

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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"EXALTING THE IMPORTANCE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION" — EDWARD R. MURROW

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Thurmont readies for 9th annual Gateway to the Cure

Thurmont's annual Gateway to the Cure readies for another year of community wide support as it kicks off its 9th annual fundraising efforts toward breast cancer research this October.

Thurmont's Gateway to the Cure has raised more than \$116,000 over nearly a decade for cancer research and cancer victim support programs at Frederick Memorial Hospital.

"We are hoping for another good year and cannot thank the businesses, volunteers, and all the residents and those who support this most worthy cause benefiting families in Frederick County and those travelling to Frederick Health from outside the county," Economic Development Manager Vickie Grinder said.

The dedicated funds raised to date have come from multiple sources involving the Thurmont business community, with several new fundraisers added over the last several years, including the Covered Bridge 5K, and the Gateway to the Cure Golf Classic.

The Covered Bridge 5K, now in its 8th consecutive year, is scheduled for October 16, as it has been deemed

safe to hold because the participants are spread-out over the course or tend to participate in cliques or small family groups. The 5K route begins and ends at Eyler Park.

The Second Annual Golf Classic will be held October 9. Last year in a never before seen event, all Golf Classic winners donated their winnings back to the fundraiser. Anyone can sponsor a golf hole for \$100. As the Gateway to the Cure proceeds benefits the entire county, anyone is welcome to sponsor a hole.

Back by popular demand is the Pink Pumpkin decorating contest to showcase the artistic talents of the community.

Gateway officials also hope to see more pink lights lit during the month of October in Thurmont. Bulbs can be bought at Hobbs Lumber and Hardware, Ace Hardware, along with the Thurmont Town Office will be selling them starting around the third week of September.

Michael Hobbs said the local business has continually supported the cause and it has become a point of pride for the



This year, Thurmont hopes to continue the trend of beating the prior year's check to the Patty Hurwitz Fund.

entire community to stand behind the fundraising efforts for so many continuous years. "It is a very worthwhile cause and Thurmont has had strong showing for it," he said. Hobbs said he looks forward to seeing the Gateway to the Cure continually grow as it has been.

Proceeds from all Gateway to the Cure events are donated to the Patty Hurwitz Fund which supports early cancer detection methods at the Stockman Cancer Institute in Frederick.

In 2020 the events raised \$15,300, in 2021, the events raised \$18,500 despite the pandemic forcing the organizers to

scale back events drastically due the pandemic, and fewer businesses being able to participate due to drops in sales

Last year as the total funds were counted, Hurwitz congratulated the residents of Thurmont for reaching such an outstanding milestone for such a small town. "There's a saying, 'You are as big as your heart is,' so I would say you are a really big town," she said.

"The fact that this little town has collectively raised over \$100,000 in funds in support of research, that's phenomenal, that's no small change," said Coach John Steiner, organizer of the campaign's 5K.

WWII vehicle museum opens in Gettysburg

Gettysburg's newest museum highlights the dedication of the 20th century's largest conflict and sacrifice, WWII.

The new museum - The World War II American Experience - is located along Mummasburg Road, just north of town. The nonprofit museum strives to educate the public about the American sacrifices and dedication made during the world's largest conflict of the 20th century, both on the battlefield and on the home front.

Patrons can experience a wide variety of authentic WWII vehicles, uniforms and artifacts in realistic dioramas and exhibits that portray, not just the battlefield, but the home front as well.

Museum features include regular re-enactments, as well as speakers, seminars, and special hands-on interactive experiences.

Museum operators and Gettysburg residents Frank and Loni Buck have been avidly collecting all manner of WWII tanks and memorabilia for 50 years. The tank collection was originally housed on the Buck family farm before realizing a long-term placement was needed. "People would just discover us and want to see the collection," she said.

The museum holds Tank Talks with blank fire demonstrations. Patrons are encouraged to speak with

tank crews, sit in the gunner's seat, and enjoy an up close and personal experience of the powerful wartime weapon, the M4 Sherman tank.

The museum aims to be an all-encompassing interactive museum to bridge the gap from what is often glossed over in schools and educate on the global war's effect on both soldiers and citizens. Often what people don't realize is during the war, "everybody participated," including women working in factories and children collecting scrap materials, Loni explained.

The museum continually works to expand programs and welcomes stories of all kinds for a truly one-of-a-kind local WWII museum. Museum developments in the pipeline include a video display with continuous loops of WWI veteran interviews the museum has conducted playing.

Gettysburg is such an imperative location for the museum as a landmark town that draws history enthusiasts in general, according to Loni. "We need to keep these stories alive," she said.

American Experience is home to nearly 950 items including helmets, uniforms, and vehicles, all expertly documented by museum quartermaster archivist Michael Jorgensen.



American Experiences' tank's live firing demonstrations are always a crowd pleaser - not to mention ear drum ringer!

Serving 30 years in the U.S Army, primarily in logistics, Jorgensen loves cataloging the artifacts and bringing the often-lesser-known education to the public.

"Everything under the sun comes through this door," he said, from general supplies to formal evening wear, as well as flags and souvenirs brought home by service members.

A dedicated group of volunteers are essential to the museum, including wood and metal workers who refurbish the legendary vehicles.

"The handiwork is just beautiful," Jorgensen said.

The museum is also an all-family affair engaging the entire Buck family which fills Loni with pride to see the continuous stories told through the generations locally. "We have met a lot of interesting people and that's been very rewarding," she said.

More information about WWII and American Experience and future events can be found at visittww2.org.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

Council election officially a ‘horse race’

What everyone expected to be a sleepy town council election has turned into a old time ‘horse race’ with four candidates vying for the two the seats on the council.

The four candidates are current councilman Frank Davis, Planning Commission Chair Mark Long, Planning Commission Vice-Chair Kevin Hagen and Planning Commission Secretary Amy Pollitt.

Burns, according to Davis “put his heart and soul into the council and opted not to run to free up time for his growing family.”

Davis, President of the Vigilant Hose Company said his main goals for the next three years is to develop and prioritize projects and major expenditures, as well as improving customer service to our businesses and citizens. “As there are major plans for both residential and business development, we need to strategize what would be best for our town and work hard to make the right choices and bring it to reality.”

If elected to the council, Long says he will bring a different perspective and looks to ensure Emmitsburg remains a welcoming small town while also developing enough to meet the needs to community. Sustainability is an important aspect for Long, who also serves on the Sustainable Grants Commission and looks to communicate more to residents about the money available. Long aims to continue Emmitsburg’s sustainability efforts toward and ensure the town is doing everything to be environmentally friendly and ensure all developments are “done smartly and in a wise way.” Long also looks to work with the council to bring in higher paying jobs as well as more opportunities for job training. “It’s not an easy thing to fix, but we need to draw attention to the issue,” Long said.

Hagen said he is running because “Emmitsburg is at a crossroads. With must consider do we have the infrastructure to support

these changes and growth? Do we have the water and sewer capacity? Can our roads handle the increased traffic? We must allow businesses to develop and thrive while keeping Emmitsburg from not becoming Frederick North.”

As vice chair of the planning commission, Hagen said he has “worked to keep the spirit of Emmitsburg. As a cofounder of the Emmitsburg Business Alliance I have worked with government to ensure our businesses succeed.”

Pollitt said she “has always been vocal about her options at town meetings since becoming a resident in 2015, and felt it was finally time to reach for a council position.” Pollitt said she was drawn to Emmitsburg for its close-knit atmosphere and is passionate about not seeing Emmitsburg “turn into another Frederick or Urbana where every inch is packed in new housing developments.”

The town election will be held September 27. The write-in candidate deadline is September 20.

New health care center opens

Frederick Health and Mount Saint Mary’s University cut the ribbon on the new health care center to serve the northern part of the County. The state of the art 7,800 square foot facility will offer full-service care to Mount students as well as the surrounding community.

The Mount and Frederick Health first entered a strategic health care partnership in 2018 to allow for expansion and improvement of health and wellness services for students and its 24 NCAA Division I athletic teams.

“As we have watched the rapid construction of Frederick Health Emmitsburg, anticipation has been building for the fulfillment of our joint commitment to enhanced health and wellness services for students and the local community,” University President Timothy Trainor said.

Collaboration and communication between the leadership of the two organizations has evolved since then, proving vital to enabling students to be on campus during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Trainor.

“As part of our commitment to our students’ and the local community’s health and well-being, the partnership has evolved to further improve services to our students and help bring needed health care services to northern Frederick County through this healthcare facility.”

Although Emmitsburg might only have a community of 3,000, when classes for the Mount and the National Fire Academy are in session, that population can double, resulting in the crucial need for services

“This location is a testament

to our dedication to residents of Frederick County and beyond,” said Tom Kleinhanzl, Frederick Health President. “Bringing care to residents of the northern part of Frederick County is extremely important. As our county continues to grow, we must ensure that all Frederick County residents can receive quality medical treatment. It is wonderful to keep residents local, it will have a positive impact on everyone.”

“If we’ve learned anything from COVID it’s that good health is fundamental to a good quality of life,” Jan Gardner, Fredrick County Executive said, noting transportation is often an obstacle to care and accessibility is best when brought right to the community.

Amy Arnold is the site manager for the Mount’s Health Services and was excited for a self-suffi-



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Clarification Regarding Town’s Possible Purchase of Dr. Bringardner’s Property

In the August edition of the paper, the News-Journal correctly quoted town planner Zach Gulden July presentation to the town council that the town was in discussion with Dr. Timothy Bringardner in regards to purchasing his property at 101 South Seton Avenue, where Bringardner dental office is located. Dr. Bringardner has requested that the town clarify Gulden’s comments, specifically, that no deal has been

established between the town and Dr. Bringardner in regards to purchasing his property.

According to an e-mail sent by Gulden in response Dr. Bringardner’s request, the town is in the investigation stage only and has hired an engineer to create a simple concept plan to determine if the lot is sensible for a parking lot only. Bringardner has informed the News-Journal he will remain in Emmitsburg regardless of the outcome.

cient area on the Mount campus, noting students previously had to be referred out for procedures. “It is nice to have it all in one place,” she said.

The new Emmitsburg facility is the 23rd location in the Frederick Health network. Located right off Route 15 and Old Emmitsburg Road, on land that was formerly the Mount’s ruby field, the access to the facility will be convenient, offering quality care accessible for everyone in the Northern

part of the County as well as serving as the university’s new student health center.

The facility provides a wide range of healthcare services focusing on prevention, treatment, and the overall wellness of the community including urgent care, primary care, lab services, sports medicine, physical therapy, and more.

The facility’s hours of operation are urgent care 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and primary care 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week.



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FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

Borough to upgrade systems and equipment

Carroll Valley Borough will soon be moving forward with new office software following council approval.

The borough can no longer update its current office software which has shown severe limitations in capabilities and is not customizable to borough needs, Borough Secretary Gayle Marthers said.

Marthers requested a new all-inclusive office software system in order to dramatically improve efficiency while offering new module benefits to staff and residents, she said. The software to be procured includes modules for accounting, utility billing, payroll, enforcement, as well as various portals for resident self-service use, including permitting applications and on-line bill payments.

The on-line portals will allow the borough to offer 24/7 services to the borough property owners and businesses. Allowing business to be con-

ducted when convenient is expected to significantly reduce the need for in person visits to the borough office.

The new software is expected to seamlessly share information across the borough office and make staff work much easier. Various modules will also fully integrate with existing financial software thereby reducing staff data input needs. Administrative efficiencies provided by the new software module should increase staff productivity and free up time for additional projects. Borough Manager David Hazlett was enthusiastically in favor of the new software as an epitome of efficiency.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding will be utilized for the initial cost of \$92,890, Marthers said. The annual license for the software is \$47,390. While the new software's annual cost of \$47,390 is \$32,015 more than the current office software license, it represents a

significantly expanded service level, Marthers said.

"Yes, it's an investment of money, but not an investment of man hours," Hazlett said.

Conversion of the new software will require no down time and the target date for the program setup is expected sometime after the New Year.

Also, in ARPA related business, the council approved the purchase of a John Deere Gator including snowplow, grader, and mower attachments for a total cost not to exceed \$23,000.

Park tasks are currently completed manually or with heavier, less cost effective and less efficient equipment, Brad Sanders, municipal services supervisor, said in a letter to the council. The specialized equipment would be utilized to fit in smaller areas more safely and efficiently.

Approval was also granted to the sewer department to spend \$67,000

for a sewer line camera and 'jetter'.

The Carroll Valley Sewer System maintains approximately 45,000 feet of collection lines. Industry standards recommended camera inspections and jetting (cleaning with high pressure water) once every five to seven years, which would be 6,430 feet per year, according to department head Jed Fetter in a letter to the council.

For the last six years the sewer department has contracted private companies to inspect and jet an average of 2,504 feet of borough sewer lines and the average cost paid for this work was \$4,408 annually, according to Fetter.

It would cost the borough approximately \$14,4467 to complete 100 percent of the needed cleaning and visual inspections. Without factoring in inflation, by investing \$67,000 in this equipment in 2022 the borough would be saving

\$295,000 over a 25-year life expectancy of the equipment with the purchase, Fetter said.

Equipment would also be available to the municipal services department to inspect and clear stormwater drainage pipes and could be offered to other municipalities for a fee.

In other business Carroll Valley Police Department officers will soon all be outfitted for new body cameras thanks to a grant, according to Police Chief Richard Hileman. The Federal grant focuses on smaller jurisdictions and will provide the department \$10,000 over three years for the upgrade and expansion of its body camera program.

The hardware is provided as a subscription service and includes the equipment as well as the online storage of the data as a five-year program. The program includes five cameras, so each officer will be issued one. The new cameras will be able to integrate into the existing system, he said.

Carroll Valley ponders lot swap

At its last meeting, the Borough Council discussed a potential lot swap with property owners looking to establish an access point around Friends Creek Trail.

The property owners of 556 Friends Creek Trail, Michael Capone and Mary Jo Vincent, look to swap an adjacent property lot with the borough in order to provide an access point to a second road in the event of ford flooding.

"We want to be able to get in and out of our property," he said. The only way in and out of the 556 Friends Creek Trail property right now is a concrete ford across the creek which is prone to flooding.

The couple purchased the property in October 2019 and didn't realize until January 2020 how the creek could overflow preventing them from crossing it. "Now its happening more frequently to us... we have no other way to get out when the water rises and are basically stuck," Vincent said.

The applicants have been working for the past two years to find an alternate route and considered the borough's lot adjacent to their property a perfect access point, she said. Swapping the lots will provide the property owners an additional access point to the main property in the event of flooding of Friends

Creek, Capone said. The secondary access point provided by the lot swap would not be a 'road' and would affect a miniscule number of people and only in times of creek flooding, he said.

The potential lot swap involves a lot owned by Capone and Vincent at 66 Ranch Trail of .54 acres and .64 acre lot on 82 Tom's Creek Trail which is owned by the Borough. Appraisal review found both parcels to be of equal value of approximately \$4,000.

At the public comment period of the council meeting, residents asked the council to deny the lot swap, raising concern for the surround-

ing areas and potential damage to existing bridges and roadways. Residents spoke up about marked trees on the Capone & Vincent property and raised concern about logging of trees on the property.

Capone said he loves his property and called the accusations of "clear cutting the mountain" from fellow residents "absurd" and was "disappointed" to see discussion come this far.

Trees suggested to be removed due to age had been marked on the property by a forester months ago, according to Capone, "but I had no idea they were going to mark trees," noting the two did not desire to log their current property or the potential swapped property. "I don't need

to timber that property," he said.

Melanie Simpson of Two Lower Trail, and adjacent property owner did not see the lot swap as a benefit to the borough, citing a decrease of surrounding property value, destruction of the ecosystem, and worried it would increase traffic. Simpson questioned why the couple didn't realize the possibility of flooding before purchasing the property.

At the conclusion of discussion, the council approved a motion to have borough staff and Solicitor Zachary Rice collaborate and come back with options and conditions appropriate in the event of moving forward with a lot swap resolution.

News Briefs...

Liberty Police Chief Resigns

Liberty Township Board of Supervisors accepted the resignation of Police Chief Sherri Hansen as she moves on to other opportunities as chief of Bonneauville Borough Police Department Tuesday.

Effective this month, Hansen is replacing retiring Bonneauville Borough Police Chief John Perry who has been with the department since 1995.

Although resigning as full-time Liberty Township police chief, Hansen will stay on as part-time chief until a new hire is found, Chairman Walter Barlow said.

Hansen came aboard the Liberty Police Department in May 2019.

In addition to the township, Liberty Police Department also covers Freedom and Highland townships.

Also noted, Scott Ross was sworn in as a new part-time township police officer. The council expressed gratitude for Hansen's years of service and dedication as well as for Ross providing additional assistance to the department.

An advertisement will be put out for the open position and the supervisors will discuss Hansen's future plans with the township at a later date.

Long Term Township Sustainability Options Considered

Liberty Township Board of Supervisors approved moving forward to request a quote from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)

for the Strategic Management Program grant application.

The township is not applying for the grant yet, just considering options.

An initial assessment from DCED will discuss the process to help to determine the township's long-term sustainability and financial wellbeing of the residents, Chairman Barlow said.

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THURMONT NEWS

Brewery looks to kickstart Thurmont's downtown

At its August 2 meeting, the Town Council welcomed and introduced a partnership with a future downtown brewery business to transform the Thurmont Main Street area into a gateway destination location worthy of the town.

Being part of the Main Street Maryland program, Thurmont has feverishly sought to revitalize and create an "anchor" to the downtown area. Now, thanks to one business investor partnership, it is now one step closer.

Mayor John Kinnard, resident of Thurmont for decades, remembered the days of a busily downtown area

filled with all manner of business and people alike.

Today, Main Street Thurmont is primarily lined with service businesses with regular daytime hours that pack it in at night all seasons. Once residents go home, Kinnard noted, there is nothing bringing them back out again after hours. "It's not the downtown I want to see," he said.

Downtown began losing footing in the 1980's with the rise of large shopping malls, Vickie Grinder, Economic Development Manager said. Unless a town is in an area such as Frederick City or Ocean City with

larger conglomerations of people, "It is very difficult for small towns like Thurmont to maintain any type of retail or business," Grinder said.

Scott Austin, of New Market, owner of Thurmont's Structural Building Solutions and Hobbs' Lumber and Hardware, first approached the town about a year ago regarding the future possibilities of the vacant 6 East Main Street structure, according to Grinder. Striking a deal, Austin and the town council agreed, if the town purchased the building, Austin would lease it from them and establish a brewery.

The town utilized a grant in

the amount of \$78,497 from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Strategic Demolition Fund to cover the cost. Although the name is misleading, the Strategic Demolition Fund grant allows municipalities to purchase buildings that have sat empty for long periods of time, Grinder said.

Grinder considered the investment for the property a "big win" to liven up the afterhours of downtown and entice other business to come into the area.

Breweries, distilleries, and other watering holes are often destination

hotspots, and Grinder noted when patrons travel to taste, they often go to several locations in one trip.

Every now and then a town gets an investor to come along and "We feel this is that spark and it only takes one spark," she said. "It doesn't happen overnight, we didn't get this far overnight," she said

Main Street Maryland is a national organization that works to rejuvenate downtown areas and ensure the buildings stay vitalized and do not disappear.

More information about Thurmont Main Street can be found at thurmontmainstreet.com.

Colorfest vender fees under review

At its August 9 workshop meeting, the Thurmont Town Council discussed potential fee changes to Catoctin Colorfest.

At its March 1 meeting, the Town Council approved upping Catoctin Colorfest parking fees for the first time in years and bumped up prices to a recommended \$15 per car, with the town collecting four dollars and the vendors collecting \$11.

Colorfest brings in untold amounts of money and recognition for local nonprofits and "everybody benefits greatly," Kinnard said.

Colorfest is the single biggest fundraising opportunity for

many of the Thurmont community's local churches, civic organizations, and nonprofits. Kinnard has said for years he has been alright with Colorfest expenses just breaking even for the town because "It shouldn't cost the residents anything."

But, Kinnard noted, the town hasn't broken even in a number of years.

Transportation, sanitation, and security are the main costs the town shells out for the festival every year. Total costs for service for 2019's Colorfest were \$63,075 while last year's Colorfest skyrocketed to \$73,969.

"As much as I'd like to say we

can keep the same prices year after year, it just doesn't work that way," Kinnard said.

Last year's Colorfest saw a smaller crowd due to cautious return from the pandemic and included less vendors than previous years.

Colorfest President Carol Robertson had no problem raising permit fees. However American Legion Post 168 representative Gary Spiegel was not in favor of raising fees for this year, noting that vendors often renew permits the closing Sunday of Colorfest, "So raising the permitting fee for 2022 is not going to sit well," he said.

Kinnard compared the vendor permit prices to the town's constant yield tax rate, "it's nice to try to keep it the same rate, but eventually the increases in everything overcome that and you have to make a change to the tax rate, that is no different than this right here," he said.

Kinnard noted it has been a difficult year for residents with the tax increase and to assist in offset costs and encourage more patrons to visit, the council approved to forgo personal yard sale permit fees this year during Colorfest.

Kinnard anticipated this waive may bring in more sales as well as more people drawn into town "It would certainly benefit a lot of

our residents if they could have a yard sale to recover from these last two years of economic hardship," he said.

Kinnard was in favor of leaving the price of vendor permits the same this year unless there is a drastic increase in prices. "Once we get our prices for the services we provide this year, I think it will give us a good guide to what we need to increase the fees to," Kinnard said.

If costs for transportation, sanitation, and security increase by more than 15 percent, the council may discuss increasing vendor permit prices. Colorfest bids for services were anticipated to be presented at the Council's September 6 meeting.

Black Bear sightings in the area rise

At its August 23 meeting, the Town Council received a briefing from the Maryland Department of National Resources (DNR) to discuss the rise in black bear sightings in the area.

As residents may have noticed, it is not uncommon anymore to see bears from time to time in the area. As these encounters continue, wildlife experts Brian Eyler Game Mammal Section Leader and Jeff McAfee, Wildlife Response Technician held a discussion to provide insight regarding bears in urban areas.

Bears were openly hunted until 1949 when it was prohibited statewide. In 1972 black bears were listed as an endangered species before their legal status changed to a non-game species of special concern in 1980. Through conservation programs and habitat recovery, black bears have made a comeback

DNR monitors and manages bear populations and tracks reproduction rates by visiting dens in February and March and has

found that bears are giving birth to one to five cubs per litter. Reproductive rates in the mid-application region indicate excellent habitat and a healthy bear population, Eyler said.

Black bears come out of their dens on the hunt for food in the Spring and in the early summer juveniles are dispersed, which is when most bear sightings are reported. All bear complaints are tracked and put into a database and categorized, he said.

The most important takeaway

regarding bears, according to Eyler, is "bear management is people management."

Bears are intelligent animals with very good memories but are also lazy and will go for easy food sources that are often human generated, he said. "A bear's life revolves around food, it is a lot like us," he said.

Residents need to proactively recognize the need to remove attractants to keep bears from coming onto property including properly storing garbage, limiting

bird feeders, securing livestock, and never intentionally feeding bears. Eyler recommended electric fencing to protect beehives.

A black bear's primary defense is to flee or climb a tree to get away. If encountered, always allow an escape route for the bear and slowly back away. "They don't want to physically interact with you any more than you do." Attacks from black bears are extremely rare and most are non-predatory attacks, he said.

More information can be found by visiting the DNR website at www.dnr.maryland.gov.

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TANEYTOWN NEWS

Council considers modifications to solar panel zoning

At its August 3 workshop meeting, the Taneytown City Council discussed potential to modify zoning codes regarding solar panels.

Solar panels are allowed as a permitted use in certain city districts but, “currently our code is silent on solar panels,” City manager James Wieprecht said.

Interest was being raised in the business district in terms of ground-mounted solar panels and the city currently does not have anything in terms of setbacks. The city allows rooftop solar panels on residential properties and permits them in commercial industrial as an accessory use, Councilman LeRoy Hand said. So far, Taney-

town has not been faced with any desires for ground mounted solar panels and does not have any setbacks in place.

The city would look at any solar requests the same way as any other property accessory structure. Solar panels are a permitted use in the state and Frederick County’s regulations allow for solar as a primary use in certain zoning districts, according to Wieprecht.

There have been a couple properties with “on again off again interest” in solar panels and the zoning administrator was recently contacted regarding an industrial property in the city for solar use. The question for the council, according to Wieprecht, was

should city solar application be made easy, or a limited process to discourage applicants.

“We’re not looking to take on a solar project as a city, we’re simply looking at if people want to approve a property for a solar farm,” separate from the city, the council will need to set how to zone and regulate it accordingly, he said.

Solar panels do not create noise, but also do not stimulate a meaningful extent of employment and likely will not generate the same level of revenue for the city that building an occupied structure might, he said.

As of August, the city did not have any draft language before

them and Wieprecht looks for feedback from the Planning Commission and thoughts on developing any setbacks.

In addition to receiving feedback from the planning commission, the best first step for the city to take would be to reach out to the Maryland Municipal League to discover what other municipalities have done in this situation, Mayor Wantz said. Wantz also had questions pertaining to the environment including stormwater management and runoff.

A presentation is also expected in the coming months regarding the potential for solar energy to power the city wastewater treatment plant as well. The wastewater

treatment plant is a high consumer of electricity and when the city’s current energy contract runs out the city can expect a substantial increase due to the increase in electrical rates, Wieprecht said.

In order to head off that increase, solar energy provider CQI Associates has been tasked by the city to put together a draft evaluation regarding a power purchase agreement for the council to review.

The city is obligated to reduce its energy consumption and has already addressed the low bearing fruit of energy projects including LED lights and high efficiency heat pumps. Now it’s time to tackle the high energy side of the equation, Wieprecht said.

City budget moves forward

At its August 8 meeting, Taneytown City Council introduced budget amendments to the fiscal year 2022-23 budget.

The majority of changes to the budget come from projects and expenses pushed into the next year, according to City Manager James Wieprecht.

In FY-22 the city received more state income tax revenue than projected. “Our state income revenue has been growing faster than we expected,” he said, noting a

\$300,000 revenue increase.

In addition, the city has received updated real property tax information with numbers that are \$75,000 higher than the estimates we had when we did the budget,” he said. This unexpected revenue increase however is offset by the \$52,000 cost of purchasing the four-acre lot to protect the Antrim Boulevard Corridor.

Many of the changes in the FY-22 & FY-23 budgets are related to pushing projects into next year,

thereby accounting for their cost in the next budget as apposed to the current budget. For example, the city did not spend money as expected on police and public works vehicles, “Because they weren’t delivered as expected, so we were still waiting on those and their costs will be included in the FY-23 budget,” Wieprecht said.

The utility fund will also see an increase due to projects that were to have been done this year being pushed into next year.

Again, once the city begins work on those projects, their expenses will be captured in the FY-23 accounting.

Wieprecht told the council that the water tank and standpipe renovations that were originally supposed to be done as a capital project budget line item since the city has entered a long-term maintenance contract and now the cost of work on those items is spread over time and moved into maintenance contractual obligations line item. Due

to these renovations, the FY-23 capital projects budget has been reduced by \$200,000 while the long-term maintenance agreement line item in the FY-23 budget has been increased by \$80,000.

In the sewer budget, construction for the dewatering project has been delayed. “We didn’t get as much done in FY-22 as we expected, so we’re rolling that into FY-23,” he said. The FY-23 budget line for these projects will then see complimentary cost increases as the projects are started up

News Briefs . . .

Petition Submitted For Sewell Farm Annexation Public Vote

On August 26, a petition with over 1,043 signatures was presented to the City Manager, requesting that the Sewell Farm annexation, approved by the City Council on July 11, be subject to a public referendum vote.

The proposed annexation will change the existing zoning to an R-10,000 designation, meaning lot sizes will be approximately 10,000 square feet, or 1/5 of an acre in size.

A preliminary sketch of the development calls for 318 units – or homes - in the development, which has raised concerns from local residents over increased traffic and water use.

Given the impact of such a large development, a number of local residents believed that the voters of the town should decide the annexation question and not the council and started a petition drive.

Maryland State law, as it applies to the annexation process, allows 20% of a municipality’s registered voters to petition to bring a question to a public vote. (in the case of Taneytown, that means ~ 1,000 voters.)

The city is now verifying the signatures. Once the requisite number of signatures has been validated, Maryland law takes over and sets a time line for the referendum vote to be brought before the City residents.

If the City determines the 20% threshold has not been reached, the

petitioners still have two weeks to collect more signatures.

Police Donate Vehicle To Fire Department

Instead of being sold, a Taneytown police Department vehicle will continue service to the community as a vehicle for the Harney Volunteer Fire Department.

The 2011 Ford Explorer was a spare car, and the city police department generally rotates out vehicles every seven years, City Manager James Wieprecht said.

The Harney Fire Department originally requested the city sell them the vehicle for the volunteer department, but the police decided to donate it instead.

The council authorized the vehicle to be bequeathed to the fire department.

“I’m glad that we are able to help our fire companies out this way,” Mayor Pro Tem Joe Vigliotti said to the council’s agreement.

“Harney is a very dependable fire department and when we get stretched thin, they are the first ones to step up and it is spectacular,” Mayor Bradley Wantz said.

Well Number 8 Generator Bid Approved

A contract to begin initial work in support of the new city well number 8 was awarded to Fern Rodkey Electric for a total cost of \$50,934.

The work includes pouring of a cement pad for the generator to sit on and approximately a weeks’

worth of work is expected once commenced. According to the Request for Proposals (RFP) submitted by the city, the work is expected to be completed by January 31.

Ten bids had been received for the project.

Bollinger Park Phase One Bid Approved

Both subphases for the Bollinger Park phase one project were awarded to Hobbes Excavating for a total amount of \$545,808.75.

Site work includes grading of the entrance parking lot and clearing of grass on the primary loop of the pathway’s multiple purpose porous trail.

Phase one of the project’s site plan was approved at the June 22 Planning Commission meeting contingent on the final approval letters from the county review agencies.

The city has done a lot of work with Hobbes Excavating in the past “and we have been very happy with all of the work they’ve done for us,” Wantz said.

The city is hopeful to break ground this Fall, presumably towards the end of October, according to Parks and Recreation Director Lorena Vaccare at the city’s Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting on August 10.

The Parks and Recreation Department has also applied for a \$5,000 mini grant through the Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund to establish the park’s new pollinator garden. If received, the ecological addition would then be completed sometime in the Spring of 2023, she said.

Vaccare credited the Public Works Department and various contractors for their dedicated work in maintenance and improving city parks.

“It’s just amazing what they accomplish,” she said.

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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER

County Councilman Michael Blue

In February of 2020, an advisory group began meeting to discuss what would eventually become The Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan. Since then, Frederick County staff have given briefings to the City of Frederick staff, Montgomery County Planning, and the Town of Mt. Airy. There have been open house meetings and Planning Commission workshops. On July 13th, the Planning Commission approved the final recommended Plan.

The Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan is a long-term planning document that is part of The Livable Fred-

erick Comprehensive Plan. The Livable Frederick Plan, which was adopted in September of 2019, is a broad view of Frederick County's plan of action regarding strategic decisions, policies and regulations in community, health, economy, and environment. Basically, it is a document to protect the future wellbeing of our County. Over the next several years, our staff will divide Frederick County into many sections and create similar comprehensive plans for each section.

Our County Council began the process of reviewing The Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan on July 26th.

During that meeting, Tim Goodfellow, who is a Principal Planner in our Planning and Permitting Division, stated that the goals for the plan are to "protect and enhance the Sugarloaf Area's natural resources and environmental assets, including its forests, waters, biodiversity, and wildlife habitats, strengthen the distinct place-based identity of the Sugarloaf area through the stewardship of its scenic and rural character, and its agricultural and cultural resources, and to foster resilient relationships between the natural and built environment through the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change."

Over the next several weeks, the Council will have meetings regarding The Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Plan. The following dates have been scheduled:

- Tuesday, September 13, at 5:30 pm – In Person Meeting at Winchester Hall
- Tuesday, September 27, at 5:30 pm – Public Hearing - In Person Meeting at Winchester Hall
- Tuesday, October 4, at 5:30 pm – In Person Meeting at Winchester Hall – (final plan adoption unless amended)
- Tuesday, October 11, at 5:30 pm (if needed) – In

Person Meeting at Winchester Hall

- Tuesday, October 18, at 5:30 pm (if needed) – In Person Meeting at Winchester Hall – (final plan adoption if amended)

The Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan can be viewed at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/4592/Planning-Permitting. Even though the Sugarloaf Area does not encompass District 5, I hope you will view the proceedings. The rest of the divided sections of Frederick County will have similar plans to be reviewed and adopted. The creation of the Northern Frederick County Plan is only a few years away.

County Councilman Phil Dacey

I want to begin by thanking everyone who voted in the July primary election. It was an unusual time for an election, right in the middle of the summer heat and vacations, but we had a good turnout. Democracy only works with an engaged population, and the voters I met were passionate and energetic about the

issues. I was gratified to make it through the primary to the general election.

The Frederick County Council has been consumed with the first comprehensive plan review on the Sugarloaf Area Plan. We have been hearing hours of testimony, and it is encouraging that there is 95% agreement on the plan. Everybody wants

to preserve this beautiful area from development and growth, and that seems to be the direction of the plan. This area in Southern Frederick County is under development pressure, but it is heartening that all sides agree that almost the entire area should remain rural in character and be protected from development.

The Council has worked on several other issues. The County Council agreed to sell an old property in Frederick City on Pine Avenue. The property should be able to be redeveloped in the City of Frederick to make it more productive than the old storage buildings it currently contains. It is my hope to get this property back on the tax rolls for it to be privately held.

The Council also amended an agreement with the Kroger Company for Economic Development. The Kroger Company has agreed to bring at least 550 jobs to their new Frederick County fulfillment center. This is the type of economic development that we need in Frederick, so that people can find good jobs here without having to commute down the road.

County Notes

County Grant Programs Assist Farmers with Fertilizer Costs, Help Small Nonprofits Recover from Pandemic

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner announced the results of two grant programs designed to help crop farmers and small nonprofit organizations to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and other economic pressures. Both programs were funded through Frederick County's American Rescue Plan Act allocation from the Federal Government.

"Our goal is to make life better for people in Frederick County," said Executive Gardner. "These grants will ensure veterans, seniors and families in our community can receive much-needed services; small arts organizations can thrive once again; and our farmers can continue to grow crops."

Farmer Relief Grants

At least 115 qualified farmers applied for Farmer Relief Grants, representing more than 72,500 acres of crops. The pro-

gram will reduce the impact of rapidly rising fertilizer costs, which have tripled as the result of supply chain issues and the war in Ukraine. Farmers will receive \$25 per acre of crops planted.

Frederick County is the only jurisdiction in Maryland, and possibly the nation, that is supporting the agricultural industry in this way.

ANCHR Grants

The ARPA Nonprofit Community Health and Recovery, or ANCHR, grants were designed for small organizations that often are unable to qualify for major aid programs. Thirty-four local nonprofits will receive ANCHR grants. They include groups that serve veterans, provide job and life skills training, support recov-

ery from addiction, offer daycare to families with limited income, introduce people to arts, and promote economic development. The amount of each grant ranges from \$5,000 to \$50,000, capped at 15% of the organization's annual budget.

Information about how Frederick County is investing its \$50.4 million ARPA allocation can be found online at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ARPA.

Road Resurfacing On MD 77 To Begin

The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) will begin a project next week to improve the driving surface and enhance safety on MD 77 (Foxville Road) between the Freder-

ick County/Washington County line (west of Brown Road) and Catoctin Hollow Road in Frederick County.

Starting at 8 a.m. Monday, August 22, single-lane closures with a flagging operation will be in effect weekdays on MD 77. Work will be performed Mondays through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is expected to continue through October. MDOT SHA will maintain access to trails and a parking lot located along MD 77 for visitors to Cunningham Falls State Park.

Daytime single-lane closure will be required along four miles of the roadway while the repairs are underway. Work includes: 1) removing the roadway's top layer, 2) repairing depressions to smooth out the road surface, and 3) adding a new layer of asphalt.

The MDOT SHA contractor will use signs, cones, electronic arrow boards and flaggers to alert and guide motorists through the work zone.

MDOT SHA works hard to maintain safe traffic mobility in work zones for our crews as well as our customers. Drivers need to stay alert, focus on driving, and look for reduced speed limits as well as other driving pattern changes. Motorists can dial #77 on their mobile devices for roadside assistance.

For a list of all major MDOT SHA projects, go to Project Portal or visit our homepage at roads.maryland.gov. For a look at real-time traffic conditions, go to md511.maryland.gov.



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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER

County Executive Jan Gardener

I love the cooler weather that September brings to Frederick County. One of my favorite activities is to attend the annual Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show. This year marks the 66th annual celebration of our rich agricultural heritage. Be sure to stop by Catoctin High School during the weekend of September 9, 10 and 11th. There is something for everyone, from the auction of baked goods, to the petting zoo, log-sawing contest, dance performances, and of course the FFA's sale of beef, goats, sheep and swine. After a busy time at the Community Show, relax on a train trip through Walkersville's scenic railroad.

Speaking of the scenic railroad, I was excited to announce that Frederick County has been awarded \$5.28 million to construct a walking and bike trail along the railroad line. The trail will connect the Fountain Rock Nature Center with East Street in the City of Frederick. This will provide a safe way for people to travel to jobs, get exercise, or simply enjoy the beauty around Tuscarora Creek and the Monocacy River. Funds to build the 10-foot-wide asphalt trail come from the federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program.

Ag Grants

Farmers have been struggling with steeply rising fertilizer prices this year. Costs have tripled, and sometimes climbed even higher, because of supply chain issues brought on by the pandemic, coupled with the war in Ukraine. Prices rose so rapidly that some farmers chose to leave fields fallow, which could lead to other shortages for consumers in the months ahead.

It is important that our farmers are able to continue growing crops. So we set aside \$2.4 million of our American Rescue Plan Act to help cover the cost of fertilizer for Frederick County farmers. The Farmer Relief Grant program was incredibly popular in our agricultural community. Approximately 115 full-time agricultural operations qualified, representing over 72,500 acres. By investing \$25 per planted acre, the program is ensuring our farmers can continue to grow crops.

Frederick County is the only jurisdiction in Maryland, and possibly the nation, that is supporting the agricultural industry in this way.

Supporting agriculture not only helps the industry, but it is consistent with our goals in Livable Frederick. To keep agriculture viable, we have to do two things: First, we have to preserve our best and most productive farmland, and we do that through our agriculture preservation initiatives, with a record level of investment. Second, we have to work to make sure that agriculture is an economically viable industry. We are

doing that with our agriculture innovation grants and a recently begun study and focus group effort about creating a shared agriculture innovation space for value added agricultural products. Farmers are vitally important because they produce food and fiber for all of us.

Livable Frederick

You may have heard about the Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Plan, which will preserve valuable farmland and protect the unique environmental features in the southeast part of Frederick County. The plan is an important piece of the overall Livable Frederick master plan. Livable Frederick is our roadmap to a prosperous and healthy future for everyone in Frederick County.

Livable Frederick is based on our shared vision of how the public wants our community to grow. Shaped by the input of thousands of residents, the vision is of a Frederick County that is a vibrant, unique community where people can live, work and thrive while enjoying a strong sense of place and belonging. The award-winning plan balances our community, our health, our economy, our education, and our environment.

The plan guides our actions and decisions across all of county government, including how we invest taxpayers' money. Livable Frederick is wrapped into our budget priori-

ties. Division directors must justify budget appeals by explaining how the project, position, or purchase will support the goals of Livable Frederick. We are working hard to preserve Frederick County's cherished agricultural and natural lands.

Thurmont Elementary School

Before school started last month, I had an opportunity to tour the renovated Thurmont Elementary School. The building is full of bright new spaces. There is a new media center, a health suite, a parent resource room, halls, lights, lockers, doors and more. Most significant is that the open classroom design has been converted to individual classrooms. You can see some of the new space in the photos I have included.

Thurmont Elementary School was built in 1958 and renovated in 1975. To bring the building up to today's educational standards, we tried something new. This was the county's first limited renovation project. The work was completed during the summer months so it would not interfere with students. The new, modernized space will serve students for years to come. There are more renovations planned for next summer.

Students and families have been excited to see the newly renovated space.

Going Purple in September

Each September, during Recovery Month, we celebrate the success

of people who are recovering from addiction and substance misuse. We light up Winchester Hall in purple to show our support. The month is also an excellent time to remind people that they are not alone. Frederick County provides many resources to support people in recovery.

Over the past eight years, we have made huge strides. We grew our peer support network. We expanded our mobile crisis response unit to 24/7 so people can get the help they need, where and when they need it most. And we added an integrated mobile health response program in our Division of Fire & Rescue Services. We also made it possible for a private detox facility to open so people wouldn't have to leave the county to get the services they need.

I am excited to be working with our Federal delegation to bring a crisis stabilization center to our community. Congressman David Trone has worked with us to secure \$700,000 in federal funds to renovate space for the center.

We also received a \$850,000 federal grant last year for start-up costs of the new center. The ongoing costs to operating the center will be at least partially funded from a legal settlement with opioid manufacturers.

Behavioral health issues account for 20% of the emergency department visits to Frederick Health Hospital. Across Maryland, Frederick County has some of the highest 911 call volume zip codes for behavioral health crises. Working in partnership with other providers, emergency first responders, law enforcement and the local hospital, the Crisis Stabilization Center will provide the last piece of the puzzle for the County's crisis system of care, providing community-based, integrated service coordination and health care. In other words, the Crisis Stabilization Center will save lives.

I look forward to the day the new center opens. The center is one more example of how Frederick County is working to make life better for the people who live here.

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FROM THE DESK OF CANDIDATE FOR ...

Jessica Fitzwater, County Executive

When I decided — after eight years of service on the Frederick County Council and 17 years as a music teacher with Frederick County Public Schools — to run for County Executive, I did so for a simple reason: to make sure that Frederick County remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Everyone who lives in Frederick County deserves the opportunity to meet their full potential and thrive. From students to seniors, small-business owners to service workers, we know there are significant disparities in quality-of-life outcomes across our county. I am a proven, effective leader who will lead through listening, and build on the progress we've made over the past

eight years. It is time for transformational leadership. As County Executive, I won't back down from the tough issues that matter for our families.

Smart growth, economic development, affordable housing, equity. Those phrases may mean different things to different families across Frederick County — but we need bold leadership and decision-making that will make them a reality here in our community.

As the fastest growing county in the state, we must manage growth effectively, implement an economic development strategy that continues to attract high-paying jobs, and hold developers accountable for sharing the costs of new schools and roads. We also must continue to protect our rural landscapes

with agricultural preservation programs, support our farmers and small business owners, and pay attention to the needs of our municipalities and towns.

Throughout Frederick County, we must prioritize housing that people can afford and that meets the needs of the almost 40% of Frederick County households that are unable to generate a survival budget, especially as costs of living increase.

As a two-term member of the County Council from 2014 to today, I took a special interest in our housing challenges with legislation to expand support for first-time homebuyers, to provide rental assistance, and to help seniors complete home repairs so they can “age in place.” I also played a major role in the adoption of Livable Frederick, our dynamic

and forward-looking growth strategy for Frederick County's future.

As County Executive, I'll continue to emphasize collaboration — to bring community leaders, business owners, environmentalists, and builders together so we can embrace opportunities and step up to challenges with effective strategies that will ensure local government is here to make life better for people.

The teacher in me will always work to give every child the chance to achieve their dreams. As a music teacher at Oakdale Elementary School for many years, I was privileged to work with so many amazing kids on a daily basis and watch them flourish and grow. As a County Council member, I've fought for improved teacher pay, for new schools, and for increased funding for Frederick Community College, where so many of

our young people take their first step for higher education. As County Executive, I'll continue to prioritize these investments in our children.

And my most important role, proud mother of Jonah, 6, and Jane, 3, gives me the strength and courage to fight for the things that make Frederick County a great place to live and raise a family — investing in our students and schools, growing good jobs, working on housing costs, and focusing on public health and mental health.

In the end, my candidacy is all about Frederick County's future. I'm running for County Executive to make sure Frederick County provides the same opportunities for everyone in the years ahead as it has provided for my family and me. I hope you'll join me in the fight for Frederick's future!

Julianna Lufkin, County Council District 5

Happy September, District 5! An added bonus with the arrival of fall, when the days begin to shorten and (theoretically) cool, is that we get a few steps closer to November 8, 2022. This month, among other places, you'll be able to find me at the Great Frederick Fair, passing out literature and talking to voters. Make sure to add the Frederick Democrats tent to your list of things to do at the fair! Mine always includes checking out the prize veggies and handicrafts, getting a pit ham sandwich from Hemp's, and grabbing a scoop of ice cream from the Dairy Bar.

What're your must-sees?

I'm delighted and proud to share with you that I have received the endorsement of the Sierra Club! For my article this month, I decided to include a few of the questions posed in the Sierra Club's endorsement process, along with my answers. The environmental issues we're facing, both globally and locally, are on everyone's mind these days, as they should be, and I believe that total transparency is paramount when running for office.

Q: What specific actions will you take as a County Council

member to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support climate change adaptation? Do you agree that climate change is an existential threat?

A: *First of all, let me be clear; climate change is a global threat that for too long has continued to grow in importance. It is now too late for politicians to mildly suggest solutions. We need immediate and firm action. I would champion all recommendations made by Livable Frederick, as well as introducing more widespread composting options, alongside trash removal and recycling.*

Q: Should Frederick County

take further actions relating to failing or inadequate septic systems in order to protect our drinking water sources, freshwater streams and rivers, and the Bay from septic-system pollution? How should Frederick County manage private wells to protect public health?

A: *Yes, I believe that the county should step in and offer to manage failing and inadequate septic systems. As for wells, I grew up on a private well, and while we were fastidious about our water quality, I know others are not. I would advocate for free classes for those who buy or own property with a private well, explaining*

how and why to test their wells.

Q: Are there specific rail, light rail, road, and bridge projects (new, expansions, and/or replacements) you favor or oppose?

A: *I particularly oppose the widening and toll lanes for 270. I feel that this will cause a disparity between the “haves” who pay for the toll lanes and the “have nots” who do not.*

As always, no matter your party affiliation, please reach out to me with your concerns and issues; I'm here to listen, and to work towards the future we all want for ourselves and our county. You can find more information about me and my platform at my website; Linktr.ee/Lufkin.Listens.

Christopher Manners, Register of Wills

Why should anyone care who is the next Register of Wills? What even IS a Register? Unless you have needed the assistance of the Register, it all seems a little obscure. The Register of Wills is the elected official responsible for administrative oversight of decedents' estates. This position involves assisting the public with the probate process — the legal transition of property from a person who has died to the people intended to receive it. This all seems dull and pointless. Right up until the time you need it.

My name is Chris Manners, and I am proudly running for the posi-

tion of Register of Wills. I can tell you from firsthand experience that this work is anything but dull. Since 2010 I have been the Chief Deputy Register of Wills for Frederick County. The Chief is the counterpart to the Register who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the office. I have had the great good fortune to work for Sharon Keller, the present Register. Had she not decided to retire, I would continue to work with her. We have had a fantastic professional relationship and built an office with a reputation for stellar service.

During our tenure, Sharon and I have worked in the trenches, taking

great care to continue the tradition of blending service and compassion. We have worked to insure that more than four million dollars in remittances to Maryland's general fund are handled with care and diligence; because of that, our office has completed three crystal-clear audits with the Office of Legislative Audits. We have recruited and retained top-notch personnel to assist the public in the probate process. We upgraded our technology and processes to handle increasing needs. The year I started with the Register, we opened 1,091 estates. Since 2017, we have been opening more than 1,300

annually. The last two years, we have exceeded 1,400 estates per year. Part of that increase has been due to the pandemic. Fortunately, unlike many other offices and businesses, the Register's office remained open and continued serving the public during that trying time.

My career as an attorney has prepared me for the position of the Register. I am the only attorney running for Register of Wills. Areas of law involved in running the office include Estates & Trusts, contract, real property, domestic relations, finance, and human resources. Before serving as

Chief Deputy, I was a private attorney practicing solely in Estates & Trusts. I have built my career serving families throughout the probate process.

This is all to say that it matters that the candidate for Register has actual experience running the office and performing all the duties required. It matters deeply to the families who might otherwise be affected by “on the job training.” It matters to those who are involved in the legal process and rely on the assistance provided by our office. That is, it means everything when a family goes through the hardest times imaginable. Experience counts. I respectfully ask for your vote to continue serving Frederick families.

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- Focus on Roads Infrastructure
- Commitment to Public Safety
- Enabling Good Business
- Responsible Growth
- Parks and Recreation
- Supporting Seniors
- Fiscal Responsibility

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FROM THE DESK OF CANDIDATE FOR ...

Renee Knapp, County Council-At-Large

I've had the opportunity and the privilege to speak with many people in Frederick County as I've been out campaigning this year. Most conversations end in agreement about what a special place in which we live. Recently, I spoke with a man who moved to Frederick County from Montgomery County in the late 1970s. He and his wife raised their family here and they have no plans to downsize or move away anytime soon. They like their neighborhood and keeping up with home maintenance keeps him busy. Even with all the changes that Frederick County has seen in the last 45

years, we agreed that Frederick County is a wonderful place to live, and that the long-standing fear that our county would be consumed by Montgomery County has not materialized.

Making sure Frederick County can meet the needs of our growing elderly population will, by necessity, become a higher priority. This population is increasing and if we want to help older residents to live independently for longer periods of time, they will need additional services and resources. If we want to support our elderly population, we will be looking at new ways to make sure they have access to transportation,

nutrition, and other services. Frederick County is the largest county in Maryland by area, and our traffic challenges are real. Expecting our senior motorists to keep adjusting to heavier traffic to attend doctors' appointments is uncaring and unrealistic. With leadership from the county, the time to address this issue is before it ever reaches a crisis level.

As the need for care for our elderly population grows, we must also find ways to support the county's caregivers. Many caregivers feel stressed emotionally and financially. They are often caring for aging parents, children with illnesses or disabilities, or both. Many caregivers

for family members are unable to provide an adequate level of care and maintain paid employment at the same time. Outreach from Frederick County and area non-profit organizations to caregivers can make them aware of resources for seniors and residents with disabilities.

The foundation to support Frederick County residents' staying in their homes as they age, if they choose, is already in place. The county currently has programs to help seniors access groceries and personal care if they need help. County government should begin planning for the inevitable increase in the need for these services. I will support

responsible county budgets that allocate the required resources to help senior residents live as independently as possible.

It's hard to believe that Election Day is just about two months away, and that mail-in ballots will start going out at the end of this month. If you want to join me to keep Frederick County moving forward, you can sign up to volunteer or make a campaign contribution on my website, www.knapp4countycouncil.com. Helping with canvassing for even one afternoon makes a difference. If you have ideas for Frederick County, or responses to my ideas, you can send them to renee@knapp4countycouncil.com. As your next Council Member, I'm here to listen.

Karl Bickel, Sheriff

Save the Republican Party by voting Democrat.

Of course, this is admittedly self-serving since I am running for sheriff as a Democrat. But this needs to be said and I am doing so as a former Republican. Yes, a Democrat now but I was a Republican for over 30 years and believe in a strong two-party system. I have now been a member of both parties, neither of which is perfect.

We have extremists in both parties as well as in some of the fringe parties like the Green Party, Constitution Party, Alliance Party and so on, but extremism is taking over the Republican party in the era of Trumpism. Political extremism is dividing our country and is beginning to threaten the welfare and safety of all of us.

Many prominent Republicans have left the Party, many from the Reagan and Bush eras as well as leaders from the John McCain presidential campaign. Some have created organizations like The Lincoln Project to push back against extremist elements in the Republican Party. All have urged true conservative Republicans to vote for Democrats in order to send a message, to right the ship so-to-speak, to save the Republican Party from extremist elements within its ranks.

Here in Maryland, and even Frederick County, we are seeing political extremism infecting the Republican Party. We saw political extremist Dan Cox defeat right of center Republican Kelly Schulz for the gubernatorial nomination and a right out of high school youngster with no experience other than some sophomore extremist views defeat Republican Council Vice President Michael Blue. Though I did not agree with Schulz and Blue on many issues, I respect them, I did not see either as a threat to the future of the Republican Party our county, or our democracy.

Cox is following in the footsteps of our county's poster boy for political extremism, Sheriff Chuck Jenkins. He has "vowed to use Maryland state resources to "stand against" the federal government if he's elected in November." This mirrors what Jenkins stated in prepared closing remarks during a 2016 debate: "I really believe that the sheriff, the office of the sheriff is the last line between government and the American citizen. And when the

government fails — and it is failing — that obligation to protection falls to the sheriff."

The sheriff has publicly stated in a recent radio interview that "Every Democrat in America is trying to destroy this country. I really believe that."

These are not the words of a sheriff who serves all the people. These are the words of a political extremist, an insurrectionist if you will, who has publicly stated the 2020 election was stolen from Donald Trump. He has said the COVID pandemic, which killed over a million people in the U.S. and was the most common cause of death among law enforcement officers for over two years, was a fraud. They are the words of a sheriff who so extreme in his political views that the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the Department of Homeland Security objected to the renewal of his coveted 287(g) agreement in 2016.

Jenkins has even attacked the credibility of Governor and Republican presidential hopeful Larry Hogan and said "whatever he runs for in the future, he gets no support from me."

The sheriff is an active member of both The Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (CSPOA) and Protect America Now. CSPOA leader, Richard Mack was a founding member and former director of the Oath Keepers who have been charged with various crimes associated with the Jan 6 insurrection. Both organizations are made up of a small group of extremist sheriffs.

Protect America Now is a small group of sheriffs who are poised to begin investigating "Election Fraud" in their counties so they can ensure extremists win. Sheriff Jenkins is not only a member, but his picture is prominently displayed on their webpage.

The Republican party is currently associated with Trumpism and violence, and that is pushing many fiscal conservatives out. In order to save the Republican party, it will take thoughtful Republicans who disagree with the MAGA extremists that threaten the party's very existence to take action. That action is to stand strong and vote against radical extremism.

The dangers of political extremism start locally. Casting a vote for

a Democrat in November sends a message, a message that the political extremism that is infecting parts of our country will not take hold

here in Frederick County.

To learn more about Karl Bickel, visit his website www.Bickel4Sheriff.com.

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KARL BICKEL

for Frederick County Sheriff



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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

The month of September brings with it a time to honor the American worker on September 5. On a somber note, September 11 is a time to reflect on the lives lost during a terrorist attack on our homeland during the morning of September 11, 2001. Nineteen militants hijacked four planes. Two planes hit the north and south towers of the World Trade Center in New York (2,606 victims). One plane hit the Pentagon in Washington D.C. (125 victims). And, the fourth plane crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania (40 victims) because of the heroic efforts of the passengers. It was thought that the fourth plane's target was the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. I encourage you to take a moment on September 11th to reflect on this horrible event and say a prayer for the victims who died and their families, especially the children.

School has started which means school buses are on the road again. Let us partner with the parents, teachers, administrators, and transportation personnel to keep our young residents safe when they are being transported to and from school. How do we do that? Follow the law. According to the

Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, when you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended you must stop. When you approach an intersection where a school bus is stopped with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you must stop. You must stop at least 10 feet away from the school bus. You must wait until the red lights have stopped flashing and the stop arm has been withdrawn before moving. And most important, do not move until the children have reached a place of safety.

The Carroll Valley Branch of the Adams County Library System has a full and interesting September program. On Monday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m., it is Barks and Books which involves reading to a therapy dog to help build confidence in new or reluctant readers. Bring your child to the library to read to Danny, our favorite KPets pup! Michael McCabe, from Hilltop Video Services, will present a free 4-part video production workshop for individuals and small businesses. Attendees will receive a free digital copy of his eBook: The Beginner's Guide to Video Pro-

duction Resources. The workshop starts on September 12 at 6 p.m.. Registration is required. The Adult Book Club members will meet on Wednesday, September 21 at 2 p.m. September's selection is "Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles.

On Thursday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m., former Fairfield Elementary School teacher, Mrs. Spalding is coming out to talk about the air all around us! This open to children ages 5-10. Registration is required. "Make Your Own Buddha Board" is the program title of the activity planned for Monday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. Paint on the surface with water and watch your creation come to life. As the water slowly evaporates your art will magically disappear... leaving you with a clean slate and a clear mind. Registration is required (ages 11-18). On Thursday, September 29 at 6:30 p.m. come and visit Kathy, from the Seeing Eye Puppy Raisers of Adams County, and her puppy, Warner. Learn how a Seeing Eye dog helps a blind person. Registration is required (ages 5-10).

The Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank will be holding a Blood Drive on Thursday, September 22 from noon to 5 in the Carroll Valley Bor-

ough Council meeting room. There are two ways to schedule your donation appointment. You can go to 717GiveBlood.org and click on 'donate now' link or call 800-771-0059. A form of ID is required to donate. You are strongly advised to schedule an appointment to donate blood. Appointments help the Blood Bank to improve your donation experience. Walk-ins are welcome; however, donors with appointments will be taken first and this may result in a significant wait time.

Child Passenger Safety Awareness week runs from September 18 thru 24. Under Pennsylvania's primary child passenger safety law, children under the age of 4 must be properly restrained in an approved child safety seat anywhere in the vehicle. Children under 2 must be secured in a rear-facing car seat until the child outgrows the maximum weight and height limits designated by the car seat manufacturer. Children from age 4 up to age 8 must be restrained in an appropriate booster seat. Children from age 8 up to age 18 must be in a seat belt. Free inspection being performed by the State Police. Call 717-334-8111 for an appointment. If you have any questions, call the Carroll Valley Police Department for information.

You should be aware that any person peddling, selling, soliciting, or taking orders for any goods, wares or merchandise in the Borough, must have a permit issued by the Borough. So, the next time a person knocks on your door and wants to sell you something, ask for them to show you, their permit.

Free admission! Join fellow residents on Friday, September 23 for a great time at Carroll Valley's Movie Night in the Park! The September movie will be "Luca". The film is an animated feature that takes place on the Italian Riviera. The young boy, Luca, shares his adventures with his newfound friend, but all is threatened by a secret. Remember to bring your own blanket and chairs. Movie starts at 7:30 p.m.

Get ready for Fairfield's annual Pippinfest! Head to Fairfield on the September 24 and 25 to enjoy arts and crafts exhibitors, music, and food. Carroll Valley Borough meetings to be held in September are Planning Commission (Sept 6), Borough Council (Sept 13), Public Sewer Advisory Committee (Sept 26) and Parks/Recreation (Sept 28). All meetings start at 7 pm. If you have any questions call me at 301-606-2021 or email me at Mayor-RonHarris@comcast.net. Please watch your speed on the trails.

Liberty Supervisor Walter Barlow

On August 5, the Liberty Township Supervisors announced the resignation of Police Chief, Sherri Hansen. Although Chief Hansen has chosen to leave full-time employment at Liberty, she has agreed to stay on part-time to provide a seamless transition as we search for a suitable replacement. On the same day, we hired Scott Ross as an additional part-time Police Officer to join our team pro-

viding coverage across three municipalities. Scott Ross is a retired police officer from York City Police Department with decades of experience. We are pleased to welcome Scott to our police force. Freedom Township recently agreed to renew our contract for police coverage, and we look forward to continuing to serve Highland Township as well.

While planning for our 2023 budget, the township met with repre-

sentatives from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to discuss strategic planning and available grant programs that may fit the needs of our Township. The Liberty Township Road Department has been successfully trading services through an intermunicipal agreement with Hamiltonban Township. I want to thank Hamiltonban for being gracious enough to accept the intermunicipal

agreement and we look forward to maintaining this relationship through the future. We are always looking for ways to share services through intermunicipal agreements that benefit of our area municipalities. As we deal with the future of rising costs, our goal is to be able provide the needed services to our residents while keeping the cost as minimal as possible.

Fairfield area residents are reminded to contact their municipality within 24 hours if they experience issues with trash pick-up service, after calling to report the problem to Park's Garbage Service directly. Not only does our waste management contract require us to log all complaints, but we can also work with you to resolve the matter quickly if we know about it sooner.

Please be sure to visit the Fair-

field Regional Emergency Management Association (FREMA) information table at the Fairfield Fire Department during Pippinfest on Saturday, September 24 to learn more about the responsibilities of the local emergency response team. Consider adding your name to a list of volunteers to be called during an emergency to participate in search and rescue or provide other assistance to the local community.

We want to thank Adam Sanders for his continued regular attendance at the monthly meetings to voice his concerns and other input to the Board of Supervisors. We welcome all feedback and the opportunity to address the concerns of our residents when possible. The public is encouraged to attend our meetings on the first Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m.

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE BORDER

County Commissioner Marty Qually

I cannot believe it is September 2022 and I'm writing another article about the 2020 elections. It's a bad penny that keeps turning up. Thankfully, Republican leadership at all levels is beginning to admit that there was no fraud in Pennsylvania and we can move on.

Still, I'd like to bring attention to some local elected officials and show where they stand on the "big lie." To improve our election process, we need to know where local elected officials stand on election integrity.

On August 22, State Rep. Seth Grove (R-York County), who chairs the House State Government committee, weighed in on one of the largest false allegations, that there were more ballots cast than voters in the general election. Apparently, someone compared the number of Pennsylvania general election ballots to the number of primary election voters. Obviously, the numbers would be off. Before the mistake was realized, the conspiracy theorists had their smoking gun. Once the error was factually corrected those who had started this particular claim, didn't want to admit they were wrong. Instead, they kept on repeating it. This isn't just a problem of candidates willfully lying to voters, it reflects a state of distrust in government. Add to that the 24-hour news cycle and it's no wonder voters didn't stop and question some of the "evidence." I understand that in the heat of the moment, this claim sounds disturbing, but in the days following it was clearly proven false.

Over the 2021-2022 session of the PA General Assembly our local State Representative Dan Moul co-sponsored 14 election related bills. Many were intended to take away the rights of voters. Three would take away voter

rights, and one would be an affront to our Constitution.

House Bill 1511, would require a "unique scannable number on ballots for mail-in and absentee," would violate the guarantee of a secret ballot. Adding a unique number would greatly increase the chances that someone could determine who voted a specific way.

House Bill 195 would repeal the mail-in voting law, which Rep. Moul had just voted for two years prior. There may be legitimate reasons for these two bills, it has become clear that they were an overreaction to non-existent voter fraud.

The vote that should cause many of us to pause, was his vote supporting House Resolution 7. This resolution was introduced on January 11, 2021, only five days after the January 6 violent insurrection in DC.

The resolution declared that the Pennsylvania election of electors for the Presidential election should be voided and that the legislature should have the right to select electors. In other words, your vote didn't count and we should just trust elected officials to determine the outcome of a Presidential election. The idea was that there was so much fraud that the election should be invalidated and redecided. Keep in mind Rep. Moul won his race that year, but clearly the fraud was only at the national level and his results were legit. What galls me the most is that 23 Republican representatives saw what happened on January 6 and five days later chose to introduce this resolution. The mob that attacked and killed law enforcement officers and defiled a sacred institution were fueled by 2020 election lies and those in our

state house fanned those flames. While some of us wept, others continued to spread lies.

But wait. There's more. Passing a resolution to invalidate the election wasn't enough for Moul. He also joined with ten other lawmakers to sue the state to repeal Act 77. Act 77, passed in 2019, was a bipartisan election reform bill, Democratic legislators agreed to give up straight party voting in exchange for no-excuse mail-in ballots. When asked why he would sue to overturn a law that he just voted for, Moul stated, "So my bad. I should've checked the constitutionality of that bill."

Moul isn't alone in believing there was widespread voter fraud. His close ally State Senator Doug Mastriano has another illegal idea to end voter fraud. If elected governor, his plan is to disen-

roll every voter in Pennsylvania and have everyone re-register to vote.

Mastriano, who was at the January 6 insurrection, is making plans that are clearly unconstitutional. Removing everyone from the election rolls is a violation of state and federal law and is a recipe for voter suppression. While I appreciate legislators finding ways to improve our voting system, this is a clear attempt to limit voters' rights. We should be finding ways to increase voter turnout, not devising ways to limit voting.

What both Moul and Mastriano fail to appreciate, is that there are countless safeguards put into place to keep our elections secure. All they have to do is ask county election staff. Continuing to spread election lies is eroding the public's faith in elections and is causing serious harm to our election system.

In 2020, Adams County election staff and others throughout the state received a massive amount of negativity and outright threats. This has resulted in a huge turnover in election directors across the state. Since the presidential election, 45 election directors have resigned and 8 more will retire, instead of working another presidential election. There are only 67 counties in Pennsylvania.

If every close election results in an erosion of faith in our election system, all levels of government will suffer. Our nation is built on the principle that we can be different and still work towards common goals. Our motto is literally, E Pluribus Unum, which is Latin for "Out of many, One." Let us pray that someday we live up to that motto.

If you would like to discuss this or any topic, don't hesitate to call me at 717-339-6514 or by email at marty-qually@gmail.com.

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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

Problems at the southern border?

Shannon Bohrer

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us..."

—Charles Dickens in 1859. History does repeat itself, and as many believe, we are currently experiencing.

Our world is facing shortages of goods, inflation, a lack of affordable housing, as well as a pending recession. For many families, the price of shelter and food is rising faster than wages. In these tough economic times, around 70 percent of Americans have \$1000 or less in savings, with 34 percent having no savings at all. There is an assumption that tough economic conditions have contributed to the numbers, especially for individuals that earn minimum wages. Conversely, while the poor are focused on survival, the well-to-do are doing well.

These are unusual times, and the economy is only one of many problems we face. As expected, our poli-

ticians try to focus our attention on the other party as being responsible for every problem we face. One large problem, a wedge issue, is somewhat related to almost everything is our southern border. The border issues are not resolvable with the proposed solutions from either party.

One party wants a wall and to close the border. The other party wants to allow asylum seekers to enter and to have their cases heard in court. Currently, about one in four asylum cases, about 25,000 a year, are granted. Most are returned to their home country. Neither answer is a solution because the people at the border are not the problem; they are a symptom of a larger worldwide problem.

The immigration issues we have are growing because of an increasing world population coupled with shrinking available resources. The resources are shrinking, primarily because of global warming. Ask yourself; what would make a person(s) pack up a few belongings they can carry and then walk hundreds of miles, or even thousands of miles, leaving their home knowing they might not ever return? Wars, famine, and conditions are so horrible, and they know that if they stay, they won't survive. These are issues driving immigration and migration around the world.

Immigrations and migration are not short-term issues that can be solved with a border wall or a new

immigration policy. In the last several years we have experienced record numbers of people moving around the world. In the first five months of 2021, the Border Patrol encountered around 325,000 migrants. In just one month (April of 2022), Border Agents encountered over 234,000. The numbers reflect a 22-year high, and if the numbers continue, we could be seeing over 3 million migrants at the border this year.

While our congress debates the creation of new immigration laws, with one party against any immigration, the problem only grows. Again, the problem is not the migrants at the border; the problem is why they are at the border. As the earth gets warmer, the growing of crops becomes problematic. People tend to want to live where they can grow food, so they can eat. Adding to this issue of a warming climate are the wars, revolutions, and oppressive governments.

Today, there are an estimated one billion migrants in the world, which is close to 12 percent of the world population. The top destination for international migrants includes the United States, Germany, and Saudi Arabia. It was once said that these are "no ordinary times," and maybe it should be said again. The world has never been so crowded and yet so interconnected at the same time.

In July, the world experienced extreme heat waves and wildfires on multiple continents, breaking record tempera-

tures. The records keep falling, and we keep talking about global warming, but the world's response is slow, yet the long-term consequences are grave.

In the United States, we had a heat wave with temperatures over 100 degrees in numerous cities and states around the nation. Las Vegas set an all-time temperature of 117 degrees, while Death Valley reached 130 degrees. Last year Canada saw a temperature of 121 degrees, and in Spain, this year, the temperature reached 117 degrees. In May of this year, the city of Jacobabad in Pakistan recorded a temperature of 123.8 degrees, while neighboring India recorded 120 degrees in Delhi. And every prediction tells us it will get hotter.

All over the western US, ranchers are selling cattle because of a lack of grazing land due to droughts. The farmers are planting less because of a lack of water. When this was written, Lake Mead was estimated to be at 36 percent capacity. The reservoir decline is because of drought and the obvious fact that water is being used faster than it can be replaced. Lake Mead provides drinking water to 25 million people.

Lake Powell is another but smaller lake providing drinking water. The lake is at a 22-year low, retaining only 24 percent of its water and continues to decline. Lake Powell provides drinking water to an estimated 15 million people.

Lake Mead and lake Powell are just two examples of the numerous water

issues, from California to the Rocky Mountains. The lack of water is becoming a critical issue, especially in California and the southwest. Where will the 40 million people move if both lakes dry up?

Of course, while we experience the droughts, we also have floods in Kentucky, Yellowstone National Park, and Death Valley. Yes, Death Valley flooded this summer. When five hundred- and one-thousand-year floods occur frequently, that is a clue.

Inflation, a lack of affordable housing and even a recession are all valid issues. When someone cannot find a place to live, when they cannot afford the basic needs of living, they focus on the present. However, all of those basic needs are interconnected with global warming, the issue that affects everything.

While we focus on our southern border, a larger issue could be the internal migration within our own borders and in numbers that we have neither expected nor for which we planned. Yes, we could have several million people at our southern border each year, but we could also have tens of millions moving internally.

"What is the use of a house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?"

—Henry David Thoreau

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

Tumbleweeds

Transcending Babel

Mark Greathouse

Even before becoming a writer of western fiction, I found myself fascinated by the lingo of America's west. Cattle are beeves, a porch is a gallery, a poke is a cowboy's possibles bag, pilgrim is a tenderfoot or newcomer... you catch the drift. The old west had a sort of picturesque lingo, including humdingers like "snollygoster," an extreme promise toward gaining political support.

Today's language twisting transcends that of the biblical Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9), the story wherein God frustrates folks building a tower to Heaven by giving each individual a different language. Unable to communicate, they fail to complete the tower. Why should we be concerned? We seem to have an American Babel, as folks have lost the ability to verbally navigate their inner worlds. They're unable to navigate any reality that's the least bit uncomfortable. The consequence is avoidance, pushing away, or lashing out. The trend to language obfuscation exacerbates this and results in iron-fisted control by its extremist agenda-driven creators. Dystopian author George Orwell understood how societies are controlled by controlling language. Recall his 1984 quote, "War is peace! Freedom is slavery! Ignorance is strength!" Our language is being "weaponized" against us today such that if you don't accept the latest twisted "Newspeak" manifestations, you're "cancelled."

Babel? Well, the leftists in our midst are trying to build a nation radically different from the one founded 250 years

ago. That's one heck of a "tower" they've got in mind. They specialize in using obfuscatory words to mask truths. The lexicon bending list is long, but I hope to throw some humor in with the horror of its contribution to our increasingly dystopian culture. Words have become masks for hidden agendas with intent to misinform the uninformed.

Let's begin with "climate change" substituting for "global warming." Seems pretty safe, as the climate is constantly changing. And, if you care to believe NASA, changes occurring to planetary weather patterns are completely natural and normal and mankind has an infinitesimal impact on changing climates. Careful, such thinking can get you cancelled!

A prime example of word wrangling is "pro-choice" versus "pro-life." Both mask deep emotions. Of course, the underlying more accurate language is "pro-abortion" versus "anti-abortion." Guess some folks decided that mentioning the "a-word" was not a great public relations move. More often today, it's further masked with "protecting women's reproductive health."

"Woke" slays me. These supposedly "woke" holier-than-thought, slogan-prolific, elitist, cancel-culture snobs must have slept through lectures on U.S. history. Maybe that's because U.S. history is barely taught. Good grief, but our government-run education system is already a veritable plethora of lexicon corruption. "Social studies" became the socio-political catchall replacement for history decades ago, as lessons of the past faded into an afterthought. "Woke" is more akin to "intellectually comatose."

"Progressive" is an unbelievably inaccurate descriptor of the cultural left. Merriam-Webster defines progressive as of or relating to or characterized by progress, the making use of new ideas, findings, or opportunities. Not a very apt name for a movement mired in the political detritus of the 19th century. Notably, the original political Progressives were a splinter group of the Republican Party. You can laugh. Today, progressives are Democrats adept at dredging up and recasting the tired old failed socialist programs of the past, giving them new names, and pronouncing them as grand solutions to the world's problems...many of which they created.

The National Education Association, that top contributor to the Democratic Party, proposes replacing "mother" with "birthing parent." Birthing parent? Madre de Dios! I expect we're waiting with baited breath for our Catholic brethren to refer to the "Virgin Birthing Parent."

One of the most egregious and ignorant lexicon corruptions is "assault rifle." It's crisis mongering to the extreme. In the first place, the "AR" in AR-15 translates to "Armalite Rifle." An assault rifle is a fully-automatic weapon used in battle, not hunting game or defending one's home. The misnomer aimed at inciting emotions of fear and horror is downright wrong.

Gender classifies folks as "male" or "female" on the basis of reproductive organs and functions. It's about procreation. Gender dysphoria, however, has become commonplace with simple "he" or "she" having been tossed into a confusing mix of "they," "it," "them," and a cornucopia of contrived appellations. Shucks, even Supreme Court

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson couldn't define "woman."

How about "fake news?" It's misinformation or disinformation aimed at misleading or persuading the uninformed. Figure most folks regardless of politics can agree on that one.

"Teach" versus "educate" is a scary form of Babel that has insidiously crept into our government-run education system. The words aren't interchangeable. To parents and many scholars, educate implies the use of reason involving multiple perspectives on a subject. Teach, on the other hand, entails memorization of facts fed into malleable young brains to pass tests. It was reported that teachers in Frederick County, Maryland spent more than 40 percent of classroom time spewing facts to be memorized, so students could pass standardized tests.

"Social justice" issues frame most liberal agendas. "Diversity" has been tossed about as so much flotsam for several decades, despite hypocritical leftist initiatives that serve to divide us over racial and gender lines. "Equity" is anything judged just and fair and "equality" is a condition of being equal as in equal opportunity, yet liberals consider them interchangeable. They aren't.

"Democratic socialist" is a killer oxymoron mask that's been adopted by the far left. There's nothing democratic about socialism. It ranks with "National Socialism" (aka Nazism).

"Values" (yours, mine, or theirs?) have been grossly corrupted by leftists as a replacement for "virtues." The virtuous moral underpinnings of values—such as they were—have been destroyed by removing all vestiges of the religious faith upon which they were based.

Liberals apply "racism" to anything

associated with white folks. Whites are a bunch of "white supremacists." Labels like 1619 project, critical race theory, and BLM ring every bit as hollow as the cultural-Marxist ideology they're all based upon. Shucks, an entire "racism" industry has been created.

How about "American exceptionalism?" Dare we strive to be exceptional among "civilized" nations of the world? What is it then that draws so many folks from foreign lands to America? Could they be thinking the United States is exceptional?

Today's language transcends Babel. Words too often label, obfuscate, and injure with damaging effect. Too many Americans today avoid reasoned debate so as not to offend anyone, ban supposedly offensive classic books, block or censor social media posts, and stress out at anything that makes sensitive minds feel the least bit out of sorts. Language suffers, especially as liberals strive to be relevant by contriving new lexicon battlegrounds.

Language corruption for political ends is nothing new. Roughly 150 years ago, you might have heard "grayback" meaning lice or Rebels, "popular sovereignty" indicating states could choose slavery or not, or "red herring" equivalent to today's fake news. Folks today are so acclimated to Babel that they're expected to believe outright sleight-of-tongue snollygosters like the "Inflation Reduction Act" (it doesn't) or "Affordable Care Act" (it's not) or "Build Back Better Act" (it won't). Language corruption seems here to stay, but we need to recognize it for what it is.

Just sayin.'

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

Country First

Don't drink the Kool-Aid

David Marshall

During the Watergate era, the Republican Party opted for decency, dignity, truth and justice. As a result, Republican Senate leaders encouraged then-president Richard Nixon to do the right thing and resign. In doing so, they followed the words of another Republican president, Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt stated, "Patriotism means to stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the President." There are good reasons why Michael Hayden has called out today's version of the Republican Party as being extremist and dangerous on an unprecedented level. Unfortunately, many people will remain in total denial of this fact despite Hayden's credentials and credibility as a retired Air Force four-star general and former director of both the CIA and NSA.

As a nation, we have reached the low point where we should no longer refer to the Republican Party as a political party but rather a political cult. As we stop talking around the use of the word cult, do we fully understand why the GOP is a cult and how dangerous any cult can be when it becomes centered on the worship of one individual? Strong leaders are needed in

every American institution: government, business, military, religious and education. We need our leaders to be men and women who based their thoughts, words and actions on having a sound vision, principles and purpose. We need our leaders to understand the value of collaboration and communication which builds trust. We also need them to be men and women of character who are not tempted to pervert their authority for personal gain and admiration.

If we find ourselves under the leadership of those who fail to meet these basic standards, how do we respond? Do we speak truth to power by standing up for what is right? Do we eventually leave after pulling back the curtain and seeing the true motives behind the leader's fake façade? Do we put our head in the sand and remain silent out of fear and intimidation? Do we become so mesmerized and obsessed because the leader's lies makes us feel good? Are we so drawn to the leader because we share the same values and beliefs regardless of the danger and damage they may cause?

A cult is defined as a group or movement who practice excessive devotion to a person, object or ideology. The leader of the cult is always right. No matter how harmful, the leader's behavior is always

justified. The "truth" is defined only by the cult leader and any criticism of the leader results in persecution. The Peoples Temple and the Jonestown massacre in 1978 shows us that a cult never exists without some form of resistance.

If Donald Trump is the latest version of Jim Jones, then the GOP is the newest version of the People's Temple. The story of the Jonestown mass murder-suicide is a grim but true story. It illustrates the dangers of a typical cult leader. Like Donald Trump, Jim Jones was a charismatic leader who led a devoted following of people who believed everything they were told. As a pastor, Jones established the People's Temple in Indianapolis in the 1950's.

In 1965, Jones moved the group to Northern California, eventually settling in San Francisco. In the 1970s, his church was accused by the media of financial fraud, physical abuse of its members and mistreatment of children. In response to the mounting criticism, the increasingly paranoid Jones invited his congregation to move with him to Guyana, where he promised they would build a socialist utopia.

Three years earlier, a small group of his followers traveled to the South American nation to set up a tract of land in what would become known as Jonestown. Jonestown did not turn out to be the paradise their leader had promised. Temple

members worked long days in the fields and were subjected to harsh punishments if they dared to question Jones' authority. The members' passports were confiscated, their letters sent back home were censored, members were encouraged to inform on one another and forced to attend lengthy late-night meetings. At this time, Jones was declining in mental health and addicted to drugs. He was convinced that the U.S. government was out to destroy him. He required Temple members to participate in mock suicide drills in the middle of the night.

It is not often that a member of Congress is assassinated. We were very fortunate all lawmakers were shielded and protected from the armed mob during the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. In 1978, California Congressman Leo Ryan met a different fate. Ryan became involved in the People's Temple issue after hearing constituents' concerns that their relatives were possibly being held against their will in Jonestown. He wrote a letter to Jones requesting a visit to the settlement, a move Jones vehemently opposed but later agreed. Ryan traveled to Jonestown accompanied by journalist and relatives of Temple members.

During Ryan's visit, several members made it known they wanted to leave. An act in which Jones saw as betrayal. As Ryan, the defectors

and the journalist were waiting at the airstrip for planes to take them home, a truck arrived carrying Temple gunmen who opened fire on the group. The congressman and four people were killed, while several others were injured. After the attack on Ryan and his party, Jones commanded everyone to gather in the main pavilion and commit what he termed a "revolutionary act".

Many of Jones' followers willingly took a drink of poison-laced punch while others were forced to do so at gunpoint. The final death toll at Jonestown that day was 909; a third of those were children. A few members were able to escape. Today, too many people have taken Trump's Kool-Aid and the Republican Party we once knew is now dead. The party of Dwight Eisenhower, Ronald Reagan and Jack Kemp no longer exist. The danger is not over. Let's hope the spread can be exposed and contained thereby saving the future of American democracy.

David W. Marshall is author of the book "God Bless Our Divided America" and member of Country First. Country First is focused on recognizing that Republicans, Democrats and Independents don't have to be enemies because they have different experiences and perspectives. To learn more about Country First visit www.country1st.com

The Bulwark

The MAGA crowd may venerate 1776...

Jeffrey Isaac

...but they idolize a would-be monarch.

The Patriots of the American Revolution believed no man was above the law. Donald Trump's followers are sure he is.

Like its predecessors on the American right, the MAGA movement draws heavily on the rhetoric and iconography of the American Revolution. Such rhetoric was brought into full view during the January 6th insurrection, when the crowd that stormed the Capitol bore "1776" banners and Betsy Ross flags and the markings of the Three Percenters (the militia movement whose name derives from the mistaken belief that only 3 percent of the American population fought in the Revolution). And it has surfaced again, with a fury, in response to last week's FBI search and seizure of documents from President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence.

The MAGA adherents who bedeck themselves in the symbols of the Revolution imagine themselves to be zealous patriots, modern-day Sons of Liberty and Minutemen at Lexington and Concord, standing against tyranny. The MAGA fanatic who died in a shootout last week after he attacked the FBI field office in Cincinnati said as much, referring to "patriots" in his postings to Trump's Truth Social website and replying to MAGA superstar Marjorie Taylor Greene that "the next step is the one we used in 1775."

The irony here is that the real-life American revolutionaries were avowed enemies of monarchy, while today's wannabe revolutionaries have as their leader and hero Donald Trump, the most arrogant, monarchical president in U.S. history, a man who truly imagines himself to be beyond the law that applies to everyone else.

Even this latest scandal involving the documents stored at Mar-a-Lago gives evidence of Trump's monarchical self-regard. One of the most sycophantic Trump supporters, Rep. Jim Jordan, said last week that "everyone knows" it is "ridiculous" to question Trump's possession of classified documents, because "Come on, he's the ultimate classifier and decider."

Trump agrees: He has boldly declared that he declassified everything in question, at will and on his own word, as if this is sufficient. Trump's camp insists that "he had a standing order . . . that documents removed from the Oval Office and taken to the residence were deemed to be declassified the moment he removed them."

So forget the fact that "declassification, even by the President, must follow established procedures." Trump's courtiers assert—without providing any evidence—that he had a policy in place that said he could take classified documents anywhere he pleased and those documents, as if by royal fiat, would instantly be declassified. The king's will is law.

What would the men and women who supported America's break

with the British monarch make of Trump's monarchical inclinations? Here is Thomas Paine, in Common Sense, the Revolution's most important pamphlet:

Independency means no more than this, whether we shall make our own laws, or, whether the King, the greatest enemy this continent hath, or can have, shall tell us there shall be no laws but such as I like. . . . In America the law is king. For as in absolute governments the King is law, so in free countries the law ought to be king; and there ought to be no other. [Emphasis in original.]

Here is Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, writing to George Washington from Paris in 1788:

I was much an enemy to monarchy before I came to Europe. I am ten thousand times more so since I have seen what they are. There is scarcely an evil known in these countries which may not be traced to their king as its source, nor a good which is not derived from the small fibres of republicanism existing among them. I can further say with safety there is not a crowned head in Europe whose talents or merit would entitle him to be elected a vestryman by the people of any parish in America.

And what of Washington himself? In 1782—during the period after the victory at Yorktown but before the peace treaty was signed—Gen. Washington received a memo from a Philadelphia official suggesting that a new government be constituted with a king (presumably Washington himself) at its head. Washington immediately responded to describe his "surprise," "astonishment," and "abhorrence":

"You could not have found a person to whom your schemes are more disagreeable."

If the American Revolution's most important leaders and their most ardent followers agreed on any one thing, it was that no man was above the law. And yet the Revolution's current MAGA enthusiasts live by the motto "Trump is ours and he can do no wrong." And the more that their man stretches the bounds of legality, propriety, and credulity, the more they support him.

Donald Trump was the first presidential candidate in forty years to refuse to release tax returns.

Donald Trump was the first president in U.S. history to treat national security as a matter of his own private whim—long before this latest scandal over classified documents. Within days of his inauguration, the New York Times reported that he coordinated the administration's response to a North Korean missile test on the Mar-a-Lago terrace in full view of guests, "a remarkable public display of presidential activity that is almost always conducted in highly secure settings." Like a monarch, he sought to give official positions to his heirs, and then he reportedly overruled security officials and staffers to get them top-secret clearance.

Donald Trump continued to run his private business while in the White House, despite promises not to, and regularly ignored the Constitution's Emoluments Clause, leasing federal property for his Trump International Hotel in the nation's capital, where foreign governments spent millions, and where political allies and lobbyists spent millions more frequenting the

hotel and its bar while Trump served as president.

Donald Trump famously has the tacky taste and tendency toward ostentation of a minor king, and it was reported last month that he has been garishly and illegally using the presidential seal to promote the Saudi government-backed LIV Golf Tournament at his Bedminster, New Jersey golf course. According to the Washington Post, "the seal was plastered on towels, golf carts and other items" at the event.

And Donald Trump is, of course, the only president in U.S. history to be impeached twice; the only president to refuse to concede office after losing an election (indeed, the only major presidential candidate to refuse to concede a lost election); and the only president to attempt to overturn the election results, going so far as to incite violent supporters who were calling for the death of his own vice president.

Yet despite all that, Trump continues to lead the Republican party, and continues to attract followers.

"We are a constitutional republic. We are not a democracy," Trump's MAGA partisans like to say (exhuming a slogan from the John Birch Society). It is supposed to explain why they do not care what others say about the outcome of the 2020 presidential election, and why they continue to support their man Trump.

But in fact, what they defend is neither a republic nor the Constitution, but a demagogue who has no respect for either—and who would rule as a king if he could.

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THE PASTOR'S DESK

It's about time

Fr. Timothy Barkley
St. James Orthodox
Christian Church

Happy New Year! The ecclesiastical year, that is – the most ancient calendar of the Church begins, not on January 1, but on September 1.

Our times are a gift from a loving God who seeks our communion. He wants to spend time with us; and not someday in the pie-in-the-sky by-and-by time, but now time, in our daily lives.

He has given us the gift of time so that we can make sense of our lives in this physically bound universe. We live through moments that add up to days and weeks and years; and we superimpose months and parse our moments and days into seconds, minutes, hours.

But the most fundamental unit of time isn't a chronological division, but simply "now." All of our lives is a series of "now." Tomorrow isn't tomorrow when we get there; it's just "now" again. If you're not living life "now," you'll never live it.

Jesus told us that eternal life is to know him and his father. That's not something that might happen someday. That's some-

thing that happens "now," or it never happens.

The Kingdom of God isn't "THEN" when we die and go to heaven. It's "now." The Kingdom is an eternal "now" in which God is given glory and the Lamb stands before the throne appearing as a slain offering, from before the beginning of time. All of God's self-offering is present "now." It's not a past historical event or a future expectation; it's "now."

Time is a created reality. There is nothing beyond or above God that imposes time on God. He chooses to operate within the time he created in order to commune with his creatures, but he is only subject to time when he chooses to be. Time is his servant, not his master.

In our created order, the rotation of the earth causes a cycle of light and dark that we call "days." The revolution of the earth about the sun causes a cycle of growth and stasis that we call "years."

Within each "day" we have the rising of the sun and its setting. In between, we have the zenith we call "noon" and the nadir we call "midnight." Historically, the day was further divided into "watches" of about 3-hour duration that defined the "hours."

"From the rising of the sun to the setting of the same, the name of the Lord is to be praised."

"Seven times a day will I praise you!" sang the prophet and king David. "I will rise at midnight give thanks to you."

Our forebears knew the wisdom of punctuating the day with prayer. While we should pray "without ceasing," the practice of setting aside certain times within the day to commune with God, interrupting our otherwise-tyrannical pursuit of our daily bread in order to pursue the bread that came down from heaven, the One who is truly worth the pursuit, makes us live our professed priority of the life in Christ.

The prayers of the "hours," generally around 6 and 9 a.m. and noon; 3 and 6 p.m.; again at 9 p.m. before retiring; and at "midnight" (which was really about 2 a.m. in a society before chronological precision) fulfilled the intention of David. Acknowledging the difficulty of praying so often during a busy workday, we often enjoy the faithful to pray in the morning upon arising and in the evening before sleeping, and to pray over meals. And if you have to visit the facilities in the middle of the night, what better way to occupy the mind than communing with God: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner."

Our days accumulate into weeks, reflecting the wisdom of our Creator who rested on the seventh day. On that day, we withdraw from the frenetic pace of our participation in God's creative act to worship him and reflect on his glory and goodness.

The Church in its scripture teaches us that the Jewish Sabbath is fulfilled and consummated in the rest of Christ in the tomb, when his body awaited the resurrection while his soul went down to Hades and kicked open its gates, leveling its walls so that they could never be reconstituted for human bondage. His body was raised from the dead on Sunday, bringing to an end the age of sin's domination and ushering in the eschaton, the end of all things.

It is a day outside time, neither the first nor the seventh day of the week, but the "eighth day." Sunday is the day of resurrection, the day of fulfillment, the day on which the end of the former age is remembered and on which the coming of Christ the King is announced and the new age of the Kingdom of God is instituted.

Within the week, Wednesday is



remembered as the day humans, in the person of Judas, betrayed our God and sought his death. Friday is remembered as the day we killed the God who came to deliver us from sin and death. Appropriately, these are days on which we abstain from satiety and gaiety. We fast in humility and repentance for our own sins and seek grace to turn from them to the life and love of God.

Our years cycle through the feasts of the Church, when we celebrate God's goodness and self-outpouring, Christmas, Pascha or Easter, Christ's ascension to glory, Pentecost – the descent of the Holy Spirit – and the celebrations of the great events of our salvation and the promise of our glorification are remembered as they recur in our circuit around the sun.

These make present to us events that occurred in the historical past or that we await in the historical future. But because the Kingdom of God is the eternal "now," the Body of Christ resonates with their immediacy (as in, "not mediated" – nothing in between) and reveals to the faithful particular aspects of the self-outpouring of God with the concomitant grace to live in the light of these realities. Christ is risen! Christ is Born! Christ is ascended! Our mother the Church encourages the faithful to live the reality of the life of the Kingdom "now."

Time is racing by. Each moment that flits past is irretrievably gone. Each beat of our heart is a singular occurrence, never to be repeated, never to be regained. What I did with it is over and done, indelibly inscribed in the Book of Life. I can repent,

change direction, and proceed differently in the next moment that lies before me, but I cannot alter the inscriptions on my own heart and the heart of God.

The God who is love draws near to me and gives me his love. I can receive that love and reciprocate it, or I can spurn it and treat it as if it did not exist. Or I can presume on it and use its life-giving force as if it were my own, using God for my ends.

He allows any of these, in his desire for us, his yearning that we freely and hungrily draw near to him and open ourselves to his love, receive it and return it, and allow it to spill out of us to those around us. How will I respond? Will I treat this gift as treasure or trash? Will I hear "well done, good and faithful servant"; or will I hear "depart from me – I never knew you"? It's up to me.

St. James the Apostle Orthodox Church of Taneytown is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. We are the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Christian Church whose roots trace directly back to first century Antioch, the city in which the disciples of Jesus Christ were first called "Christians" (Acts 11:26). The Orthodox Church is the oldest and second largest Christian group in the world. We are called by God our creator to worship and follow Him, and to proclaim to the world His message of love, peace, and salvation.

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THE BOOK OF DAYS

Spectre-dogs



Neither Brand in his Popular Antiquities, nor Sir Walter Scott in his Witchcraft and Demonology, mentions spectre-dogs as a peculiar class of apparitions, yet they seem to occupy a distinct branch of English mythology. They are supposed to exist in one form or another in almost every county, and few kinds of superstition have more strongly influenced the credulous mind. To have the 'black dog on the back' has become a general phrase, though perhaps few who use it have an idea of its origin. The following anecdotes about spectre-dogs will illustrate this phrase, and shew how generally this branch of superstition is received.

According to popular psychology, the subject may be divided into three parts:

- Black dogs, which are really fiends that have assumed the form of dogs;
- The spirits of evil persons, who, as part of their punishment, have been transformed into the appearance of dogs;
- Evil spirits, that to mimic the sports of men, or to hunt their souls, have assumed the form and habits of hounds.

We will begin with the black-dog apparition of fiends who have assumed the appearance of dogs.

In almost every county there is a popular belief in a spectral dog, which, although slightly varying in appearance in different parts, always bears the same general characteristics. It is described as large, shaggy, and black, with long ears and tail. It does not belong to any species of living dogs, but is severally said to resemble a hound, a setter, a terrier, or a shepherd-dog, though often larger than a Newfoundland. It bears different names, but is always alike supposed to be an evil spirit, haunting places where evil deeds have been done, or where some calamity may be expected.

Within the parish of Tring, but about three miles from the town, a poor old woman was, in 1751,

drowned for suspected witchcraft. A chimney-sweep, who was the principal perpetrator of this atrocious deed, was hanged and gibbeted near the place where the murder was effected. While the gibbet stood, and long after it had disappeared, the spot was haunted by a black dog.

We will now give a few instances of human spirits that, as a punishment, have been transformed into similar apparitions.

Lyme-Regis, in Dorsetshire, has a famous story about one of these canine apparitions. About a mile from the town stands a farmhouse, which once formed part of an old mansion that was demolished in the parliamentary wars, except the small portion still existing. The sitting-room now used by the farmer, and also by his predecessors for a century or two, retains the large old-fashioned fireplace, with a fixed seat on each side under the capacious chimney. Many years ago, when the then master of the house, as his custom was after the daily toils were over, used to settle himself on one of these snug seats in the chimney-corner, a large black dog as regularly took possession of the opposite one. For many nights, weeks, and months, this mysterious visitor, sitting vis à vis to the farmer, cast a gloom over his evening enjoyment. At length, as he received no harm from his companion, and became accustomed to his appearance, he began to look on him as one of the family circle. His neighbours, however, often advised him to drive away the fiend-like intruder; but the farmer, not relishing a contest with him, jestingly replied: 'Why should. I? He costs me nothing he eats nothing, he drinks nothing, he interferes with no one. He is the quietest and frugalest creature in the house.'

One night, however, the farmer, having been drinking too freely with a neighbour, and excited by his taunts about the black dog to an unusual degree of irritation, was determined his courage should no more be called in question. Returning home in a rage, he no sooner saw the dog on his usual seat, than,

seizing the poker, he rushed with it towards his mysterious companion. The dog, perceiving his intention, sprang from its seat, and ran up stairs, followed by the infuriated farmer. The dog fled into an attic at the top of the house, and just as the farmer entered the same room, he saw it spring from the floor, and disappear through the ceiling. Enraged at being thus foiled, he struck with the poker the ceiling where the dog had passed through, and down fell a small old-fashioned box, which, on being opened, was found to contain a large sum in gold and silver coins of Charles I's reign.

Lady Howard, a Devonshire notable of the time of James I, was remarkable for her beauty, her wealth, her talents, and accomplishments. But she had many bad qualities. Amongst others, she was unnaturally cruel to her only daughter, and had a bad knack of getting rid of her husbands, having been married no less than four times. At last she died herself, and, for her misdemeanours while living, her spirit was transformed into a hound, and compelled to run every night, between midnight and cock-crowing, from the gateway of Fitzford, her former residence, to Oakhampton Park, and bring back to the place from whence she started, a single blade of grass in her mouth; and this penance she is doomed to continue till every blade of grass is removed from the park, which she will not be able to effect till the end of the world. How these particulars were communicated to our fellow living mortals we are not informed, and, we dare not venture a conjecture.

Our rustic psychologists have been rather more explicit in the following story:

There once lived in the hamlet of Dean Combe, Devon, a weaver of great fame and skill. After long prosperity he died and was buried. But the next day he appeared sitting at the loom in his chamber, working as diligently as when he was 'alive. His sons applied to the vicar, who accordingly went to the foot of the stairs, and heard the noise of the weaver's shuttle in the room above. 'Knowles,' he cried, 'come down; this is no place for thee.' 'I will,' replied the weaver, 'as soon as I have worked out any quill' (the quill is the shuttle full of wool). 'Nay,' said the vicar, 'thou hast been long enough at thy work; come down at once.' So when the spirit came down, the vicar took a handful of earth from the churchyard, and threw it in its face. And in a moment it became a black hound. 'Follow me,' said the vicar, and it followed him to the gate of the wood. And when they came there, 'it seemed as if all the trees in the wood were coming together, so great was the wind.' Then the vicar took a nutshell with a hole in it, and led the hound to the pool below the waterfall. 'Take this shell,' said he, 'and when thou shalt have dipped out the pool with it, thou mayest rest not before!' And at mid-

day and at midnight, the hound may still be seen at its work. It is difficult to understand why the industrious weaver was consigned to such a hopeless doom.

Many spectral dogs, believed to be the souls of wicked persons, are said to haunt the sides of rivers and pools, and sometimes their yelping is so dreadful, that all who hear them lose their senses.

Besides such apparitions of solitary dogs, whole packs of spectral hounds are said to be occasionally heard and seen in full cry in various parts of England and Wales, but chiefly in mountainous districts. Generally, they are only heard, and seem to be passing swiftly along in the air, as if in hot pursuit of their prey; and, though not very high up, yet they cannot be seen, because they generally choose cloudy nights. Why they have anywhere received the name of Gabriel's hounds, appears unaccountable, for they are always supposed to be evil spirits hunting the souls of the dead, or, by their diabolical yelping, to betoken the speedy death of some person.

Many wild and amusing stories are told respecting these aerial hounds. A herdsman was journeying home-ward across the moors of Cornwall one windy night, when he heard at a distance the baying of hounds, which he was not long in recognising to be the dismal yelp of the Devil's Dandy-dogs. He was three or four miles distant from his home; and, much terrified, he hurried onward as fast as the treacherous nature of the soil and uncertainty of the path would allow; but the melancholy yelping of the hounds and the fiendish shout of the hunter came nearer and nearer. After a long run, they appeared so close upon him, that he could not help

turning round to look at them. He was horror-struck, for he could distinctly see the hunter and his dogs. The huntsman was terrible to behold. He was black, had large fiery eyes, horns, a tail, and carried in his clawy-hand a long hunting-pole. The dogs, a numerous pack, blackened the ground as far as it could be seen; each snorting fire, and yelping in the most frightful tone. What was the poor rustic to do? No cottage was near; no rock, no tree to shelter him nothing remained but to abandon himself to the fury of these hell-hounds. Suddenly, a happy thought flashed into his mind. He had been told that no evil spirit can resist the power of prayer. He fell on his knees, and at the first holy words he uttered, the hounds stood still, but yelped more dismally than ever; and the huntsman shouted, 'Bo Shrove!' which 'means,' says the narrator, 'in the old language, the boy prays!' The black huntsman then drew off his dandy-dogs, and the poor herdsman hastened home as fast as his trembling frame permitted.

This, and similar stories, strikingly illustrate the creative power of the imagination when excited by fear. The herdsman's vision existed only in his own mind, induced by the terrifying sound, which, although adapted by his imagination to his previous conceptions of the dandy-dogs, was a reality. For it has been fully and satisfactorily ascertained that the goblin-hounds, which have originated such fanciful legends in almost every county, are merely flocks of wild-geese, or other large migratory birds.

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ECOLOGY

The American Chestnut, lost Appalachian history

Anne Gageby
Environmental Education Manager
Strawberry Hill

The American chestnut blight was one of the most devastating ecological disasters in American history and yet it isn't often spoken of. Despite rich timber barons' bottom lines being severely affected, the blight has become a blip on our timeline, a cautious tale relegated to the back pages of history. Worse still, poor Appalachian families of the day were ravaged by the loss of income, food, and livestock feed. The blight forever changed the landscape and indomitable spirit of Appalachian culture.

The American chestnut was native to the eastern half of the United States, spreading from Alabama up to Maine. Old forestry maps of Pennsylvania and Maryland show vast chestnut territory. This species was known to reach heights of more than 100 feet with trunks wider than a person is tall. These storied trees sound almost mythological when measured against our modern, new growth forests.

These incredible hardwoods were, at one point, one of the country's most important and most abundant trees. Generations of Appalachian settlers depended on the American chestnut for lumber and food. Charlotte Ross, a folklorist at Appalachian State University, put it best when she noted, "Chestnuts defined the region. If ever a region was associated with a tree, then the chestnut was our tree."

The American chestnut is a member of the *Castanea* branch of the beech family. This branch flourishes in the temperate zones of the northern hemisphere. The once grand, towering

American chestnut's scientific name is *Castanea dentata*, so named because the leaves' edges resemble teeth. Like other members of *Castanea*, American chestnuts bear nuts that are high in fiber, low in fat and calories, are good sources of vitamin C, and high in protein. Native Americans and European settlers alike found a consistent supply of food simply by walking into the forest.

Domesticated animals such as hogs and cattle were fed via silvopasturing, meaning they roamed the forests in search of food instead of depending on scraps or premade feed back on the farm. Appalachian pork became well-known for its particularly pleasant taste and quality. Demand increased for this specialty meat which in turn brought in more money and opportunity for farmers even in the most remote areas. Wildlife such as deer, turkey, and squirrel also thrived in chestnut-dense forests. Hunting and trapping supplemented both income and dietary needs. Fortunately, chestnuts are also prolific producers. Unlike oak trees, which may produce an abundance of acorns one year and little the next, chestnuts could be depended upon to produce in abundance year after year.

Another benefit to gathering chestnuts is they require little preparation and handling when it comes to cooking. Chestnuts have an outer shell which can be scored rather easily before boiling, roasting, or being ground into flour. Chestnuts can be eaten raw, though their mealy, sweet meat is generally better when cooked. Compare that to acorns which have stony outer shells requiring special tools and must go through several soak and rinse cycles to be palatable.

Chestnut trees were also a source of medicine for Native American tribes and settlers alike. According to one source*, American chestnuts were noted to produce "Tea of year-old trees for heart trouble; leaves from young sprouts cure old sores, cold bark tea with buckeye to stop bleeding after birth; apply warm galls to make infant's navel recede; boil leaves with mullein and brown sugar for cough syrup; dip leaves in hot water and put on sores."

Combine all of these factors and it becomes quite easy to see how traditionally poor Appalachian communities depended upon this incredible tree for sustenance. And yet, food has been only a small portion of the American chestnut's value.

Chestnuts were hardwoods like oak, walnut, beech, and hickory although generally nowhere near as strong. Nor were chestnut products as refined and beautiful as those made of other hardwoods. Cabinets and furniture made of black walnut, oak, and cherry were arguably more appealing than chestnut. So, what made the chestnut wood desirable? Its versatility. When lumber suppliers ran out of product, American chestnut was a perfectly acceptable substitute.

Many considered it "the perfect tree" because of its durability and abundance. It was a cheaper option for furniture makers who could build tables and desks out of chestnut and finish these items with a fancier wood veneer. It was also much lighter than other hardwoods and therefore was easier to transport at a time when steamships and railways were gaining momentum. The highly acidic tannins in American chestnut guarded the tree against rot which made it ideal



There used to be four billion American chestnut trees, but they all disappeared due to human short-sightedness.

for everything from telegraph poles and railway ties to fences. In a 1915 article, American Forestry noted that these qualities have "given chestnut a greater variety of uses than almost any other American hardwood."

Sometime in the late 1800's, the fungus *Cryphonectria parasitica* was accidentally carried over from Asia. While harmless on Chinese chestnut trees, this fungus proved devastating to American chestnuts causing what we now call the chestnut blight. Eastern American forests, once dominated by this kingly tree, fell victim to the intercontinental pathogen. Within a generation, the landscape of American woodland had completely changed.

According to The American Chestnut Foundation, the chestnut blight is known as the largest ecological disaster of the 20th century. In many ways, it has left an indelible mark on Appalachian memory. Families could no longer count on a fall cash crop of nuts. Larders, which had previously been stocked with piles of chestnut food reserves, stood empty. Animals – wild and domesticated alike – no longer had a much-needed supply of winter nuts. In short order, game populations dwindled to the lowest in recorded history.

Farmers faced extreme loss. They quickly shifted to best accommodate the weakening food supply, but this meant depending more and more on mass-produced foods. Unfortunately, doing so required cash that was no lon-

ger coming in, putting farmers and their families in financial peril. The Appalachian microeconomy came to a grinding halt. The average family size dropped by more than two persons, from 10 persons per household in 1910 to 7.62 persons per household in 1934.

For decades, it seemed as if hope were lost. And yet, there is a tiny ember in the ashes. According to the American Chestnut Foundation, "The American chestnut is not extinct. The blight cannot kill the underground root system as the pathogen is unable to compete with soil microorganisms. Stump sprouts grow vigorously in cutover or disturbed sites where there is plenty of sunlight, but inevitably succumb to the blight. This cycle of death and rebirth has kept the species alive, though considered functionally extinct."

Perhaps in time, scientists will be able to find a way to cultivate a new generation of American chestnuts better suited to fighting off the blight. Until then, let's take a moment to consider what our forests might have looked like a hundred years ago. Imagine the mightiness of those towering, ancient trees. And hold onto the memory of Appalachian settlers who turned hope into opportunity and failure into resilience. In doing so, we'll pull this chapter of American history from the end notes and place it before future generations as a lesson on ecological sustainability.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Black Bears - a sense of wilderness

Tim Iverson
Naturalist

The American Black Bear, the largest animal found in Maryland, exemplifies a sense of wilderness not often seen or felt by many of us. Often a sense of danger and alarm arises if we stumble upon one or discover they live in the area. The reality is that humanity poses far greater danger to them, but here in Maryland they tell a success story of conservation policy and effective natural resource management.

Black bears are found commonly along the East and West coasts, the Appalachians and Rocky Mountain Ranges, Alaska and Canada, and in small pockets in the Southern US. They have the largest geographic range of any bear in North America. Often reclusive, they prefer to avoid contact or confrontation with people. This avoidance helps make them the least dangerous bear in US. Reliable black bear attack statistics are difficult to come. Best estimates put fatalities at close to three per year. You have significantly higher odds of dying from a lightning strike (51 fatalities per year), automobile accidents (30,000+ per year), or dog attacks (average of 20 per year). This avoidant behavior is likely an evolutionary defense mechanism. Black Bears were cohorts of massive and highly aggressive prehistoric animals like Saber-toothed Tigers, Dire Wolves, and Short-Faced Bears. In order to avoid unwinnable confrontations black bears preferred to stay in rocky mountainous terrain covered in thick vegetative cover. By developing their rather timid demeanor they were able to survive for millennia and this behavior still serves them well.

Black bears have hearing and sight comparable to humans, but have a highly developed sense of smell. Their noses are seven times stronger than that of a dog, and can smell food from over a mile away. In the wild they live about 20 years, but in captivity have lived as long as 44 years old. Most of their diet consists of fruits, roots, and plants – berries are a particular favorite. Occasionally, black bears will kill young deer, and regularly scavenge for ants or other insect larva, and fish. They're not above eating trash and carrion, especially after emerging from hibernation.

Before settling in for a long winter's nap, sometime during October or November, black bears need to put on a lot of extra weight. During hibernation they can lose between 20 – 40% of their body weight. Depending on the regional climate hibernation can last from 3 – 8 months. In order to conserve energy body processes and metabolism slows dramatically. The heart rate will drop from 40 – 50 beats per minute to just 8! Hibernation is a great evolutionary adaptation that helps bears survive more difficult colder months where food is

not as abundant. In the deep south, like Florida, Louisiana, and Texas, only pregnant females or mothers with yearling cubs will hibernate. During hibernation the bear's body does some incredible things. While snoozing the bear will retain all excretion and produce a hormone called leptin which suppresses appetite. Pregnant females will also give birth during hibernation.

Mating season for the black bear can run from May to August. During this time black bears (both males and females) will have several different mates. A female will leave scent trails by marking trees, small plants, and more in order to attract a mate. Males will follow these scent trails to find the female bear. Occasionally more than a single male will follow a trail, which leads to a fierce confrontation. After a male does eventually locate the female he will spend several days edging closer and closer to her while she becomes accustomed to his presence. Eventually the two will get close enough and they will begin to nuzzle one another and communicate. It's after this ritual when their relationship is consummated. The male and female will generally spend two to three days in throes of love mating several times. Once their amorous behavior has ceased they will go their separate ways in attempts to find another new suitor. While a female bear may have fertilized eggs they will not develop or attach to the womb until she settles down for hibernation. This evolutionary adaptation of delayed implantation is

unique in the animal world, limited to just about 100 species, and highly useful. It ensures the body of the mother will be viable and healthy enough to support a pregnancy and give birth. It's in late January and February that one to three cubs will be born and will nurse from their mother until they emerge in spring. These cubs will stay with their mother for approximately 12 – 18 months. After this period they will then set out on their own in search of new territory.

In Maryland black bears were nearly extirpated, meaning they were almost driven to extinction here. When the early settlers arrived bears were commonly found throughout the state. Bears were feared to be dangerous, ate crops, and may have been prone to livestock predation. As a result they were hunted widely. Settlers also cleared large amounts of land for commercial and agricultural use reducing the amount of suitable habitat available to them. In 1972 black bears were placed on the Maryland state Endangered Species List. In 1991 there was an estimated 79 bears left in Maryland. Over the course of the subsequent decade's habitat quality and amount increased and regulations protected bears. In 2000 MD Department of Natural Resources conducted a census and estimated there to be 227 bears in the state. By 2005 another assessment was done and the population was estimated at 326 bears within the state. The most recent population survey, conducted in 2011, estimated



While Black Bears tend to stick to the forested areas of the Catoctin Mountains, younger males, in search of new territory, occasionally wander into urban areas.

there to be 701 bears in Maryland. Currently MD DNR estimates there to be over 1000 bears within the state.

In order to help control the population Maryland instituted a managed hunting program to help curb explosive growth. The program was introduced in 2005 and has been very popular and successful in a wildlife management aspect. The annual black bear hunt has very strict guidelines and limits, operates for only a few days, and only a limited number of permits are issued. Annually success rates vary between 5% - 12%, usually averaging about 66 bears harvested annually.

Black bears are generally not considered to be dangerous to people, often fleeing an

area before an encounter occurs. When a human and bear encounter does happen the best thing to do is stand tall and make lots of noise. This frightens the bear and they take flight to avoid an altercation. Black bears are usually only a nuisance to residents by getting into trash and raiding bird feeders. Successful cohabitation can and does occur meaning the future is bright for these symbols of wilderness. By following some basic guidelines like securing trash and giving them a respectful distance and wide berth is generally all that is required to ensure a peaceful and prosperous coexistence.

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SCIENCE MATTERS

One life may comprise many lives

Boyce Rensberger

How is an ant colony like a human body? As far-fetched as this riddle might seem, there are so many similarities that for more than a century biologists have suggested that there are many parallels. They say we can think of an ant colony not as a family of many individual organisms but as a single “superorganism.” In this concept, each ant is like a cell of our body.

In recent years this view was promoted by the late Edward O. Wilson, the Harvard biologist who was the world’s foremost authority on ants and who helped establish the specialty of sociobiology. Scientists in that field argue that the social behavior of animals—that is, how individuals behave when interacting with other individuals—is controlled by genes that have evolved through the same processes of natural selection that shaped body form. Wilson, who died in 2021, also argued that both the human body and the ant colony appear to be governed by similar rules.

In one case, the rules control an early human embryo’s clump of undifferentiated cells as it develops

into a complex organism of many specialized cells. In the other case, similar rules guide the organization of a newly founded ant colony, producing a tightly knit society in which different forms of ants carry out specialized jobs as part of a single colony.

The two processes of development—embryogenesis and sociogenesis—are normally considered unrelated. But Wilson held that evolution, in dealing with similar problems, has converged on similar solutions. His ideas offer a fascinating reminder that, for all the diversity among various forms of life, there is an underlying unity in its fundamental aspects.

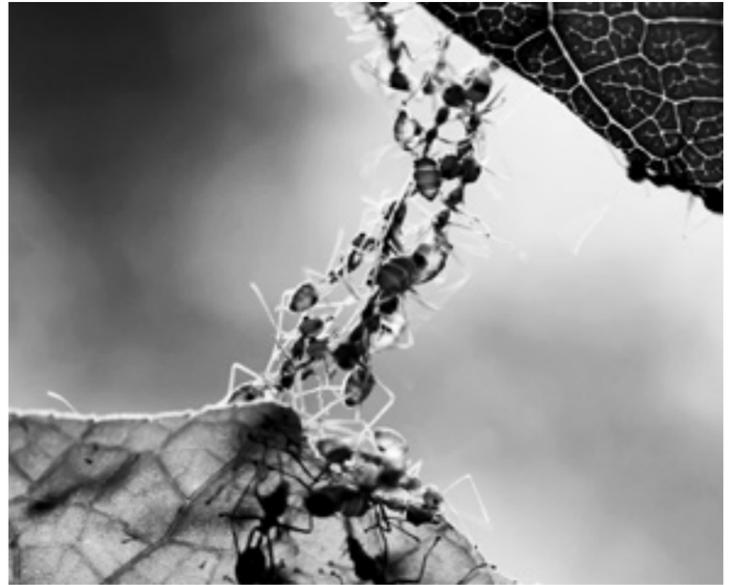
Wilson’s ideas revived a concept that has intrigued biologists for much of a century—that colonies of social insects (ants, bees, and wasps, for example), because they are such rigorously structured organizations of specialized individuals, should be regarded as a “superorganism.” A few years before he died, Wilson elaborated on these ideas in a book with Bert Holldöbler, another biologist, called *The Superorganism: The Beauty, Elegance, and Strangeness of Insect Societies*.

A corollary idea holds that multicelled organisms—such as animals like us—may be thought of as superorganisms made up of many one-celled creatures that have become specialized for different functions. After all, some human cells still resemble free-living microbes: there are white blood cells called macrophages that behave like amoebas, slithering about the body, eating bacteria and other bodily wastes. Sperm cells propel themselves with whiplike flagellae like those of some protozoans. Most cells in our bodies can be extracted and placed in a dish of nutrient broth, whereupon they will revert into an amoebalike shape and begin crawling about, a fully independent organism.

In making his case, Wilson noted first that social insect colonies may be surprisingly large, containing millions of individuals. Single colonies of African driver ants, for example, may contain more than 20 million workers. Within a colony, workers come in many physical forms, called castes, each suited to a different job. If the colony is considered a superorganism, the castes would be analogous to organs. There are “soldier” castes with big heads and powerful jaws that stay near the nest’s entrance to defend against invaders. Other castes leave the nest to forage for food and bring it back to share. Still others stay behind and tend the eggs, or feed the egg-laying queen, or process food so that yet others may feed larvae.

Even the position of the insect in the colony’s elaborately subdivided nest may be fixed. There are, for example, ants that live most of their lives outside the nest, others that perform their jobs in the nest’s more peripheral chambers and still others that remain deep inside, never seeing the light of day. And, like circulatory and nervous systems, there are ants that travel among all the chambers, carrying food or messages. Social insects communicate with one another by releasing odors, called pheromones, a process analogous to the way our cells communicate through the release of hormones.

Among certain termites, specialties exist even within what might be called the colony’s digestive system—castes that gather blades of grass and turn



Anyone who has taken the time to watch ants work together for the common good of their colony can't help thinking that mankind can learn a lot from them.

them over to other specialists that eat the grass, digest it partially and excrete the material onto the colony’s fungus-growing chambers. Workers of various castes that remain inside the nest eat only the excreted material and produce the final feces.

In most ant species the castes differ in form and size, some being as much as 300 times larger than their siblings in other castes. Often workers are so specialized that they lack the abilities of ordinary individual organisms. Nearly all workers, for example, have no reproductive organs, leaving the queen and a few fertile males to function as the colony’s reproductive system.

Underlying a colony’s analogies with an organism, Wilson asserted, is a developmental process that creates a new colony from a mated queen in a way remarkably like the process that produces a new organism from a fertilized ovum. All the cells of an individual organism have identical sets of genes, of course; the differences that give rise to organs arise as cells selectively shut off specific genes and activate others.

In much the same way, all the descendants of the queen are as alike genetically as the cells of any one of us humans and yet develop into ants of many different sizes, shapes, and behaviors.

The first offspring of a new queen tend to be much alike, but as she lays more eggs and enlarges the nest, the specialties appear, the result of such factors as differences in the size of the egg, the kind of food given to larvae, chemicals secreted by adult members

of the colony, and the age of the individual. Some workers pass through different castes as they mature. Over time, the nest becomes more complex architecturally and the social relationships among individuals grow more interdependent. A human embryo is much the same.

Wilson’s assertions about developmental rules were the result of experiments on ant colonies he kept in his laboratory, where I visited numerous times. By manipulating the colonies—removing an entire caste, for example, or changing the population ratios of one caste to another—Wilson was able to study how the colony responds.

Such experiments are like those of embryologists when they tinker with an animal embryo to learn when and how a cell becomes specialized and whether a specialized cell can revert and change into a different cell type—perhaps even go back to being a stem cell—to rebuild damaged tissue.

The rules that have emerged are complex but, in general, they reveal that embryogenesis and sociogenesis are the result of evolution arriving at the most efficient patterns of information processing.

Boyce Rensberger retired to New Midway after more than 40 years as a science writer and editor, mostly for *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Write him at boycerensberger@gmail.com.

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O, hard tack, come again no
more!*

The offspring tells me songs trigger stories that play out in video form in his mind. I figure him growing up on video games and movies more than books and storytelling has something to do with the way his mind works. In my case, a song is more likely triggered by something I've read or seen. "Hard Crackers" (first stanza and chorus opening of this meander) sprang to mind after a friend asked me where he could get bulgur flour.

Bulgur is one of the flours I've heard of, but never explored. A little research into bulgur flour and I find it's merely a whole wheat grain that's been parboiled and dried. Seems to me a sprouted wheat would be of more benefit, but what do I know?

Anyhow, I asked why someone avoiding wheat carbs would be wanting bulgur, or any other such grains.

"I've got a survival foods book that recommends bulgur wheat for making hard tack." Comes the reply.

Hard tack triggers the Civil War parody of Stephen Foster's song "Hard Times". Down the prepper/survivalist rabbit hole I race! Though it's not as if I haven't been looking into stockpiling some basic food stuffs. Especially after Covid knocked us down and the DW and I both lost 10-pounds from not eating even when we were up to actually cooking- everything tasted like salt! (Canned foods that don't require heating are now on hand against another bout of the engineered virus.)

A few hours online reading about the how and why of hard tack had me considering putting by a few pounds of the "tooth breakers" against the bad days I suspect are coming, but hope they won't. I began with the simplest of recipes:

240 grams -Whole Meal Flour
175 milliliters -Water

Mix, roll out about 1/2" thick, cut into cracker sized pieces, prick with fork tines, place on a baking sheet. Bake at 375-F for 30 minutes. Reduce heat to 350-F. Flip crackers, continue baking for 30 minutes. Cool on wire rack and keep in an air tight container.

I was pleasantly surprised by the flavor- almost nutty. Hmm... what if I add rye flour? Or some on the powdered sweet potato I recently made? I took samples of three variations to my prepper friend. Other variations are in the works.

Rusk is another flour based food I read about when first trying to get a hold on my bobble-headed diet. And as it happened, I found a twisty tied plastic bag containing several challah slices I planned to use for French toast. The bag was buried under empty bags on a downstairs kitchen counter. I'd dried and bagged the bread a year and a half ago!

"Ah HA!" I waved the brittle slices over my head.

"You're not going to eat that are you?" The DW had her 'resigned' look firmly in place.

The bread had a crisp snap to it when I broke off a piece. No mold. Smelled like challah, but the flavor wasn't what I expected- slightly sour. Then again, it's been so long since I made the bread I've forgotten which recipe I used and how it had tasted when first sliced, and Covid seems to have changed my senses of smell and taste in ways I'm still discovering.

"That bread made the best French toast I've ever eaten." The DW frowned. "But I'm not eating that!"

Meh. I know the bread will keep at least a year if dried out completely and sealed in an airtight container. Rusk, what little of it that is available in this country is usually sold as melba toast, croutons and biscotti- none of which are of interest to me. Not when there's cake rusk to be explored!

While the expanding possibilities of survival hard tack and rusk string out before me the preppers I often chat with remind me of two other items I should give serious thought to- Water and Defense.

"How many gallons of water do you use per day?" A homesteader poses.

"Umm..."

"May the gods help you! 'Cause I live too far away to do it!"

Friend prepper, he shakes his head, amazed I haven't considered this- "Okay. Let's say you have enough food put by to last six months of a serious food shortage. Do you have firearms?"

If not, get some. And bullets. Thousands of bullets. Why? Because all you've done otherwise is create a food supply for anyone willing to violently take it from you."

Doh. What I have considered is what happens when the power goes off. We no longer have a wood burning stove to heat the house and cook on. I recently showed the DW a camp stove we could afford and store until needed. However, neither of us believes things will get that bad before something besides an economic collapse brings about an end to our mundane toil.

As Puck says, "Lord, what fools these mortals be" given even the government has been urging us to prepare for a food shortage. (Brought on by the World Economic Forum's Great Reset?)

How do we survive if we can't get the drugs and supplements that treat what ails us? What becomes of flushable waste when there's no water to flush with, and worse! the pumps no longer move the waste to the treatment plant? (Gods have mercy on those at the low end of those sewage lines!)

I'm old enough to remember carrying the outhouse buckets to grandfather's compost heap. One of my sisters cooked for a time with a wood-fired stove. I've sipped water from a creek cows used as a toilet- I seriously do not recommend doing that! Having occasionally lived without the conveniences we now call necessities has not prepared me for living as my grandparents once did. Which brings to mind the last verse of Hard Crackers:



Jack would appear more menacing if the guns were not made of plastic.

*But to all these cries and mur-
murs, there comes a sudden
hush
As frail forms are fainting by the
door;
For they feed us now on horse feed
that the cooks call mush!
O, hard tack, come again once more!*

*'Tis the dying wail of the starving:
"O, hard tack, hard tack, come
again once more!"
You were old and very wormy, but
we pass your failings o'er.
O, hard tack, come again once
more!*

I'll be heating the upstairs come late autumn by making hard tack in case the world comes to the scarcity times my parents and grandparents lived through. The unprepared can have the insects I'm hearing may soon be the peasants ration. Bon appétit!

I'll be singing (off key) "O, hard tack, come again once more!" between mouthfuls of hard tack and the home canned soups we're squirreling away.

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

THE MASTER GARDENER

Fall insects

Mary Ann Ryan
Adams County Master Gardener

This time of year, we see many types of insects that feed on our trees, shrubs, vegetables and flowers. We worry that the impact of the feeding will affect our plants.

Here are some common insects we will see in the landscape, what injury they may cause, and what, if anything, we need to do to control them.

Fall webworm - this insect, or should I say, nest of insects, create a huge web in trees and sometimes shrubs. They are not very selective as to the type of trees they “nest” in, but typically birch, nut trees, and cherry trees seem to be a good choice for them. As they grow, their web increases in size, covering more leaves. Inside the nest you will find the caterpillars, leaf parts, and fecal matter.

These critters overwinter in debris in the ground, grass, and soil crevices in the pupae stage.



Fall webworm caterpillars produce a web of fine silk over terminal branches. They only feed inside the web, which they enlarge as they grow. The caterpillars rarely consume enough terminal growth to affect the tree.

The moths appear in June and begin to lay their eggs. The eggs hatch in about a week, and as the caterpillars begin to grow, they begin to spin a web as they feed.

By August and September, they are very noticeable, as the size of these nests can be quite large.

Although they do eat quite of bit of foliage, and look rather ugly, the control is to cut the nest out of the trees. The damage to the plants is rather late in the summer and early fall, just about the time the trees are ready to start shedding their leaves. The damage isn't fatal to the trees, and if you can put up with the webbing, let the caterpillars for the birds to enjoy.

If you do need to control these insects, spray the webs with an insecticide labeled for fall webworm. Only spray the webs, not the entire tree.

Harlequin beetles have made an appearance over the past several years on our vegetable crops, particularly our fall crops like those in the brassica family. These crops include cabbage, broccoli, turnips and Brussel sprouts. Other crops they may like to feed on include kale, and if the brassicas aren't available, they have been seen on toma-



Known for their orange-and-black and red-and-black patterns, the Harlequin Bug is a common pest of many vegetables. But if you don't have a vegetable garden, they are harmless and serve as a food source for birds!

atoes, potatoes, beans and asparagus.

These insects overwinter as adults. When the weather begins to warm up in the spring, they begin to emerge. Although they do feed on the early crops, typically the numbers are low. However, they have two to three generations a year, which is why our fall crops have heavy infestations.

The best control is to clean up debris in the fall, reducing overwintering sites, and smash eggs as they appear. As in any vegetable crop, scouting is the most important activity in any insect or disease control.

Although we are at the tail end of the feeding of the orangestriped oakworm, this caterpillar is often mistaken for the gypsy moth (now called spongy moth). Unlike the spongy moth, this oakworm feeds in late summer, not spring. They do make a mess of patios, driveways, cars – anything that is under the oak tree that they are feeding on. Their window of damage is about one month, and they can defoliate a tree rather quickly.

They overwinter as pupae, and adults emerge in June-July. This native caterpillar has only one generation per year, and after feeding, the caterpillars drop to the ground and look for a comfy place to pupate and ride out the winter.

Since their damage is late in the season, long term damage to the trees is minimal, therefore, control measures are only necessary if the owner of the trees deem it necessary. Using an insecticide labeled for orangestriped oakworm can be used on the insects. If using BT, use early in the feeding stage for best control.

Grub damage is often noticed in September. Calls come into the office when folks see large patches of dead grass, that lifts in sheets, due to the roots eaten away. Often an analogy of “rolling carpet” is used when describing this damage.

When the grass is lifted, large grubs are seen. Unfortunately, by this stage the grubs have done their damage and have very full bellies, and very hard to control. Their next steps are to bury into the soil to overwinter. They come up to the surface in the spring, feed for a very short time and pupate. Then in late June they hatch into beetles – Japanese beetles mostly – and begin to feed on plants like roses, crabapples and such. They are not very selective, and although they do have preferences, will feed on most anything. I've seen them munching on ferns! After the beetles mate, the females will lay their eggs in the soil. Drier summers will mean less eggs that survive, moist soils are ideal for the eggs to make it to hatch.

This is the point that the grubs should be controlled. In late July, after the eggs have hatched, grubs are very easy to control. Look on labels for grub control. Follow the instructions and apply in late July for best control. As with any control, there are organic methods as well.

Cabbage worm becomes quite a pest in the vegetable garden in the fall. Not only do fall crops have to shake off the harlequin beetles, but the cabbage worms will skeletonize a broccoli leaf in pretty short order.

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THE MASTER GARDENER

These critters require scouting and smashing the worms when seen. Probably one of the best methods to control these guys is by using row covers. This does not allow the moth to lay her eggs on the plant, thus reducing the feeding of the caterpillar. When you see the little white butterflies hanging around your vegetable garden, beware! They are looking for an optimum place to deposit their eggs.

The Brassica family are all susceptible to the worm. Broccoli, cabbage, Brussel sprouts, and cauliflower all can be eaten by this critter. Kale also becomes a target for this insect.

The cicada killer, a large wasp invokes many questions this time of year. As the annual cicadas sing, the female cicada killer will attack these

insects, injecting their stinger into the cicada's body, paralyzing them. They carry the cicadas back to their nest in the ground for the young to feed.

The females have the stingers, the males do not. These wasps are docile, unless intimidated. They do bury into the soil to create a nesting site for the eggs. Each chamber underground has an egg with a few cicadas for the new larvae to feed when it hatches. These are solitary bees, so when you would see a hole in the ground or in your turf, it's likely to be one female providing food for the larvae.

The damage that we typically see are holes in the turf or soil – sandy in texture, easy to dig. Unless the wasps are in a high traffic area, typically it is recommended to let them alone, since aggression is not their

motto. Unlike hornets or other wasps, they just go about their business, without troubling anyone. If control is needed, applications of insecticides directly into the holes are best to manage the wasp.

As you see insects this fall, fig-

ure out what they are before applying insecticides. From this short list, you can see that some of these critters are bad and need to be controlled, others are not. Scout your yard and garden for problems. Things seen early can often

be managed before they turn into a real problem.

Enjoy the garden.

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

Small Town Gardener

Searching for inspirations

Marianne Willburn

One of the many reasons that I keep so many books on gardening in my own personal library is to search for inspiration on those difficult days when I can't seem to find the motivation to pick up a trowel. These moments happen more often than one would think – yet even the books pale sometimes and I am forced to look beyond the written word to inspirational public gardens for a glimmer of motivation during a disappointing season.

If you stay fairly close to home, you are guaranteed an objective look at how such gardens have dealt with many of the problems you face in your garden – albeit with a staff of fresh-faced interns and well-tanned curators roaming their manicured hills and dales.

I've had a few of these moments this season, more than a few if I'm being completely truthful. Oldmeadow has seen its share of hardship over the last few months - voracious insects, punishing heat and a ridiculous travel schedule have pushed this particular gardener to her breaking point. The weeds are shamefully high and I confess to an apathy that has infected me to the core - much like the blight settling into one of my tomato plants.

Fortunately, there are many gardens to choose from in this area, and to cure my lack of enthusiasm and general malaise, I went with two old favorites – Monticello and Mt. Vernon. I am aware that most people visit these two standards for the grand homes involved as well

as a glimpse into the lives of two great statesmen and defenders of liberty, Thomas Jefferson and George Washington. But when I visit, my mission is very different. It is to see the gardens of two gentleman farmers of the early nineteenth century.

For Monticello and Mt. Vernon were not merely the country estates of the landed gentry, they were working farms – experimental farms. Both Jefferson and Washington considered themselves to be farmers and as such, used many different methods of propagation and planting; sketching plans and devising better ways of farming, both for the good of their farms and the good of a growing nation.

Both estates sit high on a hill, yet both use their space quite differently. Though he had much land dedicated to vegetable propagation, Washington obviously appreciated the beauty of flowers, devoting a great amount of energy and square footage to well planned cutting and ornamental gardens. And, although stressed by a lack of moisture and a hot environment this year, these gardens were still beautiful, rendering a good argument for structure in the garden. When flowers dry up and foliage refuses to put on a little makeup, a pleasing structure to the garden can help one recognize the potential of a space and look beyond a disappointing season.

The same is true at Monticello, where an expansive vegetable garden flanked on the south by fig groves and stone and pome fruit orchards is impressively laid out – gorgeous throughout the winds of March as well as the soft rains of June. I did pull one of those fresh-faced interns aside at one point to

enquire as to watering methods – the vegetables looked suspiciously fresh and healthy and I had a hard time believing that traditional methods of dip and pour were being utilized in the early mornings.

After interrogation, the suspect confessed to an overhead sprinkler, hidden from view and turned on to provide crops with a safe inch of water every week. The information was reassuring to me, as I thought of my beleaguered tomatoes at home, dependant on a gravity feed rain barrel and the vagaries of a weary caretaker tired of the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune.

Both men suffered disappointments in the garden – loss of crops, lack of rain, diseases for which there was no nineteenth century cure, yet they persevered, intent on finding better crops, better methods, and better ways of enjoying their common lifelong passion.

So I found my inspiration in the end. The trouble is, it has more to do with the promise of next year's garden than the remnants of this one, but I think either man would have understood my desire to start over. As Jefferson said near the end of his life, "No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden."

I couldn't have said it better myself.

Marianne is the author of *Tropical Plants and How To Love Them* and *Big Dreams, Small Garden*. You can find her at MarianneWillburn.com.

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PETS

I was only a stop off in her life

Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley
Animal Shelter

They say I saved her. The folks at the shelter. They say if I hadn't fostered her and bottle fed her, she likely wouldn't have survived. If being a savior is supposed to be so noble, why does being a foster parent hurt so very much?

Oh, she was so small when she came to me. The runt of the litter. A tiny little ball of black fluff and she was having trouble gaining weight. Her mom was such a mess when she gave birth at the shelter. She'd been a stray, a pup on the street, on her own, fighting for scraps. That's no way to nurture unborn puppies.

In retrospect, it was probably lucky any of them survived to even be born.

The folks at the shelter knew that the littlest one was in trouble and needed that extra touch, so they called me. They knew I would help. I bottle fed her, tried to get her to eat almost anything. I just knew she needed nourishment and tried to entice her with so many different things.

It was touch and go there for a while. We were consulting with vets almost on a daily basis. The little girl was on all kinds of medications just to try to keep her going. On more than one occasion, I really thought we were going to lose her.

She went practically everywhere with me. She had to. Thankfully I was able to take her to work with me and my co-workers were more than happy to help me. She kind of became the glue that held a lot of us together. Everyone wanted to greet her and see how she was doing.

Eventually, thankfully, she got stronger. Better. Healthier.

She was able to eat puppy food and started playing and acting like a regular, happy four-legged baby. And she started growing. It was difficult for me to notice it because I was with her every day, but people who hadn't seen her for stretches of time would remark on how well she had filled out and how big she was getting.

Her ears even started to stand completely upright. It was so amazing to see her mature into the pup I knew she would become. I'm so grateful that my canine bunch at the house got along so well with her. Sure, they'd roll her from time to time because she

was so small and they are such big lummoxes who I swear don't know how far their own feet can go, but she'd jump right back up and hop around and play.

She was a real treasure.

And because we were together so long and because I would feed her, she started to look at me as Mom. I know she did. She was so tiny when we took her away from her actual Mom, she had no other frame of reference.

Foster parents of animals in shelters give animals a true second chance and in return they get absolute, unconditional love.

She would recognize my voice and get so excited just to hear me talk. Sometimes she would whine if she could hear me but I didn't stop in to see her. It really warmed my heart. She was mine in so many ways.

At first we thought we would wait to spay her until she was a little older than they normally do at the shelter because of her rough start in life, but she did so well and grew so fast, we took a chance. She came through with flying colors and that's when the people at the shelter started talking about putting her up for adoption.

She was so incredibly adoptable. I knew this, even going in. First, she's a puppy and just so adorable. She had the perfect personality – she loved absolutely everyone. She was so used to a life with other animals, she would fit into practically any home.

I have a canine group of my own at home who need me and I know that. They're getting older and they have their pack and she was only supposed to be temporary. A foster. I knew all this going in. I did.

It's just. When the day came that I said goodbye to her and sent her off with her new family, I just. I don't know how to explain it.

I helped get her situated in the

back of the car and she turned around. Why did she have to turn around? She turned around and looked at me with those gorgeous brown eyes of hers and I know, I swear I just know, she was saying, "Come on, Mom. Where are we going with these folks?"

Shutting that door may have been one of the hardest things I've ever done.

I wanted so badly to tell her – so that she would understand – that I was only a stop off in her life. I was a transition, just to make her well, get her better, get her on her feet, so she could have a happy life with another family. I wanted so very much to make her understand that it wasn't because I didn't love her – my God, it was never that – but because I loved her so much that I took on the responsibility of having her in my life.

All I can do is pray that her new Mom and Dad will love her as much as I have. That she will bring them as much joy as she did me. That they will know how truly special this little girl is and was to so many people before she came into their lives.

I want nothing but the best for her. I always did. Good luck, my sweet girl. You meant more to me than you will likely ever know.

Foster parents at Animal Shelters truly save lives, whether it's puppies, kittens, dogs or cats. We know how tough it can be for the foster parents to say goodbye, but for the animals they save, they give them a true second chance and absolute, unconditional love.

To become a foster parent, contact your local animal shelter today.

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



Spring is a super sweet girl that arrived at the shelter as a stray, so we don't know a lot about her past. We think she's about 10 months old and is a Spitz mix. Spring is a happy, athletic girl that would do best in an active home. She loves attention and would love to find her loving forever home soon! Spring must meet all family members that reside in the home. Do you have the right spot for this sweet girl?



Instagram was brought into the shelter as a stray with her brother, Facebook. We named them. Get it? Heel! Instagram is a sweet girl who can be a little shy at first. Once she knows you, though, she loves to play and keeps an eye on everything that's going on. Instagram would love to find out what a loving forever home is all about! Could you show her?



Let's talk about Davidson. This 4-month-old orange-and-white boy came into the shelter as a stray and is a ton of fun. He loves to play and drown his toys in his water and he purrs like a madman. If you are looking for an awesome feline companion, this guy could be it. Come in to meet Davidson soon!



Benji was surrendered to the shelter when her family no longer had time for her. She is a 9-month-old super sweet girl who does not mind being held, but would rather have her feet on the ground like most other rabbits. Benji enjoys apple pieces and bananas. She has been spayed since she arrived at the shelter and would love to find a forever home soon.

For more information about Spring, Instagram, Davidson, and Benji call the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit them online at www.cvaspets.org or better yet, visit them in person at the shelter.

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

petco foundation

Tiger



Bethany Davidson
FCAC Human Educator

In the pet adoption world you often see or hear the phrase “looking for a special adopter.” In the case of nine-year-old Tiger, we’re not just looking for a special adopter, but an extraordinary one. The person or family who brings Tiger into their home not only needs to be willing to provide him specialized medical care but also needs to accept fact that this wonderful feline won’t be a part of their family for as long as they’d like.

After a period of vomiting and weight loss, our medical team did blood work on the grey tabby which revealed that he has Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD). Despite being treated for the condition since his diagnosis in early July, Tiger is continuing to decline. As a result, we would like to find a loving hospice adopter or foster for this sweet

senior to spend his remaining weeks, months or year in.

Tiger takes a little time to settle in to new environments, but once he’s home this dashing senior is quite the lover. He is quick to jump into a lap where he’ll soak up all the affection you have to give and reward you with lots of purrs and little...ok, a lot... of drool. He just can’t seem to get enough affection. His other hobbies include napping in his big, cozy bed and exploring his environment being sure to rub his scent on everything. For the most part Tiger is known as an easy going guy, but he definitely has an independent streak and isn’t afraid to do a bit of grumbling when he’s annoyed.

In addition to all of his other great qualities, Tiger is cat friendly. He arrived at FCAC with his housemate Neri who is also looking for a forever home. We’re sure the beautiful 11-year-old female would be happy to be back with

her younger brother.

Currently Tiger lives in the kitty kabana with sisters Dorothy and Blanche. He’s happy to be with them. The girls on the other hand are not so impressed. With proper introductions, Tiger will likely do well with any new feline friends.

According to the Cornell Feline Health Center, chronic kidney disease is the most common kidney related illness that affects cats. CKD “is the persistent loss of kidney function over time.”

Without decreased kidney function, cats with CKD are unable to properly filter out waste products and impurities from their bodies. As a result, the buildup makes them “feel ill and appear lethargic, unkempt, and lose weight.” While there is no cure for this illness, there are treatments that can both prolong and improve the quality of a cat’s life. Most of these are related to diet. For a period of time Tiger was on a prescription kidney diet, but he just didn’t like it. He wasn’t eating and was losing weight so we decided to give Tiger all the yummy food he likes and continue with supportive care letting him live his best life for whatever time he has left.

Right now, supportive care for Tiger means receiving fluids twice per week. Our staff are willing and able to show anyone who steps forward to provide hospice care for Tiger how to do this. Tiger takes it like a champ. Other than the fluids and follow up blood work, taking care of Tiger is just like caring for any other cat. Those adopting would need to follow up with their veterinarian. For those willing to provide foster care, medical follow ups would be done with Frederick County Animal Control.

We would love to get this sweet senior into a loving and less stressful environment for whatever time he has left. However, if hospice cannot be found, Tiger will remain here at FCAC with staff and volunteers as his family and Dorothy and Blanche as his feisty kitty kabana roommates. When the time comes, when Tiger is no longer enjoying time spent on laps and tasty tuna, we will help him peacefully cross the rainbow bridge.

Dirty Dawg gets the down and dirty

To a crowd of community support, Thurmont Plaza adds a canine destination with the Dirty Dawg self-serve dog wash August 15.

Becky and Tim Clarke opened the doggy spa as a way to bring convenience to fellow dog owners.

Living on a farm, the Dirty Dawg was born out of necessity for the Clarke family’s own dog’s dirty paws

Through raising boxers and traveling to dog shows, the Clarks know the importance of quick and convenient dog grooming locations. The Clarks said they had seen similar businesses when traveling with their show dogs but never in the Thurmont area.

The ideal do-it-yourself (DIY) dog wash is designed for owners and their four-legged friends to get in and get out quick, Becky said.

Many dog owners do not prefer to wash their dogs at home due to the mess and time, and the Dirty Dawg now gives owners options

and expediency, she said.

The highlight of the do-it-yourself dog wash is the convenience, especially for nervous dogs, having the owner perform the wash helps put the pooch at ease and is more comfortable for everyone, according to Becky. “And we clean up the mess,” she said.

The home away from home canine spa center has three wash stations for all types of canines as well as a pet supply shop with a unique selection of food, treats, supplements, toys, and more.

Self-serve washes are 15 dollars each for all breeds and sizes.

The whole family has been involved with the business including daughter Taylor spearheading marketing and social media. Their first business, the Clarks have been met with overwhelming support from the entire community “It’s been an experience,” Tim said.

More information about the Dirty Dawg can be found at the-dirtydawgwash.com



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The 160th Great Frederick Fair lineup

Jacqui Michaels
The Great Fredrick Fair

The 160th Great Frederick Fair will be here before you know it, starting Friday, Sept. 16th and running straight through Saturday, Sept. 24th. Nine straight days of fun and education, boasting the largest agricultural classroom, community event and carnival. Start planning your visit for the exciting carnival rides, great fair foods and to watch farm animals on display or in competition.

The Fair kicks off on Friday at 5 p.m. on both the carnival side as well as the agricultural side. This night features Horse Barrel Racing in the Elm St. Development, Ryan Homes, NV Homes Infield Arena. At 7 p.m. The Agricultural Awards Ceremony will be held in Building 32, the South Mountain Creamery Large Livestock Arena. Come help honor 2022's award recipients in the following categories: Farm Family, Agri-Business, Ag-Advocate, Young Farmer and Top Ag Professionals. And on the Visit Frederick Grandstand Stage, the nights musical entertainment is Chris Tomlin with special guest, Jon Reddick, sponsored by The Mercer Family beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Buildings will open to the public at 9 a.m. each day except for Saturday, September 17th when the Youth Building will not open until approximately 3 p.m. to allow for

judging of the baked goods and farm products.

Speaking of baked goods, come out to support the Youth Exhibitors as well as the Agriculture Education Programming by attending the Youth Cake Auction on Sunday, September 18th at 5 p.m. in Building 18, the Southside Tire and Auto Show Arena. Who will take home this year's Grand Champion Cake?

We have a newly expanded Kid Zone that is completely free and offers. There is plenty of seating in the Kid Zone for you to rest or grab a bite to eat while your children are enjoying themselves.

President Charles Cramer shared, "Our goal is to provide safe, enjoyable and educational experiences for all fairgoers. I'd love to see families make our Fair their annual tradition as I have with my own."

The Great Frederick Fair hosts more than 400 youth exhibitors showing 10 species, as well as, building entries. 125 additional livestock exhibitors show in open class competition.

"I'm thankful to be part of an organization that exists and strives to teach the public about the industry of agriculture and provides so many educational opportunities for our youth including the ability to showcase their projects at our annual Fair," says General Manager, Karen Nicklas.

One new addition this year is the Fleece Division where Frederick

County residents can bring in fleeces from their sheep, goats and camelids to compete for awards. "There will be hands-on demonstrations on making felted rugs with the fiber from these animals. This new division highlights the importance of our local shepherds producing fiber for both the hand spinner, knitting and crocheting community as well as the commodity market. Think of our fiber as a crop that we harvest annually just like corn, beans and wheat" says Patricia Sanville of Budding Creek Farm, Fair Superintendent and Member of the Maryland Sheep Breeders.

There are approximately 10,000 items entered in the Household and Farm and Garden Buildings. Exhibitors compete for ribbons, prizes, and bragging rights. Enter your items and be part of the Fair's 160-year tradition of keeping Frederick County Agriculture thriving!

From Carnival rides; games and treats to the Fair's home arts, farm and garden exhibits; livestock and horse shows; the Birthing Center; live horse racing; live concerts; Homegrown Frederick Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries Showcase; the Michelob Ultra Beer Garden, Commercial and Non-profit organization exhibits - there literally is something for everyone at The Great Frederick Fair!

The entertainment lineup is packed with music & motorsports:

- The Concert Series - every night at 7:30



There literally is something for everyone at The Great Frederick Fair!

- Friday, 9/16: Chris Tomlin w/ special guest Jon Reddick
- Saturday, 9/17 - Clay Walker w/special guest Kylie Frey
- Sunday, 9/18 - Joan Jett & The Blackhearts
- Thursday, 9/22 - I Love the 90's Tour
- Friday, 9/23 - Brent Cobb w/ special guest Elizabeth Cook
- Saturday, 9/24 - Ron White
- The Motorsports' Series
- Monday, 9/19 - Tractor and Truck Pull at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, 9/20 - Demolition Derby-Cars at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, 9/21 - Demolition Derby-Trucks/Vans at 7 p.m.

Rides are individually priced, but you can buy a Jack Pass online for \$30 which is good for 1 gate admission and 1 all-you-can ride wristband good for any one day of the Fair.

Senior Citizens get in free on Monday 9/19 & Wednesday 9/21 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. All Active-Duty Military in uniform or with valid military ID pay no admission, on Wednesday 9/21 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. All youth under the age of 18 will be admitted for free from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday 9/23.

As in past fairs, enter an item in the Household Building or Farm & Garden Building, pay a \$10 Entry Fee and you will receive a Season Strip Pass.

Admission to the fair is \$10 for adults 11 and older, children 10 and under are free. (Advanced Online Gate Admission is \$8). Carnival

For more information on The Great Frederick fair visit www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.

The Great Frederick Fair

Sept 16-24

BE AN EXHIBITOR

Enter 1 to 3 items in the Household or Farm & Garden Building, pay \$10 and receive 1 Daily Admission pass good for all 9 days of the Fair

AND saves \$80

you could win ribbons and prize money for your entries!

SAVE TIME... BUY ONLINE

\$10 Gate Admission for age 11 and up: \$8.00 (Saves \$2)

BUY ANYTIME, even during the fair

Ages 10 and under are always free

9 day parking pass \$36 (Saves \$9)

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Buy your Jack Pass now...

\$30

1 Gate Admission

1 Unlimited Ride Wristband

Valid Any 1 Day (Even Kids Day)

Promotion ends First Friday at 5:00 p.m.

GFFair.com

2022 Event Series

9.16	Chris Tomlin Jon Reddick
9.17	Clay Walker Kylie Frey
9.18	Joan Jett & The Blackhearts
9.19	Tractor Pull
9.20	Demolition Derby - Cars
9.21	Demolition Derby - Trucks, Vans, Figure 8s
9.22	I Love the 90's Vanilla Ice • Coolio • Rob Base • Tone Loc Montell Jordan • Young MC
9.23	Brent Cobb Elizabeth Cook
9.24	Ron White

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- MILKING PARLOR
- FARM & GARDEN BUILDING
- POULTRY BARN
- HARNESS RACING
- AND MUCH MORE

For a complete list of events go to GFFair.com/SOE

HISTORY

The Emmitsburg Railroad, 1875 – 1940

Louis O'Donoghue

Dedicated to my Great Grandfather, John Donoghue

Chapter 5 Layout Of The Right Of Way

Travelers from Baltimore, going to the west, crossed the broad rolling hills of the Piedmont Plateau of Central Maryland until they approached the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The first of these hills is an almost imperceptible ripple called Rocky Ridge. Rocky Ridge is a ridge that traverses north from the Monocacy River at Owing Creek to the town of Emmitsburg. The Emmitsburg Railroad is built atop this ridge. The stony spine of the ridge makes a firm and stable foundation for a good railroad bed.

In 1867 Joseph Gitt carried out his preliminary survey for the ERR right of way. He determined that the top of the ridge provided a better footing for a railroad bed being that it was slightly raised from the local streams and wet lands. It followed the old Ridge Road on broad rolling Rocky Ridge. The railroad ran south out from the town of Emmitsburg. The town is situated at the base of the foothills of the Catocin Mountains, almost due south across the gently rolling tablelands of the upper Piedmont Plateau that were dissected by incised streams, to Rocky Ridge where it connected to the Eastern Division of the Western Maryland Railway (WMRR). A profile drawing showing

elevations taken from US Geological Service topographic maps shows that the right of way was remarkably flat, having a total rise of only about eighty feet. In railroad parlance this is known as an 'air line,' being almost level and with gentle curves. The elevation of the station at Emmitsburg was just 14 feet above the station at Rocky Ridge.

The land for the ERR's right of ways traversed 17 different properties as it traveled south to connect at the junction with the WMRR at Rocky Ridge.

The line begins at the Rocky Ridge Junction and go north 7.3 miles to the Emmitsburg Station. The town of Emmitsburg is clustered about the intersection of old route 15 (now route 806) and route 140.

The ERR provided rail service to Saint Joseph Academy campus as well as the Academy's Siding, Dry Bridge Stop (Long's), Motter Station, Davidson's Stop, Appolds Stop and Rocky Ridge Stations.

The line of the ERR survey followed the old Rocky Ridge Road which had been built on the top of the ridge of the same name. The ridge extended north from the Monocacy River at Owings Creek up and east of Emmitsburg. Also shown are the approximate alignments of the WMRR that was built in 1870. The ERR wasn't surveyed until 1870, the road bed was built in 1871. ERR began in 1875.

The ERR Station and freight yard was situated two blocks south of the center of the town square on the east

side of the road. The station was a wooden frame building, with a large over hanging roof, and was 30 X 65 feet. It sat between two sets of tracks and had two 70-foot long platforms. There was a 40 X 60-foot hay shed, five 10 X 10-foot coal bins, a 90-foot-long train shed, and a platform scales. The station building was torn down in 1941. The ERR Station was located just south of Willow Rill (a small draw) which flowed from the west and emptied into Flat Run. Between the location of the station in Emmitsburg and the bridge that crosses Toms Creek, which flows to the east, the land required a long cut as the railroad ran out from town and past the foot of the Avenue leading to St. Joseph's Academy. This cut was completely filled in about 1940.

The passenger station was in the southern end of the building. Boyle Brother had a warehouse in the north end of the station, hay shed and five coal bins were h a few feet to the north. Emmitsburg High School is to the west. The town square is to the north. A buried four-inch water pipe line cuts southeast to the Sisterhood.

As the tracks leave the ERR station they head south into a shallow cut. Between the location of the station in Emmitsburg and the bridge that crossed Toms Creek, which flowed to the east, the land rose no more than 10 to 15 feet. However, this rise required a cut about 1000 feet long and from a few feet to 10 or 12 feet deep as the railroad run out from town and past

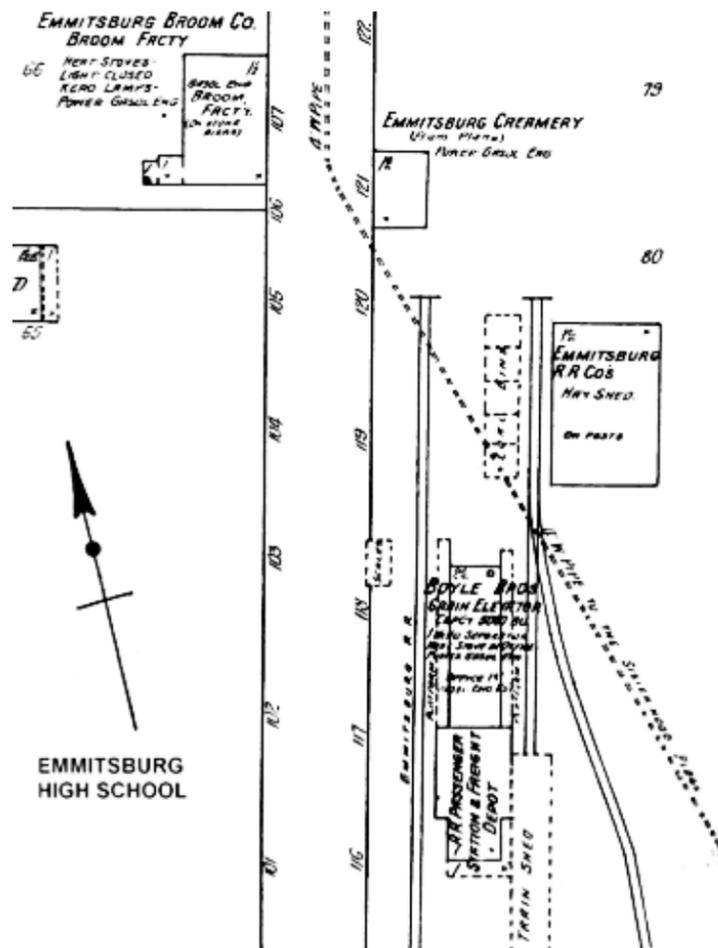


Diagram of the Emmitsburg Railroad depot in Emmitsburg.

the foot of the Avenue leading to St. Joseph's Academy. This cut is now completely-filled in.

The first stop along the line was the station served Saint Joseph's Academy. It was less than 5/10 of a mile from the start of the line. The St. Joseph's station house was located 16 feet above the level of the tracks. A set of stairs led up from the tracks to a wooden bridge which has a metal pipe hand rail on both sides and along both edges of the cut. The bridge was supported by two stone abutments. The station house, a stately Federalist style building, was constructed of brick. It was two stories high and approximately 20 X 35 feet. The bottom story was cut into the bedrock on the east side of the cut at track level. The upper story looked as if it sat on the campus grounds. Within the station there was a freight elevator to accommodate luggage and freight. Also, there was a 50 foot long covered passenger platform.

In addition to the passenger station there was a spur track which ran back to the powerhouse at St. Joseph's. The College used a coal-fired boiler to pro-

vide central heat to all of its buildings. St. Joseph's received as many as fifty-five car loads of coal at one time. The Saint Joseph Siding was 1500 feet long.

Just south of St. Joseph's station the tracks curved to the left and crossed Toms Creek's wide flat flood plain on a low earthen levee which contained the foundation footings for a wooden pole trestle. As the track approached the creek bed the land dropped away requiring a trestle to maintain a level track. The pole trestling was about 17 feet high and consisted of four poles at each support. About 1885 the space between the supports was filled-in creating an embankment or berm. This berm can still be seen east of South Seton Street. A terrace like escarpment delineates the northern boundary of the Tom's Creek flood plain.

The Tom's Creek Bridge was 100 feet long and had a unique elevated structure. It consisted of three stone piers, each of different heights, each timber trestle had bents (towers) to bring the roadbed up to the required height, and timber trestle to support the rail bed between the stone supports. The abut-

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Emmitsburg Community Center 300 South Seton Avenue Monday-Friday, 8AM-4:30PM	Frederick County Law Enforcement Center 110 Airport Drive East 24 hours a day	Frederick Police Department 100 West Patrick Street 24 hours a day

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HISTORY

ment on the north bank, which actually sat on the creek bed, was constructed of cut stone blocks, and was about 12 feet high. It had a 10 to 12 foot timber bent built on its top. The center pier, set in the middle of the creek, was of similar construction. It was 18 feet high with a five to six foot timber bent on its top. The south bank had a 23-foot stone abutment. Years later, this timber bridge was replaced with a drive through steel truss bridge, however the original multi-level stone supports were used to support the new steel trusses.

Over the years McCarren's Cut proved to be the most troublesome cut on the whole line. During winters snow storms would fill the cut with drifting snow, sometimes closing the road for days at a time.

Dry Bridge spans a cut made in a fill to allow the railroad tracks to pass over Dry Bridge Road.

College Lot, sometimes called College Stop, located at the east of College Lane on the Old Frederick Road where the Warthen family had their wagon making shop many years ago. Car loads of coal for the college were loaded directly onto wagons. The coal was then hauled up to the college by horse and wagon:

The railroad rose gently as it continued to climb to the highest point on the line, the stop at Long's. At one time there was a siding at this stop. Several old maps show that Long's consisted of just two buildings. South of Long's Stop the tracks continue straight and level for 1/5 of a mile. The railroad bed has since been made into Wivell Road, which lead back to the Reaver's farm. This section of road is in daily use.

Motter's Station. About 1883 Ike Fisher built several buildings here consisting of a station/store building, and a warehouse east of the line with a passing track (575 ft). Orndorff had a second warehouse and siding (430 ft) that was located east of the main line. The orderly stack of railroad ties (right foreground) awaits the track crew.

Motter's Run was slightly less than 5/10 of a mile south of the station. Motter's Run (formerly known as Yellow Run) flowed about 1500 feet to the east where it joined Stony Branch. A fill was used to maintain the track level over the stream. The fill was about 20 feet high and was underpinned by a large arched stone culvert about 10 feet wide and 12 feet high. This arch allowed water of Motter's Run to pass through the fill. The west side of the culvert was faced with cut stone. The east side was constructed from native fieldstone.

The Davidson / Ridgeway stops

and siding (which were not shown on any of the 1920s or 1930s Post Office maps. The maps did show all of the Rural Free Delivery routes that were located between Motter's and Appold's. South of the Ridgeway Stop the railroad paralleled route 76, but about one to two tenths of a mile to the west, passing through a series of small cuts and fills. Today the alignment of the old railroad is easily viewed by the line of cedar trees have grown up and clearly define the right of way.

At about the six mile mark was the Appolds Stop, with a siding. Appolds Stop was at the crossroads formed by route 76, Appolds road, and Mumma Ford road. Appolds road connected to Old Frederick road to the west. Mumma Ford road went to the east and crosses the Monocacy River at Mumma Ford.

When, in 1870 the WMRR built their line through Rocky Ridge leading to Mechanicstown it was a straight through track. ERR wanted to tie into these WMRR's tracks. About 1/10 of a mile before the ERR line met the WMRR line, which runs at almost a right angle to the ERR line, the ERR line splits into a wye. The left leg curved to the east while the right leg curved to the west forming a triangle with the WMRR line [now the Maryland Midland]. This triangle enclosed 3.5 acres of land. At the far end of the west leg, within the triangle, there was a "v" shaped platform, with the Rocky Ridge Station sitting between the sides of the "v". On the WMRR side the platform was 250 feet long; on the ERR side the platform was 75 feet long. The station house consisted of a 10 X 20 foot freight room, an eight by 15 foot office, and a 15 X 15 foot waiting room. Sometime later a large [approximately 300 x 75 foot] grain elevator and cattle chute was built south of the WMRR.

The ERR railroad junction with the WMRR was first known as the Rocky Ridge Station, but in 1913 the name was changed to Emmitsburg Junction. The Rocky Ridge station house was destroyed by fire in 1903 and rebuilt in 1905. The station was torn down in 1955. A water pump located next to the wye is still in service.

The village of Rocky Ridge, just 1/10 of a mile southeast of the junction, was at the intersection of State routes 76 and route 77. The WMRR rented to the ERR space to build a small station office and to install the required boarding platform. In 1905 the Emmitsburg Railroad Co. was paying the Western Maryland Railroad Co. \$25

per six months for use of the Rocky Ridge station house.

All the land, tracks, and equipment at the Rocky Road Station belonged

to the WMRR. They were leased to the ERR company. Most of the land that was within the wye of the junction is now in private hands. At least

one house has been built on this land. The Station was destroyed in 1903 rebuilt in 1905.

continued next month

Cherie Barnett



Cherie Lee (nee Phillips) Barnett, 78, of Taneytown, passed away on Tuesday, August 16. Born February 5, 1944 in Gettysburg, she was the daughter of the late Clarence "Tommy" and Vivian J. (nee Shoemaker) Phillips. She was the devoted wife of the late Alan Barnett. He passed in 2003.

Cherie was raised and educated in Taneytown, graduating 2nd in her class from Taneytown High School in 1962. She was involved in a number of activities, including cheerleading, student council, and volleyball.

She attended Marietta College in Marietta, OH, from 1962-1966, graduating cum laude with a B.A. in American History. A member of the Alpha Phi Chapter of Alpha Gamma Delta social fraternity, she served as its social director and Student Senate representative, and played on its volleyball team. Cherie was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Alpha Theta and Intaglio honorary societies.

On August 27, 1966, she married Alan Barnett of Marietta, OH. They moved to Burlington, VT. While Alan attended graduate school at the University of Vermont, she worked as circulation librarian and reference assistant at the Charles Dana Medical Library. From 1970-1972, she attended Rutgers University, earning a Master's degree in library science and information technology.

In 1972, Alan was assigned to the Coast Guard Oceanographic Unit in D.C., and Cherie took a Librarian I position at PGCMLS's Oxon Hill Branch. She was curator of the Sojourner Truth Room, a Black studies collection. Responsible for collection development, displays, programming, and training for the staff and the public, she also wrote two editions of "A Selected Bibliography of Government Publications about Black Americans." In 1986, she was promoted to Librarian III, head of Adult Services at PGCMLS's Surratts-Clinton Branch, where she was also responsible for collection development, programming, and training. In 2006, Cherie was promoted to Branch Manager of the Surratts-Clinton Branch, overseeing a staff of 18 and a small satellite branch.

Over the years, her pastimes included trap shooting, horseback riding, travel, and assisting Alan with various hobbies. She was also a member of the Southern Prince George's County Professional Women's Association.

Retiring in 2011, Cherie returned to live in Taneytown. She was a lifelong member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. She was also a member of and volunteer for the Taneytown Heritage and Museum Association and was a member of the Book Chat book discussion group, and the Friends of the Carroll County Public Library, as well.

Cherie is survived by her uncle, William Stonesifer, of Westminster; first cousins, Doreen Capece of Westminster and Denise Stonesifer of Reisterstown; and cousins in the Phillips, Zentz, and Shoemaker families.

A funeral service was held August 19 at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church with Pastor Cristopher Frigm officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Arrangements were entrusted to Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home in Taneytown. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church at the above address; Marietta College, 215 Fifth St., Marietta, OH 45750; Days End Farm Horse Rescue, P.O. Box 309, Lisbon, MD 21765; or to Mutt Love Rescue, P.O. Box 1005, Fairfax, VA 22038. Online condolences may be expressed at www.myersdurborawfh.com.



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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

September 7

Sunday School Workers Parade

County Sunday school workers to the number of approximately 1,000 with two bands marched in the largest parade ever witnessed on the streets of Fairfield Thursday evening. The parade was a feature of the two-day convention of the Adams County Sunday school association, which closed its meeting at Fairfield.

Members of Sunday schools from the cradle roll to the home department marched in the procession. The Reverend Pew, Pastor the Fairfield Reformed Church, was in charge of the parade and acted as Chief Marshall.

The Two Taverns Community Band and the Citizen's Band of Gettysburg furnished music along the line of march. At the conclusion of the parade, the Two Taverns band rendered a concert in the Fairfield Lutheran Church before the start of the Sunday evening service.

Autoist Injured

John Baker, of Thurmont, was injured when his Ford car struck a culvert and overturned when his lights went out, throwing Mr. Baker to the road, breaking his right collarbone and causing multiple laceration and bruises. A passing motorist took him to his home, and he is now recovering from his injuries.

Stove Sale

Is there anything dear to the heart of a woman than a fine kitchen range? To witness the crowd at Nicodermus' appliance store in Graceham, the special demonstration of the Majestic range, one would think not. An expert from the Majestic factory was there for a week, where he showed the women of that community the advantages of the Majestic range construction which makes possible the accurate control of the heat while baking and how the linings and hidden construction are such that give long life to the range. It requires no expert to point out that the smooth lustrous finish of the Majestic range

— speak for themselves. Every purchaser of a Majestic range is given, free, his choice of two fine sets of cooking utensils.

Residents Oppose Street Grading

A number of the owners of property abiding on West Main St., in Emmitsburg, are up in arms against changes in the grading of the portions of the highway in front of their homes being made by the contractor, which is laying concrete on this street from the Square to the corporate limits. The aggravated property owners claim that the change in grading will lessen the value of their real estate.

Threatened To Shoot Wife, Daughter

John McCarthy, of Thurmont, was arrested and charge for threatening to shoot his wife and daughter and threatening to kill his neighbor. It is thought that he is suffering from mental trouble, and he will be examined by physicians to determine the advisability of a jury investigation.

McCarthy took notion that his neighbor had been paying attention to his wife and daughter and he started out with a shotgun and declared that he would shoot all of them. He first appeared before his wife and daughter and threatened to kill them both. His wife pleaded with him not to carry out his threat. At an opportune time she and her daughter ceased the man and attempted to arrest the gun, which was loaded from him.

In a tussle, McCarthy and his daughter were slightly hurt. The woman, however, succeeded in getting possession of the gun and hiding in the house. She then called the Sheriff and informed him of what had occurred. The Sheriff found McCarthy walking along the road and placed him under arrest and brought him to jail. There he reiterated his charge against his neighbor and his manner indicated that his mind was at least temporary ineffective.

Children Ready To Resume Their Studies

The public schools of the county will re-open for the scholastic year on Monday morning. While the Emmitsburg high school building has not yet been completed, this will not delay the opening of the school. The pupils of all grades have been directed to report to the old building and classes will be assigned from there. Two rooms of the new building will be ready for use and the old building will be used until the new one is completed which should be about the middle of the month.

Harney Road Closed

The Harney Road from George Stables' farm to Piney Creek Church has been closed by the order of the County Commissioners. A macadam road surface is now being constructed by the contractor, Mr. Valentine. We are told no grading will be done and that it will be built upon a good base of limestone. We hope that it will prove to be satisfactory and that every person will be pleased when it is done.

September 14

Woodsboro Wins First Game Of Series, Thurmont Second

What is the largest crowd is it ever turned out to witness a ball game in any town in western Maryland, the Woodsboro baseball team defeated the Thurmont nine in the first game of the series of three games to decide which team shall receive the pennant of the Frederick County league. The game was played at Woodsboro last Saturday afternoon and the score was 8 to 4 in favor of Woodsboro.

The attendance at the game is claimed to have been about 2,000, made up of people from the two towns, Alas well as residence of surrounding towns. Both teams played fastball until the eighth inning when Woodsboro, by a batting rally, put over three runs and thoroughly whooped the Thurmont boys.

Thurmont however, won the sec-



ond game beating Woodsboro 4 to 3 before a crowd of 2,000 people at the ballpark in Thurmont. Fully as large number of people as witness to defeat at Woodsboro witness Thurmont even up the score. The Thurmont boys realized the situation, and 'went over and got them'. The Woodsboro team also realize the situation, but was not quite equal to the task.

A Reckless Driver

Wednesday afternoon, Charlie Creager was injured in a strange manner. Albert Riffle, agent for Maxwell automobiles, took a new sedan to Mr. Creager's place of business for an inspection, and had the car standing near the curb on the right side of the street. Mr. Creager, in order to get a view of the underworks, lay down on the ground and put his head under the car. While doing so a Ford sedan containing two women who were busy gabbing, came along and ran into the rear of the Maxwell, the front wheel of the Ford passing over, and on the rebound, stopping directly on Mr. Creager's legs.

Both legs were cut and bruised considerably and his clothing badly torn. The gas tank on the Maxwell was ruined. Mr. Creager was assisted into his workroom and there became very sick. He was taken to his home by those who caused the accident and has since been unable to work.

The ladies, it is reported, said they did not see the car, although there was nothing on the street to obstruct their view.

Fell From Truck

Why on her way to the ball game between Thurmont and Woodsboro in Woodsboro, Miss Bessie Baxter fell from a truck and barely escaped injury. She was one of a truckload of baseball enthusiast, and was sitting on the end gate of the truck. As they passed over the railroad at Lewistown, the chain became unfasten, throwing her to the road. She received a number of bruises but was otherwise unharmed.

Auto Burned

Last Saturday night the automobile belonging to Mrs. Ladimir Schmidt, mysteriously caught fire while standing in the garage. The blaze was discovered by a member of the family who noticed a light in the garage. In going to the building it was found that the

machine was ablaze. It was pushed out of the building and in a short time was consumed. Rumor is that the blaze may have started from a leak in Mr. Schmidt's still that at the time, was running full out. Thankfully, the still was not damaged and continued to run.

Leg Broken

Bruce Wheat, of Thurmont, was run down by an automobile on Tuesday morning near the Gemstone Products Company plant north of town. He is the quarry boss at the place and was walking on the road between the quarry and the office; he did not hear the machine coming. When the driver sounded his alarm, Mr. Wheat jumped, landing in front of the automobile. His right leg was broken and right ankle dislocated.

Family Escapes Injury

When the car he was driving stalled while going up Jack's Mountain Wednesday, Charles Spencer removed his family, and attempted to allow the machine to run back down the mountain, but he lost control and the car ran off the road and overturned. The top was slightly damaged. The crew from the Fairfield garage assisted in placing the car on its wheels.

Fair Response To Call For Milk

For the purpose of buying milk, from which the cream will be taken and used in the manufacture of ice cream, a creamery concern today opened a milk receiving station in Fairfield. The station is located at the rear Musselman's store.

The response to the call for 20,000 pounds of milk from Fairfield was fair, according to reports of the first delivery of milk at the new receiving station. 20,000 pounds of milk is equivalent to 2,500 gallons.

The milk brought to the Fairfield station is first weighed and then skimmed. The cream this removed is taking to Chambersburg where it is utilized in the manufacture of ice cream. The skimmed milk is return to the farmers free of charge and may be used for feeding hogs and chickens.

It is the purpose, in time of the new milk receiving station to purchase not only the cream for the milk, but the milk as well. This will be the used in the manufacturer of butter. Sour cream is also sought by the management.

It isn't a question of if, but a matter of when.

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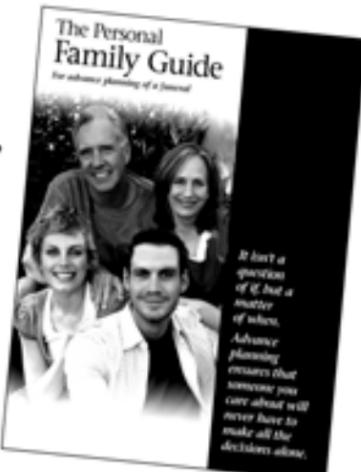
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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

September 21

Woodsboro Wins Championship

The Woodsboro baseball team won the championship of Frederick County last Saturday by thoroughly trouncing Thurmont 17 to 8. It must have been a strange championship game as Woodsboro had 11 errors, 17 base hits, and eight men to reach first base on errors. Thurmont had 10 errors, 11 base hits and nine to reach first base on errors. Sounds to us like a "Bloomer Girl" game.

Finger Cut

While operating the meat slicer in Sam Long's store Mr. Beechley accidentally got his fingers in the way of the knife. The piece of meat, which he was holding, became loosened and turned, throwing his hands into the machine. The ends of two fingers were almost severed.

Auto Plunges Over Bank

Six persons - three grown and three children - narrowly escaped being killed when an automobile in which they were riding plunged over a 40 foot embankment along the road between Thurmont and Foxville, Saturday night.

Around 9 o'clock Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Wagley, and the latter's two children and brother-in-law, Mr. Wagley, and an infant of Mrs. Brown's left Thurmont for home. At a point about 3 miles from Thurmont the lights of the car suddenly went out. Before the machine could be brought to a stop the car veered to one side of the road and plunged over the embankment. Mrs. Brown was caught under the car while the others were throwing free of the machine.

A night watchman at the Greenstone plant, a short distance from

where the accident occurred heard the crash and hurried to the spot. He succeeded in releasing Mrs. Brown from the car at which time other automobiles came upon the accident and their occupants got out to help. All involved escape with slight bruises and continued on their way home.

Large Tomato Plant

Isaiah Stall has in his yard a tomato vine of enormous growth and prolific production. It is a volunteer, which came out of the ground within a few inches of the corner of the shed at the rear of his residence. The plant separated into two main branches that Mr. Stall trained to two different sides of the building. A present the longer branch is more than 12 feet long. The entire vine has produced 58 tomatoes, none less than 3 inches in diameter.

Harvest Home Festival At Rocky Ridge

On Saturday afternoon the annual Harvest Home Festival was held in the tabernacle of the Rocky Ridge church. There were present a large congregation from various sections of neighboring communities. The decoration of fruit and grain of all kinds and flowers of the season was elaborate and artistic. The fruit and vegetables - an automobile load of it - was presented to the pastor. After the service photographs were taken of the decorations and another of the entire assemblage on the outside of the tabernacle.

Run Down By Own Car

Samuel Annan was badly bruised on Saturday night when he was run down by his own car near the Square on Patrick Street. The wheels of the machine passed over his body. He was standing in front

of his machine, cranking it, when it started and being in gear, started to move. He was unable to get out of the way and was knocked down. Beyond sustaining a number of bad bruises on his legs he escaped serious injury, albeit his pride took a hit.

Thieves Visit Taneytown

About 1 o'clock Tuesday morning, robbers forced the side window at Ott's store and carried out a considerable quantity of merchandise. They were heard by Wallace Rider who fired off a revolver and spread the alarm by telephone. Mr. Ott and a number of armed persons gathered up, but the robbers made to get away, leaving their plunder behind.

Later, 11 sacks of goods of all kinds, and a large hamper, were found conveniently spaced along alleys to be gathered up by auto or truck, as the hour was early for such a job, it was supposed that a visit was to be made at one or more other places.

A small truck was seeing going down Woodsboro Pike, about 2 o'clock, at a rapid speed, which likely shows the direction taken by the thieves. Very few people have legitimate business on the streets or roads about 1 o'clock or later, and it will be good policy for all to hear persons abroad at this time, to investigate, and if necessary, do a little shooting.

80-Year-Old Apple Tree

At the old Topper homestead in Liberty Township, near Emmitsburg, there is an 80-year-old apple tree, of the Brandman, or Smokehouse variety, that was planted by the father of James Bowie, the present tenant. The tree is reported to be 80 years old, and each year bears a good crops of fruit. It is in fine condition giving evidence of much future life.

September 28

Residents Fight Water Rates

A petition protesting against the proposed advance in the rates of the Emmitsburg Water Company has been widely circulated among the residents and has already been signed by 248 customers of the company.

Vincent Sebold, who is taking a leading part in the fight against the rates, stated that he expect to file this petition with a Public Service Commission on Monday. "A hearing is not to be expected before the middle of next month", he says, and the new rates were going to affect October 1.

The new rates are called unreasonable and excessive by Mr. Sebold, who claims that some of them represent in advance of 100% and over. "I do not think that the Public Service Commission of Maryland will sustain such an advance." Mr. Sebold said.

It is the contention of the water company that the company has the authority to make the rise in rates and that this rate was made necessary by the fact that a number of improvements have been made to the company's property. They insist that the new rates are not excessive or unreasonable.

Lost Six Cows

Last week Mr. Charles Snurr of Graceham cleaned out his silo - took the old silage out and fed some to his cattle and threw the remainder into the field in which the cattle were pasturing.

When Mr. Snurr went out in the morning to look after his stock, he found 14 cows of his herd on the ground, some motionless and others apparently in distress. Dr. Zinkham of Thurmont was immediately summoned and he stated that he knew the animals were suffering from poison as soon as he saw them and immediately

applied antidotes. Outside of the six that were already dead, the condition of four is serious. The remainder, however, responded to treatment and were said to be out of danger.

Dr. Marten of Emmitsburg said the old silage cause ptomain poisoning. Farmers having silos on their premises she remember this least they suffer losses in the same manner. The cows were of the Holstein breed, and Mr. Snurr says they were good ones. The dead cows were worth from \$100-\$140 each.

Mr. Frost Visits

Mr. Jack Frost, who for a number of years has been a regular visitor to this place, arrived here on Tuesday. He is still the same old joker as in the past. He says he likes the area pretty well, so he thought he would just drop in on to see if we were prepared for winter. He doesn't expect to make a very long stay on this trip, but will come again later in the fall.

The dryness of last week is now another week dryer, with water becoming more scarce and everything suffering from want of a soaking rain. The drought is becoming serious. The ground is dry to considerable depth; pastures are suffering and the sowing of wheat delayed. In places, water is getting low in streams and wells.

Struck By Rafters

Herbert Sprangler of Taneytown was hurt why helping to build a shed on Jacob Null's property on Thursday. He was standing on the plate of the building, when the rafters that have been drawn up commenced to fall, striking him and knocking him to the ground, about 14 feet. He was painful but not seriously hurt.

To read past editions of 100 Years Ago visit the History section of Emmitsburg.net.

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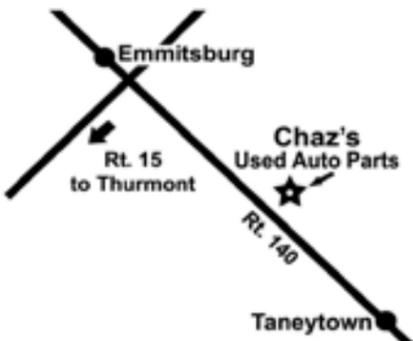
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COOKING

September shift

Sonya Verlaque
FCC Culinary Student

September is a month full of mixed feelings. Some relief from the summer heat but also a shift in the days schedules from a no rules summer to sharpening pencils and meeting up on the bust stop. September always felt more like a "new year" for me as my mom was a teacher and I have spent most of my life in school in some way. The beginning of the school year felt more of a transition than January 1st. The change in weather, the change in the outdoor colors here in Maryland and starting back into a predictable routine is almost calming.

There are many beautiful foods to celebrate this month to start the new school year off sweetly. September is national honey month to honor all our little pollinators who made the growing season a success.

Very Easy Honey Lemon Cake

Ingredients

1/2 cup butter softened
1/2 cup white granulated sugar
3 tbs honey
2 eggs
1 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
3/4 tsp baking powder
1/4 tsp salt

Lemon Glaze

6 tbs butter melted
3 cups powdered sugar
1 tbs lemon juice

Instructions : Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Grease tin and set aside. In a mixing bowl or stand mixer, beat butter, sugar and honey. Add eggs. In a separate bowl combine flour, baking powder and salt. Gradually fold into in to wet mixture. Fill tins 3/4 full and bake 17 minutes. Cool 15 minutes. Invert onto plates and cool completely. Glaze: In a mixing bowl or stand mixer, combine butter, powdered sugar and lemon juice until smooth.

Stone fruits, like peaches, plums, cherries, and apricots are members of the rose family (along with almonds) and are ending their season now. Often so ripe in September you can smell them at the farmers market before you see them - these fruit are versatile and can be used in both baking and savory cooking.

Apricot Glazed Chicken Thighs

Ingredients for glaze

2-3 lbs of skin on chicken thighs
1 (12 oz) jar of apricot jam
2T apple cider vinegar
4 T Butter (yes, 4 tbs)
BBQ Dry Rub (of your choice, or listed below)

Instructions: Heat a pan over medium high heat and melt the butter completely, add the apricot jam and the apple cider vinegar and reduced heat to simmer until well combined and reduced which is about 10 min. Separate into two bowls or jars and set aside.

Dry Rub Ingredients:

1 tbsp dried oregano
1 tbsp cumin
1 tbsp smoked paprika
1 tbsp dried parsley
2 to 3 tsp garlic salt
1 tsp ground thyme
1 tsp onion powder
1 tsp ground mustard
1/2 tsp ground pepper

Instructions: Mix all ingredients in a bowl. Use immediately or store in an airtight container. Place chicken in a plastic bag. Sprinkle dry rub and toss until all pieces are evenly covered.

In The Oven - > Preheat oven to 400°F. For easy cleanup, line a baking sheet with foil and non-stick spray. Place the chicken thighs skin side up and bake for about 10-15 min until the skin is crispy. Use one bowl of glaze to then coat (brush on or dip chicken using tongs and then discard this bowl of glaze) the chicken and place back into the oven. And continue to bake for another 20-25 min until internal temperature is 165F. Use the second bowl of glaze to coat chicken to serve.

On The Grill - > Preheat grill to medium (350° to 450°F). Place the chicken thighs skin side up and bake for about 10-15 min until the skin is crispy. Use one bowl of glaze to then coat (brush on or dip chicken using tongs and then discard this bowl of glaze) the chicken and place back into the oven. And continue to bake for another 20-25 min until internal temperature is 165F. Use the second bowl of glaze to coat chicken to serve. Note that larger pieces of chicken will require additional grilling time.

Starting school can always be a tough transition, prepping breakfast and having a nice after school snack to decompress after learning all day can help the first few weeks run smoothly. These cherry vanilla muffins and stone fruit and Greek yogurt popsicles are fun to make with kids and is something for them to look forward to. After school the pops fruit and protein will carry them to dinner and they feel like they are having a treat. You can also use frozen or precut fruit from the store also for ease.



Apricot Glazed Chicken Thighs

Cherry Vanilla Muffins

Ingredients

8 1/2 ounces all-purpose flour (approximately 1 3/4 cup)
1/3 cup granulated sugar
1 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp kosher salt
1 cup buttermilk (make your own: 7 oz milk and 1 oz white vinegar and let set for 10 min)
2 large eggs
2 tbs pure vanilla extract
2 ounces unsalted butter, melted and cooled (plus more for greasing the muffin pan)
3/4 cup finely chopped cherries (either sweet or sour)

Instructions: Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F and lightly grease muffin tins. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. In a separate bowl, whisk together the buttermilk, eggs and vanilla extract. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry followed by the butter and cherries, using a spatula to stir the ingredients together until just combined. The less you mix, the more delicate the muffins will be. Evenly scoop the muffin batter into the prepared pans, filling 3/4 full. Bake for 20-22 minutes. Allow to cool for 5 minutes and then remove carefully from the

pan. You can also freeze or refrigerate.

Stone Fruit Pops

Ingredients

2 nectarines
2 plums
2 mangos
1 1/2 cups plain Greek yogurt (if you choose to use vanilla yogurt, you can omit the honey)
1/3 cup milk
1 tablespoon honey

Instructions: Remove stones from fruit and peel from mangos and add fruit to blender and blend to the consistency you like, leaving a bit of fruit pieces is nice. In a small bowl, whisk together yogurt, milk and honey. Layer fruit and yogurt mixtures in popsicle mold as desired. Freeze until set.

Roasted Acorn Squash with Shallots, Grapes, and Sage

Ingredients

2 acorn squashes (about 1 1/2 pounds each)
2 Tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil
Coarse salt and freshly ground pepper
1 pound of mixed black and red grapes (about 3 cups)
1 large shallot, thinly sliced (about 1 cup)
3 Tablespoons packed small fresh sage leaves
1 1/3 cups cooked spelt, wheat berries, barley, or other whole grain.

Instructions: Preheat oven to 400 F. Cut squash in half lengthwise and scoop out seeds. Brush sides of squash halves with 1 teaspoon oil and season with salt and pepper. Place, cut sides down, on a rimmed baking sheet. Combine grapes, shallot, and sage in a bowl and drizzle with remaining 2 tablespoons of oil. Season with salt and pepper and place around the squash. Roast, stirring grape mixture once, until squash is tender and grape mixture is caramelized, 35-40 minutes. To serve, fill squash with grain and grape mixture.

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

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MOMS' TIME OUT

If things are not going well...

Mary Angle

There are those moments as a mom that seem like they are overwhelming and never ending. Maybe it is a long day of temper tantrums, or a bad day at work that runs late, or a bunch of little things that seem to be piling up. Sometimes all it takes is a small gesture to change the mood on the whole day.

When my kids were about 10, 8, 5, 2 I put the baby down for bed and my oldest son offered to start the bedtime book for his sister and brother. I really appreciated it because I hadn't felt like I had gotten any time to snuggle her all day. It was a hectic day of kids bickering, phones ringing, and dare I saw diarrhea diapers!

The day started out like any other, with the baby waking me at 6 a.m. and the rest of the kids getting up and ready for breakfast. I went low hassle with breakfast on this particular morning and chose cereal. Luckily for me the kids all love cereal. Everything was going well at this point. Everyone finished their cereal and drank the milk (this never happens), then they each brought their bowls up and put them in the sink. This was the point in the day when I should have noticed things were going a little too well.

After breakfast the bickering started. This was actually foreshadowing for the rest of their young lives (isn't hindsight amazing). The two middle children began bickering and have never stopped since. Okay that is a slight exaggeration. They do take a break every once in a while, like when they sleep or when one of them goes to a friend's house. Now that they are young "adults" they still bicker, but they also confide in each other and turn to each other in times of need and happiness. Anyway, they pretty much bickered, pushed, and antagonized one another all day long.

Mid-morning, we played some games and had a snack. The kids had a blast with Legos and built some extremely tall towers, and my baby had a blast knocking them down. Luckily this did not start more arguing. It really is the two middle ones. After games and a snack and a lot of poopy diaper, we went outside to go for a walk. We were very blessed at the time to have a neighborhood playground not too far away. A bit of fighting over who would get which swing, who would be first on the slide, and who would push the stroller on the way home, we walked through the door exhausted and just in time for lunch. Lunch consisted of leftovers and was followed by mandatory quiet time in your room if you were over the age of 5. The two youngest took an afternoon nap and fell asleep pretty quickly after the walk home from the playground.

After the naps and cleaning up the dirty diaper and washing the soiled crib sheets (I can't stress the amount of poop I cleaned up on this particular day), we all sat down to watch some Disney channel and discuss

the upcoming school year. The boys were excited to see their friends, but the younger one was not thrilled about that being attached to homework. My oldest daughter would be starting kindergarten and she was a little nervous, but her brothers tried to calm her nerves. I wasn't super nervous because she was such a social butterfly, I knew she would make friends pretty quickly. This was interrupted by several telemarketing spam calls on both the home phone and my cell phone.

Now it was time for a grocery store run and low and behold I had a flat tire. After asking the boys to sit with the girls and watch a little more television, I changed the tire, and we were on our way. We dropped the tire off and found out it could be patched, which brightened the day up a bit. I couldn't say the same for the grocery store. I have a rule in the grocery store, or any store for that matter; if you can't behave yourselves then we will leave and get nothing. As my kids have grown up, we have gotten many complements on their behavior in restaurants and store, and I must attribute it to the fact that we just didn't accept bad behavior. This was one of those "teaching" moments when I asked them once to stop grabbing things off the shelf, or constantly asking for snacks, or shoving one another, and then I just put back the few groceries we had, and we went out to the car. Some of them were begging, one was crying, and the baby was playing with my keys completely oblivious. And yes, people were staring, and one couple pointed, and it was embarrassing for all of us, but it had to be done. When we got to the car, I asked them to tell me why we were there. The boys understood completely and explained to their sister. I told them we would come back the next day but would immediately leave if the behavior hadn't improved.

When we got home, I realized I had nothing to make for dinner, since that was the number one goal of the grocery store trip. Luckily, I always keep a backup of spa-

ghetti noodles and jarred sauce in the back of the pantry for just such an occasion. As I was making dinner for the 5 of us, since my husband was on a business trip, I asked the boys to set the table. When I heard a small thud and one of them say, "Oooooo, you are going to be in so much trouble!", I quickly ran into the dining room. There on the floor was an entire container of Parmesan cheese dumped in a pile like Mount Everest and all fingers were pointing at the soon-to-be kindergartener. After interrogating each suspect individually, I concluded that she had spotted a large cheese ball in the container and when she went to fish it out the container had proven to be too big for her little hands and flew into the air, landing upside down on the floor. To try and solve the problem she had gone over and lifted it straight up, dumping the entire contents on the floor.

A little while after dinner everyone got bathes and showers and it was time for bed. As my oldest read the book to his siblings I came in and found them bickering again, at the end of a very long day. He could see I was exhausted and immediately said, "Mom, let me handle this. I have a great idea." Knowing that he was my reader and scholar who loved to memorize monologues, I just knew he was going to recite some amazing speech he had read. He looked at both of them, lovingly put his hands on the sides of their little faces and knocked their heads together like two coconuts while saying, "knock It Off!" I was in shock! The two of them instantly stopped bickering and burst out laughing. They all went to bed smiling and saying they would behave better tomorrow, and I went to bed completely confused at what had just happened!

Remember it only takes one second to change the mood of your day, if it isn't going well then change course!

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



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SCHOOL NEWS

Frederick County schools

Brad W. Young
FCPS Board President

FCPS completed its first blitz renovation at Thurmont Elementary School this summer. This was the first time that a complete interior renovation was done over a summer break. Crews worked 24/7 to completely renovate the entire interior of the building. If you have been in the building before, you would not recognize it now. All classrooms now have walls and doors. All technology in the school was updated to state of art. There is a second phase of the construction which is the exterior replacement of windows and the roof which will take place next summer.

The school year started on Wednesday, August 17th with over 45,000 students in attendance. Our new Superintendent, Dr. Cheryl Dyson visited many schools on their first day. She has been in the process of visiting every school in the county.

The Sabillasville Environmental Classical Charter School also

opened its doors to over 160 students for class for the first time on August 17th. This is an exciting new school that has once again filled the building with students and new energy.

The Maryland FFA Association held its 94th state convention in Frederick. Many students from Frederick County won awards and were honored for their hard work and dedication to the field of agriculture.

Top teams and individuals in career and leadership development were announced; first-place honorees will advance to represent Maryland in the National FFA competitions this fall.

Award winners include:

- Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems: 1st Team- Walkersville High
- Agronomy: 1st Team- Walkersville High
- Floriculture: 1st Team- Linganore High
- Milk Quality & Products: 1st Team- Walkersville High
- Veterinary Science: 1st

- Team- Tuscarora High
- Forestry: 1st Team- Linganore High
- Horse Evaluation: 1st Team- Middletown High
- Agricultural Issues Forum: 1st Team- Catoctin High
- Agricultural Sales: 1st Team- Catoctin High
- Marketing Plan: 1st Team- Catoctin High
- Parliamentary Procedure: 1st Team- Linganore High
- Poultry Evaluation: 1st Team- Walkersville High
- Creed Speaking: 1st- Sierra Howell, Linganore High
- Senior Extemporaneous Speaking: 1st- Kendall Abruzzese, Catoctin High
- Senior Prepared Speaking: 1st- Brianna Bongard, Middletown High
- Talent: 1st- Shea Cencula, Linganore High
- During the convention, FFA members were recognized for their accomplishments and participation in the Maryland association. Annalise Abruzzese of the Catoctin

Mount STEM Grant approved

Congressman David Trone recently announced that he had secured \$4,000,000 for a Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) workforce development program at Mount St. Mary's University.

"Mount St. Mary's University is grateful to Congressman Trone for his support of the university's expansion and renovation of our STEM research facilities to support American competitiveness in high demand fields such as com-

puter science, data science, cybersecurity, neuroscience and biological, environmental, and physical sciences, as well as contribute to a highly trained STEM workforce for the state of Maryland," said University President Timothy Trainor said, "We are honored to be blending superb classroom instruction with research mentored by top-tier scientists in educating diverse and ethical STEM students who will help lead the STEM-oriented U.S. economy in the decades ahead."

FFA Chapter was recognized with the State Star Green-hand Award.

- State FFA Proficiency Award Gold Winners:
- Agricultural Processing & Goat Production- Shea Cencula, Linganore High
- Diversified Horticulture- Alana Baye, Linganore High
- Specialty Animal Production- Louis Held, Brunswick High

- Honorary American FFA Degree: Greg Stull, Agriculture Teacher, Walkersville High

Through the Maryland FFA, teacher workshops, scholarships, grants, mobile labs and revenues from the ag tag license plate, the organization pursues its mission to promote the understanding and appreciation of the importance of agriculture in everyone's lives.

FASD introduces new teachers and staff

Fairfield Area School District (FASD) introduced new staff at the August 8 school board meeting.

Teachers welcomed included Karen Shaffer as a middle school learning support teacher. Originally from Buffalo, New York, Shaffer began as a third and second grade teacher in Maryland before teaching fifth, sixth, and seventh grade at Saint Francis in Pennsylvania.

Thomas Rodgers will be kicking off the school year as a middle school learning support teacher. Rodgers is an alumnus of FASD with two daughters currently in the school system.

Rodgers spent the last ten years working with adjudicated and at-risk youth at Abraxas Youth and Family services and was excited to work in a public school district.

April Taylor was previously a teacher in Kansas for three years and most recently comes from the Montessori Charter School in Gettysburg as a third and fourth grade teacher.

"My goal since I moved here was to be placed in my home district, so I am very, very happy and proud to be here as a second-grade teacher," she said.

Emily Tempel was welcomed to

FASD kindergarten as well as serving as a substitute teacher for second and third grade in the area. Tempel served as a third-grade teacher in Maryland last year, "So I'm excited to be working more locally and be back closer to home," she said.

Ensuring board meetings are available for online viewing, Nichole Steele was also welcomed aboard as the district's Coordinator of Instructional Technology. Steele was excited to start her 19th school year.

Beginning a career out in Arizona as an elementary school teacher, a tech-

nology coach, and a technology director all in the same district, Steele brings education experience as well as information technology.

Also recognized but not present was Lisa Mertz as a middle school counselor.

"Welcome aboard," the school board greeted.

Assistance application introduced
FASD members in need of support can now connect with CareSolace as the district begins a contract to provide resources for the community, according to Superintendent Thomas Haupt.

CareSolace helps to connect families identified with a level of

need with health providers for issues including mental health, and drug and alcohol addiction, Haupt said. Services are not only available for students and staff but also extend to their affiliated family members. "You do not have to be local," he said.

More information about CareSolace can be found at caresolace.org.

In related news Public School Board Association legislative chairperson Lisa Sturges told the school board that the Pennsylvania Department of Education is releasing a new app for families experiencing homelessness. In addition to district nurses, counselors, and administrators working to identify families in need of services, the app will be additional help to connect families with resources.



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SCHOOL NEWS

Library events

Blue Ridge Summit Free Library 100th Anniversary Birthday Party – September 24. The Blue Ridge Summit Free Library celebrates its centennial anniversary with a community birthday party featuring historical displays, story time sessions and live entertainment for kids, a tour of the Church of Transfiguration (original library location) and organ recital, presentations by local dignitaries, a birthday cake cutting ceremony, and more. Free admission and all are welcome. For more information, email brsmtnboard@gmail.com.

Children's Storytime: Meets every Monday from 4 to 5 p.m. Usually this program is run by our manager (myself). Children and parents can join us for a weekly story, craft or coloring sheet, and play time. We run two identical 30-minute sessions in an attempt to accommodate busy schedules.

Summit Stitchers: This quilting club meets monthly on the third Tuesday in the community room from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Coffee Club: Meets every Wednesday from 3 to 4 p.m. Patrons are encouraged to join us for coffee, tea, and chatting! Drinks are provided but guests are encouraged to bring ad-ins and snacks to share.

Blue Ridge Summit Book Club: Currently meets every third Wednesday of the month from 4 pm to 5 pm, typically outside. September's read is *Rosemary and Rue* by Seanan McGuire and October's read is *The Princess Bride* by William Goldman. Copies will be available to borrow from our library!

VITT (Very Important Teens and Tweens): Our teen night

runs every Thursday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Ages 10 to 17 are welcome to join us. We play games, make crafts, eat snacks, and have a great time!

Scherenschnitte Night: Meets the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Patrons have the opportunity to learn the art of this German paper cutting craft! New members are appreciated, old members are welcomed. If previous students, please bring your knives and boards. Young children must be accompanied by an adult.

Outdoor Movie Nights: This summer, we have been hosting outdoor movie nights once a month. We have two more planned for September 10th and October 15th, both starting at 8:30 p.m.

To join these events live, on line, or learn more about them, visit the Franklin County Library System's website at www.fcplspa.org/events, or you can call the library at 717-74-2240.

Fairfield Library

The Carroll Valley Branch of the Adams County Library System has a full and interesting September program. On Monday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m., it is *Barks and Books* which involves reading to a therapy dog to help build confidence in new or reluctant readers. Bring your child to the library to read to Danny, our favorite KPets pup! Michael McCabe, from Hilltop Video Services, will present a free 4-part video production workshop for individuals and small businesses. Attendees will receive a free digital copy of his eBook: *The Beginner's Guide to*

Video Production Resources. The workshop starts on September 12 at 6 p.m.. Registration is required. The Adult Book Club members will meet on Wednesday, September 21 at 2 p.m. September's selection is "Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles.

Frederick County Library

So long summer and hello fall! With the seasons changing and the fast pace of summer winding down, the library remains busy with special themes for September and celebrations of events. September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. What better time than September, with schools back in session and students returning to the Mount, to sign up for a library card. All Maryland residents are eligible for a Frederick County Public Libraries card; visit any FCPL branch with photo ID and current address to sign up – it's as simple as that! Your library card provides you with access to all of our print materials, audiobooks, DVD's, and digital resources! With the cost of many things only going higher, what better time to access all of the free materials and resources available through FCPL!



September has two special events occurring this month. Join us as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the building on Saturday, September 17 at 11 a.m. with many community organizations and groups in attendance. Learn a bit of history of the building from Emmitsburg High School alumni, take pleasure in the beauty of the floral arrangements of the Silver Fancy Garden Club, and enjoy refreshments provided by the Emmitsburg Friends of the Library. We hope you can make it out to help commemorate the day!

Our next special event occurs on Saturday, September 24, with the library hosting a Senior Health and Wellness Fair from 10 to noon. Come on by and hear information on the services and resources offered through and

by Frederick County Senior Services, S.O.A.R, Humana, Frederick Health, and more. Please call the Emmitsburg Branch Library at 301-600-6329 for additional information.

Family storytime is back and offered on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Additional storytimes are offered at the Thurmont Regional Library (TRL) with Preschool Storytime on Mondays, Baby Storytime on Tuesdays, and Toddler Storytimes on Wednesdays. While all are welcome, these days listed are best suited for that age group. All storytimes at TRL begin at 10:30 a.m. For a full list of programs offered in both Emmitsburg and Thurmont, please visit FCPL.org/calendar, or pop in to pick up a calendar. We look forward to seeing you in the library!

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

This month, we challenged our students on whether or not we're better off with social media limits on word count, or if lengthier discussion formats are better.

Sophomore

33 characters

Joseph Carlson

MSMU Class of 2025

As of 2018, the average tweet was 33 characters long. The primary problem with the 30-character message is that it is very difficult to say anything worth saying in 30 characters. For reference, the first sentence of this article is 53 characters in total.

Communication can be long or short, so long as one's audience understands what they are meant to. The question becomes, "Who is the audience for in most tweets?" It is different every time, but very seldom is a tweet intended to convince someone with whom one disagrees. Short messages are best suited for practical use, but on a platform that is meant to connect us to everyone else in authentic discourse, there is nothing more hindering than short messages.

If the goal of Twitter is communication, then Twitter is pretty lousy at its job. There is a pattern to every convincing argument, each requiring more than 33 characters, where premises lead to conclusions. Each sentence serves a purpose, not only

relaying information but stringing it all together so that one conclusion leads logically to the next. This is how one communicates to a world that cannot read his or her mind. We've grown accustomed to reading each other's minds, because in order for one to send a tweet with 33 characters and relay any kind of information at all, we rely on social conventions to fill in the gaps for the audience. Slogans, glittering generalizations, signaling, innuendo; these are how we understand each other. There is no room for nuance. Rather, one person says something that signals to one group of people that he or she agrees with them, and the other group understands that they are unwelcome. Those caught in the middle are battered with judgments from whichever side is louder, and there is not a single means of garnering a deeper understanding for anyone else. Every now and then someone can say something meaningful within a character limit, but without context, and with the previously mentioned pattern of thinking, it is very hard to get converts. After all, it is pretty likely that the person reading your message only wants to convert you too. When we are regularly filling in the gaps of how we ought to think of someone based

on their 33 characters, it becomes difficult to stop judging.

It is pretty easy to tell that Twitter sows division and is not very good at its job of "fostering open discourse." The habit of perpetually trying to most effectively signal to one's followers that he is virtuous, rather than simply trying to reveal the truth, makes us gradually forget how to think. The written page is a mirror for your mind. As when you alter your picture in a mirror you alter your true appearance, how we write will change how we think. In this way, writing is not simply intended for an audience, but rather for self-maintenance and growth.

Writing one's thoughts down makes them a lot clearer, or can expose the holes in reasoning which are allowed to persist when they are simply rattling around in our heads. If you are ever left with a moral dilemma, a question of prudence, or a difficult experience you seek to cope with, write down your thought process. Immorality can only persist with the aid of our own selfish rationalizations, and if the keyboard warriors really wanted virtuous change, they would enact it in the only place they could be certain that they can affect—namely, themselves.

One of the most effective methods in discerning questions of prudence is imagining that one is speaking with someone else who happens to have the exact issue he has. Writing down one's reasoning for both sides of the choice will help to keep one's emotions in check, which would more easily mobilize against reason otherwise. When we undergo trauma, one of the first steps we take is to disassociate ourselves from it. While this is helpful and sometimes necessary in the moment, you end up with a part of yourself left in that memory and the rest of you moving on without him. Begin to slowly cease disassociating yourself from the traumatic memory. No one can live with two minds. Writing down the event, how it feels, and what you were thinking will work to reunify the part of your soul which was harmed.

These are some of the things which writing is actually useful for: clarifying your thoughts, and effectively communicating to others. You can say something well in an essay that you cannot say impromptu. Twitter often jumbles our thoughts and is a poor means of communicating. This, in one way or another, applies to most social media.

As with many parts of life, I am sure there is a way to use Twitter and not have these negative effects. We

must, however, acknowledge that social media is designed to chemically suck you in and give you a hit of dopamine, the hormone responsible for making you feel like you've accomplished something, for every swipe. In many ways, therefore, it is more like alcohol than writing anything constructive. Just like how your liver can handle a drink an hour, you can handle social media in moderation. Very quickly, however, does this turn into abuse for a generation with an addictive personality. Every sip (or gulp) is slowly rewiring how you think so that you are on the lookout for anything indicative of something you should disapprove of. It eventually teaches you to think, and therefore speak, like you're saying something on a social media post. In fact, for those who try and remain functioning in the real world after routine social media abuse, we essentially end up dissociating ourselves from the experience because such is at enmity with constructive discourse. The only way to function on social media is to let truth and the real world form our posts, and to, for the most part, not let social media form our worldview.

To read other articles by Joseph Carlson, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

Junior

The economy of words

Claire Doll

MSMU Class of 2024

I love words. I love novels, I love stories, I love letters and notes and the mere beauty of the written word. I have journals dating back to my freshman year of high school, filled cover-to-cover with detailed entries of my days, emotions, dreams, and wishes. As an English education major, I am constantly reading something, and sometimes I feel that I will never read enough. That there are so many words out there, jumbled together to create different meanings. That no amount of words will truly convey how a human can feel, no matter how complex and articulate we make them out to be.

Of course, I am wrong.

In fact, I am way, way off.

In high school, I took advanced creative writing all four years, and I instantly fell in love with storytelling and plots and imagery. I never realized how much you could do with words, and this amazed me. Yet, I also never realized how much you could do with so few words. How you could write just a handful on a page, yet evoke unreachable and unexpected emotions. How this type of writing—which I like to refer to as poetry—is powerful and beautiful, allowing a writer to transcend beyond the standards of the English language to define the abstract in a unique and meaningful way.

My high school creative writing teacher once told me: "Poetry

is the economy of words." That is, for one to write poetry, the poet must consider each word closely. What image, if any, does the word help depict? Does the word contribute to the poem's rhythm and musical value? Could the poem survive without this word—would it still hold the same meaning?

This is because poetry, unlike prose, delivers an emotional experience through the artistic, individual choices one makes regarding language. A novelist might take 80,000 words to develop a plot and characters, but a poet takes only a handful to both paint an image and evoke an emotional experience. So, poetry works like an economy. Writers must determine what they would like to get out of the poem, therefore carefully managing their resources—in this case, words—to achieve their meaning.

In fact, poetry does something even greater, in my opinion. Imagine any poem: lines and stanzas, broken apart by rhythm and structure. On paper, a poem is also meant to be visually appealing to the reader. That is, the poet must use the blank, white space surrounding the words to his or her advantage. The poet must balance words with emptiness to show the readers just how important and carefully chosen his or her words are.

Because of its beauty and its inevitable effect on humans, poetry has been here for centuries. Poems have been written to elicit emotional reactions, to cater to a certain audience, and to even comment on historical events and social issues.

Does this sound familiar?

Perhaps not. After all, what other form of communication delivers a message to a targeted audience by using an economy of words and language?

While social media is not poetry, the two have many similarities. How many times have you struggled to write a tweet or an Instagram caption, knowing you had a limited number of characters? Did you have to rethink which words to use, keeping in mind your audience and overall message? If so—which plenty of us have—you may have been thinking like a poet.

I have never heard someone bash poetry for being incapable of "discussing complex things at length," but I have certainly heard this said for social media. And again, although the two forms of communication are in no way identical, they both require an economy of words. They require someone to understand the deep meaning a single word can evoke, and they demand that writers use limited language to convey so much.

This kind of writing has grown in popularity. While poetry is originally defined as "the economy of words," this logic is especially significant in an age where instantaneous communication is necessary. Where ideas and thoughts can be voiced in seconds, for thousands of people to read—and no sane person wants to read a 1,000-word Instagram caption.

Meaning is not lost when we set a word count. If anything, meaning is prioritized. It is unrealistic to think that writing surrenders its

beauty when given a limit. Beauty is found in the writer's ability to take just even ten words and arrange them in such a way that it impacts an entire population of people. Something that takes thirty seconds to read may have taken hours to write; this truth is apparent in both poetry and social media, among other forms of communication. And although 1,000 words might allow a writer to dive into the deep complexities of their topic, 75 words on the same topic forces the writer to consider the effect of their carefully chosen language, which ultimately hits harder. After all, less is more, and words have done so much for us. It is only fair that we take the time to isolate them and consider their meanings, their impacts, and their full potentials.

I love words. I love writing, and I certainly feel thankful and over-

joyed to write 1,000-word articles for the Emmitsburg News-Journal each month; this allows me to write and explain more, and if you know me, I love doing those things. But I also love poetry, and I love writing Instagram captions, and I love how words can mean so much by using so little. I love how there are other things to consider besides the number of words, such as the surrounding empty space, the rhythm of language, and the images painted by words, and I love how writing then becomes a mosaic, using different pieces and elements to create art.

After all, words strive to make us feel something. So as long as words can make me cry, laugh, or even just smile, then I don't care how many of them I read.

To read other articles by Claire Doll visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

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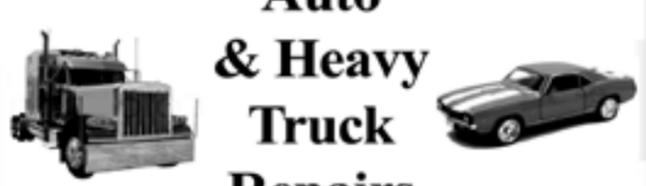
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TEN WORD ANSWERS

Senior

A thousand-word bridge

McKenna Snow
MSMU Class of 2023

As I write this, the first week of classes has gone underway. I am the RA for the Honors Freshmen girls, and I have introduced myself probably more than seventy times in the last week. I have been going to the start-of-the-semester events, such as ones hosted by Campus Ministry and Residence Life in an effort to meet new students and see old friends. I have thoroughly enjoyed these events, and even just the short conversations I've had with the residents on my hall. I am striving to get to know them, and they seem (mostly) enthusiastic about getting to know me.

Of all the things I reflect on after speaking with someone I've never met, something particular in light of our prompt this month sticks out to me. In my conversations with the many wonderful freshmen and parents I have met, it is not enough to ask, "What is your name?" and then to say, "Welcome to the Mount!" and then to move on to the next new person.

What really matters to people in

conversation, whether they are new to an environment or very familiar, is when others invest time in them. Short, small-talk style conversations are good and polite, but genuine interest in the other person goes much farther than many people think.

I have started to get to know the personalities of the girls on my hall. I am learning about where they are from, and what they are interested in studying, and more.

I could not do this if all I ever said was hello, and, "have a great day." Wishing someone well is always kind, but it is not quite the same as stopping what you are doing to stand and chat with them. It goes a long way.

But, words can be quite tiring. Speaking takes a lot of effort. Holding eye contact, following the words the other person speaks aloud and even silently—these things take skill. Just as authors must practice writing well so it is easy to read, follow, and understand, so too should all people practice speaking with one another in extended conversation, so we can understand each other better. If reading and writing take practice to do it well and to get the full experience and understanding out of it, so must conversation. It is a different form of expression from reading and writ-

ing, however, because much more immediately is it a two-way street. You speak words, and the other person hears them and responds. Or, if you've ever said something to someone and they were not listening, and their response reflects that, you immediately can tell. And it can be hurtful. There is something on that bridge you both were crossing linguistically that went wrong—you are all of a sudden not on the same page. How can you get to know the other person, or how could the other person get to know you, if you hardly listen to each other?

If all you know of the other person is their name, and that their day is going "well," and then you both move on with your day, very little has been accomplished. You at least acknowledge each other's presence—even that is a lost art in and of itself because we are often too busy looking down at screens while we walk various places—so that is a start. But you really just stay at the starting line if you never go any further.

You might think, so what? I don't want to hear the life story of my coworker as I just try to get my morning coffee. That is fair enough. You don't have to know everyone's stories. But I argue that you should at least make the effort to engage in the art of

extended conversation a good amount of the time. Otherwise, you are missing out. Carry on with this sad tradition of mediocre politeness and you don't get very far. You hardly know your coworkers. You know very little about the person who works at the register every time you go grocery shopping. You do not know your neighbor, mailman, or the parent who also took her child to the local playground. For a number of reasons, we are too worried about making it weird if we try to talk to one another longer than a hello and a goodbye and an awkward smile to show that we see the other person.

I say, embrace the awkward. Go for the long conversation. Engage in earnest and intentional conversation with the other. You will learn much more about the many neighbors God has put on earth around you, and broaden your friendships, networks, and capacity for love. That is what words are all about, correct? Words function to convey things about ourselves, to bridge the individual islands of ourselves across to the other, and to form relationships—and not just human relationships, but relationships between varying ideas, opposing viewpoints, hopes, dreams, and even shared disappointments. Realizing that you are not the only one in the world who has

experienced what you have can be tremendously encouraging.

All this is to say that I am a big fan of more words, rather than fewer words. Reading a tweet is not enough to know everything you need to about the person who tweeted it. A news headline is hardly enough to understand a whole political side, current issue, or piece of history. You must engage in the conversation about difficult topics that is only found in the pages of library books, robust and wordy articles, and ongoing dialect from each side. Short captions are not enough for us to know or truly understand one another. If we only read and publish news headlines and tweets to communicate with one another, we have hardly left the starting line. We hardly know where we stand on current issues, and on our understandings of ourselves, when a few slogans, buzzwords and one-liners is all we communicate with. We must reclaim the lost art of extended conversation with one another, to truly be able to discuss with great care the topics that matter most: you, me, and all the possible bridges between us, that lots of words can help us build.

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

Graduate

Limitations

Emmy Jansen
MSMU Class of 2022

Humans do not do well with limitations. This is an observation hard-spun over twenty-one years of life, but one I think you'd corroborate. We don't like to be told what we should or shouldn't, can or can't do. When a middle school teacher assigns a three to five page paper, one student will struggle to cut it down to six while the person next to them won't have enough words to fill two. This is not a habit we grow out of either. My freshman roommate always wrote way beyond the supposed maximum, while I'd wrack my brain for filler just to meet the minimum.

The thing that stands out to me the most from that memory is that we would both receive an A, even though we wrote and thought completely differently. Because it wasn't about how much or how little either of us said, it was about the content. Why use 100 words when I can use 10? Why use 10 words when I can use 100? You can view the issue from both directions, but at the heart of it is the idea that we should place any sort of limit on words at all. I don't think we should.

Communication itself is what is central to this. In both written and verbal formats, the fact that we have something to say in the first place takes precedence. The human ability to communicate—to both talk and to listen—is our most important, and misused, skill.

This fact has only become more relevant to me lately. I just started a new job, and as most recent graduates are finding, we're constantly being asked, "Where did you go?

What did you major in?" Readers know that I'm an English student at heart, but I also majored in Conflict, Peace, and Social Justice, which is a very broad, hard-to-explain course of study. But every time I share this with a new coworker, I am greeted with the same response: "Oh, we could really use your help!" While I'm beyond glad to mediate conflict and help find resolutions, I struggle to understand how these industry experts, people who have worked the same job longer than I have been alive, have not put the pieces together themselves: communication breeds conflict. And conflict breeds more miscommunication.

And communication is more than just talking. The first, and most important step, is to listen. Too often we let people talk but spend their minutes of speech thinking about what our response will be. I believe this translates over to reading, especially opinionated pieces. How many of you are reading these articles only thinking about how you would have answered instead? While we should spend more time talking with each other, we should also spend more time listening. So, to answer the question of if we're better off with social media or not, I would counter that regardless of what we have, we need to bring community and communication back to the center. Which platform creates the most fruitful conversations? What mode causes you to listen better and think more deeply?

And yet, it is more than just content. With each individual, there comes a certain style. Readers may not know that many Four Years at the Mount writers are also secret creative writing enthusiasts who scribble poems and novel ideas in between our class notes. But that doesn't make us the same. Claire and I have taken many creative

writing classes together and while we enjoy the same topics and formats, our writing styles vary greatly. She has a true talent for weaving together beautiful sentences that are chock full of imagery and description, planting you in the exact scene she pictures in her head. While her sentences are often longer, there is not a single word you can remove during the editing process. Each syllable is crucial to the effect of the entire phrase and to cut anything would be to change the identity of what Claire has written. I do not have that same knack for bountiful description. My sentences leave less to the imagination and are often much choppy and more blunt than Claire's. It's not to say that either one of us is a better writer, but we write about different things and therefore say them in different ways. While Claire's exposition would require picturesque details in paragraph form, I would donate a sentence or two. Accordingly, word count, whether a goal to reach or a limit to stay under, should discriminate for the content and style. Claire needs fifty words where maybe I need twenty, and I think that's exactly how it should be. Because they aren't just fifty words: Claire has put something of herself in them, and that's what makes them worth reading in the first place.

If these articles were just a thousand words on a page, you wouldn't want to pick up the paper. But it's because you have a desire to know the inner mind of young adults today, to hear perspectives about issues you may have barely considered, that you wait for this publication every month. You want to listen. It's the same reason why my loquacious roommate and I would get the same score on papers that seem alien to each other. While less is more for me, to put that boundary onto Claire

would be to put my words into her mouth. They would become only words at the end of the day.

I have loved my time at the Emmitsburg News-Journal for giving me the space to share my words on issues both close to my heart and those that have never once crossed my mind. Some months, I think I've written garbage that is barely publishable just to fill enough space on the page. Other months, I know I could've written a whole book. So even as I try

to tell you I tend to write less, that's not always the case. Because humans don't do well with limitations. This is why Hemingway is famous for his novels and his six-word stories. This time I chose 100 words, next time I think I'll choose 10. The important thing is to talk—and listen—when things really matter.

To read more articles by Emmy Jansen visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



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COMMUNITY NOTES

Gettysburg Foundation hosts Family Day

The Gettysburg Foundation will host Family Day at Spangler, a free, one-day event from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 3, at the George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital. Offering free admission and the opportunity for the Adams County community and visitors to Gettysburg to experience the George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital, Family Day at Spangler provides an educational day for families and those who enjoy history to experience and learn about the history of the 80-acre farm. Presented during the Labor Day weekend, families can enjoy a late summertime visit to explore the historic site.

Living historians will be on-site during the event. Guests will have the opportunity to interact throughout

the day with living historians, learning events include:

The Healing: Portraying women who pioneered professional nursing and served during the American Civil War, living historians provide true accounts based on diaries and first-person references, reflecting the profound impact these Civil War nurses had on the soldiers they treated that went beyond the battles and the war.

Officers for the Union & Ladies for the Union: Portraying officers who commanded and fought in the Battle of Gettysburg, living historians provide first-person impressions, discuss their role before, during and after the Battle of Gettysburg, and give details about military life from the officers' perspectives. The ladies demonstrate

unique home craft skills of the period (bobbin lace, hand sewing and band-box making) and display home remedies, medical practices and children's toys of the era. The ladies discuss the importance of the home front during the Civil War, support and aid for the soldiers, and the effect the war had on families and communities.

46th Pennsylvania Regiment Band (The Logan Guards): Talented musicians and living historians bring to life the typical soldier and musician of the American Civil War. During performances at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., the band will perform authentic Civil War era music entirely on authentic instruments of the period. The musicians and historians honor the original 46th Pennsylvania Regiment Band, comprised of musicians from Birdsboro, Pennsylvania, who along with the 46th Pennsylvania Regiment from central Pennsylvania, were among the first responders to Washington, answering President Lincoln's call for troops at the start of the American Civil War.

Colonel Roberts and School Teacher Miss Jodi: Living historians bring joyful teachings of the simple pleasures and way of life for families during this difficult period in American history. Doll making, period games, fashions and activities of the time are brought to life, demonstrating pastimes that helped heal the brokenhearted and mend the fabric of the American family way of life during the Civil War era.

Historic Gettysburg-Adams County will present information on historic barn preservation. HGAC interprets the design, construction and use of the iconic Pennsylvania Bank Barn. Representatives of HGAC discuss the George Spangler Farm's restoration in the past



A Civil War re-enactors recounts the events that took place on Spangler Farm both during, and immediately after, the battle of Gettysburg.

decade—from a dilapidated structure in danger of collapse to a visage of its original glory—that revived this important, tangible component of American history.

The family-friendly programming and offerings include the opportunity for visitors to hear stories about the civilian role during and after the battle. Learn about the Spangler family. Explore Civil War era medicine. Learn about the Letterman System and its use during the battle. See a reproduction Civil War Wheeling (Rosecrans) ambulance. Enjoy a local favorite treat with Mr. G's old-fashioned ice cream.

Visitors to the special Family Day at Spangler event may drive directly to the property located at 488 Blacksmith Shop Road, Gettysburg, and park on-site.

George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital served as the Union Army's 11th Corps field hospital where more than 1,900 wounded soldiers—both Union and Confederate—received care. The site served as an artillery reserve, ammunition reserve, provost guard and a temporary cemetery for both Union and Confederate sol-

diers. Located at 488 Blacksmith Shop Road, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, meticulously renovated, the historic site features restored, original buildings from the 1863 battle.

Gettysburg Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit philanthropic, educational organization operating in partnership with the National Park Service to preserve Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site and educate the public about their significance. The Foundation operates the Museum & Visitor Center at Gettysburg National Military Park, as well as the George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital, the Children of Gettysburg 1863 and Ticket to the Past – Unforgettable Journeys. For information about visiting Gettysburg or how you can become a Friends of Gettysburg member, visit GettysburgFoundation.org or call 877-874-2478. Proceeds from tickets and other purchases in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center benefit Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site.

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Both events will benefit the Thurmont Community Ambulance Service

COMMUNITY NOTES

Underground Railroad Month at Harriet Chapel

Harriet Tubman's Life and Legacy will be presented at historic Harriet Chapel (Catoctin Episcopal Parish), 12625 Catoctin Furnace Rd, Thurmont at 11 a.m. on September 17.

The program is co-sponsored by Harriet Chapel and the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society and is free to the public (donations accepted). Speaker, Angela Crenshaw with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, is planning a program that will be engaging for all ages. Offered on the anniversary of Tubman's first flight to freedom from enslavement, which took place on September 17, 1849, the event also recognizes Under-

ground Railroad Month (September) and the bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's (c. 1822-1913) birth in 2022.

Ranger Angela Crenshaw will share the story of Harriet Tubman, the most famous conductor of the Underground Railroad, who also served as a scout, spy, guerrilla soldier and nurse for the Union Army during the Civil War. Her social activism also included participation in the movement for women's suffrage. Crenshaw's one-hour program will feature the centrality of faith, family, community, and nature in Tubman's life's work.

From 10 a.m. Until 2 p.m., before and after the 11 a.m. presentation,

visitors may enjoy tours of the historic church (c. 1828) and may view the Museum of the Ironworker, across the street, or follow the nearby African American Cemetery Trail. The trail starts at the remains of the Catoctin Iron Furnace, which is a designated site on the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

Ranger Crenshaw leads the Maryland Park Service's Interpreting Difficult Histories Team. Currently assigned to Rocks State Park, in 2017 she became Assistant Manager of Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park in Church Creek, Maryland. There, she excelled at guiding her staff on their jour-

ney to becoming effective interpreters of the topic of American Slavery. Her career with the Maryland Park Service also includes service at Elk Neck and Gunpowder Falls State Parks. She frequently works with such groups as Outdoor Afro, GirlTrek, and Girl Scouts, inspiring others through Tubman's example of inner strength, indomitable spirit and will. Ranger Crenshaw holds a master's degree in Energy and Environmental Policy from the University of Delaware.



For more information about the Harriet Tubman program and historic Harriet Chapel, visit harrietchapel.net or contact Rev. Sally Joyner Giffin at 301-271-4554,

harrietchapel@yahoo.net. For more information about Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, visit catoctinfurnace.org or contact Theresa Donnelly at 443-629-8661, tdonnelly@catoctinfurnace.org.

Eisenhower National Historic Site's WWII weekend

How would you have served during World War II? Army? Navy? Marine? Or home front supporter? In 1942, Americans were building our military forces, supporting our Allies with industrial and agricultural supplies, waging war across two oceans, and struggling to define freedom and citizenship at home.

Eisenhower National Historic Site's (NHS) 2022 World War II Weekend will take place from September 16 to 18. Park staff, living historians, and volunteers will help bring to life the ways ordinary citizens confronted these extraordinary challenges from 80 years ago. This year's event will focus on 1942, a year when millions of Americans came together to fight fascism and the Axis powers.

The 2022 World War II Weekend will feature a keynote address by Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower, a living history encampment, family activities, and special programming at Eisenhower NHS; special exhibits in the Gettysburg National Military Park (NMP) Museum and Visitor Center; and ranger-led walking tours at the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

World War II Weekend Schedule:

Keynote Presentation: Friday, September 16 at 7 p.m.; Susan Eisenhower will discuss her grandfather's leadership style and her book *How Ike Led* at the Gettysburg NMP Museum and Visitor Center. A book signing with Susan Eisenhower will occur following the program. Bring your own copy of one of Susan's books or purchase one in the bookstore in the Museum and Visitor

Center. Tickets are free, but reservations are required.

Saturday, September 17, and Sunday, September 18 from 5 – 6 p.m.: Park rangers will offer guided walking tours of Gettysburg National Cemetery, exploring the stories of the 590 fallen WWII soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen buried there. These programs will focus on stories relevant to 1942. Meet at the Taneytown Road entrance to Gettysburg National Cemetery.

Saturday, September 17 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday, September 18 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.: Eisenhower NHS visitors can explore a living history encampment featuring American and Allied units. For Americans denied the opportunity to fight because of gender, age, or race; volunteers will share how the American public was encouraged to support the war on the home front. Throughout the weekend, park rangers and guest speakers will provide presentations on a variety of topics at the speaker's tent. Park staff and living historians will also provide interactive activities at our Family Education Tent, including a special WWII Weekend Family Activity Booklet. Those completing the booklet can visit our enlistment station and earn their very own WWII style dog tag. See our website for a full schedule of programming.

Saturday, September 17 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday, September 18 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.: The Naval Heritage Command Center, U.S. Museum of the Navy, and the National Museum of the Marine Corps will share special exhibits at the Gettysburg NMP Museum and Visitor Center.

Tours of the Eisenhower home will also be offered throughout the weekend.

How to visit Eisenhower National Historic Site during World War II Weekend:

Shuttle buses depart every half hour from the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center,

located at 1195 Baltimore Pike, on both days of the event. A shuttle fee does apply. Visit the Gettysburg Foundation website or call 877-874-2478 to make reservations.

Free on-site parking for passenger vehicles only will be available at Eisenhower NHS in a farm field accessible from

Emmitsburg Rd, Business Route 15.

For more information visit the Gettysburg Foundation website at www.cart.gettysburgfoundation.org or call 877-874-2478 to make reservations. For a full World War II Weekend event schedule: visit the Eisenhower National Historic Site website www.nps.gov/eise/.

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P	L	A	I	N	T	I	F	F	I
G	P	L	E	O	S	C	M	Y	A
G	O	F	N	O	V	D	R	M	G
T	E	K	C	O	D	U	E	L	E
D	O	D	S	O	J	F	O	E	P
R	R	W	W	L	R	D	L	A	D

AUTHORITY: JOANN M. HEVEY, CPA, PFS, TREASURER

LOCAL ARTS

Music, Gettysburg! opens season

Music, Gettysburg! opens its 52nd season on Sunday September 11, with the Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra's fall concert. Featured will be local cellist Danielle Karppala who will perform the Schumann Cello Concerto. The other works on the program include Mahler's Adagietto, from his Symphony No. 5, to commemorate 9/11, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, the Eroica Symphony.

Cellist Danielle Karppala is a native of Adams County and graduated from Southern Adventist University with honors in cello performance. She continued her musical studies at the Hartt School of Music where she received her MM degree and then to Penn State University where she received a Professional Performance Certificate. She has performed throughout the area and has been with the Richmond and Maryland Symphonies, the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra and the Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra. This summer Danielle was a member of the AIMS Opera Festival Orchestra in Graz, Austria and we welcome her return to our area. Interestingly, she began her musical studies at the age of 11 when she studied cello with Dee Curtis, formerly the Principal Cello in the GCO and an Adams

County native.

The Schumann Cello Concerto was completed in 1850, just a few years before his death, but was never performed until after his death. It has an unusual feature in that, although in three sections, with the usual fast-slow-fast arrangement, the movements are connected without separation. This is the only cello concerto written by Schumann and it owes much of its popularity to the performances by the great cellist Pablo Casals.

Mahler's Symphony No. 5 is one of that composer's favorite works with both critics and audiences and the 4th movement of that work, the Adagietto, has been singled out as one of the most expressive works ever composed. It is written for strings and harp. The other work, Beethoven's 3rd Symphony is also a unique work in that it was originally to be dedicated to Napoleon Bonaparte, who was strongly admired by Beethoven until he declared himself Emperor. The story goes that Beethoven, in a rage, ripped the original title page off the score and erased Napoleon's name. The composer then dedicated the symphony to the concept of the hero!

The Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra was founded in 1997 and has performed every year since

then, until the pandemic. But the ensemble is back again and has plans for continuing concerts under the umbrella of Music, Gettysburg! The original founders, Carolyn and Norman Nunamaker, have been with the group for these many years and have donated their time and talent for the good of the community. One of the objectives of the group was to feature as many local musicians as possible, both as members and as soloists, and this objective has never diminished. During the past 25 years more than 20 local musicians have appeared as soloists, many who have gone on to professional careers with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony, and the Berlin Sinfonica. For more information please call 717-334-5508.

Music, Gettysburg! is a premier concert series featuring international, national, regional and local musical artists for the greater south central Pennsylvania region. The United Lutheran Seminary Chapel is at 147 Seminary Ridge in Gettysburg. For more information about this and other concerts in the Music, Gettysburg! schedule, please call 717-339-1334 or visit the Music, Gettysburg! web site: www.musicgettysburg.org or email to info@musicgettysburg.org.

Adams County Arts Council Opens Applications For 2023 Star Grant Program



Students participating in the "Sing Together" summer program through the Gettysburg Children's Choir, a 2022 STAR Grant recipient

The Adams County Arts Council has opened applications for its 24th STAR (Serving the Arts Regionally) Grant program. The STAR Grant application is open to nonprofits, schools, and artists in need of funding for arts programs that will benefit Adams County residents and visitors.

Applications must be post-marked or hand delivered to ACAC at 125 S. Washington Street no later than November 4, and award letters will be sent in January 2023. Eligibility and restriction guidelines can be found on the application instructions.

The STAR Grant program is

made possible by the generous funding of the Robert C. Hoffman Charitable Endowment Trust, the Adams County Commissioners, and the Borough of Gettysburg.

Please reach out to Kylie Stone, Outreach and Events Coordinator, with any questions or concerns at events@adamsarts.org or by calling at 717-334-5006.

The mission of the Adams County Arts Council is to cultivate an arts-rich community. To see our full list of programs, make donations or learn more about this program, visit our website at www.adamsarts.org.

Way Off Broadway's Murder On The Orient Express

One of Agatha Christie's most intriguing and acclaimed whodunnits comes to The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre this fall in a brand new stage adaptation of Murder on the Orient Express from Tony Award-winning playwright Ken Ludwig. The show will open on September 9th and run through the fall.

In the play, it's just after midnight and a snowdrift stops the Orient Express in its tracks. The luxurious train is surprisingly full for the time of the year, but by the morning it is one passenger fewer. An American tycoon lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside. Isolated and with a killer in their midst, the pas-

sengers rely on detective Hercule Poirot to identify the murderer – in case he or she decides to strike again.

Murder on the Orient Express was first published in 1934 and has become one of Christie's best-known works and one of Poirot's most incredible cases. As The New York Times Book Review said at the time, "The great Belgian detective's guesses are more than shrewd; they are positively miraculous."

So popular has Murder on the Orient Express become since first entering our entertainment culture, it has been

adapted for film, television, games, and now the stage.

The first time the mystery appeared on the big screen was in 1974 when Albert Finney took on the role of the eccentric Belgian sleuth along with a star-studded cast that included Lauren Bacall, Ingrid Bergman, Jacqueline Bisset, Sean Connery, John Gielgud, Anthony Perkins, Vanessa Redgrave, and Richard Widmark. The movie received six Academy Award nominations that year and saw Bergman win the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress.

Taking on the role of the fastidious world-famous investigator Hercules Poirot for Way Off Broadway's production is Dino P. Coppa, Sr., who has appeared in other mysteries at the theatre including Agatha Christie's And Then There Were None and Clue: On Stage. Joining Coppa will be Jessica Billones as Hele Hubbard, Betsey Whitmore Brannen and Pam Neely sharing the role of Princess Dragomiroff, Brian Kaider as Constantine Bouc, Hannah Pecoraro as Greta Ohlsson, Olivia Smith as Mary Debenham, Wil Spaeth and Randy Stull sharing the role of Hector MacQueen, Steve Steele as Michel, Jordan B. Stocksdale in the dual roles of Samuel Ratchett and Colonel Arbuthnot, and Megan E. West as Countess Andrenyi.

Based on Agatha Christie's novel of the same name, the stage adaptation was written by Ken Ludwig and will be directed at Way Off Broadway by Justin Kiska.

Murder on the Orient Express will run September 9 – November 6 with performances every Friday and Saturday evening and matinees on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of each month. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Box Office at 301-662-6600.

To learn more about Way Off Broadway, or any of its productions, including Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express, visit the theatre's website at www.wayoffbroadway.com.

The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, under the direction of the Kiska family since 2002, is now in its 28th Season of producing live theatre.

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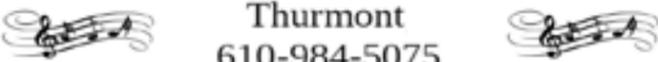


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Fine arts and the weight of modern society

Ashley Walczyk
MSMU Class of 2024

For several years, there has been debate on whether or not fine arts should be included in any core curriculum at schools across the globe. From recently including the 'A' from the common acronym "STEAM"—Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics—many would argue that art does get the fine appreciation it deserves. However, there is some looming fear in high school students as the arts programs decline in funding.

Looking back to our high school days, there could be a class where one drags their feet, waiting until the last minute, dreading the prolonged period one has to spend on something not of their interest. It would be common for someone to have had this feeling at one point in his or her life. However, reflecting back on the past, has this class been of the fine arts? Has painting and drawing—activities that young children do on a hot summer day—been anyone's dissatisfaction? According to Brown Daily Herald, many schools have recently cut art programs and funding, dropping 38.7% in twenty years in the United States alone. In the United Kingdom, there are plans to cut 50% of budgets for arts programs. But what does this mean for our students?

Natasha Irshad claims that "[w]e surround ourselves with art every day, whether it is listening to music, drawing, or even painting." So, with these budget cuts occurring, it is more likely that we will see an increase of demand for some creativity after the academics of the core curriculums. Students need art as much as they need literature, or mathematics, or sciences. Art is a way to express creativity. With expressing creativity can influence expressing emotions and feelings, which would be beneficial to the growth and development of a child. It can develop more "visual learning, motor skills, focus collaboration and decision making."

Not only are the fine arts beneficial

to one's creativity, but Shirley M. Tilghman, Princeton University President from 2001 to 2013, explains that "[b]y participating in the arts, ... students develop cognitive abilities and forms of intelligence that complement training in other disciplines, and in some cases they discover talents and interests that will shape their careers and principal avocations." With Princeton being a university, one may argue that students can make the decision to apply to schools like Princeton that specialize in fine arts education. However, without the taste of art in high schools—a time where expression is crucial for an individual's identity to be established and grow—how would students know that they want to pursue a college that offers degrees within the fine arts?

These are all valid questions, as the fine arts is more than just theatre, music, and painting. Each of these examples have subcategories within the branch of fine arts. Many people today still publish work in art, music, theatre, and in more modern technologies, such as digital creations and photography. These more modern approaches to the fine arts is called 'contemporary.' We refer to them as such because modern and contemporary are of two different time periods. Modern art refers to art created from the late 1800s to the late 1900s. Modern art has revolutionized the contemporary art we see today, as contemporary art not only focuses on painting and drawing, but instead, a lot more mediums, such as video art, object design, tech-enables artworks, graphic arts, and many more.

Art is not only of the recent time period, but instead, dates back thousands of years. In fact, the first recorded artistic representation were cave paintings. Author Sandra Larson believes that cave paintings "prove that humans were capable of abstraction and art reproductions, also being able to communicate through this language with others..." Art has a history that is rooted and connects generations from different millennium and communicates activities that would be lost due

to the lack of a written vernacular. For example, ancient Egyptians usage of the hieroglyphics used symbols to reference letters and words of their language. Communicative skills are embedded within art. Larson believes that "[art] is a way in which people from all corners of the world can communicate directly or indirectly through artistic products and acts."

Theatrical productions, on the other hand, join together not only communicative language, but also a range of ages. Larson believes that theatre is "still one big passion and this activity is always bringing by people of all ages together in the same room." Family theatres mostly license the junior versions of shows, which are shortened compared to the lengthy originals. These junior productions allow children the responsibility of making a commitment and working hard to produce their own creative take on the character assigned to them by a director. In more professional theatre settings, cast members have the abilities to already establish character studies after a few rehearsals, putting on productions within weeks. For them, they are able to express the character's feeling and get the audience to connect with them on an emotional level.

It is possible that some of these important details are lost when thinking of fine arts and theatre in particular. Larson explains how "[a]ccording to some allegations, technology is blamed for people's lack of interest in certain forms of art, and here many will say that theatre is one category. Still, on the other side, some believe that art in society is still appreciated, and that people are not indifferent when emotions, ideas, and work are transposed into a



play." However admirable the claims may be, Shakespeare's finest works range from tragedies to comedies. He did not specialize in one particular genre, but instead, created a vast portfolio, and successfully produced works that resonate with actors years later.

These small extracurriculars could one day be someone's living. Without the early exposure to the fine arts, one would not understand their passion, adoration, and commitment they have to a way of freedom of expression and creativity. The TATE Organization—a committee that specializes in the understanding and appreciation of British art from the 16th century to the contemporary time period—has also reviewed studies of the importance of art in curriculums across the United Kingdom. As well as stating several points made previously, the organization also claims that "[c]reativity is essential in a global economy that needs a workforce that is knowledgeable, imaginative, and innovative. Studying arts subjects also increases social mobility—encouraging and motivating students from low-income families to go into higher education. Studying the arts can also help with understanding, interpreting and

negotiating the complexities and diversity of society."

There is nothing wrong with studying such complex works. Art is designed to make you feel a certain way. Much like a writer conveying emotion with the string of words they use to form paragraphs and prose with the fine arts is not much different. Colors, rhythms, poetic language, all deal with attempting to get the audience to feel a certain way about a subject, or a flower, or a high-pitched whistle. Creativity speaks to everyone differently, and with our own experiences builds character. We are able to express what we like or don't like, what we want to wear, what we want our hairstyle to be. With creativity, we are able to make the choices we want to make and can understand why someone chooses different. As the TATE organization also explains, "[a]rts and cultural learning encourages awareness, empathy and appreciation of difference and diversity and the views of others." That is the importance of the fine arts education.

To read past Mount Art articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.

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CATOCTIN SPORTS

Optimism about coming seasons

Gina Lin
CHS Class of 2024

Summer seemed to have flown by this year. This school year began on August 17th. Some might even argue that school started way too soon. But, that also kicks off fall sports, which began on August 10th this year. Catoctin will be competing in a variety of sports this fall including cheerleading, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, soccer, unified tennis, and volleyball. Tryouts for all teams were held on August 10th through August 12th, with an exception of unified tennis.

The Catoctin golf team is coached by Mark Smith, a first year coach. Home matches and practices will also occur at the golf club. Concerning the team's performance during tryouts, Coach Smith commented that "the future looks very bright!" Of the 18 athletes that were present at tryouts, 14 were selected for the team. Some returning players who did well in the previous season include senior Zane Shugars, senior Donovan Baker, junior Peyton Cramer, sophomore Jordan Moore

and sophomore Justin Mehall. Additionally, two seniors and one sophomore will be returning this year. Of the new players there are five freshmen and one sophomore.

Fresh from their track victory in the spring, the boys cross country team is ready to compete. David Lillard, who has had over 20 years of experience, will be coaching the boys cross country team again. There are 11 runners on the team, with returners like senior Alex Contreras, junior Gabe Riling, and junior Santi Canadas. All three runners participated in summer training camps; Coach Lillard regards them to be leaders on the field. With the team's overall capabilities, Coach Lillard hopes to make it "to the top five." The girls team will be coached by Robert "Trey" Davis, who is in his sixth year of coaching. The lineup features five returners: two juniors and two sophomores, along with two newcomers, including a foreign exchange student from Denmark! Although the team is relatively young, Coach Davis feels buoyant "some naturally talented athletes... could carry us not only in the

region, but in the state[s] as well."

Miriah Stone will be coaching the field hockey team this fall. There will be 17 players this year, seven of which are new: five freshmen, two sophomores, three juniors, and seven seniors. Last year, the team came close to dominating the regional championship; they only lost by a point. Junior Natalie Hoyt pointed out, "with the talent we have on the team this year, and if we play like I know we know how to, I think our season will be even better than last year's." The first game is projected to be at home on September 6th against Brunswick High.

Over the summer CHS volleyball held its first volleyball camp from July 18th through July 20th, after a three year intermission due to the pandemic. The team's Facebook page commented, "Each girl showed up ready to play and grow in their skills for the three day camp!" Open gyms were also available during the summer but, unfortunately, ended prematurely due to school maintenance. Varsity volleyball has been practicing everyday after school. Team Captain and senior Abigail May mentioned that during practice the girls, "...are learning new drills, fine tuning skills, and growing our bond and cohesion." Wes Fream will be returning to coach volleyball. The varsity team is looking pretty impressive as many of the girls are engaged in club or recreational volleyball, persistently. With 11 veteran players and one newcomer, varsity volleyball is sure to have success in store. May has many priorities for her team - some of which include to, "...grow as players, we continue to stay aggressive and enthusiastic, and that we bring home some good wins for Catoctin." CHS volleyball will play Frederick High during their first game on September 6th. The JV team



The Catoctin High field hockey team is hopeful in capturing regional championships this year.

will play Frederick on the same day.

The football team has been preparing for the upcoming season with several workouts, over the course of the summer, targeted at strength training. Coach Michael Rich will continue in his third year of coaching Catoctin football. In an interview with Frederick County Sports Weekend, Coach Rich expressed confidence in the team's performance this season as there are many players returning including 18 seniors. A conspicuous senior is JD McCallion; McCallion led the team in tackles and was an all-area player during his previous years. Coach Rich reflected on the previous season, noting that, "We had a very small senior class and while that led to some struggles last year, it gave a lot of young guys the opportunity to play."

According to Coach Rich, a majority of players last year were less experienced and as a result Catoctin didn't have the best track record. But, Coach Rich is optimistic about this season as the players have been training persistently and building trust amongst each other. Rich also discussed his growth in coaching, "I can't coach our guys like Urbana or Oakdale... I have to coach Catoctin High School like Catoctin High School." Additionally, Coach Rich pointed to the benefits of

coaching a small school as analogous to a family: "We train together, we live together, and we get close together."

If you would like full schedules of when games are set to take place, you can visit the Frederick County CMC website and click on Catoctin High School at the right hand side. It should give you dates for every sports team at CHS and the location, time, and opponent.

Fundraising is a crucial component to helping out sports teams. One way the Catoctin High School Sports Boosters does that is by operating concession stands. Currently, the organization is in need of a concessions manager as that position has been vacant for the past two years. The concessions manager is not assigned to run the concession stands, rather maintain inventory and supplies for the stand. Additionally, the concession manager will provide seasonal training and further instructions to the team parents who run the stands. If you are interested in this position please email the CHS Sports Boosters at catoctinbooster@gmail.com.

Some more important news to be informed of include eligibility requirements. FCPS has updated highschool eligibility requirements to participate in extracurricular activities as of July 15th. According to Regulation No. 500-24, "High school students who...have a GPA below 2.0 at the end of the second semester will not be eligible to participate in Fall extracurricular activities." This was a change from previous requirements as FCPS is now considering final course grades for the first and second semester instead of term-based eligibility.

To read past Catoctin Sport articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.

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MOUNT SPORTS

Luke Pryor shines in collegiate summer league play

Steve Morano
MSMU Class of 2024

During the 2022 MLB Draft League season, teams from across the eastern United States competed in a collegiate summer league for baseball players belonging to NCAA affiliated leagues. The Draft League itself was founded in 2021 and is made up of former minor league teams affiliated with Major League clubs who, during COVID-19, became unaffiliated from their respective teams. The Frederick Keys were one of the minor league teams who lost affiliation, specifically from the Baltimore Orioles of the American League at the High-A level of the Minor Leagues. One pitcher for the Keys this summer, Luke Pryor, a senior at the Mount and Middletown High School grad, performed at a very high level in anticipation for the 2023 MAAC baseball season.

During the 2022 NEC baseball season, Pryor showed off what he could do as a pitcher, particularly regarding his longevity on the mound, notching seven starts where he pitched five innings or more. This longevity became apparent on April 2nd, when Pryor pitched a complete game, only giving up one earned run and striking out six batters as the Mountaineers defeated Wagner 7-1. However, a worrying factor to Pryor's 2022 collegiate season was his ERA, sitting at 7.90 at the end of the season. But this summer with the Keys, Pryor has revamped his ERA and has dropped it down to 3.26 in what head

coach Frank Leoni hopes will lead the Mount to a successful first season in the MAAC during the Spring.

In seven games played for the Keys this Summer, Pryor started three of them, all coming in his first three games. His first start against the Trenton Thunder, Pryor Pitched 4.0 innings and struck out three batters, but gave up three runs of five hits, being accredited with his one and only loss of the season. In his next start, Pryor struck out three and allowed two hits, only pitching 3.0 innings, perhaps being taken out to get other pitchers' times on the mound as the Keys used up six pitchers in a 4-4 tie with the West Virginia Black Bears. His third and final start came during a 12-6 win over the State College Spikes (played in 7 innings due to league rules), while only pitching 3.0 innings on the days striking out three batters and allowed two unearned runs. This would be his final game started for the Keys during the summer, being used to pitch from a new approach out of the bullpen.

In his first appearance out of the pen, Pryor came into the game during the sixth inning. With the Keys up by five runs, Pryor had some cushion to work with from his offense. After getting out the first batter in the 5th via a flyout, Pryor walked the next batter and then took a line drive off his foot to put a runner at first and second. Pryor stayed in the game, however, as the ball had come off a broken bat rather than a straight-line drive. Though shaken up by this, Pryor kept

his cool and struck out the next batter, forcing the next batter to flyout to right field to preserve the shutout for the Keys.

Pryor continued his work in the 6th inning, as he showed off his composure in situations around him. A top of the order hit and a walk put runners on first and second with no outs, but Pryor forced the third batter to ground out into a double play moving a runner to third. Pryor now had two outs, but a baserunner looking him dead in the eye as the right-hander was still on the mound. With the weight of the fans in attendance to preserve the shutout and the pressure of having a runner in scoring position looking right at him, Pryor struck out the fourth batter to end the inning. With this, Pryor preserved the shutout for the Keys and became eligible for the win as the Keys went on to beat the Spikes 7-2.

After the game, Pryor noted the mental strength he endured at the end of the sixth inning, saying, "With two outs, you just have to make a pitch to get him out, because an out is an out and it ends the inning. With one out you really want to try to get him to put something on the ground. It's not something I really worry about; you just must give yourself the best chance to get that guy out and not let the runner score."

The rest of Pryor's appearances for the Keys in the summer came out of the bullpen in similar fashion to the game against State College, to either relieve the starter, or on two occasions, to give the best chance for the

offense to do its work in the final couple of innings. In particular, the game against the Williamsport Crosscutters on July 13th stands out, as Pryor came in to pitch the final two innings in what would be a 7-2 loss for the Keys. In that game Pryor would only walk one batter while striking out three in only two innings of work on the mound. To end the season, Pryor came to a 1-1 record, 19.1 innings pitched, a WHIP of 1.448 and an ERA of 3.26, drastically improving from his ERA with the Mount in 2022, which sat at 7.90.

With the Frederick Keys now being a summer collegiate league team affiliated with the MLB Draft League, many people like Pryor have found themselves keeping sharp in leagues like this across the country. "I knew I was going to play summer ball" Pryor said, "...I knew a guy who helped me get into this league and then a scout gave me the go ahead to play in this league, and it was great, I knew Frederick had a team, so it was great to get placed here."

Head coach for the Mount's baseball team Frank Leoni said, "Our primary goals when we place players in summer leagues are to find a competitive league that will challenge them to get better on the baseball field and to find a place that will provide a new/



different geographical exposure—somewhere they may have to come outside of their comfort zone, helping them grow as people." And Pryor will certainly bring a lot of knowledge and experience to the Mount, saying, "There's power five guys, there's guys from different countries, we have three guys that are from the Chinese Baseball Academy, which is really cool, and there are a bunch of junior college guys here, there are more different varieties of baseball here."

During the summer, Pryor has showed he can pitch in multiple different types of scenarios, whether that be as a starter or out of the bullpen as a long reliever in the middle of the game, or a short reliever at the end. It begs the question: will Pryor be used in a more dynamic role for the Mount in the spring?

To read past Mount Sport articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.



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The power of the invisible

Jefferson Breland

This is the third installment on the influences of “context” on our health. What is the “context” of our health? It is nothing less than all of our relationships with everything in the world.

Our health is very often influenced by “invisible” forces. These “invisible” forces are all around us. They are even inside us.

When I say “invisible,” I mean outside of our awareness or consciousness. I am specifically referring to the daily, the moment to moment, the everyday of our lives “invisible” forces. These forces may be personal, familial, economic, and cultural. I am speaking of beliefs.

I know we may be aware of some of our beliefs like religion, politics, ideas about right and wrong, the weather, personal preferences, love, sports, cars and trucks to name a few.

Often our beliefs are invisible to us. We can be unaware of our beliefs because we have had no reference points for differing beliefs. Life is just the way it is. It's the way things have always been and always will be. The never thought about what it is and why it is I believe something.

We often take these ideas to be truths without having examined them. Are they true? Are they really true? Examining our beliefs is simply waking up to how our beliefs influence the way we move in the world. For me, what is most important is waking up to how our beliefs influence our health.

How does this relate to health? It is our beliefs, which inform our

thoughts. Our thoughts in the presence of people, things, and events in our life are the basis for our emotions. According to Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), our emotions when out of balance are the root cause of 90-95% of all disease. Curiously, TCM calls the out of balance emotions the “Internal Causes of Disease.” These imbalances can lead to all manner of illness, both physical and emotional. These illnesses can range from heart disease, cancer, diabetes, allergies, stroke, asthma, generalized pain such as fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome, so on and so forth.

When we encounter different ways of thinking, doing, being, or speaking, we sometimes choose to be frustrated. We may choose to suffer unnecessarily. This unnecessary suffering can have a dramatic effect on our health. We may not even realize that this suffering is optional, i.e., unnecessary. This frustration has an effect on the body. If we are often frustrated by life this can lead to illnesses like high blood pressure, heart disease, and autoimmune conditions.

When I researched (Googled) possible topics for discussion for this article, I found a wide variety. Many beliefs can lead to amazing disagreements or wars.

I decided to look up (Google) topics less triggering. A common belief is to never bring up certain topics at the dinner table for the sake of civility and healthier digestion. Four often agreed-upon topics to not discuss are religion, politics, money, and sex.

These topics are chock-full of beliefs not always agreed upon. If I tackled these beliefs, I would fill a

very thick book, and have to go into a witness protection program. In order to not “poke too many bears,” I made a relatively neutral (safe) decision to discuss instead, table manners, yes, table manners.

Something as seemingly innocuous as table manners can be a source of frustration and a good example of beliefs that may not be true and may contribute to unnecessary suffering.

In researching (again Googling) this topic, I ran across a curious article on the business insider website which describes a host of things to never do at a dinner party. It was written by a “long-time” butler. Let the beliefs/opinions begin.

The list includes:

- Never use your napkin as a bib.
- Never use the table as an elbow rest.
- Never overreact if you spill something on yourself (or someone else).
- Never talk with your hands while holding cutlery.
- Never reach over the table for the salt.
- Never hover over your plate to shovel food into your mouth.
- Never talk with a mouth full of food.
- Never turn your nose up to the food being served.
- Never attempt to discretely blow your nose at the table.
- Never leave your napkin on the chair after dinner.

Take a look at this list and observe your thoughts. All of your thoughts

are based on your beliefs. Wow, I never knew I had such strong opinions about table manners. What was So-and-so thinking when they left their napkin on their chair?! How rude!

The great thing about these dinner party beliefs is that they are very specific to the culture of people who hire butlers and have dinner parties.

There are a number of assumptions made. One example is, what defines a dinner party? How many people are in attendance? Are there multiple courses of food? Are butlers always involved? What about which glass and fork to use when? Oh my God, that butler left out so many other possible embarrassments. Who decides what is proper?

It may appear I have lost my mind using dinner party manners as an example of beliefs that may affect our health. How many of you said, “Number 9, that's stupid” or “number 7 is just plain common sense” or “number 2 is just plain rude”?

Any of these opinions is based on beliefs. Beliefs that we learned somewhere along the road of our lives. Beliefs are learned. Beliefs are not found in nature. Beliefs are our human way of interacting with each other and the world around us.

Curiously, not doing at least two of the above rules would be considered rude at any meal in at least a handful of countries which have different beliefs about what is proper and respectful. Who is right? Who is wrong? It all comes back to context.

A search on amazon.com for books about table manners came back with over 2,000 results. Really? I mean, Really? Do we need 2,000 books to tell us how to eat “politely”? What is “politely” anyhow? (Now my beliefs are showing.)

If there is enough interest in the world to produce at least 2,000 books written in English about table manners, imagine how much physical and emotional energy is spent teaching, correcting, explaining the value of, getting upset by, and being embarrassed by the actions of eating a meal.

Don't even get me started on what (to me) is the funny idea that humans are the only species that has to be taught how and what to eat food what is beneficial to them. A quick search of amazon.com results in a list of over 50,000 books.

50,000 books by humans, for humans, about how and what humans should eat. Maybe it's just me... that's ridiculous. I know. I know. That's my beliefs talking. I am a little riled up now, and that just about table manners and diets!!

Imagine how our beliefs around more passionate issues effect our well-being. It is not a stretch to imagine that beliefs are the number one cause of death in the US. If you look at root cause (according to TCM) of the deaths from heart disease, diabetes, stroke, cancers, and violence, you may find a correlation to beliefs.

The quickest way to improve your health is to change your beliefs. What beliefs shake you up emotionally when you encounter different ones? What are the unexamined ideas about life that cause your life to be out of balance emotionally and physically?

I realize that I have rambled a bit here. I have asked a bunch of questions and not offered any answers or practices to help you have better health. I realize that I may have opened Pandora's box. Remember what was left in the box. Hope.

As always, if you have any questions, give me a call, write me an email or a letter and keep paying attention and be well.

Jefferson Breland is a board-certified acupuncturist licensed in Pennsylvania and Maryland with offices in Gettysburg. If you would like to know more about how Jefferson helps people please call him at 410-336-5876, email him at jeffersonacupuncture@gmail.com, or visit his website www.jeffersonbrelandacupuncture.org.

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Frederick Health offering prostate cancer clinic

Josh Faust
Frederick Health

According to the American Cancer Society, Prostate Cancer is the second most common cancer in American men and the number two cause of cancer deaths in men, following only lung cancer. Annually, there are around 268,000 new prostate cases and 34,500 deaths. Nearly 1 in 8 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime. While most men who are diagnosed with prostate cancer do not die from the disease and seek treatment, studies show that about 1 in 41 men will die from this form of cancer.

While these numbers are certainly stark, residents of Frederick County who have recently been diagnosed with prostate cancer can benefit from award-winning services located close to home.

Frederick Health, the largest healthcare provider in Frederick County, has developed a new Prostate Cancer Multi-Disciplinary Clinic (PMDC). This clinic is located at the James M Stockman Cancer Institute on Opossumtown Pike. The PMDC is an innovative and comprehensive approach to treating newly diagnosed prostate cancer patients by pulling together an expert team of providers from several different medical areas. As a result of this clinic, patients will now be able to see all their doctors on the same day, at the same location with no need to schedule multiple appointments or travel out of the area.

“This new multi-disciplinary clinic will improve not only the coordination and treatment for the patients, but also the overall patient experience,” said Dr. Heather Chalfin, a fellowship-trained Urologic Oncologist Surgeon with Frederick Health Medical Group that oversees the PMDC program.

Dr. Chalfin participated in similar clinics with Johns Hopkins and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) before joining Frederick Health in 2021. Her expertise in this area allowed her to help build the team that would serve as the backbone of the prostate cancer clinic.

To improve the patient experience with the prostate cancer clinic, Taylor Rose PA-C serves as a dedicated care Navigator on hand to help guide patients through the process to ensure that all their needs are being met, well beyond the actual clinic day. This convenient program will explain and offer all treatment options in the same clinic visit. To better offer a personalized approach to medicine, the Frederick Health team will screen all patients for genetic testing to be offered that same day when appropriate. By understanding each patient’s unique features, their healthcare journey is tailor-made to fit their needs. For example, some patients may better suited to radiation with or without various medical treatments, and others may be better candidates for surgery. By understanding each patient’s unique needs, Frederick Health treats each patient like a person and not just another case.

“Providing patients access to the highest quality of care greatly improves outcomes,” continued Chalfin.

Another benefit of the PMDC is

that patients will have the opportunity to speak to their entire team at once, having them answer questions, provide guidance, and discuss what treatment works best for their needs. If necessary, patients can also obtain a second opinion on their current treatment plan.

Like with most cancers and illness, the importance of early screening and proactive treatment is critical to the patient’s outcomes and recovery. Prostate cancer is more likely to develop in older men and in non-Hispanic Black men. Most cases are diagnosed in individuals over the age of 65, but men should begin routine screenings for the disease at the age of 55 (in the absence of family history of prostate cancer). Family history of cancer, as well as lifestyle, diet and weight are also contributing factors in developing the disease.

Many prostate cancers grow slowly and are confined to the prostate gland, where they may not cause serious harm. However, while some types of prostate cancer grow slowly and may need minimal or even no treatment, other types are aggressive and can spread quickly. Once the cancer spreads to nearby organs, such as the bladder or lymphatic system, it can be more difficult to treat. In fact, prostate cancer usually has no symptoms until it is very advanced, so screening is very important.

“We hope to use this clinic as an opportunity to expand clinical trial options for our patients,” added Chalfin. “What this means is that Frederick Health patients will have a diverse range of treatment options not normally offered and these options will be here within their community.”

Ultimately the goal of this new prostate cancer clinic is to improve the lives of patients and their families, as well

as the treatment outcomes and recovery rates. Nationally, prostate cancer has a 96% survival rate once it has been detected and accurately treated. By developing and implementing this new prostate cancer clinic, Dr. Chalfin hopes to improve the patient experience during what is already a stressful time.

“Ensuring that patients can attend all of their appointments in a single day helps ease the burden of an already dif-

ficult situation,” continued Chalfin. “This exciting approach is just another example of Frederick Health offering innovative, award-winning care to the community that we serve.”

To schedule an appointment with the Frederick Health PMDC, individuals can call 240-566-7632. For more information, please visit www.frederickhealth.org/pmdc.



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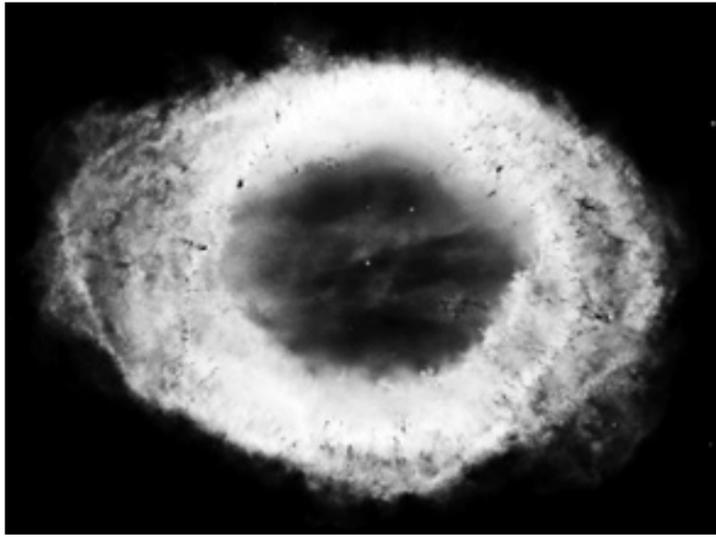
The night sky of September

Professor Wayne Wooten

For September 2022, the moon is first quarter on September 3rd, just to the upper left of Antares in Scorpius. The Full Moon, the famed Harvest Moon, is on September 10th; it sits just to the right of brighter Jupiter, which comes to opposition on September 26th. The last quarter moon is on September 17th, and lies just above and to the left of red Mars, now getting brighter as the earth closes in on it. The autumnal equinox begins fall on September 22nd at 9:04 p.m. The thin waning crescent moon will lie just above bright Venus about 30 minutes before sunrise on September 24th, a last glimpse of both before they get lost in the sun's glare. The new moon is on September 26th. The waxing crescent again passes Antares on September 30th, marking the synodic month, based on the moon's position among the stars, as 27.3 days.

Mercury lies too close to the Sun for visibility from Earth this month, but will emerge into the dawn in October. But Venus says good bye; it passed Regulus in Leo in the dawn on September 4-6th, but will be behind the Sun by month's end. But contrast the three superior planets are well placed for telescopic observing. Mars rises about midnight, in the head of Taurus, and is striking now as gibbous in phase at 200X or more in good telescopes. It will be fully lit by opposition in December.

Jupiter reaches opposition on September 26th and is strik-



M57, or the Ring Nebula, is a planetary nebula, the glowing remains of a sun-like star. It is about 2,000 light-years away in the constellation Lyra, and is best observed in September.

ing with its four moons and racing stripes and Great Red Spot. Our planetary feature for the month is this fine shot of the huge moon Ganymede, just to the left of Jupiter on August 8th, casting its black shadow on the South Temperate belt of Jupiter. Look along the same belt toward the right limb, and you can also spot the round yellowish disk of Io, the innermost of the four Galilean moons. Their constant dance makes observing Jupiter a delight with even smaller scopes. Consider that within an hour, Io would revolve to the right, off the disk, before slower Ganymede even reached the left limb here. How quickly things change!

As noted last month, Saturn came to opposition in Capricornus, and is now well up in the SE sky. It rings are now tilted about ten

degrees to our line of sight, and closing become edge on at its equinox in May 2025, almost invisible from earth for weeks.

To the northwest, we find the familiar Big Dipper getting lower each evening. Most know how to use the two pointers at the lower part of the bowl to find Polaris, our Pole Star, sitting about 30 degrees high all night in the northern sky.

From the Dipper's handle, we "arc" SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of Spring, and still well up in the western twilight. Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo. Note that Spica is now low in the SW, and by September's end, will be lost in the Sun's glare due to our annual revolution of the Sun making it appear to move one degree per day eastward.

To the south, Antares marks the heart of Scorpius. It appears reddish (its Greek name means rival of Ares or Mars to the Romans) because it is half as hot as our yellow Sun; it is bright because it is a bloated red supergiant, big enough to swallow up our solar system all the way out to Saturn's orbit! Near the tail of the

Scorpius are two fine open clusters, faintly visible to the naked eye, and spectacular in binoculars. The clusters lie to the upper left of the bright double star that marks the stinger in the Scorpion's tail. The brighter, M-7, is also known as Ptolemy's Cluster, since he included it in his star catalog about 200 AD.

East of the Scorpion's tail is the teapot shape of Sagittarius, which marks the heart of our Milky Way galaxy. Looking like a cloud of steam coming out of the teapot's spout is the fine Lagoon Nebula, M-8, easily visible with the naked eye.

The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega dominates the NE sky. Binoculars reveal the small star just to the NE of Vega, epsilon Lyrae, as a nice double. Larger telescopes at 150X reveal each of this pair is another close double, hence its nickname, "The Double Double". This is fine sight under steady seeing conditions over 150X with scopes 4" or larger. Between the two bottom stars; the Ring Nebula, marked "M-57" on the Skymap, is a ring of gas and dust expelled by a dying red giant star while its core collapsed to a white dwarf. A similar fate is expected for our own sun in perhaps five billion more years.

To the northeast of Vega is Deneb, the brightest star of Cygnus the Swan. It was just NW of it that I discovered the brightest nova of my lifetime, Nova Cygni, on August 27, 1975. Here a shell of hydrogen around a white dwarf exploded suddenly, becoming a record (for a nova, at least) 20 million times brighter in a matter of hours. It went from not visible in any telescope to the sixth brightest star in the summer sky in less than a day, and I was looking at the right place and time to catch it still on the rise. But the total amount of expelled gases was much less than in the Ring Nebula, and it faded below naked eye visibility in only two weeks. Fun

while it lasted! Typically several nova outbursts are found every year in our Galaxy, and they do often recur, for neither star in the close binary system was destroyed, and the mass transfer can resume soon.

A much grander supernova explosion about 20,000 year ago created the famed Cygnus Loop, near the SE wing of the Swan, epsilon Cygni. It spans about three degrees across, or six times the full moon's diameter, but needs a dark clear sky and a wide field 4" or larger telescope to see the faint loop. The supernova that created it was probably brighter than even Venus when our distant ancestors spotted it, about the time they first reached the New World. Did any of them portray it on a cave roof? It was probably visible for years to their naked eyes, for much more material was blown outward by the collapse of this massive star's core, and today the Loop has swelled to over 100 light years across, and is estimated to lie about 2,400 light years distant.

At the other end of the "northern Cross" that makes up the body of Cygnus is Albireo, the finest and most colorful double star in the sky. Its orange and blue members (I call them the "Gator Stars") are well resolved at 20X by any small scope. To the south is Altair, the brightest star of Aquila the Eagle, the third member of the three bright stars that make the Summer Triangle so obvious in the NE these clear September evenings. Binoculars should be taken to the deep sky gazes to sweep the rich portion of the Galaxy now best placed overhead in this area.

To the east, the Square of Pegasus rises. The long axis of the square points to the SW to Saturn in the tail of Capricornus. The two easternmost stars in the square point south to even brighter Jupiter, rising due east in Pisces. Planet observing season has arrived.

Farmers' Almanac

"Happily we bask in this warm September sun, which illuminates all creatures."

—Henry David Thoreau (1817-1882)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Very hot, scattered late day showers, isolated thunderstorms, mainly east (1, 2); not as hot, late-day scattered showers, storms (3, 4); dry, turning slightly cooler and less humid (5, 6); turning more humid (7, 8, 9); warmer, late-day rain, thunderstorms (10, 11, 12); few morning showers, muggy (13); dry and quite warm with late-day showers (14, 15, 16); fair (17); warmer, more humid with late-day showers (18, 19, 20); cooler, less humid (21, 22); fair, warmer (23, 24, 25, 26); afternoon showers (27, 28, 29, 30).

Severe Weather Watch: The Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack sees Excessive Heat (1, 2) then Severe Thunderstorms (12).

Full Moon: The Harvest Moon is the Full Moon that falls closest to the

Autumnal Equinox (usually in September) at a time when the moon rises soon after sunset on several successive days. According to tradition, the extra light from the moon during that period gave the farmer more time in which to finish up his chores and bring in the harvest. In 2022, the Autumnal Equinox occurs on Thursday, September 22nd and signals the beginning of Autumn. The Full Moon closest to that date occurs on Saturday, September 10th and is therefore, the Harvest Moon of 2022.

Holidays: Labor Day falls on the first Monday of the month which is September 5th in 2022. We must never forget that on September 11th, 2001, America was attacked like never before and that it has never been the same since. Today, we honor those who perished then on that day and we must never forget the brave first-responders, many who also perished, trying to minimize the loss of life. Citizenship Day is observed on Saturday, September 17th and Rosh Hashana begins on Monday, September 26th at sunset.

The Garden: Make a long-range plan to gradually convert your current landscape to the one you desire. Don't forget to consider what your flower garden might need. Plant spring-flowering bulbs such as daffodils, hyacinths, and tulips 6 to 8 weeks before the first frost.

The Farm: Best days for planting root crops (13, 14, 15); weeding and stirring the soil (21, 22); planting above-ground crops (1, 2, 28, 29); harvesting all crops (11, 12); best days for setting hens and incubators (4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18); the slaughtering and butchering of meat (1, 2, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30); transplanting (1, 2, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 30); the harvesting and storing of grains (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24).

J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living

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COMPUTER Q&A

Maintenance for your MAC & PC

Ayse Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer Services

Every 3,000 miles or so you know that it's important to change your car oil otherwise the lack of lubrication in your engine will cause the machinery to begin to degrade. While, your computer doesn't run on fluids and there's no "magical number" to tell you how often to maintain your PC it should be regularly maintained. Much like a car, computers generally run great when you first get them and before you begin loading all of the software you would like to use. Over time however, you may find that your system begins to bog down and the performance you once enjoyed from using your computer turns into headaches!

Never fear Jester's Computers is here. Read on below about some of the maintenance tasks we perform and some tips on what to do and what not to do if you perform maintenance yourself.

Software

Each time you install software you are presented with a variety of options some which are checked by default. Some of these options include instructions that tell your programs to run automatically when you turn on your computer, other options might be prompting you to install additional software on your computer that you may not want or need. Sometimes programs just don't work the way that we expect them to and with a little TLC they can be resolved!

Over time your software builds up and more and more programs fight to be the center of attention. Uninstalling software can cause registry keys to be left behind that can cause interference with other software and can ultimately lead to more serious system issues. This can cause your computer to become extremely slow especially when you first turn the computer on. We can disable startup programs, uninstall ones you don't use, and maximize your system performance. Browsing the internet will increase the amount of temporary internet files that are being stored on your device, we remove these files many of which are hidden to free up valuable storage space on your hard drive.

Tips: When installing software be sure to check for any checkboxes that might be asking you to install extra software or options you don't need. We do not recommend using many of the commercial registry cleaners that are available as many of them do more harm than good.

Hardware

Standard PC hard drives contain moving mechanical parts that over time can fail, leaving you with no data and no way to retrieve the pictures, documents and other information you have stored on your device. Your computer is made up of various components which are susceptible to failure especially in high heat environments. During our clean-up we blow out your devices with compressed air and we perform diagnostic testing on your computer system that increases the

chances of revealing failing hardware before it becomes a major issue. We perform a variety of maintenance tasks including driver updates, disk error checking and disk defragmentation.

Tips: Never use a vacuum to clean a computer as it generates static electricity and can cause components to fail. Regular hard drive defragmentation is overkill and will wear your hard drive out faster, defragging should only be done once or twice a year for maintenance because your system will do a pretty good job at maintaining itself.

Viruses / Malware

Having a good working antivirus is your first line of defense against viruses, malware and other potentially unwanted programs (PUPS). During our clean-up service we ensure that your antivirus is properly installed and updated. If you don't have antivirus installed we will recommend AVG antivirus for which we are a gold reseller for, with our service we are your FREE AVG tech support and we will even transfer your Antivirus to a new PC if you replace your existing one at no additional cost to you! You can even add additional computers for only \$25 extra per computer.

Tips: Never install two antivirus programs at the same time they will conflict with one another leaving them both ineffective. Microsoft Security Essentials is not good protection even Microsoft suggests a third-party antivirus.

Advice & Learning

At Jester's Computers our advice is always FREE and we have lots of it! You can visit our website at www.jesterscomputers.com to see news, tips and tricks that many of our customers enjoy reading. We strongly believe that having a computer doesn't do you much good if you are not confident in using your device which is why we offer many resources including one-on-one technology classes! You can also find us on Facebook where those who have liked our page enjoy scam alerts, news and special offers!

Why not maintain my own computer? Technology is constantly changing and keeping up is no easy task. It has taken us decades of knowledge and experience to be able to confidently provide our services. Having someone you trust to maintain your computer can save you hours if not days or weeks of frustration.



If you or someone you know is looking for affordable and reliable computer service please contact Jester's Computer services located at 5135 Fairfield Road Fairfield, by phone at 717-642-6611 or visit us on the web at www.jesterscomputers.com or on Facebook. In addition to computer repair services we provide on-site service, one-on-one technology training and more!

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HUMOR

Can you guess which of the following are true and which are false?

- Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.
- Alfred Hitchcock didn't have a belly button.
- A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately 2 teeth every 10 years.
- People do not get sick from cold weather; it's from being indoors a lot more.
- When you sneeze, all bodily functions stop, even your heart!
- Only 7 per cent of the population are lefties.
- Forty people are sent to the hospital for dog bites every minute.
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until they are 2-6 years old.
- The average person over 50 will have spent 5 years waiting in lines.
- The toothbrush was invented in 1498
- The average housefly lives for one month.
- 40,000 Americans are injured by toilets each year.
- A coat hanger is 44 inches long when straightened.
- The average computer user blinks 7 times a minute.
- Your feet are bigger in the afternoon than any other time of day.
- Most of us have eaten a spider in our sleep.
- The REAL reason ostriches stick their head in the sand is to search for water.
- The only two animals that can see behind themselves without turning their heads are the rabbit and the parrot.
- John Travolta turned down the starring roles in "An Officer and a Gentleman" and "Tootsie."
- Michael Jackson owns the rights to the South Carolina State anthem.
- In most television commercials advertising milk, a mixture of white paint and a little thinner is used in place of the milk.
- Prince Charles and Prince William NEVER travel on the same airplane, just in case there is a crash.
- The first Harley Davidson motorcycle built in 1903 used a tomato can for a carburetor.
- Most hospitals make money by selling the umbilical cords cut from women who give birth. They are used in vein transplant surgery.
- Humphrey Bogart was related to Princess Diana. They were 7th cousins.

- If coloring weren't added to Coca-Cola, it would be green.

Ready to see how many you got correct? They are all true. . . . Now go back and think about #16

Interesting Facts about the Tomb of the Unknowns

- How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why? 21 steps. It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute, which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.
- How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why? 21 seconds for the same reason as answer number 1.
- Why are his gloves wet? His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.
- Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time, and if not, why not? He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face, and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.
- How often are the guards changed? Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.
- What are the physical traits of the guard limited to? For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he must be between 5'10 and 6'5 tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30".

Other requirements of the Guard:

They must commit 2 years of life! to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform {fighting} or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the sole in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt. There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must mem-

orize who they are and where they are interred. Among the notables are: President Taft, Joe E. Lewis {the boxer} and Medal of Honor winner Audie Murphy, {the most decorated soldier of WWII} of Hollywood fame. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.

If all of the desserts listed below were sitting in front of you ...

... which would you choose? Pick your dessert, and then look to see what psychiatrists think about you! Sorry you can only pick one:

- Angel food cake
- Brownies
- Lemon Meringue pie
- Vanilla cake with chocolate icing
- Strawberry short cake
- Chocolate icing on chocolate cake
- Ice cream
- Carrot cake

No. You can't change your mind once you scroll down, so think carefully what your choice will be!

- Angel Food Cake: Sweet, loving, cuddly. You love all warm and fuzzy items. A little nutty at times. Sometimes you need an ice cream cone at the end of the day.. others perceive you as being childlike and immature at times.
- Brownies: You are adventurous, love new ideas, and are a champion of underdogs and a slayer of dragons. When tempers flare up, you whip out your saber. You are always the odd-ball with a unique sense of humor and direction. You tend to be very loyal.
- Lemon Meringue: Smooth, sexy, and articulate with your hands, you are an excellent after-dinner speaker and a good teacher. But don't try to walk and chew gum at the same time. A bit of a diva at times, but you have many good friends.
- Vanilla Cake with chocolate icing: Fun loving, sassy, humorous. Not very grounded in life; very indecisive and lack motivation. Everyone enjoys being around you. You are a practical joker. Others should be cautious in making you mad. However, you are a friend for life.
- Strawberry Shortcake: Romantic, warm, loving. You care about other people and can be counted on in a pinch. you also tend to melt. You can be overly emotional at times. And sometimes can be annoying.
- Chocolate on chocolate: Sexy; always ready to give and

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HUMOR

receive. Very adventurous, ambitious, and passionate. You can appear to have a cold exterior but are warm on the inside. Not afraid to take chances. Will not settle for anything average in life. Love to laugh.

- Ice Cream: You like sports, whether it is baseball, football, basketball, or soccer. If you could, you would like to participate, but you enjoy watching sports. You don't like to give up the remote control. You tend to be self-centered and high maintenance.
- Carrot Cake: You are a very fun loving person, who likes to laugh. You are fun to be with. People like to hang out with you. You are a very warm hearted person and a little quirky at times. You have many loyal friends.

More totally useless facts to bore co-workers with ... take 2

- American car horns honk in the key of F.
- The name Wendy was made up for the book "Peter Pan."
- Barbie's full name is Barbara Millicent Roberts.
- Every time you lick a stamp, you consume 1/10 of a calorie.
- The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- Studies show that if a cat falls off the seventh floor of a building it has about thirty percent less chance of surviving than a cat that falls off the twentieth floor. It supposedly takes about eight floors for the cat to realize what is occurring, relax and correct itself.
- Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks otherwise it will digest itself.
- The citrus soda 7-UP was created in 1929; '7' was selected after the original 7-ounce containers and 'UP' for the direction of the bubbles.
- 101 Dalmatians, Peter Pan, Lady and the Tramp, and Mulan are the only Disney cartoons where both parents are present and don't die throughout the movie.
- 'Stewardesses' is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.
- To escape the grip of a crocodile's jaws, push your thumbs into its eyeballs - it will let you go instantly.
- Reindeer like to eat bananas.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver and purple.
- The word "samba" means "to rub navels together."
- Mel Blanc (the voice of Bugs Bunny) was allergic to carrots.
- The electric chair was invented by a dentist.
- The very first bomb dropped by the Allies on Berlin during World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.
- More people are killed annually by donkeys than airplane crashes.
- A 'jiffy' is a unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

The human body is a machine that is full of wonder.

This collection of human body facts will leave you wondering why in the heck we were designed the way we were.

- Scientists say the higher your I.Q. The more you dream.
- The largest cell in the human body is the female egg.
- The smallest is the male sperm.
- You use 200 muscles to take one step.
- The average woman is 5 inches shorter than the average man.
- Your big toes have two bones each while the rest have three.
- A pair of human feet contain 250,000 sweat glands.
- A full bladder is roughly the size of a soft ball.
- The acid in your stomach is strong enough to dissolve razor blades.
- The human brain cell can hold 5 times as much information as the Encyclopedia Britannica.
- It takes the food seven seconds to get from your mouth to your stomach.
- The average human dream lasts 2-3 seconds.
- Men without hair on their chests are more likely to get cirrhosis of the liver than men with hair.
- At the moment of conception, you spent about half an hour as a single cell.
- There is about one trillion bacteria on each of your feet.
- Your body gives off enough heat in 30 minutes to bring half a gallon of water to a boil.

- The enamel in your teeth is the hardest substance in your body.
- Your teeth start developing (in your gums) 6 months before you are born.
- When you are looking at someone you love, your pupils dilate, they do the same when you are looking at someone you hate.
- Blondes have more hair than dark-haired people.
- Your thumb is the same length as your nose.

Now you know everything!

- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- Almonds are a member of the peach family.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.
- If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

Kevin Hagan
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CONGRESSMAN **DAVID TRONE**

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In Congress, I'm working to strengthen our economy, fight inflation, and help our local businesses create good new jobs. I don't take a penny from PACs, lobbyists, or corporations. And I always put people ahead of politics, getting it done for Marylanders.

DAVID TRONE

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