr., having two beautiful daughters, Karen Michelle and Sheryl Ann, and living out her days right here in Maryland.

Now, Grandma Nicki led an exciting life, but the very first story I ever heard about her will always be one of my favorites. See, Grandma's given name was not Nicki but Naomi Irene, and she hated it. Grandma hated it so much, in fact, that she made my mother promise to never name a daughter after her. My mother, obviously, found a loophole and named me Nicole so that I could take the nickname Nicki. However, I did not make such a promise. Let's just say that the name is going to stay within the family. What Grandma doesn't know won't hurt her, right? ?

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

THE GRADUATE

Poverty: It's not always what it seems

Megan Kinsella
MSM Class of 2013

Imagine this: you're walking through a narrow street in one of the many slums of Calcutta, India. Foul-smelling piles of trash litter the muddy street and young children search for water in disease-ridden puddles. All of the people you encounter as you walk are poor, homeless, sick, dying, or suffering in some other horrific way. Orphans wearing rags are begging for food, the threat of verbal and physical abuse by passersby always imminent. Lepers lie on straw mats lining the street, flies landing in their putrid sores. You cover your nose and mouth as you walk, the stench too powerful to handle.

Now imagine: you're sitting outside a coffee shop on a university campus in Southern Louisiana, watching students walk by on their way to class. A soft breeze blows through the ancient cypress trees and the sun is warm upon their faces. The entire world is smiling. Each student is decked out in clothes from the latest fashion trends, some texting on their new iPhones, some listening to music through their earphones, and others sipping on \$5.00 cups of their favorite mocha-latte-frappe-caramel-coffee.

These two very different scenes with very different people in very different living situations have one major similarity. In each scenar-

io, there is an overwhelming need. Let me explain further. The human beings in each scene are all missing something, and this absence is crippling their ability to find true fulfillment and joy.

The need in the first scene is easy to identify: millions of people in the world are living in physical poverty, without the material goods necessary to thrive in the way that we all, as human beings, have the innate right to thrive. All over the world there are people suffering due to an extreme lack of access to proper healthcare, shelter, food, and clean drinking water. As members of the physically impoverished population, they have a need that is not being met, which is inhibiting them from being all that they could be otherwise.

The need in the second scene is a lot more difficult to detect because it is not a need that can be seen through physical observation. You have to dig deeper in order to discover it—sometimes a lot deeper. But it is there nonetheless, in every single city in the world, on every college campus, in every school, and in every home. It is the overwhelming, undeniable need for Jesus Christ. There is a spiritual poverty that exists in our world that is just as damaging, if not more so, than physical poverty. Because of original sin, we all have an inclination toward rebellion and brokenness. There is an emptiness inside every single human



There are many different kinds of poverty in this world-- physical, spiritual, relational, emotional—all of them just as dangerous as the next.

heart that no earthly thing can fill; Not material goods, not earthly pleasures, not even any human relationships can fill the void in our hearts that is meant for God. This need for God and the absence of Him in so many of our lives causes confusion, disordered living, and eventually great loneliness and despair.

Whenever we have a need, we do everything in our power to meet it. I have an itch, so I scratch it. I'm hungry, so I make myself some food (or pay to have someone else make it for me). I miss my family, so I pick up my cell phone and call them. Easy, right? For some, maybe so. But, for many, it's just not that simple. Both the physically impoverished and spiritually impoverished individuals in our world are in need, and do not have the ability themselves to fulfill that need. This is precisely why God tells us in Scripture that it is our job to be our brother's keeper. One of the most important commandments He has given us (second only to loving Him with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind), is to "Love your neighbor as yourself." And how do we do this? We can fulfill His commandment by helping to meet the physical and spiritual needs of those around us!

The Church, in one of its many roles, is always seeking to fulfill the physical needs of humanity. In January, Pope Francis addressed an audience of hundreds of the world's leading economists, businessmen, and philanthropists at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. In his short but very direct message, the Holy Father urged the businessmen and economists of the world to nurture a "broader sense of responsibility, a growth of equality, and ultimately greater distribution of wealth." He spoke in order to cultivate awareness of the great

responsibility they have as leaders to include all members of our society, embracing an "integral promotion of the poor, which goes beyond a simple welfare mentality." He told them that because it deals with the common good of all of humanity, this kind of economic approach is a "concern that ought to shape every political and economic decision, but which at times seems to be little more than an afterthought." He closed with a simple request: "I ask you to ensure humanity is served by wealth and not ruled by it." Because we are all members of the Body of Christ, all sheep in the Good Shepherd's flock, it is our responsibility to provide for our brothers and sisters in need. Some of us have the ability to do so much for and give so much to the poor, and others have hardly anything to give at all. But, Pope Francis' address is a much-needed reminder, to myself and the world, about our need to uphold the dignity of human life.

Spiritual poverty is no different: there is a need that must be filled. The difference, though, is that it is a hidden need, an unknown need, which creates more difficulty when trying to provide for it. Since August, I have been at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, serving as a missionary to the students here. The college students that I serve are not physically impoverished. They have privileges that many people in the world are not lucky enough to enjoy. They have many meals a day, constant access to transportation, heating and air conditioning, clean water for drinking and bathing, and so many other unnecessary amenities. And yet, I am here. I am here because I've seen that so many of these students are dying to know the merciful love of Jesus Christ—and so many of them don't even know that

they are missing out on something so crucial.

In my own life, I have come to know that there can indeed be happiness without God, but it is always fleeting, never everlasting. In John 10:10 Jesus tells us, "A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly."

If we seek to find complete fulfillment in material goods and human relationships, we are always going to fall short. However, Jesus offers us an amazing promise, something so much better than our mundane existences in this world—He promises abundant life, and all we have to do in order to obtain it is follow Him. I am here to invite the students that I meet into a growing, life-changing relationship with Christ, and then walk with them on that journey. There is such a great need, and God asks us to help fulfill that need by bringing His love and mercy into the world.

God calls us to serve Him and His people in so many different ways. Pope Francis has summoned the business elite of the world to use their influence to create more equality and less poverty in all societies. God has called me to Southern Louisiana to do my best to spread His love and promise of eternal life to college students. Now my question is, how is He calling you?

Megan graduated from Mount St. Mary's in May and is now a full-time missionary for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. She is serving at the University of Louisiana Lafayette for the 2013-2014 school year, working primarily with student-athletes.

To read past articles by Megan Kinsella visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net

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On the theory of social justice

Alexandra Tyminski
MSM Class of 2015

When you come to college, you aren't expected to know exactly what your major is going to be. Sure, everyone has some idea or maybe an interest, but the majority of students are undecided. You know what you're good at: writing, crunching numbers, studying anatomy, working with people, working with computers, and the list goes on. A year and a half after I started at Mount St. Mary's University, I decided that I found the major for me: Business.

Most of my friends and a few family members were confused by this choice. "Alex, business?" "But, don't you want to work with people?" "Don't you want to serve people?" "I wasn't expecting business." Little did they know that I was called to serve people through business.

To many, this may seem like a foreign concept. Most examples in the news today are filled with schemes that reveal a successful businessperson's betrayal of society. It shows us their lack of beneficence, the desire to do good for others. On the surface, it is hard to understand how business contributes to the good of society. But in reality, it can have everything to do with it.

Pope Francis, spoke on January 1 for the celebration of the World Day of Peace. He emphasized fraternity and how "without fraternity, it is impossible to build a just society and a solid and lasting peace." He reminded us that within the world lies relative poverty, inequality between people living together in different regions of countries. Pope Francis said, "In this sense, effective policies are needed to promote the principle of fraternity, securing for people – who are equal in dignity and in fundamental rights – access to capital, services, educational resources, healthcare and technology so that every person has the opportunity to express and realize his or her life project and can develop fully as a person." He is saying that as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, we must make sure that we are supporting each other by recognizing the importance of human dignity.

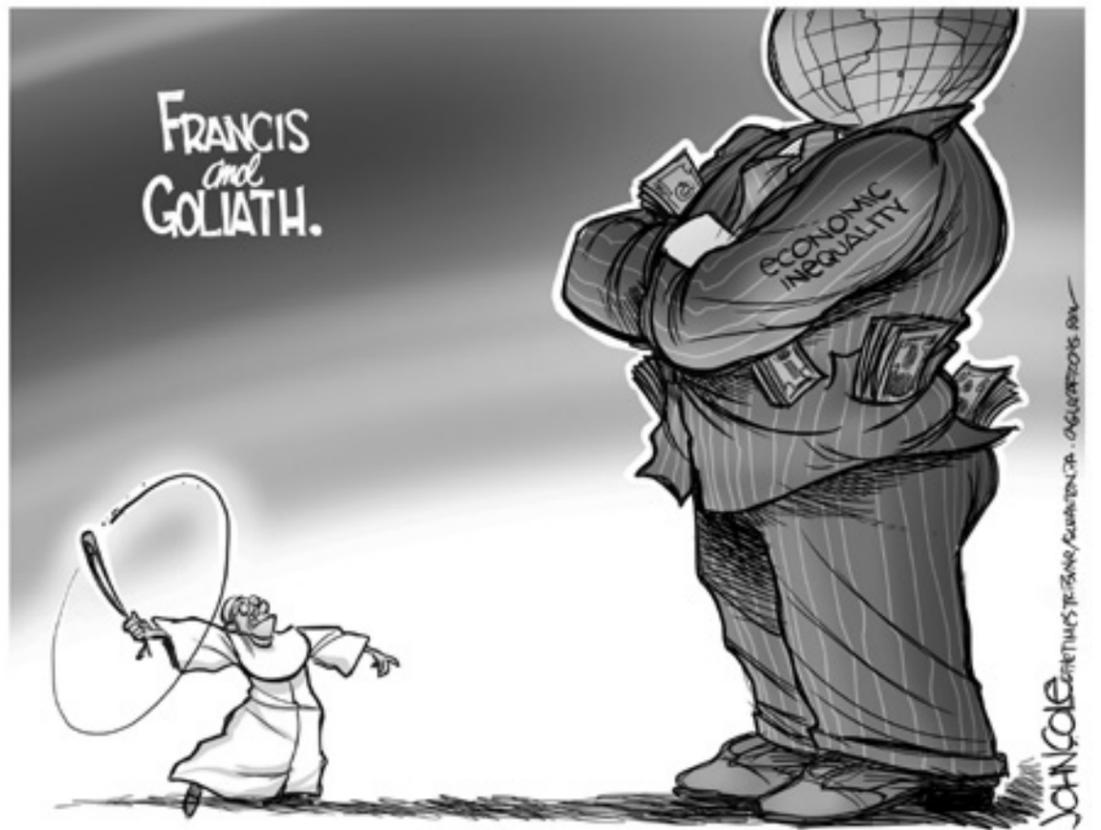
This takes me to his other message given in January at the World Economic Forum. This forum was specifically held for business and economic leaders. Pope Francis recognizes the importance of business leaders within society's changes. He emphasizes that even

today; the growth in poverty is increasing enormously with the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer. Therefore, the greater gap between the wealth distributions is causing more inequality and social exclusion. What does this mean for business leaders? In order to create more social justice and brotherhood, Pope Francis asked prominent leaders that work in the political and economic sectors to "have a precise responsibility towards others, particularly those who are most frail, weak and vulnerable." Corrupt business leaders, money scandals, and the power that can come with being so important may try to overcome Pope Francis's challenge to these men and women. But, Pope Francis gives us comfort when he said that "the international business community can count on many men and women of great personal honesty and integrity, whose work is inspired and guided by high ideals of fairness, generosity and concern for the authentic development of the human family." He asks us as business people to acknowledge this challenge, accept it, and change it.

Our graduate writer, Megan Kinsella, is currently a missionary for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. In her article this month, she stresses the importance of filling the physical and spiritual needs of people everywhere. After getting to know Megan as a current student, friend, and mentor of Mount St. Mary's University, I'm confident that she is fulfilling her calling to help students in Louisiana recognize their need for Jesus Christ. Through writing about her own calling, she challenges us to ask God about what our own vocations are and how we can use them to the best of our abilities. She goes even further by saying, "Because we are all members of the Body of Christ, all sheep in the Good Shepherd's flock, it is our responsibility to provide for our brothers and sisters in need." Megan's reminder to be a brother and sister to everyone we meet is ironically the very same message of Pope Francis.

These messages speak to everyone differently. To me, it sinks deeper in my brain and my heart than a sunken ship. As a business student, I must aspire to be a business leader who promotes social justice for the poor and those who have become subjects to extreme wealth.

The resources that business leaders have to offer are extremely large.



We have the ability to help people on earth truly live better and more secure lives. We have the ability to dedicate our knowledge of numbers, marketing, finance, economics, and international relations to making the world a better place.

Have I convinced you yet?

In writing this article, I've actually seen how my passion for business is growing faster each day. I'm only one person, but one person's intellect, business perspectives, and passion to change the lives of those in need is indeed one big person. I'm only 5'2", and the doctor tells me I won't grow anymore. However, the height of my business plans is only beginning to grow. I'm learning that many other business students, like myself, have the intention of making all the amazing resources of our economy accessible to all people.

In remembering the goal of social justice, business leaders are bound to create brotherhood amongst our fellow nations. Globalization is good when it becomes about the betterment of the whole person or whole nation. Pope Francis said, "Business is, in fact, a vocation, and a noble vocation, provided that those engaged in it see themselves challenged by a greater meaning in life."

My vocation began almost 3 years ago. One of the very first classes I ever took at the Mount was Economics 101. We learned about supply and demand, the bull market, and Adam Smith. Adam Smith, as many people know, is referred to as the father of capitalism. He says that capitalism will ultimately fail if the government does not support social justice. Adam Smith's idea of what a government should do brings us back to current society and today's business leaders. Smith's book, *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*, defines the three virtues of a person within a capitalist society. They are prudence, justice, and beneficence. Prudence helps indi-

viduals find the right moderation for their spending, but pushes them to work hard. Justice, says Smith, is "the main pillar that upholds the whole edifice of society." Beneficence is the ability to help others and do good for them. In society, Adam Smith recognizes that beneficence "is the ornament which embellishes, not the foundation which supports society." Smith sees that doing good for others is not always going to be everyone's first choice, resulting in unethical business leaders throughout history as well as today. However, justice and beneficence working as a team within a capitalist society can create social justice for all.

This all seems fun and dandy. Now everyone can hold hands. If this article was easy to write, I would have found some creative way to depict these three virtues in a creative story to all of you earlier. It would have ended in a short and sweet paragraph. But, there is no perfect society. Unfortunately, there are always two sides to a story. And this, to me, is what not only separates business leaders and the government, but also society as a whole. On one side, there are the extremely rich, who seem to make enough money to supply a whole country with food and shelter. On the other side, there are those who believe distribution of wealth from those who make money is a right. So where's the happy medium? Well, I'm not really sure if there is one. That may not be the answer you are looking for, but this is a topic that can't be digested in one article. Thomas Sowell, an American economist and philosopher, discusses the idea of wealth dependency. He says, "Most of us may lament the fact that so many more people are today dependent on food stamps and other government subsidies. But dependency usually translates into votes for whoever is handing out the benefits, so an economic disaster can be a political bonanza."

If I were a rich person and someone asked me to give my money to those who didn't have any, I would turn inward, consider my Christian character, and give something. If I were a rich person and someone asked me to give money to those who had never really worked before, I might say I'll think about it or I'm sorry, maybe another time. My hesitation to give them money would be more than small. If I were an individual who watched rich people bathe in their money baths, I might demand for wealth distribution so that I too can enjoy some of the things they have. Now, this is certainly not only the case, but this portrays what society has become. And somehow, just somehow, politicians know how to play into it.

I'm not sure what this means for society, if we should be worried or not. But, I do know that the future business leaders and politicians can have an important role in formulating a more socially just society. Alexis de Tocqueville, a French political thinker, wrote a book called *Democracy in America* where he writes, "America is great because she is good. If America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

When I graduate from Mount St. Mary's University in 2015, I will have an abundance of business opportunities. I will have the opportunity to be a leader who spreads equality of resources to those in need. I will have the opportunity to serve and love others through my acts of ethical business decisions. I will have the opportunity to make my mark on America's business world by binding my fellow brothers and sisters together as one big fraternity. As it was written, "One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

To read past articles by Alexandra Tyminski visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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LOCAL ARTS

The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre

The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre's 20th Anniversary Season continues this spring with a new staging of the singing and dancing musical based on the classic MGM film, *Singin' in the Rain*. Nearly twenty years after the show was last seen on a Frederick stage, Way Off Broadway's production will open March 28th and run

through May 31st.

For several years, Way Off Broadway's producers had been discussing including *Singin' in the Rain* as a part of one of the theatre's seasons. One of the considerations for the production team was technical. What has always been a signature of the various productions of *Singin' in the Rain* is the classic scene where Don Lockwood

dances along the street as it rains on stage. Knowing how important that scene is to the production, Way Off Broadway's production team wanted to make certain they had a workable design that would allow for the rain affect in the theatre's space.

"One of the things people enjoy most about *Singin' in the Rain* is seeing it rain on stage," Bill Kiska said.

"We knew that was going to be an important scene in the show so we have to do it right."

Singin' in the Rain runs March 28 – May 31, 2014, with performances every Friday and Saturday evening and matinees on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of each month. A special Mother's Day matinee performance has been added on May 11th. Tickets

for a Friday evening or Sunday matinee are \$43, with Saturday evenings being \$47.

For additional information about Singin' in the Rain, or any of Way Off Broadway's productions or events, visit www.wayoffbroadway.com. To purchase tickets, call the Box Office at 301-662-6600.

Preparations for "Smoke on the Mountain"

Hold onto your seats because The Thurmont Thespians are preparing for a rousing Satur-

day Night Gospel Sing with their latest production of *Smoke on the Mountain* set to be performed the

first two weekends in April at the American Legion in Thurmont, MD.

Smoke on the Mountain is set in North Carolina's Smoky Mountains in 1938 and tells the story of the Sanders family, a traveling bluegrass group, who are enlisted by the local pastor to bring his tiny congregation into "the modern world." Between songs, each family member tells a story about an important event in their life, often revealing their true and hilariously imperfect natures.

Continuing the Thurmont Thespians mission of bringing all aspects of community theatre to Thurmont, *Smoke on the Mountain* is being directed by long-

time Thurmont Thespian, Kelli Donaghue of Woodsboro. Donaghue has performed, worked back stage, or choreographed countless Thurmont Thespian shows. "When Beth (Watson) caught me after church and asked me to take over directing the show for her I answered yes without hesitation, which was most unusual for me," said Donaghue. *Smoke on the Mountain* is being dedicated to the memory of Dr. Spence Watson, co-founder of the Thurmont Thespians and husband of Beth Watson, who died suddenly in December. "When Spence died, our happy, escape from the world and into Thurmont Thespians work also died. It stopped for

a bit. I wondered, as well as did all of my former cast and crew mates, what will happen now? We are still wondering and will undoubtedly be searching and feeling lost for quite some time," continued Donaghue.

Opening night for *Smoke on the Mountain* is Friday, April 4 at 8 p.m. Performances will continue that weekend on Saturday, April 5 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, April 6 at 2 p.m. The show will resume on Friday, April 11 at 8 p.m., a Dinner Theatre on Saturday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m., and closing show Sunday, April 13 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each and on sale now by calling Becky Urian, Box Office Manager, at 301-271-7613.

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Patrons with advance tickets will be seated between 6:30-6:45 pm. Seats are not guaranteed after 6:45 pm for advance ticket holders. Patrons *without* advance tickets are strongly encouraged to pick up numbered standby tickets in the concert hall lobby beginning at 6 pm. Any unoccupied seats, if available, will be filled by standby ticket holders between 6:45 pm and 7 pm. Due to no-shows, some seats are always available.

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MOUNT ARTS

MSM seniors prepare final projects

Caroline King
MSM Class of 2015

You wouldn't know it with all the snow lying on the ground, but spring is just around the corner and getting closer every day. And as May approaches, many Mount Saint Mary's students are getting ready to graduate and step out into the world. There is one last major milestone to encounter before that fateful day in May however: the SPARC Festival. Held annually at Mount Saint Mary's University, the SPARC festival highlights senior projects and creation, as well as poster sessions and lightning talks, and is open to the public. The senior art students have been working very hard through these snowy days to put together their senior art projects, which will be displayed during the 2014 Mount Saint Mary's SPARC festival, held on April 8, 9 and 10. Each student has designed his or her own theme, sculptures, paintings, and productions. I was lucky enough to sit down with several of the featured artists for a taste of what is to come in their galleries and shows this coming April. These seniors are all in the last stages of college as they prepare their final projects, the culmination of everything they've been working towards since freshman year at The Mount.

Mary Kate Coleman

Mary Kate is working on a theater production that will be airing April 3, 4, 5, and 9 at 8:00pm for all shows. "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare-Abridged" is the project she is producing, casting, creating props for, and directing. Having gotten the help of four male Mount Saint Mary's students, she's starting her rehearsals with her new cast and is looking forward to putting on this show for the community. This work of Shakespeare takes the past and "makes it funny and present," according to Coleman. Still in its early stages, she's just finished up the casting. "I needed guys who would be comfortable with each other," she said. "The audition was mostly theater games. I wanted to establish a trust, and there was also some improv stuff. There's going to be a lot of character and audience interaction and I needed to see what they would do without a

script." So far production seems to be running smoothly. Parting words from the senior? "Everyone should come and see it. It's free!" The show promises to be fun for everyone. It will be a creative, audience-inclusive show that's open to the public.

Ashley Christie

Ashley Christie is part of a team of seniors all working together to create a unique art gallery open to the public during the annual SPARC festival. She and her fellow seniors have been working tirelessly to create their own pieces, each one drawing inspiration from something different and special, suiting each of their personalities.

Christie's inspiration comes originally from the toxic waste spill that occurred in West Virginia, sparking her interest in the environment and the impact of industry on it. Her primary pieces will be sculptures, based on wood and other natural elements. "I really like working with my hands. I started with paper, making little knots, curls, and loops," Christie said, "And I started wishing that it could be wood. I found out it could be with a steam generator, which makes the wood pliable and really hot so you can then knot it while it's flexible." She's hoping to show the knotted dorms as a symbol towards recycling and the circle of life by focusing on the knots and loops and using wood and maybe rawhide and tar, mediums based in nature. "This is an experiment," she said. When asked if she wanted to say anything to the readers, she said, "You never know what you're going to get!"

Annie Battista

Annie Battista is another student working to bring the art gallery to life during the SPARC festival exhib-

it. Like Christie, Battista also finds her medium in wood, though less with sculpture and more as a canvas for oil paint. "The wood feels like a more honest medium than stretched canvas," she said. "And I just enjoy painting on wood more." Honesty seems to be a big theme in Battista's upcoming works. "I'm interested in people in everyday life. I found these pictures, mostly awkward pictures of my sister. There's an honest quality and a lot of beauty in the banal moments." Focusing on the snapshot of life, including a picture of a child making faces in the snow, Battista wants to recreate the beauty she finds in the everyday in a unique and meaningful way. "Art should be an invitation for you to stop and have a moment of reflection and have a real conversation. It's easy to go for weeks without having a real conversation and a meaningful moment." Battista is hoping to evoke a reaction in the viewer as honest as the pictures she's basing her art off of, an idea she has been throwing around since she found these pictures for her mixed media class during her freshman year.

Sarah Gawens

Sarah Gawens is yet another student working towards this final student gallery, and her inspiration comes from a unique source. "What causes people to go over the edge?" she asked me during our interview. It's a question that's being asked in her art pieces she's creating for the gallery, her inspiration being drawn from the mental illness BDD, Body dysmorphic disorder. It's an illness in which people cannot see themselves for who they are and get focused on giant flaws they see in their physical appearances. Through the documenta-

ries she watched, Gawens discovered the sad and sometimes futile struggle these individuals face, through numerous plastic surgeries and intense self-hatred. "It seems to be an illness produced by society more than individual's mental instability," she told me. In order to make her statement about this topic through her art, Gawens has moved away from her usual mediums. "I'm normally a painter and a drawer but I decided to go more sculpturally 3D and have been making life casts of people's faces," she said. "They are of my own face and my friends' faces. I'm very excited about it; it's very new to me." These art pieces promise to be a unique experience. "When people see my work I want them to see their reflections as much as the actual piece."

Kelly Blorstad

Kelly Blorstad is the final artist being featured in the student gallery. She draws her inspiration from an illness as well, but Blorstad's main focus will be on cancer. "I am working with string and plaster to make an instillation piece about the idea of a disease, such as cancer, taking over the body. The plaster form becomes tangled in the string and it begins to take over." Blorstad hopes that her three-dimensional piece conveys a universal theme that the viewer can relate to. She said, "The material of string signifies the cancer cells, starting at one point and eventually spreading so that it con-

sumes the living. I feel that most people can understand the struggle of feeling tangled and unable to move, even if it is not due to a disease." A large and very human concept, Blorstad strives to "make art that allows people to put themselves into the piece and reflect on not only the broad issue of cancer and disease, but also their own personal struggles".

All of these Mount Saint Mary's students have been working very hard to produce these final efforts reflecting their years here. These final projects promise an interesting and deep look into the talents of these students, who have been working to the best of their abilities and the fullest of their talents. Make the trip to the Mount in order to see what they've produced...you'll be glad you did! Next month's article will feature the galleries of the students again, after they've been opened up to the public. Whether for the theater or the art gallery, each stand out as exceptional and unique experiences completely put on by the students themselves as they prepare to leave college. Their last hurrahs at Mount Saint Mary's promise to be good ones!

All shows are all free and open to the public. The SPARC Festival runs from April 8-10. More in depth scheduling and details can be found on the Mount Saint Mary's webpage (www.msmary.edu).



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COLLECTORS CORNER

Air mail stamps

Richard Fulton

Stamp collecting, also known as philately – literally meaning attraction to taxes, stamps being a form of taxation – has been around as a hobby literally since the first postage stamp was issued by the United Kingdom in 1840.

Stamps were introduced by our fledgling post office seven years later in 1847, with the first United States stamp depicting Benjamin Franklin, who not only was one of the Founding Fathers of the country, but was also the first Postmaster General of the

US Postal Service which was established in 1775 by the Second Continental Congress (before the United States was officially even a country).

While our first postage stamps are inherently expensive to the collector (depending on condition, the first stamp can cost you from \$500 to \$4,500 each, while the second stamp, featuring George Washington, can run from \$1,400 to \$19,000 each), there is a more affordable group of US postal firsts – our airmail stamps.

Not only can the collector obtain the first air mail stamps at

reasonable costs (average range of \$15 to \$25 each in used/cancelled condition, more for unused/mint condition – with the rare “upside down” airplane error stamp going for just shy of \$1 million in 2007), but the story behind both the U.S. Air Mail Service and its stamps offers an interesting glimpse into history itself. The first air mail force was comprised of retired World War I fighter planes, and many of the first air mail pilots were fighter pilots who had flown these planes in combat.

The U.S. Air Mail Service was inaugurated in 1918 when Army pilot 2nd Lieutenant George L. Boyle took-off in one of the ex-Army Curtiss JN-4HM “Jenny” bi-planes (featured on the first three airmail stamps) and attempted to fly the first airmail letters from Washington, D.C. to Philadelphia, a trip that went slightly awry when he lost his bearings and had to land in Waldorf, Maryland where he crashed making a “hard landing.”

Nevertheless, the postal service “fly boys” were determined to make the air mail service work, and by the end of 1918 a number of permanent North-South and East-West routes were established. The bi-wing De Havilland DH-4s (featured on the last three of the first six airmail stamps) had been added to the fleet and a variety of other types were also employed.

There was always an element of danger in flying the old planes,

and most pilots flew their planes “by the seats of their pants.” Air-mail pilot Harold Lewis stated, “An instrument panel was just something to clutter up the cockpit and distract your attention from the railroad or river bed you were following,” according to writer Nancy Allison Wright.

In sudden foul weather, pilots were often forced down to wherever they thought they could land, mostly farm fields. Lewis said he

once crashed into a farmhouse kitchen on one attempt and later collided with a bull on another.

By 1925, 43 airmail pilots were killed in crashes, and 23 pilots were injured.

In 1926, all of the old bi-wing planes were retired, and the post office opted for all single (mono) wing planes. One of the initial air mail pilots of the “new generation” of mono-wing planes was Charles Lindbergh.



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Enjoy Life! Get Away! Travel!

<p>March 23-29 “Springtime In The South” First night in Charlotte, NC. Then on to Atlanta, GA and a visit to the Margaret Mitchell Home & the Fox Theatre. We will spend a day at the Stone Mountain Park. A visit to the Calloway Gardens with many lovely flowers in bloom, CNN, the Coca-Cola Factory & the Jimmy Carter Library. Heading north through the Shenandoah Mountain National Park we will visit Gaffinsburg, and see the Titanic replica. We check into our hotel, go for a great dinner and see a new show in Pigeon Forge! Full Payment Due By March 10 Detailed Flyer Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p>May 1-3 “Elkins, WV” Leave Thurmont at 7:00 am & Frederick at 7:20 am, and have breakfast at Hancock, then on to Fairmont, WV to Valley Falls State park to view 2 waterfalls. Then on to Phillips for lunch and a tour of the Adairland Mansion. From there we head to Elkins Hampton Inn. For dinner and a show at the American Mountain Theatre. Day 2 after breakfast, at 8:30 am we head for Weston to tour the Lunatic Asylum, then on to the Stonewall Resort for a buffet luncheon. On the return a visit to the American Museum of Glass. In the evening dinner & a show at the Gandy Dance Theatre. Day 3 on to Davis, WV for a visit to Black Water Falls. A lunch stop before leaving. ETR 5:30 pm. \$425 PP Dbl \$552 SGL Deposit \$50 Final Payment Due By March 19</p>	<p>June 5-16 “Upper Peninsula of Michigan” This is the northern of the two major land masses that is the state of Michigan. It is referred to as the U.P. & known as the land “above the Bridge” linking the two peninsulas. We’ll see lots of beautiful trees, wildlife, many lakes, waterfalls, lighthouses, we will be able to enjoy different food and lots of good fresh fish. If you enjoy beautiful scenery, this will be a great trip! 12 Day Trip Detailed Flyer Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p>June 20-26 “Cruise St. Lawrence Seaway” Several months ago I received a catalog from the Saint Lawrence Cruise Lines, Inc. I read through it and decided. I wanted to do that! I much prefer the smaller cruise ships and know there are many others who feel the same. The cruise I chose sails from Quebec City to Kingston, Ontario. This is a 7 day/6 night cruise with no cruising at night. During the day there are stops for shore excursions and the cost is included in the tour price! We will fly from BWI to Quebec and home from Toronto. If you have a computer, view their DVD at www.SLcruiselines.com. In 2015 I plan to do the Ottawa to Kingston cruise! 7 Days/6 Nights Detailed Flyer Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In Business Since 1987</p>
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COMMUNITY NOTES

Gettysburg is going to the dogs!

Roseann DeLuca
Cold Creek Dog Training

The Gettysburg area is getting a dog park! We couldn't be more excited to offer this feature to the community. We have been in the planning stages for several months through a "Dog Park Steering Committee," headed by GARA board member Mary Miner. Though a professed "cat person," Mary sees the need and the overwhelming community interest in a dog park. Last year the residents of the Gettysburg area were polled to see what amenities they would most like to have in their community and the dog park was the resounding winner by far. The board of GARA and local residents are now taking steps to make the dog park a reality.

The park will be built at the Gettysburg Recreation Authority, or Rec Park, as it is commonly known in the community. The Rec Park is a community oriented park recreation authority, formerly managed directly through the Gettysburg Borough. GARA is now an independent nonprofit entity managed by a board of directors and is eager to carry on in its role in the community to help develop the community through parks, programs and people. It hosts game leagues of all sorts from little league to football, pavilions for picnicking, and now room for our four-footed friends!

The location of the dog park will be on the north west end of the Rec Park near the Howard street parking lot area for super easy access to the fenced on dog park area. A five-foot chain link fence will be put in surrounding the almost one-acre area that has been allotted to the project. There will be a large and small dog area designated. The overall dog park plan will be completed in stages and features will be added as funds come in. There will be benches, a watering station and eventually other features such as agility items like tunnels and slides as the dog

park campaigned progresses. We will be adding trees and shrubs to the already existing mature trees that are already growing there. As our donation level approaches the mark of \$25,000, we hope to have the park up and running by a June 1, target date, so it's going to happen as fast as the donations come in!

There are many residents of Gettysburg and the surrounding areas who do not have safe places where dogs can just run and have a good time with their own kind and be off of their leashes. Not everyone has access to a fenced yard or the ability to walk their dog for proper amounts of time, especially during the cold winter months. And while a romp at the dog park won't take the full place of proper walks, which are important for a dog's traveling nature, it can bridge the gap from time to time.

Being such a huge tourist town, Gettysburg will be a great place for visitors to enjoy having a place to let their dogs run on the approximately one-acre fenced in, free off-leash area in the Rec Park setting. The Park will draw out-of-towners deeper into the downtown area to hopefully support our local businesses' traffic.

One of the best benefits for dog owners themselves is to be able to interact with other like-minded dog owners who share the same interest in their love of dogs. Also, it will be a benefit to be able to exercise with their dogs. Besides having access to a great off-leash romp in the dog park, dog owners can walk on the Biser Fitness Trail and Walking Path, a mile-long loop around the 50-acre Rec Park complex with workout stations.

In dog benefit terms, it's a great place for dogs to run free off-leash and interact with their own kind and other dog friendly people too in a safe, contained environment. Tired dogs are happy dogs as any dog owner knows. Dogs who receive regular exercise are less likely to have health or behavioral issues. It gives dogs the opportunity



for pack socialization skills, which are very important for the mental overall wellbeing of a dog. In order to keep the dog park a very safe and friendly environment, we plan to offer free "Dog Body Language" workshops at the park by local trainers to help dog park regulars understand what their dog's body language conveys to other dogs and to other people. As spring gets closer we will offer some Fun Dog Days in the park, Bark in the Park type events to generate interest with vendors and activities for dog and their owners and a chance to get out on some green grass soon!

While the dog park will be absolutely free for anyone, we encourage local dog owners to register and be part of the contact list for the park. For a donation of \$10.00 you will be listed as a "founding member" and receive a reflective tag for your dog. Our hope is that our local dog owners will be involved and have the pride of ownership in knowing they were a part of things from the beginning.

In order to make it all happen, we are reaching out to the community for tax-deductible contributions to help fund the park. We

are aiming for a starting block of \$25,000 to get the park up and running. Donation levels have been earmarked starting at \$10 and up for various featured items in the park, such as a brick, tree, bench or various other items of perpetuity. We are also considering that a large benefactor may want to have the dog park named after them or their dog. The founding member donations starting at \$10 will receive a reflective tag with the name of the dog park on it. At this time we are referring to the dog park as simply "The Gettysburg Dog Park" but we are asking the community to come forward with name suggestions and also to help us create a logo for the park. We ask that the logo contain the acronym GARA since the park is located at the Gettysburg Recreation Authority and that the entries be submitted to GARA4all@gmail.com in camera ready art form so the chosen entry can be taken right to press. We will provide more information on this

at our next community dog park meeting, which will be in March. Stay tuned with your local newspaper as well as our Facebook pages for the Rec Park and Gettysburg Dog Park for an announcement about the date and time.

We are reaching out to the community to support the dog park development. The park will be funded by the generosity of dog lovers just like you. If you would like to be involved and volunteer in anyway, give us a call with how you would like to help and also to make a donations as well. Contact the Rec Park at 717-334-2028 or drop in for a visit. Follow the GARA website too for information too (www.GARA-RecPark.info). See you in the Park!

Editor's Note: Rose DeLuca does an amazing job as the owner of Cold Creek Dog Training in Gettysburg. To learn more about Rose or upcoming classes, please visit her website at www.ColdCreekShepherds.com.

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COOKING WITH LOVE

Peanut butter pie

Brooke Hagerty Lurie

The Wild and Wacky Month of March!

When I started thinking about this month's article I automatically thought about St. Patrick's Day and of course the traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage, Irish Soda Bread and Lamb Stew recipes. Then I thought about what other holidays occur during the month. I found a great website, www.holidayinsights.com that has all kinds of wacky holidays for every day of the year. Did you know that March 1 is not only National Peanut Butter Day but also National Pie Day? Or that March 6th is National Frozen Food Day? Or that March 23rd is National Chip and Dip Day? With a plethora of food related holidays to choose from we are going to explore all kinds of different recipes that relate to these days.

March 1 sounds like a great day to make Peanut Butter Pie. I have included two recipes for you, both very different in preparation but equally delicious in flavor. The first comes from one of my favorite celebrity Chef's, Emeril Lagasse and the second is an old friend's recipe.

First up, Chef Emeril Lagasse!

Peanut Butter Pie

Ingredients

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
6 tablespoons melted butter
1 cup smooth peanut butter
1 pound cream cheese, at room temperature
1 1/2 cups confectioners' sugar
1/3 cup milk
1/4 cup chopped roasted peanuts
6 cups sweetened heavy cream, whipped until thick, in all
1/2 cup chopped salted peanuts
4 ounces chocolate curls and shavings
2 cups chocolate sauce, slightly warm

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. In a bowl combine the crumbs, butter and 1/4 cup of the peanut butter. Mix thoroughly. Press the mixture into a 9-inch spring-form pan. Bake until golden and crisp, about 6 to 8 minutes. Remove from the oven and cool completely. Using an electric mixer, beat the cream cheese with sugar until smooth. Add the remaining 3/4 cup peanut butter. Beat until smooth. Add the milk and roasted peanuts and beat well. Fold 4 cups of the whipped cream into the peanut butter mixture and spoon into the prepared pan. Cov-

er with plastic wrap and refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours. Remove from the refrigerator and spoon the remaining whipped cream over the entire pie. Slice into individual servings. Garnish with the peanuts, chocolate shaving and chocolate sauce.

Second up, my dear friends – does not take as long but still has a great taste!

Peanut Butter Cups

Ingredients

2 packages (8 ounce each) cream cheese, softened
1 cup sugar
2/3 cup creamy peanut butter
2/3 cup whipped topping
14 peanut butter cups, divided
1 chocolate crumb crust – 9 inch

Directions

In a small bowl, beat the cream cheese, sugar and peanut butter until light and fluffy. Fold in whipped topping. Coarsely chop half of the peanut butter cups; stir into cream cheese mixture. Spoon into crust. Quarter remaining peanut butter cups; arrange over the top. Refrigerate for at least 4 hours before serving. Yield: 6-8 servings.



March 6 is National Frozen Food Day. Frozen food often gets a bad rap but did you know that frozen broccoli is actually more nutritious than store bought fresh broccoli? It's true; broccoli begins to lose its nutritional value as soon as it is cut off from its stalk, as do most vegetables, and when it is frozen the nutrients are "locked" in. Frozen vegetables are great to use when you need to make dinner in a hurry or are using a slow cooker. Cynthia Sass, a registered dietitian uses them in a variety of ways including "keeping freezer stocked with a spectrum of frozen fruits and veggies, and use them in

a variety of ways. In addition to adding frozen fruit to smoothies, I thaw or warm it as a topping for oatmeal, or whole grain toast spread with almond butter. Frozen veggies are my chief ingredient in stir fry dishes, but I also love to sauté them in extra virgin olive oil with garlic and herbs, toss with a little quinoa or brown rice pasta, and top with a lean protein. For a quick and easy side dish, I keep jars of all natural, vegan pesto and tapenade, to toss with steamed frozen veggies. Some of my favorite combos are: broccoli with sundried tomato pesto; spinach with roasted red pepper pesto; and French cut green beans with green and black olive tapenade. Simple, delicious, and ready in a jiffy."

March 23 is National Chip and Dip Day! Who doesn't love chips and dip? They are the ultimate comfort food any time of day or night chips and dip just make you smile! But you can dress up the classic chip and dip and serve it at any cocktail event. Check out this great White Bean Dip!

White Bean Dip

Ingredients

1/4 cup olive oil, divided
2 cloves garlic, peeled and minced
2 cans (15 oz. each) white beans (Great Northern, cannellini, or white kidney beans), drained and rinsed
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2 teaspoons kosher salt
3 sprigs fresh rosemary, rinsed

Directions

In a 10-inch frying pan over medium heat, stir half the olive oil and the 2 cloves garlic until fragrant, being careful not to brown garlic, about 1 minute. Pour the oil and garlic into a food processor. Wipe out the pan and set aside. Add white beans, lemon juice, and salt to the food processor and whirl until smooth. Pour into a serving bowl. Return the frying pan to medium heat and add the remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil and the rosemary sprigs. Warm the rosemary in the olive oil until fragrant, about 3 minutes, stirring occasionally so the rosemary doesn't burn. Remove from heat and let cool 10 minutes.

As always, if you have an idea for an article or have any questions do not hesitate to contact me anytime at brooke@gunnersgrille.com.

From all of us at Gunner's Grille at Taneytown we thank you for your support over the past three years, we will miss you all.

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Mount track and field

Bridgette Nitza
MSM Class of 2015

Whether lining up at the start of an 800m race around the track or setting their sights on a dynamic pole vault attempt, Mount St. Mary's University athletes are fresh out of a successful Indoor Track and Field season, while already preparing for an even more successful outdoor season.

Led by Head Coach James Stevenson and Assistant Coaches Jay Phillips, Larry O'Hara, Jim Deegan, and Tim Nickas, these men and women train and compete throughout the entire academic year.

Both Stevenson and Phillips were more than anxious to share their thoughts on this motivated group of athletes, their many achievements thus far, and the achievements they hope to see during the coming season.

When asked about the results of their completed competitions, Stevenson answered, "Many of our athletes had lifetime bests at some point during the season, which are always personal goals for our team members. Arguably the most outstanding moments were our two school records, both by women's team members. Sophomore Jess Whitmore broke the school record in the 60m sprint and transfer junior Kristen Galligan broke a 19-year-old school record in the 5000m run."

Phillips explained what such overwhelming success means to the young men and women of Mount Track and Field. "Dozens of people start the season with their sights on winning an NEC title. These are talented, driven individuals, contesting for one prize. When a Mount athlete walks away with that top prize it's a special moment for the university," he stressed.

Many new members of our Mount community contributed to the drive of this year's Indoor Track and Field season. Stevenson did not leave a single Mount athlete out of his praises. "We have some great freshmen this year and I'd also like to include first year competitors as we welcomed three transfer students to the women's team. We just finished the NEC Championships and Julian Woods, our sprinter/hurdler, won the 60m hurdles. Freshman Chase Boyle was the 3rd best 35lb weight thrower in the conference and freshman Josh Poole placed third in the 500m run. First year transfer Kristen Galligan placed third in the 5000m run with a new school record and first year transfer Maria Borland placed third in the 800m run," he stated.

He was impressed with the accomplishments of this year's competitors and explained, "We had many others make or move up our all-time Top 10 lists and have also qualified one of our largest groups of athletes for the post season IC4A/ECAC 'Eastern' Championships."

Junior and first-year Mount athlete Kristen Galligan shared the same enthusiasm about these two post-season



Photo credit: David Sinclair

events. "I am happy with the Indoor season, but for some athletes it is not over yet. We have ECACs/IC4As to work towards next!" she explained.

With such a positive Indoor Season, both the coaches and the team members hope for an outdoor season to match.

Phillips confidently stated, "I think we are heading into our outdoor season with a lot of momentum." Stevenson emphasized three specific goals for the coming outdoor season. The team must stay healthy, continue with their current hard work, and try to excel even beyond the indoor season performances in order to meet the goals this head coach has set.

This should be no problem for such determined athletes, as Phillips anticipates a prosperous outdoor season ahead. "We expect our men and women to compete. We are, for the first time all year, a complete team in that every single person on our roster is gearing up for the same competitions. We focus on ourselves, what we need to do to improve, what we need to do to keep ourselves moving in the right direction. We are strong in a lot of areas. I think that's what makes this team particularly special," he assured.

The competitors feel the same way as the coaches. Galligan said, "As a team, we will go after a higher finish in NEC's place-wise; top 3 would be awesome. Our team has a lot of individuals at the top of their event groups, not just one specific event group of athletes. So I think our presence in such a wide range of events will help set a standard of our expectations for scoring points across the board."

As a junior, Galligan has an additional year to succeed in this rewarding sport, but Phillips acknowledged that, "For seniors, this is their last crack at it, and we want them to be able to answer 'yes' to the question, 'Did I do the best I could with the time I had?' If they can say 'yes' to that, they can walk away proud of their accomplishments."

Stevenson added, "Collegiate track and field is a wonderful experience that you can never reclaim. If you don't take a step back to really take in all the wonderful aspects of the sport such as competition, traveling, friendships and excitement, then it will be over before you know it."

This competition, traveling, friendships and excitement would not be possible without these very coaches who speak so highly of their athletes.

nity. The two track team seminarians, Eric and Steve, provide an additional support system that athletes could not get anywhere else. They are always inspirational, easy to talk to, and goofy."

Alongside these two chaplains, Jenna Lewis, the Varsity Catholic Missionary at the Mount, enhances the Track and Field team's journey at a private institution. "She shares her experience as a Catholic and an athlete, has organized Bible studies, and helps athletes understand how to incorporate our faith life into our athletic life," Galligan said.

It is important to remember this appreciation that all Mount St. Mary's University athletes feel for those who support them. The faculty, students, and community members who attend any athletic events to cheer on their peers contribute to the success of all competitors. There will be plenty of opportunities during their coming outdoor season to be a part of this support system for the Track and Field team.

The ECAC, and IC4A Championships will take place March 7 through March 9, and the first outdoor Track and Field meet will be the Wake Forest Open on March 21.

All together, the Mount St. Mary's University Track and Field team consists of over 50 athletes. To see a detailed roster and obtain further information about this and all other Mount sports, please visit www.mountathletics.com, or www.NEC-FrontRow.com.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

Traditional Chinese medicine

Renee Lehman

Have you noticed that we are gradually moving from the season of Winter into Spring? Spring is the growing season. It is a time of new beginnings, of renewal, warming temperatures, and increased daylight. Can you see that what is happening in nature is also happening within ourselves?

Overall, there is more activity, action, or movement happening during Spring when compared to Winter. We can all recognize that things are growing, the animals and birds are giving "birth," and there is more "activity" in nature. The gifts of Spring include flexibility, clarity and vision, creativity, new possibilities, and hope.

How can you create room for new opportunities and possibilities on a body/mind/spirit level? Do some Spring cleaning (on a body/mind/spirit level). This is a time for rebirth! Ask yourself, "What do I no longer need in my life?" or "What no longer serves who I want to be?"

While you are "cleaning house," it is also time to have hope! We often hear about having hope for a cure for breast cancer. Current statistics show that 1 in 8 women in the United States will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. Why is early detection of breast cancer still considered a woman's best option? What hope is there for preventing breast cancer?

Traditional Chinese Medicine's Understanding of Breast Cancer

For thousands of years, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) has understood and treated the condition we in our modern culture call breast cancer. TCM (the longest continuously practiced form of healthcare in the world) is focused on prevention and wellness (see previous articles on TCM). There is an often quoted saying in The Yellow Emperor's Classic of Internal Medicine, The Nei Jing, (1000 BCE): "To fight a disease after it has occurred is like trying to dig a well when one is thirsty or forging a weapon once a war has begun."

TCM views all disease from an energetic level (deals with your energy or Qi, pronounced "chee"). Basically, all disease is considered to be stuck or out of balance energy (Qi). Because of this viewpoint of all disease, including breast cancer, TCM understands that there are invisible energetic issues that have a tremendous impact on a woman's health and that underlies breast cancer. TCM can recognize and address the early warning signs before they manifest in the body as breast cancer. TCM can give hope to women, and help them to understand their own body, because it can be used to teach a woman to observe her body/mind/spirit and understand when her health and life is becoming unbalanced. Everything

in your life – body/mind/spirit, can influence your body's energy system; therefore, affect everything about your state of health. TCM teaches women to be proactive with regard to their own health, because true prevention does not focus specifically on the disease (breast cancer). True prevention focuses on creating good health and wellness.

So, how can TCM practices

help you to prevent breast cancer?

TCM Practices for Prevention Qigong, pronounced "Chee gung," is a Chinese self-healing practice (see previous article on Qigong). From the ancient TCM perspective, Qigong can help address internal energetic (Qi) imbalances. Therefore, when energy (or Qi) flows freely through the body, then disease, illness, calcifications, etc. cannot set in. Eating healing foods, participating in healthy lifestyle practices, and managing emotions also help round out a body-mind-spirit approach that gives all women the best possible chance to prevent this disease.

I am teaching a two-hour Qigong Class for Breast Wellness

Two – Hour Qigong Class for Breast Wellness

March 8, 2014

10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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Cost: \$30.00 (includes instructional materials and a DVD of the Wu Ming Qigong for Breast Health, a \$25.00 value)

Space is limited, so register soon to save your place in the class!

Register: call Renee* at 717-752-5728

E-mail: lehmanr@embarqmail.com

* Certified Breast Cancer Prevention Project (BCPP) instructor

on Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. In this workshop you will learn how to care for yourself using seven self-healing Taoist Wu Ming Qigong movements. Learning how to maintain the free flow of Qi through your energy pathways (meridians) is easy and fun to do. Do you, your mother, sister(s), or female friends have any of the following signs/symptoms of Qi imbalances: Menstrual issues (for example: PMS, painful periods, irregular cycle, breast tenderness, lumps or masses in the breasts), yeast infections, migraine headaches, anger or unstable moods, ulcers, hypertension, eye problems, nail issues (dull, brittle nails), digestive disturbances (indigestion, bloating, diarrhea/constipation), food allergies, lack of appetite, hypoglycemia, being overweight, hair falling out easily, vaginal discharge, sleeping problems, and constant worrying? If so, it's wise to be proactive and address them with these life-enhancing movements.

Open to the public, this class is for women everywhere who want to support their health through a guided qigong practice. So, tell a friend, sister, mother or wife today: TCM offers many alternative, natural solutions to preventing breast cancer and promoting breast health.

To learn more about the TCM approach to true breast cancer prevention, visit www.breast-cancer.com and www.tcmworld.org (specifically <http://www.tcmworld.org/family-health/breast-health/>).

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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FITNESS

Keep Moving

How's that New Year's resolution going?

Linda Stultz
Fitness Trainer/
Fitness Therapist

Have you kept that New Year's Resolution? Usually by this time you know if you have made the lifestyle change that will enable you the stick to the resolution you made. Many people say they want to lose weight or get healthy but really don't decide just how they will do it. I have three steps that I believe will help you achieve your goal.

I realize that putting this into practice is not always easy for some. I believe there are three steps needed to achieve

your goal. Food, cardio and weightlifting are the components 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 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 their 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 you can enjoy a fun food every now and then.

Cardio exercise is the 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. Cardio is also important to keep the heart, lungs and our whole body healthy. It not only burns calories, it improves our body's condition to prevent illness and disease. Cardio helps build energy and endurance to help us through our day.

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. You can burn more calories for a longer period of time after lifting weights than you do after a cardio workout. Just imagine the calorie burn if you warm up with a half hour of cardio then do a half hour of

weightlifting. That would give you maximum calorie burn to get you closer to your weight loss goal. Utilizing the three things I mentioned in this article can promote and help you achieve the lifestyle most people want. Good food and physical activity not only keeps our body in shape but our mind as well. Taking care of ourselves gives us the satisfaction we need to feel better about ourselves because we know we are doing something to live a longer and healthier life. Taking care of ourselves also gives us the energy and hopefully the assurance that we will be there to take care of family and friends when they need our help. 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!

Herbal Reflections

Amy Brodich
Clinical Herbalist

I am excited to be bringing you some interesting articles on herbs and natural health, right here in the Emmitsburg Journal. I am very grateful for the fascinating journey that brought me to this point. In 2003, when faced with health challenges that conventional medicine could not address, I began studying herbs and natural health. The results on my health were so incredible that I changed my life's path in a way I can only explain as a calling. I became fervently impassioned about increasing my knowledge

in order to help other people holistically.

I earned the designation of Certified Natural Health Professional from The Association of Certified Natural Health Professionals in 2007. The following year, I graduated with honors from The American College of Healthcare Sciences as a Master Herbalist. Since that time, I have studied with nationally and internationally renowned herbalists and health care professionals. Additionally, I have held seminars for large corporate events and have recently started writing articles. I am also a member of the American Herbalists

Guild, a non-profit association of Herbal Practitioners, who promote a high level of professionalism and education in the study and practice of therapeutic herbalism, best described as the medicinal use of plants.

I opened Herbal Reflections in Fairfield in 2013 with a goal of guiding others toward restoring their health and reaching extraordinary health and wellness. As a Clinical Herbalist, I hold consultations by appointment and formulate personalized herbal formulas and flower essences for clients. Goals and wellness plans are made together with each client to aspire changes and improvements within

their comfort level.

The body has an innate ability to heal itself. As a natural health consultant and herbalist, I provide education and recommendations on ways to support the body while typically addressing imbalanced or weakened organs or systems, so that the body can restore its own health through the acts of each client.

Staying balanced is key, so it is important for me to make time for exercise and to be with friends and family. When not working or engrossed in natural health literature or attending seminars, I also enjoy preparing wonderful meals and getting out in nature to hike or do some gardening.

For anyone who is attending the Gettysburg Hospital Annu-

al Women's Health and Wellness Conference on March 15, I will be set up as an exhibitor. Please feel free to stop by to say hello.

On March 18 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., I will be presenting a free seminar entitled Eating Your Way to Wellness at Alliance Chiropractic Wellness Center in Gettysburg. Registration is required. To register, please contact Leonard Mazz at 717-334-4481. Space is limited, so please register early if you are interested. Anyone who attends the seminar and schedules an initial consultation with me that evening, will receive \$20 off their initial consultation fee.

For further information please call me 717-642-5000 or visit www.herbalreflections.com.

Fitness Matters

George Puvel
Anytime Fitness Owner

Question: The holidays are over, yet the stress still seems to be lingering. I feel as if I can't get back on track with a regular schedule. Can you please provide some tips to help me cope with my stress?

Answer: Here are three very simple steps you can do to help you feel stronger, happier, and better able to manage your stress. Begin by eating fresh, wholesome foods that will fuel your brain and boost your mood. Reaching for the junk food might give you instant satisfaction, but will make you feel depleted in the long run. Next, continue to stay physically active, as exercise is known to help reduce stress and clear your mind. And lastly, create an experience of joy somewhere in your day, such as watching a funny movie, or curling up with your favorite book and a cup of tea. Setting aside this time for yourself can help you shift your thinking to feeling good and creating positive thoughts.

Question: Recently while exercising on the cardio machines,

my toes went numb within a few minutes of working out. Any ideas as to what is causing this?

Answer: Numbness in the toes is a common complaint among

treadmill and elliptical users. Often, the cause is wearing shoes that are too tight or tying the shoelaces too tight. Feet swell when exercising, so make sure when purchasing shoes you try them on at the end of the day and opt for a wider toe box so toes have room to move. If you believe that your shoes are the cor-

rect size, make sure you allow for some time to stretch the foot and lower leg before beginning your workout. Tightness may lead to improper form, which could lead to numbness. If the numbness persists, you may have a nerve issue called Morton's neuroma, where the pressure on the nerves between the 2nd-3rd toes or 3rd-

4th toes causes the numbness. In this case it's important to see a podiatrist to help treat the condition.

About the author: George Puvel is the Club Owner. To submit a question for future articles, please contact the author at ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com.

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ASTRONOMY

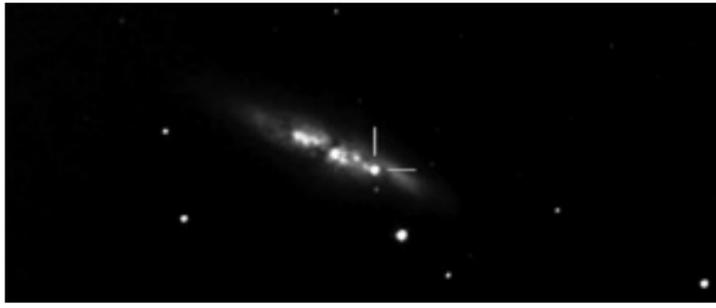
The night sky of March

Professor Wayne Wooten

For March 2014, the Moon will be new on March 1st. It waxes in the first two weeks of March, and reaches first quarter, half lit in the evening sky a week later, on March 8th. Our week is in fact based on observations of the quarter phases of the moon. Sunday, March 9th finds us springing forward to CDT. On March 10th, the waxing gibbous moon passes 5 degrees south of Jupiter, well up in the NE evening sky. The Full Moon, the Grass Moon, is on March 16th, and while it misses the earth's shadow this month, it will be totally eclipsed next month, on the morning of April 15th. More on that in the April column. The waning gibbous moon is found 3 degrees south of rapidly brightening red Mars on the evening of March 19th. Contrast the color of the bright planet with blue white Spica, to the upper right of the moon 9 PM in the SE. The last quarter moon rises about midnight on March 24th.

The Spring or Vernal Equinox occurs at 11:57 AM CDT on March 20th. The waning crescent moon passes 3.6 degrees north of brilliant Venus on March 27th. The second new moon of March occurs on March 30th.

It is a great month to be observ-



Big news happened in late January when a supernova appeared in the nearby galaxy M-82, north of the "Big Dipper." As M-82 is 12 million light years away, we are looking 12 million years into the past in this photo. The exploding star rose to binocular visibility, the brightest of such explosions in decades.

ing the planets. While Mercury and Venus lie in the

morning sky, Jupiter dominates the NE evening sky, and Mars is brightening rapidly as the earth overtakes it, and rising earlier and earlier in the evening sky, and will come to opposition on April 8th, rising in the east exactly at sunset then. On March 1st, Mars rises about 9 PM, is magnitude -0.5, and appears 12" of arc across in telescopes. But as we overtake Mars, it appears to lose ground and retrogrades to the west, toward Spica, and by the end of the month, it has moved due north of Spica, risen in brightness to magnitude -1.4, and swollen to 15" of arc across. It will be better to wait to observe the planet when it is higher in the southern sky, about midnight, for the best seeing conditions to pick out the polar caps and surface de-

tail with scopes at high magnification. This April brings Mars closer to the earth than it has been for several years.

Jupiter is bright and well up in the NE in Gemini at sunset as March begins. Small scopes reveal its four large Galilean Moons, and larger scopes show the belts and zones on the giant planet's disk, as well as the Great Red Spot, and even shadow transits as the moons pass in front of Jupiter and casting their shadows on the planet's rapidly rotating cloud tops.

Finally, Saturn is still in the morning sky in Virgo, but will come to opposition in the evening sky on May 10th, so those who stay up late can observe it rising in the east about 11 PM in mid March, and about 10 PM at the end of the month. The rings are tilting more open, so Saturn will be brighter this spring than last year.

The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. South of Cassiopeia is

Andromeda's hero, Perseus. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter compan-

ion as seen from Earth. At Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group.

East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance. Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky in the northwest. 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; it is directly above us as darkness falls in early March. The pair are associated with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers. Jupiter sits south of the famed pair in March 2014.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the southern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. The bright diamond of four stars that light it up are the trapezium cluster, one of the finest sights in a telescope and among the youngest known stars.

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. When Sirius is highest, along our southern horizon look for the second brightest star, Canopus, getting just above the horizon and sparkling like an

exquisite diamond as the turbulent winter air twists and turns this shaft of starlight, after a trip of about 200 years!

To the northeast, look for the bowl of the Big Dipper rising, with the top two stars, 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, rising by 7 PM at the start of March. If you take the pointers of the Big Dipper's bowl to the south, you are guided instead to the head of Leo the Lion rising in the east, looking much like the profile of the famed Sphinx. The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star". The folk wisdom that "March comes in like a Lion" probably refers to the head of Leo rising just after sunset in early March.

If you follow the handle of the Big Dipper to the south, by 9 PM you will be able to "arc to Arcturus", the brightest star of Spring and distinctly orange in color. Its color is an indication of its uniqueness. Its large speed and direction through the Milky Way suggests it was not formed with our Galaxy, but is a recent capture from the Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy, a smaller satellite galaxy now being assimilated by our huge spiral galaxy. Many of its lost stars, like Arcturus, follow a band across the sky at about a 70 degree angle to our galactic plane. Arcturus is at the tail of kite shaped Bootes, the celestial bear driver chasing the two bears from his flocks.

By 9 PM, many more galaxies will be following as the Virgo Supercluster, just above Saturn now, rises in the east. This huge cluster of over a thousand galaxies is centered about 60 million light years away. The brightest star of Virgo, Spica, lies just east of the center of the cluster, and its rise just after sunset marks the time of year for spring planting in folklore. Time to get your peas in the ground... March goes out like a lamb, not just from Easter tradition, but because Aries the Ram is setting in the west by the end of March. Many of our sayings and traditions have astronomical origins.

and Palm Sunday on March 9th. Be sure to wear something green in honor of St. Patrick on Monday, March 17th!

The Garden: To prevent crabgrass, apply a pre-emergent herbicide to established lawns before March 15th but do not apply if you are planning to seed the lawn with fescue grass. The pre-emergent will prevent this type of grass seed from germinating. March is prime time for feeding shrubs and perennials that bloom in the Summer months. Also, begin pruning early-flowering shrubs, roses, fruit trees, grapes, and raspberries. Start an all-purpose spray regimen. Be sure to feed well and use supplementary nitrogen in early Spring, in addition to yearly feeding.

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Farmers' Almanac

Mid-Atlantic weather watch: Stormy with heavy rains (1,2) turning fair, windy and much colder (3,4,5,6,7,8,9). Snow in the northern parts of the regions with rain in the south (10,11). Fair and cool (12,13,14) with Nor'easter and heavy snow, rain on the coast (15,16) returning to fair skies and cold temperatures (17,18,19,20,21). Not as cold (22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29) with showers then snow in the north (30,31).

Full moon: March's full moon will occur on March 16th EST. It has often been called the Sap Moon by many Native Ameri-

can tribes because sap would start to rise and run at this time. It also has been known Worm Woods because March's warmer temperatures tended to soften the frozen earth just enough to allow earthworms to begin burrowing out of the ground.

Special notes: The Vernal Equinox will occur on Thursday, March 20th and signals the arrival of Spring. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead when Daylight Savings starts on Sunday, March 9th at 2:00 AM EST.

Holidays: In 2014, Shrove Tuesday falls on March 4th, Ash Wednesday on March 5th,

COMPUTER Q&A

Clean-up for your computer

By Aysë Stenabaugh, Jester's Computer Tutor

Many times computers will lock up, bog down, or just plain don't work right. Some people assume that they need a new computer without ever considering regular maintenance. We recommend a clean up once a year. Here at Jester's Computer Services we offer a clean-up special twice a year, Spring Clean-Up, (March) & fall, (September) to promote the importance of computer maintenance. Below is a list of what we do in a clean-up and why we do it to keep your computer running optimally.

What is a computer virus?

A computer virus is a computer program that can copy itself and infect a computer. The term "virus" is also commonly but erroneously used to refer to other types of malware, adware, and spyware programs that do not have the reproductive ability. A true virus can only spread from one computer to another (in some form of executable code) when its host is taken to the target computer; for instance because a user sent it over a network, on the Internet, or carried it on a removable medium such as a CD, or USB drive.

Adware, spyware, and virus removal

Even if you are running an antivirus program, most computers that come into our shop have several viruses. Your antivirus may be doing a good job, but programs that you legitimately install may have bad software bundled along with it. Your antivirus will not stop you from installing software that you agree to install. Also, you may be running antivirus but it may not have protection against adware, spyware, or the worst of all: Root kits. Leaving viruses and other bad software on your system can be extremely dangerous.

Viruses left on computers have the possibility of:

- Using up valuable system resources causing your computer to slow significantly.
- Logging your keystrokes and passwords.
- Taking over your system and sending out spam.
- Causing system crashes and blue screens.
- Erasing all personal and system data leaving the hard drive blank.
- Wiping out your desktop icons.
- Corrupting the operating system.

What about all those temporary files?

Programs create temporary files primarily for backup purposes. Many programs, such as those included with Microsoft Office, will save a temporary version of a file every few minutes while the original file is open. Then if you have not saved the file and the program unexpectedly crashes or the computer shuts down, there will be a temporary file that was recently saved. Temp files are typically deleted automatically when the program is closed normally, but if the program quits unexpectedly, the temp files are not deleted.

Remove all temporary Internet files

Over time surfing the internet causes an accumulation of temporary internet files. While your web browser has the ability to clean out these files, it doesn't do a very good job of getting all temporary files.

- Cleaning you're your temporary internet files can
- Save space on your hard drive.
- Help ensure you are viewing the most recent version of websites.

I didn't install that!

Many programs are designed to start automatically when Windows starts. Software manufacturers often set their programs to open in the background, where you can't see them running, so they'll open right away when you click

their icons. That's helpful for programs you use a lot, but for programs you rarely or never use, this wastes precious memory and slows down the time it takes Windows to finish booting up.

Turn off programs that run in the background

You may notice that anytime you install a program it either asks you if you would like the program to load when the computer starts, or the program runs automatically when the computer starts up. Many times programs run in the background, which are not visible without viewing your task manager. The majority of the time computers have many unnecessary programs running when the computer boots.

- Turning off programs that run in the background will

- Lower the amount of time it takes to start the computer up.
- Allow you to be able to use the computer faster when it boots.
- Free up resources, speeding up the computer.

Why are there so many updates and which ones do I need?

Most of us are aware of the little pop ups we get while on the computer asking us to make important updates. While they only take a few minutes to complete, many of us are guilty of postponing them or just ignoring them completely. But keeping up with these com-

puter updates is actually very important when it comes to having a healthy computer. Here is a look at why computer updates are so important.

One of the biggest and most important reasons why keeping up with computer updates is so important is because they help to keep our computer secure. While they may not directly say so, a lot of these updates have to do with updating our security software and ensuring our computers are kept safe from any possible threats. Not updating or postponing these security updates can leave your computer vulnerable to things such as malware or computer viruses that can go in and steal important information.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Fridays
St. Francis Xavier Parish's third annual Lenten Fish Frys, at Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg. Dine In or Take Out. For further information call 717-334-4048.

OLMC and St. Anthony's parish's "All You Can Eat" Fish Bakes. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center.

Hauser After Hours Hauser - Live music featuring acoustic artists to full bands provide rousing entertainment. Pay per plate dinners are served from some of the finest caterers in the area. Wine and Hard Cider are available by the glass or the bottle. Admission is always free. March 7 - The Willys,

March 14 - fire in the glen,
March 21 - First Born Sons, March 28 - the Al Parsons Band.

For more information call 717-334-4888 or visit www.hauserestate.com.

March 1
Lecture at Gettysburg National Military Park. The Battle of Brice's Crossroads - Nathan Bedford Forrest's greatest victory. Gettysburg National Military Park Museum. For more information call 717-334-1124 or visit www.nps.gov/gett.

Mother Seton School's Mardi Gras. Join us for one last big fling before the Lenten season begins. Enjoy a delicious Cajun menu and cash bar, auction of

classroom baskets. For more information call 301-447-3161 or visit www.mothersetonschool.org.

March 2
Gettysburg's St. James Lutheran Church annual sale of fastnachts, traditional Pennsylvania Dutch doughnuts made on Shrove Tuesday, prior to Lent. To call 717-334-2012 x207 or visit www.stjamesgettysburg.org.

Music Gettysburg! presents Stacey Mastrian, Soprano. Sunderman Conservatory's vocal professor brings her "intensity, focus and warm, passionate sound" up the hill! For more information call 717-338-3010 or visit www.musicgettysburg.org.

March 4
St. Anthony's Shrines Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center.

March 8
Lecture at Gettysburg National Military Park. Spring 1864 congressional hearings on Meade at Gettysburg: "Witch hunt or fair play?" In the Ford Education Center at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. For more information call 717-334-1124 or visit www.nps.gov/gett

Toms Creek UMC's Buffet Breakfast. Also taking orders for sausage, scrapple and pork chops. For more information call 301-447-2403, or 443-605-2675

March 9
Taneytown's St. Joseph's all-you-can-eat country style breakfast buffet fund raiser. St. Joseph's Church Hall, 44 Frederick Street, Taneytown. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Taneytown Council.

OLOC and St. Anthony's Church's All-You-Can Eat Country Breakfast. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center.

Free lecture at Gettysburg National Military Park. Longstreet to the Rescue: The Battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864. In the Ford Education Center at the Gettysburg National Military Park Visitor Center. For more information call 717-334-1124 or visit www.nps.gov/gett.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 12
Drug Awareness seminar at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company. Sheriff Chuck Jenkins and a County Health Department representative will be on hand to answer questions. This will be an adult only seminar.

March 13
The Majestic Theater presents the 'Church Basement Ladies.' Your favorite Church Basement Ladies are back and up to even more crazy antics in the all-new musical 'A Mighty Fortress Is Our Basement'. The year is 1960 and a reformation is underway. For more information call 717-337-8200 or visit www.gettysburgmajestic.org.

March 14 & 15
The Gettysburg Community Theatre presents Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'Cinderella'. The classic is on Broadway now, but you can see it now in downtown Gettysburg! For more information call 717-334-2692 or visit www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org.

March 15
Fort Ritchie Community Center's Last Chance Bonanza Fundraiser. Tickets are \$35 which includes dinner for two, dancing, silent auction. For more information call 301-241-5085.

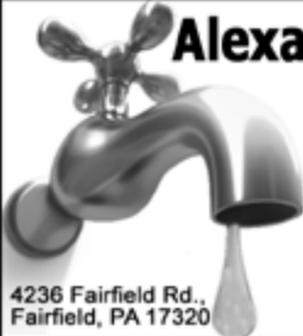
March 16
Majestic Theater presents 'Celtic Nights.' The Emigrants Bridge is a unique show which features both the finest male and the finest female voices of the Celtic world, showcased against a thundering backdrop of expert dancing and musicianship. For more information call 717-337-8200 or visit [gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

[gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).
Music Gettysburg! presents the Ensemble New Amsterdam. Gettysburg's own Mary Hammann brings her ensemble back for some of the most compelling chamber music of the year! For more information call 717.338.3010 or visit www.musicgettysburg.org.

March 17
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's Owl Prowl. Quietly explore the Preserve on a winter's evening listening carefully for the sounds of owl. Also learn a bit about these mysterious feathered friends and just why they're calling at this time of year. For more information 717-642-5840 or visit www.strawberryhill.org.

March 22
Fort Ritchie Community Center Spring Craft Bazaar. Lots of local crafters and home based businesses. Shop for all your spring decorating and gift needs. For more information call 301-241-5085.

March 29
Music Gettysburg! presents Ensemble Companio. Another triumphant homecoming! Joseph Gregorio brings home his chamber choir with its "vibrant sound and moving interpretations." For more information call 717.338.3010 or visit www.musicgettysburg.org. For more information on these and other events taking place in our area visit the upcoming events section of Emmitsburg.net.



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MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NFL Concussions: Who's Responsible? Who Pays?
Symposium on Corporate Social Responsibility
Monday, March 3
7 p.m., Knott Auditorium
Join us for this year's Corporate Social Responsibility Symposium—NFL Concussions:

Who's Responsible? Who Pays? Panelists, including sports agent Tony Agnone, C'75, David Cloutier, Ph.D., associate professor of theology, and Kevin Crutchfield, M.D., neurologist with Sinai Neurology Associates, will examine who is accountable for on-field head injuries. **Admission is free.**

Mardi Gras Celebration

Tuesday, March 4
4:30-7:30 p.m., Patriot Hall
Come to Patriot Hall for one last party before Lent. **FAT TUESDAY!** The dining hall will serve traditional Mardi Gras fare and the Mount Big Band, Lab Bands, and special guests will provide music during the entire evening. Come jazz it up, grab your beads, and party with **KING CAKE!** **Admission is free.**

Graduate Business Programs Information Session

Wednesday, March 5
4-6 p.m., Mount St. Mary's Frederick Campus, 5350 Spectrum Drive, Frederick
Learn more about our graduate-level business degree and certificate programs. Choose from programs in health administration, project management, government contracting, organizational development and more! Classes are held at both the Emmitsburg and Frederick campuses.

Love Is Where You Find It Concert

Saturday, March 8
7:30 p.m., Knott Auditorium
Join the Frederick Chorale and the choruses of the Mount in a celebration of love! The program includes music from stage, screen and popular composers. Tickets: \$18, adult; \$15, students or seniors (ages 60 and over), \$12 per person for groups of 10 or more. Mount students receive free admission. **To purchase tickets, or for more information, visit: www.frederickchorale.org. Tickets will also be available at the door.**

Adult Undergraduate Programs Information Session

Thursday, March 13
4-6 p.m., Mount St. Mary's Frederick Campus, 5350 Spectrum Drive, Frederick
Discover how the Mount makes it easy for working adults to finish their undergraduate degrees. Programs include business, education, criminal justice, and our newest degree—human services. Classes are held at the Frederick campus.

Mount Theatre Mainstage presents Mere Mortals

Thursday, March 13-Sunday, March 16
8 p.m., March 13-15; 2 p.m. March 16
Hornig Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
Mere Mortals is a collection of one-act comedies written by a master of "short form playwriting," David Ives. In this collection, Ives presents widely divergent situations, from construction workers on a lunch break, to mayflies on their first (and last!) date, to a man waking up and deciding to become impressionist painter Edgar Degas. Sometimes irreverent, sometimes touching, sometimes serious, and sometimes ridiculous—Ives's plays display the wide range of expression possible within the one-act form. **Tickets are \$7. For more information, call 301-447-5308.**

Lúnasa in Concert

Monday, March 17
7 p.m., Knott Auditorium
Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a concert by the internationally renowned Irish instrumental band Lúnasa! **Tickets are free and available at the Emmitsburg and Thurmont Public Libraries.**



Lúnasa in Concert, Monday, March 17

Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour

Tuesday, March 18
7 p.m., Knott Auditorium
The Mount's Outdoor Adventure Program hosts the internationally acclaimed film program for the seventh year. Advance tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students, and are available by emailing the Mount's Outdoor Adventure program at crux@msmary.edu, or from the Trail House, 17 S. Market St., Frederick. Tickets may be available at the door for an increased fee, however, the event usually sells out in advance.

Graduate Education Programs Information Session

Wednesday, March 19
4-6 p.m., Mount St. Mary's Frederick Campus, 5350 Spectrum Drive, Frederick
Did you know the Mount offers two graduate programs in Education? Learn about our MAT degree for first-time teachers, and our M.Ed. degree for current educators.

Simon Gabriel Brute Art Student Exhibition

Thursday, March 20-Friday, April 11
Opening reception, Thursday, March 20, 5-7 p.m.
Williams Art Gallery, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
The Simon Gabriel Brute Student Art Exhibition is an annual juried show featuring artworks of various media by Mount students. **Admission is free.**



Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour, Tuesday, March 18

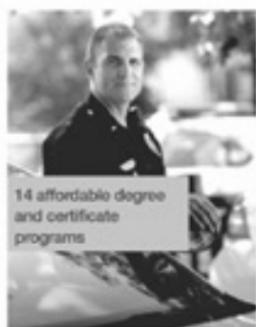
Spotlight Cabaret

Friday, March 20-Saturday, March 22
8 p.m., Hornig Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
An informal night of performances by students from across campus. Singers, actors, instrumentalists...a little bit of anything and everything! **Admission is free.**

Admissions Spring Preview Event

Saturday, March 22
10 a.m.-Noon, Campus wide
Come see, learn and explore! Spring Preview Events include an overview of our academic success, the admissions process and a campus tour. Designed specifically for prospective students beginning their college search, this program gives students a chance to learn about the Mount's admissions criteria, academics, various campus and social activities and the outcomes of a Mount education. A student-led campus tour will also be offered.

Advance Your Career WITH A DEGREE FROM THE MOUNT!



14 affordable degree and certificate programs



5- and 8-week accelerated courses designed for working adults



Frederick Campus conveniently located off I-270 and I-70 (near the FSK Mall)

MARCH INFORMATION SESSIONS 4-6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 5
Graduate and Certificate Business Programs

Thursday, March 13
Adult Undergraduate Programs

Wednesday, March 19
Graduate Education Programs

Can't make it?
Call 301-682-8315 and schedule a one-on-one appointment.

GRADUATE DEGREES

- Master of Business Administration
- Emerging Leaders MBA *NEW*
- Master in Health Administration
- Master of Education
- Master of Arts in Teaching
- Master of Science in Biotechnology and Management *NEW*

ADULT UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

- B.S. in Business
- B.A. in Criminal Justice
- B.S. in Elementary or Special Education
- B.S. in Human Services *NEW*

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

- Government Contracting
- Organizational Development
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Project Management



Frederick Campus
5350 Spectrum Drive
(near the FSK Mall)
Frederick, MD
301.682.8315

www.msmary.edu/FNPInfo